

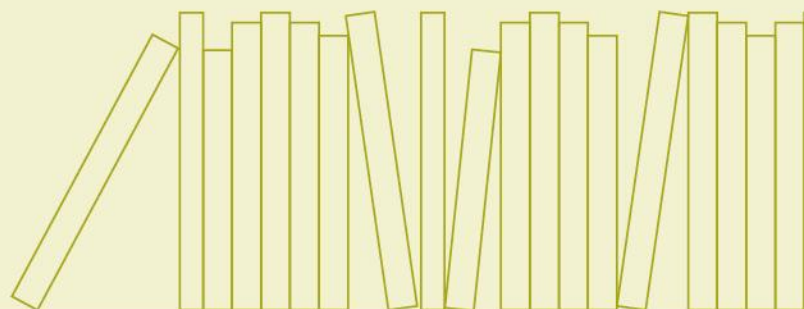
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

**ECLAC SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS
FOR THE CARIBBEAN**



Evaluation report of the workshop on the use of the updated ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology

Tortola, British Virgin Islands



UNITED NATIONS

ECLAC



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

Workshop on the use of the updated
ECLAC Disaster Assessment Methodology
6 December 2018
Tortola, British Virgin Islands

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**EVALUATION REPORT OF THE WORKSHOP ON THE USE OF THE
UPDATED ECLAC DISASTER ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY**

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TORTOLA, BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

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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 100 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 designs, plans and delivers periodic tailor-made training courses based on countries' demand.
3. The training course is designed for policymakers and professionals involved directly with disaster risk management and risk reduction. Considering that the methodology is comprehensive in scope, it is also planned for sector specialists, providing a multisector overview of the situation after a disaster, as well as an economic estimate of the damages, losses and additional costs.
4. In October 2017, ECLAC was requested to provide technical assistance in the evaluation of the impacts and effects of Hurricane Irma and Maria in the British Virgin Islands. The evaluation was conducted for a period of one week and was attended by a multidisciplinary team of ECLAC staff and external experts. The final report highlighted the social, infrastructure, productive and macroeconomic impacts of the event and recommended actions for a resilient reconstruction of affected areas.
5. A follow-up training activity on the use of DaLA methodology was planned in order to present the evaluation's results, to provide clarity and transparency regarding the methodology used in the evaluation, and to support the efforts of the Government of the British Virgin Islands in incorporating prevention, estimation, and risk reduction in public investment plans and development programs.
6. This workshop had the financial support of the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility Segregated Portfolio Company (CRRIF SPC).

B. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Place and date of the training course

7. A concise training session on the "Disaster Assessment Methodology" was held on 6 December 2018, in Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

2. Attendance

8. The training course targeted multisector specialists invited by the Government of the British Virgin Islands and included 29 participants from several public sector organizations.
9. The course was facilitated by the Coordinator of the Sustainable Development and Disaster Unit and the Public Information Assistant of ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean.

C. SUMMARY OF KEY OUTCOMES OF THE TRAINING COURSE

10. Sectors reviewed in the presentation reflected the same topics included in the final report as well as examples used to demonstrate the application of the methodology in real case scenarios. The following sessions were included in the one-day programme: (1) presentation of report's results and basic concepts of the methodology, (2) affected populations, (3) housing, (4) tourism, (5) telecommunications, and (6) macroeconomic impacts and consolidation of results.

11. In order to help participants understand the practical use of the methodology, exercises were made available to help participants assimilate the concepts discussed.

12. The ECLAC team shared the experience of various governments in the Caribbean Region in incorporating disaster risk reduction in public investment and used examples of other disaster risk management initiatives and best practices to clarify the application and usefulness of the methodology. Moreover, the sessions discussed the findings of the assessment mission carried out in the British Virgin Islands and identified the vulnerabilities and positive developments in disaster and risk management.

D. SUMMARY OF EVALUATIONS

13. An evaluation questionnaire was provided to elicit participants' feedback on diverse aspects of the course. This section of the report presents a summary of the comments provided by participants on the final day of the training.

14. Fifty-three participants attended the training. Twenty-nine responded to the questionnaire, 14 were female (48 percent) and 15 were male (52 percent). All participants responded to the questionnaire. The full list of participants is annexed to the report.

