

PEM PAL BCoP SV Ireland Feedback Survey

On November 11-14, 2013, the PEMPAL BCOP Study Visit to Dublin, Ireland, took place. After the event, the on-line survey in three languages was created. The aim of the survey was to receive event feedback.

Link to the survey – <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Y8DHLFT>

The survey started to collect responses on November 18 and finished on November 26, 2013. Invitations to take part in the survey were sent to all participants of the study visit. 8 persons started to response to the survey and 75% of them fully completed the questionnaires. In this report, we analyze all 8 responses. For further calculation, we take this quantity as 100%. All these responses will be included in the general Feedback Event Database.

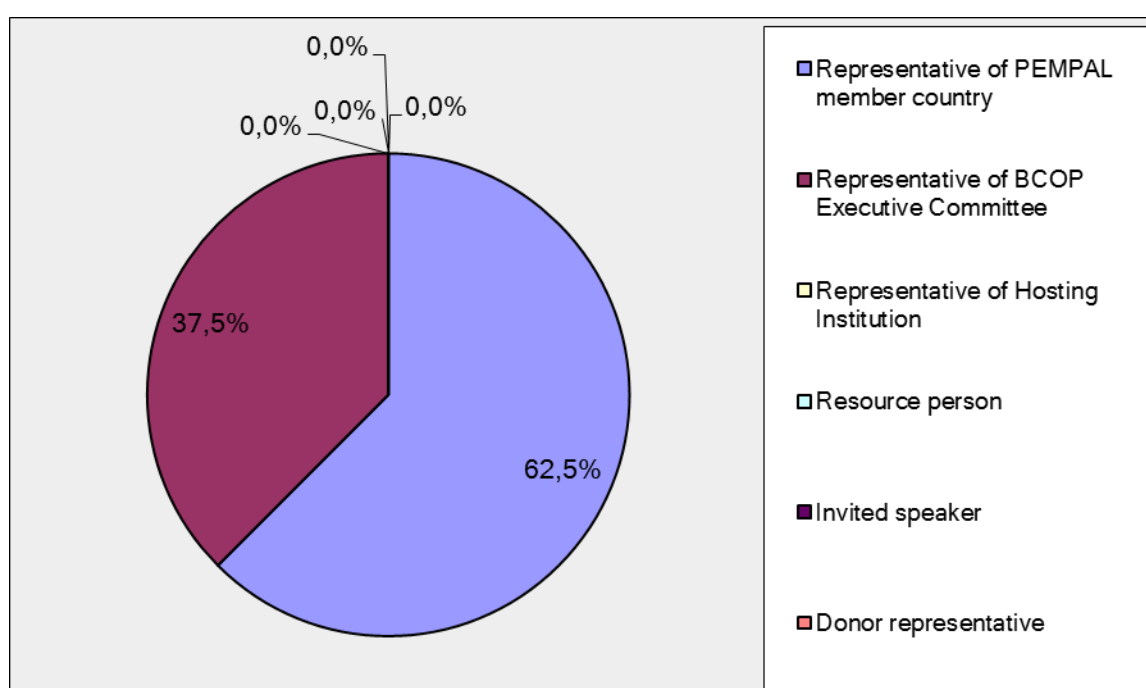
The questionnaire comprises five parts: About the Respondent, Event Delivery, Event Administration, Overall Impression, and Recommendations for the Future. There are total 25 questions in it.

ABOUT THE RESPONDENT

Q1 You are...

8 (100%) respondents gave answers.

Answer options	Response Percent	Response Count
Representative of PEMPAL member country	62,5%	5
Representative of BCOP Executive Committee	37,5%	3
Representative of Hosting Institution	0,0%	0
Resource person	0,0%	0
Invited speaker	0,0%	0
Donor representative	0,0%	0



Q2. Was this your first participation in a PEMPAL event?

8 respondents (100%) answered this question. And 75% of them replied “No”.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	25,0%	2
No	75,0%	6

Q3. How many PEMPAL events have you attended before?

