

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

Training course on disaster assessment methodology 3-5 August 2015 San Jose, Costa Rica LIMITED LC/CAR/L.476 1 October 2015 ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

EVALUATION REPORT OF THE TRAINING COURSE ON DISASTER ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

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A. INTRODUCTION

- 1. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) has been a pioneer in the field of disaster assessment and in the development and dissemination of the Disaster Assessment Methodology. The organization's history in assessing disasters started in 1972 with the earthquake that struck Managua, Nicaragua. Since then, ECLAC has led more than 90 assessments of the social, environmental and economic effects and impacts of disasters in 28 countries in the region.
- 2. The Sustainable Development and Disasters Unit provides expert assistance in disaster assessment and disaster risk reduction to Caribbean states and to all countries across Latin America. Understanding that assessing the effects and impacts of disasters is critical to the Latin American and Caribbean countries; the unit has started a new cycle of training courses.
- 3. The training is designed for policymakers and professionals involved directly with disaster risk management and risk reduction. Additionally, and since the methodology follows a comprehensive approach, it is also designed for sector specialists, providing a multisectoral overview of the situation after a disaster, as well as an economic estimate of the damages, losses and additional costs.
- 4. On the other hand, when formulating and estimating the financial requirements of a recovery and reconstruction strategy, it is essential to have quantitative information on the effects and impacts of the disaster and estimates of the economic cost it represents. A general description of the impact of disasters and quantification and valuation of the damage, losses and additional costs they entail provide a gauge of what resources are essential for re-establishing the functionality of economic and social activities and for making the investments needed to enhance the resilience of physical, economic and social infrastructure against future such events, with a view to reducing vulnerability in the long term. In this regard, for ECLAC it is necessary to train not only sector specialists, but also representatives from policymaking institutions, such as ministries of finance and planning, which would be responsible for recovery and reconstruction strategies, but also for introducing disaster risk reduction policies nationwide.
- 5. As part of their national efforts to reduce disaster risk and improve disaster management, the Government of Costa Rica, through the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy (MIDEPLAN for its acronym in Spanish) requested one training session.

B. ATTENDANCE

1. Place and date of the training course

6. The training course on the "Disaster Assessment Methodology" was held from 3 to 5 August 2015, in San Jose, Costa Rica. The course was closed by the Vice Minister, Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy of Costa Rica.

2. Attendance

- 7. The training course targeted sector specialists and participants from policymaking institutions. Participants included representatives from ministries and institutions of agriculture and livestock, transportation and public works, housing, public education, health, social welfare, environment, and emergency response. Additionally, the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy and the Ministry of Finance were also represented.
- 8. The course was facilitated by the Coordinator of the Sustainable Development and Disaster Unit and the Environmental Affairs Officer of ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean.

C. SUMMARY OF KEY OUTCOMES OF THE TRAINING COURSE

- 9. Participants were trained on various sectors of the Disaster Assessment Methodology. On the first day, the course focused on the social sector: (1) introduction and basic concepts, (2) affected population, (3) education, and (4) housing. During the second day, participants learned about one more social sector and infrastructure: (5) health, (6) transportation, (7) water and sanitation, and (8) power. The third day focused on the productive sector: (9) tourism, (10) agriculture and livestock, and (11) macroeconomic impacts.
- 10. Additionally, country experiences were used during the presentations to clarify the application and usability of the methodology. ECLAC's experiences and assessments in Chile, Colombia, Haiti, Peru and other countries were used as examples throughout the workshops.
- 11. In order to help participants understand the practical use of the methodology, exercises were prepared for the following sectors: (1) introduction and basic concepts, (2) education, (3) housing, (4) health, (5) transportation, (6) water and sanitation, and (7) agriculture.

D. SUMMARY OF EVALUATION

- 12. This section of the report presents a summary of the comments provided by participants on the final day of the training. To elicit participants' feedback on diverse aspects of the course, an evaluation questionnaire was administered. The summary presents an account of all responses received from the participants.
- 13. The evaluation summary provided an account of participants' views of various aspects of the training course on the disaster assessment methodology. Twenty five participants responded to the evaluation questionnaire; of which 13 (52 per cent) were male and 12 (48 per cent) were female. The full list of participants is annexed to the report.
- 14. Most participants worked directly with diverse areas of disaster risk management. In this sense, 54.5 per cent had received specific training for disaster assessment, while 45.5 per cent had never received training on the topic.

