

# Disaster Risk Management Planning Report of Trainings & Curricula of Trainings

*Strengthening Disaster Risk Management Capability at Local Level (101142625)*

**Funded by:**



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Protection Agency**

*Prepared by SEA Consulting sh.p.k. for the National Civil Protection Agency (AKMC)*

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# 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This **Disaster Risk Management Planning Report of Trainings** summarizes the implementation and outcomes of the project titled “**Strengthening Disaster Risk Management Capability at Local Level**”, financed by the European Commission through DG ECHO and executed under the leadership of Albania’s National Civil Protection Agency (AKMC). The project, conducted by SEA-Consulting shpk, aimed to enhance the capacities of local governments across 11 counties in Albania in disaster risk assessment and management, forming part of Work Package 2.2 of the broader national civil protection agenda.

**Over the course of December 2024 to April 2025**, a total of 11 training sessions were delivered in the counties of Durrës, Elbasan, Kukës, Lezhë, Berat, Shkodër, Vlorë, Gjirokastrë, Korçë, Dibër, and Tirana. The standardized curriculum, customized where relevant to local contexts, covered core risk management concepts, national and international legal frameworks, and specific risk categories including forest fires, floods, technological hazards, infectious diseases, and seismic/geotechnical threats.

The trainings reached **435 people** over across all counties. The methodology combined expert-led presentations, interactive discussions, and contextualized examples, complemented by practical tools such as risk evaluation frameworks and legislative references. Each session included “Safety Moments,” self-introductions, and knowledge-sharing among peers, fostering a collaborative learning environment.

**Evaluation results** from anonymous questionnaires completed by 80% of participants on average, revealed:

- **Average satisfaction levels above 90%**, with 96.68% rating the training content as important for their work.
- **Improved knowledge and confidence**, with over 70% of participants rating their understanding and trust in applying disaster risk assessment methods above 70 on a 100-point scale post-training.
- **100% of respondents** in several counties (e.g., Lezhë, Berat, Tirana) reported increased capacity to contribute to disaster risk reduction efforts at the municipal level.

Participants emphasized the need for **more practical sessions, case-based simulations**, and **continued sector-specific training**, along with **institutional leadership involvement** and better coordination with other actors such as emergency services, health authorities, and urban planning departments.

The project demonstrated that a **standardized yet locally adaptable approach** can significantly raise awareness, build technical capacity, and enhance local ownership of disaster risk management. The feedback received reinforces the importance of continuous capacity building, inter-institutional cooperation, and the institutionalization of risk-informed local governance.

**Key recommendations** include:

- Institutionalize annual training cycles tailored to evolving risks.
- Extend participation to additional local stakeholders.
- Establish intersectoral working groups and risk data repositories at the municipal level.
- Strengthen technical tools for risk mapping and monitoring through digital platforms.

This report serves not only as a closing documentation of the project activities but also as a foundation for advancing sustainable disaster preparedness and resilience in Albania.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

Over the past three decades, Albania has witnessed 23 catastrophic events, notably nine floods, four earthquakes, and three extreme temperature incidents. Among these events, the seismic activities of September and November 2019 stood out for their devastating impact. A massive earthquake, registering 6.3 on the Richter scale, struck on November 26, 2019, resulting in extensive destruction across 11 municipalities, including the densely populated urban centres of Tirana and Durrës. The disaster caused significant human casualties, affecting over 202,000 individuals directly and indirectly, resulting in 51 fatalities, over 900 injuries, and the displacement of up to 17,000 people. The earthquake also led to severe structural damage, including the destruction of houses, schools, public universities, healthcare centres, bridges, and more.

After these devastating earthquakes, Albania, like the rest of the world, faced the unprecedented challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. The global outbreak demanded swift and effective responses from governments, necessitating measures to contain the virus's spread and mitigate its impact on healthcare infrastructure and public health.

Other natural disasters Albania is faced with include floods, forest fires, landslides, technological, avalanches etc.

Effort has been put into increasing capacities of the local government into DRM, utilising donor cooperation mechanism. In the context of Albania joining the EU Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) there is need to increase capacities of local government staff to strengthen disaster risk management capabilities.

This project is part of the efforts to support civil protection structures in county and municipal level to improve and strengthen their capacities in terms of anticipating hazards, risk assessment, prevention, and planning. It is established on the findings of a “Needs assessment on disaster risk assessment and management in 12 counties and 61 municipalities of Albania” project funded by DG ECHO that was carried out previously.

The overall aim of the project is to contribute in the consolidation of the frontline actors for a better preparedness process by increasing the knowledge and awareness level of their staff of the role and importance of the municipalities and prefectures in this process.

This document is the Disaster Risk Management Planning Report of Trainings & Curricula of Trainings (Deliverable 2.2) under the Contract for Enhancing Local Government Capacities in Disaster Risk Assessment and Management, with Reference No. WP 2.2, between the National Civil Protection Agency (AKMC / NCPA) of Albania and SEA-Consulting shpk.

The project is financed by European Commission's Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations department (DG ECHO), in the framework of the Project “Strengthening Disaster Risk Management Capability at Local Level” and undertaken in partnership with the National Civil Protection Agency of Albania.

This report follows;

- the submission and approval of the Inception Report,
- the submission and approval of the Report on Sub-task 1.1 “Develop a Training Curriculum: and Sub-task 1.2 “Prepare training materials and training calendar”
- the submission of the Report on Sub-task 1.3 “Conduct training sessions in 55 municipalities”.

Upon completion of all project sub-tasks this report reflects also all the feedback given so far and constitutes the final deliverable of this project.

It provides information on the implementation of the project and an assessment of its impacts on the trainees and the achievement of its objectives and concludes with the main conclusions and recommendations

## 3 METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Preparation and Delivery of the Training Sessions

Under the lead of AKMC project team and in accordance with the approved training programme 11 training sessions in 11 counties were organized during the period December 2024 – April 2025. Considering that Parliamentary elections took place on May 11, AKMC took care in accordance with the respective legislation requirements to inform in advance and get permission from the Central Commission for Elections, which worked smoothly and without any concern.

The participants from various local authorities of each county have been invited officially by AKMC through email and other communications. The list of potential participants has been developed during the needs assessment phase of the programme implemented at an earlier phase by other sub-contractors of AKMC.

Each training session has been attended by AKMC representatives and often high-level representatives of local authorities including the Prefecture and/or Municipality have attended and greeted the activity.

AKMC representatives have opened the sessions by explaining the importance of the training and how it fits with the long-term objectives of development in the area of disaster prevention and management. Such messages were also supported by the representatives of Prefectures and Municipalities. In their speeches all of them have emphasised the increasing need of understanding and being prepared for natural and human-made disasters.

SEA Consulting project manager Dr Shkelqim Bozgo started each training session with the “Safety Moment” which is an experience practiced regularly by Trans Adriatic Pipeline project during its construction in Albania. The aim of the safety moment was not only to instruct attendants how to act in case an emergency situation could happen in the training room building but also provide an example and raise awareness about safety in the working environment in the everyday life.

The safety moment was followed by the self-introduction of each participant giving their name and any specific expectation they had from the training programme.

Afterwards, Mr Bozgo explained to participants the structure of the training programme, the approach used by training experts in setting up their presentations considering the variety of background of the trainees and the width of knowledge spanning the whole disaster subject. He also invited the participants to actively participate in the sessions by asking questions and sharing individual experiences.

The content of the training programme has been the same for all counties while the order of delivering the presentations has been adjusted in a few cases due to the availability of the trainers. The programme has been structured in a way that starts first with sessions dedicated to main concepts and definitions, hazard identification and hazard-risk relationship, risk assessment methodology, disaster anticipation, preparedness, management and communication. It is then followed by presentations dedicated to specific risks including; fires, climate changes, flooding, infectious diseases, seismic and landslides technological etc. (the typical training programme is attached as Annex 1).

The content of each presentation as already explained in the training curricula submitted earlier, have been prepared also by taking into account the strategic documents prepared at country level including the “National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy”, “Disaster Risk Assessment in Albania” and all other documentation related to specific risks.

Trainers of specific risks have also taken care to adjust their presentations to reflect the realities of each specific county when this was possible.

All electronic copies of the training session presentations have been distributed to all participants in the training sessions via an internet link.

In each training session banners with the title of the project and the sources of funding have been positioned next to the main screen of the training room. Badges have also been prepared for each lecturer and used during the training sessions

SEA Consulting has paid attention that rooms were properly organized and projection has been made at large size to be readable from all participants including the ones sitting at the most distant point of the room.

For each participant in the training session a file containing;

- print of the training programme,
- print of a short profile of SEA Consulting and the trainers
- Questionnaire (anonymous)
- book note
- pencil

Every two presentations a coffee break was organized and lunch offered during midday time, which was also a good time for socialisation and free exchange and discussion of ideas and issues related to training subject.

At the end of each training session participants were invited to freely complete the questionnaires anonymously to help us in improving our work and also provide ideas on how the work in the area of disaster identification, assessment and management can be improved.

The content of the questionnaire can be found in Annex 3 while the results of the responses are provided for each county in chapter 4 and for the overall training sessions in chapter 5 of this report.

Besides, a few participants have also accepted to give their impressions in recorded interviews while in Lezha county the local media asked for an interview the project manager Mr Bozgo.

SEA Consulting kept AKMC informed in real time about the progress of the training sessions and AKMC from its side published photos and short videos in social media.

### 3.2 Dates, venues and level of participation in each training session:

The following table provides the main data from each training session

No.	County	Training Room Location	Dates	No of Participants		
				Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
1	Durrës	“Adriatik” Hotel – Skanderbeg Venue	3 - 5 December 24’	39	29	23
2	Elbasan	“Imperial” Hotel - Conference Room	10-12 December 24’	38	32	18
3	Kukës	“Lugina e Drinit” Hotel – Meeting Room	17-19 December 24’	27	26	22
4	Lezhë	“Lisus” Hotel – Conference Room	22-24 January 25’	30	26	24
5	Berat	Hotel “Portik” – Conference Room	5 - 7 February 25’	35	31	29
6	Shkodër	Hotel “Rozafa” – Conference Room	12 - 14 February 25’	42	37	35
7	Vlore	“Kraal” Hotel – Conference Room	26 - 28 February 25’	39	32	28
8	Gjirokastrë	Hotel “Çajupi”	12 - 13 March 25’	50	39	-
9	Korçë	“Park Plazza” – Meeting Room	19 - 21 March 25’	58	55	53
10	Dibër	Hotel “Monopol” – Meeting Room	2 - 4 April 25’	33	31	31
11	Tirane	Prefecture of Tirana, main offices	23 - 25 April 25’	44	41	43
	<b>11 Counties</b>	<b>11 Venues</b>	<b>32 Training Days Delivered</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>306</b>

## 4 DELIVERY OF THE TRAINING SESSIONS IN EACH COUNTY

This chapter provides information on the delivery of the training sessions in each country and the results derived from the anonymous questionnaires filled from the participants;

### 4.1 Durrës County, 3-5 December 2024

#### 4.1.1 Delivery of the training session in Durres

Durrës was the first county where the delivery of the training sessions started. It was organized at “Adriatic” Hotel on 3 - 5 December 2024. The level of participation was as follows; 39 persons in the first day session, 29 the second day and 23 the third day. Trainees were from various institutions of local government. (see attendance in section 3.2 above and in Annex 2.1). Around 44% of participants were women and 56% men.

PhD Adisa Bala, Director of Disaster Risk Reduction and Prevention of AKMC opened the session explaining the situation of disaster management in the country, the progress made so far and the challenges ahead including the importance of cooperation between AKMC and the local authorities and the support that AKMC will provide to them. She also emphasized the importance that AKMC gives to the process of capacity building and explained the aim of the training programme and how it will contribute in the process of preparation of the disaster related strategic documents for each of the counties.

Mr. Ivi Rexhepi in his role as AKMC project manager explained the process of the implementation of the programme and other technicalities.

All 11 presentations were delivered as foreseen in the programme in an interactive manner.

#### 4.1.2 Participants’ evaluation for Durres County training

At the end of the training session 24 trainees or around 80% of the average number of participants/day completed the questionnaire. The analysis of the results of the questionnaires shows the following;

- 100% of the answers to the first question of the first page rated the content as important for their work by scoring “agree” and “fully agree” (green and dark green colors in the charts below)
- Trainers were particularly appreciated for their clarity and competence. 17 participants gave the maximum rating for the trainer’s expertise, commending the interactive and collaborative approach and the high quality of presentations.
- 87% of participants found the training materials were valued as comprehensive and useful by scoring “agree” and “fully agree”.
- 87.5% of trainees felt that they were encouraged to interact and had the opportunity to express themselves along the sessions

- 87.5% found that their knowledges on DRA and RMP has improved due to training and the same percentage answered positive to their potential participation in at least one DRR measure

Trainees' contributions during the training session and in written form in the questionnaires provided valuable suggestions;

- A considerable number of participants asked for more practical content and a focus on real-life scenarios with logical exercises and simulations to build real-time response capabilities.
- Another suggestion was the inclusion of representatives from other sectors such as urban planning, infrastructure, and public services, to ensure a cross-sectoral approach to risk management.
- Participants expressed strong interest in applying the knowledge gained in cooperation with other local actors.
- Participants requested more customized training sessions at the municipal level indicating that this training was an important step toward better institutional preparedness

Following are the pie charts with the analysis of the responses of each question;

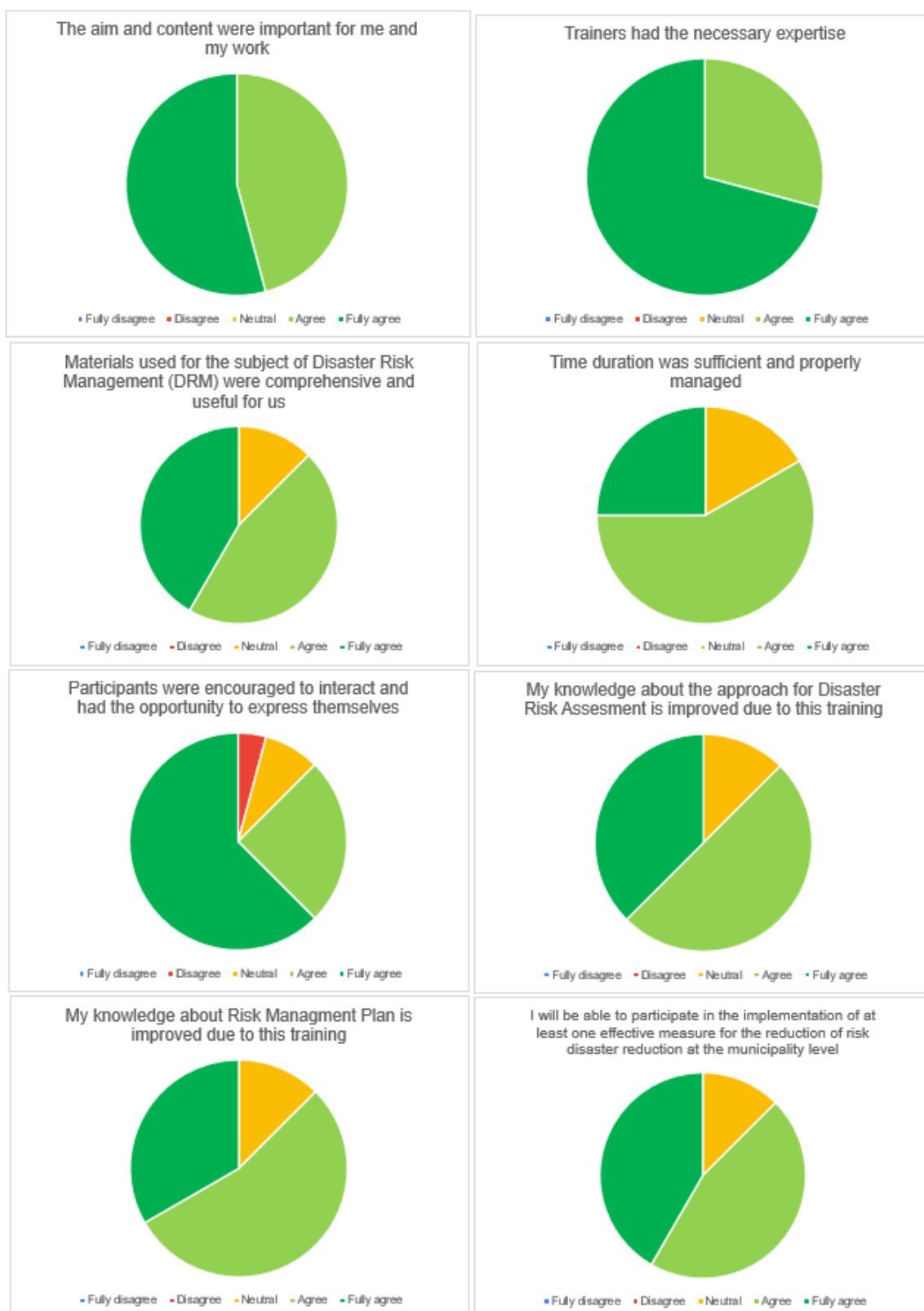


Figure 1: Durres County, graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the first page of the questionnaire

