

QUALITY ASSESSMENT REPORT
2nd SUNRAISE Summer School
SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RESOURCE USE IN ARCTIC
AND HIGH MOUNTAINOUS AREAS

Salzburg, Austria
7th – 21st July, 2019

Outline

01. Organizers
02. Participants
03. Questionnaire objective
04. Questionnaire and results
05. Conclusions



01. The questionnaire was developed by the organizers of the Summer School (i.e. University of Salzburg) and conducted online sometime after the conclusion of the event. It was designed with the help of Umfrage Online.

<https://www.umfrageonline.com/s/1c96d27>

02. Altogether, 22 participants filled the questionnaire in, 19 of whom provided an answer to all questions. This included 8 participants that only took part in the activities organised during the first week of the Summer School, and 11 that participated during both weeks. All responses were kept fully anonymous.

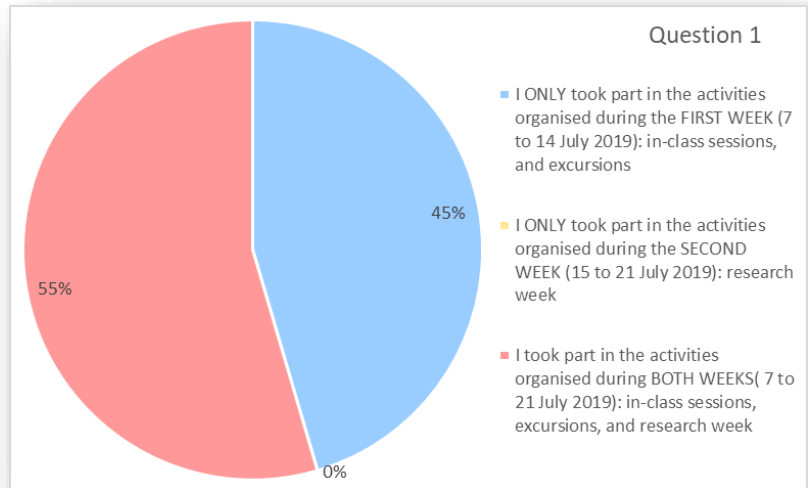
03. The objective of the questionnaire was the collection of feedback, comments and ideas from the participants, in order to evaluate their experience during the Summer School, and the main strengths and weaknesses that the event had. All feedback obtained has been discussed within the organising team and will be used in order to provide a more rewarding experience to participants in future events.

04. The questionnaire consisted of 17 questions and was divided into 4 sections that not all participants had to fill in: 1) Section I, assessment of organisational aspects; 2) Section II, assessment of the activities of the first week (in-class sessions and excursions); 3) Section III, assessment of the activities of the second week (research week); and 4) Section IV, general assessment of the activities of the Summer School and recommendations for improvement.

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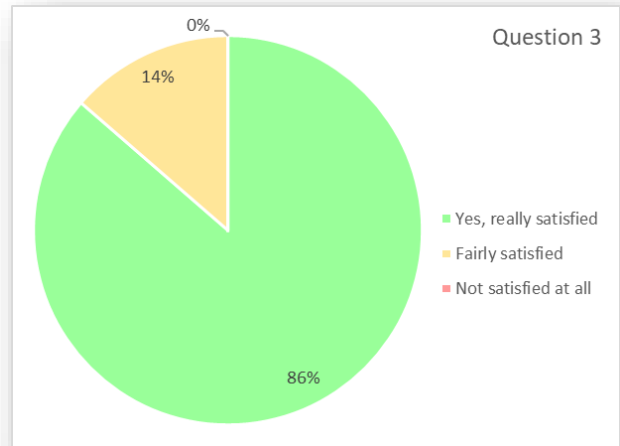
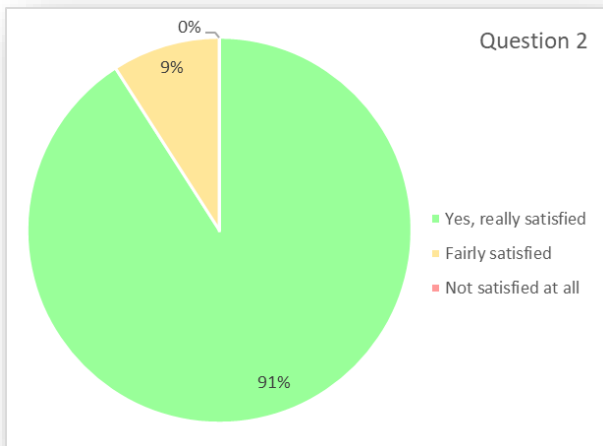
INTRODUCTORY QUESTION