TABLE 1
PRIOR TRAINING IN DISASTER ASSESSMENT

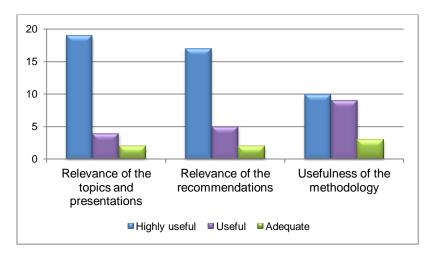
		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	12	54.5	54.5
	No	10	45.5	100.0
	Total	22	100.0	

1. Substantive content

15. Overall, most respondents (80 per cent) considered that the training course satisfied their expectations; similarly, 76 per cent rated it as either "excellent" or "good," while 24 per cent rated it as "adequate."

16. Regarding the relevance of the training for participants' work, 92 per cent considered that the topics and presentations were "highly useful" or "useful", while 88 per cent affirmed that the recommendations given during the training were "highly useful" or "useful" for their work.

FIGURE 1
PARTICIPANTS' FEEDBACK ON THE SUBSTANTIVE CONTENT AND
OVERALL QUALITY OF THE WORKSHOP



- 17. Seventy-six per cent of the respondents considered that the methodology is highly useful or useful for their work, and 84 per cent agreed that the presentation of other countries' experiences and good practices was highly useful or useful. In this regard, 44 per cent considered that it is "very likely" that they use the newly acquired knowledge on their daily work; an additional 44 per cent considered that is it "likely" that they apply the methodology in their work.
- 18. Eighty- four per cent of the respondents considered that the course was highly useful or useful in introducing them to new approaches, techniques and concepts. The same percentage agreed that the training was highly useful or useful in strengthening their knowledge about disaster assessment.
- 19. Regarding the trainers, 92 per cent of the respondents strongly agreed (64 per cent) or agreed (28 per cent) that the trainers were knowledgeable and well prepared. Correspondingly, 76 per cent considered that all the materials were covered clearly.

2. Organization of the course

- 20. Participants were asked to rate specific elements of the organization of the course using a 5-point scale. Seventy-two per cent of the respondents agreed that the location of the training was convenient, while 68 per cent considered that the space was comfortable and conducive to learning.
- 21. Most respondents (72 per cent) rated the quality of the materials and handouts as excellent or good. Likewise, 76 per cent of the participants rated the quality of the activities and exercises as excellent or good.
- 22. Regarding the pace and structure of the sessions, 88 per cent of the participants agreed that it was excellent or good, and 12 per cent rated it as adequate. Finally, most respondents rated the clarity of the contents and presentations as good (52 per cent) and 20 per cent rated it as excellent.

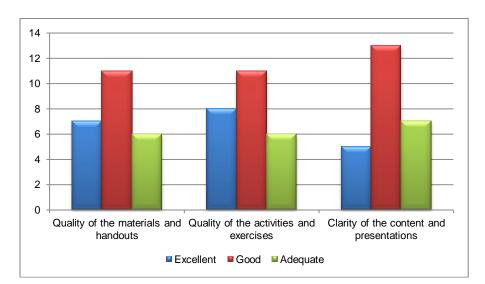


FIGURE 2
PARTICIPANTS' VIEWS ON THE ORGANIZATION OF THE WORKSHOP

3. Responses and comments to open-ended questions

Among the general responses received to open-ended questions were the following:

What do you consider the most significant outcomes of the course?