The questions asked in the second page of the questionnaire were;

**Referring to your level of acquired knowledge after this training in a scale from (0=no knowledge) to (100= full knowledge)**

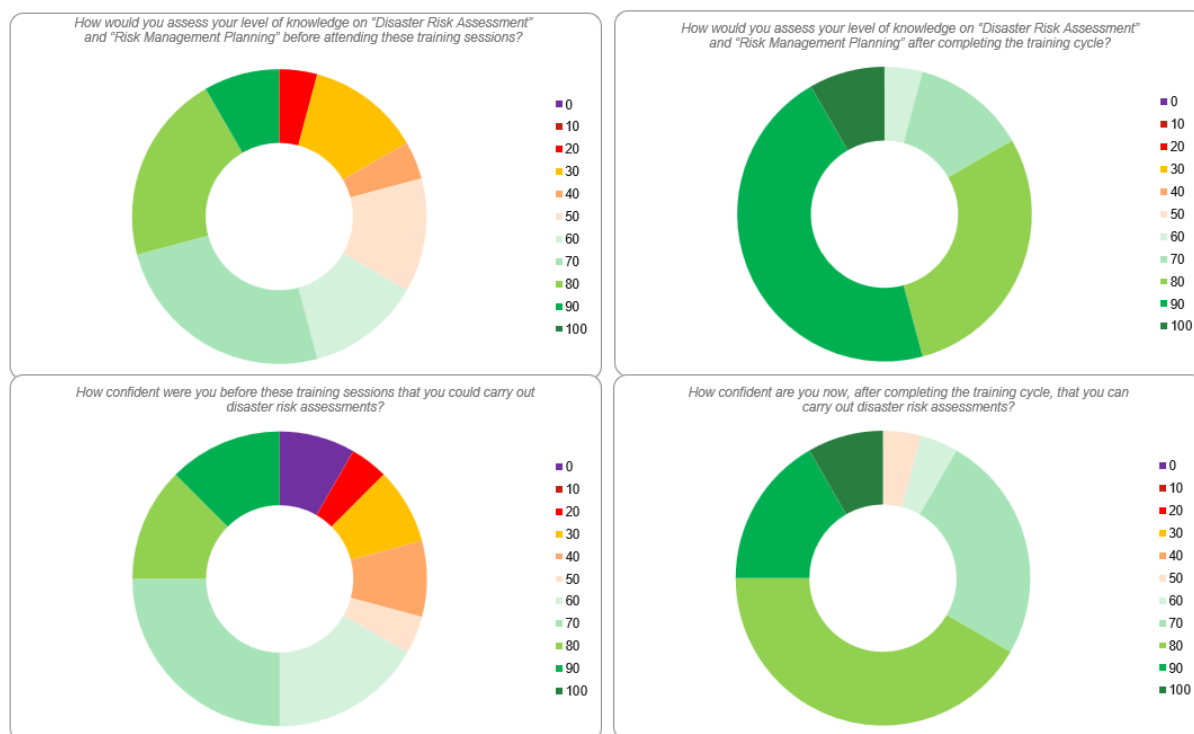
*1\_a: How would you assess your level of knowledge on "Disaster Risk Assessment" and "Risk Management Planning" before attending these training sessions?*

*1\_b: How would you assess your level of knowledge on "Disaster Risk Assessment" and "Risk Management Planning" after completing the training cycle?*

**Referring to your level of trust for carrying out a Disaster Risk Assessment in a scale from (0=no knowledge) to (100= Full Knowledge) how would you answer the following questions;**

*2\_a: How confident were you before these training sessions that you could carry out disaster risk assessments?*

*2\_b: How confident are you now, after completing the training cycle, that you can carry out disaster risk assessments?*



*Figure 2: Durrës County, the graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the second page of the questionnaire comparing level of knowledge and confidence before and after the training session;*

As seen in the pie charts the answers show a net improvement in the level of DRA knowledge and level of self-confidence of the trainees after the training sessions compared to their status before the training. The improvement in the level of DRA knowledge looks higher than the level of improvement of self-confidence for carrying out a disaster risk assessment.

## 4.2 Elbasan County 10-12 December 20204

### 4.2.1 Delivery of the training session in Elbasan

Elbasan was the second county where the delivery of the training sessions took place. It was organized in “Imperial” Hotel on 10-12 December 2024. The number of participants the first day was 38, the second day 32 and the third day 18. Trainees were from various institutions of local government. The women attendance was dominant this time with an average of 55% against 45% for men which is the highest in all sessions organized. (see attendance in section 3.2 above and in Annex 2.2)

Mr. Ivi Rexhepi, project manager of AKMC and Ms. Kristina Priska AKMC expert attended the training session. Mr. Rexhepi opened the first day of session and explained the importance of the training programme and the role of AKMC in the facilitation and coordination of the local authorities in dealing with disaster situations. Ms. Priska also delivered a speech during the second day explaining the role of AKMC and the long-term plans for the development of capacities in the area of disaster prevention and management of local authorities

Mr. Bozgo followed with the safety moment and afterwards all the trainers delivered their presentations as foreseen in the programme. The sessions were interactive and participants asked questions and shared individual views and experiences.

### 4.2.2 Participants’ evaluation for Elbasan County training

At the end of the training session 31 trainees or around 97% of the average number of participants/day completed the anonymous questionnaire. The analysis of the results of the questionnaires shows the following;

- 96.8% of the answers to the questions of the first page of the questionnaire rated the content as “agree” and “fully agree” (green and dark green colors in the charts below) for their daily duties, considering it essential for improving local capacities. (see charts below)
- 100% reported improved knowledge on risk management plan by selecting “agree” and “fully agree”,
- 93.55% rated the content as very important,
- 100% gave trainers high scores by selecting “agree” and “fully agree”, while 23 out of 31 participants gave the trainers the highest score.

Trainees’ contributions during the training session and in written form in the questionnaires provided valuable suggestions including;

- the need for repeated trainings,
- the involvement of institutional leaders,
- the adaptation of materials to the specific needs of the county.
- participants also requested practical exercises and case-based learning.

Following are the pie charts with the analysis of the responses of each question;



Figure 3: Graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the first page of the questionnaire

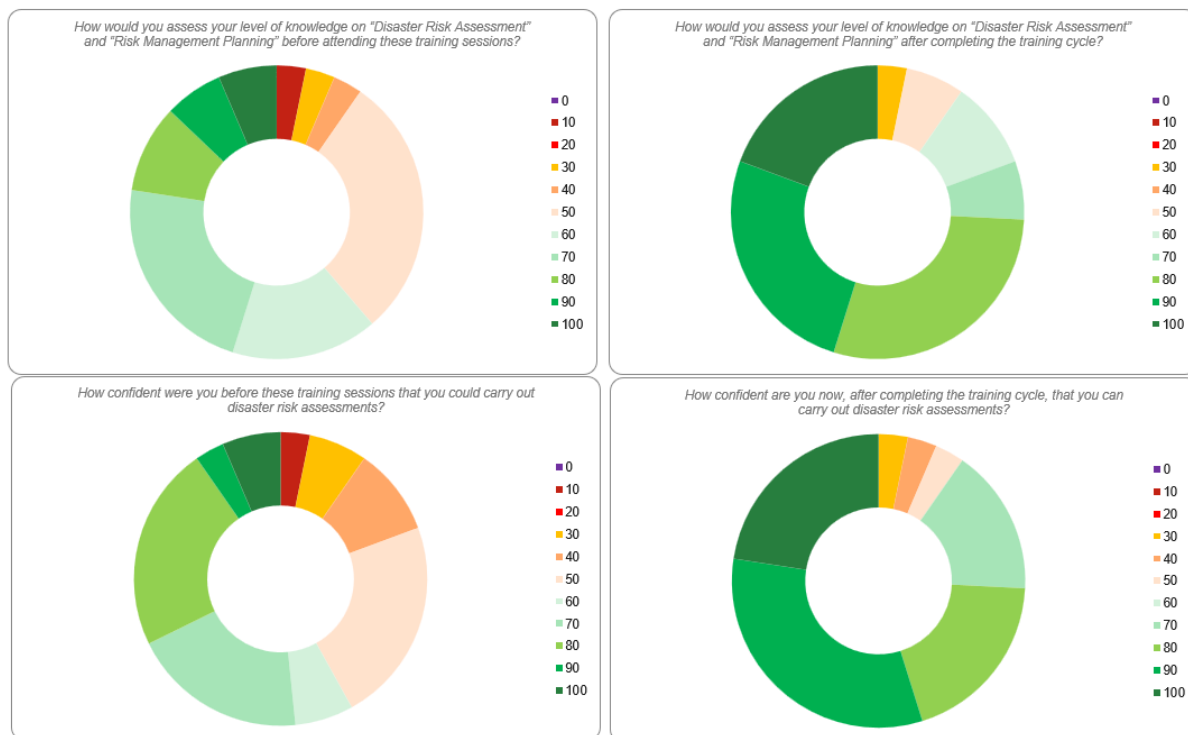


Figure 4: The graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the second page of the questionnaire;

Like in the case of Durres the pie charts the answers show a net improvement in the level of DRA knowledge and level of confidence of the trainees after the training sessions compared to their status before the training.

## 4.3 Kukës County 17 - 19 December 2020<sup>4</sup>

### 4.3.1 Delivery of the training session in Kukës

The training session in Kukës County was organized in “Lugina e Drinit” Hotel on 17 - 19 December 2024.

Attendance was as follows; 27 people the first day, 26 the second day and 22 the third day out of which around 65% were men and 35% were women. Participants were from various institutions of local governments of Kukës municipality, other local government institutions and its neighboring municipalities. (see attendance in section 3.2 and in Annex 2.3)

PhD Adisa Bala, Director of Disaster Risk Reduction and Prevention of AKMC, addressed the training session by explaining the situation of disaster management in the country, the progress made so far and the challenges ahead including the importance of cooperation between AKMC and the local authorities and the support that AKMC will provide to them. She also emphasized the importance that AKMC gives to the process of capacity building and explained the aim of the training programme and how it will contribute in the process of preparation of the disaster related strategic documents for each of the counties. Ms. Bala was joined by Ms. Megi Zaganjori, Chief of Department of Programmes and Strategies of the Directorate of Disaster Risk Reduction and Prevention.

The delivery of the training presentations started first with the safety moment by Mr. Bozgo and was followed afterwards by the presentations of all the trainers as foreseen in the programme. The sessions were interactive and participants asked questions and shared individual views and experiences.

#### 4.3.2 Participants' evaluation for Kukes County training

At the end of the training session 23 trainees or around 92 % of the average number of participants/day completed the anonymous questionnaire. Their analysis of the answers shows the following;

- The majority of all answers to the questions of the first page were dominated by “agree” (green) and “fully agree” (dark green)
- 94.54% of the answers to the first question rated the content as “agree” and “fully agree” for their daily duties, considering it essential for improving local DRM capacities. (see charts below)
- The scoring for the trainers, the training materials and time management was also very high
- Training sessions were perceived as very interactive and
- 100% reported improved knowledge by selecting “agree” and “fully agree”;

Trainees' contributions during the training session and in written form in the questionnaires provided valuable suggestions including;

- the lack of equipment and specialists for risk assessment and
- requested training sessions that include field simulations.
- participants emphasized the involvement of decision-makers, representatives from central government, and
- the necessity of continuous training to build better-prepared structures for risk response.

Following are the pie charts with the analysis of the responses of each question;



Figure 5: Kukes County; Graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the first page of the questionnaire



Figure 6: Kukes County: The graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the second page of the questionnaire;

As seen in the pie charts the answers show a net improvement in the level of knowledge and level of confidence of the trainees after the training sessions compared to their status before the training.

## 4.4 Lezhë County 22-24 January 2025

### 4.4.1 Delivery of the training session in Lezhë

The training session in Lezhë County was organized in "Lisus" Hotel on 22 - 24 January 2025.

The first day session was attended by 30 participants, the second day by 26, and the third day by 24 participants. Women participation was around 35% against 65% men. Participants were from various institutions of local government of Lezhë County. (see attendance in section 3.2 and the attendance list in Annex 2.4)

Ms. Ambra Fusha, expert in the Department of Programmes and Strategies of the Directorate of Disaster Risk Reduction and Prevention representing AKMC opened the session. She gave a picture of the situation of disaster management in the country, the role of AKMC and invited the participants to actively attend and benefit from the training sessions.

Next was the safety moment from Mr. Bozgo and later followed by the presentations of all the trainers as foreseen in the programme. The sessions were interactive and participants asked questions and shared individual views and experiences.

#### 4.4.2 Participants' evaluation for Lezhe County training

At the end of the training session 23 trainees or 86 % of the average number of participants/day completed the questionnaire. The analysis of the results of the questionnaires shows the following;

- 100% reported an improvement in their knowledge of risk management, related to the approach for Disaster Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan
- 100% of the answers rated the content as “agree” and “fully agree” for their daily duties, considering it essential for improving local capacities.
- 91.3% considered the content highly relevant, and
- 20 out of 23 surveyed participants gave the trainers the highest rating and no trainee selected “neutral”, “disagree” or “fully disagree”

Trainees' contributions during the training session and in written form in the questionnaires provided valuable suggestions including;

- the need for further specialized training sessions tailored to the municipality's local context, as well as
- the involvement of local government leaders in the training process.

