



ECLAC

**Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean**

LIMITED
LC/CAR/L.266
14 June 2010
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

EVALUATION OF THE MEETING ON PROMOTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN THE CARIBBEAN

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INTRODUCTION

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), in collaboration with the Caribbean Development Bank, convened the meeting “Promoting Energy Efficiency in the Caribbean” on 13–14 May 2010 at its Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. The meeting had its genesis in the convening of consultations in 2009 with Latin American and Caribbean countries, members of the Latin American Energy Agency, and resulted in a report calling for greater awareness of energy efficiency among Caribbean countries, so as to provide the impetus of the development of a regional energy efficiency strategy.

An evaluation form was distributed towards the end of the meeting, providing the participants with the opportunity to assess the quality and success of different aspects of the meeting (the logistics of the meeting, venue, the organization and the technical aspects of the meeting). ECLAC has acknowledged the importance of receiving feedback from its meeting participants to tailor future meetings to the specific needs of its clients.

I. RESULTS

An assessment of the evaluation found that 82% of the participants completed the evaluation form. There were four main objectives outlined on the evaluation form:

- Raising awareness of different approaches to promoting energy efficiency in key economic sectors in the region
- Discussing appropriate techniques for reducing the region’s greenhouse gas footprint
- Making recommendations for the application of identified approaches at both national and regional levels
- Formulating a regionally-coordinated approach for addressing energy efficiency in the Caribbean.

A. OBJECTIVES MET

Of those who responded, 61% stated that the objectives of the meeting were completely met by the organizers (figure 1).

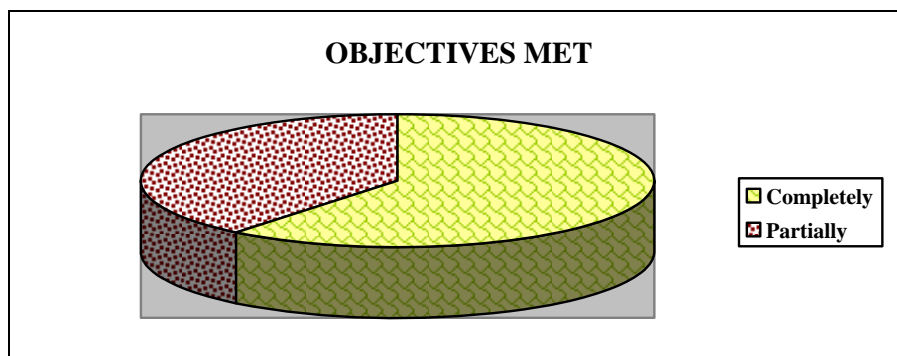


Figure 1: Objectives of the meeting realised as indicated by respondents (%).

B. EXPECTATIONS MET

On the other hand, 71% expressed that their expectations were completely met (figure 2).

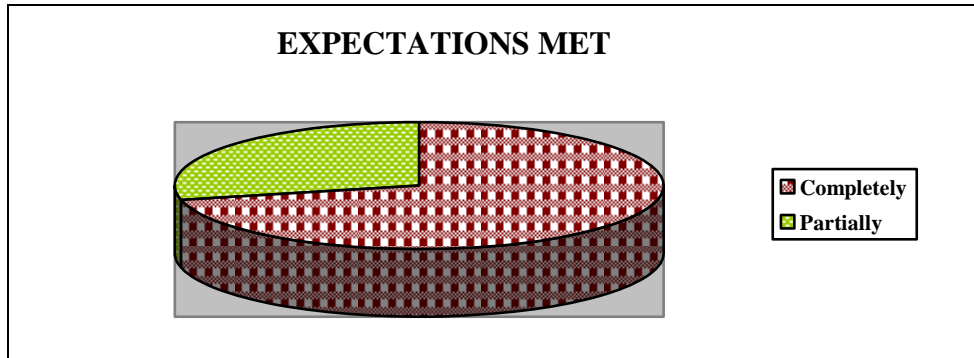


Figure 2: Percentage of participants whose expectations were met by the meeting.

