UNITED NATIONS
ECLAC

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

Training course on disaster assessment methodology
3-5 February 2016
Arequipa, Peru
8-10 February 2016
Ica, Peru

LIMITED
LC/CAR/L.493
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EVALUATION REPORT OF THE TRAINING COURSE ON DISASTER ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY - PERU

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CONTENTS

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 Peru, through the National Center for Estimation, Prevention and Disaster Risk Reduction (CENEPRED for its acronym in Spanish) requested two training sessions for the regions of Arequipa and Ica.

6. These two sessions are part of CENEPRED strategy to strengthen technical skills at the national, regional and local levels. In an effort to support the Government of Peru and CENEPRED's strategy towards improving disaster risk management and disaster assessment in the country, ECLAC provided eight training sessions in the following cities: Lima (2), Cusco (2), Moyobamba, Piura, Arequipa and Ica. These eight sessions have reached more than 250 representatives from local and regional governments, sectoral specialists, as well as representatives from the private sector.

7. This technical cooperation concludes a national training cycle requested by CENEPRED.

B. ATTENDANCE

1. Place and date of the training course

8. The first training session on the "Disaster Assessment Methodology" was held from 3 to 5 February 2016, in Arequipa, Peru. The second session was held from 8 to 10 February 2016, in Ica, Peru.

2. Attendance

9. The training course targeted municipal and regional staff, as well as sector specialists and participants from policymaking institutions present in the regions. Participants included sectoral officials from municipal and regional governments, such as housing, education, health, energy, mining, and agriculture.

10. The course was facilitated by the Coordinator and the Associate Environmental Affairs Officer of the Sustainable Development and Disaster Unit of ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean.

C. SUMMARY OF KEY OUTCOMES OF THE TRAINING COURSE

11. Participants were trained in various sectors of the Disaster Assessment Methodology. Both training sessions were identical in regards to their content. 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 were introduced to one more social subsector and infrastructure: (5) health, (6) transportation, (7) water and sanitation, and (8) electricity. The third day focused on the productive sector: (8) agriculture and livestock, (9) manufacturing and (10) macroeconomic impacts.

12. Country experiences were used during the presentations to clarify the application and usability of the methodology. ECLAC experiences and assessments in Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Haiti, Peru and other countries were used as examples throughout the workshops.

13. In order to help participants understand the practical use of the methodology, exercises were prepared for the following modules: (1) introduction and basic concepts, (2) education, (3) housing, (4) health, (5) transportation, (6) water and sanitation, and (7) agriculture and livestock.

D. SUMMARY OF EVALUATION

14. 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.

15. The evaluation summary provided an account of participants' views of various aspects of the training course on the disaster assessment methodology. Ninety-two participants responded to the evaluation questionnaire; of which 28 (30.4 per cent) were female and 64 (69.6 per cent) were male. The full list of participants is annexed to the report.

16. Most participants were sector specialists from municipal and regional governments and worked in diverse areas of disaster risk management. Most participants had received training on disaster assessment (70.6 per cent), and 25 persons (29.4 per cent) had never received training on the subject.

TABLE 1
PRIOR TRAINING IN DISASTER ASSESSMENT

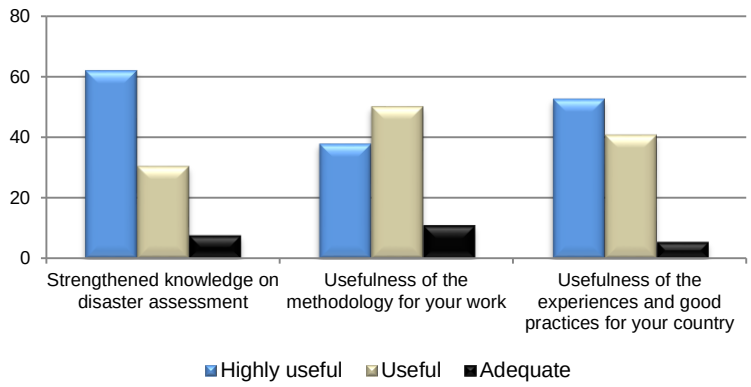
		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Yes	60	70.6	70.6
	No	25	29.4	100.0
	Total	**85**	**100.0**	

17. Even though most participants indicated that they had received previous training on disaster assessment, they expressed that focus has been placed on emergency response, rather than on the estimation of the effects and impacts in monetary terms, and on the reconstruction process. Participants also considered that disaster assessments had been produced individually by particular institutions; therefore, the standardized nature of the Disaster Assessment Methodology was highly valued, 95.6 per cent considered that the training course satisfied their expectations.

