

COURSE EVALUATION REPORT

1. General information about the course

Title of activity	Improving capacities to prepare PRTR for the monitoring of industrial emissions / Améliorer les capacités en matière de la préparation des RRTP pour le contrôle des émissions
Dates	22-24 April 2013 (English course)/22-24 May 2013 (French course)
Country / City	Trieste
Language of activity	English / French
Type of activity	Sub-regional
Thematic pillar	Industrial Emissions
Number of trainees	34 (English course) / 15 (French course)
Number of evaluation forms	49
Trainer / Expert responsible	Prof. Maurizio Fermeglia / Dr. Francesco Saverio Civili
Organisation / Institution of Trainer / Expert	University of Trieste / University of Athens
Overall training score (out of 5)	4.06/5 (total average of the two courses). The score related to the simultaneous interpretation was not included as it related only to the French course.

2. Overall course assessment

The training course held in 2012 in Athens clearly showed that the States recognize the large importance of PRTR with, however, an often limited knowledge of the process. Through this course, it was felt necessary to enter into a deeper process leading to technicians and policy makers capable: 1) to better comprehend the value of PRTR and 2) to proceed with the actual preparation of PRTR. As a result, the invitation to attend the training course, addressed to technical coordinators and technicians, was appropriate and overall successful.

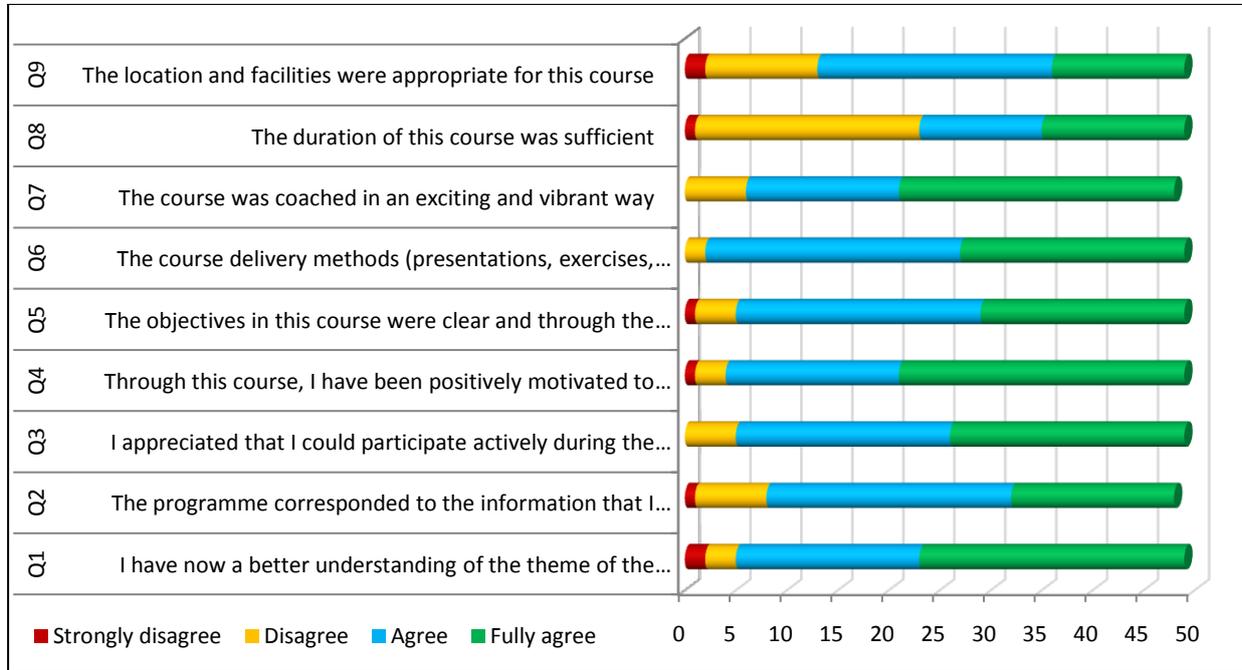
The training, scheduled to be organized through two separate courses respectively in English and in French, proceeded with a number of presentations aimed at placing PRTR in the appropriate policy perspective, followed by practical computer work, where the trainees were taught how to prepare PRTR and tested with quizzes and problem solving. Following the analysis of the questionnaires filled by the trainees, the training was overall very successful with satisfaction of the quality of the trainers and the overall organization. A number of participants claimed that more time was necessary for the practical work on the computer and that, as a result, the duration of the course should have been longer.

The commitment of the trainees was confirmed by the very large number of questions posed to the two technical trainers and by the animated discussions among participants during sessions, as well as during coffee and lunch breaks.

