

European Manager of Intelligent and Responsible Territories (GETIR) PROJECT

PROJECT NUMBER: 510283-LLP-1-2010-1-ES-LEONARDO-LMP

Interim Evaluation Report

Promoter and Internal Evaluation:



Financed by:





Bulgarian Development Agency



Folkuniversitetet

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INTRODUCTION

Present report corresponds to **interim evaluation** of GETIR project, approved under Lifelong Learning Programme, and it has been made as a request of the partnership to evaluate, from an internal and general point of view, the implementation of the project as a whole during the first year.

The interim evaluation report has obtained data from the partners of the project and includes their point of view of different aspects of the project.

This report reflects the development of activities approved and implemented during the first year of the project and the relationship and level of satisfaction between the partners involved.

This report will try to analyze the progress of the work undertaken by the partners involved in and the level of satisfaction within the project after a year of joint work.

The general aim of this evaluation is:

- The project suitability within the programme.
- Project development and coordination activities.
- Partnership itself / transnational network.
- Activities carried out and resources available.

Present report also includes other evaluations done during this first year of the project (see ANNEX II, III y IV). Namely, the **ex-ante evaluation** report and the **evaluations of the transnational meetings** implemented during this period which are the kick-off meeting (Noja, España 21st and 22nd March 2011) and the second transnational meeting (Stockholm, Sweden 23th and 24th September 2011).

METHODOLOGY AND PARTICIPATION

For the interim evaluation we defined an evaluation questionnaire (see annex) which was sent to the partners in order to collect their opinions and comments.

Structure of the questionnaire, according to which questions have been made and which reflects methodology followed, is:

1. FUNDING PROGRAMME
2. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
 - 2.1 Objectives
 - 2.2 Decision making mechanism
 - 2.2.1. Decision
 - 2.2.2. Communication among partnership
 - 2.2.3 Coordination
 - 2.3 Transnational meetings.
3. TRANSNATIONAL NETWORK
4. ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES
 - 4.1 Proposed activities.
 - 4.2 Organizations and resources
 - 4.2.1 Technical
 - 4.2.2 Financial

Organizations from the partnership that have answered the questionnaire, and participate in this interim evaluation are:

- ✓ Documenta
- ✓ Folkuniversitetet
- ✓ Bulgarian Development Agency
- ✓ Romanian Institute for Adult Education
- ✓ DIMITRA

ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRES

1. FUNDING PROGRAM

All members of the partnership consider that the project has given them opportunities to share experiences and exchange transferable learning mainly by:

- The opportunity to address the basic terminology and application of them in the local development processes considering the change of paradigm that has occurred in regions in Sweden.
- Sharing information with the partners.
- Sharing experiences / practices between partners.
- For the Romanian case, the Project idea suits very well as the area of intelligent and responsible territories begins to take shape and definitely there will be a need for the professionalization of the practitioners.

All of them also consider that the network itself has been reinforced and there are possibilities to go on working in the future due to the relationship established along GETIR project.

2. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

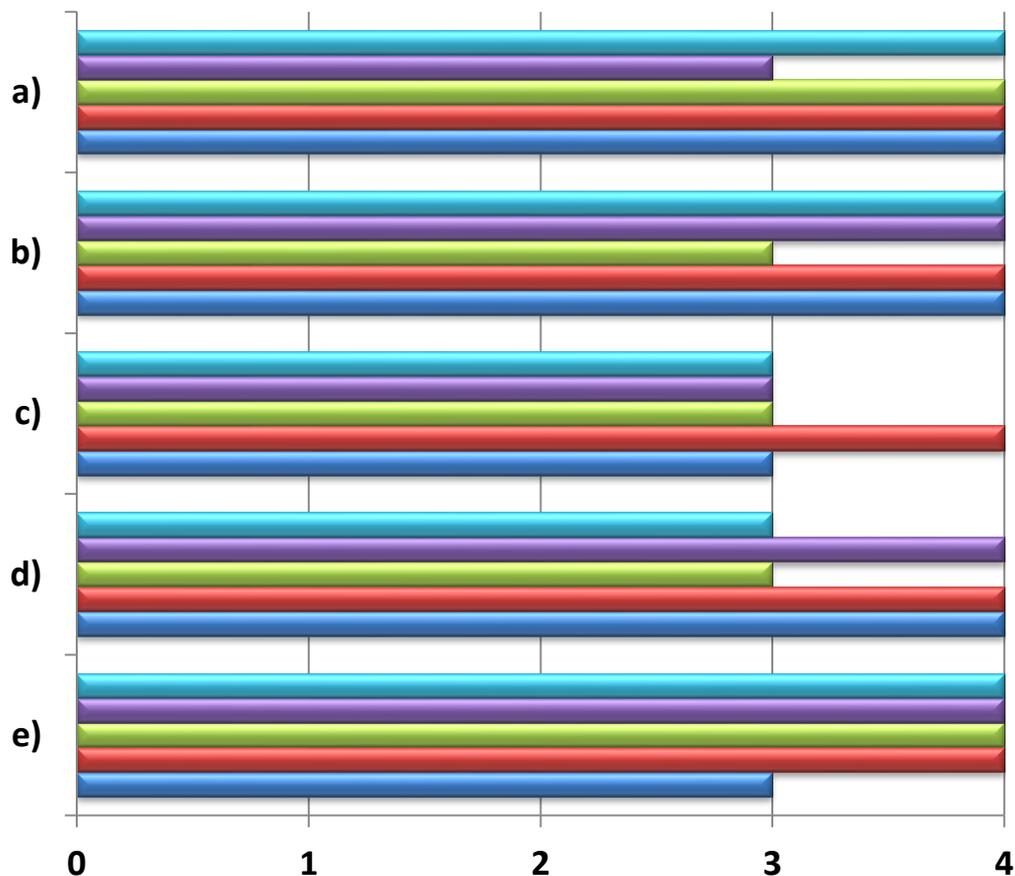
2.1 Objectives

Partners participating in the interim evaluation have value from 1 (minimum) to 4 (maximum) fulfilments of defined aims which are the following:

- a) To define and validate at EU level, the professional profile and competences of GETIR.
- b) To design and validate a blended learning pedagogical tool, though from a perspective of an EU sustainable local development model.

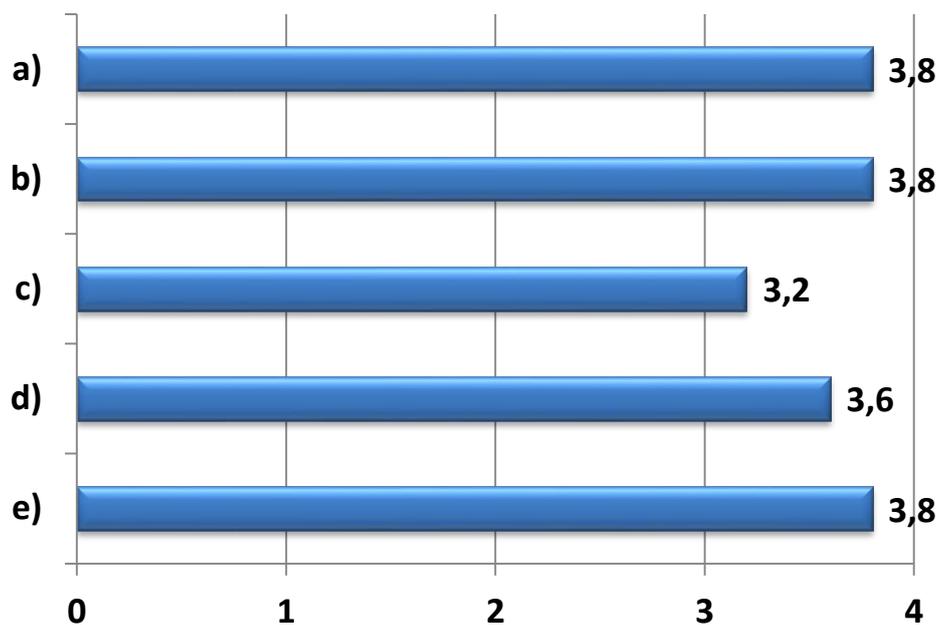
- c) To develop and innovative pedagogical process with previous tool and with a focused on cooperative learning, social/organizational learning, learning territories and knowledge regions.
- d) To make an effort translating main documents and tools to English, and profile and its tools to all partners languages to guarantee its dissemination, transference and a strong multiplier effect.
- e) To implement a continuous evaluation process thought as a permanent learning and active dialogue process among the partners during the implementation of the project.