1. Substantive content

18. Regarding the relevance of the training for participants' work, 97.8 per cent considered that the topics and presentations were highly useful (65.2 per cent) or useful (32.6 per cent), while 94.6 per cent affirmed that the recommendations given during the training were highly useful (48.9 per cent) or useful (45.7 per cent) for their work, five participants (5.4 per cent) considered it adequate.

FIGURE 1
PARTICIPANTS' FEEDBACK ON THE SUBSTANTIVE CONTENT OF THE WORKSHOP
(Percentages)

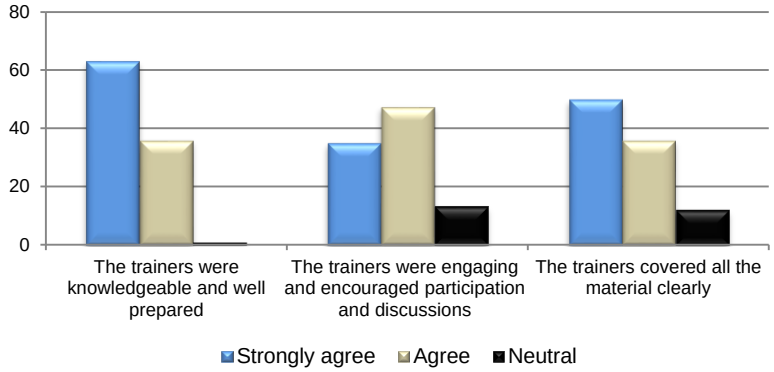


19. Eighty-eight per cent of the respondents considered the methodology highly useful (38 per cent) or useful (50 per cent) for their work, while 10.9 per cent considered it adequate. Ninety-three per cent agreed that the presentation of experiences and good practices was highly useful (52.7 per cent) or useful (40.7 per cent) (figure 1).

20. Similarly, 92.4 per cent considered that the course was highly useful or useful in strengthening their knowledge about disaster assessment. And 89.1 per cent of the respondents considered the course highly useful or useful in introducing them to new approaches, techniques and concepts. In this regard, 50 per cent considered it *very likely* that they use the newly acquired knowledge in their daily work; an additional 45.7 per cent considered it *likely* that they apply the methodology in their work. Four participants were *neutral* (4.3 per cent).

21. Regarding to the quality of the training, 98.9 per cent of the respondents strongly agreed (63 per cent) or agreed (35.9 per cent) that the trainers were knowledgeable and well prepared. Likewise, 85.9 per cent considered that all the materials were covered clearly (figure 2).

FIGURE 2
PARTICIPANTS' FEEDBACK ON THE FACILITATORS OF THE WORKSHOP
(Percentages)



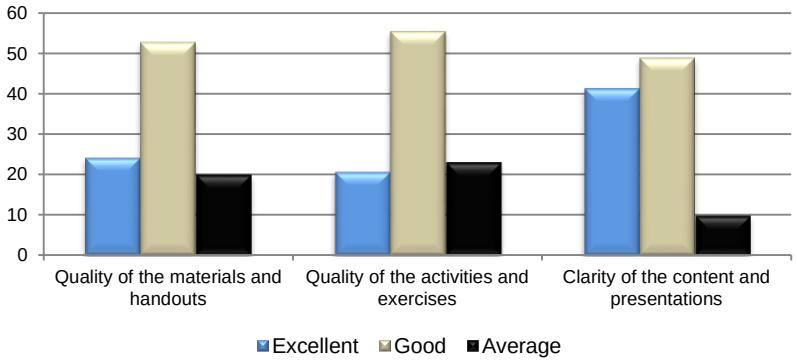
2. Organization of the course

22. Participants were asked to rate specific elements of the organization of the course using a 5-point scale. Eighty-four per cent of the respondents strongly agreed or agreed that the location of the training was convenient; 80 per cent considered that the space was comfortable and conducive to learning.

