



SEM-SEM



Smart Control Systems for Energy Management

Erasmus + #: 561703-EPP-1-2015-1-UK-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

for the training held on the 26th to 28th of March 2018, in Cairo (ALEXSEEDS), Egypt





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a. Introduction – Purpose of this Document

As foreseen in the project proposal and, consequently, in the SEM-SEM QA Plan, the QA of the SEM-SEM project will be continuous; thus, will be implemented throughout the project lifetime. Evaluation is necessary to improve the quality of the project and its products. According to the proposal and the Work Package 12 (Quality Plan), EUROTraining is responsible for monitoring the progress of the activities and gathering the results and going on to compose the relevant reports. For this reason, after each and every session (training/workshop/project meeting), a questionnaire should be filled in by all participants.

In the aforementioned framework, this evaluation report aims at outlining the outcomes of the training that was held in Cairo on the 26th to 28th of March 2018, in Cairo. EUROTraining used Google Forms in order to create the questionnaire and easier distribute it to participants. Google Forms is part of Google's online apps suite of tools, it's user – friendly and provided for free. Many reminders were sent to participants of the training to complete the evaluation form. Deadlines for its completion have been constantly updated to provide more time to participants who were willing to evaluate the training. With the help of the hosting partner, all participants of the training responded to the questionnaire at last.





b. Results' Analysis

This part of the document contains a summary and statistical analysis of the answers given by the training's participants. Graphs are included so that the analysis is easier understandable.

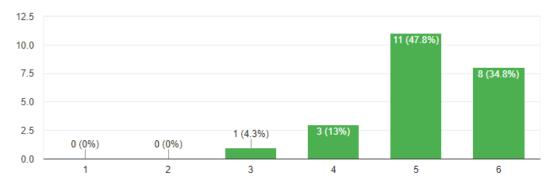
Question 1: "Name and Surname" (optional)

The first question of the evaluation questionnaire was about the name and surname of the respondents. As participants in evaluations tend to prefer to keep their anonymity during the process, this question was not obligatory. However, twenty-three of twenty-four participants chose to answer that question.

Question 2: "Profession and Institute" (optional)

The second question was, also, about some personal information of the respondents, namely their profession or status. That kind of information can be very useful for the evaluation, as it would be good to know how participants are related to the project and its objectives. Even though this question was not compulsory either, twenty-one participants chose to answer it.

Question 3: "The objectives of the training were clearly defined" 23 responses



In the first multiple-choice question of the evaluation form participants were asked to evaluate the clarity of the training's objectives. Most participants, eleven out of twenty-three (47.8%), "Agreed" that objectives were clearly

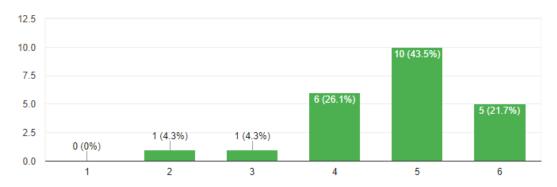




defined, while another eight (34.8%) "Totally agreed". Three respondents (13%) "Rather agreed" about the clear definition of the objectives, whereas one (4.3%) "Rather disagreed". In general, most participants were satisfied by the definition of objectives, but results show that there might still be room for improvement on that aspect of the training.

Question 4: "Selection and topics were appropriate to my role and responsibilities"



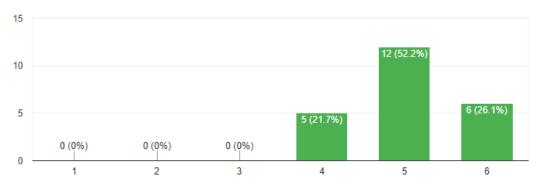


Regarding the topics of the training, responses were distributed among five of the six options. More specifically, five participants (21.7%) "Totally agreed" that the selection of topics were appropriate to their roles and responsibilities, ten (43.5%) "Agreed" with that, six (26.1%) "Rather agreed", one (4.3%) "Rather disagreed", and another one (4.3%) "Disagreed". This divergence of opinions might be due to different professional and academic backgrounds of participants, whose expectations varied too.



