

Evaluation Report for Polynesian Sub-Regional Training



6 -17 August 2012, Tonga

Introduction

A two week Polynesian sub-regional training held in Tonga from 6th -17th August 2012 that targeted capacity building in facilitation skills and knowledge and understanding of climate change, its impacts and adaptation in the Pacific Region.

The Tonga training enabled the In-country coordinators (ICC's) from Tonga, Samoa, Niue, Cook Islands and Kiribati to pass on skills and knowledge that they have gained in an earlier Regional train the trainers' workshop in April held in Suva, Fiji. The ICC's were the lead facilitators in conducting the training and the ICC Tonga was responsible identifying experts to conduct presentations for each session and logistics of the overall training. Local experts were identified to cover impacts of climate change in various sectors in Tonga.

A total of 40 participants from Cooks Islands, Samoa, Niue, Kiribati, Tokelau and Tonga attended the training.

Throughout the training, participants were exposed to a variety of facilitation skills and techniques to assist in the running effective trainings in climate change in communities. They were also taught on the basic science of climate change and its impact on various sectors in the Pacific and Tonga specifically. A two day field trip was included to expose the participants to impacts of climate change in communities in Tongatapu (main island of Tonga where training was based) and adaptation projects that could be used as lessons learnt.

Training Objectives

1. Prepare a cadre of trainers equipped with knowledge and the ability to support and guide governments, NGOs and regional organisation in their efforts to adapt to climate change, and to train others in their respective countries in adaptation especially at the community level
2. Improve communities' understanding of climate change and of the appropriate ways to adapt to its effects, in their specific local environments.

Evaluation Methodology

Two separate evaluation questionnaires were distributed to all participants. The first was given out on Friday of the first week (10th August) and the second was given out on the last day of the training, Thursday 16th August.

Evaluation Results

Week 1 questionnaire results:

1. Facilitation Skills and Knowledge Sessions

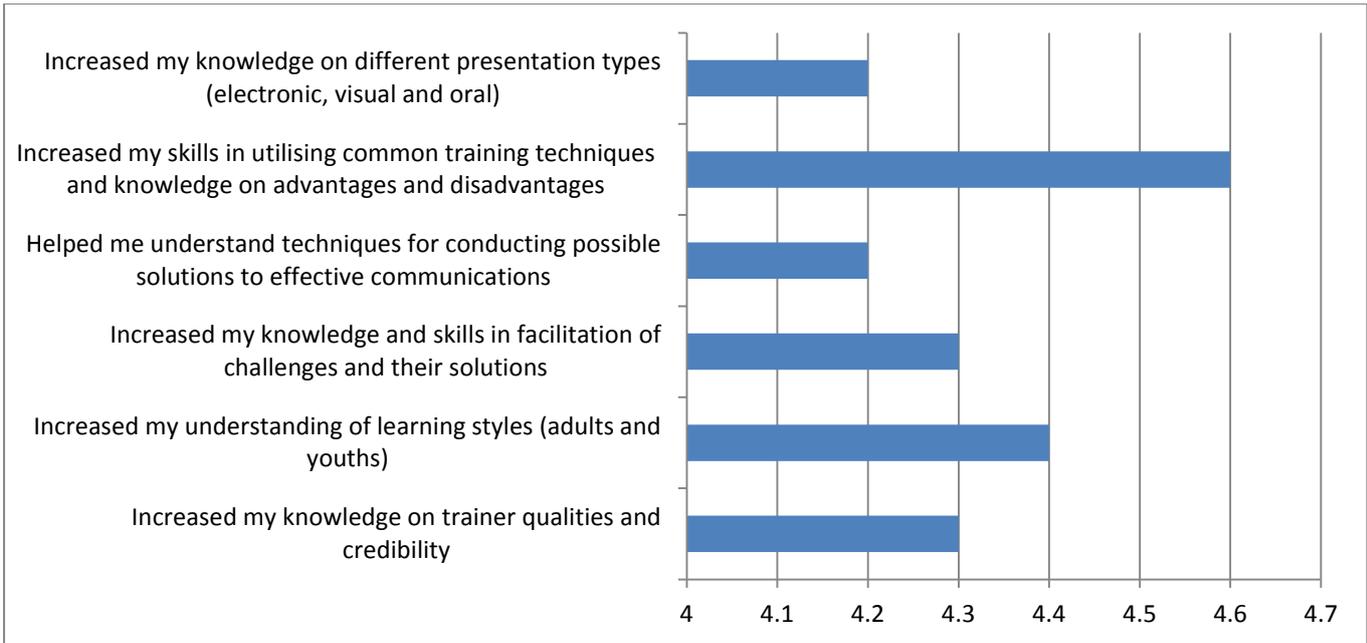


Figure 1: Extent of learning of Facilitation Skills and Knowledge with participant scores on a 5 point scale. 1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree, and 5 = Strongly Agree.