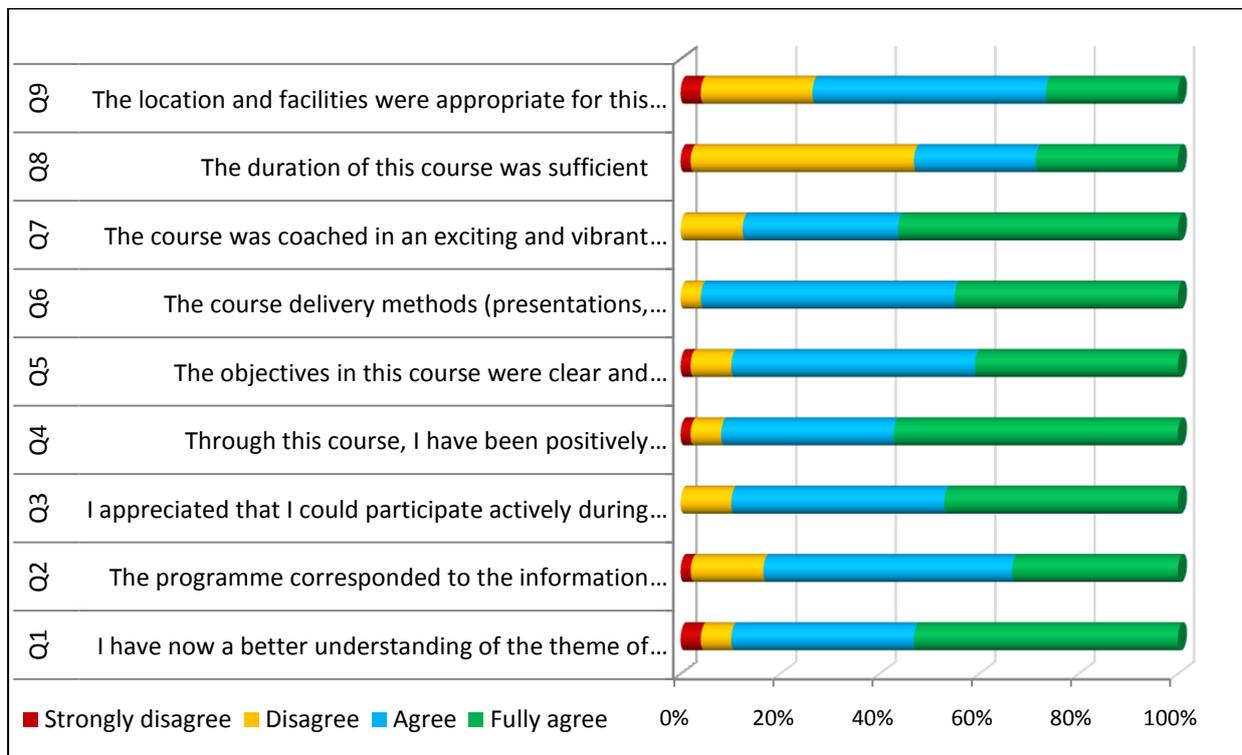
In terms of individual results, i.e. how much each participant has learnt, we could divide the trainees in three categories: the first category, which represents approximately 60 per cent, was represented by individuals with good basis, who were very active, further improved their capacity and were ready to spread their knowledge; the second category, about 30 per cent, had limited knowledge but were very active and keen to learn, will return to their countries ready to perform efficiently; the third category (about 10 per cent-mostly among the English speaking trainees), had no knowledge of the process – or, in some cases, of the English language - and could not benefit from the training. Perhaps a stricter approach in accepting nominations could fill such a gap that however did not overshadow the success of the course.

3. Evaluation of closed questions

3.1 Evaluation chart with numbers



3.2 Evaluation chart with percentages



3.3 Trainer’s remarks to the results of the closed questions

Question 1: I have now a better understanding of the theme of the course.

Apart from a very limited number of participants (all attending the English course), the trainees confirmed that they have now a better understanding of the need to prepare PRTR, as well as the process of preparing PRTR. The assessments carried out at the end of the course confirmed this.

Question 2: The programme corresponded to the information that I received before the course.

There was a general satisfaction about the programme and the expectation of the trainees.

Question 3: I appreciated that I could participate actively during the course.

Both courses were characterized by a strong involvement of the participants, who were energetic and enjoyed the discussions during the sessions as well as breaks.

Question 4: Through this course, I have been positively motivated to take initiative in my work.

Although the respective professional positions, level of responsibilities and influential power of the trainees varied extensively, the questionnaires indicated a strong will to plunge into the preparation of PRTR in their own countries.

Question 5: The objectives in this course were clear and through the sessions were properly met.

The trainees responded very positively to this question, showing satisfaction for the content of the course and the way it was conducted.

Question 6: The course delivery methods (presentations, exercises, etc.) were suitable for the theme of the course.

The questionnaires indicated a clear general appreciation towards the presentations and the exercises. During the course in French, several trainees expressed the opinion that more time for the practical work on the computer would have been highly desirable.

Question 7: The course was coached in an exciting and vibrant way.