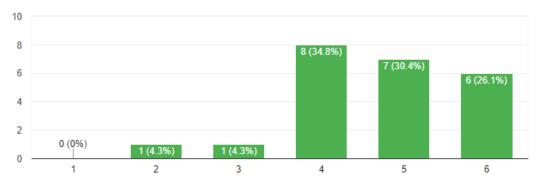


Question 5: "The training improved my understanding of the subject" 23 responses



In that question, participants were asked to evaluate the effect of the training on their understanding of the relevant subject. Most respondents (52.2%) "Agreed" that their understanding of the subjects was indeed improved after the training, while another six (26.1%) "Totally agreed" and five (21.7%) "Rather agreed". In general, it seems that all participants were benefited, at different levels, by the training in terms of acquiring knowledge on the discussed issues.

Question 6: "I will be able to apply the knowledge acquired" 23 responses



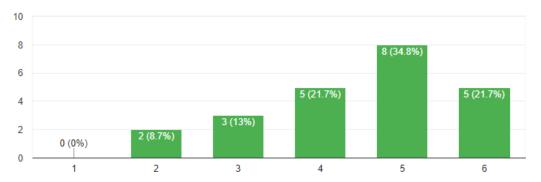
A significant factor of an effective training is to provide participants with applicable knowledge. From twenty-three participants, six (26.1%) "Totally agreed" that they will be able to apply the acquired knowledge, seven (30.4%) "Agreed", eight (34.8%) "Rather agreed", one (4.3%) "Rather disagreed", and another one (4.3%) "Disagreed". These findings might indicate that the discussed issues were not applicable to all participants' fields of expertise, which can be considered reasonable taking into account different educational and professional backgrounds.





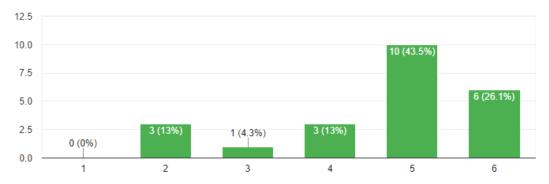
Question 7: "Visual and supporting material were useful and easy to follow"

23 responses



In that question, participants were asked to evaluate the visual and supporting material that was used during the training, specifically its usefulness and easiness to follow. Responses were distributed among many answers, expressing a difference of opinions. Five participants (21.7%) "Totally agreed" that the used material was useful and easy to follow, eight (34.8%) "Agreed", five (21.7%) "Rather agreed", three (13%) "Rather disagreed", and two (8.7%) "Disagreed".

Question 8: "Participation and interaction were encouraged" 23 responses



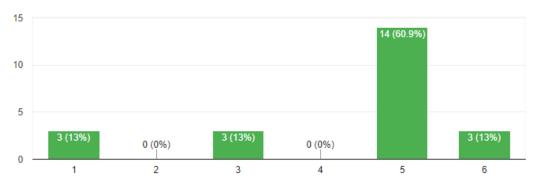
Regarding the participation and interaction during the training, six out of twenty-three participants (26.1%) "Totally agreed" that these were encouraged, ten (43.5%) "Agreed", three (13%) "Rather agreed", one (4.3%) "Rather disagreed", and three (13%) "Disagreed". As results indicate, even though the majority was satisfied by the encouragement of participation and interaction, there were some participants who didn't feel encouraged to do so.





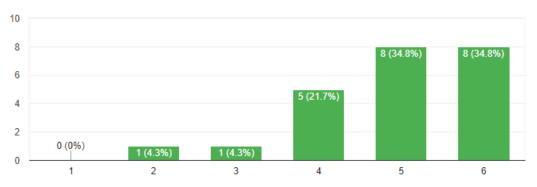
Question 9: "There was a correct balance between theoretical exercises and discussion"

23 responses



Regarding the balance between theoretical exercises and discussion, responses were highly differentiated. Three participants (13%) "Totally agreed" that the balance was correct, fourteen (60.9%) "Agreed", three (13%) "Rather disagreed", and another three (13%) "Totally disagreed". It is evident that not all participants were satisfied by the balance of the theoretical part and the discussion, and especially the very negative views should be looked further into.

