



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 26th to
28th of April 2017 at the Instituto
Superior Technico (IST), in Lisbon,
Portugal**



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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 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 second training that was held in Lisbon on the 26th to 28th of April 2017. 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.

Even though actual participants were more, in total only twenty – nine of them chose to fill in the evaluation questionnaire. So, the results of the evaluation are only based on those answers, and from now on when referring to “participants”, only those twenty – nine are included.

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.

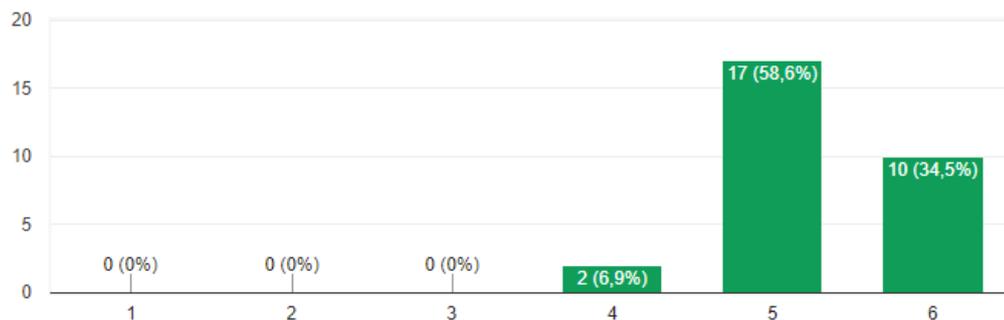
However, twenty – five out of twenty – nine respondents chose to answer it, expressing a general feeling of trust.

Question 2: “Profession/Status” (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 that this question was not compulsory either, twenty – two out of twenty – nine participants chose to answer it.

Question 3: “The objectives of the training were clearly defined”

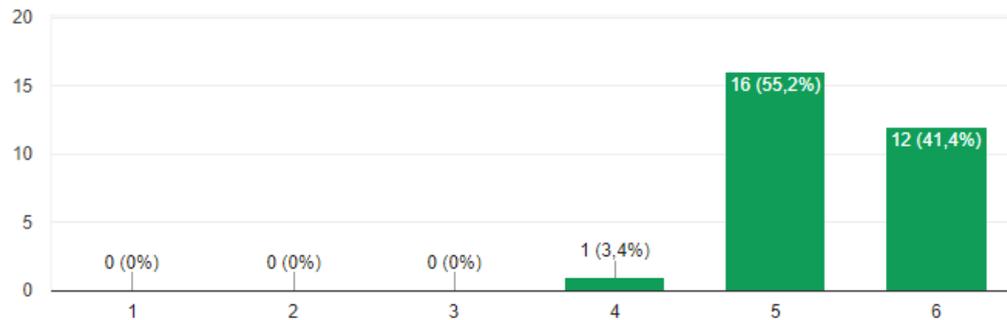
29 απαντήσεις



As shown in the graph, the majority of participants (58.6%) “agreed” that the objectives of the training were clearly defined. More than one third of total participants, that is 34.5%, “totally agreed” with that statement, while two participants (6.9%) “rather agreed”. It can be said that all respondents thought that the definition of the training’s objectives was satisfactory, even though it could have been even better.

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

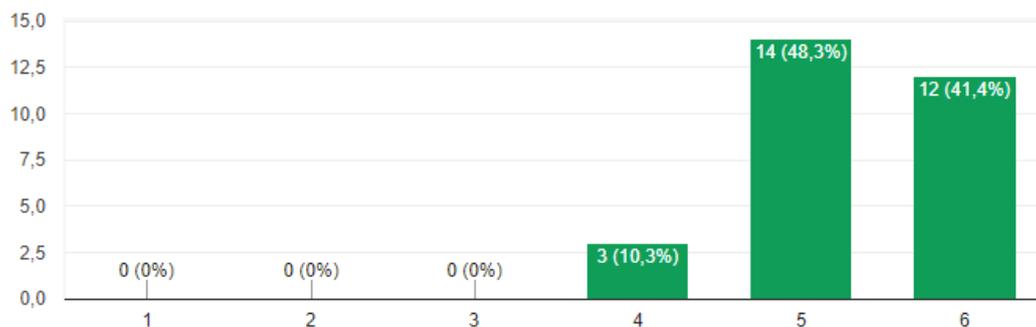
29 απαντήσεις



In that question, twelve out of twenty – nine participants (41.4%) stated that they “totally agreed” about the selection and topics’ appropriateness to their role and responsibilities. Sixteen participants answered that they “agree” with that statement, whereas one participant that he/she “rather agree”. In general, respondents were positive about that aspect of the training, a fact that can be a contributing factor to the training’s overall success.