Following are the results of the questions in charts;

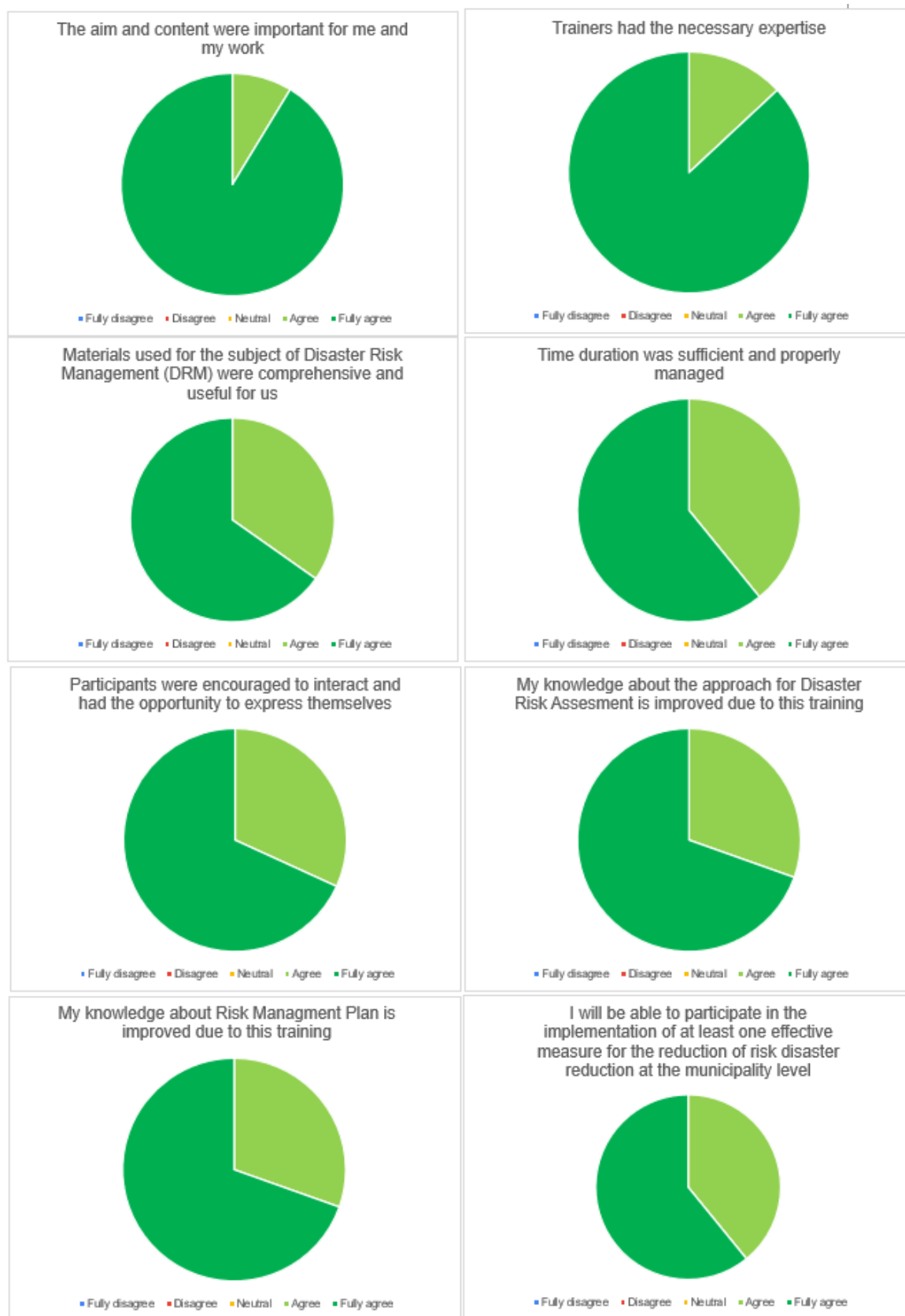


Figure 7: Lezhe County, graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the first page of the questionnaire

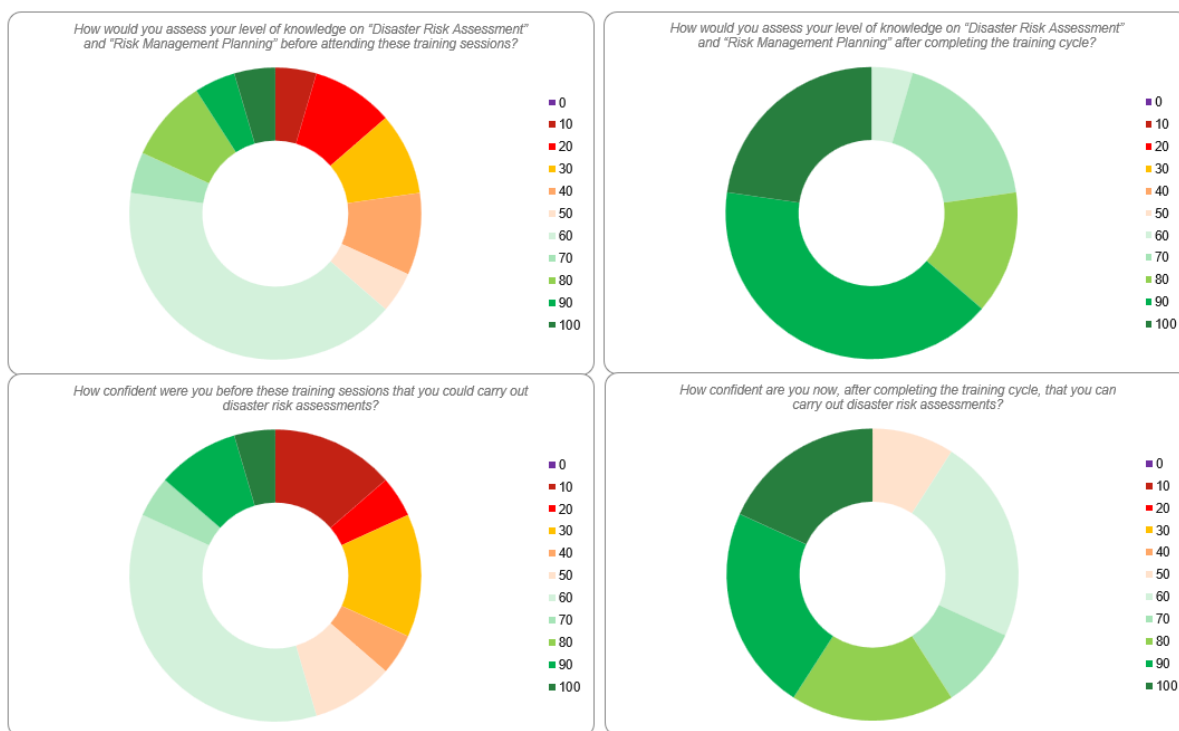


Figure 8: Lezhe County, the graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the second page of the questionnaire;

As seen in the pie charts the answers show a net improvement in the level of knowledge and level of confidence of the trainees after the training sessions compared to their status before the training.

## 4.5 Berat County 5 – 7 February 2025

### 4.5.1 Delivery of the training session in Berat

The training session in Berat County took place in Hotel "Portik" in the central part of the antique city of Berat on 5-7 February 2025. The first day was attended by 35 trainees, the second by 31 and the third day by 29 participants. Around 58% of the participants were men and the remaining 42% women.

Ms. Anxhela Arapi, expert in the Department of Programmes and Strategies of the Directorate of Disaster Risk Reduction and Prevention representing AKMC opened the session. She emphasised the role of capacity building at a time when understanding, prevention and management of disasters is becoming more and more important.

The programme was followed by the safety moment by Mr. Bozgo and the delivery of presentations by the trainers as foreseen in the programme. The participants followed the presentations with interest and asked questions and discussed aspects of interest they face in their real life.

#### 4.5.2 Participants' evaluation for Berat County training

At the end of the training session 26 trainees or about 82 % of the average number of participants/day completed the questionnaire. The analysis of the results of the questionnaires shows the following;

- 100% reported an improvement in their knowledge of risk management plan,
- 100% rated the content as very important, and
- 24 out of 26 surveyed participants awarded the trainers the highest score.
- only one participant answered “fully disagree” with time duration”
- only one participant answered “disagree” regarding his/her ability to participate in the implementation of at least one measure related to DRR at municipality level

Trainees' contributions during the training session and in written form in the questionnaires provided valuable suggestions including;

- the importance of involving emergency response teams in future training and
- the need for more case studies and simulations related to the specific risks faced in Berat.
- there were also calls for training programs to be adapted to include local urban planning challenges and
- to ensure the continuous engagement of local decision-makers and central government representatives.

The pie charts showing graphically the results of the answers are given below



Figure 9: Berat County Graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the first page of the questionnaire

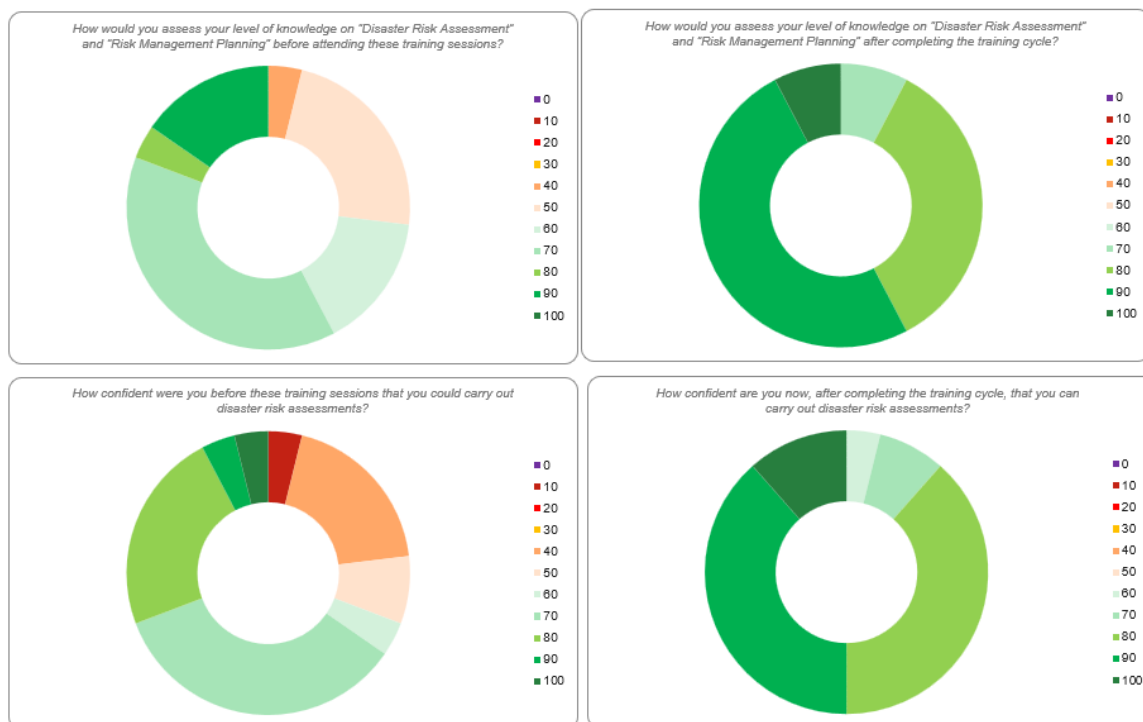


Figure 10: Berat County, the graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the second page of the questionnaire;

As seen in the pie charts the answers show a net improvement in the level of knowledge and level of confidence of the trainees after the training sessions compared to their status before the training.

## 4.6 Shkodër County 12-14 February 2025

### 4.6.1 Delivery of the training session in Shkodër

The training in Shkodër was organized in "Rozafa" Hotel in the city center of Shkodra. It was attended by 42 participants in the first day, 37 participants in the second and 35 the third day. Women made up around 37% of the trainees against 63% of men. The participants were from municipal staff and local government actors involved in emergency management and urban planning.

The training session was opened by Mr. Besnik Hysaj, Director of the Centre for Civil Protection of the Counties of the Northern Region (Shkodër, Kukës, Lezhë ). He expressed appreciation for the capacity building process and invited the participants to benefit from the process and be proactive along the training sessions. The session was also attended by Ms. Megi Zaganjori, Chief of Department of Programmes and Strategies of the Directorate of Disaster Risk Reduction and Prevention.

As usual the safety moment was delivered by Mr. Bozgo and was followed afterwards by all the presentations as foreseen in the programme. Participants showed a high level of interest and raised questions and discussed on various issues they are faced with in their county.

#### 4.6.2 Participants' evaluation for Shkodër County training

At the end of the training session of Shkodër County 24 trainees or around 63 % of the average number of participants/day completed the questionnaire. The analysis of the results of the questionnaires shows the following;

- On the indicator regarding the relevance of the content for their work, 91.67% responded with "Agree" or "Strongly Agree."
- Trainers were particularly appreciated for their clarity and competence. 20 participants gave the maximum rating for the trainer's expertise, commending the collaborative approach and the high quality of presentations. Training materials were valued as understandable and useful by 95.83% of participants.
- 91.67% of participants said their knowledge of risk assessment had significantly improved.
- Regarding interaction, 87.5% of participants felt encouraged to engage in discussions.
- Most stated they would be able to implement at least one risk-reduction measure in their territory.

Trainees' contributions during the training session and in written form in the questionnaires provided valuable suggestions including;

- the need for more frequent and longer training sessions, as well as
- more practical content, with simulations of real-life cases.
- A concern raised was the lack of a clear framework for implementing legal and sub-legal acts during emergencies.
- Participants called for the inclusion of other actors such as local decision-makers, financiers, and investors to build a comprehensive risk management network.

Following are the pie charts generated from the answers;



Figure 11: Shkoder County, graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the first page of the questionnaire

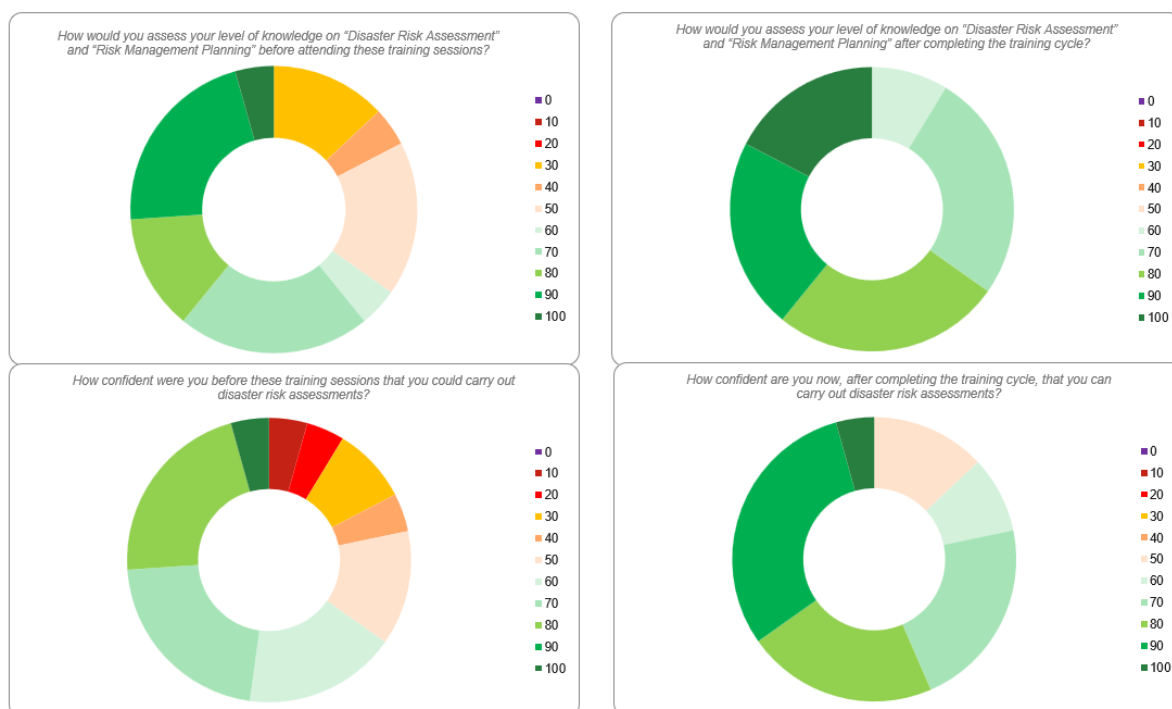


Figure 12: Shkodër County, the graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the second page of the questionnaire;

In general, as seen in the pie charts the answers show a net improvement in the level of knowledge and level of trust of the trainees after the training sessions compared to their status before the training.

In conclusion, the training in Shkodër was considered essential and necessary for ongoing education of local staff and for building pre-disaster risk management plans.

## 4.7 Vlorë County 19 - 21 February 2025

### 4.7.1 Delivery of the training session in Vlorë

The training in Vlorë County was organized in "Kraal" Hotel on 19-21 February 2025. The first day was attended by 39 participants, the second by 32 and the third day by 28 participants. Women were 29% of the participants against 71% of men. This was the lowest level of women participation among all counties. (see list of attendance in section 3.2 and in Annex 2.7)

The session was attended by Mr. Haki Çako, the Executive Director of AKMC the Prefect of Vlorë County Mr. Plator Nesturi and a representative of Vlora Municipality.

PhD Adisa Bala, the Director of Disaster Risk Reduction and Prevention of AKMC opened the session. She explained the context in which the training session was taking place and invited the participants to benefit from the training sessions in a proactive way

Mr. Nesturi welcomed the activity in the city of Vlora and expressed his appreciation and support for the training activity. He emphasized the impact of disasters in Vlora County that makes capacity building an important factor.

The lady representing Vlora Municipality expressed also appreciation to AKMC on behalf of the Municipality and mentioned the increasing importance of capacity building in face of more frequent and severe disasters out of which the inundation of Vlora city during raining season is of great importance and the forest fires as well.

