



A View of Education for Accountants Globally



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Chartered Accountants Worldwide**

What are the IES?

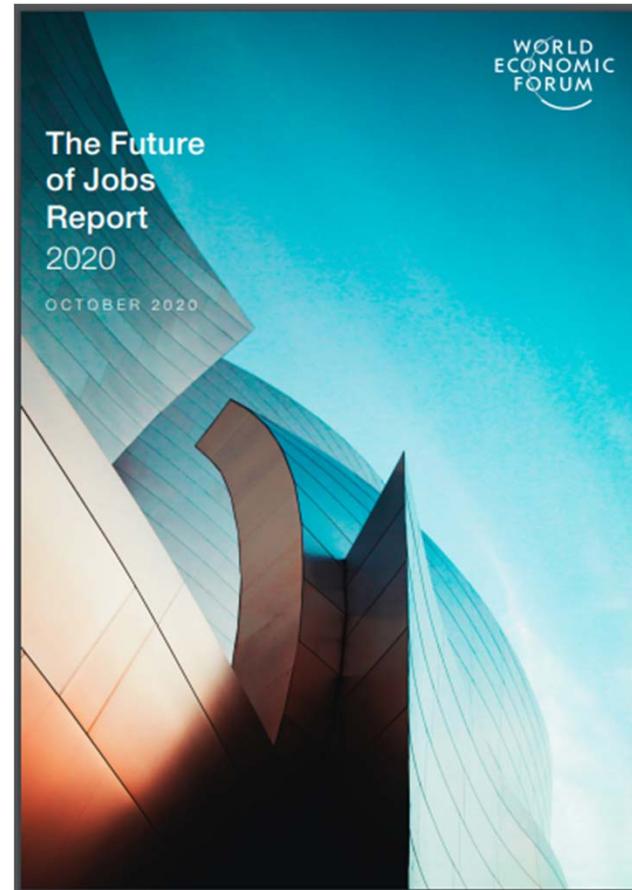
What are the IES?

- Prescribe standards of generally accepted 'good practice' in the education and development of professional accountants
- Express the benchmarks that member bodies are expected to meet in the preparation and continual development of professional accountants
- Establish the essential elements of the content and process of education and development at a level that is aimed at gaining international recognition, acceptance and application

Future of The Professional Accountant and Skills and Competencies Needed

ICT Skills - The Future is Now

World Economic Forum The Future of Jobs Report 2020



Jobs Landscape 2025

Top 10 Emerging



- Data Analysts and Scientists
- AI and Machine Learning Specialists
- Big Data Specialists
- Digital Marketing and Strategy Specialists
- Process Automation Specialists
- Business Development Professionals
- Digital Transformation Specialists
- Information Security Analysts
- Software and Application Developers
- Internet of Things Specialists