1. In which of the following activities of the Summer School did you participate? (22 respondents)



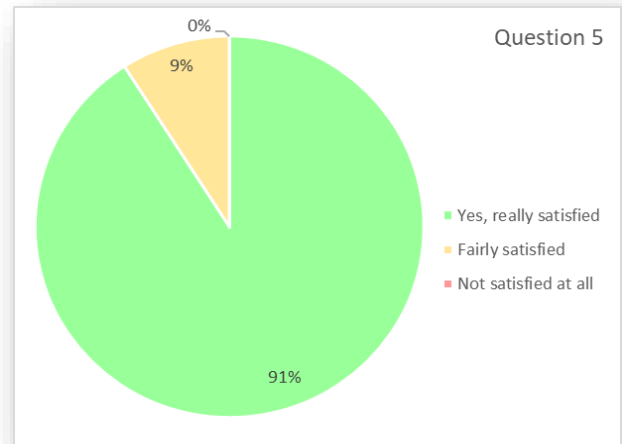
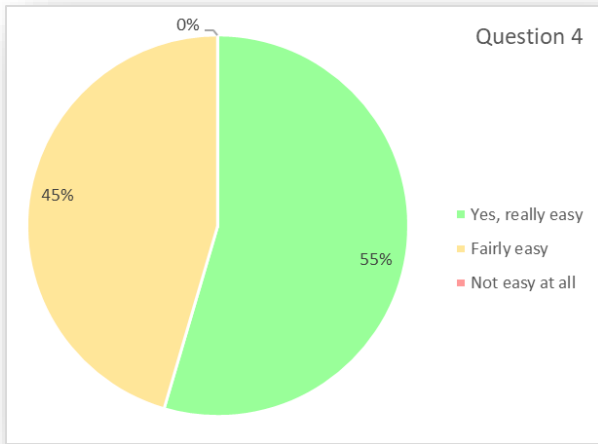
SECTION I: ASSESSMENT OF ORGANISATIONAL ASPECTS

- 2. Was there sufficient information provided to participants on the schedule, venue, etc. of the event before the start of the summer school? (22 respondents)**
- 3. Was the communication among the organisation and participants effective? (22 respondents)**