Director Çako in his speech provided details of the overall situation regarding disasters in the country, the level of preparedness and the challenges ahead. Touching on the impacts of natural disasters in the city and region of Vlora County he raised the importance of capacity building and coordination among local stakeholders explaining the role of AKMC and of the local authorities. He explained the significant progress already made in this sector so far while emphasizing that a lot remains to be done. He invited the participants to take advantage from this capacity building opportunity and expressed appreciation for the quality of the work done by SEA Consulting trainers so far in the framework of this project.

Immediately after the introductory speeches Mr. Bozgo followed with the safety moment. Later the trainers delivered their presentations according to the announced programme. The session was interactive and was followed with interest from the participants

#### 4.7.2 Participants' evaluation for Vlorë County training

At the end of the training session in Vlorë 21 trainees or 64 % of the average number of participants/day completed the questionnaire. The analysis of the results of the questionnaires shows the following;

- 97% of the answers to the questions of the first page of the questionnaire rated the content as “agree” and “fully agree” for their daily duties, considering it essential for improving local capacities.
- 95.24% reported an improvement in their knowledge of risk management plan and assessment,
- 100% of participants giving trainers the highest rating for expertise.
- 95.24% rated the content as very important, and
- Only one participant answered “disagree” regarding his/her ability to participate in the implementation of at least one DRR measure
- 95.24% felt encouraged to contribute to discussions, and
- most expressed readiness to implement concrete measures in the field.

Trainees' contributions during the training session and in written form in the questionnaires provided valuable suggestions including;

- Request for more frequent training sessions focused on specific themes.
- Particular suggestions included involving institutions like health services, police, and firefighting services, as well as
- analyzing local risk cases.
- The professionalism of the lecturers and their positive approach created enthusiasm and trust among participants.

Following are the pie charts generated from the analysis of the answers of the questionnaires

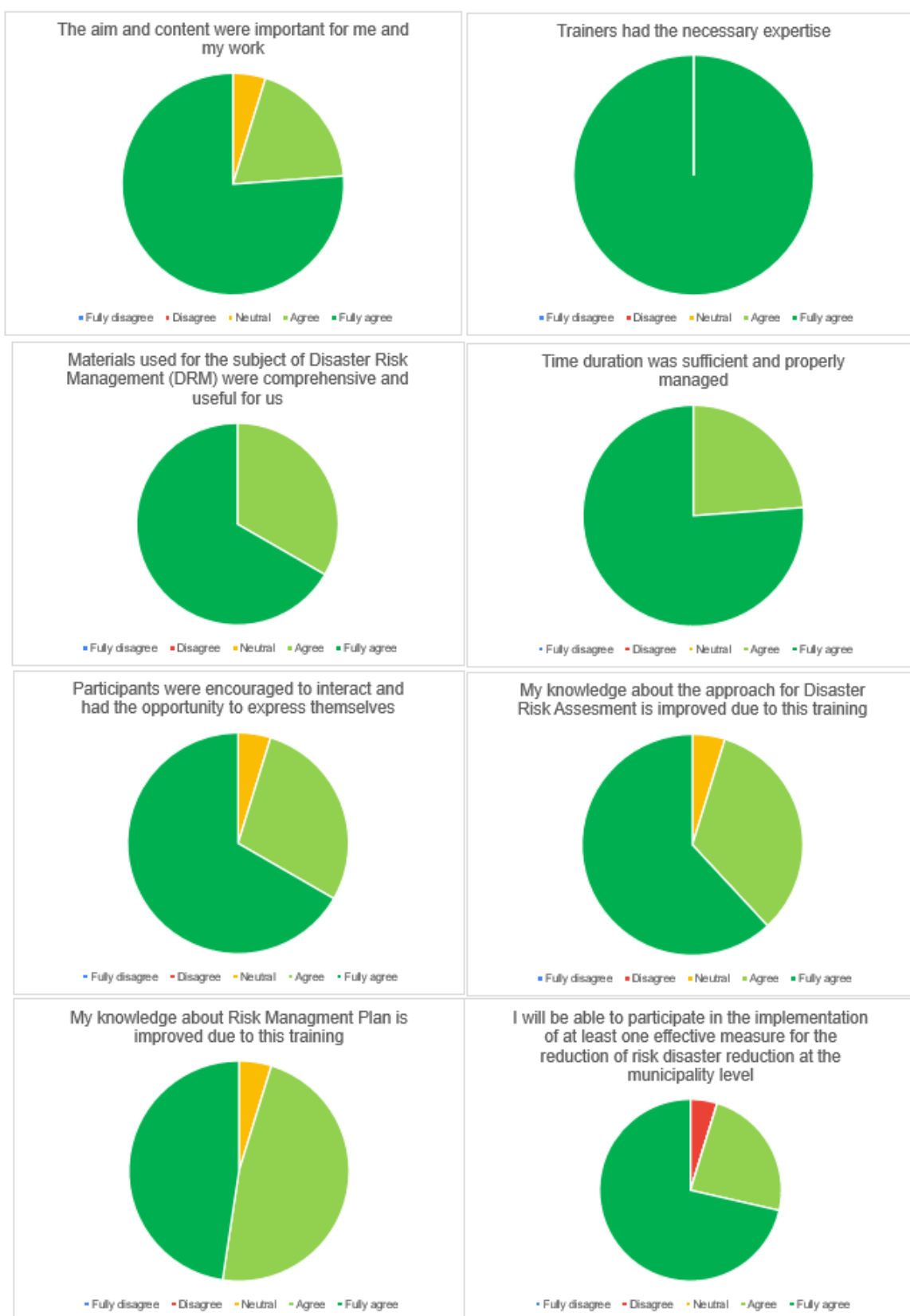


Figure 13: Vlore County, graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the first page of the questionnaire

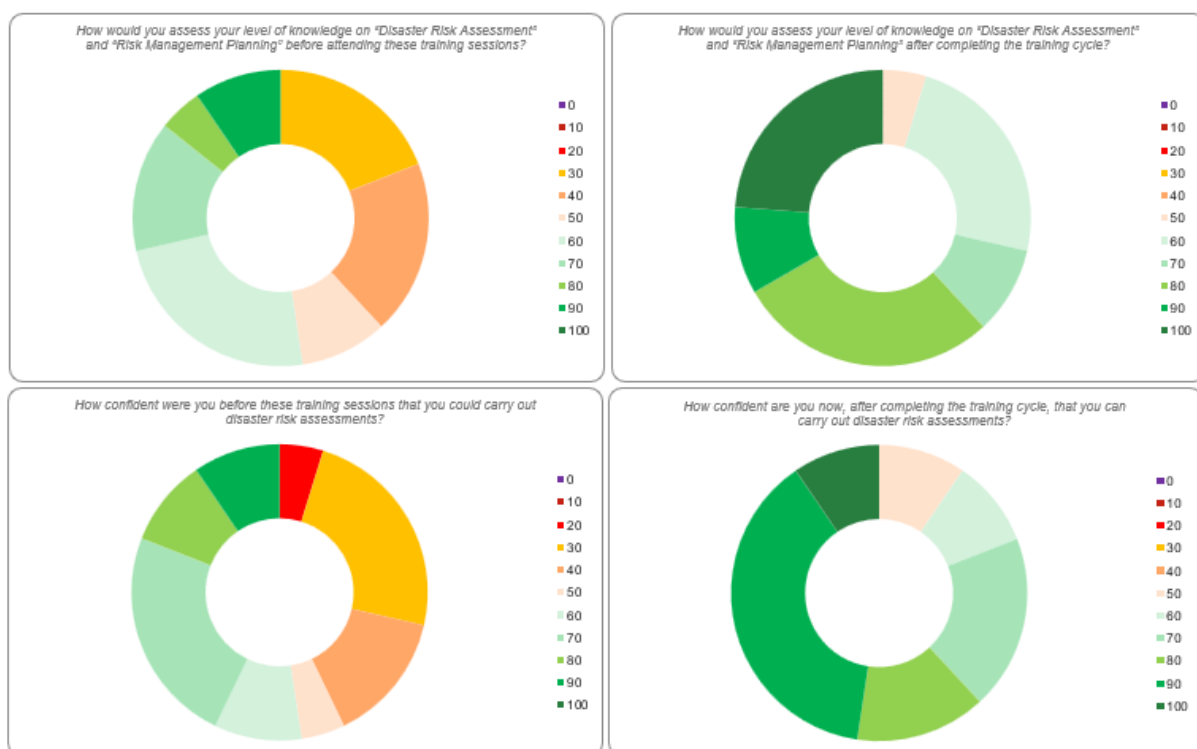


Figure 14: Vlore County, graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the second page of the questionnaire;

As seen in the pie charts the answers show a net improvement in the level of knowledge and level of trust of the trainees after the training sessions compared to their status before the training.

## 4.8 Gjirokastër County 12 - 13 March 2025

### 4.8.1 Delivery of the training session in Gjirokastër

The training session was organized in "Cajupi" Hotel in the main square "Çerçiz Topulli" of the ancient city of Gjirokastër. The training was attended by 50 participants during the first day and 39 participants the second day. The very high level of participation was an indicator of the high interest on the training but also due to the fact that the representatives of the municipalities of Saranda, Delvine, Finiq and Konsipol that belong to Vlore County have been invited to join the training session in Gjirokastër which was more convenient to them compared to longer travelling distance to Vlore. Women participation was at 42% and the remaining 58% men.

Due to the official holiday of the "Spring Celebration" of 14 March with the consent of AKMC the training was squeezed in two days.

The session was attended by the Executive Director of AKMC Mr. Haki Çako, the Director of Disaster Risk Reduction and Prevention of AKMC PhD Adisa Bala and the representative of Gjirokastra Prefecture Mr. Edmond Avdalli. Mr. Cako delivered a speech explaining the important reforms that have happened in the disaster management sector in the country, the significant impacts of the EU integration processes and the role that capacity building plays in this context. Mr. Cako expressed

his appreciation for the good performance SEA Consulting and its trainers have shown from the training sessions delivered so far.

PhD Bala from her side provided details about the project and its importance for the development of the sector and invited the participants to make their best to benefit from the training.

After the opening speeches of the session Mr. Bozgo went through the safety moment that was followed afterwards by the training presentations of the trainers as programmed.

#### 4.8.2 Participants' evaluation for Gjirokastër County training

At the end of the training session in Gjirokastër 28 trainees or 63 % of the average number of participants/day completed the anonymous questionnaire. The analysis of the results of the questionnaires shows the following;

- 96.4% scored “agree” and “fully agree” rating the content as important for their work,
- 96% expressed high appreciation for the trainers' expertise
- 100% reported improved knowledge by selecting “agree” and “fully agree” equally.
- 96.4% gave the high rating for the quality of materials.

Trainees' contributions during the training session and in written form in the questionnaires provided valuable suggestions including;

- the lack of equipment and specialists for risk assessment and
- requested training sessions that include field simulations.
- Participants emphasized the involvement of decision-makers, representatives from central government, and
- the necessity of continuous training to build better-prepared structures for risk response.

The charts below provide graphically the analysis of the responses to the questionnaires;

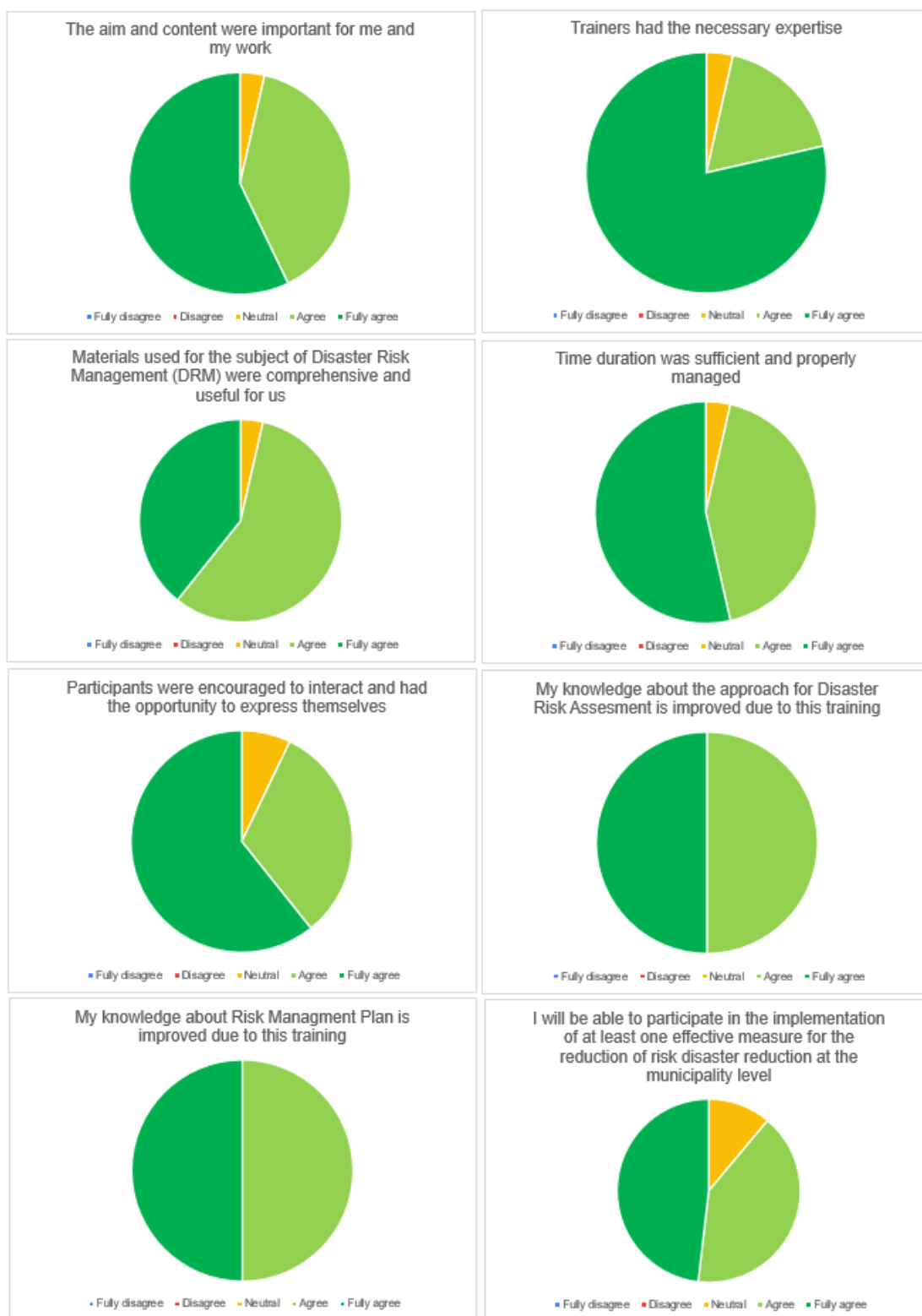


Figure 15: Gjirokastër County, graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the first page of the questionnaire

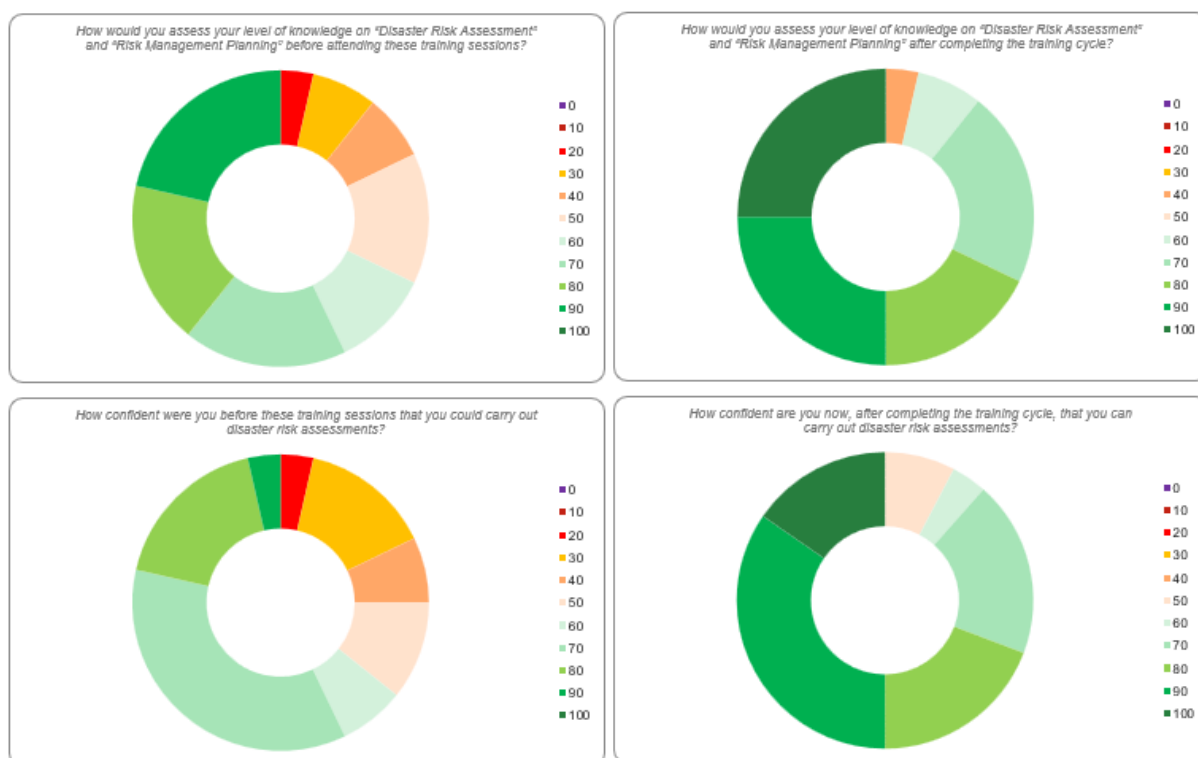


Figure 16: Gjirokastrë County, graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the second page of the questionnaire.

