



SEM-SEM



Smart Control Systems for Energy Management

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

Evaluation Report
for the training held on the 9th to
11th of May 2018, in Lisbon (IST),
Portugal



Project Acronym:	SEM-SEM
Full Project Title:	Smart Control Systems for Energy Management
Project No.:	561703-EPP-1-2015-1-UK-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP
Funding Scheme:	ERASMUS+
Project Coordinator:	STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY (SU)
Project Quality Coordinator:	Eurotraining

Title of Work Package	Monitoring and Quality Control
Work Package	WP12
Work Package Leader	EUROTraining
Target Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ All project partners✓ Students, teachers, engineers and industry management
Starting Date	15-10-2015
Activity Duration	3 years
Document Compiled by	Eurotraining
Document Version	Final
Dissemination Level	Institution



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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 tenth training that was held in IST on the 9th to 11th of May 2018, in Lisbon. 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. After many weeks of waiting for responses, almost all participants of the training responded to the questionnaire.

In total, twenty-four responses were gathered, and the results described in this evaluation report are solely based on those answers.



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)

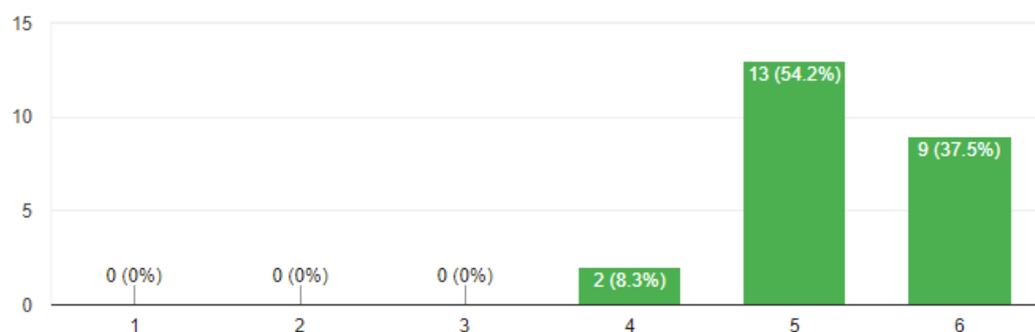
The first question of the evaluation questionnaire was about the name and surname of the respondents. As participants in evaluations tend to prefer to keep their anonymity during the process, this question was not obligatory. However, twenty-three of twenty-four participants chose to answer it, expressing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

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. Similarly, twenty-three participants chose to respond to this question, too.

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

24 responses



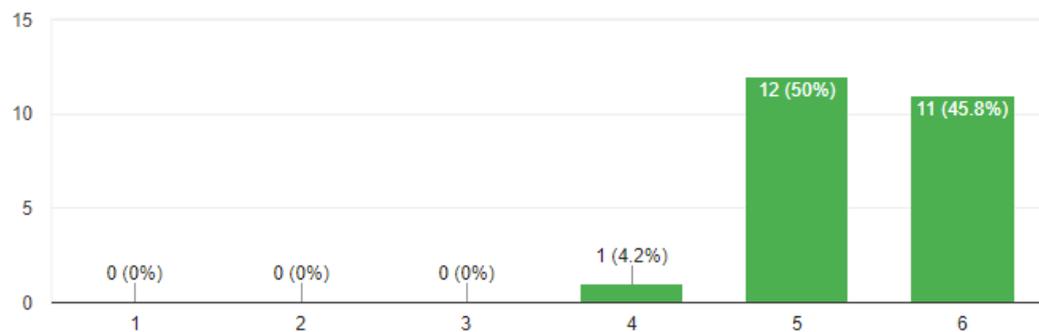
In the first multiple choice question, participants were asked to evaluate the clarity of the training's objectives. Thirteen out of twenty-four participants (54.2%) "Agreed" that the objectives were clearly defined and another nine



(37.5%) “Totally agreed” with that. Another two respondents (8.3%) “Rather agreed” about the clarity of the training’s objectives. In general, participants seemed to be satisfied by the clear definition of the objectives, that surely contributed to the implementation of a successful training.