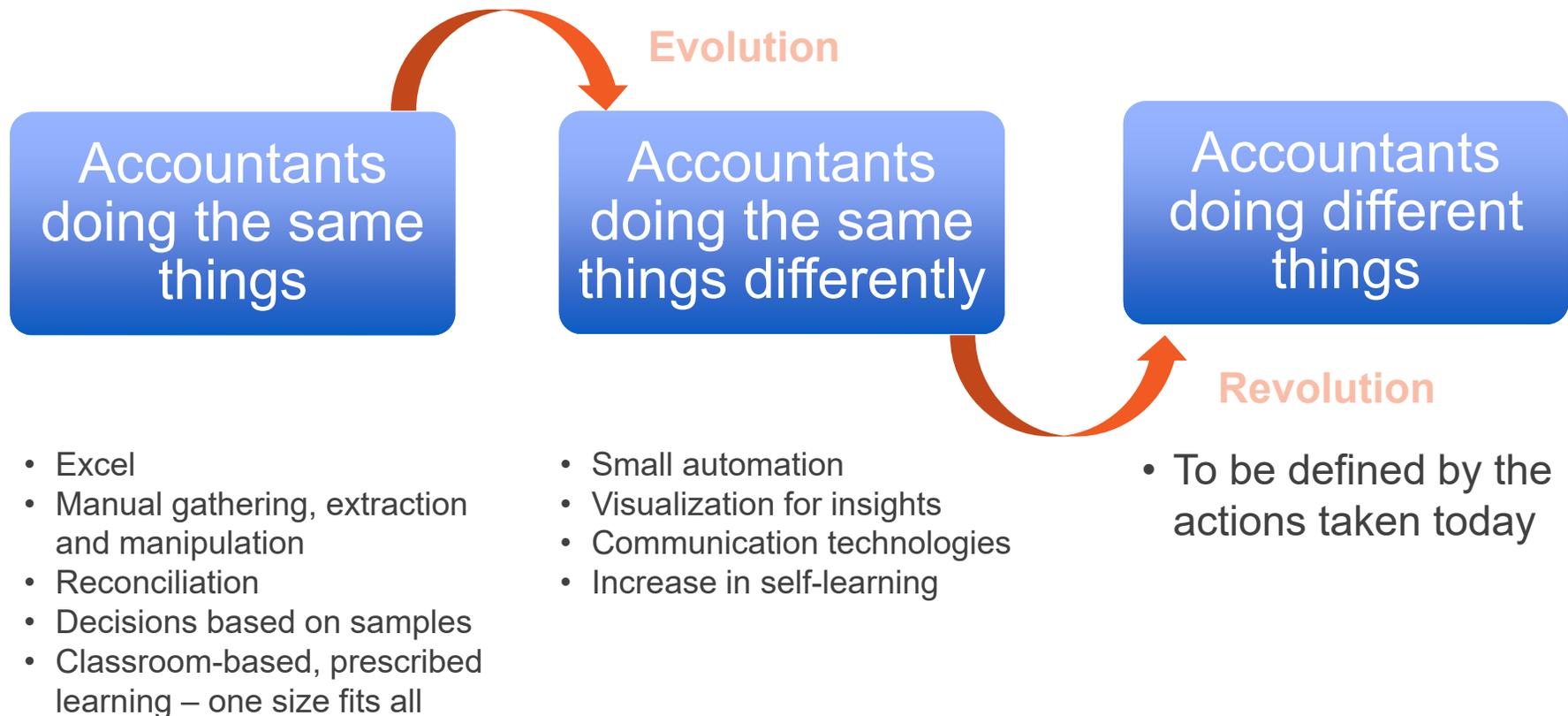
Top 10 Declining



- Data Entry Clerks
- Administrative and Executive Secretaries
- Accounting, Bookkeeping and Payroll Clerks
- Accountants and Auditors
- Assembly and Factory Workers
- Business Services and Administration Managers
- Client Information and Customer Service Workers
- General and Operations Managers
- Mechanics and Machinery Repairers
- Material Recording and Stock-Keeping Clerks

Source: Future Job Report 2020
World Economic Forum

Where Is the Profession Heading?



