

## COURSE EVALUATION REPORT

### 1. General information about the course

<b>Title of activity</b>	«Le cycle des bio-déchets – un modèle de gestion des ressources efficace»
<b>Dates</b>	29-31 October 2013
<b>Country / City</b>	Tunisia/ Djerba
<b>Language of activity</b>	French
<b>Type of activity</b>	Sub-regional
<b>Thematic pillar</b>	Municipal Solid Waste
<b>Number of trainees</b>	32
<b>Number of evaluation forms</b>	28
<b>Trainer / Expert responsible</b>	Jean-Jacques Dohogne
<b>Organisation / Institution of Trainer / Expert</b>	ACR+
<b>Overall training score</b>	3,75/5

## 2. Overall course assessment

32 trainees, of whom 13 were from Municipalities, the rest being national authorities/agencies/research institutes and NGOs, attended the training. The level of knowledge in the subject of bio-waste management as assessed during the introduction on day 1 was low, the knowledgeable participants being mainly representatives of municipalities. The training materials and methods used during the training, however, allowed even for beginners to participate actively. The quiz on day 1 and 3 whereby more than 90% of the participants scored 70% or more, allows us to claim that almost all trainees absorbed the subject quite well. The use of easy to reproduce experiments and tests and practical exercises most probably contributed to this. The mix of trainers, representing Northern European (Belgium), Southern European (Italy) and a Mediterranean country (Tunisia) allowed for different backgrounds and methodological approaches. Each trainer animated the audience in such a way in order to attract full attention of the trainees. The expectations as compared to the learning objectives assessed through the training questionnaires, allow us to state that the training objectives were met to a large extent. Finally it was felt, as clearly stated in the evaluation questionnaires, that the trainees are very keen on having following up activities or possibilities to network with each other and the trainers on the subject in the future.