Other participants indicated that their expectations were partially met. Some provided explanations, and these included:

- More Caribbean studies were needed
- A regional coordinated approach was not well defined but there was some commitment to achieve this
- Some presentations did not specifically address the intended sector
- There was recognition of the need for assistance in energy efficiency

They were exposed to some techniques used by sector, however, they would have benefited from more direct recommendations for Caribbean approaches to energy efficiency and activities to coordinate country-to-country assistance.

II. SESSION 1

The meeting was divided into four sessions. The first session, energy efficiency policies, consisted of two presentations. Generally, participants felt that these two presentations were very well presented and received. About 40% of the respondents stated that the session helped to raise their awareness level and an equal percentage indicated that the overall presentations were well delivered. Of the total, 29% expressed that the impact of awareness was excellent, while 21% felt that it was good. Further, 36% found that the opportunity for participation was excellent (figure 3).

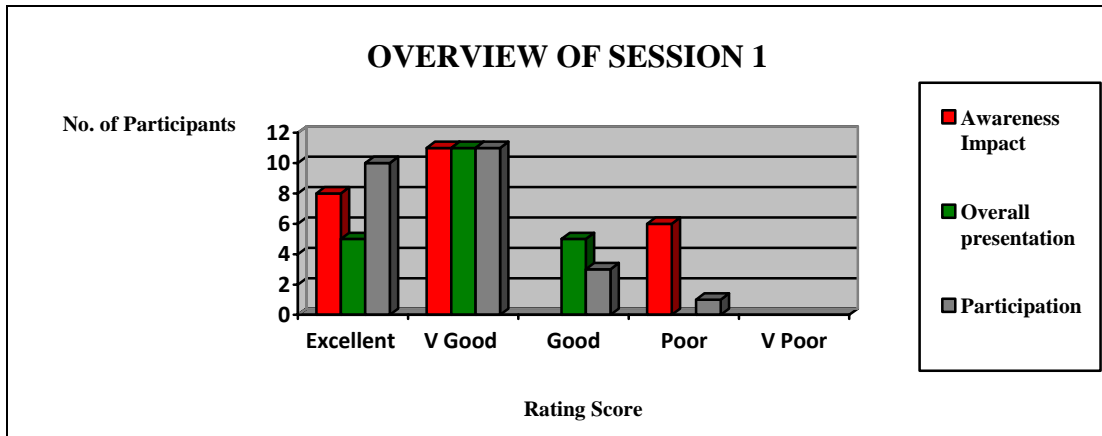


Figure 3: Respondents perceptions of the impact of the presentations on Energy Efficiency Policies

III. SESSION 2

A. THE OVERVIEW

With respect to the presentation on the energy sector, 36% agreed that impact on awareness was excellent, however, 64% thought it was very good, 21% mentioned that it was good, and only 7% stated that it was poor. The overall presentation was graded as good by 39% of the respondents while 25% thought it was excellent and 25% stated it was very good. The majority of the participants agreed that there was very good opportunity for participation.

The presentation on the tourism sector received the nod of excellence by 36% for awareness impact and 64% noted that the presenter did very well in delivering her content. Of the total, 36% rated the opportunity for participation as excellent and another 36% rated this as very good.

The water sector presentation was resoundingly rated as excellent with regard to awareness impact by 82% of the participants, with 65% rating the presentation of the material as excellent, whereas 29% agreed it was very good and 46% mentioned that the opportunity for participation was excellent and 36% as very good (figure 4).

B. AWARENESS IMPACT

The water presentation was by far the most outstanding of this session with respect to awareness impact.