Top Skills

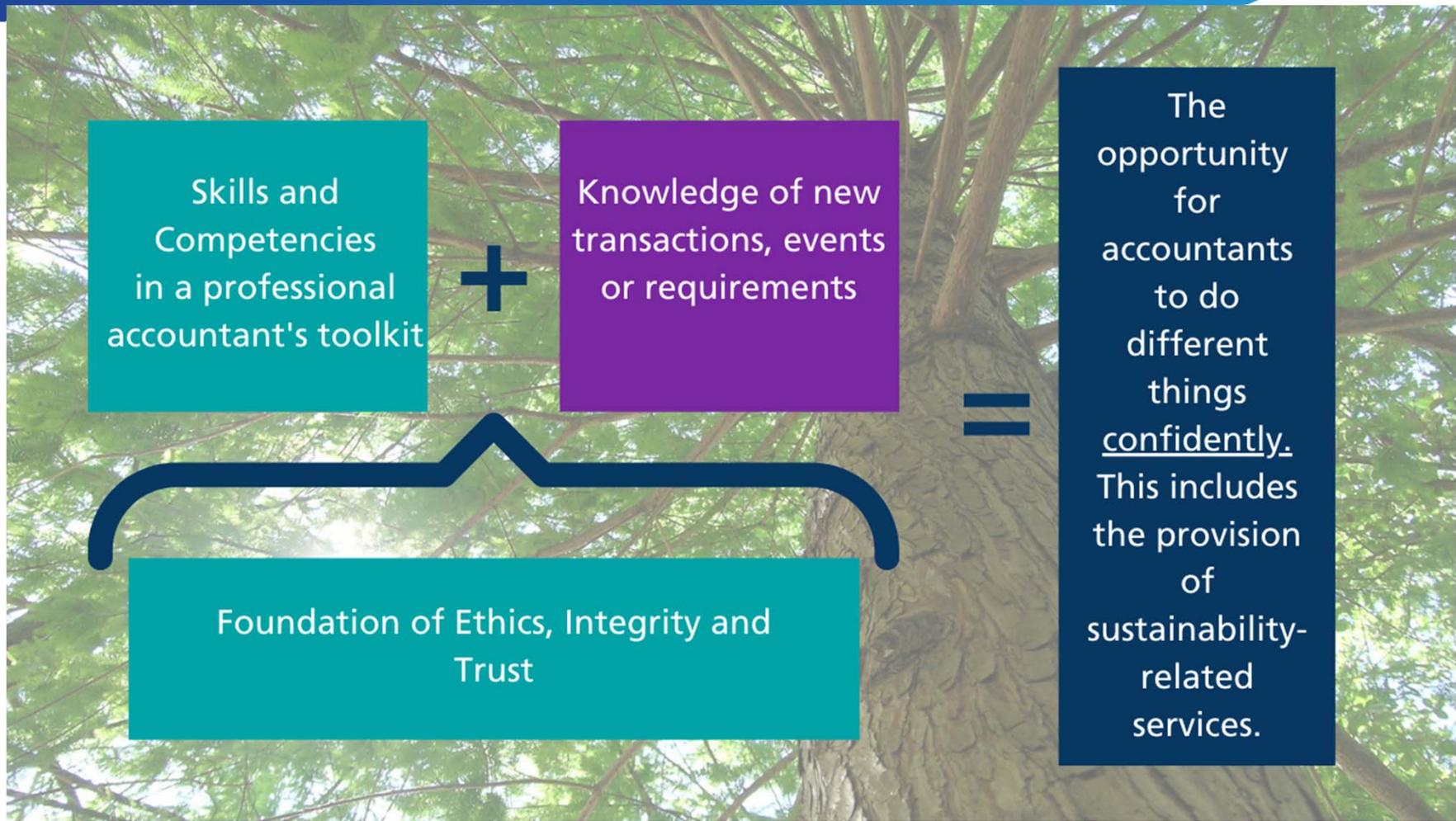
Top 10 Skills for 2025

- 1 – Analytical thinking and innovation
- 2 – Active learning and learning strategies
- 3 – Complex problem-solving
- 4 – Critical thinking and analysis
- 5 – Creativity, originality and initiative
- 6 – Leadership and social influence
- 7 – Technology use, monitoring and control
- 8 – Technology design and programming
- 9 – Resilience, stress tolerance and flexibility
- 10 – Reasoning, problem-solving and ideation

Source: Future Job Report 2020
World Economic Forum

Professional Accountants Role in ESG

A Professional Accountant's Role



ESG Related Skills and Competencies

- ❖ Understand and report information that is transparent, relevant, and meaningful to a user.
- ❖ Understand and apply appropriate guidance to transactions and reporting.
- ❖ Determine and use appropriate measures of materiality.
- ❖ Evaluate impact of guidance to transactions, trends and strategy.
- ❖ Understand, develop, and execute processes to extract, synthesize and interpret complete and accurate data.
- ❖ Develop, implement, execute against or evaluate an internal control system necessary to prepare or assure an organization's information.
- ❖ Collaborate with other departments.

ESG Knowledge Acquisition

Form of knowledge acquisition can vary:

- *Chartered Accountants Worldwide - [Environmental, Social and Governance \(ESG\) risk: Webinars & resources](#)*
- *Chartered Accountants Ireland – [Sustainability Hub](#)*
- *IFAC - [EdExchange Video Series](#)*
- *SASB – [FSA Credential](#)*

#ClimateWeekNYC

"The accounting profession
is absolutely essential."



Mark Carney

COP 26 Finance Adviser and UN Special Envoy



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Learn more about the International Education Standards
by using the [IFAC Accountancy Education E-Tool](#)

Take a look at [Doing Different Things: Approaching Sustainability with Confidence, and Your Existing Skillset](#), [What Defines the Accountant of Tomorrow?](#) and [Universities are adapting, so must accountancy education \(in Accountancy Age\)](#), and follow IFAC on [LinkedIn](#) for future publications in this series of thought leadership pieces



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