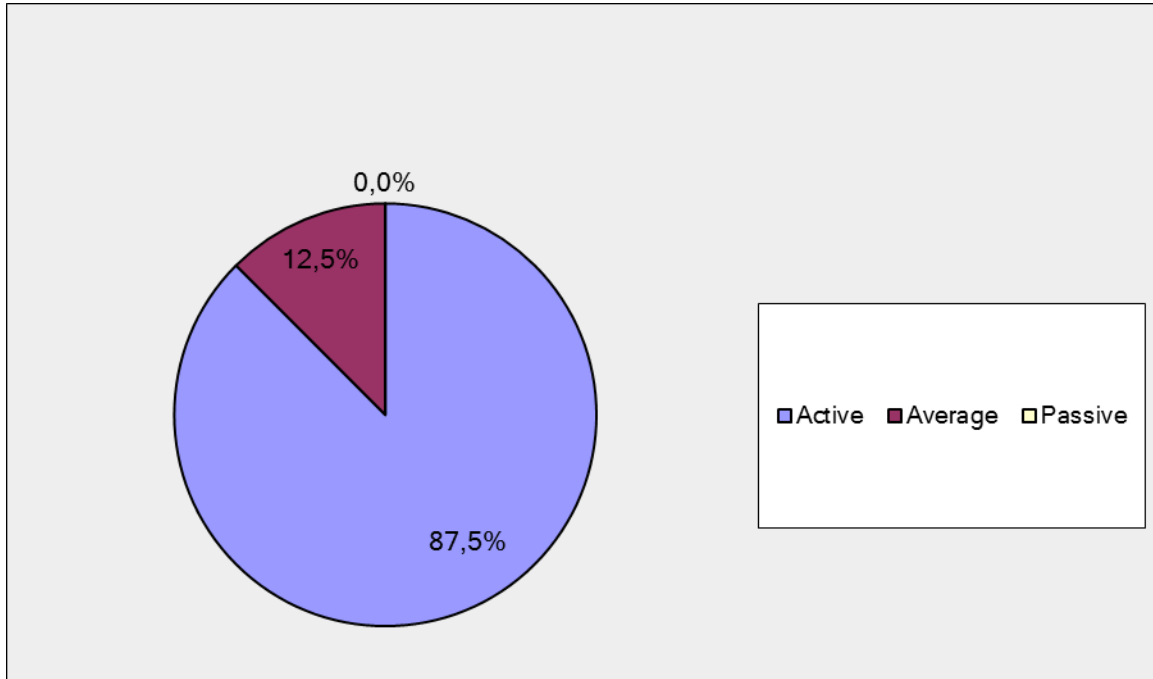
This question was seen only by those respondents who chose “No” in the previous question. 6 respondents answered this question.

1-2	3-4	5-6	more than 6	Response Count
1	0	3	2	1

PART I EVENT DELIVERY

Q4. How do you rate your participation in this event?

8 (100%) answers were given. 7 (87.5%) respondents think that their participation in the event was 'Active'. 1 (12.5%) respondent thinks that his/her participation was 'Average'. And no one chose the option "Passive".



Q5. How do you rate the event duration overall?

8 respondents (100%) answered this question. And most of them rated the meeting duration in a positive way.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Too short	37,5%	3
About right	62,5%	5
Too long	0,0%	0

Q6. How much do you agree with the following statements about the participants of the event?

8 respondents (100%) replied to this question.

Answer Options	1 strongly disagree	2	3	4	5 Strongly agree	Response Count	Average
a) The level of the event was appropriate for a person with my experience and knowledge	0	0	0	1	<u>7</u>	8	<u>4,9</u>
b) I learned from the experience of other participants in the event	0	0	0	3	<u>5</u>	8	4,6
c) Participants had about equal level of prior expertise relevant to the event topics	0	0	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	3	8	<u>4,3</u>
d) Content of presentations, hand-outs and other materials were appropriate for a person with my level of knowledge	0	0	0	3	<u>5</u>	8	4,6

Q7. Describe your own level of expertise, as compared to that of other participants?

5 comments were left.

1. *I think that all the participants were at a similar level of expertise.*
2. *I lacked experience and knowledge. Other participants of the visit were more competent.*
3. *The process of analyzing the costs and develop measures to improve their efficiency is very active in our country, especially in 2013*
4. *An equal level of expertise.*
5. *My practical work experience and knowledge are more associated with the use of program-target budget planning methods*

Q8. What have you learned from other participants?