23. Most respondents (76.9 per cent) rated the quality of the materials and handouts as excellent or good. Likewise, 76.1 per cent of the participants rated the quality of the activities and exercises as excellent or good (figure 3).

24. Regarding the pace and structure of the sessions, 90.2 per cent of the participants agreed that it was excellent (25 per cent) or good (65.2 per cent), 9 participants (9.8 per cent) rated it as adequate. It is worth noting that, due to connectivity issues, materials could not be distributed to the participants by the end of each day. Finally, most respondents rated the clarity of the content and presentations as good (48.9 per cent) and 41.3 per cent rated it as excellent.

FIGURE 3
PARTICIPANTS' VIEWS ON THE ORGANIZATION OF THE WORKSHOP
(Percentages)



3. Responses and comments to open-ended questions

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

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

- Understanding of the core concepts of the methodology: damage, loss and additional cost
- Establishment of evaluation criteria
- Estimating the economic cost of a disaster
- Importance of establishing updated baselines for every sector
- Baseline information can help identify risks and improve planning processes
- Impact of a disaster on a region's development accomplishments and goals
- Need to improve planning
- Standardized methodology

Strengths of the training

- Availability of a standardized instrument to assess the effects and impact of a disaster
- Knowledge and readiness of the facilitators
- Multisectoral and multidisciplinary approach to disaster risk reduction
- Prioritization of critical sectors and use of resources
- Use of practical exercises to strengthen the acquired knowledge
- Use of experiences from other countries, and best practices

Areas of improvement

- Provide more practical examples based on the Peruvian experience
- Provide more time for the agriculture and livestock, and the macroeconomic impact presentations
- Provide more time to develop the exercises and the explanations
- Suggest additional sources of information on disaster assessment

Other

- Provide similar training in other institutions, regions and provinces
- Establish partnerships within public institutions

E. CONCLUSIONS

26. Overall, the training was highly valued, and the participants' responses reflected a high level of satisfaction with the content of the course. Participants appreciated the practical application of the methodology to assess damages and losses, the clear differentiation between effects (damage, loss and additional costs) and impact, and the use of examples to illustrate it. Participants highly appreciated the use of practical exercises to reinforce the use of concepts and of the methodology. They also understood the importance of collecting sectoral data permanently in order to have reliable baseline information in case of a disaster.

27. Participants commended the organizers on the content of the course, since it not only highlighted the importance of damage and loss assessments, but also demonstrated the importance of disaster risk reduction by incorporating cross-sector measures to reduce vulnerabilities. Participants, however, noted the need to allocate more time to develop the practical exercises.

Annex I
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
3-5 February 2016
Arequipa, Peru

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Annex II

EVALUATION FORM

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: _____

1. Have you received training in disaster assessment prior to this course? Yes ☐ 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	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

The training space was comfortable and conducive to learning	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

5. **Impact**	**Highly Useful**	**Useful**	**Adequate**	**Inadequate**	**Highly Inadequate**
Relevance of the topics and presentations for your work	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Relevance of the recommendations for your work	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Introduction to new approaches and techniques	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Strengthening of knowledge about disaster assessment	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Usefulness of the methodology for your work	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Usefulness of the experiences and good practices for your country	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

6. Did the training meet your expectations? Yes [ ] No [ ]

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

Very Likely	**Likely**	**Neutral**	**Unlikely**	**Highly Unlikely**
[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

8. What were the most important outcomes/ recommendations of the course?

_____

_____

9. Strengths of the training:

_____

_____

10. Areas of improvement:

_____

_____

11. Any other comments:

_____

_____

THANK YOU!!