- Application of key concepts (damage, loss, additional costs)
- Improve baseline information (before a disaster)
- Introduction to concepts and evaluation criteria
- Study examples and experiences of other countries and sectors
- Introduction to new assessment methods
- Highlight the need of the country to unify disaster assessment methodologies
- Standardization of concepts and methods
- Use the course as a space to activate sectoral assessment teams

Strengths of the training

- The facilitators were knowledgeable
- Understanding of the application of the methodology
- Analysis and practical application of the methodology
- Usefulness of the practical exercises
- Discussions and exchanges with other participants
- Need to promote the evaluation of disasters in the country
- Uniformity. Adaptability and usability of the methodology in different sectors
- Practical examples and group work

Areas of improvement

- Include more information on psychosocial issues
- Provide more specific examples about Costa Rica
- Improve the slides to make them more interactive (use diagrams, graphs, tables, etc)
- Provide more time to develop the exercises and the explanations

E. CONCLUSIONS

- 19. Overall, the training was highly valued, and the participants' responses reflected a high level of satisfaction with the contents of the course. Participants appreciated the practical application of the methodology to assess damages and losses, and the use of examples to illustrate it; they also understood the importance of collecting data permanently in order to have reliable baseline information in case of a disaster.
- 20. Participants commended the organizers on the content of the course, as it not only highlighted the importance of damage and loss assessments, but also the importance of disaster risk reduction by incorporating cross-sector measures to reduce vulnerabilities. However, participants noted the need to allocate more time to develop the practical exercises, as well as the need to make the slides more interactive.

Annex I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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Annex II

EVALUATION FORM- ENGLISH

Evaluation Form
Training Course: Disaster Assessment Methodology

Place Date

WORKSHOP EVALUATION

In an effort to assess the effectiveness and impact of this training course, kindly complete the following evaluation form. Your responses will be invaluable in providing feedback on the overall workshop, identifying areas of weakness and help improve the organization of future courses.

Sex Female Male					
Country of origin:					
Institution(s) you represent:					
Title/Position:					
Have you received training in disaster assess	ssment prior to this	s course?	Yes N	No 🗌	
2. Content Delivery & Organization	Very Good	Good	Adequate	Below Average	Poor
Pace and structure of the sessions	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Quality of reference materials and handouts	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Quality of activities and exercises	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Clarity of the content and presentations	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
How would you rate the course overall?	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
3. Facilitator	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The trainers were knowledgeable and well prepared	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
The trainers were engaging and encouraged questions and participation	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
The trainers covered all the material clearly	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
4. Facilities	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The location of the training was convenient	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]

		training space was comfortable and lucive to learning	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
	5.	Impact	Highly Useful	Useful	Adequate	Inadequate	Highly Inadequate
	your	vance of the topics and presentations for	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
	worl	evance of the recommendations for your	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
	Intro	oduction to new approaches and techniques	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
		ngthening of knowledge about disaster ssment	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
	Usef	fulness of the methodology for your work	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
		fulness of the experiences and good tices for your country	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
5.]	Did the training meet your expectations?	Yes []	No[]			
7.		What is the likelihood of using what you lea	arned in this trai	ning?			
		Very Likely Likely	Neu	tral	Unlikel		lighly nlikely
		[]]]	[]		[]
	8.	¿What were the most important outcomes/ r	ecommendation	as of the course	?		
	9.	Strengths of the training:					
	10.	Areas of improvement:					
	11.	Any other comments:					

THANK YOU!!

EVALUATION FORM – SPANISH

Evaluación Curso: Metodología para la Evaluación de Desastres

San José, Costa Rica 3-5 agosto 2015

EVALUACIÓN DEL CURSO

En un esfuerzo por medir la calidad e impacto de este curso, le solicitamos que por favor complete el siguiente cuestionario. Sus respuestas y comentarios serán muy valiosos para evaluar el curso en general, así como para identificar debilidades y oportunidades para meiorar.