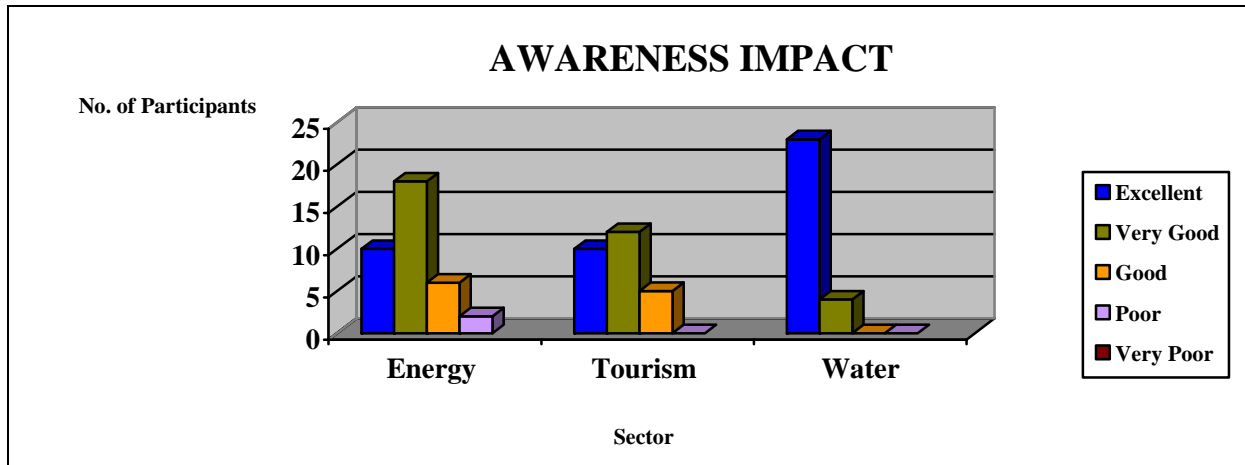


Figure 4: Number of respondents rating the awareness impact of the presentations on energy, tourism and the water sector

C. PRESENTATION QUALITY

The overall quality of the presentations showed that the water presentation again stood out with the tourism presentation being ranked by most as very good. The energy presentation was generally ranked as being good (figure 5).

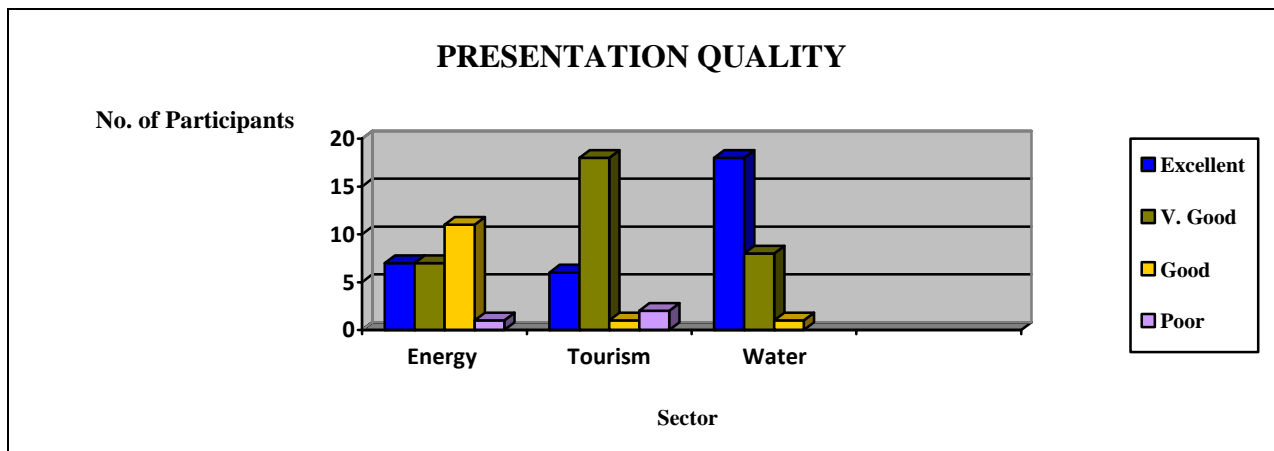


Figure 5: Number of respondents rating of the overall quality of presentations on energy, water and tourism

D. OPPORTUNITY FOR PARTICIPATION

The time allotted for discussion generally allowed for excellent to very good participation by the meeting attendants. They were generally pleased (figure 6).