As seen in the pie charts the answers show a net improvement in the level of knowledge and level of confidence of the trainees after the training sessions compared to their status before the training.

## 4.9 Korçë County 20-22 March 2025

### 4.9.1 Delivery of the training session in Korçë

The training session in Korçë was organized in “Park Plaza” Hotel in the central part of the city of Korçë. The trainings were attended by 58 participants the first day, 55 the second day and 53 the third day. Women constituted 34% of the participation against 66% men. The very high level of participation was an indicator of the high interest for the session.

The session was attended by Ms. Ambra Fusha and Ms. Anxhela Arapi, both AKMC experts. Ms. Fusha opened the session and after explaining the context at which this capacity building programme is implemented invited the participants to make their best efforts for benefiting from this opportunity.

Following the opening speeches of the session Mr. Bozgo went through the safety moment. Later on, all the trainers delivered their presentations as programmed.

#### 4.9.2 Participants' evaluation for Korçë County training

At the end of the training session 43 trainees or 78 % of the average number of participants/day completed the questionnaire. The analysis of the results of the questionnaires shows the following;

- 93% rated the content as important for their work,
- 100% of the trainees rated trainers' expertise as "agree" and "fully agree"
- 95.3% gave the highest rating for the quality of materials.
- 95% of the trainees declared improvement of their knowledge due to training

Trainees' contributions during the training session and in written form in the questionnaires provided valuable suggestions including;

- requests for more practical content,
- involvement of operational actors such as the forestry service and volunteer groups, and
- inclusion of topics like radioactive pollution and food safety.

Following are the pie charts prepared with the responses of the questionnaires;

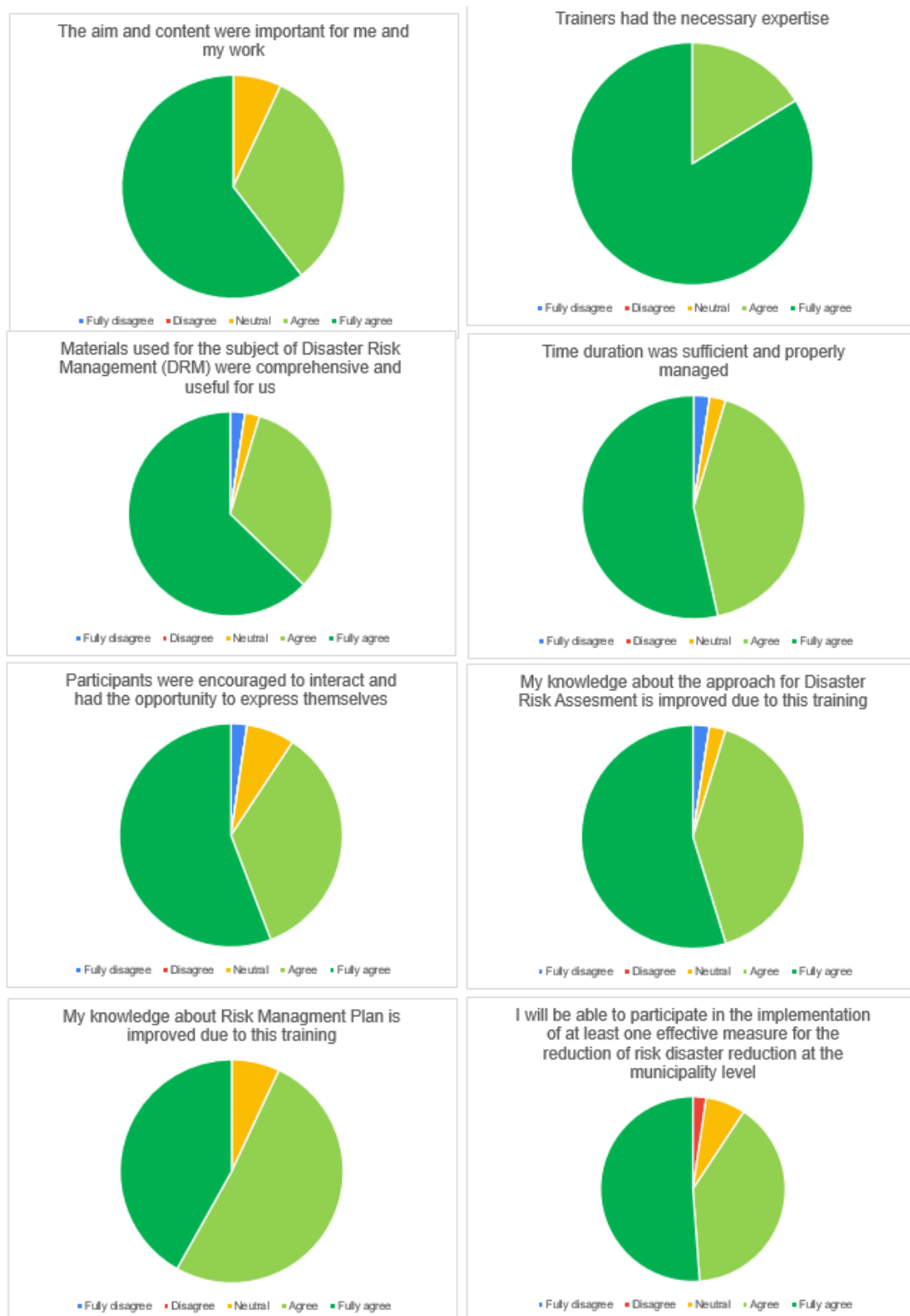


Figure 17: Korce County, graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the first page of the questionnaire

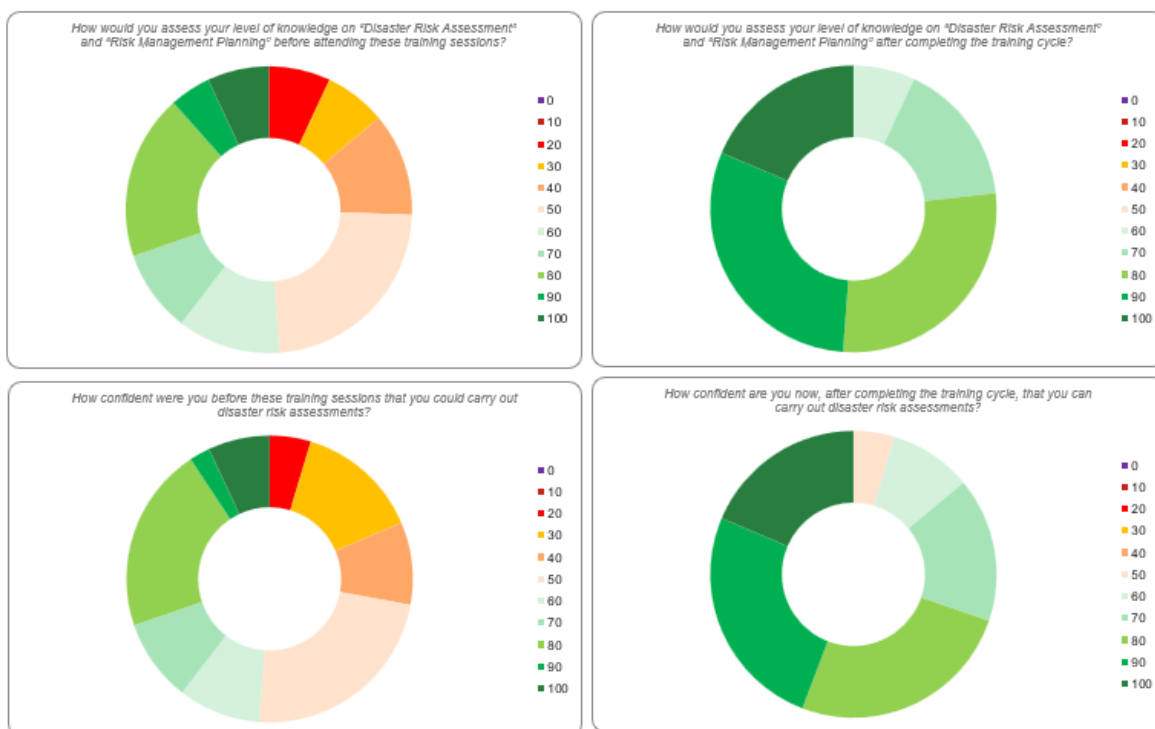


Figure 18: Korce County, graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the second page of the questionnaire;

Similarly with the other counties the pie charts show a net improvement in the level of knowledge and level of confidence of the trainees after the training sessions compared to their status before the training.

## 4.10 Dibër County 3-5 April 2025

### 4.10.1 Delivery of the training session in Dibër

The trainings session of Dibër County was organized in Hotel "Monopol" in the central part of the city of Peshkopi. The training was attended by 33 participants the first day and by 31 the next two days. Women were 39% of the average number of participants. The participants showed a high level of interest for the session.

The session could not be attended by representatives of the Tirana office of AKMC. Under such circumstances the opening was made by Mr. Bozgo. He explained the context in which this capacity building project is taking place and the aim of the project.

Mr. Bozgo then continued with the safety moment and once it was completed, as usually, he invited all participants to introduce themselves.

Thereafter all trainers delivered their trainings in accordance with the training programme.

#### 4.10.2 Participants' evaluation for Dibër County training

At the end of the training session 25 trainees or 79 % of the average number of participants/day completed the questionnaire. The analysis of the results of the questionnaires shows the following;

- 83.3% of the answers to the questions of the first page of the questionnaire rated the content as “agree” and “fully agree” for their daily duties, considering it essential for improving local capacities.
- 100% reported that trainers had the necessary expertise by selecting “agree” and “fully agree”;
- 96% found training materials as appropriate by selecting “agree” and “fully agree”;
- 96% found the training session to be interactive by selecting “agree” and “fully agree”;
- 92% assessed their level of knowledge on DRA and RMP improved by selecting “agree” and “fully agree”. Only one participant scored “fully disagree” and another one was neutral;
- 96% scored “agree” and “fully agree” to the question about their participation in at least one effective measure for DRR at municipality level;

Trainees' contributions during the training session and in written form in the questionnaires provided valuable suggestions including;

- the training was deemed essential for capacity building and the development of a functional local-level response system.
- the inclusion of practical sessions and simulations for real scenarios such as landslides or winter isolation,
- the involvement of central-level representatives in future trainings, and
- the lack of emergency response tools.
- the impact of informal construction on increasing risk,
- the need to include urban planning in risk assessment.

Following are the pie charts with the analysis of the responses of each question;

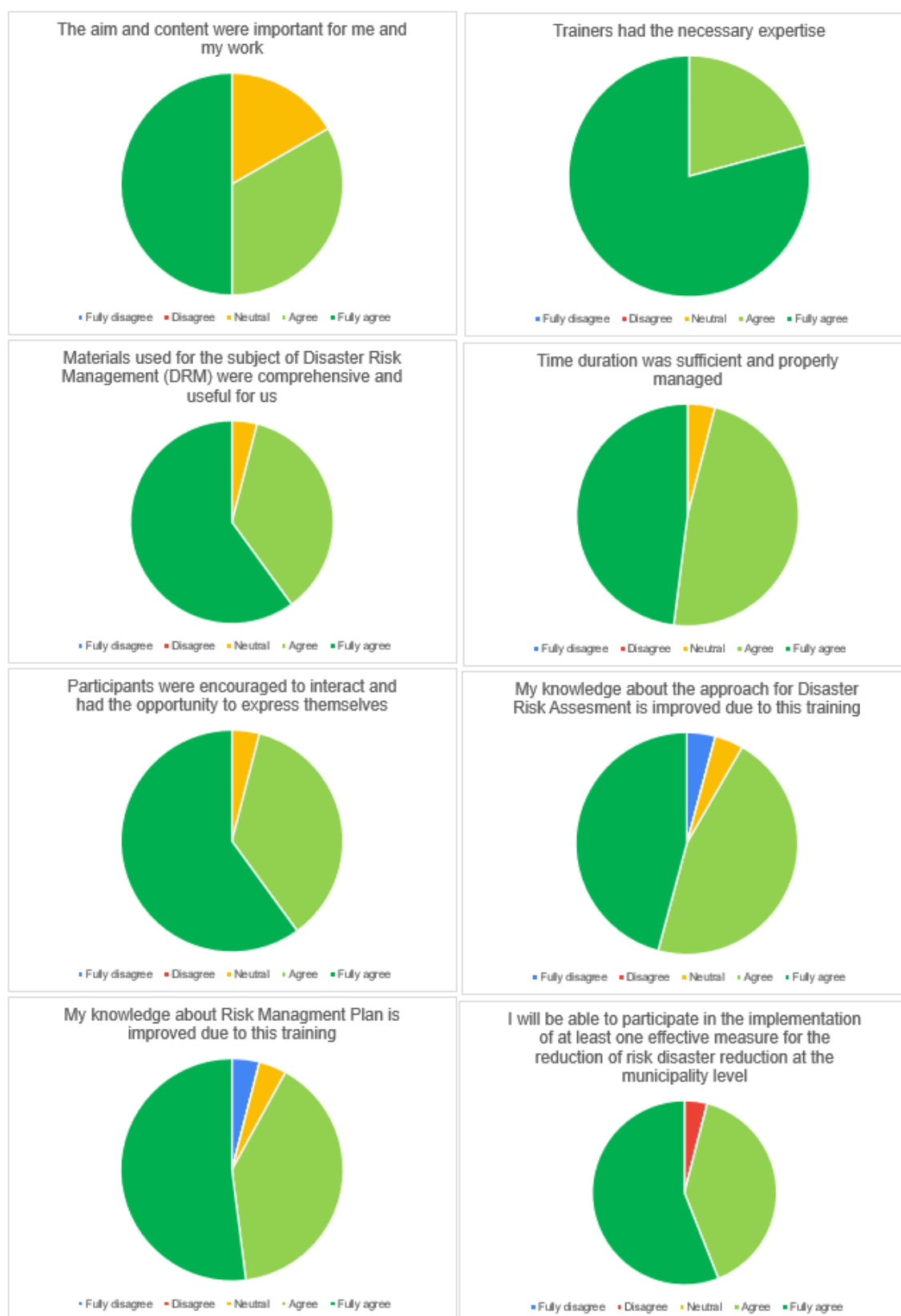


Figure 19: Diber County, graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the first page of the questionnaire