Sus respuestus y comentarios seran may van	oportunidades	,	•	no puru raemmeu	i deemades y
Sexo Femenino Masculino					
País de origen:					
Institución que representa:					
Puesto:					
1 He we'll' be former it's an beautiful to	J	9 S.	7 N. F		
1. ¿Ha recibido formación en la evaluación de	desastres previan	nente? Sí [] No [
2. Contenido y organización	Excelente	Bueno	Regular	Malo	Pésimo
Duración y estructura de las sesiones	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Calidad de los materiales	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Calidad de las actividades y ejercicios	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Claridad del contenido y presentaciones	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
En general, ¿cómo calificaría el curso?	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
3. Facilitadores	Totalmente de acuerdo	De acuerdo	Neutral	En desacuerdo	Totalmente desacuerdo
Los facilitadores tenían conocimiento del tema y estaban preparados	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Los facilitadores propiciaron discusiones activas de los participantes	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Los facilitadores cubrieron todos los temas de manera clara	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
4. Instalaciones	Totalmente de acuerdo	De acuerdo	Neutral	En desacuerdo	Totalmente desacuerdo
Ubicación conveniente	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]

		picio para el	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
5.	Impacto		Muy útil	Útil	Adecuado	Poco útil	Nada útil
curso	o para su trabajo		[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
traba	ajo	•	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
conc	eptos	•	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
		entos sobre	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Utili	dad de la metodología pa	ara su trabajo	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
			[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
ä	¿El curso satisfizo sus ex	pectativas? Sí []	No []				
	¿Cuál es la probabi	lidad de que utilice lo	s conocimientos	adquiridos	durante este curs	o en su trabajo?	
	Muy probable	Probable	Neuti	al	Poco proba	ible Imp	probable
	[]	[]	[]		[]		[]
8.	¿Cuáles fueron los resul	tados/ recomendacior	nes más importa	ntes del curs	ю?		
9.	Fortalezas del curso:						
10.	Áreas de mejora:						
11.	Otros comentarios:						
	apre 5. Rele traba Intro concern evaluation Utili para 8.	aprendizaje 5. Impacto Relevancia de los temas y procurso para su trabajo Relevancia de las recomenda trabajo Introducción a nuevos enfoquenceptos Fortalecimiento de conocimie evaluación de desastres Utilidad de la metodología para las necesidades del país ¿El curso satisfizo sus ex ¿Cuál es la probabil Muy probable [] 8. ¿Cuáles fueron los resultados para las necesidades del país	Relevancia de los temas y presentaciones del curso para su trabajo Relevancia de las recomendaciones para su trabajo Introducción a nuevos enfoques, técnicas y conceptos Fortalecimiento de conocimientos sobre evaluación de desastres Utilidad de la metodología para su trabajo Utilidad de las experiencias y buenas prácticas para las necesidades del país ¿El curso satisfizo sus expectativas? Sí [] ¿Cuál es la probabilidad de que utilice lo Muy probable [] [] 8. ¿Cuáles fueron los resultados/ recomendacion 9. Fortalezas del curso:	### St. Impacto S. Impacto	aprendizaje 5. Impacto Muy útil Cútil Relevancia de los temas y presentaciones del curso para su trabajo Relevancia de las recomendaciones para su trabajo Relevancia de las recomendaciones para su trabajo Relevancia de las recomendaciones para su trabajo Fortalecimiento de conocimientos sobre evaluación de desastres Utilidad de la metodología para su trabajo Utilidad de las experiencias y buenas prácticas para las necesidades del país ¿El curso satisfizo sus expectativas? Sí[] No[] ¿Cuál es la probabilidad de que utilice los conocimientos adquiridos Muy probable Probable Neutral [] [] 8. ¿Cuáles fueron los resultados/ recomendaciones más importantes del curso 9. Fortalezas del curso:	sprendizaje 5. Impacto Muy útil Útil Adecuado Relevancia de los temas y presentaciones del curso para su trabajo Relevancia de las recomendaciones para su trabajo Introducción a nuevos enfoques, técnicas y conceptos Fortalecimiento de conocimientos sobre evaluación de desastres Utilidad de la metodología para su trabajo Utilidad de las experiencias y buenas prácticas para las necesidades del país ¿El curso satisfizo sus expectativas? Sí[] No[] ¿Cuál es la probabilidad de que utilice los conocimientos adquiridos durante este curs Muy probable Probable Neutral Poco proba [] [] [] [] 8. ¿Cuáles fueron los resultados/ recomendaciones más importantes del curso? 9. Fortalezas del curso:	sprendizaje 5. Impacto Muy útil Ütil Adecuado Poco útil Relevancia de los temas y presentaciones del curso para su trabajo Relevancia de las recomendaciones para su trabajo Fortalecimiento de conocimientos sobre evaluación de desastres Utilidad de la metodología para su trabajo Utilidad de las experiencias y buenas prácticas para las necesidades del país ¿El curso satisfizo sus expectativas? Sí[] No[] ¿Cuál es la probabilidad de que utilice los conocimientos adquiridos durante este curso en su trabajo? Muy probable Probable Neutral Poco probable Imp [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [

¡GRACIAS!