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

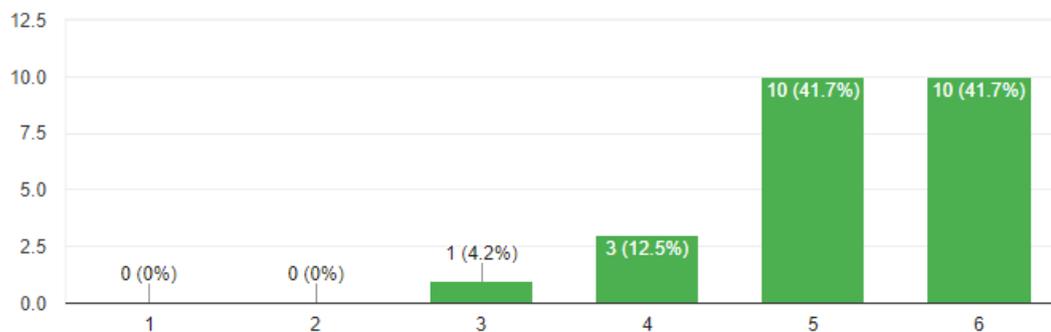
24 responses



Regarding the topics of the training, twelve participants (50%) “Agreed” that these were appropriate to their roles and responsibilities, while almost as many (11 participants, 45.8%) “Totally agreed”. One participant (4.2%) “Rather agreed” about the appropriateness of the topics, expressing a more neutral opinion.

Question 5: “The training improved my understanding of the subject”

24 responses



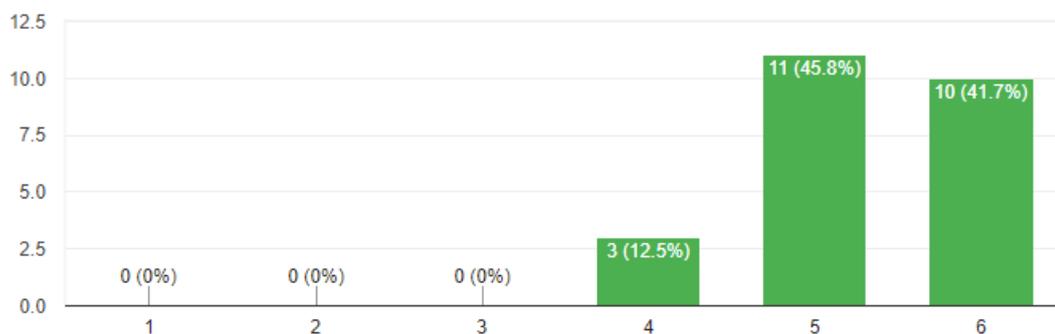
In this question, participants were asked whether the training improved their understanding of the subject. The answers “Totally agree” and “Agree”



gathered ten responses each (41.7% each), indicating that the training contributed, at some level, to the improvement of the participants' knowledge on the presented topics. Another three respondents (12.5%) "Rather agreed" about improving their understanding of the subject after the training, while one (4.2%) "Rather disagreed". This diversity of opinions can be attributed to different academic and professional backgrounds, as well as different levels of experience.

