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SUSTAINABILITY IN RETAIL

Retailing in the Green Economy: Getting Serious about Sustainability



SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH THE EYES OF THE CONSUMER

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SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH THE EYES OF THE CONSUMER

- What do consumers call it?
- What is driving this trend?
- How engaged are consumers?
- What price for values?
- Final thoughts



WHAT DO CONSUMERS CALL IT?

Genetic modification
Humane treatment of animals
Free range
Food Additives
Climate Change
Carbon emissions
Pollution
Organics
Hunger
Availability of fresh water
Food safety
Biodiversity
Sustainability?
Food miles
Animal testing
Recycling
Global Warming
Biodegradable
Pesticides
Energy resources
Fair Trade
Illness and disease e.g. Aids
Equal rights for all workers

"I assume that fair-trade and organic are the same thing"
UK Adopter



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Availability of fresh water
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Energy resources
Waste
Child obesity
Fair Trade
Sweatshop Labour
Illness and disease e.g. Aids
Equal rights for all workers

Making a Difference





KEY DRIVERS: Population growth

The world's population is expected to grow from **2.2bn in 1950 to 7.7bn in 2020**; it will have trebled in little more than an average lifetime!

Source: UN Population Statistics





KEY DRIVERS:
Rising demand for world's
resources

Optimistic estimations of
peak production forecast
the global decline will
begin by **2020 or later.**

Pessimistic predictions of
future oil production
operate on the thesis that
**the peak has already
occurred.**





KEY DRIVERS: Climate change

In 2007, a United Nations panel of 2500 scientists from 130 countries concluded that temperatures are likely to rise 5.4 degrees (3 degrees Celsius) by the year 2100.

More rain, melting polar ice caps, rising sea levels, more severe hurricanes, and changes to our natural habitats are all expected outcomes.





REAL CHANGE IS POSSIBLE!

In the past year, **more bicycles than cars** have been sold in the **US**. That hasn't happened since the 1973 oil crisis! Bicycle sales are near an all-time high with **19 million sold last year** [worth five to six billion dollars].

Source: Treehugger.com



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CONCERN ≠ ACTION

CONCERN

INTENT

ACTION



CONCERN ≠ ACTION

CITIZEN

Willing to give time
or make compromises
to do the right thing



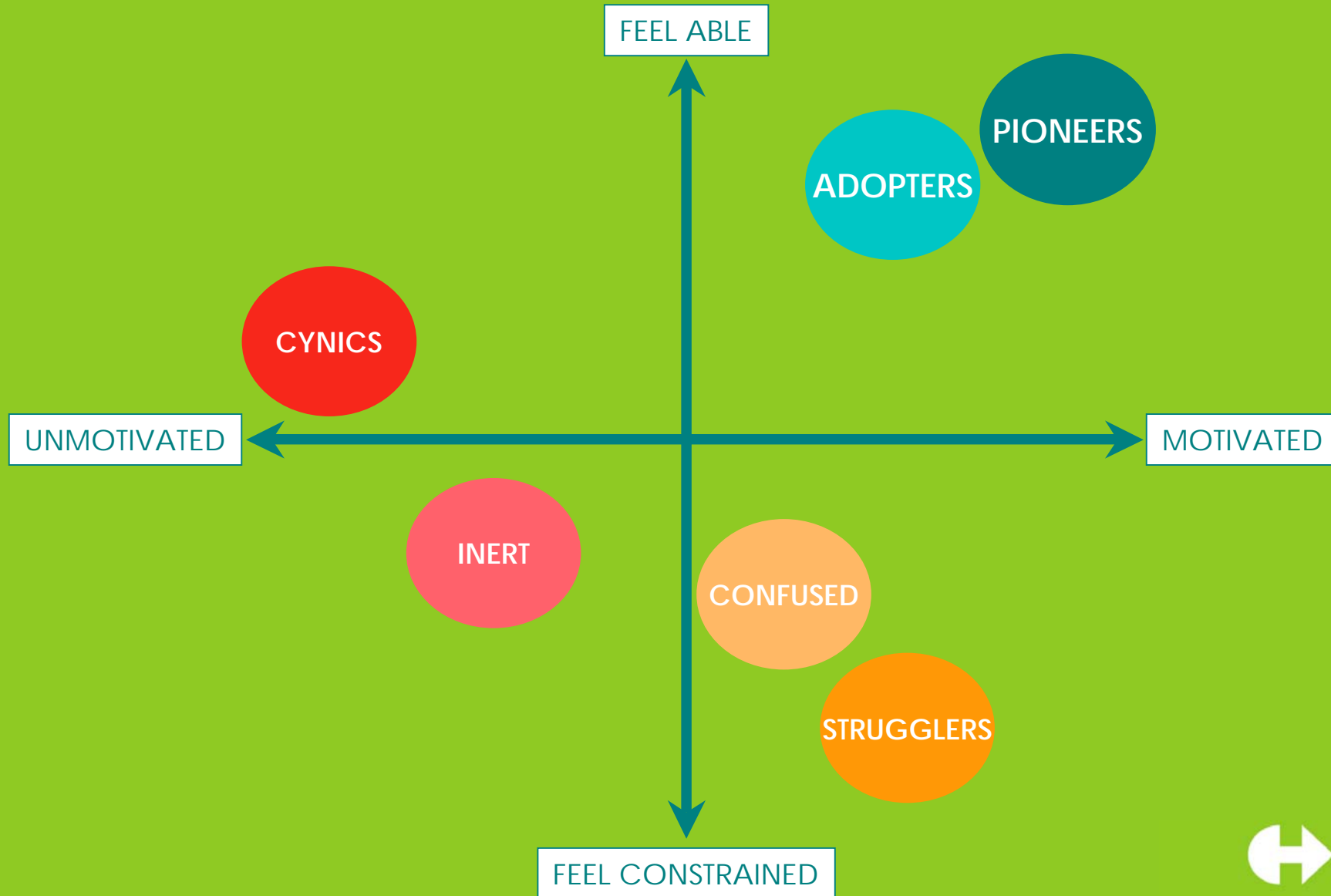
VS.