Annex III

Responses to close-ended questions

Table 1. Sex

	Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Female	12	48.0	48.0
Male	13	52.0	100.0
Total	25	100.0	

Table 2. Prior training in disaster assessment

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	12	54.5	54.5
	No	10	45.5	100.0
	Total	22	100.0	

Table 3. Pace and structure of the sessions

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Excellent	12	48.0	48.0
	Good	10	40.0	88.0
	Adequate	3	12.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 4. Quality of the materials and handouts

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	Excellent	7	28.0	28.0
	Good	11	44.0	72.0
Valid	Adequate	6	24.0	96.0
	Below average	1	4.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 5. Quality of the activities and exercises

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Excellent	8	32.0	32.0
	Good	11	44.0	76.0
	Adequate	6	24.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 6. Clarity of the content and presentations

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Excellent	5	20.0	20.0
	Good	13	52.0	72.0
	Adequate	7	28.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 7. Overall rate of the course

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Excellent	8	32.0	32.0
	Good	11	44.0	76.0
	Adequate	6	24.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 8. The trainers were knowledgeable and well prepared

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly agree	16	64.0	64.0
	Agree	7	28.0	92.0
	Neutral	2	8.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 9. The trainers were engaging and encouraged participation and discussions

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly agree	10	40.0	40.0
	Agree	7	28.0	68.0
	Neutral	5	20.0	88.0
	Disagree	1	4.0	92.0
	Strongly disagree	2	8.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 10. The trainers covered all the material clearly

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly agree	13	52.0	52.0
	Agree	6	24.0	76.0
	Neutral	4	16.0	92.0
	Disagree	2	8.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 11. The location of the training was convenient

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly agree	12	48.0	48.0
	Agree	6	24.0	72.0
Γ	Neutral	3	12.0	84.0
	Disagree	1	4.0	88.0
	Strongly disagree	3	12.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 12. The training space was comfortable and conducive to learning

-		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly agree	10	40.0	40.0
	Agree	7	28.0	68.0
	Neutral	2	8.0	76.0
	Disagree	1	4.0	80.0
	Strongly disagree	5	20.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 13. Relevance of the topics and presentations for your work

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Highly useful	19	76.0	76.0
	Useful	4	16.0	92.0
	Adequate	2	8.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 14. Relevance of the recommendations for your work

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Highly useful	17	68.0	68.0
	Useful	5	20.0	88.0
	Adequate	2	8.0	96.0
	Inadequate	1	4.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 15. Introduction to new approaches, techniques and concepts

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Highly useful	16	64.0	64.0
	Useful	5	20.0	84.0
	Adequate	1	4.0	88.0
	Inadequate	3	12.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 16. Strengthening of knowledge about disaster assessment

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Highly useful	14	56.0	56.0
	Useful	7	28.0	84.0
	Adequate	3	12.0	96.0
	Inadequate	1	4.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 17. Usefulness of the methodology for your work

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Highly useful	10	40.0	40.0
	Useful	9	36.0	76.0
	Adequate	3	12.0	88.0
	Inadequate	3	12.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 18. Usefulness of the experiences and good practices for your country

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Highly useful	13	52.0	52.0
	Useful	8	32.0	84.0
	Adequate	2	8.0	92.0
	Inadequate	2	8.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 19. Did the training meet your expectations?

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	20	80.0	80.0
	No	5	20.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	

Table 20. What is the likelihood of using what you learned in this training?

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very likely	11	44.0	44.0
	Likely	11	44.0	88.0
	Neutral	3	12.0	100.0
	Total	25	100.0	