

2ND REGIONAL TECHNICAL MEETING FOR COASTAL FISHERIES

PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK SURVEY RESULTS

Snapshot:

- The delegates rated highly (4.39 out of 5) on the relevance of the meeting to their work
- The delegates also rated highly on conference facilities, meeting organisation, group work and content of the meeting.
- Time allocated for sessions received the lowest ratings (3.40 out of 5) followed by delegates having to go out to buy their own lunch (3.49 out of 5). Last year's feedback also received lowest rating from delegates on having to buy their own lunch.
- 85% of the participants agreed that they gained new knowledge at the RTMCF



Introduction

The second Regional Technical Meeting for Coastal Fisheries (RTMCF) was held in Noumea from 12th to 15th November 2018. There were 58 attendees (28 from 18 member countries, and 30 from development partners, NGOs and Civil Society Partners), along with SPC staff. Forty-two completed feedback surveys (46 attendees and 14 SPC staff).

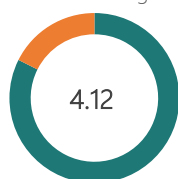
Delegates were asked to rate meeting organisation, conference facilities, content and relevance. All aspects received very positive scores, scoring an average of 4 out of 5 or greater. However, the delegates rated an average of 3.5 out of 5 on time allocated for sessions, lunch arrangements, participant engagement and achieving clear meeting outcomes, recommendations and actions.

"The most eye-opening for me was the gender and human-rights session. Although we strive in our work to be inclusive of disadvantaged groups, the session showed that we need to step up in our effort."



Meeting content & participation

Meeting content
overall rating



Relevance to your
job



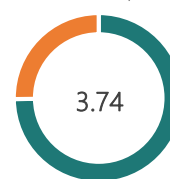
Participant
engagement



Meeting
organisation



Recommendations
and action points



Most useful: Majority of the participants mentioned the sessions on Gender and Human Rights were useful and eye opening for most (eight comments included Gender and Human Rights). Session on Sea Cucumber were the next most useful sessions (five comments included Sea Cucumber). Safety at Sea, country presentations and group work were also useful.

Least useful: In terms of what was least useful, three comments related to structure of the meeting and timeslots for group work and active participation from the participants.

“Purpose of meeting is either very broad or not clearly formulated. Similarly for sessions it wasn't particularly clear whether we wanted to know something from the countries or just tell the countries what SPC offers.”

“The format for countries update or presentations need to be more structured in terms of more quantitative substance e.g. baseline or trends, etc. of some key coastal fisheries parameters of discussions.”

“All the sessions were relevant to our own country's context. The presentations and discussions provided led to better understanding of the issues and how each country was addressing them better”