15. In terms of knowledge of the topic, 13 participants replied that they had never participated in a training course on disaster assessment before, while 3 participants replied that they had received training on the subject previously.

TABLE 1
PRIOR TRAINING IN DISASTER ASSESSMENT

		Frequency	Percent of valid answers	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	3	19.0	19.0
	No	13	81.0	100.0
	Total	16	100.0	100.0

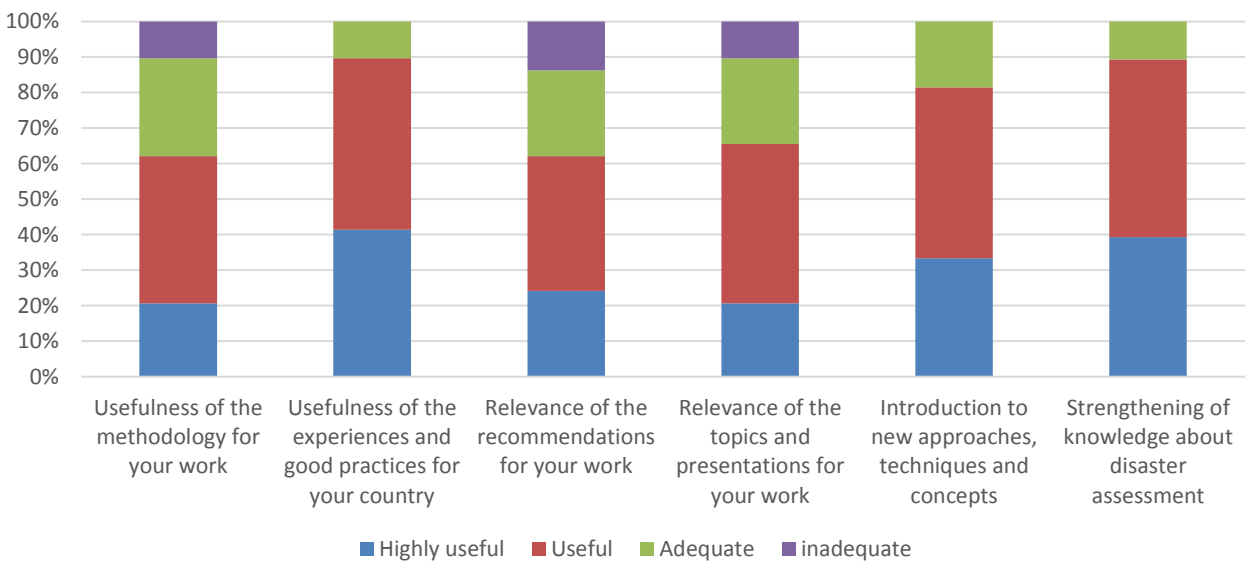
1. Content, delivery and trainers

16. Twenty-three respondents reported that the training course met their expectations (88 per cent).

17. Considering a 5-point scale ranging from inadequate to highly useful, in terms of the impact and relevance of the training, respondents considered that the topics and presentations were highly useful (21 per cent), useful (45 per cent) or adequate (7 per cent) for their work and 10 per cent responded it was inadequate. Considering the relevance of the recommendations given during the training, 24 per cent of respondents rated them as highly useful, 38 per cent as useful, 24 per cent as adequate and 14 per cent as inadequate. Participants agreed that the presentation of other countries' experiences and good practices

