

COURSE EVALUATION REPORT

1. General information about the course

Title of activity	“Strengthening Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) policies in the Mediterranean” «Renforcer les politiques sur l'Éducation pour le Développement Durable (EDD) dans la Méditerranée»
Dates	17-18 June 2013
Country / City	Croatia, Zagreb
Language of activity	English / French
Type of activity	Regional
Thematic pillar	Environmental Integration and Mainstreaming
Number of trainees	41
Number of evaluation forms	27
Trainer / Expert responsible	Prof. Michael Scoullou
Organisation / Institution of Trainer / Expert	University of Athens, H2020 CB/MEP Team Leader
Overall training score	4.36/5

2. Overall course assessment

The workshop entitled ‘Strengthening Education for Sustainable Development policies in the Mediterranean’ was organized in Zagreb, Croatia on 17-18 June 2013 within the framework of the Horizon 2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme in cooperation with the Croatian Ministry of Environmental and Nature Protection, the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE) and the Mediterranean Education Initiative for Environment and Sustainability (MEdIES).

The first day was devoted to sharing ESD experiences, mostly from Croatia, some of which are considered “best strategies”. The second day focused on the further elaboration of the final draft of the Mediterranean Strategy on Education on Sustainable Development. Both parts were facilitated by the H2020 Team Leader Prof. Michael Scoullou.

More than 40 representatives of Ministries of Education, Ministries of Environment, regional and international organizations and NGOs from 14 Mediterranean countries participated very actively in the work on the final draft of the Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). The participants, including the League of Arab States, confirmed their support for their Minister’s participation at the Conference which will adopt the Mediterranean Strategy on ESD scheduled for October 2013, in Monaco.

The main objective of the workshop was to build the capacities primarily of officials from Ministries of Environment and Ministries of Education and of formal and non-formal Educators on strengthening and promoting legal/institutional frameworks’ policies, as well as operational mechanisms for the promotion of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). The latter is widely recognized as the most sound prerequisite for the enhancement of awareness and motivation for action and the promotion of sustainable development. The specific objectives were:

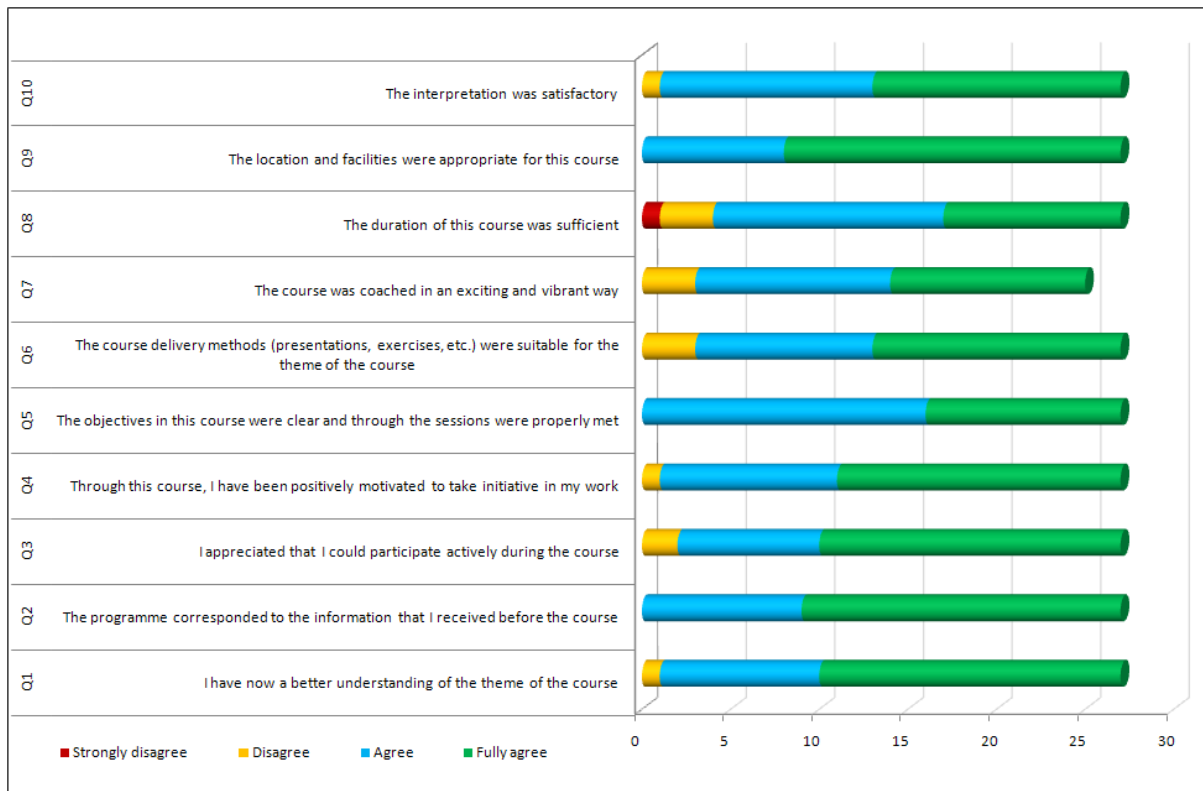
- To be acquainted with the EU policy and instruments at the service of Horizon 2020 implementation and sustainable development in the Mediterranean and their links with ESD and the Mediterranean Strategy for ESD.
- To gain insights on the aspects of integrating ESD in various administrations.
- To review the latest draft of the Mediterranean Strategy on ESD and prepare the final draft text to be adopted in Monaco on 21 October 2013.