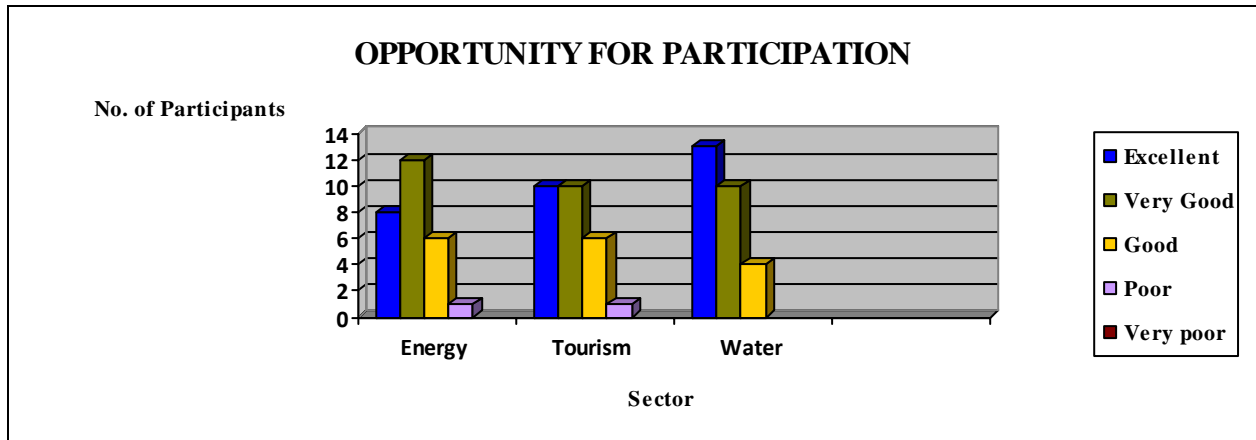


Figure 6: Number of participants rating the opportunity for participation during the presentations on energy, water and tourism

IV. SESSION 3

A. THE OVERVIEW

Session three focused on the housing, industrial and transportation sectors. The presentation on the housing sector was mostly well received, as 18% expressed that the awareness impact was excellent, 43% stated it was very good and 29% stated that it was good (figure 7). The overall presentation was mainly rated as being excellent by 21% (of the participants), another 43% rated it as being very good, and 21% noted it was good (figure 8). The opportunity for participation was noted by 29% of the respondents as being excellent, 36% as being very good and another 18% as being good (figure 9).

The presentation on the industrial sector was deemed excellent in terms of awareness impact by 36% of the participants, 25% said it was very good, and another 36% stated that it was good (figure 7). The overall presentation was evenly rated with 32% indicating that it was excellent, very good and good (figure 8). The opportunity for participation was rated by 32% as being excellent, 36% as being very good and 29% as being good (figure 9).

The presentation on the transportation sector was deemed excellent by 25% of the participants, 39% thought it was very good and 32% stated that it was good with respect to awareness impact (figure 7). The overall presentation received the following ratings: 25% for excellence, 21% for being very good and 46% for being good (figure 8). The opportunity for participation was noted as being excellent by 25%, with 36% being very good and another 36% as being good (figure 9).