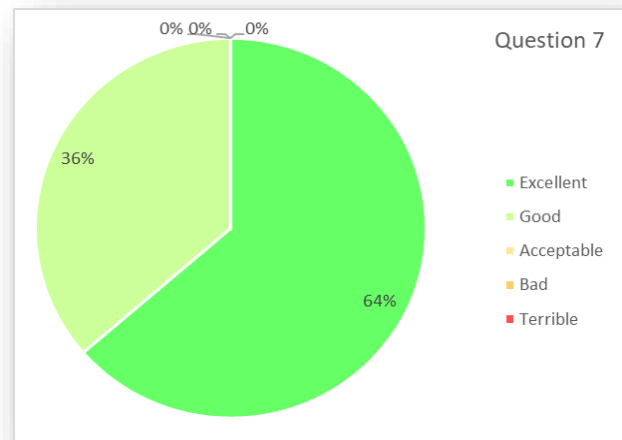
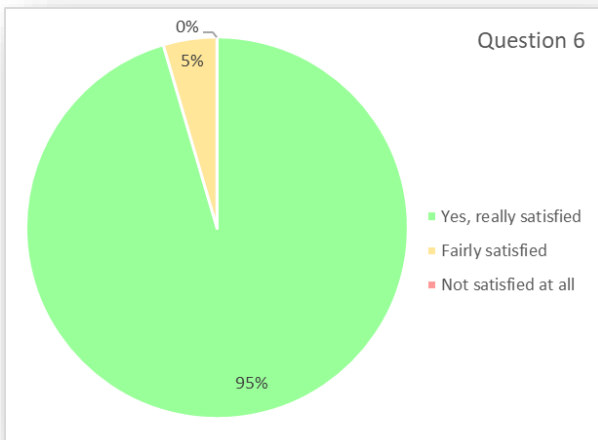
- 4. Was the venue of the Summer School easy to find? (22 respondents)**
- 5. Are the provided facilities adequate for the learning activities developed? (22 respondents)**

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6. Is the learning environment conducive? (22 respondents)

7. How did you find the overall organisation of the Summer School? (22 respondents)

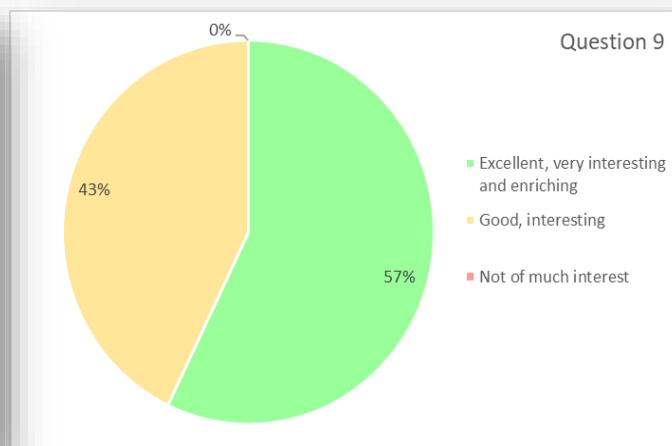
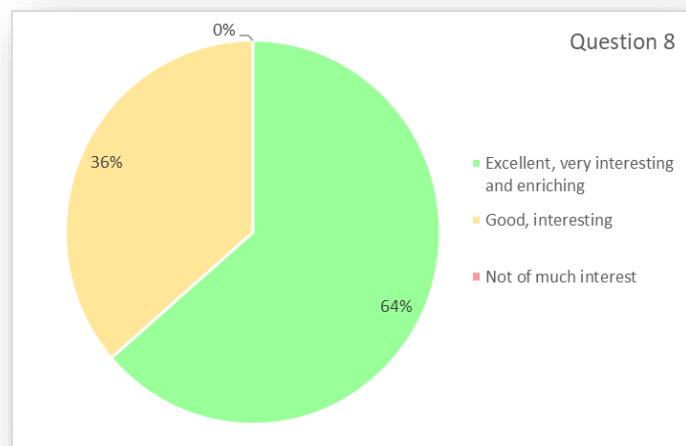


SECTION II: ASSESSMENT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE FIRST WEEK (IN-CLASS SESSIONS AND EXCURSIONS)