2. Climate Change Knowledge and Understanding Sessions

The following scores was a response to question “The Climate Change Knowledge and Understanding Sessions increased my knowledge and Understanding on the following topics”

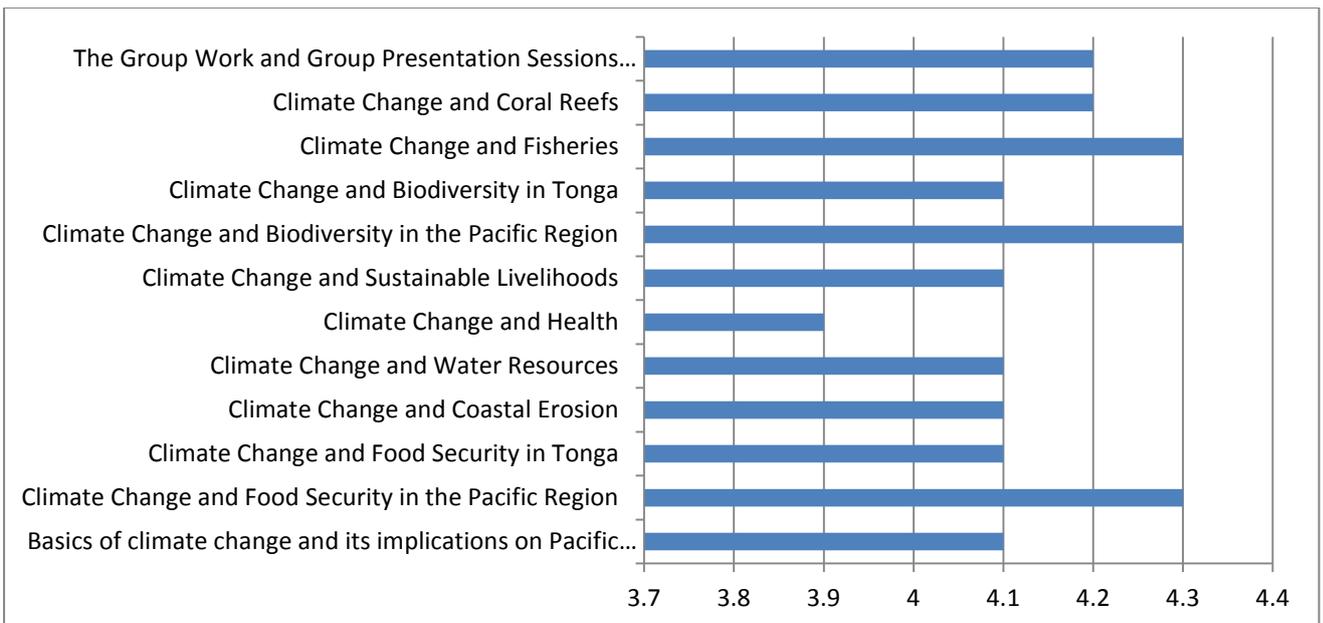


Figure 2: Extent of learning of Climate change knowledge and understanding of climate change science with participant scores on a 5 point scale. 1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree, and 5 = Strongly Agree.

Week 2 questionnaire results:

The following scores was a response to question “The Climate Change Knowledge and Understanding Sessions increased my knowledge and Understanding on the following topics”