B. AWARENESS IMPACT

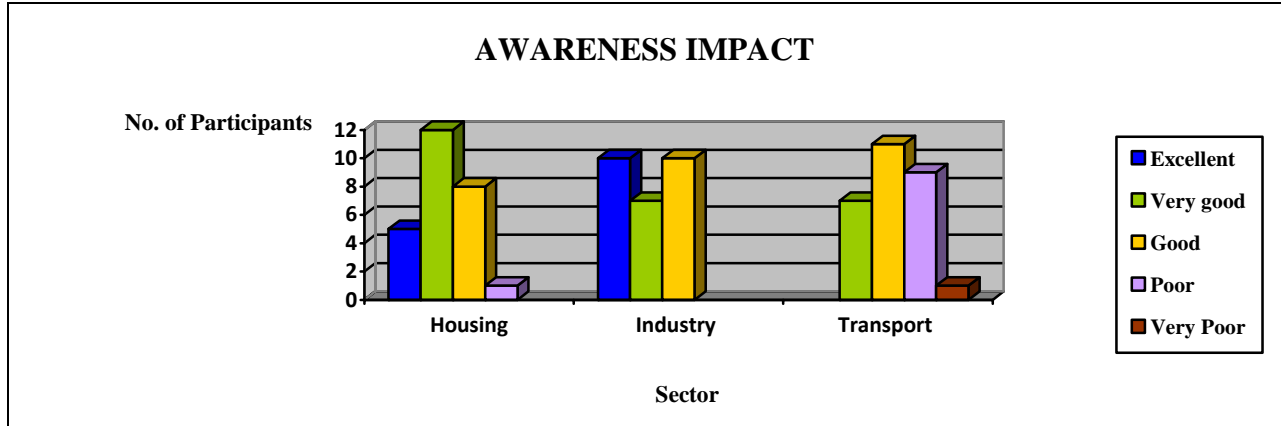


Figure 7: Number of respondents rating the awareness impact of the presentations on housing, industry and transportation sector

C. OVERALL PRESENTATION

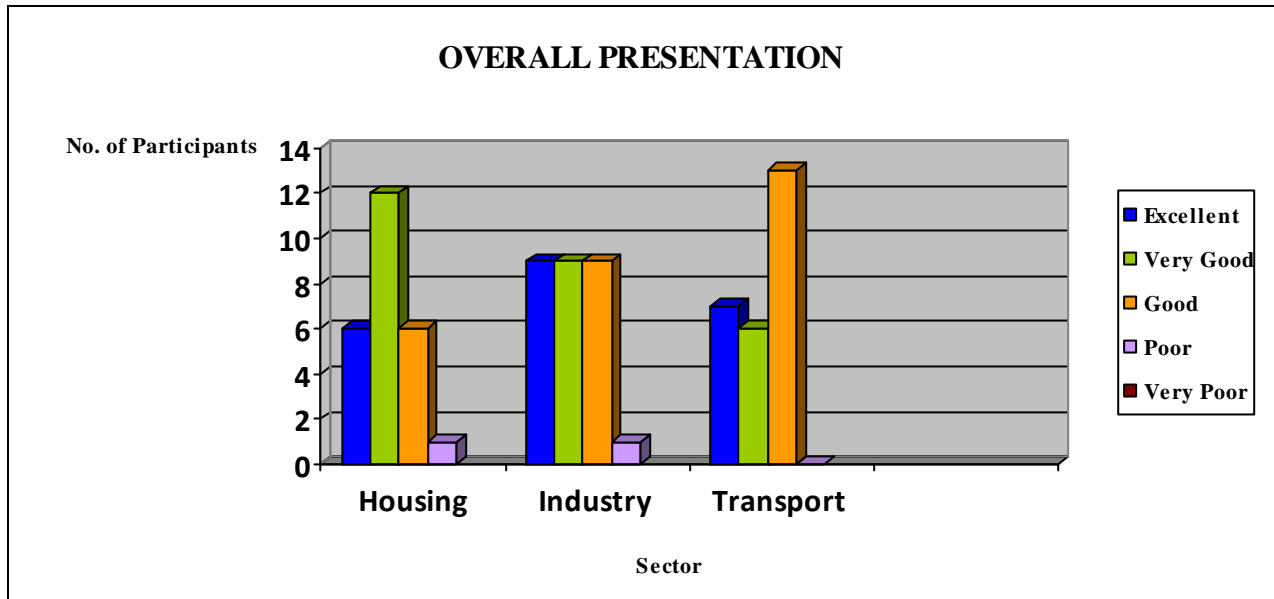


Figure 8: Number of respondents rating the overall quality of presentations on housing, industry and transport