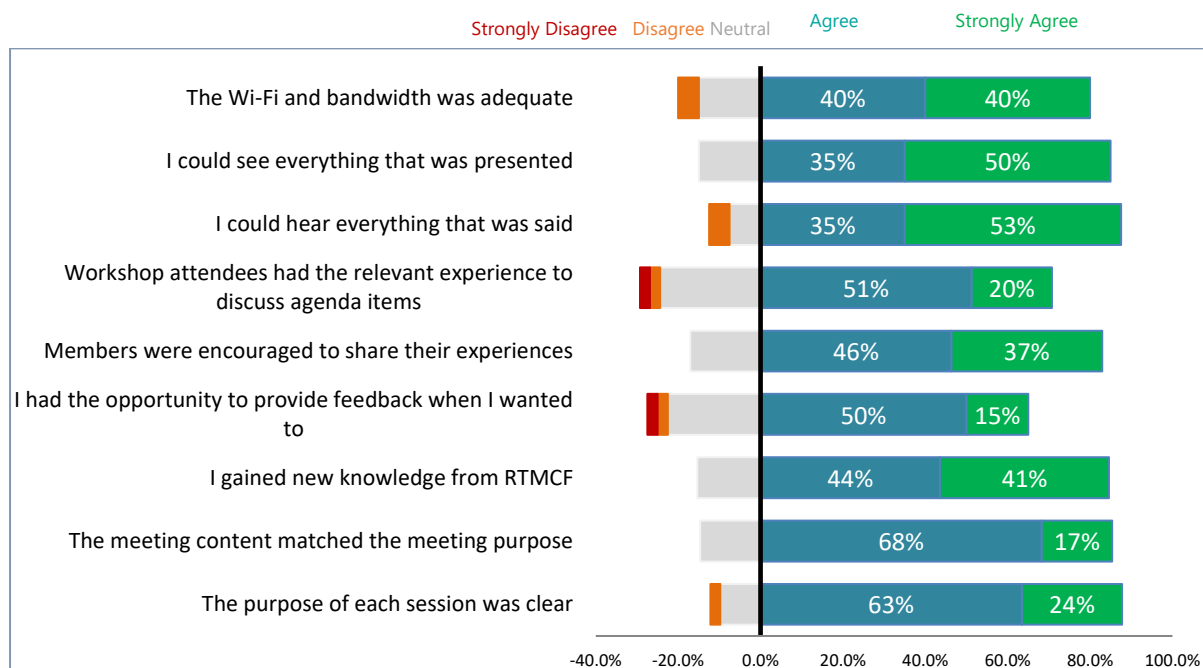
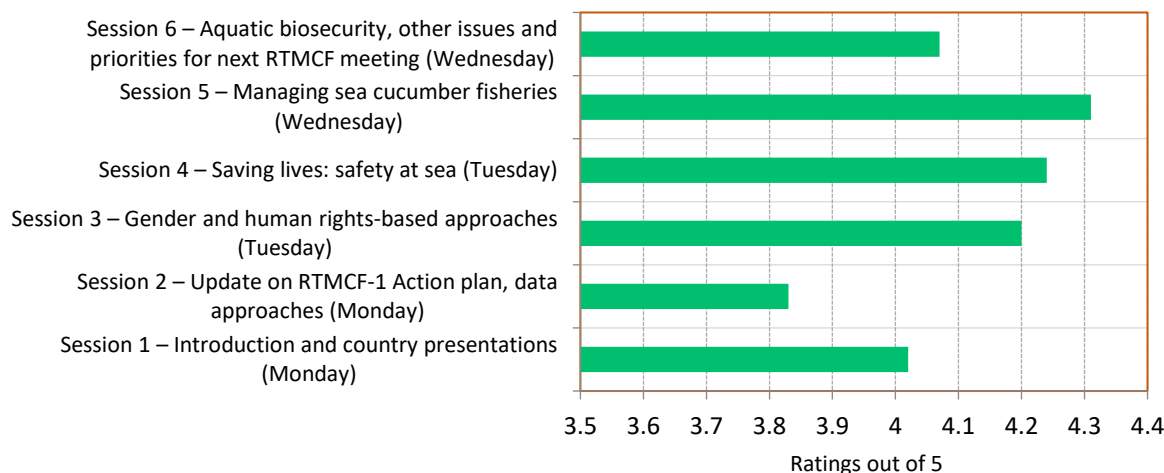


Figure 1: Delegate feedback on meeting content



Workshop Sessions

The session on **Managing sea cucumber** received high rating of 4.31 out of 5 followed by *saving lives: safety at sea* (4.24) and *Gender and Human Rights-based approaches* (4.2). The session on *update on RTMCF-1 Action Plan, data approaches* received the lowest rating of 3.83 out of 5.



Recommendation for next meeting: RTMCF update and data approaches session needed improvement. One suggestion is to split the session so RTMCF update is a standalone session while the presentation on data approaches should be more about relevance to each country.



Meeting facilities

Overall conference facilities received high ratings similar to last year (4.39 out of 5) and just behind *relevance of the workshop*, which received the highest rating of 4.4 out of 5. Eighty-percent of participants either agree or strongly agree that the *Wi-Fi bandwidth was adequate* and almost 88% of participants heard everything that was said in the meeting. However, almost 30% of the participant thought they *had no opportunity to provide feedback when they wanted to*. Twenty-eight percent either were on neutral or did not agree that workshop attendees had the relevant experience to discuss agenda items.

Recommendation for next meeting: 1 - Share draft agenda with member countries with the invitation so they select participants who are either involve or have extensive knowledge of the subject to be discussed in the workshop. Work with member countries and partners to screen participants based on knowledge and skills to understand the discussions and participate fully.

2 – The sessions should have ample time for participants to provide feedback. After each session, there should be maximum of 10 minutes for participants share their take on the session.