The questionnaires confirmed the capacity of the trainers to keep the attention and the interest of the participants high by alternating presentations with discussions, quizzes and exercises.

Question 8: The duration of this course was sufficient.

Several participants (mostly attending the French course) stressed the need for more time in particular for the practical exercises on the computer.

Question 9: The location and facilities (meeting room, equipment, etc.) were appropriate for this course.

During the English course some participants claimed the conference room and the computer room were not adequate to the number of participants. During the French course some participants complained about the lack of appropriate tables to keep their documents in the conference room.

4. Evaluation of open questions

Question 1: What is your general impression of the training course?

The main comments by participants were:

- Clear appreciation about the content and the running of the courses
- The trainees significantly improved their knowledge of the PRTR process
- The trainees will work on the PRTR upon their return back home
- Several trainees claimed that the duration of the course had to be extended to be able to work more on the practical exercises on the computer

Remarks: The courses were overall successful as the objectives were met. They covered a subject very important vis-à-vis the process of monitoring of industrial emissions and significantly improved the capacity of the region to prepare PRTR.

Question 2: In your opinion, if we were to do this course again, which two or three elements/aspects should we keep? (e.g. content, methodology, etc.)

The main comments by participants were:

- The content, the methodology and the experts were unanimously considered elements of success on which any future course should be based.

Remarks: The programme and the running of the courses were indeed successful and the choice of the trainers appropriate.

Question 3: In your opinion, if we were to do this course again, which elements/aspects could we improve (change or add)?

The main comments by participants were:

- Some trainees indicated a number of related subjects that could be developed in a future course, such as environmental simulation, GIS, emission factors
- Several participants indicated that more time was felt necessary for the practical work on the computer

Remarks: In future, considering that the basis of the PRTR process was set in the region, a possible future course should address more specific and more advanced issues. In addition, more time for practical exercises on the computer should be foreseen.

General question: If you have any additional comments to make, please write them here.

There were no comments made here by any of the participants.



5. Other elements to be reported

There are no other elements of the training, which should be reported.



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6. General comments about the course as reported directly after the training

The relevant regional H2020 training course held in 2012 in Athens clearly showed that the States recognize large importance to PRTR with, however, an often limited knowledge of the process. Through this course, it was felt necessary to enter into a deeper process leading to the formation of technicians and policy makers capable 1) to better comprehend the value of PRTR and 2) to proceed with the actual preparation of PRTR. As a result, the invitation to attend the course addressed to technical coordinators and technicians was appropriate and overall successful.

The course, as scheduled, proceeded with a number of presentations aimed at placing PRTR in the appropriate policy perspective, followed by practical computer work where the trainees were taught how to prepare PRTR and were tested with quizzes and problems to solve. Following the analysis of the questionnaires filled by the trainees, the training was overall very successful with very strong satisfaction for the quality of the trainers and the content of the course. Almost all participants said that they would have liked to have more time for practical work at the computer. In terms of individual results, i.e. how much each participant has learnt, we noticed that the choice and the level of the participants were adequate and the tests made at the end of the course indicated good results.

In a few words provide your overall assessment of the training:

The course was attended by both technical coordinators for PRTR and technicians. Generally, the engagement of participants was very high, with active interaction with trainers and intersession discussions. All the participants showed strong satisfaction for the course methodology as well as the trainers. At the same time almost all participants stressed that they would have liked to have more time for practical work on the computer by extending the duration of the course. Overall the training was successful and obtained the expected results.

Through your interaction with the trainees did it become clear if the course is linked to a specific national policy (or process) in place, one under development or one that will be developed in the near future? If so, please mention.

Yes, indeed. Most participants were all directly or indirectly engaged in the process of preparing PRTR in their own countries and they will use the improved competence in completing the process.

Was there evidence that the course will achieve improvements in institutional or technical capacity in Ministries, institutions, local authorities, NGOs, etc.? Please specify, if possible.

Yes, indeed. Trainees were mostly working in Ministries and National Agencies in charge of preparing PRTR which will result in improved competence in the appropriate bodies.



Did any of the trainees confirm that after this course there will be dissemination of this knowledge at any level? If possible, give an example.

Several participants informed us that they will act as trainers in their own country.

As a result of this course will there be new/improved policy or legislation, charter or agreement for cooperation? Elaborate in a few words.

As a result of the course, in all the countries represented at the course there now will be a nucleus of technicians who are indeed able to properly perform and prepare PRTR. Considering the obligation to prepare PRTR set by both the EU and the Barcelona Convention, the preparation of PRTR in the region is expected to be boosted in the coming years.



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7. Annex I

7.1 Final course overview

<http://www.h2020.net/en/resources/training-materials/viewcategory/245.html>

<http://www.h2020.net/en/resources/training-materials/viewcategory/249.html>

7.2 Final participants list

<http://www.h2020.net/en/resources/training-materials/viewcategory/245.html>

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