D. OPPORTUNITY FOR PARTICIPATION

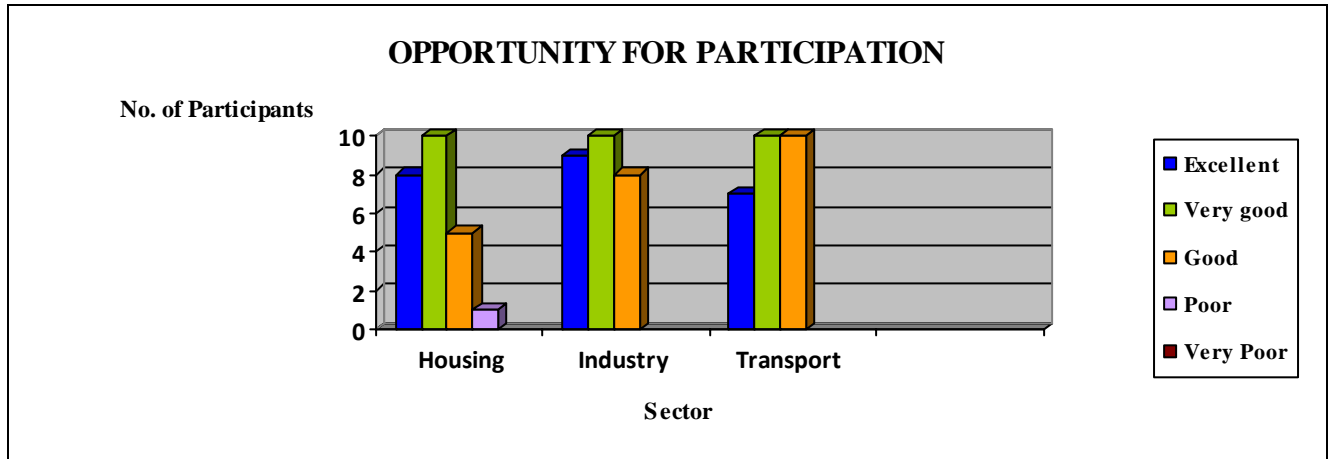


Figure 9: Number of participants rating the opportunity for participation during the presentations on housing, industry and transport

V. SESSION 4

A. THE OVERVIEW

Session 4 which explored issues of gender, sustainable energy usage and regional strategy for energy efficiency was mostly well received.

The youth, gender and energy efficiency was rated by 38% as excellent, 50% stated that it was very good (figure 10), and another 38% thought it was very good (figure 11).

With respect to the presentation on energy efficiency as a tool for energy sustainability in the Caribbean, 63% of respondents stated that its relevance was good (figure 10) and 88% rated its quality as good (figure 11).

The final presentation on the CARICOM regional strategy for energy efficiency was rated by 63% of the respondents as being very good with respect to its relevance (figure 10) and by 63% as being very good with respect to its quality (figure 11).

The following are graphical representations of the aforementioned information:

