

Restoring Europe's Rivers

RESTORE Events: post-event report

Event Name and dates:

FIELD TRIP River Restoration in Switzerland

21-23 May 2012



The RESTORE project is made possible with the contribution of the LIFE+ financial instrument of the European Community



and works in partnership with



Field trip coordination:

Andrea Goltara (CIRF) with the external support of Maria Alp.

Target audience

The amount of participants was coherent with forecasts: 39, plus 18 people from different Swiss institutions and companies supporting during the visits.

In terms of countries the target was met: the participants were mainly from Italy (28), but most countries of the region were represented: Slovenia (4); France (2), Spain (3), Switzerland (2).

In terms of categories, participants were quite evenly spread: regional and local authorities, consultants and few researchers. In overall terms, the target categories were satisfactorily reached.

Objectives

The main objectives - providing opportunities to discuss and share knowledge on previous restoration experiences in terms of management alternatives, technical approaches, monitored benefits in relation to urbanised contexts, based upon real cases of particular interest and highlight synergies between river restoration and nature conservation (i.e.: WFD vs. HD implementation) - were fully met.

Outcomes:

Coherently with expectations, the main outcomes of the field trip were the following:

- increased knowledge by project participants on feasible RR alternatives, especially in urbanised or highly constrained contexts, and of successful policy and legislative alternatives implemented in Switzerland;
- increased interaction and awareness of possible synergies between sectors of the public administration not always successfully communicating among them: basin planning and management, urban development, nature conservation;
- increased knowledge of RR as a tool to fulfil not only WFD, but also HD goals;
- a dossier on visit sites/projects.

Feedback to the overall RESTORE project

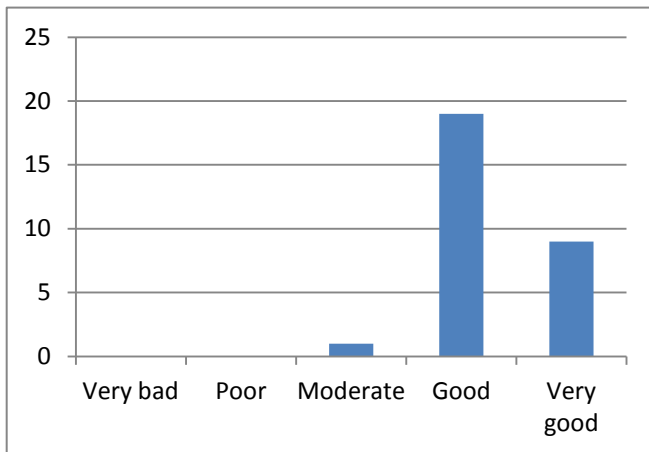
- Information and documentation on RR projects useful to feed the database + dossier downloadable from the website.
- Elaboration on specific issues through discussion in the field and at the meeting in EAWAG, where planning and monitoring approaches were discussed; this will

be useful to feed the thematic sections of the website and for further events organised by other partners.

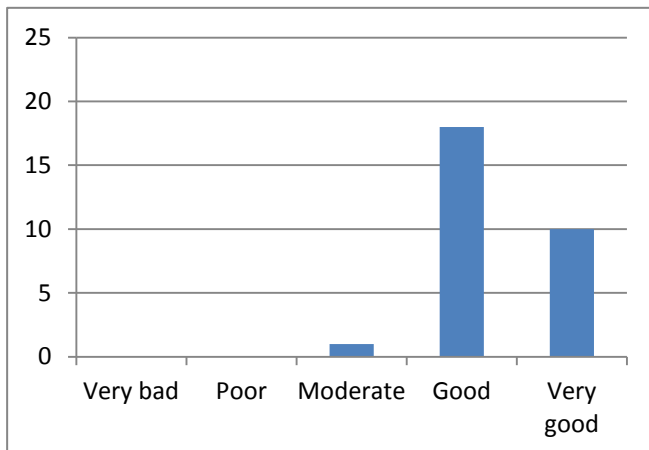
EVALUATION OF THE FIELD TRIP BY PARTICIPANTS