The following graphic shows the punctuations given by each partner to the different mentioned objectives. Each colour belongs to one partner but the answers are treated anonymously so the colors do not correspond to any particular order.



As it can be seen there are not big different understandings of fulfillment of each objective by each of the partners. All of them gave the two maximum punctuations, namely, 3 and 4.

If we calculate the media of all partners to each objective the answer is shown in the next graphic:



Taking into account that value 2 will be the middle possible answer, we can appreciate that partnership consider that all objectives have been achieve during this first year of the project. According to their responses, the objectives which have been better valued (in terms of achievement) by the partners are:

- ✓ To define and validate at EU level, the professional profile and competences of GETIR.
- ✓ To design and validate a blended learning pedagogical tool, though from a perspective of an EU sustainable local development model.
- ✓ To implement a continuous evaluation process thought as a permanent learning and active dialogue process among the partners during the implementation of the project.

The three of them got a media rate of 3,8. While the one which has been worse valued is:

- ✓ To develop and innovative pedagogical process with previous tool and with a focused on cooperative learning, social/organizational learning, learning territories and knowledge regions.

It got a 3,2 which is rather good despite of it is the lowest.

Anyway, we have to consider that partners are evaluating the development after the first year project and some objectives will be finally achieve during the second year.

The questionnaire asked partners to explain the reasons for given punctuations of 1 and 2 to the objectives. As we have already seen, no partner gave 1 or 2 points to the items so they did not comment anything regarding this section.

2.2 Decision making mechanism

2.2.1. Decision

For the decision making mechanisms and process it seems to be agreement among partners. All of them consider that the decision making mechanisms used by the promoter has been coherent with the project's philosophy and participatory. They mentioned that the basis for decision making has been democratic and rational and that the established decision-making mechanism is efficient.

Besides they think these mechanisms allow participate and they were the most appropriate in order to achieve the project's objectives.

Partners' comments in this section:

- In some cases (the profile) the coordinator made decisions on a matter already agreed.

- The basis for decision making has been democratic and rational.
- The established decision-making mechanism is efficient.
- The coordinator made it possible (mechanisms of participation) for direct input by partner.
- The process of the management of the WP and the project as an a whole guarantee the participation in decision making mechanism.
- The adpted mechanism serve the project's objectives.

2.2.2. Communication among partnership

Regarding communication, partners think the communication channels work effectively and that they have a very good communication within the partnership. Furthermore all of them think that communication have had sufficient periodicity and fluently transmission. Also, in their opinion, the feedbacks from the coordinator as well as from the WP leaders have been helpful and fast.

Partners' comments in this section:

- We have a very good communication within the partnership.
- The communication channels shared result from their input and finings.
- The communication channels work effectively.
- There is no communication gap among partners because communication channels work effectively.
- The feedback from the project coordinator made the understanding of deliverables easier.
- There is direct, fast and quite helpful feedback from the project coordinator.

- There is direct, fast and quite helpful feedback from the leaders of the WPs.

2.2.3 Coordination

The coordination was evaluated through three questions that all partners answered affirmatively. In their opinion, the project's timetable, design and activities were well defined in order to achieve proposed objectives although some people answering the questionnaire pointed out that some activities were delayed.

Besides, they think those activities have been assigned according with real work possibilities of all partners.

Finally, they consider that partners' organizations had accomplished with assigned responsibilities and tasks.

Partners' comments in this section:

- The timetable, design and activities are well defined towards achieving the proposed objectives.
- The assigned activities are well allocated.
- All partners are capable to cope with the assigned responsibilities and tasks.
- However, the time for the first deliverable was short due to misunderstanding.
- Although some activities were delayed.

2.3 Transnational meetings

So far, two transnational meetings have taken place: the kick-off meeting and the second transnational meeting.

Transnational meetings are considered an important activity within the project and for this reason they have their own evaluation report (see ANNEX III and IV). However, as the internal evaluation tries to offer a general picture of the state of the project, we included few questions in the interim evaluation questionnaire to consider the meetings as well.

All partners agree that transnational meetings were of great help to achieved objectives and aims of the project and also to implement the work in a correct way and get to final products and results. They all consider transnational meetings as the most important tool for project implementation and agree that meetings were good organized.