B. RELEVANCE

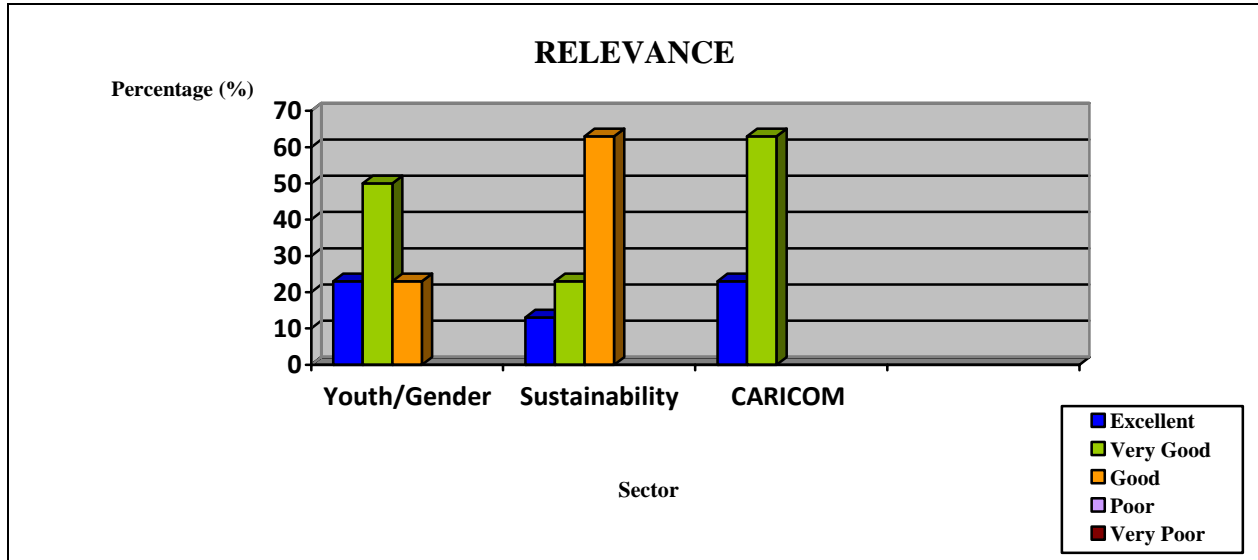


Figure 10: Participants rating the relevance of the presentations on Youth, Gender and energy efficiency; energy efficiency as a sustainability tool and CARICOM a regional strategy (%)

C. QUALITY

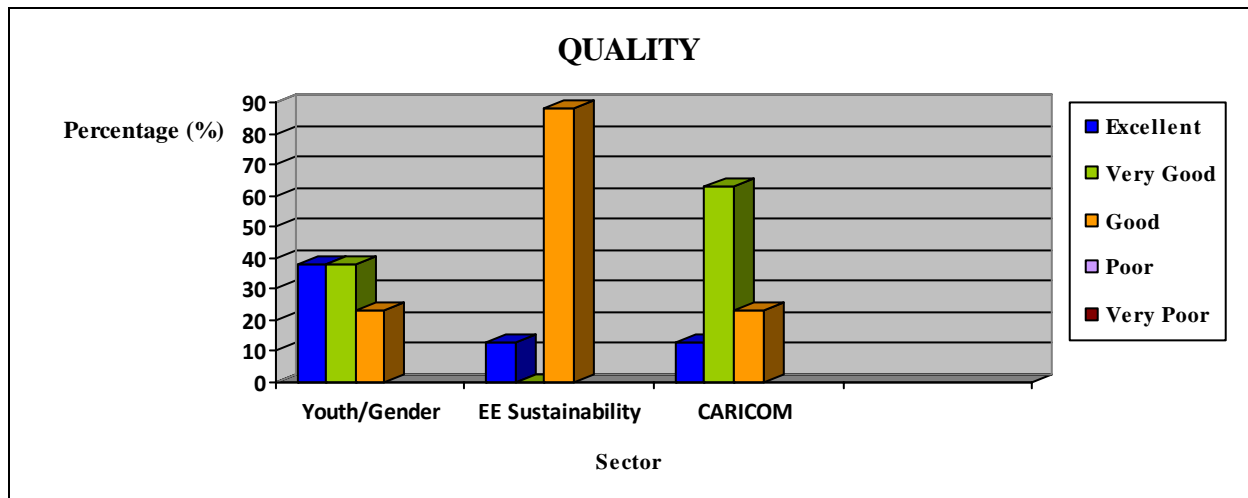


Figure 11: Participants rating the overall quality of the presentations on Youth, Gender & energy efficiency; energy efficiency as a sustainability tool and CARICOM a regional strategy (%)

Some participants offered suggestions for topics that should have been included:

- Finance for support of energy efficiency awareness-building efforts
- More in-depth demand side management as it relates to electricity service providers

