



UNCTAD



National Training Workshop on Environmental Requirements, Market Access/Penetration and Export Competitiveness in the Leather and Footwear Industry in Bangladesh

*Project on Building Capacity for Improved Policy Making and Negotiation on Key Trade and
Environment Issues*

Dhaka, 19 – 21 August 2003

EVALUATION OF THE WORKSHOP

Summary of the Evaluation Questionnaires:

1. Around 50 participants, including government officials, representatives from the leather and footwear industry, as well as from academia and NGOs, attended the workshop. A total of 28 evaluation questionnaires were returned. Of all the respondents, 53.6 per cent were government officials, 21.4 per cent from NGOs, 17.9 per cent from the private sector, and 7.1 per cent from academia. In evaluating the relevance of the workshop, all of the respondents were of the view that the workshop had met the needs of their organisation, with 61 per cent of them considering that the needs of their organisation were fully met. All respondents considered the issues debated relevant to their work, with 54 per cent considering the issues debated of close relevance to their work. The interface between environmental requirements and market access, notifications under the TBT and SPS agreements and the need for awareness rising were considered the most important issues of discussion.

2. With regard to the impact of the workshop, all of the respondents believed that the workshop had enabled them to deepen the knowledge and level of comprehension of the issues debated. All respondents agreed on the usefulness of the workshop with regard to further discussions at the national level. When asked to evaluate the effectiveness of the workshop, all respondents considered that the workshop had provided them with sufficient feedback, and were of the view that the event had met to various degrees their expectations. The workshop objectives were dear to the 97 per cent of the respondents, and 75 per cent of them considered that the time dedicated to each issue had been appropriate.

3. With regard to follow-up activities, all respondents considered the options provided ((i) concrete projects in the country, (ii) more follow-up workshops and (iii) initiatives at the regional level) to be of importance.¹ Some respondent wished also to receive further training on the issues. It was highlighted the need for awareness rising and to improve information gathering and dissemination. When asked what further activities they wished to see UNCTAD undertake, answers included:

¹ Respondent could select one or more options.

- Finance and initiate the formation of a knowledge platform – a joint public-private forum for addressing information gathering and dissemination.
- Enhance capacity building to departments that are involved in monitoring the environmental matters of the leather and footwear industry.
- Take steps to train and inform stakeholders in the tannery sector about TBT and SPS obligations.
- Organise similar workshops, and seminars at the regional and international levels.
- Improve awareness building and dissemination of information, including through research work.
- Promote harmonisation of standards and assist their implementation at the factory level.
- Further involve civil society in the work on these issues.
- Provide financial and technical assistance for setting-up an eco-laboratory in Bangladesh.

Summary of Answers:

Questions	Assessment					Average	4 or 5 (%)	Number of responses
	5=I agree/maximum		1=I disagree/minimum					
	5	4	3	2	1			
The workshop has met the needs of my organisation	17	10	1	0	0	4.57	96.4	28
The issues debated are relevant to my work	15	9	3	0	0	4.44	88.9	27
The workshop has enabled me to deepen the knowledge/level of comprehension of the issues	16	10	0	0	0	4.62	100	26
The workshop will be useful for further discussions and exchange of views at national level	26	2	0	0	0	4.93	100	28
The workshop objectives were clear to me	17	10	1	0	0	4.57	96.4	28
The activities of this workshop gave me sufficient feedback	11	16	1	0	0	4.36	96.4	28
The event has met my expectations	6	20	2	0	0	4.14	92.9	28
Time dedicated to each issue was appropriate	12	9	5	2	0	4.10	75	28
Did you find the networking opportunity that the workshop provided to be valuable?	14	9	4	0	0	4.37	85.2	27