Partners' comments in this section:

- All the meetings were quite helpful towards in order to achieve aims and objectives of the project.
- All the meetings were quite useful towards in order to be developed aims and objectives of the project.
- They were of very importance to grasp the concept and what was expected.

3. TRANSNATIONAL NETWORK

All partner organizations except one knew at least one other organization from this partnership before starting working in GETIR.

All consider that the partnership has been strong enough and has worked as a real partnership. They pointed out a great and powerful partnership has been established.

For both, project and partnership we asked the partners which strengths and weaknesses were, here their answers:

Main **strengths** pointed out by the partners:

- The commitment of the coordinator and partners towards the project activities and deliverables.
- Strong academic basis.
- Innovative ideas and innovative products that will be developed.
- The partnership flexibility and good working atmosphere allowed overcoming differences and difficulties. Also the coordination's efforts to make all the partners are at same wave.

Main **weaknesses** pointed out by partners:

- Some minor delays.
- The difficulty that the partner countries have different level of LD history. Sometimes it was difficult to know how we are going to forge the different part of the concept together.

4. ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES

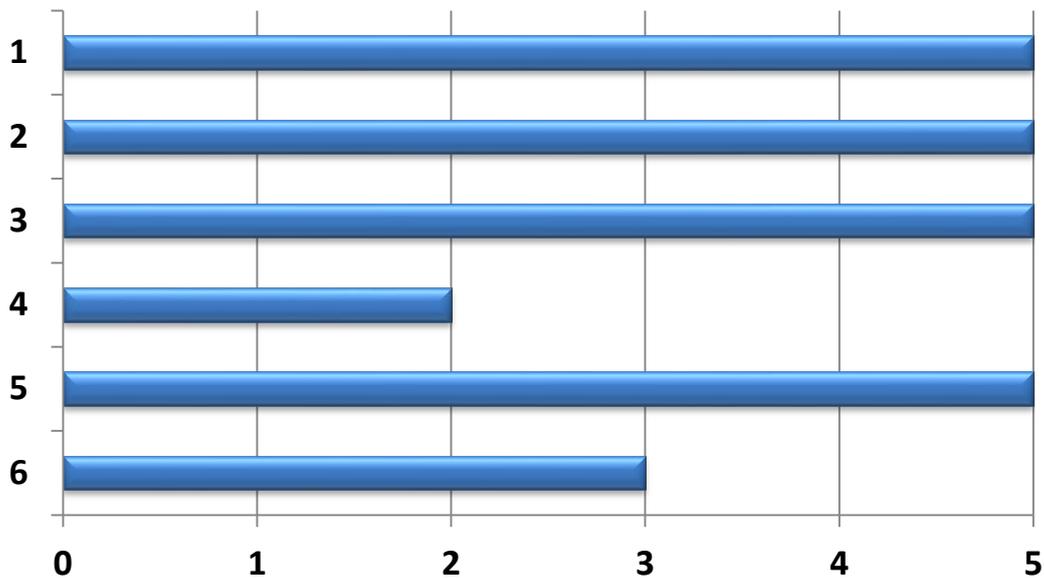
4.1 Proposed activities

The interim evaluation has considered the following activities implemented during the first year of the project:

1. Updating and translation of the Intelligent and Responsible Territories book written by Javier Farto.
2. Professional Profile GETIR.
3. Professional training contents of the profile GETIR (training definition and contents of the new profile).
4. Best Practices (document with analyzed best world practices).
5. Project presentation leaflets.
6. Website of the project.

Participation of the partners in the different products

The following graphic shows the participation of the partners in the different activities.