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

24 responses

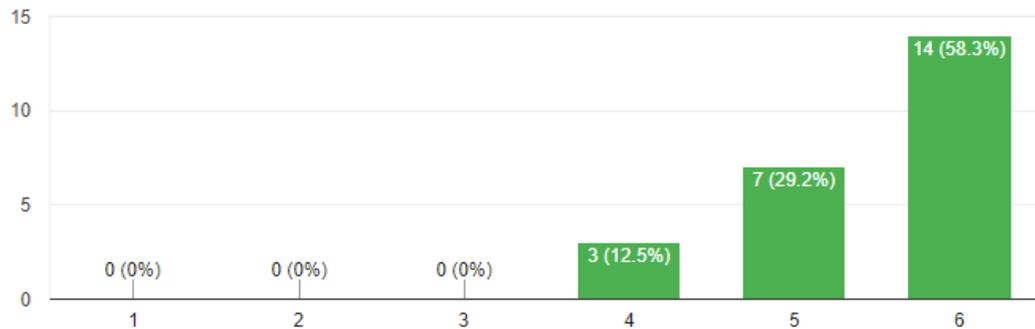


Another aspect of a successful training that is also linked to the previous question is whether participants will be able to put the acquired knowledge in practice. Ten participants (41.7%) "Totally agreed" that they will apply that knowledge, eleven (45.8%) "Agreed", and three (12.5%) "Rather agreed". Similarly, depending on each participant's professional status and experience, their ability to apply the acquired knowledge varied accordingly.



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

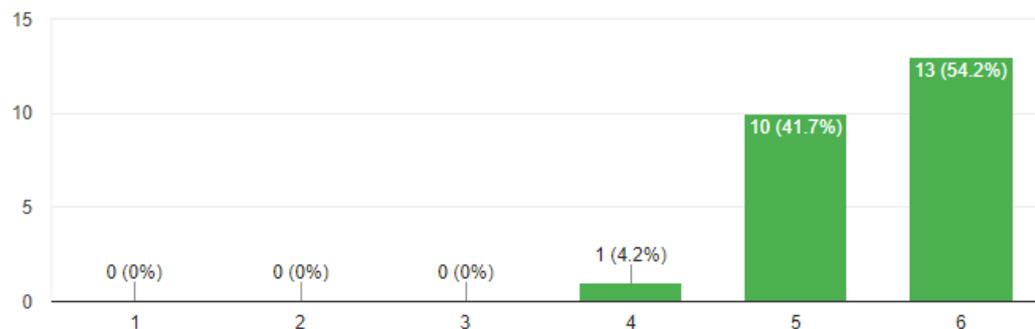
24 responses



In that question, participants evaluated the visual and supporting material that was used during the training. Fourteen out of twenty-four participants (58.3%) “Totally agreed” that it was useful and easy to follow, seven (29.2%) “Agreed”, and three (12.5%) “Rather agreed”.

Question 8: “Participation and interaction were encouraged”

24 responses

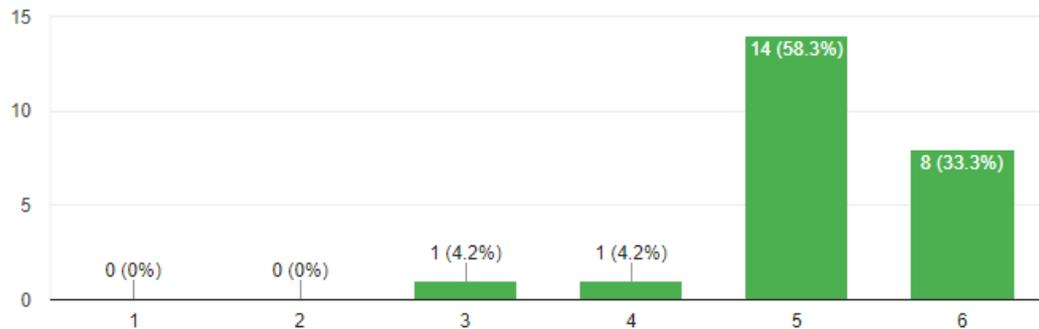


An effective training is usually characterised by a high level of interaction that fosters the exchange of knowledge and opinions on the discussed issues. To the relevant question, thirteen out of twenty-four participants (54.2%) “Totally agreed” that participation and interaction were encouraged during the training in IST, another ten (41.7%) “Agreed”, and one (4.2%) “Rather agreed”. In general, these findings show that participants seemed to be satisfied by the interactive part of the training, indicating that they did not only acquired knowledge but were able to share their thoughts and experience on that, too.