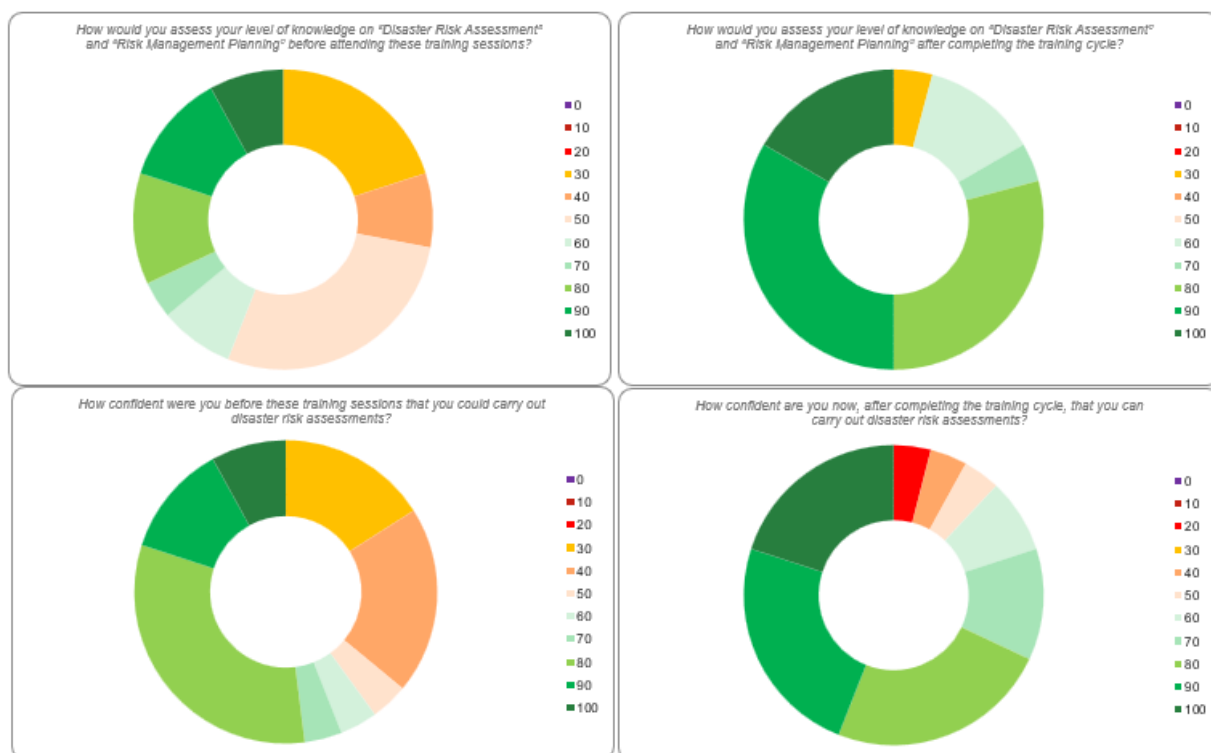


Figure 20: Diber County, graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the second page of the questionnaire;

As the pie charts show there is a net improvement in the participant's perception of their level of knowledge and level of confidence after the training sessions compared to their status before the training.

## 4.11 Tirana County 23- 25 April 2025

### 4.11.1 Delivery of the training session in Tirana

The training session of Tirana County was organized in the main meeting room located in the Prefecture of Tirana. The training was attended by 44 participants the first day, 41 the second day and 43 the third day. Women participation was at 48% which is the second highest of all sessions organized. Participants represented various structures within the local administration and sectors related to civil emergencies.

The session took place at the main premises of Tirana Prefecture and was greeted by the Prefect of Tirana Mr. Afrim Qendro who praised the training programme on capacity building as a necessity to face the challenges related to disaster preparedness and management and keep up with the recent developments. He also expressed his high appreciation for the level of cooperation of the civil protection structures at Prefecture level with AKMC.

The AKMC project manager Mr. Ivi Rexhepi gave details about the training programme in the context of all developments in the sector and invited participants to be proactive along the training sessions to maximize the benefits.

Due to an unexpected health issue Mr. Bozgo could not attend the session and therefore the safety moment was skipped.

Thereafter the presentations were delivered as foreseen in the training programme. Following are a few photos from the training sessions;

#### 4.11.1 Participants' evaluation for Tirana County training

At the end of the training session 34 trainees or about 80 % of the average number of participants/day completed the questionnaire. The analysis of the results of the questionnaires shows the following;

The training in Tirana was rated very positively by participants, The analysis of the anonymous responses at the end of the training sessions showed the following;

- 100% of participants rated the training content as “very important” for their daily work by selecting “agree” and “fully agree”,
- 97.1% praised the materials used during the training by selecting “agree” and “fully agree”
- 93.9% praised trainers' skills and knowledge. 23 out of 33 participants gave them the highest rating – “fully agree”.
- 97.1% felt encouraged to interact and participate during the training sessions by selecting “agree” and “fully agree”
- 100% stated that their knowledge of risk assessment and planning had improved. by selecting “agree” and “fully agree”
- 91.2% confirmed their readiness to participate in the implementation of at least one measure for RRD at the municipality level

Trainees' contributions during the training session and in written form in the questionnaires provided valuable suggestions including;

- the need for continuous training structured by specific sectors and localized risks.
- They suggested such training be extended not only to emergency staff but to the entire local administration.
- one annual training would be essential for all staff, focusing on basic concepts, case analysis, and practical applications.
- the importance of creating and maintaining complete databases for each local unit
- need for tracking and assessing risks over the years – was highlighted.
- Participants also emphasized the need to raise institutional awareness and activate the administration for joint risk analyses and the development of appropriate strategies.

Following are the pie charts generated from the analysis of the questionnaires;

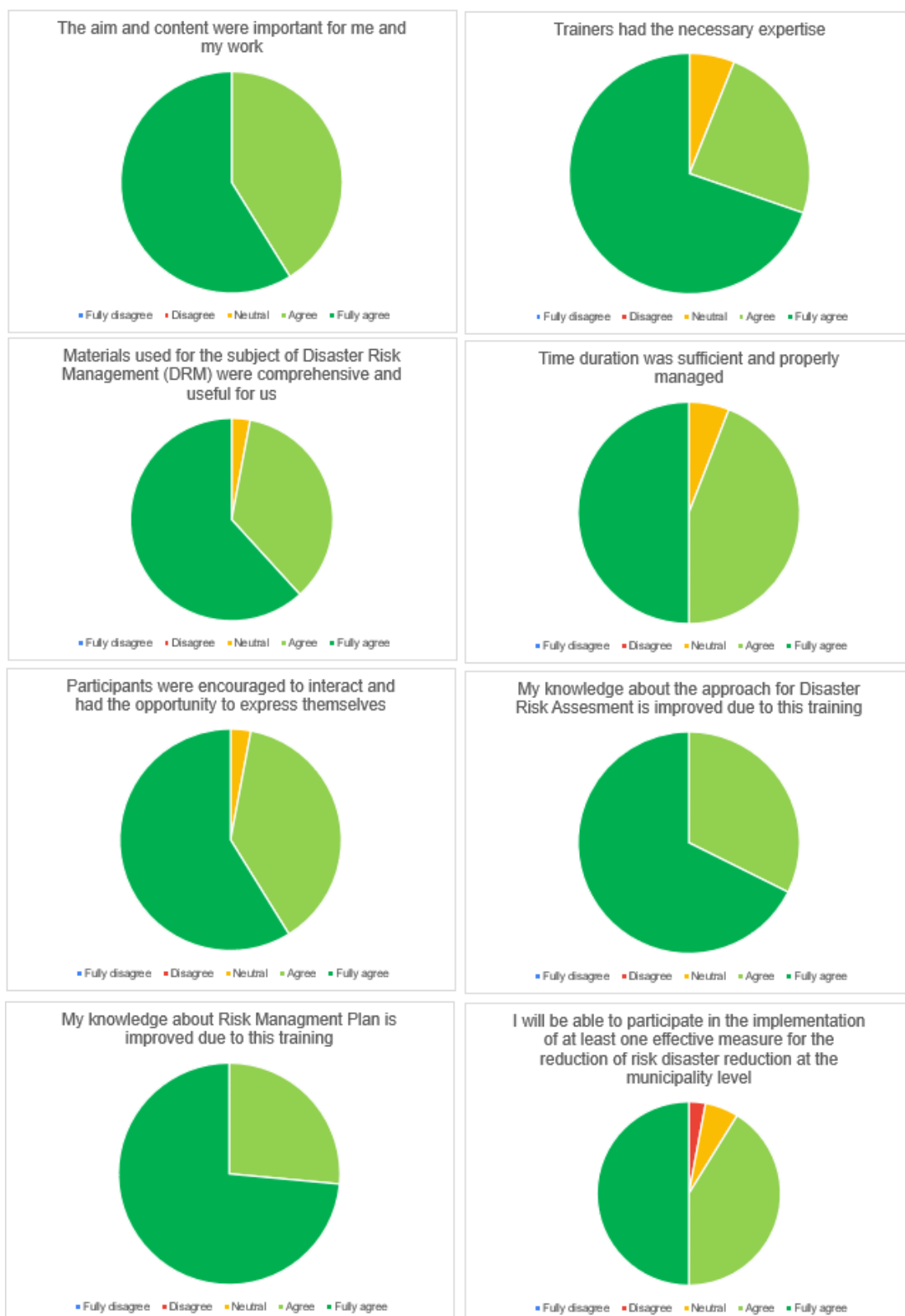


Figure 21: Tirana County, graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the first page of the questionnaire

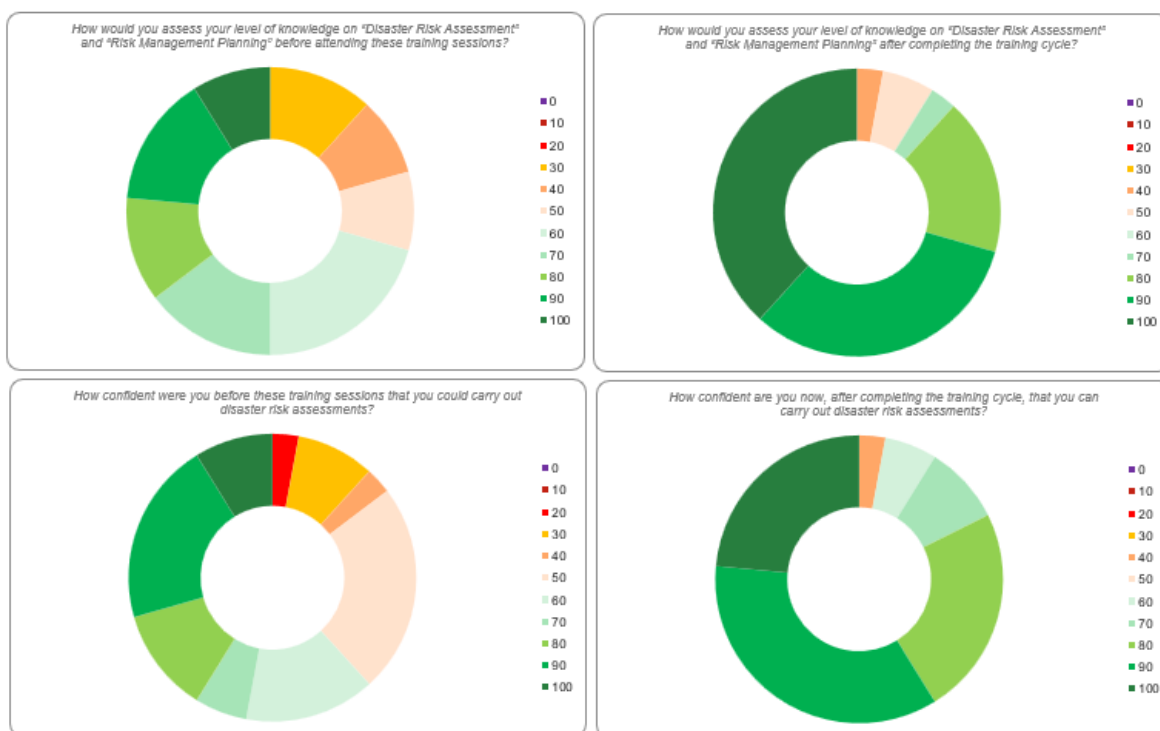


Figure 22: Tirana County, graphical presentation of the answers to each of the questions of the second page of the questionnaire;

Like in all training sessions of this project even in Tirana the pie charts show a net improvement in the perception of the level of knowledge and level of self-confidence of the trainees after the training sessions compared to their status before the training.

## 5 OVERALL OUTCOMES OF THE TRAINING SESSIONS

In total **435 people** attended the training sessions in 11 counties organized during December 2024 – April 2025. Around 40% of the participants were women and 60 % were men.

### 5.1 Issues raised from trainees during the training sessions

During the training sessions, participants actively engaged in discussions and raised several key issues related to disaster prevention, preparedness and management that includes;

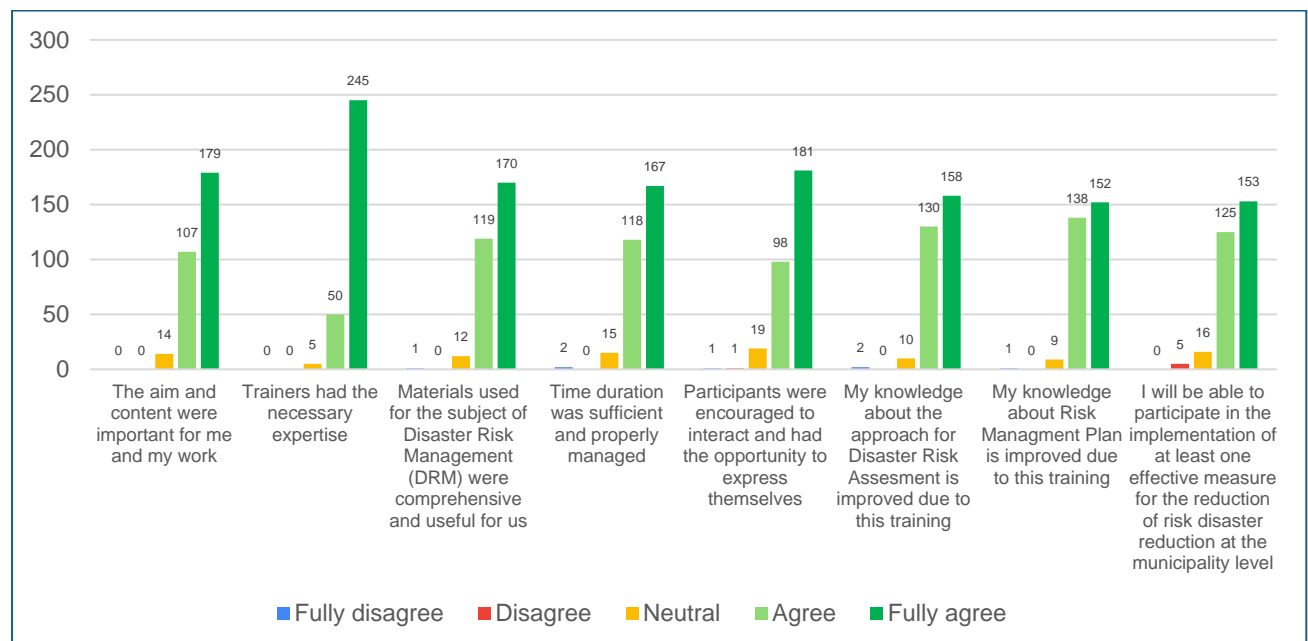
- the need for better-prepared structures and human resources for risk assessment and risk response
- the need for clearer guidance, framework and practices for implementing legal and sub-legal acts during emergencies,
- requests for more practical examples and case studies, and questions regarding the applicability of certain tools in their local contexts.
- some trainees highlighted challenges related to resource constraints like lack of equipment etc. In particular people in charge with firefighting raised the concern of lack of firefighting equipment and also the need for preventive measures and awareness campaigns
- need for improvement in the inter-institutional coordination regarding disaster issues
- emphasis was given to the importance of continued support and follow-up training sessions. Such training needs to be extended not only to emergency staff but to the entire local administration
- the need for inclusion of other actors such as local decision-makers, financiers, and investors to build a comprehensive risk management network
- involvement of operational actors such as the forestry service and volunteer groups,
- inclusion of topics like radioactive pollution and food safety.
- the impact of informal construction on increasing risks,
- the need to include urban planning in risk assessment.
- the importance of creating and maintaining complete databases for each local unit
- need for tracking and assessing risks over the years