- Opportunity for updates on projects currently in the region and lessons learnt
- Fuel hedging; net metering; feed in tariff
- How energy efficiency and mitigation match each other
- A presentation to show the linkage of energy and climate change. The financing opportunity to carry out these programmes should be done
- Present financial mechanisms for promoting energy efficiency in the region (Caribbean Development Bank presentation). Regulation in force for energy efficiency in the region (governments)
- Greater emphasis on regional approach and implementation leading to the way forward. Indicators could be elaborated on; specific policy initiatives; capacity-building e.g. courses needed at university
- Coordinated efforts to fortify efficient use of the traditional sources of energy; measures that promote the use of renewable energy source
- Energy efficiency appliances (residential and commercial); designing appropriate public awareness and education programmes to sensitize stakeholders on energy efficiency
- The role of architects and bankers in renewable energy and energy efficiency
- Greater energy efficiency in buildings to decrease the energy demand, mainly homes, but also hotels, commercial and public buildings; better regulations; make buildings energy efficient in the first place
- New technologies for energy efficiency
- Waste as a resource for energy; carbon as a resource for energy
- Breakout groups to prepare recommendations for initiatives that could be implemented in the various sectors
- How buildings in the Caribbean region can be designed and constructed to be more energy efficient and greener. An indication of what housing policy and building codes required to make buildings greener in the future

The following is an account of some general comments that were expressed by some participants:

- It was a very engaging and welcomed opportunity to have been involved in this meeting. Public education and awareness was the underlying theme, ECLAC can possibly host with other partners as it relates to this topic
- The use of specific case-studies for sectors would be useful. The meeting was however very timely and well planned and I look forward to other initiatives that can be built on this. This meeting has served to renew the focus on energy efficiency in the region
- The conference was opportune and of an excellent standard, I have learnt a lot from the panelists, information will be a valuable asset to my ministry
- The workshop was well organized and coordinated. ECLAC must be commended and they should have these sessions on a more regular basis
- Good opportunity to incorporate information into our own country programmes

- Next steps for a regional approach are still not clear. The exchange of national information was very good, but we have no real idea of how we can progress in a regional approach
- It was a very engaging and welcomed opportunity to have been involved in this meeting. Public education and awareness was the underlying theme, ECLAC can possibly host other meetings with other partners as it relates to this topic
- This was a very good meeting. Selection of facilitators and topics were spot on and timely. Additionally, the wealth of experience from the participants was also much appreciated. The job now is to ensure the issue is raised and addressed. Perhaps an annual meeting by which updates can be provided
- Good meeting. Should have talked more about renewable energy sources/projects SWOT analysis. Great chance to meet other island representatives to exchange successes/challenges
- Overall very good
- The overall meeting had the relevant experts in their sector of energy with a specific knowledge and wide range of knowledge. The presenters were clear to their audience and kept the interest of other participants. Each country had the opportunity to learn and obtain best practices. There could have been longer sessions if possible or a follow-up meeting
- As the first ECLAC workshop on energy efficiency promotions, I think it's been successful, nonetheless, it is of utmost importance to define the right "next steps" to adequately help Caribbean countries in their efforts to improve energy efficiency in their societies
- Very good job at bringing together different sectors of economy and showing key examples of how energy efficiency has been achieved in Caribbean islands. Sessions were very informative and coordinated well. Excellent job. Thank you
- Well-organized conference
- Overall, the seminar was good and informative. However some presentations seemed rushed and thus difficult to follow at times. Thanks for the opportunity
- Much thank appreciation and congratulations to ECLAC and partners!
- I thought this an excellent meeting and I will take many positions away with me. The organization was also excellent, a really high standard with good informative presentations
- It was a really good event, with dense presentations and motivating discussion
- Very timely meeting

VI. CONCLUSION

There was general consensus that the meeting was well organized and the objectives were met. The majority of the participants expressed that their own expectations were also met. Many participants stated that, given the success of this first meeting on energy efficiency, others should be convened so as to chart the road map being spearheaded by CARICOM. In this way, monitoring the impacts of energy efficiency plans and initiatives in the region would be achieved.