



QUALITY ASSESSMENT REPORT

1st SUNRASE Summer School - 2018 "Monitoring and Early Warnings in Mountain Social-Ecological Systems" July 15-29, 2018 Krasnoyarsk – Altai Republic, Russia





01. The questionnaire was jointly developed by the Summer School organizers - Gorno-Altaisk State University and Siberian Federal University. It was designed with the help of Google Forms and conducted online.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc5haj8AYamQYNazynm1f0m11hMgHU4MRwVQVVtjLsn9b uW_w/viewform?usp=sf_link

02. The questionnaire was distributed to the participants some time after the event took place. The organizers did it intentionally, as they wanted to give the participants time to reflect on their experience and not to follow immediate emotions. Totally 36 participants out of 41 (not counting 6 organizers from both universities) provided their feedbacks. The online survey was fully anonymous.

03. The questionnaire was conducted in order to collect participants' comments and feedbacks about the School, carefully analyze them, and discuss obtained results in the group of organizers from both universities to improve the quality of similar events in the future.

04. The questionnaire consisted of 17 questions.

1. In which of the following activities of the Summer School did you participate?

2. Was there sufficient information provided to the participants on the schedule, venue, accommodation, etc. before the start of the Summer School?



3. Was the communication with the team of organizers effective? Did you receive all additional information you requested?

4. Did you receive timely assistance with your documents/invitation (if relevant)?



- 5. Was there an airport/railway station pickup service provided by the organizers?
- 6. Were the provided facilities adequate for the learning activities developed?



7. Was the learning environment conducive?

8. How did you find the cultural program of the Summer School?



9. How did you hear about the Summer School? (open-ended question)

- Most participants knew about the School from their teachers/advisors or colleagues;
- Some either from their university website or from Facebook (about 10%);
- Some received the School information letter from their friends;
- One person got information from the international department; and
- One from his wife (who was also among the participants).





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10. How did you find the overall organization of the Summer School?

11. Do you have any wishes and recommendations concerning the overall organization of the Summer School? (openended question)

- Most participants commended the overall organization of the event:

- ✓ Very nice and productive
- ✓ Thanks for the emotions and communication!
- ✓ The summer school was fantastic. I learnt a lot from it.

- At the same time, participants noted that it would be good:

- ✓ To make it regular and with online modules for "special" learners and for easy learners from outside the university community;
- ✓ To produce some visual materials;
- ✓ To have more participants from different countries and more financial resources to cover their expenses.

12. Preparatory school in Krasnoyarsk: were the lectures and field trip interesting and useful for the further development of your skills as a (future) professional?

13. School activities in the Altai Republic: were the lectures interesting and useful for the further development of your skills as a (future) professional?



14. What case study group were you in?

Such uneven distribution is explained by the fact that the number of participants (visitors) to the reserve was limited, and in Manzherok (the School main location) stayed only those, who were interested in the issues of urbanization in mountain areas.









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15. How effective was the practical part of the Summer school (work in small groups on case study projects)?

16. What new knowledge and skills have you personally acquired as a result of your participation in the Summer School?

A. Deeper theoretical knowledge on sustainable development goals and sustainability indicators for mountain socio-ecological systems, including vulnerability indicators, and their social aspects

B. Deeper theoretical knowledge on challenges faced by mountain areas in the context of environmental change and possible solutions to address them

C. Deeper theoretical knowledge on the principles of the development of ecological and institutional monitoring (including citizen science)

D. Improved skills for the work in multidisciplinary and international teams and the attainment of agreements on challenging issues



17. Do you have any wishes and recommendations for the improvement of the training process within the framework of the Summer School? (open-ended question)

Among the most important recommendations were:

- Better preparation of the materials (maps, etc.) and equipment (GPS, increment borers, etc.) for the field part;

- More engagement of group leaders with the participants;

- To visit more diverse places for case studies;
- To make lectures more interactive; and
- To hold the School on a regular basis.

05. In general, judging by the questionnaire, the Summer School-2018 was organized quite well and most participants really enjoyed it. Though, some important comments should be taken into account:

- to arrange preliminary online group meetings (via Skype or Zoom) with the potential lecturers and group leaders in order to discuss how to make their lectures more interactive and prepare necessary handout materials in advance;

- to inform participants about the available equipment and/or possibility to bring and use their own tools in advance;

- to search for additional funding to support more international participants.