

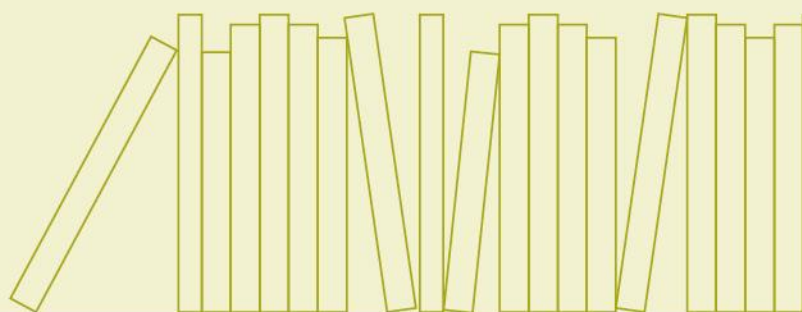
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

**ECLAC SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
FOR THE CARIBBEAN**



# **Evaluation report of the seminar and training course on disaster risk management and resilience building**

## **Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency**



UNITED NATIONS

**ECLAC**





UNITED NATIONS



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

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Seminar and training course on disaster risk management  
and resilience building  
14 - 16 March 2017  
Saint Michael, Barbados

LIMITED  
LC/CAR/2017/1  
23 March 2017  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

**EVALUATION REPORT OF THE SEMINAR AND TRAINING COURSE  
ON DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT AND RESILIENCE BUILDING  
—  
CARIBBEAN DISASTER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

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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 Disaster Unit provides expert assistance in disaster assessment and disaster risk reduction to Caribbean states and to all countries across Latin America. Considering 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 is comprehensive in 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. Considering the relevance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the multiplicity of issues and topics that affect disaster risk management, on the first day a seminar was held dedicated to analyzing the importance of planning for disaster risk reduction and its role in attaining the goals established in the Agenda, the role of risk transfer in enhancing fiscal sustainability, and basic information requirements and data gathering tools for disaster assessment. In addition, two sessions provided an overview of disaster risk management related literature, and an introduction to the disaster assessment methodology.
5. In an attempt to strengthen disaster risk reduction in the Caribbean and increase collaboration between regional and international organizations, ECLAC organized the course with support from the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), and financed by Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility Segregated Portfolio Company (CCRIF SPC). A representative from CCRIF SPC presented the benefits and mechanisms to access the facility.

## **B. ATTENDANCE**

### **1. Place and date of the training course**

6. A training session on the "Disaster Assessment Methodology" was held from 14 to 16 March 2017, in Saint Michael, Barbados at CDEMA headquarters.

### **2. Attendance**

7. The training course targeted specialists from disaster management agencies and participants from other policymaking institutions. The represented institutions included mainly disaster management offices, as well as the ministries of Housing and Lands, Finance, and Agriculture, and the Tourism Product Authority of Barbados. Eight representatives from four Member States (Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Saint Kitts and Nevis) participated in the course. Additionally, one representative from CCRIF and six representatives from CDEMA participated in the training course as part of the ongoing collaboration between institutions.

8. The course was facilitated by the Coordinator and the Associate Environmental Affairs Officer of the Sustainable Development and Disaster Unit, the Associate Information Management Officer of the Caribbean Knowledge Management Centre, and the Economic Affairs Officer of the Economic Development Unit of ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean.

### **C. SUMMARY OF KEY OUTCOMES OF THE TRAINING COURSE**

9. Participants were trained in various sectors of the Disaster Assessment Methodology. On the first day, the seminar focused on planning for disaster risk management in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It included the following sessions: (1) disaster assessment methodology: introduction and basic concepts; (2) the role of planning in disaster risk management and its impact on the attainment of the SDGs; (3) the role of risk transfer in enhancing fiscal sustainability in the Caribbean (CCRIF SPC); (4) disaster impacts, a literature review, and (5) information requirements and data gathering tools for disaster assessment.

10. The training course on the Disaster Assessment Methodology started on day two with presentation of the social sector: (6) affected populations, (7) education, (8) housing, and (9) telecommunications. During the third day participants learned about one more social sector, (10) health and epidemics, and one more infrastructure sector: (11) transportation. The third day also included one productive sector, (12) tourism, and the (13) consolidation of effects and macroeconomic impacts.

11. In order to help participants understand the practical use of the methodology, exercises were prepared for the following modules: (1) education, (2) housing, (3) health, (4) transportation, and (5) tourism.