Annex III

RESPONSES TO CLOSE-ENDED QUESTIONS

Table 1. Sex

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Female	28	30.4	30.4
	Male	64	69.6	100.0
	Total	**92**	**100.0**	

Table 2. Prior training in disaster assessment

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Yes	60	70.6	70.6
	No	25	29.4	100.0
	Total	**85**	**100.0**	

Table 3. Pace and structure of the sessions

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Excellent	23	25.0	25.0
	Good	60	65.2	90.2
	Adequate	9	9.8	100.0
	Total	**92**	**100.0**	

Table 4. Quality of the materials and handouts

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Excellent	22	24.2	24.2
	Good	48	52.7	76.9
	Adequate	18	19.8	96.7
	Below average	3	3.3	100.0
	Total	**91**	**100.0**	

Table 5. Quality of the activities and exercises

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Excellent	19	20.7	20.7
	Good	51	55.4	76.1
	Adequate	21	22.8	98.9
	Below average	1	1.1	100.0
	Total	**92**	**100.0**	

Table 6. Clarity of the content and presentations

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Excellent	38	41.3	41.3
	Good	45	48.9	90.2
	Adequate	9	9.8	100.0
	Total	**92**	**100.0**	

Table 7. Overall rate of the course

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Excellent	24	26.1	26.1
	Good	61	66.3	92.4
	Adequate	7	7.6	100.0
	Total	**92**	**100.0**	

Table 8. The trainers were knowledgeable and well prepared

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Strongly agree	58	63.0	63.0
	Agree	33	35.9	98.9
	Neutral	1	1.1	100.0
	Total	**92**	**100.0**	

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

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Strongly agree	32	35.2	35.2
	Agree	43	47.3	82.4
	Neutral	12	13.2	95.6
	Disagree	3	3.3	98.9
	Strongly disagree	1	1.1	100.0
	Total	**91**	**100.0**	

Table 10. The trainers covered all the material clearly

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Strongly agree	46	50.0	50.0
	Agree	33	35.9	85.9
	Neutral	11	12.0	97.8
	Disagree	2	2.2	100.0
	Total	**92**	**100.0**	

Table 11. The location of the training was convenient

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Strongly agree	27	29.3	29.3
	Agree	51	55.4	84.8
	Neutral	7	7.6	92.4
	Disagree	7	7.6	100.0
	Total	**92**	**100.0**	

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

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Strongly agree	24	26.4	26.4
	Agree	49	53.8	80.2
	Neutral	8	8.8	89.0
	Disagree	10	11.0	100.0
	Total	**91**	**100.0**	

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

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Highly useful	60	65.2	65.2
	Useful	30	32.6	97.8
	Adequate	2	2.2	100.0
	Total	**92**	**100.0**	

Table 14. Relevance of the recommendations for your work

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Highly useful	45	48.9	48.9
	Useful	42	45.7	94.6
	Adequate	5	5.4	100.0
	Total	**92**	**100.0**	

Table 15. Introduction to new approaches, techniques and concepts

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Highly useful	41	44.6	44.6
	Useful	41	44.6	89.1
	Adequate	10	10.9	100.0
	Total	**92**	**100.0**	

Table 16. Strengthening of knowledge about disaster assessment

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Highly useful	57	62.0	62.0
	Useful	28	30.4	92.4
	Adequate	7	7.6	100.0
	Total	**92**	**100.0**	

Table 17. Usefulness of the methodology for your work

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Highly useful	35	38.0	38.0
	Useful	46	50.0	88.0
	Adequate	10	10.9	98.9
	Inadequate	1	1.1	100.0
	Total	**92**	**100.0**	

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

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Highly useful	48	52.7	52.7
	Useful	37	40.7	93.4
	Adequate	5	5.5	98.9
	Inadequate	1	1.1	100.0
	Total	**91**	**100.0**	

Table 19. Did the training meet your expectations?

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Yes	86	95.6	95.6
	No	4	4.4	100.0
	Total	**90**	**100.0**	

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

		Frequency	*Valid Percent*	*Cumulative Percent*
Valid	Very likely	46	50.0	50.0
	Likely	42	45.7	95.7
	Neutral	4	4.3	100.0
	Total	**92**	**100.0**	