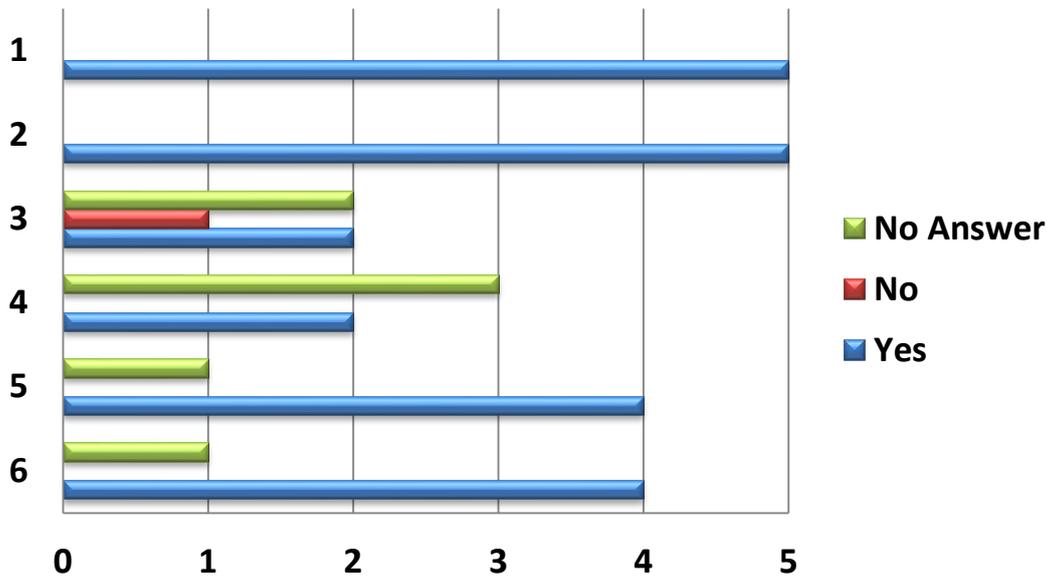


The vertical axis represents the six activities assessed while the horizontal axis represents the number of partners who have done each activity. It is possible to see that the five partners have done all the activities except in two cases. Activity four which is 'Best Practices', has not fully developed yet and this is the reason why some members answered 'no' to the question 'did you participate in this activity?'

Then, we have activity six, 'website of the project'. Two partners out of five said they did not participate in this activity because the website was developed by the coordinator partner, Documenta; while others considered they participated in this activity by translating its contents into their national language.

Implementation of products

Regarding the question which tried to evaluate if implementation of all products were fulfilled or not, the answers from the partners are:



The vertical axis represents the six activities assessed while the horizontal axis represents the number of partners. Only the activities one and two got positive responses from all members. After that, not all partners answered the question regarding the fulfillment of the aim because they considered that these activities have not been completely developed yet and that is also the reason for the unique 'no' answer got in activity 3.

Strengths and weaknesses of each activity

Activity	Strengths	Weaknesses
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Helping to understand better the issue of responsible and intelligent territories. - The effort of the coordinator to explain. - It is valuable in terms of understanding Sustainable Local Development. We specially focus on: Local Development at the end of Millennium and Intelligent and Responsible Territories. 	
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through the desk research done were identified the competences needed for the technician in Local sustainable Development. - To investigate how the development in this area has been submitted to changes and how those 	

	<p>changes affect the role of stakeholders in local development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The clarification of the GETIR professional profile. - The European approach in the activities. 	
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The acquisition of a thorough knowledge about the analysed knowledge area. 	
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be gathered all the best world practices. 	
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very attractive design of the promoting materials, it will be very useful for the dissemination activities of the project. - A good and easy view of the project and the concept of GETIR. - Publicity and dissemination about the achievement of the project. 	
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attractive design. - Good narrative presentation of goal and deliverables. - Maximize the benefits in terms publicity and dissemination. 	

4.2 Organizations resources

4.2.1 Technical

All partners answered affirmatively to questions about technical resources. They consider the expected objectives and goals of the project can be achieved through the designed activities and through the planned resources.

4.2.2 Financial

All partners considered that available budget for foreseen activities in the proposal was enough. They mentioned that there is a quite proper assignment of financial resources but they also pointed out that the assignment of human and material resources will be enough in the future depending on the volume of translation of final product.



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ANNEX I

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. FUNDING PROGRAM

Has the project up to now been able to offer opportunities to share experiences and pull out transferable learning to its partners, experiences or practices that could be applied in their own territories?

Yes	No	Further comments

Has been reinforced the international network created, by fostering links between partners, especially those pointing to future cooperation within partners involved?

Yes	No	Further comments

2. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

2.1 Objectives

Could you value from 1 (minimum) to 4 (maximum,) what has been the rate of fulfillment of each objective according to it was expected to achieve at the mid of the project development.