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

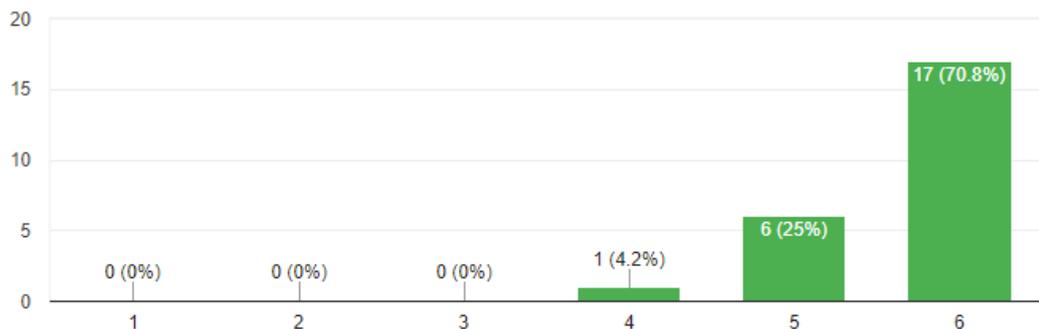
24 responses



Regarding the balance between theoretical exercises and discussion, responses were, also, positive. More specifically, fourteen participants (58.3%) “Agreed” that the balance was appropriate, while eight (33.3%) “Totally agreed”. Another one (4.2%) “Rather agreed” about the suitability of balance between theory and discussion, while one respondent “Rather disagreed”.

Question 10: “The trainer was well prepared”

24 responses

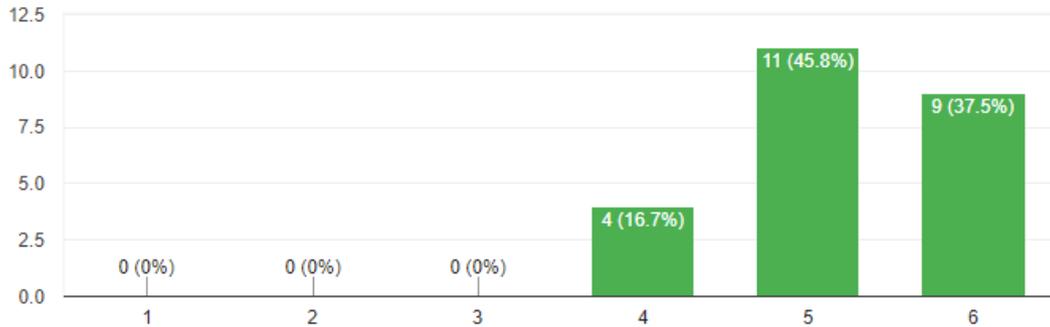


In that question, participants were asked to evaluate the preparedness of the trainer. The results of that question were very encouraging as the vast majority of participants (70.8%) “Totally agreed” that the trainer was well prepared. Another six (25%) “Agreed” and one (4.2%) “Rather agreed”. It seems that the trainer fully corresponded to the needs and expectations of participants, which is always a significant factor of an efficient training.



Question 11: “The training objectives were met”

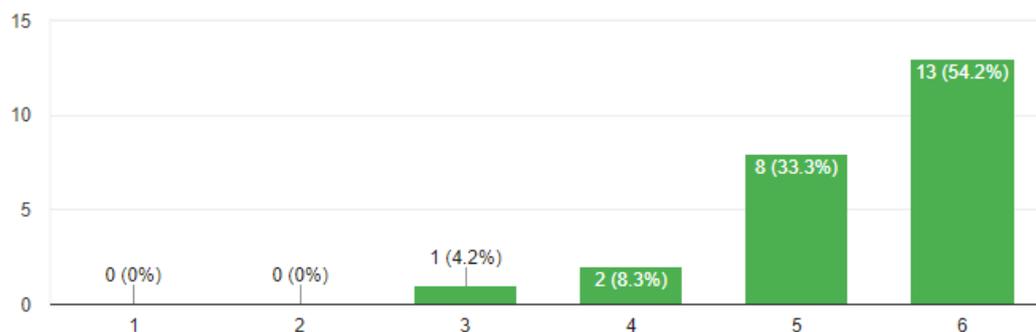
24 responses



As far as the training’s objectives is concerned, nine participants (37.5%) “Totally agreed” that these were achieved, while another eleven (45.8%) “Agreed” to that. Four participants (16.7%) “Rather agreed” that the training’s objectives were met. These results indicate that the majority of participants was aware of the goals of the training and after its conclusion they were able to identify that the agreed workplan had been followed, foreseen results were achieved, and targets were met.