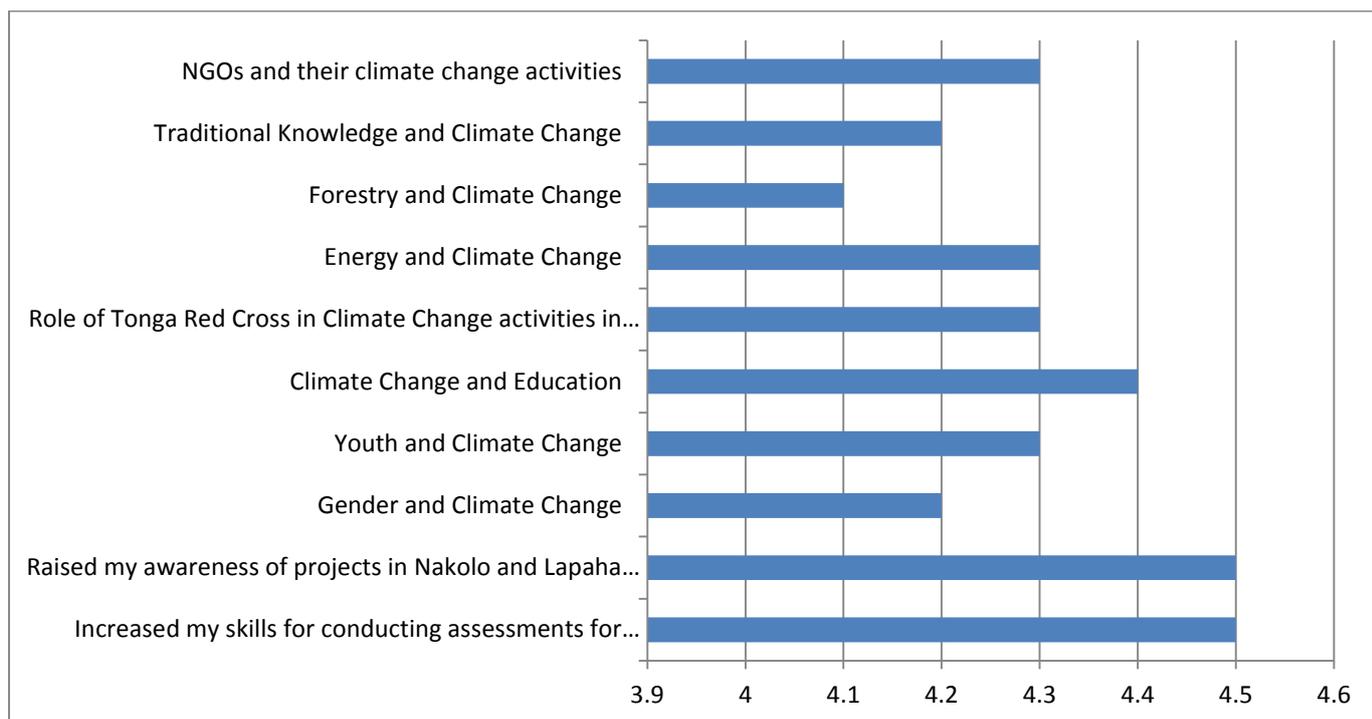


Figure 3: Extent of learning of from fieldtrip to other climate change project sites and remainder of climate change knowledge sessions with participant scores on a 5 point scale. 1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree, and 5 = Strongly Agree.

Plans to replicate training in communities

The participants were asked to describe how they will replicate this type of training in communities in their countries.

The contact details of the participants were recorded so that follow up evaluation will be conducted later to see whether these plans have been implemented.

Cook Islands

- The training will be replicated in the communities of Rakahanga.

- Hold workshops in youth groups and community and implement the activities and skills that I have learned in this training
- Implement what I have learnt and do awareness programmes for the island communities
- With skills learnt, I can better plan and facilitate climate change workshops in the remote island communities.
- Travel to outer islands to raise awareness and prepare adaptation plans for these communities.

Samoa

- Starting at the village level, especially the most vulnerable to climate change, trainings will be designed with participatory activities and use local knowledge of the elders.
- Assist the project in Samoa in the community level with awareness programme. Assist the community in writing proposals and research the community needs.
- As a Capacity Information Resource Officer, I will utilize the knowledge and skills learnt in this training through sharing and dissemination of information of climate change through presentation, report, newsletter via email/internet and many others.
- Will replicate this training in project's selected communities
- I will be starting from youth groups and then plan how to implement it to schools but have to consult with other stakeholders. Or even implement it from the Ministry level therefore the Government level.

Niue

- Go and share what I have learnt on Climate Change to the community on what is climate change, its effects on the environment, the sea and people. Also important to share traditional methods and knowledge.
- To have meeting with the Women Group and Village Group to talk and discuss Climate change in general and hopefully raise awareness
- Compile all the information and lesson learnt in the training and apply in her community.
- Run community awareness workshops, school awareness programmes, youth awareness and government department support and awareness.

Tonga

- Public awareness with communities on climate change
- Informal group discussions and sharing of information especially with youth groups
- Volunteer with communities when needed.
- Will apply for funding to run similar training workshops as this in communities
- Revise plans that has already been drafted with the 102 communities that they work with
- Replicate the training in work with children level especially programs that incorporate drama, visual materials.

- Return and call meeting with community that is held once a month. Talk during the meeting of Youth Committee and discuss how to conduct the training.
- Advocate and raise awareness about climate change for students and teachers of Tonga High School.
- Streamline this training in action plan of Civil Society Forum of Tonga and execute this during workshops training undertaken by the organisation.

Tokelau

- Have to discuss with management the importance of replicating this training at the community. Once the management understand and approve a proposal needs to go through the Council of Elders for their endorsement before I could conduct this type of training.
- I am hoping that more opportunity given to Tokelau by the EU for capacity building.

United Kingdom

- I will tell my University about the workshop and USP and hopefully get up some kind of link or exchange.

Kiribati

- Build and design plan to conduct training for members of KANGO and redesign for climate change projects.

What aspects of this training could have been improved?

1. Managing time of presentation so to allow for adequate discussions
2. Locally there should have been a wider representation from other NGO such as women and less representatives from other sector of NGO.
3. Finishing times at end of day to not be too long.
4. Be punctual every day
5. Keep time of presentation within people's interest.
6. More fieldtrips
7. More sharing of participants own personal experiences from their own islands.