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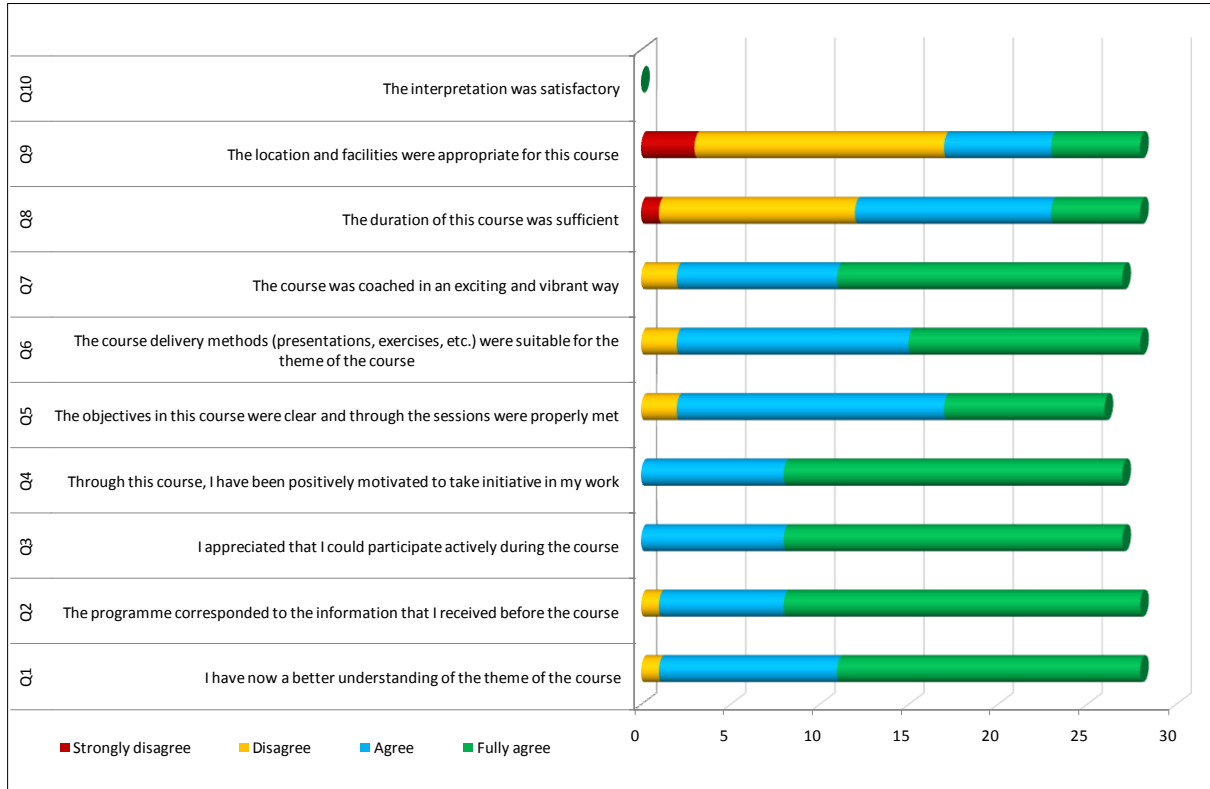
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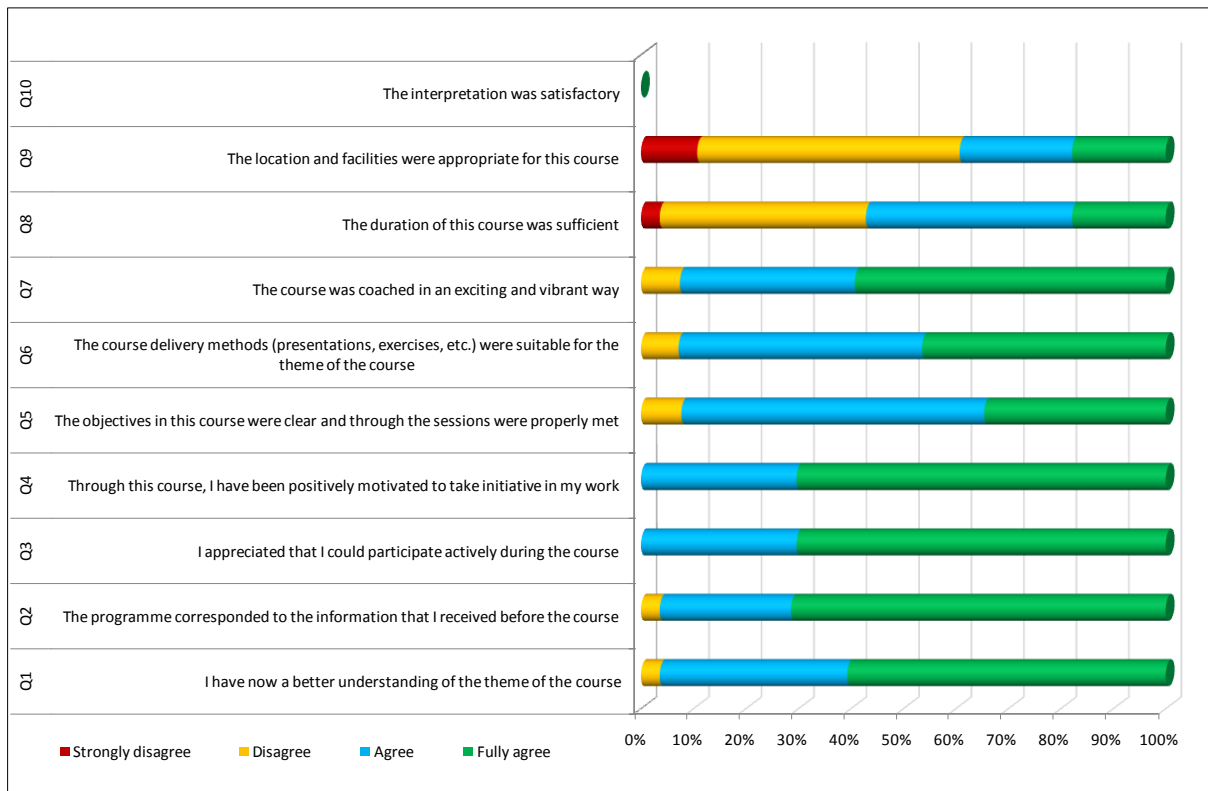
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## 3. Evaluation of closed questions

### 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.**

The majority of the trainees clearly indicate they have a better understanding of the topic. It may be that, because of the lower educational level of some of the trainees, some trainees did not fully capture the technical issues presented on anaerobic digestion mainly. Overall sufficient time was taken to elaborate on the different sub-topics of the training. Definitions and terminology were explained in detail and the training methodology allowed for creative thinking by the trainees.

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

Clearly the training materials and topics were in line with the training programme. The trainers were well prepared and instructed to stick to their topic using a variety of methodological tools. Presentations were adapted and added in order to accommodate specific requests of the trainees without jeopardizing the overall training programme.