### 5.2 Analysis of the feedback from the questionnaires

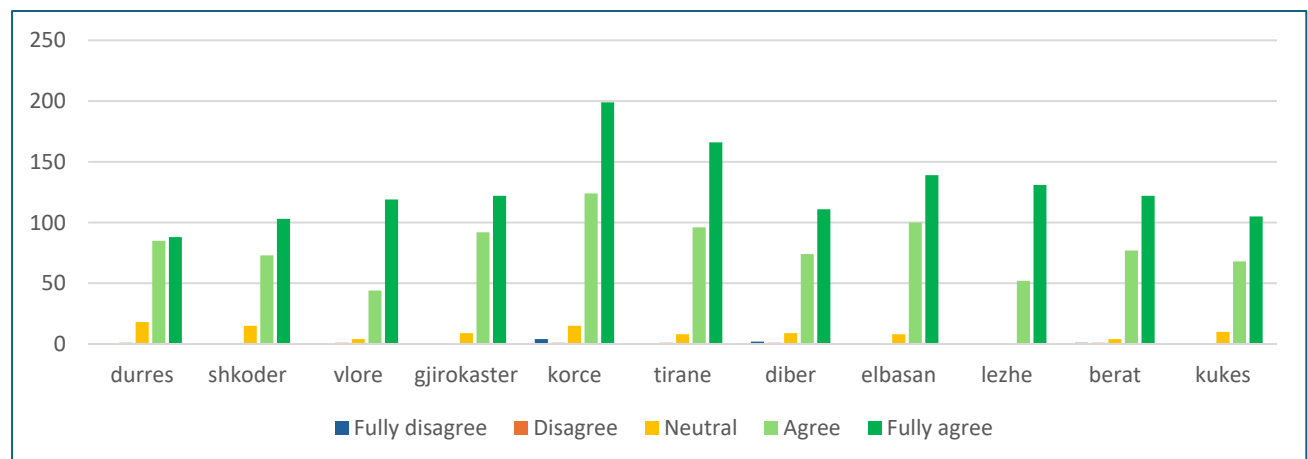
The analysis of all the completed questionnaires of all the counties revealed a high level of satisfaction among trainees regarding the structure, content, and delivery of the training. Most respondents rated the sessions as informative and well-organized, particularly valuing the practical examples and clarity of explanations.

The following charts provide data for the first 8 questions of the first page of the questionnaire for all the counties

The first chart below provides a comparative view of each of the 8 answers which are dominated by positive (fully agree and agree) answers.

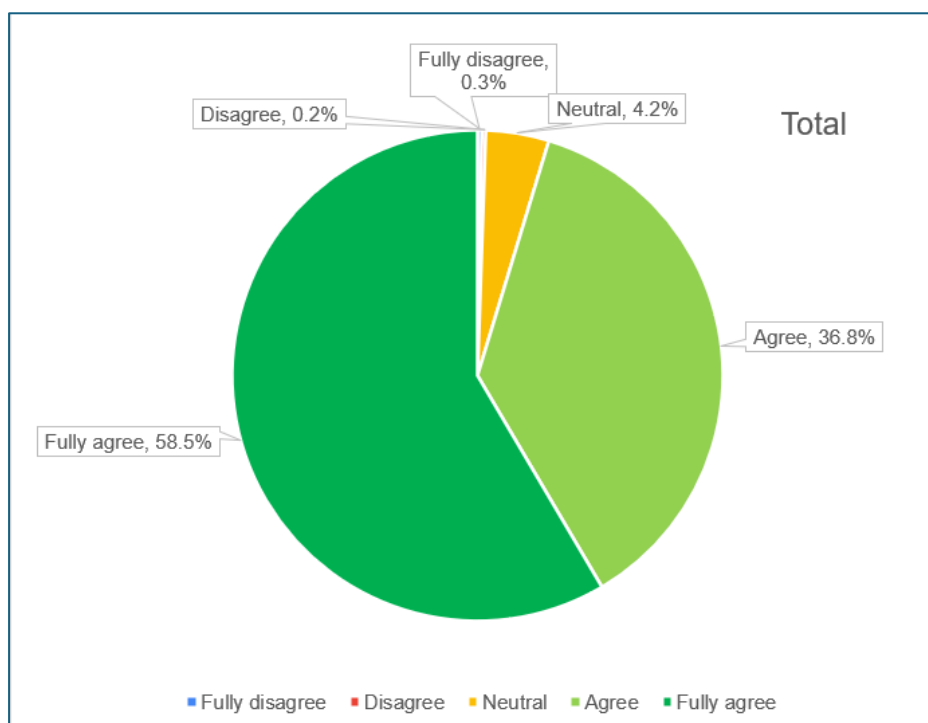


The number of responses of the trainees regarding all the first 8 questions for each county is given in the chart below;



The overall results for the 8 questions of the first page of the questionnaire for all the counties together are provided in the following table and chart below;

Fully disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Fully agree
0.3%	0.2%	4.2%	36.8%	58.5%



Trainees provided also feedback through comments and suggestions which reflected in general a very positive response to the training sessions.

Aspects that were appreciated by the trainees were;

- the interactive format,
- the relevance of the content to their daily work, and
- the expertise of the trainers.

Suggestions for improvements included;

- incorporating more hands-on activities, and
- extending the duration of certain modules.

This feedback will be instrumental in refining future training sessions to better meet the needs and expectations of participants.

## 5.3 Level of success of the training sessions, indicators' measurement.

The first indicator to measure the impact of the training sessions was;

### 5.3.1 **Indicator 1.** Percentage of trained municipal staff members who report increased confidence in conducting disaster risk assessments.

- Baseline: 0% / - Target: 80%

*Monitoring: Post-training surveys or self-assessments.*

The assessment of the fulfilment of indicator 1 has been made through the analysis of the responses of post training questionnaires;

1. How would you assess your level of knowledge on "Disaster Risk Assessment" and "Risk Management Planning" before (1\_a) and after (1\_b) attending these training sessions?

The chart below shows the trainees' self-assessment of the change in their level of knowledge before (red) and after the training (green);

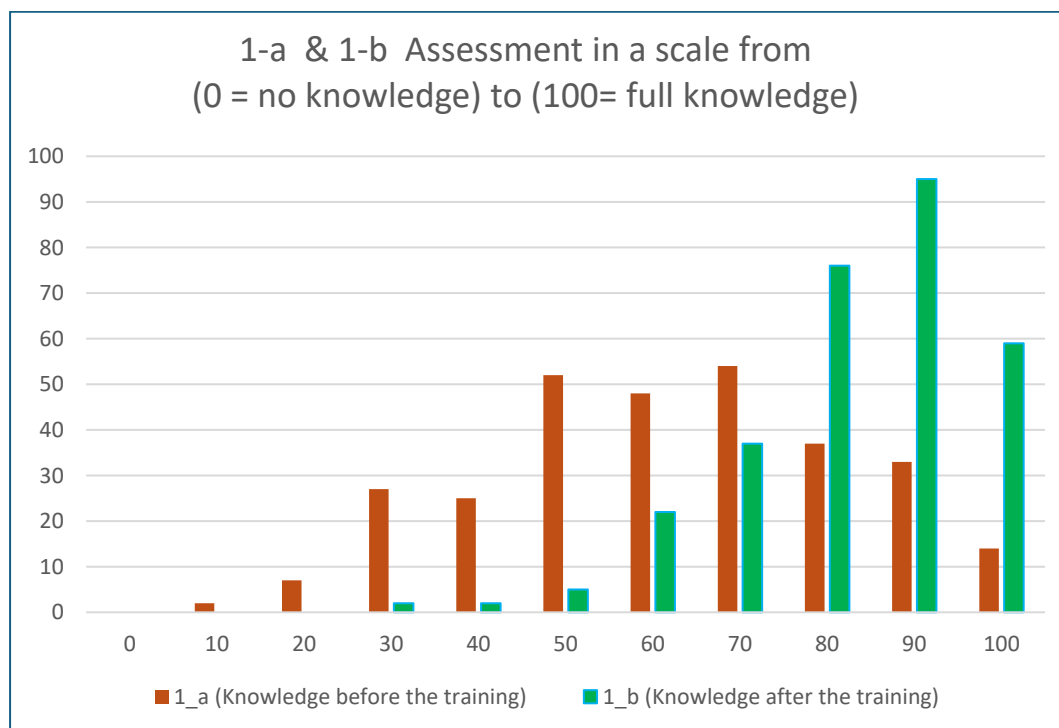
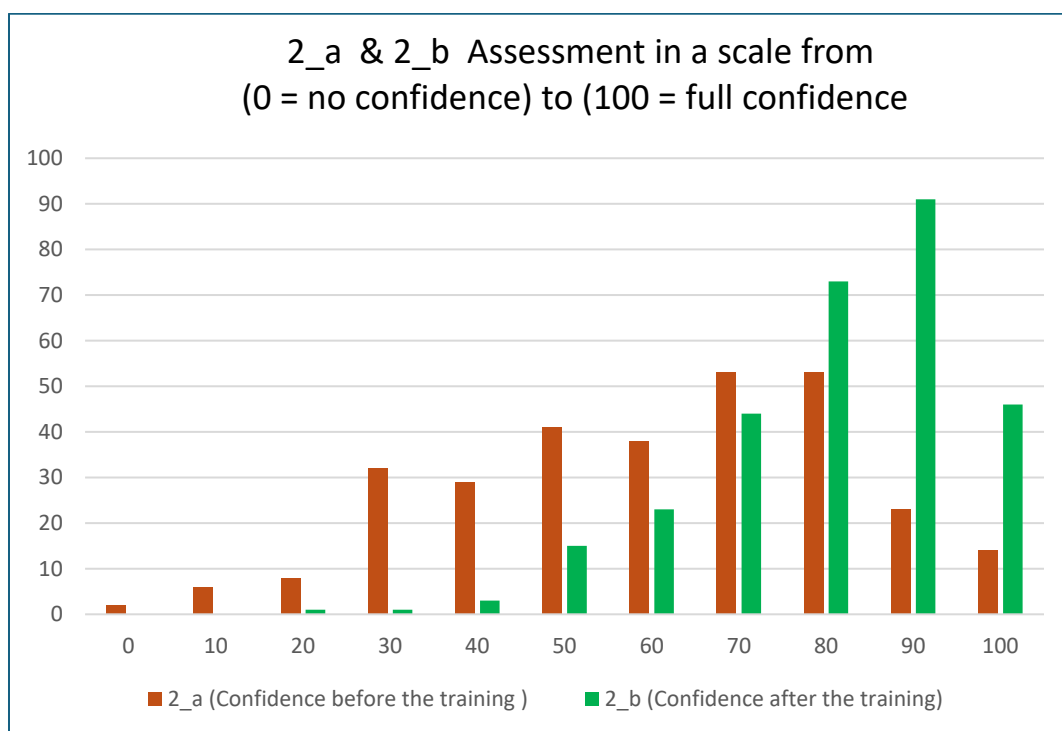


Figure 23: Trainees' self-assessment of the change in their level of knowledge before (red) and after the training (green);

As the charts shows there is a significant net positive impact in the level of trainees' knowledge on DRA between before and after the training. It can be easily noticed that the number of trainees that had a modest level of knowledge before the training has either disappeared (levels 10 and 20) or significantly reduced (levels 30-70) while the number of high level of knowledge (80, 90 and 100)

have significantly increased making up the majority of participants. Therefore we can say that the training has positively impacted all participant while 77% of them estimate their level of knowledge at score of more than 80

2. *How confident were you before (2-a) and after completing (2-b) the training sessions that you could carry out disaster risk assessments?*



Like in the above case, the positive impact in the level of confidence of trainees has changed significantly between before and after the training sessions. It can be noticed that **all levels of confidence have improved**. The following changes have happened;

- The very lower levels of confidence before the training (0, 10) have drastically reduced to nil.
- Similarly, the medium levels (20, 30, 40) have reduced close to nil.
- Levels 50 and 60 have also been almost halved
- Level 70 has also decreased.
- On the other side the higher levels of confidence that were modest before the training session have become dominant after the training sessions.
- The majority of the trainees find themselves in the high levels of confidence (80, 90 and 100) after the training session. All these three upper levels of confidence constitute nearly 71 % of all trainees after the training session.

**Such figures demonstrate that the indicator 1 has been fulfilled and even exceeded**

### 5.3.2 **Indicator 2:** Number of municipalities where trained staff have implemented at least one effective disaster risk reduction measure.

The training sessions were attended by the representatives of all municipalities of the counties while the measurement of this indicator nr 2 needs to be followed in the coming months. However indirect measures include the analysis of the post training answers to the question (nr 8) asked to trainees that was;

*“I will be able to participate in the implementation of at least one effective measure for the reduction of risk disaster reduction at the municipality level”*

This question was answered from 299 out of 435 trainees participating in all training sessions. 93 % of them answered “agree” and “fully agree” to this question.

**Taking also into consideration the improvement in the level of knowledge and confidence under indicator nr 1, it can concluded that the training sessions have contributed in the fulfilment of the preconditions for the implementation of this indicator nr 2**

## 6 RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### **Results:**

- The project met its key objective of improving local capacity in disaster risk management across Albania.
- Demonstrable improvement in risk awareness, knowledge, and planning confidence among local officials.
- Creation of a foundational training model for future replication and expansion.

### **Recommendations:**

1. **Institutionalize Annual DRR Training:** Particularly sector-specific and tailored to each municipality’s risk profile.
2. **Develop Practical Modules:** Include real-time simulations, drills, and applied exercises.
3. **Strengthen Inter-Institutional Coordination:** Formalize roles among local authorities, civil protection, health services, and other actors.
4. **Improve Risk Data Management:** Invest in digital tools and databases for municipal-level DRR.
5. **Enhance Legal Clarity:** Clarify and harmonize legal responsibilities during emergencies.
6. **Secure Funding for Follow-Up:** Allocate resources for continued capacity-building beyond the project duration.