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

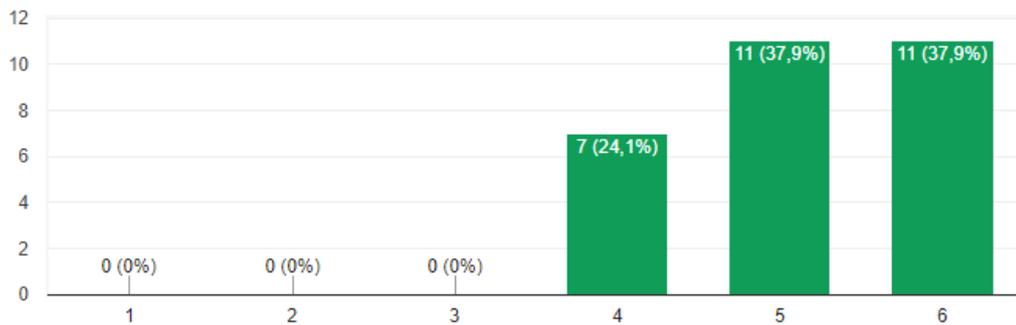
29 απαντήσεις



This question focuses on a very important aspect of the training, that is its contribution to improving the participants’ understanding of the relevant subject. The results are very encouraging as twelve and fourteen out of twenty – nine participants (41.4 and 48.3%) stated that they “totally agree” and “agree”, respectively. Another three participants (10.3%) “rather agreed” about the improvement of their understanding of the subject after the training. It can be safely said that the training had an actual impact on participants’ views of the subject, the level of which, of course, may vary between each individual.

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

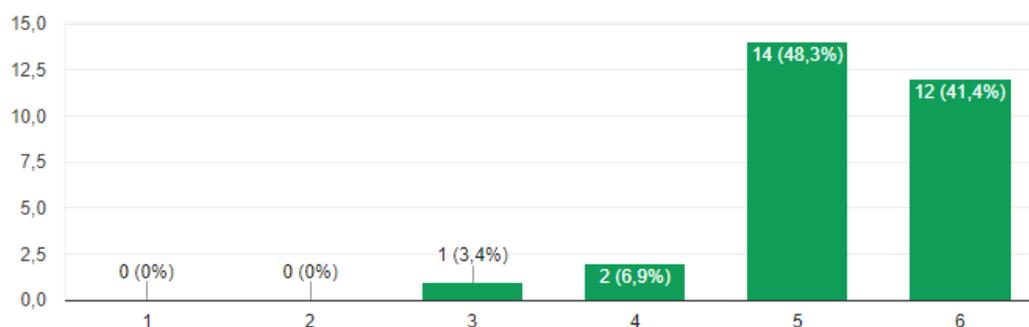
29 απαντήσεις



This question comes as a direct result of the previous one, as participants were asked to evaluate their future ability to apply the knowledge they acquired during the training. Most responses were equally distributed between the options "totally agree" and "agree", with eleven participants (37.9%) choosing each. The remaining seven participants (24.1%) "rather agreed" that they will be able to apply the acquired knowledge. It should be noted that each participant's ability to put knowledge into practice may depend on their current profession or status, as may not everyone have the appropriate background or suitable resources.

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

29 απαντήσεις

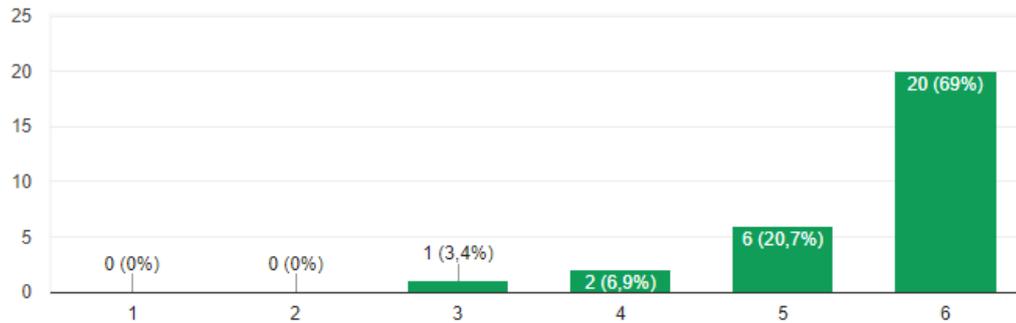


As far as the visual and supporting material that was used during the training is concerned, 41.4% of participants "totally agreed" that it was easy to follow, while 48.3% "agreed" with this statement. Two participants (6.9%) responded that they "rather agree" about the easiness of following the visual and supporting material, while one (3.4%) "rather disagreed". Even though

participants were, in general, satisfied by the relevant visual and supporting material, further improvements for the following trainings might be possible.