5 comments were left:

1. *We had the opportunity to compare what the countries of other participants undertake in relation to expenditure control.*
2. *To have active position, and to be ready to exchange own experience and expertize*
3. *Experience exchange of spending reviews in other countries, the budget for the citizens in different countries, etc.*
4. *We could compare the levels achieved in public expenditures monitoring.*
5. *There were a number of interesting ideas on approaches to cost analysis in terms of the expenditure cuts, while I studied this analysis mostly in terms of economic classification of costs*

Q9. How much do you agree with the following statements about the content design of the event?

8 responses (100%) were received.

Answer Options	1 strongly disagree	2	3	4	5 Strongly agree	Response Count	Average
a) The event agenda was properly planned	0	0	0	0	<u>8</u>	8	<u>5.0</u>
b) The content of the event was properly prepared	0	0	0	0	<u>8</u>	8	<u>5.0</u>
c) The event addressed issues important to my work	0	0	0	0	<u>8</u>	8	<u>5.0</u>
d) The event covered a right number of topics for the amount of time available	0	0	1	3	<u>4</u>	8	4,4
e) The topics for the group discussions were relevant	0	0	0	0	<u>6</u>	6	<u>5.0</u>
f) Enough time was reserved for group discussions	0	0	0	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	6	4,5
g) Presentations made during the event were relevant and useful	0	0	0	1	<u>7</u>	8	4,9
h) Enough time was reserved for questions to speakers	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	2	8	<u>3,5</u>

6 comments were left: (Here and after pieces of critical feedback are underlined.)

1. It seems that usually in the most of events there are more time for questions to speakers and discussion.
2. *The presentations were interesting, competent and relevant..*
3. *In general, the study visit to Ireland on "Budget Analysis " was one of the most useful and relevant to my work. I am very happy with it!*
4. *You should reserve more time for discussions.*
5. *The presentations were interesting, but in practice, the answers to questions asked by Naida and other participants were more useful. But the time for this part of all presentations was too short.*
6. Very little time was reserved for group discussions

Q10. How much do you agree with the following statements about the outcomes of the event?

8 responses (100%) were received.

Event objective has been achieved:	1 strongly disagree	2	3	4	5 Strongly agree	Response Count	Average
Examined Irish experience in performing comprehensive and targeted results-based spending reviews	0	0	0	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	8	4,5
Examined how Irish spending reviews inform the decision-making process on budget restructuring/consolidation (resulting in concrete budgetary improvements) has been examined	0	0	0	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	8	4,5
Learned about Irish lessons learn from the experience with spending reviews which participants can consider for a potential similar reform in their own countries	0	0	0	3	<u>5</u>	8	<u>4,6</u>

3 comments were left:

1. *We have seen how the Irish performed an spending reviews and how to use indicators in budget preparation. We will propose the best for our country conducting similar analyzes.*
2. *Information on lessons learned during Ireland budget cuts relevant for each country.*
3. *Irish experience will be very useful in the field of integrated targeted analysis of budget expenditures*

PART 2 EVENT ADMINISTRATION

Q11. Please rate the quality of the organization and administration of the event:

Answered question – 8 (100%). Most of the ratings are very high.

Answer Options	1 low	2	3	4	5 high	Response Count	Average rating
Quality of organization	0	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	0	<u>5</u>	8	4,1
Quality of administration	0	0	0	0	<u>8</u>	8	<u>5</u>

There were left 5 comments. Practically all of them are very positive.

- 1. Travel organization, logistics, selection of the venue deserve all the praise. Naida is excellent in leading the entire event. During the official parts the event (sessions), she helped to overcome the confusion that would arise because of difference of the Irish and PEMPAL countries' systems. And during the remaining parts of the event, she was at service at all times. We are particularly impressed when we found the restaurant's menu in all three languages*
- 2. My English is too poor to travel and accommodate without any problems.*
- 3. Everything was just perfect.*
- 4. Cultural orientation program was not very successful, Ireland has an ancient history but they chose not so impressive historical sites.*

Q12. Did you receive agenda and event information in sufficient time before the event for them to be useful?

8 (100%) answers were given. And all of responses were “Yes”.

Q13. Did you receive practical information (about the accommodation and other facilities, etc.) prior to the event?

8 (100%) answers were given. And 100% of them are responses “Yes”.

Q14. Are you satisfied with the quality of simultaneous interpretation provided during the event?

Q15. Are you satisfied with the quality of written translation of event materials?

8 responses (100%) were given to Q14 and Q15.