## 7 ANNEXES

- 7.1 Annex 1: Typical training programme for the Counties
- 7.2 Annex 2: Scan of the Lists of Presence (LoP) for each training session
- 7.3 Annex 3: Questionnaire for the evaluation of participants' understanding and skills
- 7.4 Annex 4: Delivery Approach of Presentations

## 7 ANNEXES

### 7.1 Annex 1: Typical training programme for the Counties

#### Projekti

“Rritja e kapaciteteve të pushtetit vendor në vlerësimin dhe menaxhimin e rrezikut nga fatkeqësitë”,



zbatuar nga / *implemented by*



#### Programi Trajnimit

Koha		Moduli <i>Module</i>	Dita 1 / <i>Day 1</i>	Personi përgjegjës ose Traineri <i>Person responsible or trainer</i>
Nga <i>From</i>	De ri <i>To</i>			
9:00	9:15		Rregjistrimi i pjesëmarrësve / <i>trainees' registration</i>	Nensi Musaj
9:15	9:30		<b>Fjala e hapjes</b> (konteksti, funding, dhe qellimi i programit të trajnimit) <i>Opening speech (context, funding, and aim of the training programme)</i>	AKMC representative, Local authorities
9:30	9:40		Momenti i sigurisë dhe një hyrje e shkurtër e përmbajtjes dhe qasjes së trajnimit <i>Safety Moment and short introduction to training approach and content</i>	Shkelqim Bozgo
9:40	10:30		<b>Hyrje</b> Paraqitje e përgjithshme e fatkeqësive, koncepteve, terminologjisë dhe proceseve / <i>Introduction: General presentation about disasters, concepts, terminology and processes</i>	Abaz Aliko
10:30	11:30	Moduli 1/ Pjesa 1	<b>Metodologjia e Vlerësimit të Riskut</b> (konceptet, situata aktuale, diskutim të gjetjeve të dokumentave zyrtare)	Abaz Aliko

			tashmë të miratuara dhe hapat e ardhshëm për çdo njësi vendore) <i>Risk Assessment Methodology: (Concepts, actual situation, discussion of the findings from the official documents already approved and future steps for each local authority)</i>	
11:30	12:00		Pushim kafe / <i>Coffee break</i>	Nensi Musaj
12:00	13:00	Moduli 1/ Pjesa 2	<b>Metodologjia e Vlerësimit të Riskut</b> <i>Risk Assessment Methodology:</i>	Abaz Aliko
13:00	14:00		Dreka / <i>Lunch</i>	Nensi Musaj
14:00	15:00	Moduli 5	<b>Legjislacioni për Menaxhimin e Fatkeqësive në kontekstin e ndryshimeve klimatike</b> <i>Legislation for the Management of disasters in the context of climate changes</i>	Enkelejda Kucaj
15:00	16:00	Moduli 6	<b>Zjarret në pyje</b> <i>Forest fires risk</i>	Ylli Hoxha
16:00	16:30		Pushim kafe / <i>Coffee break</i>	
16:30	17:30		Diskutime / Konkluzionet dhe Vlerësimi i ditës së parë <i>Discussions / conclusions and evaluation of the first day</i>	Abaz Aliko, Shkelqim Bozgo
			<b>Dita 2</b> <b>Day 2</b>	
9:00	9:30		Rregjistrimi i pjesëmarrësve / <i>trainees' registration</i>	Nensi Musaj
9:30	10:30	Moduli 3	<b>Planifikimi i Menaxhimit të Riskut</b> <i>Risk Management Planning</i>	Abaz Aliko
10:30	11:30	Moduli 4, Pjesa 1	<b>Planifikimi i Përgjigjes ndaj Emergjencave</b> <i>Planning emergency response</i>	N Kodhelaj
11:30	12:00		Pushim kafe / <i>Coffee break</i>	Nensi Musaj
12:00	13:00	Moduli 7	<b>Risku i Përmytjeve</b> <i>Flooding risk</i>	Liljana Lata
13:00	14:00		Dreka / <i>Lunch</i>	
14:00	15:00	Moduli 8	<b>Fatkeqësitë e lidhura me Sëmundjet Infektive</b> <i>Disasters related to Infectious diseases</i>	Dritan Ulqinaku
15:00	16:00	Moduli 9	<b>Risku Sizmik, Gjeoteknik dhe Rrëshqitjet</b> <i>Seismic, Geotechnical and landslides Risk</i>	Shkelqim Daja
16:00	16:30		Pushim kafe / <i>Coffee break</i>	Nensi Musaj
16:30	17:30		Diskutime / Konkluzionet dhe Vlerësimi i ditës së dytë <i>Discussions / conclusions and evaluation of the second day</i>	Abaz Aliko, Shkelqim Bozgo
			<b>Dita 3</b> <b>Day 3</b>	
9:00	9:30		Rregjistrimi i pjesëmarrësve / <i>trainees' registration</i>	Nensi Musaj

9:30	10:30	Moduli 4, Pjesa 2	<b>Komunikimi</b> në situatat e fatkeqësive <i>Communication in disaster situations</i>	Nevton Kodhelaj
10:30	11:30	Moduli 10	<b>Riskut Teknologjik dhe Industrial</b> <i>Technological and Industrial Risk</i>	Shkelqim Bozgo Abaz Aliko
11:30	12:00		<i>Pushim kafe / Coffee break</i>	Nensi Musaj
12:00	13:00		Vlëresimi i trajnimit / <i>Training evaluation</i>	Abaz Aliko, Shkelqim Bozgo

## **Annex 2 – Lists of Presence (Redacted for Public Version)**

The original attendance lists containing names, signatures, and ID numbers have been removed from this public version to comply with EU data-protection regulations. A complete version is securely archived by the National Civil Protection Agency (AKMC) and can be provided to the European Commission upon justified request.

### 7.3 Annex 3: Questionnaire for the evaluation of participants' understanding and skills

#### Training Program “Enhancing the capacities of local government in disaster risk assessment and management”



Implemented by



## Training Evaluation Form

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

**Your opinions and suggestions are very valuable for the quality and continuity of our joint efforts. Therefore, please provide your honest assessments on the indicators listed below:**

Nr.	Indicator	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
		1	2	3	4	5
1	The objective and content of the training were important to me/my work.					
2	The trainers had the necessary expertise.					
3	The materials used and the topics on Disaster Risk Management (DRM) presented were understandable and useful.					
4	The duration was sufficient and managed properly.					
5	Participants were encouraged to interact and had the opportunity to express themselves.					
6	My knowledge about disaster risk assessment approaches improved after this training.					
7	My knowledge about risk management planning improved after this training.					
8	I will be able to participate in the implementation of at least one effective disaster risk reduction measure at the municipal level.					

**Referring to your level of acquired knowledge after this training in a scale from (0=no knowledge) to (100= full knowledge)**

*1\_a: How would you assess your level of knowledge on “Disaster Risk Assessment” and “Risk Management Planning” before attending these training sessions?*

0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

*1\_b: How would you assess your level of knowledge on “Disaster Risk Assessment” and “Risk Management Planning” after completing the training cycle?*

0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

**Referring to your level of trust for carrying out a Disaster Risk Assessment in a scale from (0=no knowledge) to (100= Full Knowledge) how would you answer the following questions;**

*2\_a: How confident were you before these training sessions that you could carry out disaster risk assessments?*

0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

*2\_b: How confident are you now, after completing the training cycle, that you can carry out disaster risk assessments?*

0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

Please add here any comments or suggestions you believe should be considered for future training programs:

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION AND CONTRIBUTION!**

## 7.4 Annex 4: Delivery Approach of Presentations

A short presentation of the approach taken from each of the trainers in the delivery of their specific subjects is given in the following sections;

### 7.4.1 “Introduction to Risk Management”: by Dr. Abaz Aliko

The module **“Introduction: General Overview of Disasters, Concepts, Terminology”** was conceived and treated as an introduction to the general corpus of this training, so that participants can speak a common language when it comes to risk in general and disaster risk in particular, use the same terminology and understand the same thing or content when a certain term or definition is mentioned. Initially, some basic concepts were given according to relevant ISO standards such as ‘hazard’ and origin of hazards, ‘risk’, ‘risk management’ and the purpose of risk management, etc., as well as the principles, framework and process of risk management according to these standards. This is done because these standards address these concepts in a ‘standardized’ manner and are the basis for risk management in all areas.

Then, the basic concepts of risk management in the field of civil protection were discussed, the emergency/disaster management cycle was addressed, etc. The risk management cycle was then addressed according to a framework proposed by UNDRR (2022) for comprehensive risk assessment and planning that is based on the common concepts of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. The module concluded with a comparison of the risk assessment phases according to ISO 31000/31010 with risk-based decision-making and planning according to UNDRR.

The module was handled interactively, where participants were invited to intervene when they wanted to better understand a concept, were asked from time to time to give their understanding of certain issues (e.g. they were asked whether they thought that the emergency/disaster management cycle is part of a sequential chronological process or not, and they responded correctly by saying that they did not think of it as such but a process that is repeated and takes into account previous experiences and refines them), etc.

The module also provides the main references of the literature used, enabling participants whose work is more related to the field of disaster risk management, or participants who wish to deepen their knowledge in this field, to access selected literature.

The disaster risk assessment at the country level has assessed the risk from eight major disasters identified as the most frequent and with the most consequences for Albania. Local self-government units are in the process of drafting strategic documents for disaster risk assessment and management at the local level, and these eight main risks identified at the central level are assumed to be assessed at the local level as well.



#### 7.4.2 “Risk Assessment Methodology” by Dr. Abaz Aliko

No intellectual work can be carried out without using a precise methodology as well as appropriate tools and methods. The “**Risk Assessment Methodology**” module has been conceived and treated as a module that will provide the main methodological principles for disaster risk assessment so that this section not only equips participants with the necessary relevant knowledge but also does not repeat itself in the assessment of the eight thematic risks that will be developed subsequently by the relevant experts.

At first, the risk management cycle and the disaster risk assessment process according to ISO standards were addressed, and continued with its main elements and conceptual foundations, including the likelihood of potential hazards, exposure, vulnerability and the capacity of a country or community to manage and reduce risks. This was followed by the risk equation, the relationship between exposure and vulnerability, etc. Then, the risk assessment methods (quantitative, semi-quantitative and qualitative) were addressed, and relevant examples were given, as well as the integration of qualitative and quantitative methods to address the complexity of the assessment.

This module was also handled interactively, with questions and answers and exchanges of opinions. Participants expressed their opinions that this process did not seem simple to them, but it was accepted that it is useful. From the joint discussions it was clarified that there should and will be the involvement of experts from different fields to handle the complexity, but understanding the process of risk assessment and management, tools and methods, and record keeping at the local level is important for the success of this process at the local level as well.

The main references of the literature used are also provided as part of the presentation.



#### 7.4.3 “Risk Management Planning” by Dr. Abaz Aliko

At the beginning, we briefly provided the methodological foundations of disaster risk management planning (DRMP) and the goals and objectives of planning, illustrating it with the goals of the national plan for civil emergencies of Albania and its specific objectives. It continued with vertical and horizontal integration in disaster risk management planning, providing examples of implementation in Albania, collaborative planning and governance, continuous adaptation and transformation of the planning process, generation and analysis of alternatives and key impact indicators in DRMP. This module concluded with the treatment of policy instruments and products, a brief treatment of early warning systems, civil protection exercises, etc.

This module was also addressed interactively, with questions and answers and exchanges of views. Participants were also interested in practical issues or concerns such as limited staff, the need to expand the knowledge of local staff in the field of disaster risk assessment, management and planning, more funds should be allocated either from central government or local sources, etc.

This module also provides the main references of the literature used.

#### 7.4.4 “Emergency Response Planning” by Prof. Ass. Nevton Kodhelaj

*The subject on “Emergency Intervention Plans” delivered by Prof. Ass. **Nevton Kodhelaj**, focused on institutional structures for emergency management, risk analysis, monitoring, checklists, preparatory actions, and drafting contingency plans. The importance of training local teams and involving high-level leadership in the process was emphasized, along with securing funding between emergencies. Participants expressed interest in role distribution, responsibilities of different actors, and best national practices.*



#### 7.4.5 “Disaster Related Communications” by Prof. Ass. Nevton Kodhelaj

This module covered communication in disaster situations, where participants learned about the transmission and reception of critical information (audio, video, data, images) and the importance of inter-institutional interaction. The core elements of disaster management—prevention, preparedness, response, and rehabilitation—were addressed in detail. The public and media communication plan, alternative forms of information dissemination, and emergency communication guidelines were considered very useful. The necessity of functional communication networks, media involvement, social media, press releases, and online updates was highlighted. Participation across counties were active, showing a strong commitment to improving institutional readiness and response in disaster situations.



#### 7.4.6 "The Role and Meaning of National and International Legislation in Disaster Management in the Context of Climate Change" presented by Prof. Ass. Enkelejda Kucaj

*"The Role and Meaning of National and International Legislation in Disaster Management in the Context of Climate Change"* presented by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Enkelejda Kucaj**, provided an in-depth analysis of national legal frameworks (such as Law No. 45/2019 on Civil Protection) and international frameworks (such as the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework, the RESEAL Project, etc.). Specific challenges for each county were identified, such as flood and earthquake risks, and the impact of climate change on increasing natural disasters. Discussions also focused on strengthening cooperation between local and central authorities, improving response strategies,

and integrating climate policies into emergency management. Participants showed interest in the practical implementation of laws, community education, empowerment of local structures, and clarification of institutional responsibilities. Each training lasted an hour and was conducted interactively, offering valuable platforms for experience exchange and building a sustainable risk management approach at the local level.



#### 7.4.7 “Forest Fires”, led by expert Eng. Ylli Hoxha

*“Forest Fires Risk”*, delivered by expert **Eng. Ylli Hoxha** aimed to strengthen local structures’ knowledge and response to the prevention and management of forest fires. Trainings discussed preventive measures and modern techniques such as controlled burning, firebreaks, mixed forests to reduce fire spread, and operational protection plans. In the counties of Dibër, Shkodër, and Tirana, the implementation of Law 57/2020 “On Forests” was clarified, especially Article 30 which outlines responsibilities for managing and extinguishing fires. In Vlorë, the impact of stubble burning (80% of cases) was emphasized, along with the need for legal changes in seasonal burning planning. In Elbasan, Kukës, and Durrës, special attention was given to awareness-raising through education, including proposals to introduce a curriculum on fire management in the education system. Participants also discussed international disaster response mechanisms, such as the “European Civil Protection Mechanism.” Concerns were raised about the lack of funds, challenges in rough terrain, and the need for better inter-institutional communication. At the end of each activity, participants were given a contact address for ongoing cooperation and the sharing of technical information.



#### 7.4.8 "Flood Risk Management", delivered by Dr. Eng. Liljana Lata

**Dr. Eng. Liljana Lata**, focused on flood risks, including technical and legal aspects for prevention, monitoring, and management of floods caused by rivers and dam damage. Specific risks were identified in each region, such as floods from the Osum River (Berat), Black Drin and Mat Rivers (Dibër), hydropower dams on the Drin cascade (Kukës, Lezhë, Shkodër), levees in the Vjosa River (Gjirokastër), and urban flooding in Tirana from the Lana and Erzen Rivers or dams like Bovilla. The module also included the EU Flood Directive, risk maps, emergency planning, and analysis of climate change impacts and construction in exposed areas. In regions like Elbasan, Kukës, and Durrës, participants also completed knowledge tests, with results ranging from 59.7% in Kukës to over 80% in Durrës. In all cases, participants were active, with intense discussions on hydraulic infrastructure maintenance, improving early warning systems, and the need for sustainable inter-institutional cooperation in flood risk management.



#### 7.4.9 "Disasters Related to Infectious Diseases" delivered by Prof. Ass. Dritan Ulqinaku

The presentation on "Disasters Related to Infectious Diseases" by expert **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dritan Ulqinaku** addressed historical events with major impacts caused by infectious agents, emerging and re-emerging diseases, transmission routes, and preventive measures for effective risk management. In each region, participants showed high interest, raising questions about local issues, personal experiences, vaccination, and coordination with local authorities. Topics also included the importance of hygiene, international health policies, and local capacities for handling emergencies. Each presentation lasted around 60 minutes and was conducted interactively, reflecting the audience's active engagement and the need for practical training adapted to local realities.



#### 7.4.10 “Seismic, Geotechnical Risks, and Landslides” presented by Prof. Ass. Shkëlqim Daja

“*Seismic, Geotechnical Risks, and Landslides*” presented by **Assoc. Prof. Shkëlqim Daja** focused on seismic, geotechnical risks, and landslides, aiming to raise awareness and technical capabilities of local authorities in dealing with these natural phenomena that threaten human lives, infrastructure, and local development. Trainings covered topics such as influencing factors, assessment methodologies, risk reduction strategies, including both structural (anti-seismic constructions, slope stabilization) and non-structural measures (urban planning, early warning, community education). Concrete local examples were presented, highlighting each region’s geological characteristics. In Durrës, attention was given to the Currila hills; in Vlorë, the rockfall problems along the bypass; in Dibër and Shkodër, the lack of funding for building assessments in high-risk areas; and in Korçë, the need for municipal-level risk documents as a basis for investment guidance and development plans. For all counties, the importance of seismic and landslide maps, improvement of the legal framework, and the necessity of risk-based planning were emphasized.



#### 7.4.11 “Technological Risks” delivered by Dr. Shkëlqim Bozgo

Participants from municipalities in each region were introduced to the fundamental concepts of technological risk and the main findings of the Technological Risk Assessment Report in Albania,

part of the National Risk Assessment Document. According to the World Risk Index 2023, Albania ranks 76th with a risk level of 6.23, while the INFORM Index 2021 highlights higher technological risk in Tirana, Shkodër, and Vlorë due to industrial development and urban density. The training included interactive discussions that encouraged experience sharing and addressing specific needs in each region. The importance of inter-institutional coordination, community involvement, and strengthening local capacities for the prevention and response to technological risks was emphasized. Presentations were tailored to the territorial characteristics and specific discussions during the training sessions, delivered by **Dr. Shkëlqim Bozgo**.