Objective	1	2	3	4
To define and validate at EU level, the professional profile and competences of GETIR.				
To design and validate a blended learning pedagogical tool, though from a perspective of an EU sustainable local development model.				
To develop and innovative pedagogical process with previous tool and with a focused on cooperative learning, social/organizational learning, learning territories and knowledge regions				
To make an effort translating main documents and tools to English, and profile and its tools to all partners languages to guarantee its dissemination, transference and a strong multiplier effect.				
To implement a continuous evaluation process thought as a permanent learning and active dialogue process among the partners during the implementation of the project.				

- For those to which your answer has been 1 or 2, could you explain why, please?

OBJ	REASON WHY
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

- Is there any other objective which was not mentioned in the proposal but, in your opinion, has been achieved during project implementation?

2.2 Decision making mechanism

2.2.1. Decision

Question	Yes	No	Further comments
Do you think that decision-making mechanisms have been coherent to the project's philosophy?			
Were they mechanisms of participation?			
Were they the most appropriate in order to achieve the project's objectives?			

2.2.2. Communication among partnership

Question	Yes	No	Further comments
How do you think communication channels among the partnership have worked?			
Have had sufficient periodicity and fluently transmission?			
Was feedback from project coordinator helpful and fast?			
Was the feedback from the WP leaders helpful and fast?			

2.2.3 Coordination

Question	Yes	No	Further comments
Were project's timetable, design and activities well defined in order to achieve proposed objectives?			
Do you think those activities have been assigned according with real work possibilities of all partners?			
Do you consider that partners organizations had accomplished with assigned responsibilities and tasks?			

2.3 Transnational meetings

Question	Yes	No	Further comments
Were the 2 meetings developed until now at the specified period and with the planned attendance from partners?			
Were they useful to achieve the aims and objectives of the project?			
Were they useful to develop activities and achieve expected results of the project?			
Did they offer the possibility to solve doubts and problems?			

3. TRANSNATIONAL NETWORK

Question	Yes	No	Further comments
Did you know any partner of the partnership before this project?			
Do you think the partnership has been strength project development?			
Will you go on collaborating with the partners or some of the partners in the future?			

- Which ones do you think were the project's main strengths and opportunities?

- Which do you think were main problems and weaknesses?

4. ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES

4.1 Proposed activities

Updating and Translation of the Intelligent and Responsible Territories book written by Javier Farto

Do you think its implementation has fulfilled the aim for which it was designed? If not, please explain why

In your opinion, which do you think have been the strong points of this activity

...and the weak points of this activity?

Professional Profile GETIR

Did you participate in this activity? If not, please explain why.

Do you think its implementation has fulfilled the aim for which it was designed? If not, please explain why

In your opinion, which do you think have been the strong points of this activity

...and the weak points of this activity?

Professional training contents of the profile GETIR (training definition and contents of the new profile)

Did you participate in this activity? If not, please explain why.

Do you think its implementation has fulfilled the aim for which it was designed? If not, please explain why

In your opinion, which do you think have been the strong points of this activity

...and the weak points of this activity?

Best Practices (document with analyzed best world practices)

Did you participate in this activity? If not, please explain why

Do you think its implementation has fulfilled the aim for which it was designed? If not, please explain why

In your opinion, which do you think have been the strong points of this activity

...and the weak points of this activity?

Project presentation leaflets

Did you participate in this activity? If not, please explain why.

Do you think its implementation has fulfilled the aim for which it was designed? If not, please explain why

In your opinion, which do you think have been the strong points of this activity

...and the weak points of this activity?

Website of the project

Did you participate in this activity? If not, please explain why.

Do you think its implementation has fulfilled the aim for which it was designed? If not, please explain why

In your opinion, which do you think have been the strong points of this activity

...and the weak points of this activity?

4.2 Organizations resources

4.2.1 Technical

Question	Yes	No	Further comments
Did project's design and activities have the necessary conditions to achieve foreseen objectives?			
Have been all kind of resources well planned in order to achieve the proposed objectives and goals?			
Do you consider that the rest of organizations had accomplished with assigned responsibilities?			

4.2.2 Financial

Question	Yes	No	Further comments
Do you consider that the assignment of human and material resources has been appropriate and enough to develop proposed actions up to now?			
Do you consider that the assignment of financial resources has been appropriate and enough to develop proposed actions?			