Answer Options	1 low	2	3	4	5 high	Response Count	Average rating
simultaneous interpretation	0	0	0	1	<u>7</u>	8	<u>4,9</u>
written translation	0	0	0	1	<u>7</u>	8	<u>4,9</u>

There were left 5 comments to Q14 and 4 to Q15. Most of them are positive.

1. *Translators were excellent in technical terminology, and to serve us in the informal part.*
2. *Sometimes translation was meaningless, just a set of words.*
3. *I express my deep gratitude for the high quality of interpretation to Marina and Anastasia. Thank you very much!*
4. *Translators know the technical terminology perfectly, which is of great importance for this meeting.*
5. *Simultaneous interpretation was on a very high level*

Q15

1. *I have no objections to the translation of written materials.*
2. *Some terms in different documents translated differently. For example, Консультативный совет по фискальной политике (Advisory Council on Fiscal Policy) (in the presentation) called Налогово-бюджетным консультационным советом Ирландии (on the agenda of the visit), which introduces some confusion.*
3. *High-quality translation of materials.*
4. *Translations was very high quality.*

PART 3 OVERALL IMPRESSION

Q16. Did the event disappoint, meet, or exceed your expectations?

There are 7 (87.5%) answered question. No one was disappointed.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Disappoint	0,0%	0
Meet	42,9%	3
Exceed	57,1%	4

Q17. What did you like most about the event?

5 comments were left. All of them are valid.

1. *Topics that are covered by speakers, their honesty and willingness to answer our questions. The excellent organization of the event.*
2. *Good organization, interesting topics for presentations and discussions, free time to get comfortable.*
3. *Presentation of Thomas Ferris and the Department of public expenditure and reform.*
4. *Openness in communication.*
5. *Discussions after the presentation.*

Q18. What did you not like most about the event?

5 informative comments were left.3 of them is comment like “*I do not have a single objection.*”

It means that there are 2 comments about elements which were not like by participants.

1. *Excursion in the dark time of day and in the bus with an open top. We could not to take photographs and frozen.*
2. *Cultural orientation program*

Q19. Do you plan to brief your colleagues on this event?

7 responses were given (87.5%) and all of them are “Yes”.

Q20. How do you plan to brief your colleagues?

7 responses were given (87.5%)

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Share materials	57,1%	4
Make a presentation	14,3%	1
Prepare a back-to-office report	71,4%	5

2 comments were left:

- 1. After each event we prepare a written report to colleagues and superiors, as well as we brief colleagues in informal conversations imparting lessons learned.*
- 2. I would like to publish an article in a specialized journal.*

Q21. How much do you agree with the following statement?

7 respondents (87.5%) replied to this question.

Answer Options	1 strongly disagree	2	3	4	5 Strongly agree	Response Count	Average
I will be able to apply the knowledge acquired at this event to my work	0	0	0	<u>4</u>	3	7	4,4

Q22. How can you apply the acquired knowledge?

4 comments were left.

- 1. I will propose to my bosses to implement a comprehensive cost analysis.*
- 2. Knowledge gained in the event, will be useful in my daily work.*
- 3. Partially applying Irish experience in analysis of budget expenditures.*
- 4. Proposing improvements in the budget preparation process.*

Q23. Overall, my satisfaction with the event was...

Answered question – 7 (87.5%). There were no negative answers. And most of the respondents considered themselves as ‘satisfied’.

1 not satisfied	2	3	4	5 highly satisfied	Response Count	Average rating
0	0	0	2	<u>5</u>	7	4,7

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

24. Do you have any suggestions to improve the content, approach and other aspects of such events in future?

5 comments were left and 4 of them consist suggestions.

- 1. Although, compared to the previous events, it was not enough time for questions and discussions, we always seem to not get enough.*
- 2. Visit to the Ministry of Finance directly or public expenditure service of the country.*
- 3. More time for discussion.*
- 4. In the future, I think it is important to keep in mind that we need more information about the countries visited.*

Q25. Are there any other products, research or services that PEMPAL could provide that would be useful for your work?

4 informative comments were left.

- 1. We expect translation of some documents suggested by speakers.*
- 2. We are interested in methodology for calculating the efficiency (program) costs, theoretical materials on performance budgeting.*
- 3. Booklets and brochures. Would be interesting and useful experience of other countries on budgeting for the citizens.*
- 4. Searching for additional materials that are sent (by) lecturers.*