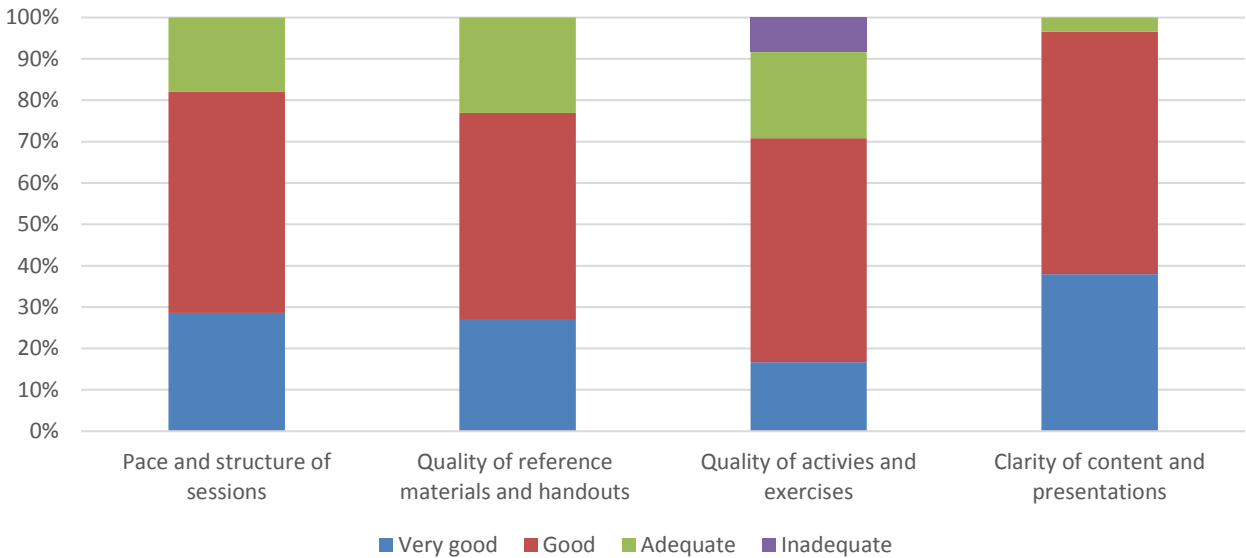
was either highly useful (41 per cent) or useful (48 per cent) and adequate (10 per cent). Respondents considered the course highly useful (33 per cent), useful (48 per cent) or adequate (19 per cent) in introducing them to new approaches, techniques and concepts. Similarly, participants agreed that the training was highly useful (39 per cent), useful (50 per cent) or adequate (11 per cent) in strengthening their knowledge of disaster assessment. It is also worth noting that 21 per cent agreed that the methodology was highly useful, 41 per cent useful and 28 per cent adequate for their work, 10 per cent considered it inadequate and that it was very likely (26 per cent) or likely (41 per cent), neutral (26 per cent) or improbable (7 per cent) that they would use the newly acquired knowledge in their daily work.

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



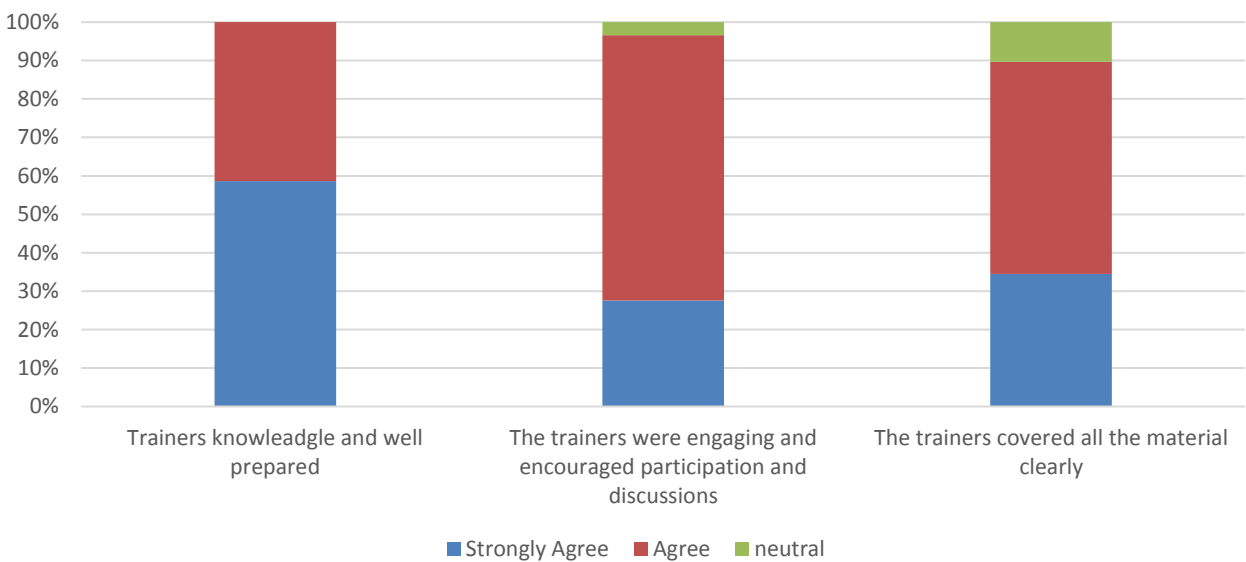
18. In evaluating the content delivery on a 5-point scale from poor to very good, participants considered that the pace and structure of sessions was good (54 per cent) or very good (29 per cent) or adequate (18 per cent). The quality of materials was also rated as good (50 per cent) or very good (27 per cent) or adequate (23 per cent), as well as the quality of actives and exercises rated as very good (17 per cent), good (54 per cent) or adequate (21 per cent). Participants also highly rated the clarity of content (38 per cent considered it very good and 59 rated as good and 3 per cent as adequate).