Organisation of the field trip

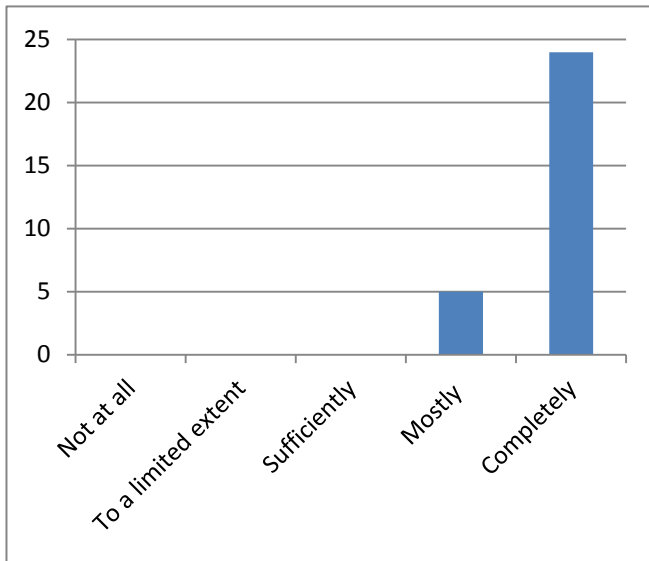
1 Quality of information provided before departure



2 Quality of logistical aspects during the field trip

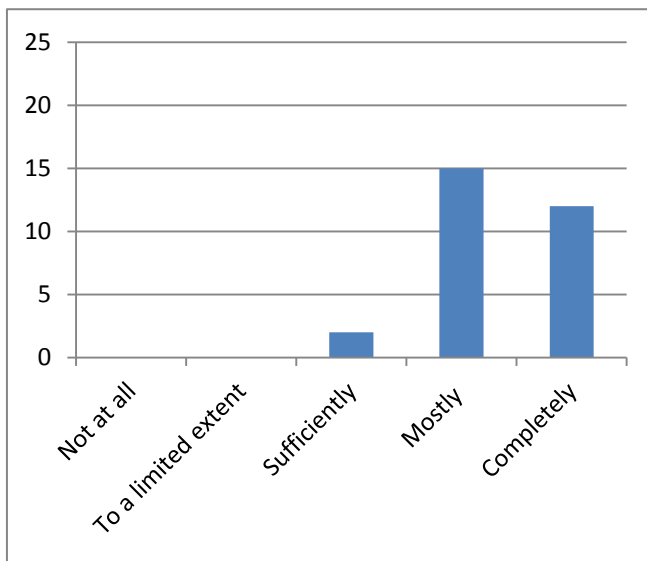


3 Implementation: did we do what was planned?



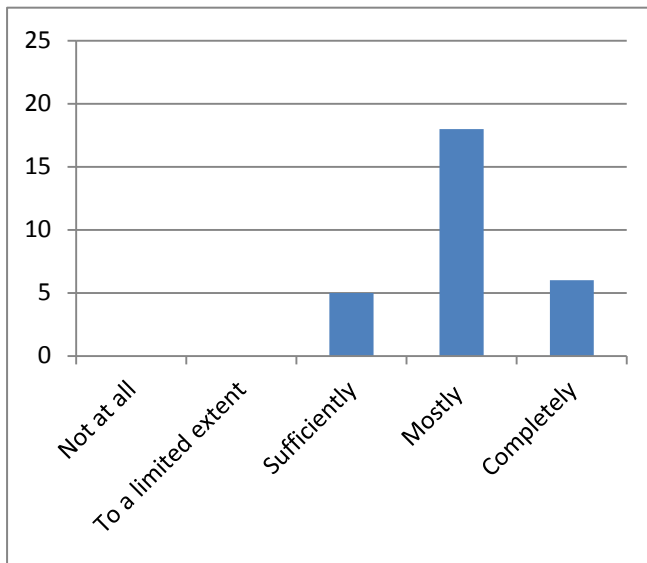
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4 Effectiveness: were expected results attained?