12. ECLAC team shared the experience of various regional governments in the incorporation of disaster risk reduction in public investment and other disaster risk management initiatives and best practices. Additionally, country experiences were used during the presentations to clarify the application and utility of the methodology. ECLAC experiences and assessments in The Bahamas, Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Haiti, Peru and other countries were used as examples throughout the workshop.

### **D. SUMMARY OF EVALUATION**

13. 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.

14. The evaluation summary provided an account of participants' views of various aspects of the training course on the disaster assessment methodology. Sixteen participants attended the training, ten were female (62.5 per cent) and 6 were male (37.5 per cent), highlighting ECLAC's efforts towards achieving gender parity in capacity building activities. Twelve participants responded to the evaluation questionnaire, 8 female (66.7 per cent) and 4 male (33.3 per cent). The full list of participants is annexed to the report.

15. In terms of knowledge of the topic, 50 per cent of participants had never before received training on disaster assessment, while 50 per cent had received training on the subject.

**TABLE 1**  
**PRIOR TRAINING IN DISASTER ASSESSMENT**

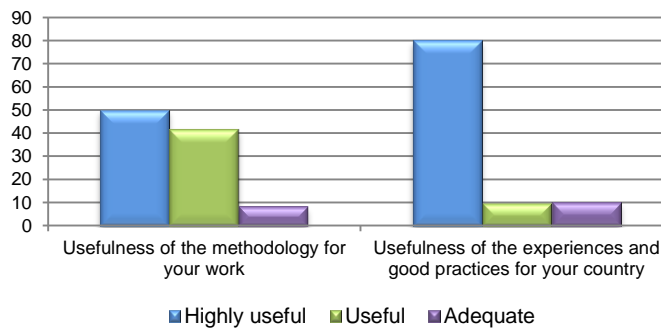
		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Yes	6	50.0	50.0
	No	6	50.0	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	

### 1. Substantive content

16. All respondents (100 per cent) reported that the training course met their expectations.

17. In terms of the relevance of the training, 41.7 per cent considered that the topics and presentations were highly useful for their work, 50 per cent considered they were useful and 8.3 per cent rated them as adequate. Similarly, as regards the relevance of the recommendations given during the training, 50 per cent of participants rated them as highly useful and 50 per cent as useful. In this regard, it is worth noting that 50 per cent of participants agreed that the methodology was highly useful for their work, 41.7 per cent rated it as useful and 8.3 per cent as adequate.

**FIGURE 1**  
**PARTICIPANTS' FEEDBACK ON THE SUBSTANTIVE CONTENT OF THE WORKSHOP**  
*Percentage*



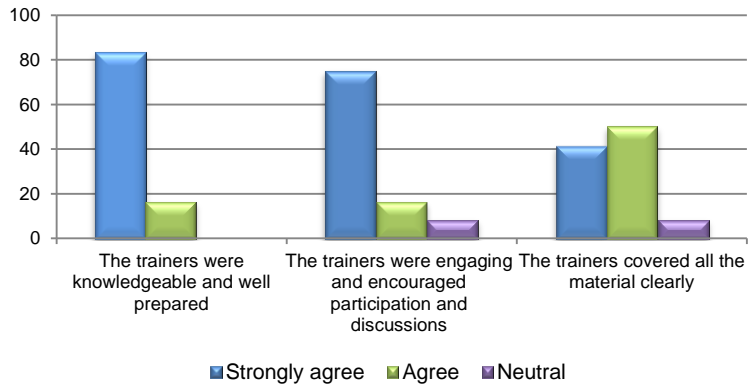
18. Ninety per cent of respondents agreed that the presentation of other countries' experiences and good practices was either highly useful (80 per cent) or useful (10 per cent), and 10 per cent considered them adequate (figure 1). In this regard, all participants considered it very likely (58.3 per cent) or likely (41.7 per cent) that they would use the newly acquired knowledge in their daily work.

19. Most respondents considered the course highly useful (45.5 per cent) or useful (45.5 per cent) in introducing them to new approaches, techniques and concepts. Similarly, participants agreed that the training was highly useful (75 per cent) or useful (16.7 per cent) in strengthening their knowledge of disaster assessment, while 8.3 per cent considered it adequate.

20. As regards the quality of the training, 100 per cent of the respondents strongly agreed (83.3 per cent) or agreed (16.7 per cent) that the trainers were knowledgeable and well prepared. Likewise, 41.7 per cent strongly agreed and 50 per cent agreed that all the materials were covered clearly (figure 2).