FIGURE 2
PARTICIPANTS' FEEDBACK ON CONTENT DELIVERY



19. Regarding the quality of the trainers, respondents strongly agreed (59 per cent) or agreed (41 per cent) that the trainers were knowledgeable and well prepared. Likewise, 28 per cent strongly agreed and 69 per cent agreed that all the materials were clearly covered and that trainers were engaging and encouraged questions and participation (34 per cent strongly agree and 55 per cent agree).

FIGURE 3
PARTICIPANTS' FEEDBACK ON THE FACILITATORS OF THE WORKSHOP



2. Organization of the course

20. Participants were asked to rate specific elements of the organization of the course using a 5-point scale from strongly disagree to strongly agree. 28 per cent of respondents strongly agreed, 59 agreed and 14 per cent were neutral that the location of the training was convenient and that the space was comfortable and conducive to learning.

3. Responses and comments to open-ended questions

21. The general responses received to open-ended questions were the following:

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

- Learning to generate damage and losses assessments
- The need to constantly collect data to facilitate posterior decision-making
- Having a clear definition and categorization of damage/losses and additional costs
- The information on the damage and losses from the 2017 disaster

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

- Pre-assessment studies help to monitor SDGs and identify most vulnerable population
- Organized informed recovery and assessment process are useful for the achievement of the SDGs
- Better planning for disaster may avoid a significant portion of economic losses that impact the development process

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

- Plan to share knowledge with other colleagues and engage in cooperation with people in the office of statistics for data collection
- Collecting data for better informed decisions related to disasters
- Developing a proper documentation of assets in a certain sector
- Averting common pitfalls experiences in disaster assessments processes
- Being better equipped to look at existing vulnerabilities and understand how they can be addressed

Strengths of the training:

- Knowledge and expertise of presenters
- Usage of relevant examples of countries in the region
- A detailed explanation of the magnitude of the disaster the country has been through
- Provision of material to review at self-pacing
- Information on past hurricane incidents in the region

Areas of improvement:

- Too little time to convey a lot of information
- More interaction and exercises
- More emphasis on the infrastructure sectors
- Shorter sections focusing on one field for a specific audience

E. CONCLUSIONS

22. Overall, the training was positively valued, and the participants' responses reflected a high level of satisfaction with the content of the course and the expertise of the trainers. Participants appreciated the information on the application of the methodology to assess damage and losses and the use of examples from countries in the region to illustrate it. They also understood the importance of collecting sectoral data permanently to have reliable baseline information in case of a disaster.

23. Participants highlighted the need to collect sectoral data to form a baseline inventory of assets. They also expressed the importance of incorporating disaster and risk management aspects into policies and plans to decrease vulnerabilities and support the implementation of the SDGs. The fact that the course was condensed to a single day, given the constraints of the local organizers, resulted in concerns expressed that the amount of information was conveyed in a too short period. The main suggestions of participants were related to the relatively short duration of the workshop, taking into account the amount of content and use of practical exercises to apply the concepts learned, which would have benefited from more time. Moreover, some participants expressed that the course was not relevant to their work. As a lesson learned, it is important to communicate with the local counterparts responsible for selecting participants to clarify the right profile of expected participants.