Question 12: “How do you rate the duration, date and timing of the training?”

24 responses

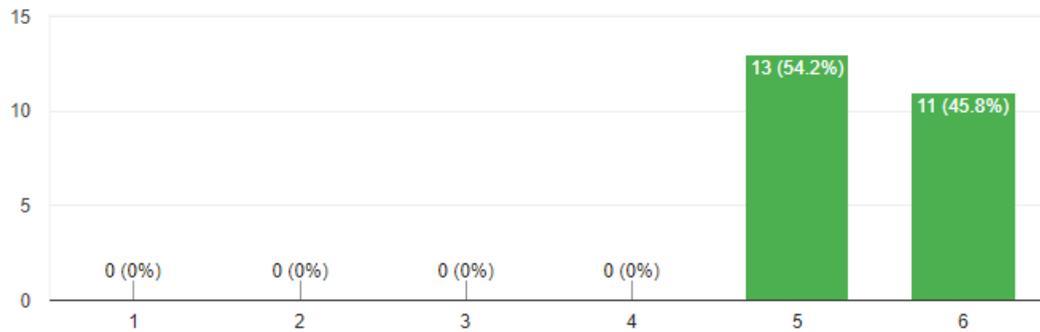


In this question, participants were asked to evaluate the duration, date, and timing of the training. The majority of participants (54.25) found those aspects “Excellent”, eight participants (33.3%) “Very good”, two (8.3%) “Good”, and one (4.2%) “Balanced”. These results, even if they’re not discouraging, indicate that there might still be room for improvement regarding those specific aspects of the training.



Question 13: “Overall evaluation of the training”

24 responses



In that question, participants were asked to evaluate the training in overall. Most participants' answers were positive, as eleven out of twenty-four participants (45.8%) rated the training as “Excellent”, while the rest thirteen (54.2%) as “Very good”. These results are aligned with responses of all previous questions, where findings were mainly positive with only minor issues identified.

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

This question was an open – ended, optional question where participants were asked to recommend topics to be included to the next trainings. A variety of opinions can be noted as respondents' suggestions were based on their personal fields of interest. All those suggestions should be considered when the schedule of the next trainings is being formed.



12 responses

Details of E learning and Energy management
Developments of programs & ciruculums
Introducing research topics for the undergraduate students
Micro grid
Energy efficiency and Energy Monitoring
More practical exercises about active learning and learning new topics in my field "automation and control".
Embedded systems
Green buildings
ISO 50001 system audit
See industry
Project based learning Interpreneur skills
I suggest to increase the practical sessions, if possible

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. Only eight participants chose to fill in this question.

8 responses

Degrees requirements & balance of credit hours of different areas such as humanities, basic sciences, general engineering, etc...
The activity of each group during the sessions
Typical cases of studies from both the trainer and the trainee.
Implementing simple and quick exercises in the Mooc and kahoot
More technical and laboratory based sessions
More on active learning
Great training
As I suggested in the previous question



c. Final Remarks

The evaluation of the tenth 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 successful. Answers were ranged between options 3 to 6, “Balanced” to “Excellent” (according to the type of the question).

Encouraging results were noted regarding the well – preparedness of the trainer, the encouragement of participation and interaction during the training, as well as its overall evaluation. On the other hand, minor issues were detected concerning the balance between theoretical exercises and discussion, and the duration, date, and timing of the training.

Partners should, also, take into account the useful suggestions of participants regarding potential topics for the next trainings, organizational improvements and proposed changes on practical implementation.