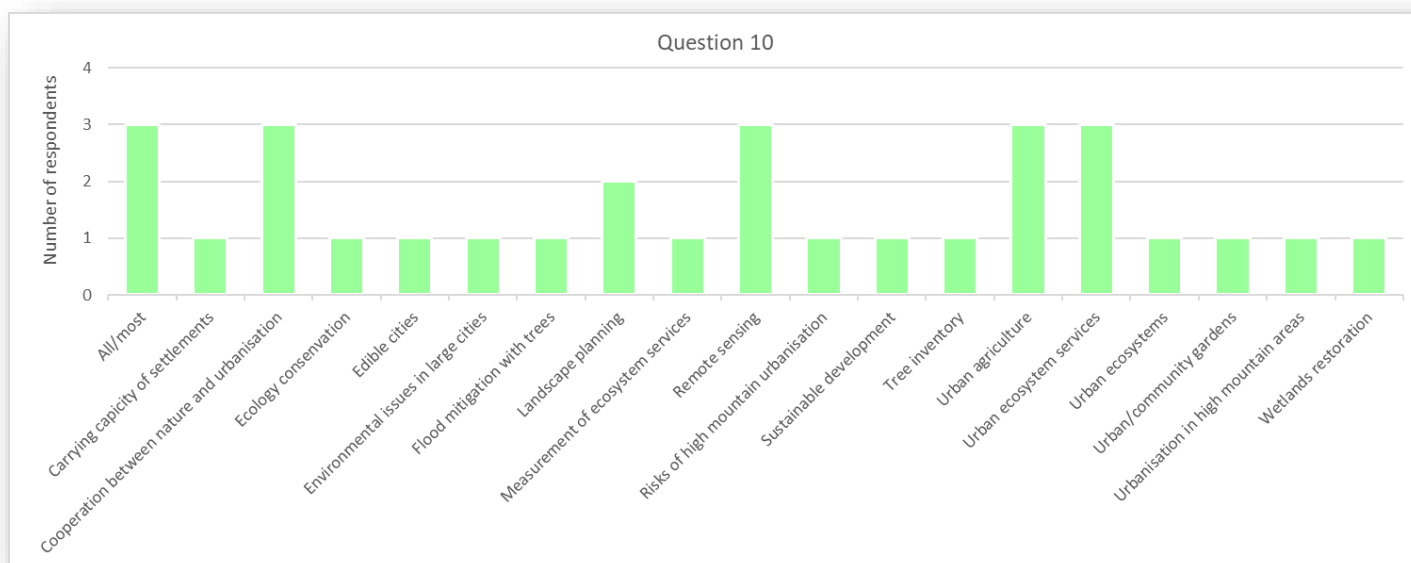
8. Were the lectures interesting and useful for the further development of your skills as a (future) professional? (22 respondents)

9. Were the field trips interesting and useful for the further development of your skills as a (future) professional? (21 respondents)

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10. Which of the concepts/ practices learned did you find most useful and interesting? (open-ended question) (21 respondents)