24. Participants commended the organizers on the content of the course, particularly its success in presenting complex topic in a simple and engaging way. The open-ended questions demonstrate that the course was able not only to highlight the importance of damage and loss assessments in different type of disasters, but also demonstrated the relevance of incorporating cross-sector measures to reduce vulnerabilities. The responses further indicated how the course might have a larger impact, since it was mentioned that the knowledge and material provided would be shared with other colleagues in their respective work places.

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.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| Sex
<input type="checkbox"/> Female
<input type="checkbox"/> Male | Age
<input type="checkbox"/> 30 or under
<input type="checkbox"/> 31 – 40
<input type="checkbox"/> 41 – 50
<input type="checkbox"/> 51 or over | Sector
<input type="checkbox"/> Public
<input type="checkbox"/> Private
<input type="checkbox"/> Academia
<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	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
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. Based on the contents of the course, could you provide examples of the importance of incorporating the Sustainable Development Goals into planning processes?

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

11. Strengths of the training:

12. Areas of improvement:

Annex III**Responses to close-ended questions**

Table 1. Sex

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Female	14	48	48
	Male	15	52	100.0
	Total	29	100	

Table 2. Age

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	30 or under	4	15	15
	31-40	11	41	56
	41-50	7	26	81
	50 or over	5	19	100.0
	Total	27	100	

Table 3. Sector

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Public	27	100	100
	Private	0	0	100
	Other	0	0	100
	Total	27	100.0	

Table 4. Prior training in disaster assessment

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	3	19	19
	No	13	81	100.0
	Total	16	100	

Table 5. Pace and structure of the sessions

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very good	8	29	29
	Good	15	54	82
	Adequate	5	18	100
	Total	28	100.0	

Table 6. Quality of the materials and handouts

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very good	7	27	27
	Good	13	50	77
	Adequate	6	23	100
	Total	26	100.0	

Table 7. Quality of the activities and exercises

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very good	4	17	17
	Good	13	54	71
	Adequate	5	21	92
	Bellow average	2	8	100
	Total	24	100.0	

Table 8. Clarity of the content and presentations

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very good	11	38	38
	Good	17	59	97
	Adequate	1	3	100
	Total	29	100.0	

Table 9. Overall rate of the course

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very good	9	33	33
	Good	14	52	85
	Adequate	4	15	100
	Total	27	100.0	

Table 10. The trainers were knowledgeable and well prepared

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly agree	17	59	59
	Agree	12	41	100
	Total	29	100.0	

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

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly agree	8	28	28
	Agree	20	69	97
	Adequate	1	3	100
	Total	29	100.0	

Table 12. The trainers covered all the material clearly

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly agree	10	34	34
	Agree	16	55	90
	Adequate	3	10	100
	Total	29	100.0	

Table 13. The location of the training was convenient

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly agree	8	28	28
	Agree	17	59	86
	Neutral	4	14	100
	Total	29	100.0	

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

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly agree	4	17	17
	Agree	14	48	75
	Neutral	7	29	88
	Disagree	3	13	100
	Total	24	100.0	

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

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Highly useful	6	21	21
	Useful	13	45	66
	Adequate	7	24	90
	Inadequate	3	10	100
	Total	29	100.0	

Table 16. Relevance of the recommendations for your work

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Highly useful	7	24	24
	Useful	11	38	62
	Adequate	7	24	86
	Inadequate	4	14	100
	Total	29	100.0	

Table 17. Introduction to new approaches, techniques and concepts

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Highly useful	9	33	33
	Useful	13	48	81
	Adequate	5	19	100
	Total	27	100.0	

Table 18. Strengthening of knowledge about disaster assessment

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Highly useful	11	39	39
	Useful	14	50	89
	Adequate	3	11	100
	Total	28	100.0	

Table 19. Usefulness of the methodology for your work

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Highly useful	6	21	21
	Useful	12	41	62
	Adequate	8	28	90
	Inadequate	3	10	100
	Total	29	100.0	

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

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Highly useful	12	41	41
	Useful	14	48	90
	Adequate	3	10	100
	Total	29	100.0	

Table 21. Did the training meet your expectations?

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	23	88	88
	No	3	12	

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

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very likely	7	26	26
	Likely	11	41	67
	Neutral	7	26	93
	Improbable	2	7	100
	Total	27	100.0	



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