Question 8: "Participation and interaction were encouraged"

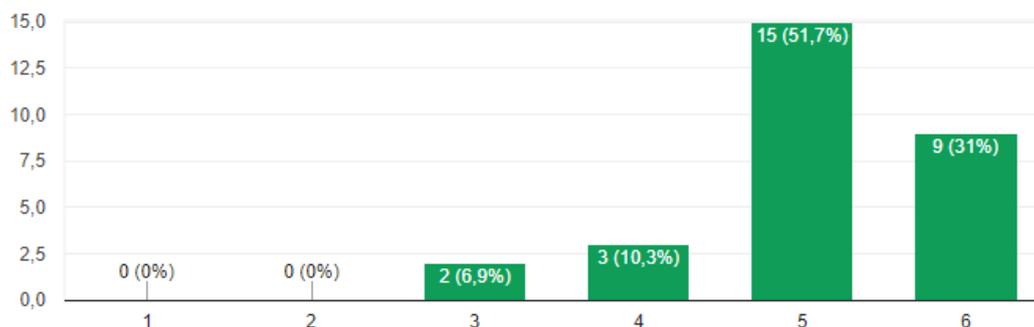
29 απαντήσεις



In that question, participants were asked to evaluate the level of encouragement in participation and interaction through the training. More than two thirds of respondents (69%) "totally agreed" that participation and interaction were encouraged, while 20.7% "agreed" regarding the relevant encouragement they got. Two participants "rather agreed" and one "rather disagreed". As interaction and active participation are key elements of a successful training, organizers should make sure that all participants are adequately satisfied by that particular aspect of the training.

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

29 απαντήσεις

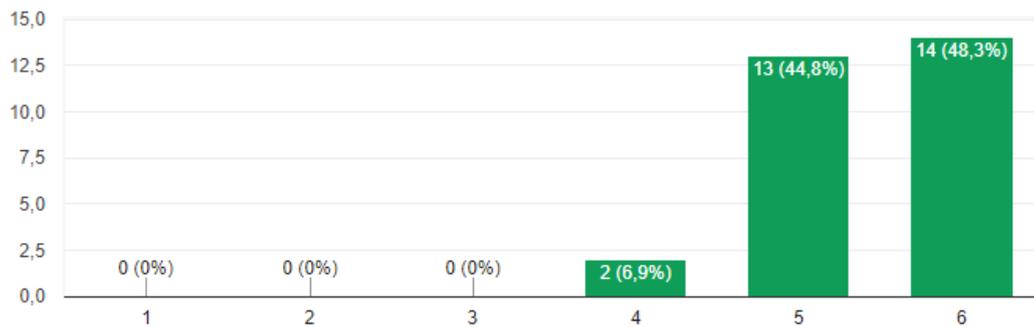


The majority of participants (51,7%) "agreed" that the balance between theoretical exercises and discussion was correct, while 31% "totally agreed" with that. There were, also, three participants (10,3%) who "rather agreed" and

one (6.9%) who “rather disagreed”. Considering that a balance of theoretical exercises and discussion is desirable for an effective training, the results can be viewed as positive, but with plenty of room for improvement.

Question 10: “The trainer was well prepared”

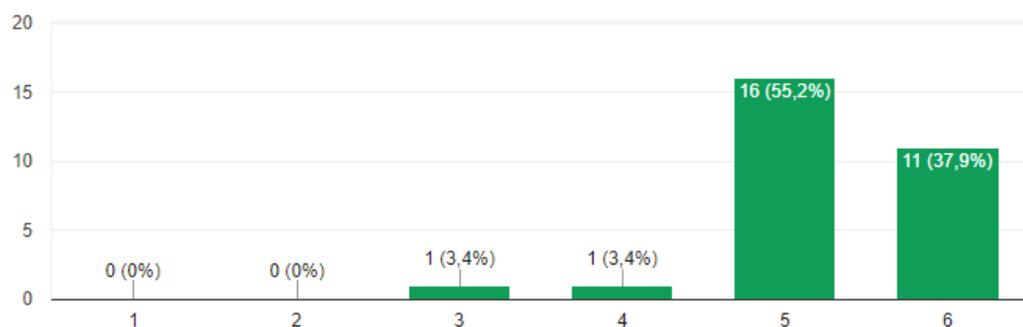
29 απαντήσεις



Regarding the evaluation of the trainer’s preparation, fourteen respondents (48.3%) “totally agreed” and thirteen (44.8%) “agreed” that the trainer was well prepared, expressing a general satisfaction. The remaining 6.9% “rather agreed” on the good preparation of the trainer. As the person delivering the training holds a vital role in the overall process, those positive views can be seen an encouraging sign.