The workshop, to be participatory and interactive, made use of learning tools such as:

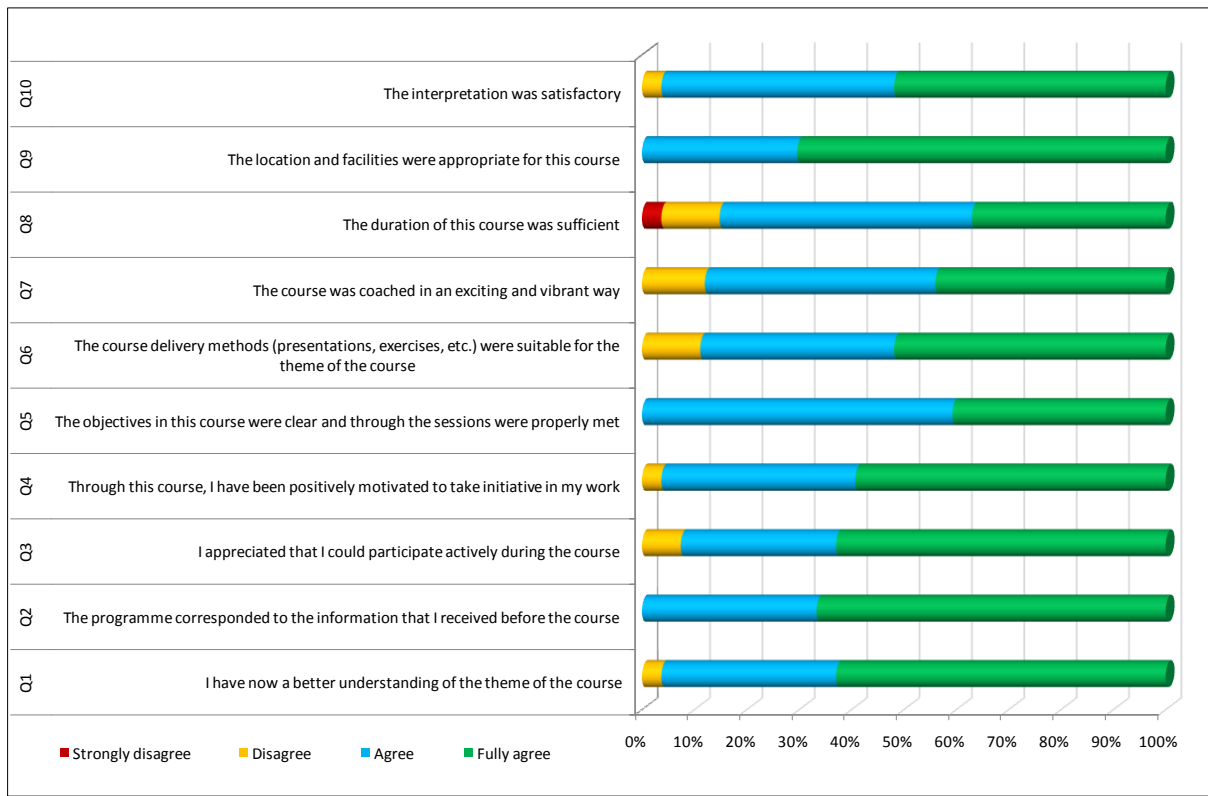
- Interactive presentations
- Case studies
- Discussions/Group work
- Videos

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.

Very positive feedback: All but one of the participants who provided evaluation forms either “Agreed” or “Fully Agreed” with the statement.

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

Very positive feedback: All of the participants either “Agreed” or “Fully Agreed” with the statement.

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

Positive feedback: The majority of participants either “Agreed” or “Fully Agreed” with the statement.

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

Very positive feedback: All but one of the participants either “Agreed” or “Fully Agreed” with the statement.