Question 10: "The trainer was well prepared" 23 responses

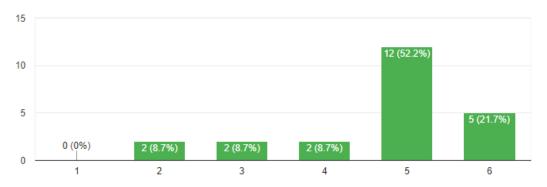


In that question, participants were asked to evaluate the preparedness of the trainer. Eight participants (34.8%) "Totally agreed" that the trainer was well prepared, while another eight (34.8%) "Agreed". Five participants (21.7%) "Rather agreed", one (4.3%) "Rather disagreed", and another one (4.3%) "Disagreed". In overall terms, participants were satisfied, at different levels, by the trainer, even though some not so favorable opinions were expressed, too.



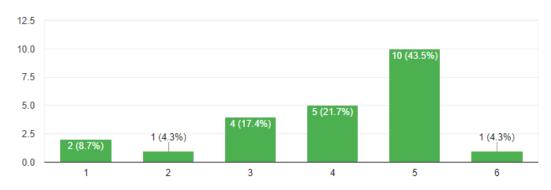


Question 11: "The training objectives were met" 23 responses



As far as the objectives of the training is concerned, five participants (21.7%) "Totally agreed" that they were achieved, twelve (52.2%) "Agreed" and two (8.7%) "Rather agreed". On the other hand, two out of twenty-three participants (8.7%) "Rather disagreed" and another two (8.7%) "Disagreed" regarding the achievement of objectives.

Question 12: "How do you rate the duration, date and timing of the training?"
²³ responses



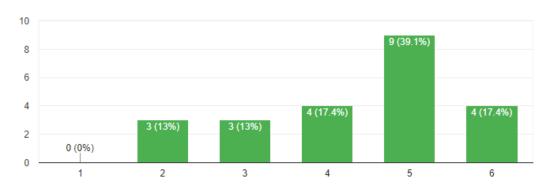
In this question, participants were asked to review the duration, date, and timing of the training, all very important aspects of an effective training. As the graph indicates, one participant (4.3%) found these aspects of the training "Excellent", ten (43.5%) "Very good", five (21.7%) "Good", four (17.4%) "Balanced", one (4.3%) "Poor" and two (8.7%) "Very poor". It can be said that even though a fair amount of participants were satisfied by the duration, date and timing of the training, some other participants expressed negative opinions on that issues





and relevant feedback should be collected in order to identify the reason of this dissatisfaction.

Question 13: "Overall evaluation of the training" 23 responses



In that question, participants were asked to evaluate the training in overall. Most participants' answers were positive, as four participants (17.4%) found it "Excellent", nine (39.1%) "Very good", and another four (17.4%) "Good". In addition, three respondents (13%) evaluated the training in overall as "Balanced" and another three (13%) as "Poor".

Question 14: "Which topics would you suggest for future training sessions?"

This question was an open – ended question where participants were asked to recommend topics to be included to the next trainings. Results show that partners were not that willing to provide recommendations, as only four answers were given (including one blank).

4 responses

Smart Home Energy Management Systems

Energy saving

Focus on technology of solar energy system.





Question 15: Which aspects do you think could be improved for the next training sessions? Any additional comments?

The last question of the evaluation was, also, an optional open – ended question, where participants had the opportunity to suggest any possible improvements for the next trainings or make any additional comment. Even though answers to previous questions indicated that participants were not fully satisfied by the training, when asked what could be improved, only one participant responded.

1 response

More interaction between the trainer and the audience

c. Final Remarks

The evaluation of the training was conducted through an on – line questionnaire that consisted of fifteen questions: two optional regarding some personal information of the respondents, eleven evaluating questions of linear scale (1: I totally disagree // 2: I disagree // 3: I rather disagree // 4: I rather agree // 5: I agree // 6: I totally agree or 1: Very poor // 2: Poor // 3: Balanced // 4: Good // 5: Very good // 6: Excellent, depending on the type of the question), and two optional, open – ended question for recommendations and additional comments.

As the analysis of the evaluation's results indicates, training can be, in general, characterized as average. Answers were ranged between all possible options, expressing a great difference of opinions in some cases.

Encouraging results were noted regarding the participants' improvement of understanding of the subject, as well as the clear definition of the training's objectives. On the other hand, improvements should be considered on the visual and supporting material used, the encouragement of participation and interaction, the balance between theoretical exercises and discussion, and the duration, date, and timing of the training.