CONSUMER

Choice, price, quality
and convenience driving
decisions



LEVELS OF ENGAGEMENT



Source: GlobalMONITOR 2008 – Green Segmentation



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LEVELS OF ENGAGEMENT

PIONEERS

FEEL:

Directly affected by environmental issues. Empowered and motivated to make a difference.

HAVE:

Changed certain behaviours e.g. energy efficiency in the home or used the car less.

MOST LIKELY TO SAY:

'I want to preserve the world for future generations'.

'I have a sense of responsibility as a good global citizen'.

LEAST LIKELY TO SAY:

'It's a lost cause, we're too late to make a difference now'.

ADOPTERS

FEEL:

Less affected by environmental issues. Cost is a barrier to major changes in behaviour.

HAVE:

Changed certain behaviours e.g. reduced water use.

MOST LIKELY TO SAY:

'I want others to see me as environmentally conscious'.

'There is strong media pressure to do your bit'.

LEAST LIKELY TO SAY:

'I do not have easy access to recycling facilities'.



LEVELS OF ENGAGEMENT

STRUGGLERS

FEEL:

Concerned about environmental issues. Held back by other priorities in life and a lack of practical solutions.

HAVE:

Made some limited changes in behaviour.

MOST LIKELY TO SAY:

'I do not have access to recycling facilities'

'The places I shop do not offer green alternatives'.

LEAST LIKELY TO SAY:

'I do not believe environmental issues are bad enough'.

CONFUSED

FEEL:

Confused and slightly disillusioned. Lacking in belief that they can have an impact despite feeling some impacts.

HAVE:

Made small changes but are not restricted by access.

MOST LIKELY TO SAY:

'I am too confused by conflicting information about the environment'.

'I don't feel that I can make much difference on my own'.

LEAST LIKELY TO SAY:

'I do not have easy access to recycling facilities'.



LEVELS OF ENGAGEMENT

INERT

FEEL:

Unconcerned and unaffected.
Disempowered through cost and time constraints.

HAVE:

Done the easy stuff, if anything.

MOST LIKELY TO SAY:

*'I don't feel that I can make much difference on my own'.
'I don't think I should do more – others are far more responsible'.*

LEAST LIKELY TO SAY:

'I have a sense of responsibility as a good global citizen'.

CYNICS

FEEL:

Overly pressured.
Unconvinced that problems are really as bad as people say.

HAVE:

Done almost nothing.