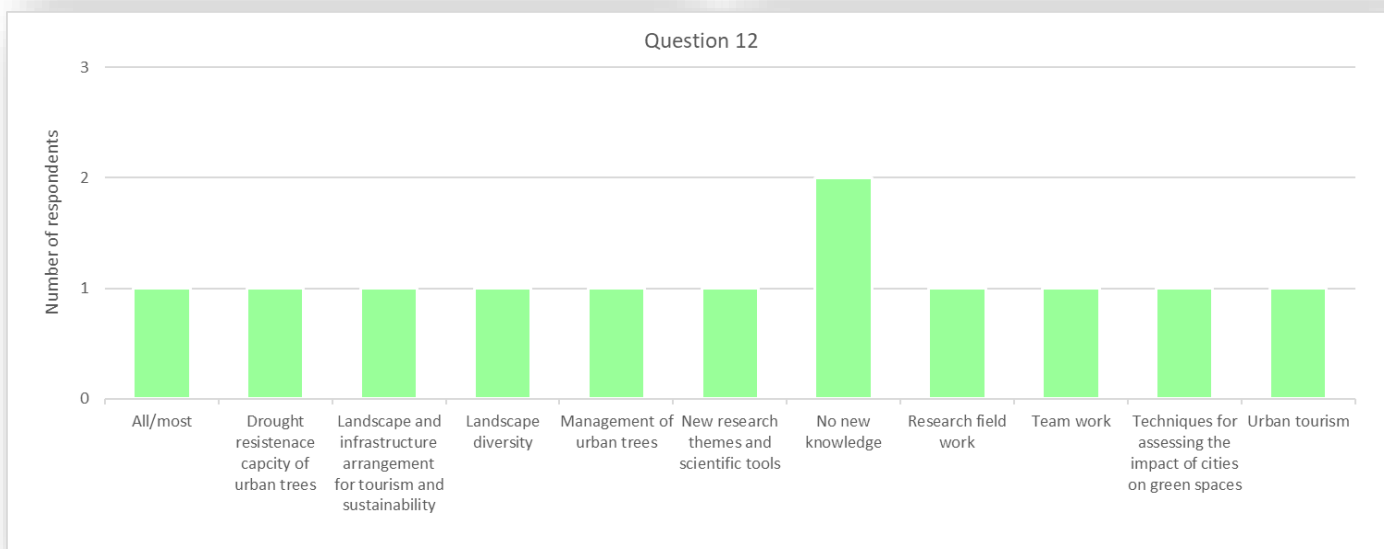
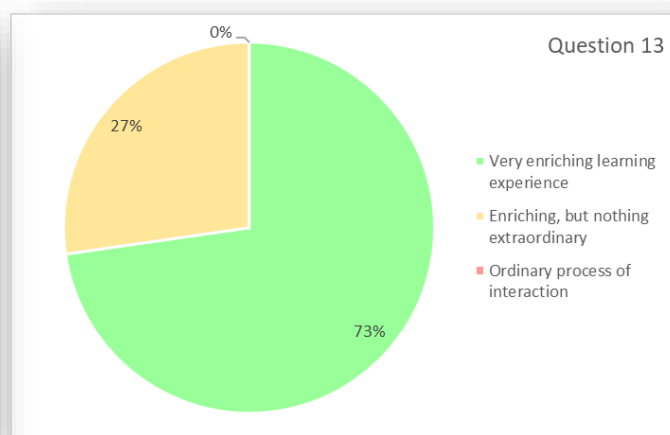
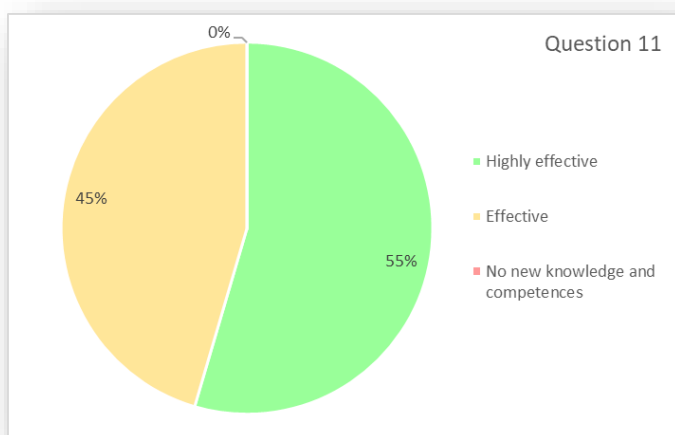
SECTION III: ASSESSMENT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SECOND WEEK (RESEARCH WEEK)

11. How effective was the practical part (research week) of the Summer School? (11 respondents)

12. Which of the concepts/ practices learned did you find most useful and interesting? (11 respondents)

13. Was the work with an international team (development of research group projects) enriching for you? (11 respondents)

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SECTION IV: GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SUMMER SCHOOL AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