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

At all times trainees were given opportunities to interact. This is well reflected in the evaluation form as this question reached the highest score.

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

A number of trainees, representing municipalities, are in the process (initial stages) to engage in bio-waste management. The different technologies and options to consider and offered in the training were highly appreciated and we may assume quite surely that this training will allow for more in depth review of their planned strategies to deal with bio-waste management. The informal contacts we had with the trainees representing municipalities showed their great interest in the matter and the urgency to tackle bio-waste as a priority waste stream.

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

At every module the learning objectives were presented on a slide and clearly mentioned to the trainees. At the end of each session conclusions were made as well as a slide on 'What to remember from this session'. The training sessions were designed in order to have the logical cyclical path in how to deal with bio-waste. However, due to the fact that the training started late on the first day, because of the late arrival of the Algerians, session 2 was skipped. Part of session 2 topics though were addressed in other sessions.

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

As according to the questionnaires the training methodology was appreciated by most of the participants. All modules had interactive presentations, exercises, demonstrations and at the end of day 1 and 3 a quiz was organized. However, I believe that even more exercises, demonstrations, site visits with do-activities would be even more beneficial in the future. The variety of methods should allow for quick variations whereby a more theoretical presentation shouldn't last more than 15 to 20 minutes.

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

The mix of trainers, representing Northern European (Belgium), Southern European (Italy) and a Mediterranean country (Tunisia) allowed for different background and methodological approaches. Each trainer in his own way, presented and animated the audience in a way to attract full attention of the trainees. However, it might be interesting in the future to provide train the training courses on methodological aspects of training for potential trainers from the South.

**Question 8: The duration of this course was sufficient.**

3 days of training is appropriate. However, a considerable number of trainees would have preferred the training to last for longer.

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

The training equipment was up to standard and the personnel very friendly and efficient. A considerable number of trainees' complaint about the meeting room (basement of the hotel). Even though other conference rooms were visited in the hotel the day before the training, amongst other on the ground floor, we do not believe they were suitable for our purposes and the size of the group.

## 4. Evaluation of open questions

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

The main comments by participants were:

- Very interesting, motivating (8x)
- Very interesting interactive presentations and exercises
- Closed meeting room
- Very good (3x)
- Benefited from new contacts/ meeting with experts from other countries
- High level trainers (2x)
- Captivating training methodology
- The training was good, however the training venue was very poor, more exchange/ reflections would have been appreciated
- Could be improved
- Rich training
- Very beneficial, hope to keep contact with participants and trainers (2x)
- Successful training in general, very good and friendly atmosphere, Djerba well-chosen as venue for the training, satisfying presentations
- Excellent
- Interesting training, through the site visit I do understand better the composting process (4x)
- Composting took most of the time of the presentations even though more bio-waste technologies exist
- Happy to participating at this training, the quality of the presentations, the atmosphere, the exchanges (trainees-trainees, trainees-trainers)

Remarks: Overall a feedback showing that the training was beneficial, initiated new aspects in bio waste management and achieved most of its results

### **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 (7x)
- Methodology (12x)
- Composition of groups
- Trainers (4x)
- Site visit (6x)
- International examples
- The exercises (4x)
- The quizzes (2x)
- Punctuality
- The demonstrations (4x)
- ISWM, decentralized composting, anaerobic digestion (2x)

- The quality of the presentations
- The organization
- The discipline

Remarks: Besides the content and methodology the more animated parts of the training such as site visit, quizzes, exercises, demonstrations were highly appreciated

**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:

- Everything was fine
- More time (length of the training) (8x)
- Organize a round table in the evening for those who want
- Different types of bio-waste management in the world
- More exercises (3x)
- More animated presentations
- More field work
- More adapted to the characteristics of the region
- Financial aspects and cost recovery for successful EU projects (2x)
- Theoretical presentations should not exceed 20 minutes
- The venue should allow for natural light, better aeration with plants
- The venue could be better (4x)
- More case studies
- Higher per diem (3x)
- More time on communication aspects
- More site visits
- Selective collection, composting, anaerobic digestion
- Some presentations were too simple
- Other solutions for waste management
- More information on cheap solutions for municipalities
- Hygiene and sanitary problems
- More time for composting techniques as trainees do not have the same level regarding bio-waste treatment options
- More time for exchange between participants' experiences (one day)
- French language proficiency for some of the trainers could be better

Remarks: the trainees wanted the training to be extended in time, a more appropriate venue, more subjects to be covered (or deepened) and even more animated sessions.

