



OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
CLIMATE CHANGE COOK ISLANDS
GOVERNMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS

REPORT ON CLIMATE CHANGE TRAINING NEEDS
IDENTIFIED FROM AN ONLINE QUESTIONNAIRE SURVEY

January 2013

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In September 2012, the Climate Change Cook Islands division of the Office of the Prime Minister conducted an online questionnaire survey to establish baseline data on training needs required to build or refresh our capacity to climate change activities. In addition, the survey will be used to determine how we should move forward in organising these training sessions. A total of 21 individuals participated in the survey generated through Survey Monkey. Although many of the participants were government employees (79%), the private sector also took part in the survey (16%). Based on the five training options provided in the survey, participants indicated that *Accessing Climate Change Financing* was the most preferred, with *Project Management & Coordination* and *Diplomacy Training* equally second, followed by *Proposal Development & Writing*. Training involving *Vulnerability & Adaptation Assessment & Monitoring* was clearly the least preferred. The majority of participants would have no issue with applying these trainings to work activities. However, barriers identified in participating in such trainings were largely attributed to an individual's availability.

INTRODUCTION

To establish baseline data on training needs required to build or refresh our capacity in climate change activities, a survey was conducted by the Climate Change Cook Islands division of the Office of the Prime Minister. The outcome of the survey identified priority areas for training needs, which will be used to determine how we should move forward in organising these training sessions.

METHOD

An online questionnaire survey was created via Survey Monkey (www.surveymonkey.com), and distributed to a total of 112 stakeholders in the Cook Islands on 28 September 2012. To ensure high participation, the survey was made simple with only five questions listed. The survey was open for completion for a period of seven days. Information collected from the survey was compiled and automatically analysed by Survey Monkey.

The following are the five questions used:

1. Who do you work for?
 - Government
 - Private sector
 - NGO
 - Academic institution
 - Other (please specify)
2. Please choose from 1-5 (1 being your 1st choice, 3 your last choice, 4 is your alternate choice if 3 is not available, and 5 meaning you wouldn't participate) the training options you'd like to participate in?
 - Accessing Climate Change Financing
 - Diplomacy Training
 - Project Management & Coordination training
 - Proposal Development & Writing
 - Vulnerability & Adaptation Assessment & Monitoring
3. Are there any barriers that would prevent you from participating in trainings?
 - Yes or No. If Yes, please specify.
4. Would there be any barriers preventing you from applying this training in your day to day work?
 - Yes or No. If Yes, please specify.
5. Do you have any additional comments?
 - Yes or No. If Yes, please specify.

RESULTS

A total of 112 individuals were invited to participate in the online survey, and 21 individuals (19%) responded (at least 5% is needed for a statistically valid sample size).

Question 1 – Place of employment

There were 20 individuals that responded to this question. The majority (75%) work for Government, 15% for the private sector, 5% for Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), and 5% self-employed (Figure 1). There were no respondents from Academic Institutions.

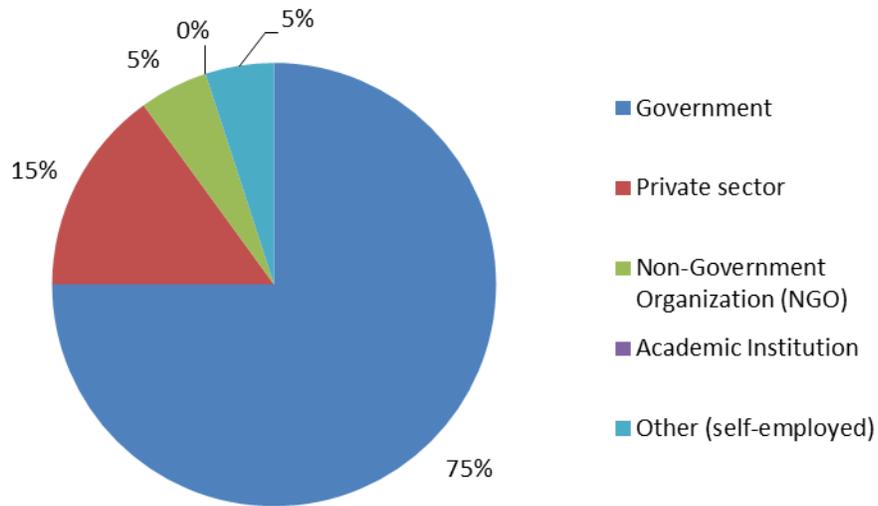


Figure 1. Breakdown of places of employment for individuals who participated in this survey.

Question 2 – Training needs

A total of 21 individuals responded to this question. In Rank 1 (first choice option), training for *Accessing Climate Change Financing* was the highest need identified (42.9%; Table 1). In Rank 2 (second choice option), *Diplomacy Training* and *Project Management & Coordination Training* were equally the highest (28.6%). In Rank 3 (third choice option), *Project Management & Coordination Training* was the highest (42.9%). In Rank 4 (last choice option), ‘*Proposal Development & Writing*’ was the highest (33.3%). The training that individuals would not participate in (Rank 5) was identified as *Vulnerability & Adaptation Assessment & Monitoring* (52.4%).

Table 1. Percentage of individuals willing to participate in the different training options. The number of individuals that responded to each option indicated in parentheses. A total of 21 individuals participated in this survey. Bold percentages indicate the highest training need identified for each rank (1 – 5).

	1	2	3	4	5
Project Management & Coordination training	14.3% (3)	28.6% (6)	42.9% (9)	9.5% (2)	4.8% (1)
Proposal Development & Writing	14.3% (3)	23.8% (5)	23.8% (5)	33.3% (7)	4.8% (1)
Vulnerability & Adaptation Assessment & Monitoring	9.5% (2)	9.5% (2)	4.8% (1)	23.8% (5)	52.4% (11)
Accessing Climate Change Financing	42.9% (9)	9.5% (2)	28.6% (6)	4.8% (1)	14.3% (3)
Diplomacy Training	19.0% (4)	28.6% (6)	0.0% (0)	28.6% (6)	23.8% (5)

Question 3 – Barriers

Out of 21 individuals, 12 (57.1%) indicated they would have barriers in participating in the trainings, while 9 (42.9%) indicated no barriers. The main barrier indicated was availability to attend due to other responsibilities. Funding was also identified as a barrier if participants had to pay for the course themselves.

Question 4 – Barriers in applying training to work activities

Out of 21 individuals, 17 (85%) indicated no barriers in applying the training to work activities. The barriers identified by three individuals were time and government intervention.

Question 5 – Additional comments

Comments that were provided by six individuals included:

- Training needs to be tailored to local conditions.
- Ensure learning frameworks are in place to apply on the job what is learnt.
- Would be beneficial to conduct trainings in the Pa Enea rather than Rarotonga. This individual would like to access funding for water tanks (administered by the Women's group) with 60% under the management of the Aitutaki Women Council. The recipient of the water tank would pay 60% and funding would provide for the rest.
- Would like training in the science to better understand climate change impacts.

CONCLUSION

Accessing Climate Change Financing was the most preferred training option identified, with *Project Management & Coordination* and *Diplomacy Training* equally second, followed by *Proposal Development & Writing*. Training involving *Vulnerability & Adaptation Assessment & Monitoring* was clearly the least preferred training option. The majority of participants would have no issue with applying these trainings to work activities. Barriers identified in participating in such trainings were largely attributed to an individual's availability.

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