



Chief Policy Advisor

Martin Baxter
IEMA

W: www.iema.net
T: [@mbaxteriema](https://twitter.com/mbaxteriema)

My role is to provide policy advice on environment and sustainability issues and to suggest ways that environmental standards and laws can be improved to help the world to become more sustainable.

Why I chose my job

I'm lucky to work in a job which gives me the opportunity to influence government policy and develop international environmental management standards. It gives me the chance to help businesses in the UK and around the world to improve their environmental performance. I really enjoy working with people from all over the world; it gives me a great insight into different ways to solve environmental problems and is a great way to learn!

The day-to-day

My time is split between being part of the leadership team at IEMA; contributing to new environmental policy initiatives, and providing information and advice to IEMA's members. As part of the leadership team, I help to ensure IEMA and the internal teams are achieving business plan targets and budgets. I also provide input on policy issues that will influence the direction that IEMA and the profession will take over the longer-term. I am Head of the UK Delegation to the International Organisation for Standardisation on environmental management, and this requires me to contribute to writing or reviewing standards, some of which involves attending meetings in different countries. I regularly give presentations at conferences and events, and run workshops to help people develop their skills and knowledge on new and developing environmental management initiatives – lots on Brexit at the moment! I often contribute to media briefings,

write articles and respond to enquiries from journalists.

Key skills

- Excellent knowledge across a wide range of environmental management and sustainability issues.
- Excellent presentation skills.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Good overall business management skills.

Salary & Progression

Most people currently working in environmental management roles have a degree, and many have a post-graduate qualification too. You need to have a good understanding of environmental issues and a science background at A-level is important for this, as is geography. Equally, employers want people who understand business, so if you can choose A-levels which include both science and either business studies or economics, this will really help. There are many undergraduate courses on environmental management and sustainability offered by universities throughout the UK, with a range of entry requirements. In the future, it is likely that some environmental management roles will be able to be entered through apprenticeships, they aren't fully developed yet but there are likely to be options for you to consider.

Salaries vary depending on experience and the type of role. Typical environmental management salaries range from £25,000 to £45,000. More senior roles in business and industry can have salaries of £100,000 and higher.

Where to find out more

www.iema.net