Question 11: “The training objectives were met”

29 απαντήσεις

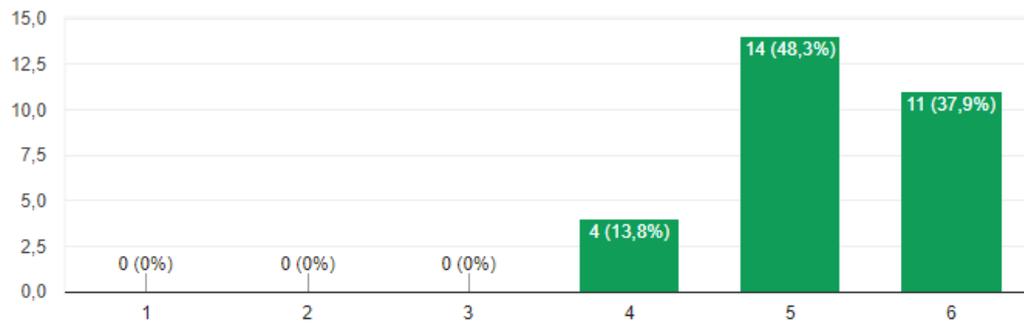


This question is of great importance as it aims to summarize the participants’ opinions on the level of achievement of the training’s objectives. The majority of respondents (55.2%) were in “agreement” that the training’s objectives were met, 37.9% were in “total agreement”, and 3.4% “rather agreed”. However,

another 3.4% (one participant) “rather disagreed” that the objectives were met, providing some basis for future improvement of that particular aspect.

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

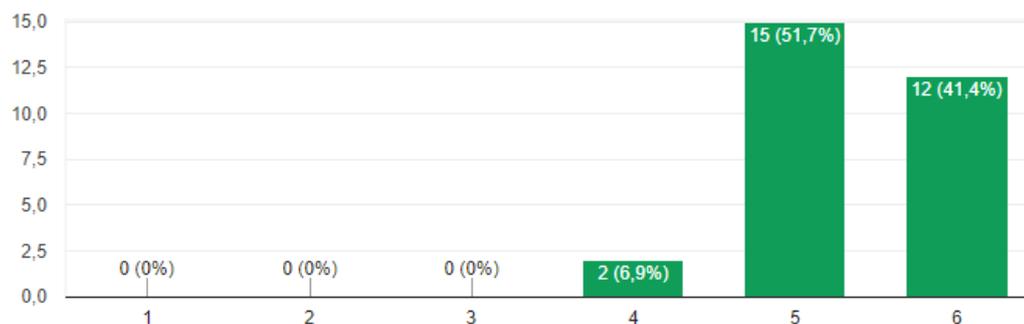
29 απαντήσεις



The results regarding the duration, date and timing of the training were positive, a fact that can play a significant role in the overall evaluation of the training. In particular, eleven participants (37.9%) rated the duration, date and timing of the training as “excellent”, fourteen participants (48.3%) as “very good”, and another four (13.8%) as “good”.

Question 13: “Overall evaluation of the training”

29 απαντήσεις



As this question can be viewed as a synopsis of all the above, results are more or less anticipated. Indeed, the overall evaluation of the training was very positive, as 41.4% of participants characterized it as “excellent”, 51.7% as “very good”, and 6.9% as “good”.

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. Respondents’ suggestions were based on their personal fields of interest, but as the question was optional, only nine answers were gathered.

9 απαντήσεις

Applications of the energy controls
More Detailed Session about the Experimental Autonomous robotics Laboratories
Increase Capacity building in the field of joint research and publications
energy audit
Smart buildings and zero energy building
Smart Grid
I would like to have more on the social and economic aspect of smart energy management tool and its commercial application.
The electrical energy monitoring devices presented during the training were exciting.
Fault tolerance

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 seven out of twenty – nine participants chose to fill in this question, some of them stating that they had nothing to add.

7 απαντήσεις

More practical sessions.
NON
more practical sessions related to the theoretical part
more hands on software program
Renewable Energy policy in Europe
More and more actual case studies like the one presented in Lisbon (e.g. industrial application).
No

c. Final Remarks

The evaluation of the second 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, the second training can be, in general, characterized as successful. All answers were ranged between the scales of 3 and 6, with most of them gathered mainly at the options from 4 to 6. Even though minor issues have been detected, for example the balance between theoretical exercises and discussion, most aspects of the training were favorably evaluated by participants. Particularly positive feedback was gather about the encouragement of participation and interaction during the training session, as well as the well – preparedness of the trainer. Last but not least, some participants recommended possible topics to be included to the following trainings and, also, some issues for improvement, providing valuable feedback that can be exploited for the organization of the next project's activities.