MOST LIKELY TO SAY:

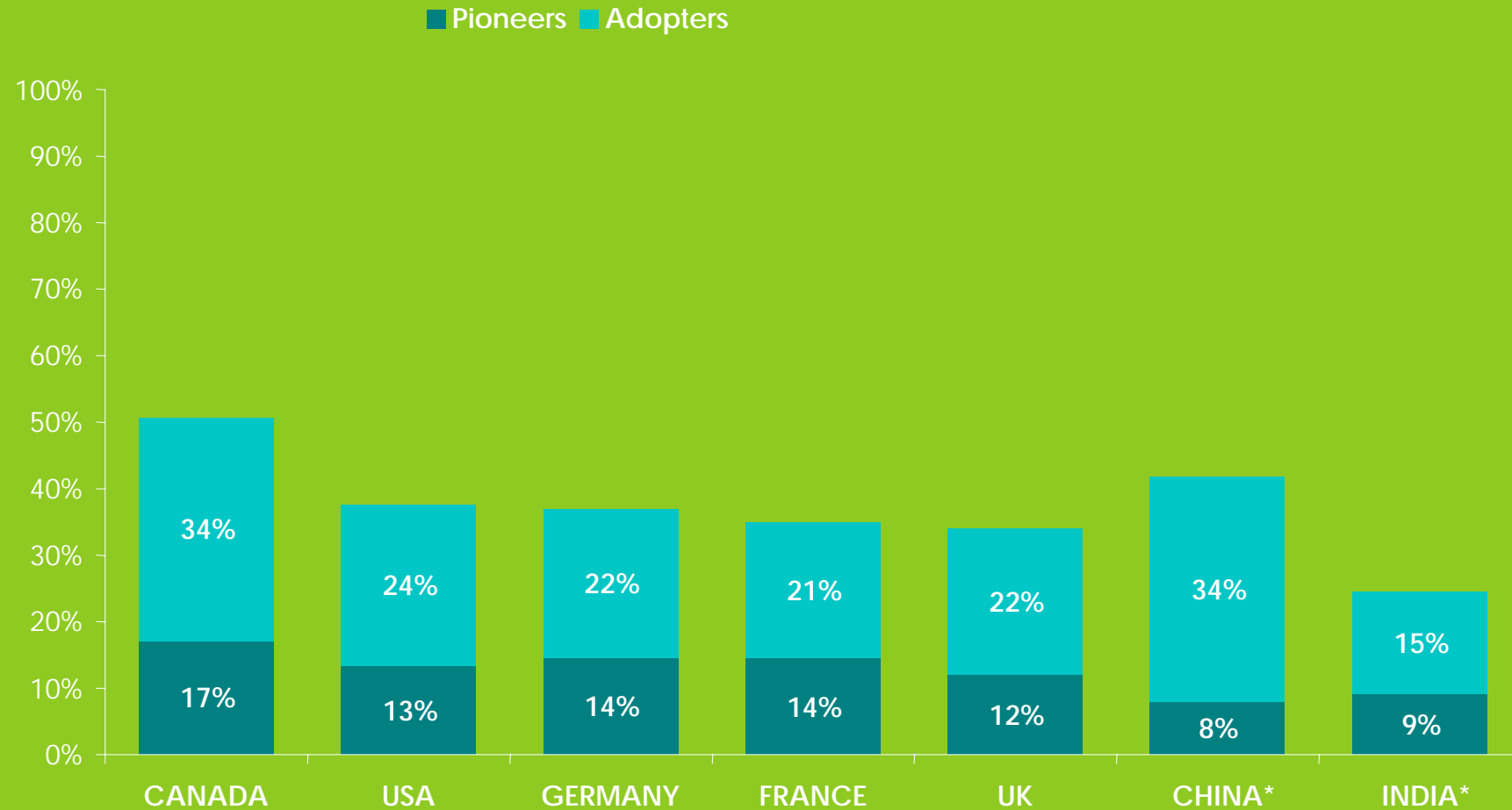
*'I don't believe that environmental problems are bad enough'.
'It's a lost cause, we're too late to make a difference now'.*

LEAST LIKELY TO SAY:

'I want to preserve the world for future generations'.