14. Was your level of preparation sufficient for the perception of lectures and practical exercises? (19 respondents)

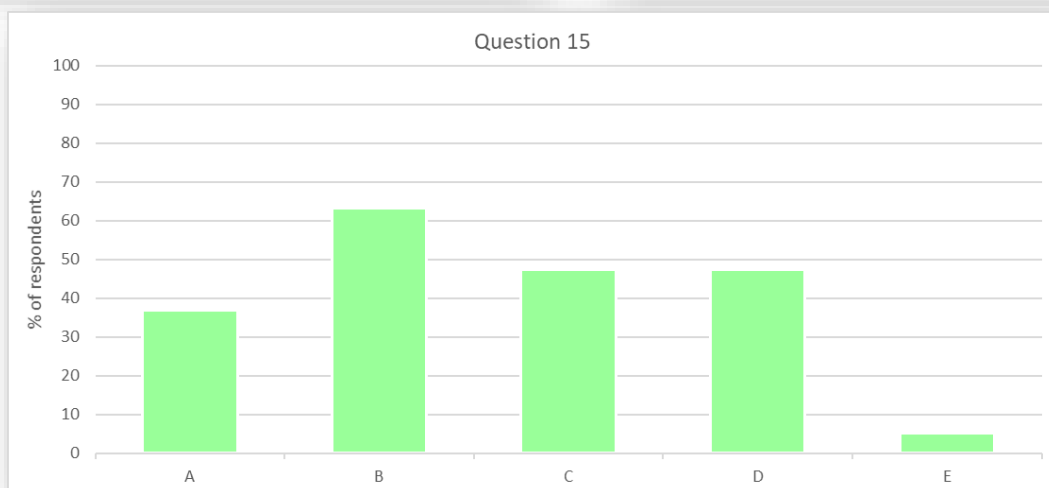
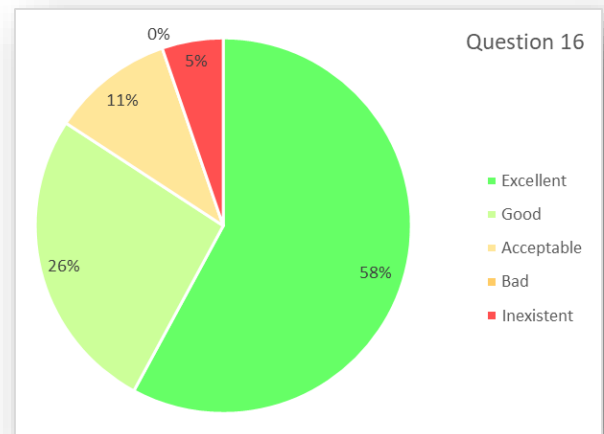
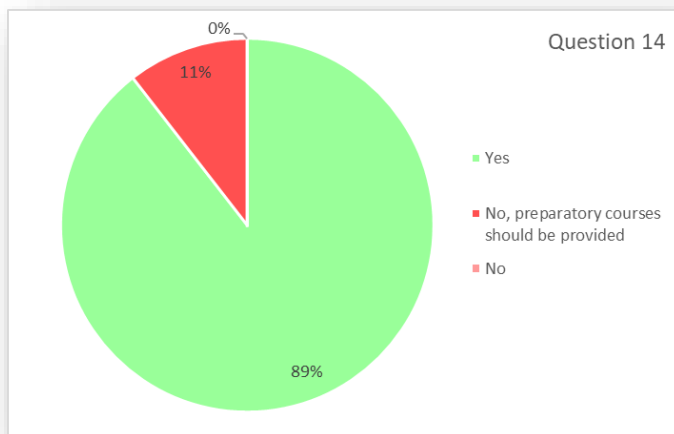
15. What new skills have you personally acquired as a result of your participation in the Summer School? (19 respondents)

- A. Deeper theoretical knowledge on challenges faced by mountainous urban areas in the context of environmental change and solutions to address them

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- B. Deeper knowledge on approaches for the practical implementation of theoretical sustainability concepts in different socio-ecological contexts
- C. Deeper knowledge on methodologies for the analysis and definition of strategies for sustainable development in mountainous areas
- D. Improved skills for the work in multidisciplinary and international teams and the attainment of agreements on challenging issues
- E. Others