Food and drink: Similar to last year, participants buying their own lunch (compared to lunch provided at the venue with no allowance) received the second lowest average rating in the feedback survey, at 3.49 out of 5. Morning and afternoon tea rated 3.98 out of 5.



Suggestions for improvement

Thirty-two delegates completed this section of the survey form while the other 10 skipped the question. The delegates suggested the following improvements for consideration for future RTMCF meetings:

- ▶ **More time for discussions (12 comments):** Group discussions should be allocated more time. Discussions need to be moderated carefully so the topic of discussions is the focus of group work. Some participants mentioned limited number of questions relevant to the group discussions so more time can be spent on discussing one or two issues in detailed.
- ▶ **Share workshop information (agenda items, group work questions) weeks prior to meeting (three comments):** This will help participants to prepare for group discussions and participate in the meeting.
- ▶ **Participants' knowledge of the topics discussed during the meeting (three comments):** SPC should work more with members and partners to identify relevant people who are familiar or exposed to coastal fisheries and who have technical understanding to attend similar meetings in future.
- ▶ **Other suggestions: Time management** (two comments) managing time better for sessions and group work; **Lunch** (two comments) having lunch in the same venue encourages participants to meet, learn and share and discuss important issues; **Give per diem in full** (two comments) participants to pay for hotel and food; **Site visits** (two comments) participants should do field visits or visit FAME laboratories; **Other** (1 comment each): Regional countries to chair meetings and topics to be discussed between countries, friendlier venue to encourage active participation.

Annex: Result tables

Q1. Please rate following aspects of the workshop	Very poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent	Total	Weighted Average
Meeting content	0	0	7	22	13	42	4.14
Opportunity for feedback	0	2	11	18	10	41	3.88
Participant engagement	0	5	13	15	7	40	3.6
Time allocated for sessions	0	6	16	17	3	42	3.4
Meeting organisation	0	1	4	25	11	41	4.12
Group work	0	2	8	16	16	42	4.1
Conference facilities	0	0	5	15	22	42	4.4
Relevance of the workshop to your job	0	0	4	17	20	41	4.39
Morning and afternoon teas	0	3	7	19	12	41	3.98
Buying your own lunch (compared to lunch provided at the venue with no allowance)	4	7	3	13	10	42	3.49
Meeting outcomes, recommendations, action points	0	3	8	18	5	35	3.74

Q2. Please rate each of the workshop sessions:	Very poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent	N/A	Total	Weighted Average
Session 1 – Introduction and country presentations (Monday)	0	0	10	20	11	1	42	4.02
Session 2 – Update on RTMCF-1 Action plan, data approaches (Monday)	0	1	12	22	7	0	42	3.83
Session 3 – Gender and human rights-based approaches (Tuesday)	0	1	7	16	17	1	42	4.2
Session 4 – Saving lives: safety at sea (Tuesday)	0	0	5	19	14	3	41	4.24
Session 5 – Managing sea cucumber fisheries (Wednesday)	0	0	4	21	17	0	42	4.31
Session 6 – Aquatic biosecurity, other issues and priorities for next RTMCF meeting (Wednesday)	0	0	7	24	10	1	42	4.07

Q3. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	N/A	Total	Weighted Average
The purpose of each session was clear	0	1	4	26	10	0	41	4.1
The meeting content matched the meeting purpose	0	0	6	28	7	0	41	4.02
I gained new knowledge from RTMCF	0	0	6	17	16	0	39	4.26
I had the opportunity to provide feedback when I wanted to	1	1	9	20	6	3	40	3.78
Members were encouraged to share their experiences	0	0	7	19	15	0	41	4.2
Workshop attendees had the relevant experience to discuss agenda items	1	1	10	21	8	0	41	3.83
I could hear everything that was said	0	2	3	14	21	0	40	4.35
I could see everything that was presented	0	0	6	14	20	0	40	4.35
The Wi-Fi and bandwidth was adequate	0	2	6	16	16	0	40	4.15

The meeting was supported by the Australian Government, FAO and European Union

For further information on this feedback, contact Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning team, FAME, connied@spc.int or terryo@spc.int

For meeting papers and presentations visit <http://fame1.spc.int/en/meetings/241>