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

The main comments by participants were:

- Hope to meet you at another training
- Thank you and hope to see you again
- Keep contacts between participants (videoconferences, forum, webgroup,...) (6x)



- I would like to thank the training team that organized this training (2x)
- How to ensure a continuity/ networking between participants (3x)
- Bravo, always beneficial to learn new things
- We thank the whole H2020 training for this extraordinary training

Remarks: It has to be highlighted that the contacts between trainers and trainees and between trainees were friendly but above all intensive. We believe that new and strong relationships between trainees have been established and that they expressed the need to be kept informed of each other's activities and future prospect.



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## 5. Other elements to be reported

Again and as experienced in previous trainings a considerable number of trainees had difficulties solving rather basic math exercises. The level of education, knowledge in the topic among the trainees varied a lot. This training was meant to be for participants with an intermediate level of knowledge in the topic. Only 20 to 30% were at that level, representing mainly municipalities.



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

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

32 trainees, of whom 13 were from Municipalities, the rest being national authorities/agencies/research institutes and NGOs, attended the training. The level of knowledge in the subject of bio-waste management as assessed during the introduction on day 1 was low, the knowledgeable participants being mainly representatives of municipalities. The training materials and methods used during the training however allowed even for beginners to participate actively. The quiz on day 1 and 3, whereby more than 90% of the participants scored 70% or more, makes us believe that almost all trainees absorbed the subject quite well. The use of easy to reproduce experiments and tests and practical exercises most probably contributed to this. The mix of trainers, representing Northern European (Belgium), Southern European (Italy) and a Mediterranean country (Tunisia) allowed for different backgrounds and methodological approaches. Each trainer animated the audience in such a way to attract full attention of the trainees. The expectations as compared to the learning objectives assessed through the training questionnaires, allow us to state that the training objectives were met to a large extent. Finally, it was felt, as clearly stated in the evaluation questionnaires, that the trainees are very keen on having following up activities or possibilities to network with each other and the trainers on the subject in the future.

**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.**

Even though we may assume that bio-waste management is a matter of concern for national authorities it became clear throughout the training, and even more during informal meetings (breaks, evening discussion at dinner), that the municipalities do not wait for national strategies/ policies on bio waste management to be proclaimed before starting own initiatives. This was already clearly mentioned in the pre-assignment forms and was confirmed during the training and meetings. We strongly believe that the municipalities play a key role in the implementation of new bio-waste management options and that they are convinced that the national governments will, noticing these developments, take up their role as legislator, guidance provider and strategy developers.

**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.**

The site visit, the demonstrations, the exercises were all very well received and made clear that some trainees are well skilled and ready to use their knowledge and skills to improve bio-waste management in their respective countries/municipalities. Clearly, some participants will, noticing their level of engagement and position, be able to speed up the process of moving towards improved bio-waste management.

**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.**

The trainees expressed strongly their willingness to have follow-up activities after this training. The methods most cited were video conferencing, webtools, forum,... Besides this, bilateral contacts established during the training (coffee breaks, evening discussions at the restaurant) between trainees and trainers and amongst trainees will lead to further contacts and assistance. This willingness to further cooperate and keep contact through networking was never felt as intensive as in this training course.



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

Most legislation in Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia tackle overall waste management issues and options. No specific national legislation, strategies or plans provide clear guidance on how to deal with bio-waste as a separate waste stream. The national representatives in the training (Ministry of Interior of Morocco, ANGED of Tunisia) were able to present the current situation in their respective countries. However, since more and more municipalities are taking initiatives in the field of bio-waste management it is assumed that national authorities will have to consider setting specific legislation, guidelines on this issue.



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## 7. Annex I

### 7.1 Final course overview

<http://www.h2020.net/en/resources/training-materials/viewcategory/271.html>

### 7.2 Final participants list

<http://www.h2020.net/en/resources/training-materials/viewcategory/271.html>

## 8. Annex II

(Please present here any other evaluation results from pre-training tasks, working groups, questionnaires, etc.)

*Annex 3: Treatment open question pre-assignment*

*Annex 4: Treatment quantified data pre-assignment*

*Annex 5: Quiz questions/ answers day 1*

*Annex 6: Quiz questions/ answers day 3*



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