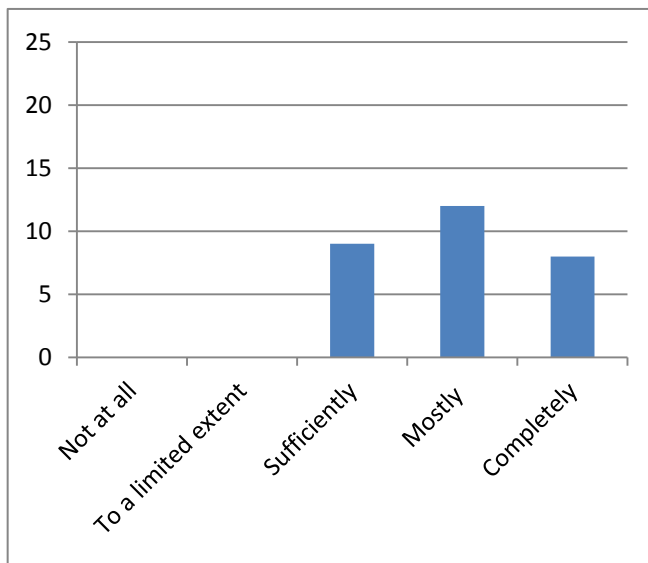


5 Usefulness:

a) Are you satisfied by the quantity and quality of new information, perspectives, ideas, knowledge acquired?

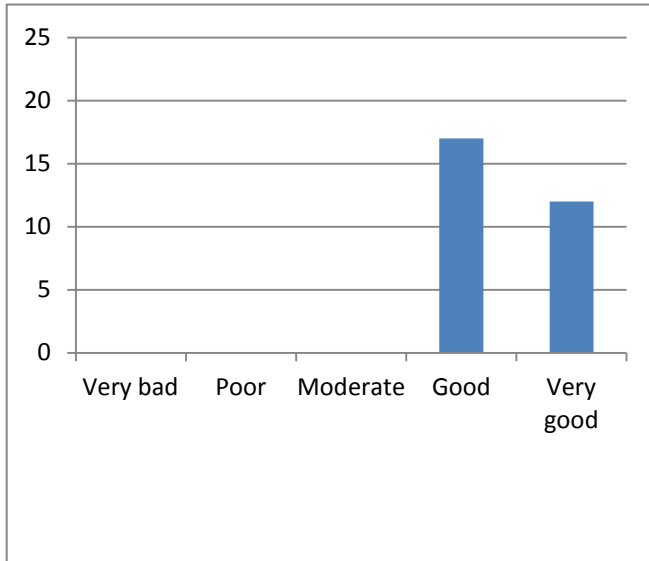


b) Do you feel that you had the opportunity to bring your messages, opinions and/or to share your experiences as you expected?

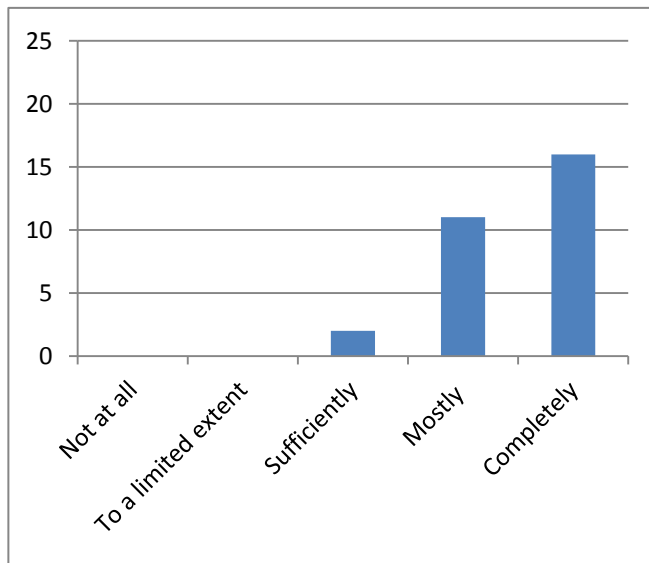


6 Satisfaction/outcome:

a) Globally, how do you judge the field trip?



b) Was it worth doing?





ANNEX 1

Dossier on visit sites

See *RESTORE_field trip Switzerland_May2012_full programme.pdf* (to be made available through the RESTORE website)