LEVELS OF ENGAGEMENT

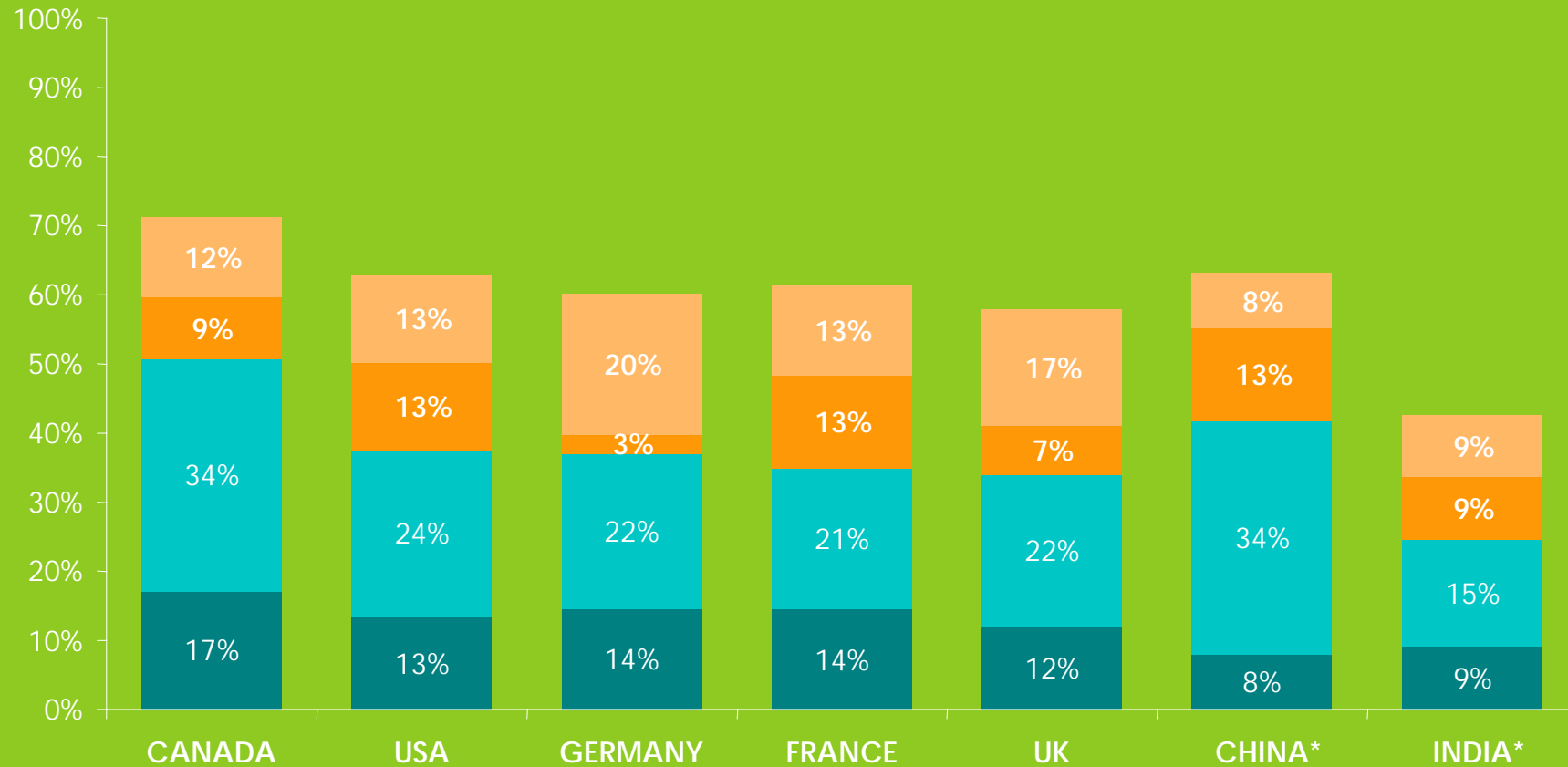


*Urban populations only



LEVELS OF ENGAGEMENT

■ Pioneers ■ Adopters ■ Strugglers ■ Confused

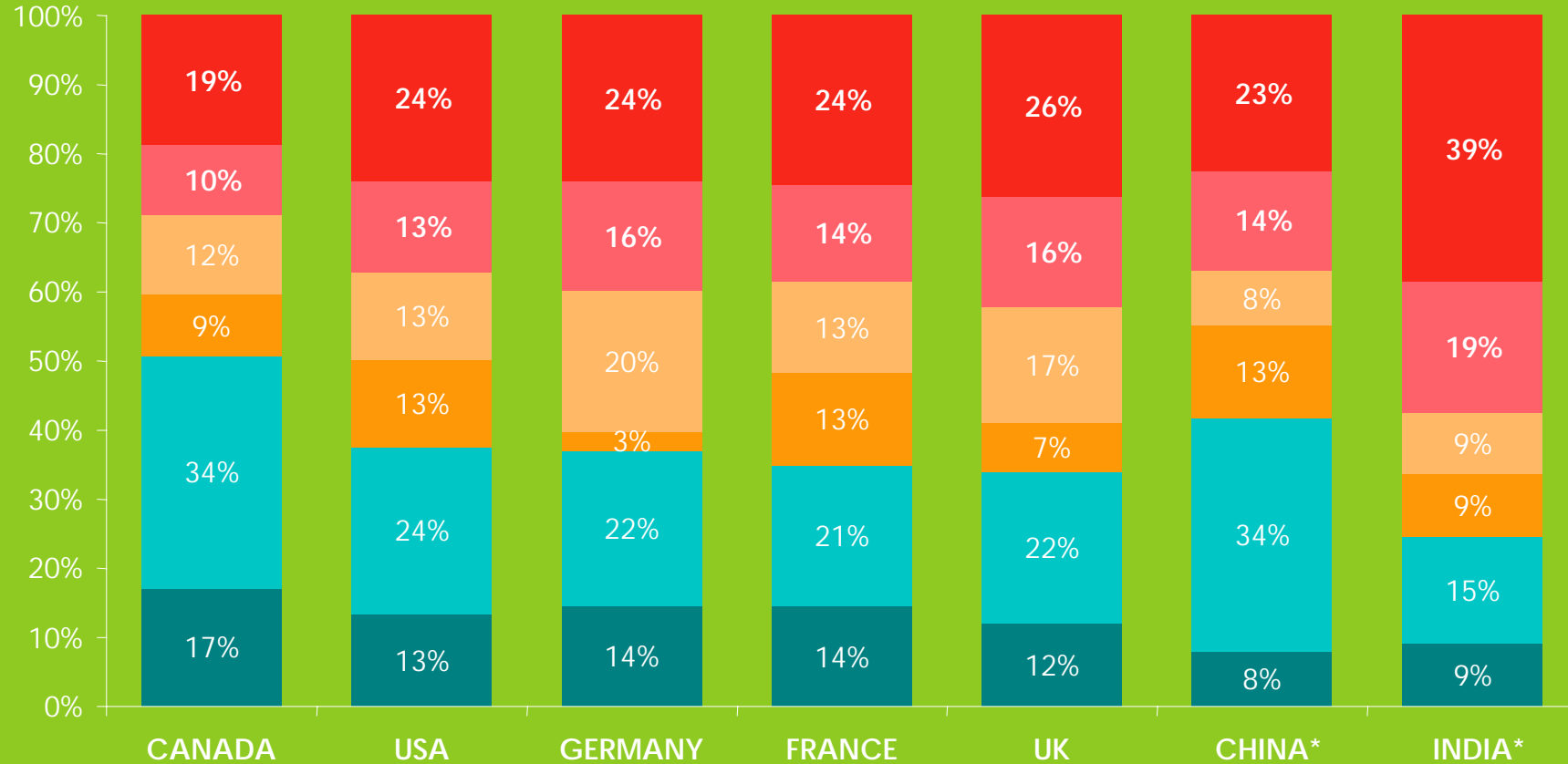


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LEVELS OF ENGAGEMENT

■ Pioneers ■ Adopters ■ Strugglers ■ Confused ■ Inert ■ Cynics



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WHAT PRICE FOR VALUES?



Source: Jake Goretzki, 2008



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WHAT PRICE FOR VALUES?

Likelihood to do each of the following things in the next 12 months, compared with the last 12 months.	
Top 5 from a list of 60:	
Use coupons and vouchers that offer money off in shops	70%
Choose products on the basis of special offers or deals	70%
Switch to a cheaper brand if your usual brand goes up in price	62%
Actively look for cheaper brands than I usually buy	62%
Take advantage of offers from loyalty cards that you have	59%
Bottom 5 from a list of 60:	
Stop redecorating or updating furnishings in the home	40%
Holiday in UK instead of travelling abroad	36%
Do chores or projects yourself	34%
Stop buying Fairtrade products	30%
Stop buying environmentally friendly products	28%



FINAL THOUGHTS

- It is here to stay and it is getting personal!
- Consumer knowledge is neither deep nor, broad.
- Understanding your target audience's current situation is the key to effectively targeting them.
- Appeal to the 'consumer' as well as the 'citizen'.
- Be prepared to promote 'value' as well as 'values' in the current environment.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Feeling the Pinch:
 - Timing: Available now
 - Price: £3,500 for the report only
£6,000 for the report and a tailored presentation
- Global Report on consumer engagement with environmental issues:
 - Timing: December 2008
 - Price: TBC





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Thank You



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