**FIGURE 2**  
**PARTICIPANTS' FEEDBACK ON THE FACILITATORS OF THE WORKSHOP**  
*Percentage*



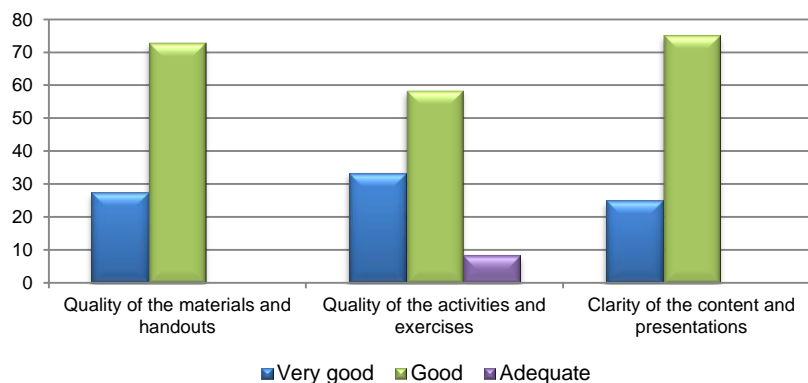
## 2. Organization of the course

21. Participants were asked to rate specific elements of the organization of the course using a 5-point scale. All respondents strongly agreed or agreed that the location of the training was convenient; 100 per cent of participants strongly agreed or agreed that the space was comfortable and conducive to learning.

22. In terms of the materials and handouts, 100 per cent of respondents rated their quality as very good (27.3 per cent) or good (72.7 per cent). Likewise, most participants rated the quality of the activities and exercises as very good (33.3 per cent) or good (58.3 per cent), while 8.3 per cent considered them adequate (figure 3).

23. Regarding the pace and structure of the sessions, 25 per cent of the participants agreed that it was very good, 66.7 per cent considered it was good, and 8.3 per cent rated it as adequate. Finally, 25 per cent of respondents rated the clarity of the content and presentations as very good and, 75 per cent rated it as good.

**FIGURE 3**  
**PARTICIPANTS' VIEWS ON THE ORGANIZATION OF THE WORKSHOP**  
*Percentage*



### 3. Responses and comments to open-ended questions

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

*What were the most important outcomes/recommendations of the course?*

- Standardized methodology for multiple sectors, multisectoral approach
- Understanding the type of data required to carry out a disaster assessment
- Understanding of the disaster assessment methodology
- Adaptability of the methodology
- Importance of data availability and consistent collection
- Linkages between the SDGs and disaster risk reduction

*Based on the contents of the course, could you provide examples of the importance of incorporating the Sustainable Development Goals into planning processes?*

- Recognize the impact of disasters in the attainment of development goals
- Importance of collecting baseline information
- Need to articulate the SDGs with disaster risk management efforts
- Evidence-based planning
- SDGs will contribute to achieving resilience and reducing vulnerabilities
- Redefine data collection mechanisms
- Incorporate disaster risk reduction in institutional budgets

*How do you expect to apply the knowledge acquired in this course?*

- Revise Damage and Needs Analysis Methodology (DANA) and similar instruments at the national level
- Identify complementarities with the work developed by CDEMA
- Streamline the DANA process
- Strengthen data collection, improve multisectoral data collection
- Share information, systems and other knowledge acquired
- Strengthen disaster assessment at the national level

*Strengths of the training*

- Clarity of the presentations and materials
- Facilitators were experienced, knowledgeable and engaging
- Sharing of international experiences and practical examples to better understand the methodology and its concepts
- Linkages between sectors
- Practical application of the methodology

*Areas of improvement*

- Provide Excel sheets/templates to solve the exercises
- Allocate more time to the solution of the exercises
- Longer training (one week)

## E. CONCLUSIONS

25. 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 impacts, and the use of examples to illustrate it. They also understood the importance of collecting sectoral data permanently in order to have reliable baseline information in case of a disaster. Once core concepts were clearly exposed, participants showed interest in continued support from ECLAC, specifically in regards to methods and lessons learned in terms of data collection and on ways of improving planning instruments.

26. Participants expressed their appreciation of the one-day seminar, as it was used to inform them about ECLAC's efforts to assist the region in implementing the 2030 Development Agenda, including work already being done in the Caribbean. Additionally, other presentations strengthened their knowledge in regards to financial protection and data collection tools.

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.

28. The event brought together three disaster-related regional/international organizations (ECLAC, CDEMA and CCRIF), which was highly valued by participants as it signals the efforts of the organizations to collaborate and simplify processes. Several participants expressed their interest in requesting a training course on the Disaster Assessment Methodology or related technical assistance for their countries. Likewise, the success of the training was acknowledged by CDEMA and CCRIF, which opens opportunities for similar activities in the future.