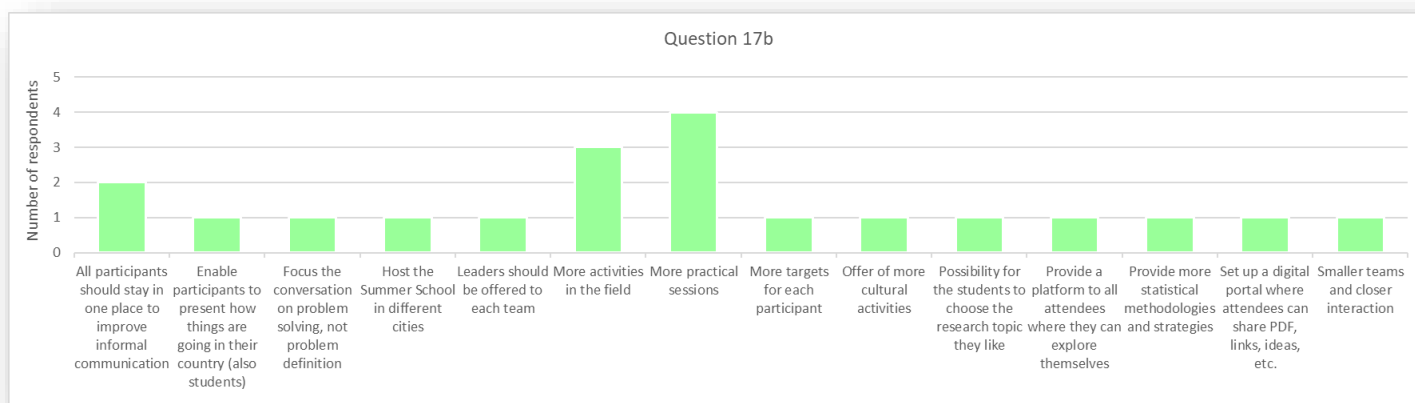
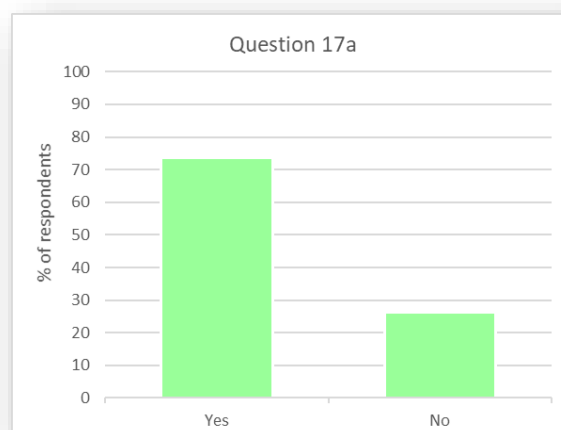
16. How did you find the cultural programme of the Summer School? (19 respondents)



17. Do you have any wishes and recommendations for improvement that should be considered in a possible future Summer School (17a)? Which wishes and recommendations (17b)? (19 respondents)

Among the range of recommendations for improvement that were provided, it was particularly stressed:

- The need for more interactive and practical sessions, less in-class lectures, and more activities in the field.
- The provision of more opportunities for informal interaction among students and teachers, including the opportunity to get more knowledge on the challenges and possible solutions appearing promising in the countries of origin of the different participants. It was highlighted that it would be very helpful if all students and teachers stayed in the same place during the time of the Summer School.



05. The results of the questionnaire reveal that the SUNRAISE Summer School 2019 was well organised and resulted in a satisfactory experience for the participants. All participants questioned valued very positively all the activities offered. An evaluation of the comments obtained, however, lead to the conclusion that further work in the future will be needed specially focused on the provision of a more experience and practice-based learning process, as well as on the provision of sessions for the discussion of solutions rather than only problems. Additionally, further space and more tools for personal and virtual interaction should be offered, in order to enable a better exchange of ideas and experiences among participants from and within different socio-ecological backgrounds, and build social network. This should also be related to the provision of a richer cultural agenda.

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