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

Very positive feedback: All of the participants either “Agreed” or “Fully Agreed” with the statement.

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

Positive feedback: The majority of participants either “Agreed” or “Fully Agreed” with the statement.

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

Positive feedback: The majority of participants either “Agreed” or “Fully Agreed” with the statement.

Question 8: The duration of this course was sufficient.

Positive feedback: The majority of participants either “Agreed” or “Fully Agreed” with the statement. 4 participants indicated that the duration was not sufficient.

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

Very positive feedback: All of the participants either “Agreed” or “Fully Agreed” with the statement.

Question 10: The interpretation was satisfactory.

Very positive feedback: All but one of the participants either “Agreed” or “Fully Agreed” with the statement.



AEA



LMoEW



HMECC



UNESCO-IHE



MIO-ECSDE



RAED



WWF
MedPO



ACR+



ACWUA

4. Evaluation of open questions

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

The main comments by participants were:

- good (x6)
- important (x4)
- satisfactory, useful, motivating, interesting (x3)

Remarks: The majority of the comments were very positive.

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:

- content (x14)
- methodology (x7)
- good presentations/examples (x7)

Remarks: There was a lot of feedback regarding the elements that should be kept, indicating that the training content and methodology were of high quality and should be duplicated as much as possible in similar future courses.

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:

- more examples of experiences/case studies (x12 & more of the Arabic-speaking countries x6)
- invite more people (x4)
- longer training (x4)

Remarks:

Remarks: The main comments by the participants indicated that they would have liked more examples of experiences/case studies. Some also said they would have liked more case studies from the Arabic-speaking countries. A few also specified that they would have liked a longer training course on the same topic.

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

The main comments by participants were:

- invite more participants/representatives (x3)
- choice of venue according to sustainable values
- vegan food
- repeat the same training for school and university teachers

5. Other elements to be reported

The Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development is a contribution to the achievement of Education for All Goals and of Quality Education and in line with the Framework for an Implementation Scheme for the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development developed by UNESCO.

The Strategy was inspired by and has utilized the UNECE Strategy for ESD (2005) and is fully compatible with it, so that its philosophy and implementation does not present any inconsistencies to the countries which have already adopted the former.

The first draft of the Strategy was developed by the University of Athens/UNESCO Chair on Management and Education for Sustainable Development. During the Horizon 2020 Training “Revisiting University Curricula: are the H2020 priority areas appropriately reflected?” (Athens, 12 & 13 December 2011) this first draft was revised by university professors and ministry officials from 18 Mediterranean countries. The second draft that resulted was reviewed during the 4th Meeting of the Network of the Mediterranean Universities for sustainable development focusing on ESD (December 2012), thus producing the third draft of the Strategy that was further elaborated by university professors during the Horizon 2020 Training “Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in the University: Theory and Practice” (Rabat, 23-24 April 2013).

The Ministerial Conference for the Strategy’s official presentation and adoption is scheduled to be hosted by both the Government of the Principality of Monaco and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation on the 21st of October 2013.

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

The workshop was organized within the framework of the Horizon 2020 CB/MEP project and apart from being instructive on the ways ESD is applied to various levels of SD Governance, it is considered to be the final preparatory meeting in view of the Joint Ministerial Conference of Ministers of Education and Environment that is scheduled to take place in Monaco on the 21st of October 2013. The Joint Ministerial Conference was invited by both the Government of the Principality of Monaco and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, in order to adopt the Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development (MedSESD). The aim of this Strategy is to encourage countries of the Mediterranean to develop and incorporate Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) into all relevant subjects of their formal educational systems, as well as in non-formal and informal educational processes.

The Strategy was developed through a participatory process involving formal and informal educational institutions and relevant government officials. The Strategy will be a major Mediterranean contribution to the UN Decade on ESD (2005-2014) and the follow-up decisions of Rio+20 for the expansion of ESD activities and implementation beyond 2014. Its necessity, particularly under the recent political and economic developments in the region, has been widely recognised and has therefore gained impressive political and moral support by UNESCO, the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), UNEP and UNECE.

The politically significant part of the workshop focused on the discussion and finalization of the fifth draft of the MedSESD, which will now be brought for adoption to the Ministerial Conference. Ambassador, R. Fillon of Monaco was present at the meeting and he reconfirmed the support and contribution of Monaco towards this end.

Several e-mails reached us from the country officials after the workshop was over and they expressed their appreciation for the unique and high quality work achieved.



7. Annex I

7.1 Final course overview

<http://www.h2020.net/en/resources/training-materials/viewcategory/260.html>

7.2 Final participants list

<http://www.h2020.net/en/resources/training-materials/viewcategory/260.html>