Annex I**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

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Annex II

**Evaluation Form**  
**Training Course: Disaster Assessment Methodology**

**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.

<b>Sex</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Sector</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Female	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 or under	<input type="checkbox"/> Public
<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> 31 – 40	<input type="checkbox"/> Private
	<input type="checkbox"/> 41 – 50	<input type="checkbox"/> Academia
	<input type="checkbox"/> 51 or over	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (NGO, social organization, etc)

**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	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Relevance of the recommendations for your work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Introduction to new approaches and techniques	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengthening of knowledge about disaster assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Usefulness of the methodology for your work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Usefulness of the experiences and good practices for your country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

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9. Based on the contents of the course, could you provide examples of the importance of incorporating the Sustainable Development Goals into planning processes?

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10. How do you intend/expect to apply the knowledge acquired in this training course?

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11. Strengths of the training:

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12. Areas of improvement:

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**THANK YOU**

Annex III**RESPONSES TO CLOSE-ENDED QUESTIONS****Table 1. Sex**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Female	8	66.7	66.7
	Male	4	33.3	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	

**Table 2. Age**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	30 or under	3	27.3	27.3
	31-40	1	9.1	36.4
	41-50	4	36.4	72.7
	50 or over	3	27.3	100.0
	Total	11	100.0	

**Table 3. Sector**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Public	7	63.6	63.6
	Private	2	18.2	81.8
	Other	2	18.2	100.0
	Total	11	100.0	

**Table 4. Prior training in disaster assessment**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Yes	6	50.0	50.0
	No	6	50.0	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	

**Table 5. Pace and structure of the sessions**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Very good	3	25.0	25.0
	Good	8	66.7	91.7
	Adequate	1	8.3	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	

**Table 6. Quality of the materials and handouts**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Very good	3	27.3	27.3
	Good	8	72.7	100.0
	Total	11	100.0	

**Table 7. Quality of the activities and exercises**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Very good	4	33.3	33.3
	Good	7	58.3	91.7
	Adequate	1	8.3	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	

**Table 8. Clarity of the content and presentations**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Very good	3	25.0	25.0
	Good	9	75.0	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	

**Table 9. Overall rate of the course**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Very good	8	66.7	66.7
	Good	4	33.3	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	

**Table 10. The trainers were knowledgeable and well prepared**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Strongly agree	10	83.3	83.3
	Agree	2	16.7	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	

**Table 11. The trainers were engaging and encouraged participation and discussions**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Strongly agree	9	75.0	75.0
	Agree	2	16.7	91.7
	Neutral	1	8.3	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	

**Table 12. The trainers covered all the material clearly**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Strongly agree	5	41.7	41.7
	Agree	6	50.0	91.7
	Neutral	1	8.3	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	

**Table 13. The location of the training was convenient**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Strongly agree	6	50.0	50.0
	Agree	6	50.0	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	



**Table 14. The training space was comfortable and conducive to learning**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Strongly agree	8	66.7	66.7
	Agree	4	33.3	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	

**Table 15. Relevance of the topics and presentations for your work**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Highly useful	5	41.7	41.7
	Useful	6	50.0	91.7
	Adequate	1	8.3	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	

**Table 16. Relevance of the recommendations for your work**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Highly useful	6	50.0	50.0
	Useful	6	50.0	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	

**Table 17. Introduction to new approaches, techniques and concepts**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Highly useful	5	45.5	45.5
	Useful	5	45.5	90.9
	Adequate	1	9.1	100.0
	Total	11	100.0	

**Table 18. Strengthening of knowledge about disaster assessment**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Highly useful	9	75.0	75.0
	Useful	2	16.7	91.7
	Adequate	1	8.3	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	

**Table 19. Usefulness of the methodology for your work**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Highly useful	6	50.0	50.0
	Useful	5	41.7	91.7
	Adequate	1	8.3	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	

**Table 20. Usefulness of the experiences and good practices for your country**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Highly useful	8	80.0	80.0
	Useful	1	10.0	90.0
	Adequate	1	10.0	100.0
	Total	10	100.0	

**Table 21. Did the training meet your expectations?**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Yes	12	100.0	100.0

**Table 22. What is the likelihood of using what you learned in this training?**

		<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>	<i>Cumulative Percent</i>
Valid	Very likely	7	58.3	58.3
	Likely	5	41.7	100.0
	Total	12	100.0	



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