



Country Report - Benin

Benin National Training on Circular Economy Indicators, 24 March-04 April 2025

under the European Commission funded project on Enhancing countries' capacity for measuring progress on the transition towards a circular economy, 2024-2026

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1. Introduction

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has elevated the profile of the environmental dimension of development and its monitoring. The UN Environment Assembly adopted Resolution 5/11 (2022) on Enhancing circular economy as a contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production invites Member States to integrate circular economy approaches into national and regional strategies and action plans. In this regard, the UNECE Task Force on Measuring Circular Economy, formed of international, regional and national organizations, developed the statistical framework intended to be the international statistical framework used to measure the progress of countries in their transition to a circular economy.

This project aims to build capacity to accelerate the transition towards a circular economy in the context of sustainable development at different levels. Enhancing institutional technical capacities to regularly produce circular economy and waste datasets is imperative to inform and develop evidence-based policies. The project focuses on various Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators and others related to Sustainable Consumption and Production (material footprint, domestic material consumption, circular material use rate, material productivity), waste (municipal solid waste, hazardous waste, national recycling rate, food waste and loss), water (water stress, pollutants discharges to water bodies) and emissions (greenhouse gas emissions).

Newly developed tools were used to assist in the compilation of the data necessary to calculate the above-mentioned indicators. These tools are formed of (i) Excel spreadsheets containing detailed variables that are calculated together to generate the value of indicators, and (ii) step-by-step documents to guide government officials on filling the Excel spreadsheets.

2. General training information

The training was held at the INStAD premises between 24 March and 04 April 2025 in Cotonou, Benin. The training was attended by 23 participants, 87% were males and 13% were females. Participants attending the training were government officials (by alphabetical order) from Benin Environmental Agency (ABE); Directorate of Planning, Administration and Finance/ Directorate of Information Systems (DPAF/IMS); Fisheries Production Directorate (DPH); General Directorate of the Treasury and Public Accounts/ Ministry of the Living Environment and Transport (DGEC/MCVT); General Directorate of Water, Forests and Hunting (DGEFC); Ministry of Development and Coordination of Government Action (MDC); Ministry of Energy, Water and Mines; National Institute of Statistics and Demography (INStAD); University of Abomey-Calavi (UAC).

Participants attended the sessions on sustainable consumption and production indicators including the following indicators: Material footprint (SDG indicator 8.4.1/12.2.1), Domestic material consumption (SDG indicator 8.4.2/12.2.2), Circular material use rate, Material productivity, water indicators including Water stress (SDG indicator 6.4.2) and Wastewater (SDG indicator 6.3.1) and the sessions on waste indicators including Municipal solid waste (SDG 11.6.1), Hazardous waste (SDG indicator 12.4.2), National recycling rate (SDG indicator 12.5.1) and Food waste and loss (SDG indicator 12.3.1). All materials were shared with

participants during the training, including presentations, Excel tools as well as other training related materials.

3. Key observations and recommendations

The National Institute of Statistics and Demography (INStaD) of Benin is committed to improving the availability of statistics related to circular economy indicators. Although data gaps exist and must be addressed, participants identified various strategies to improve administrative data and use them as data sources. In addition, although 13 national institutions representatives were present and benefited from the training, additional institutions were identified during the training as potential data providers and hence will be contacted by INStaD.

Overall, all training participants were collaborating among themselves and with the trainer. Various discussions took place in relation to identifying sources of data and even went one step further to obtain the data and use it during the training. The commitment from the management of INStaD to this training along with the commitment of participants was visible and resulted in the calculation of many indicators during the training. INStaD is committed to incorporate circular economy indicators in their yearly working plan.

The management of INStaD stressed the need to apply what was learned during the training, by not only using but by sharing the knowledge with colleagues to maximize the benefits of the training.

The training resulted in the calculation of Material Flow Accounts for Benin, which INStaD is ready to finalize and publish, along with a first set of circular economy indicators.

Specific requests to assist in building the capacities of government officials in taxonomy training, building environmental statistical information system, and the system of environmental economic accounting as well as global footprint tool were discussed. The mentioned requests were discussed with respective UNEP colleagues for possible future assistance.

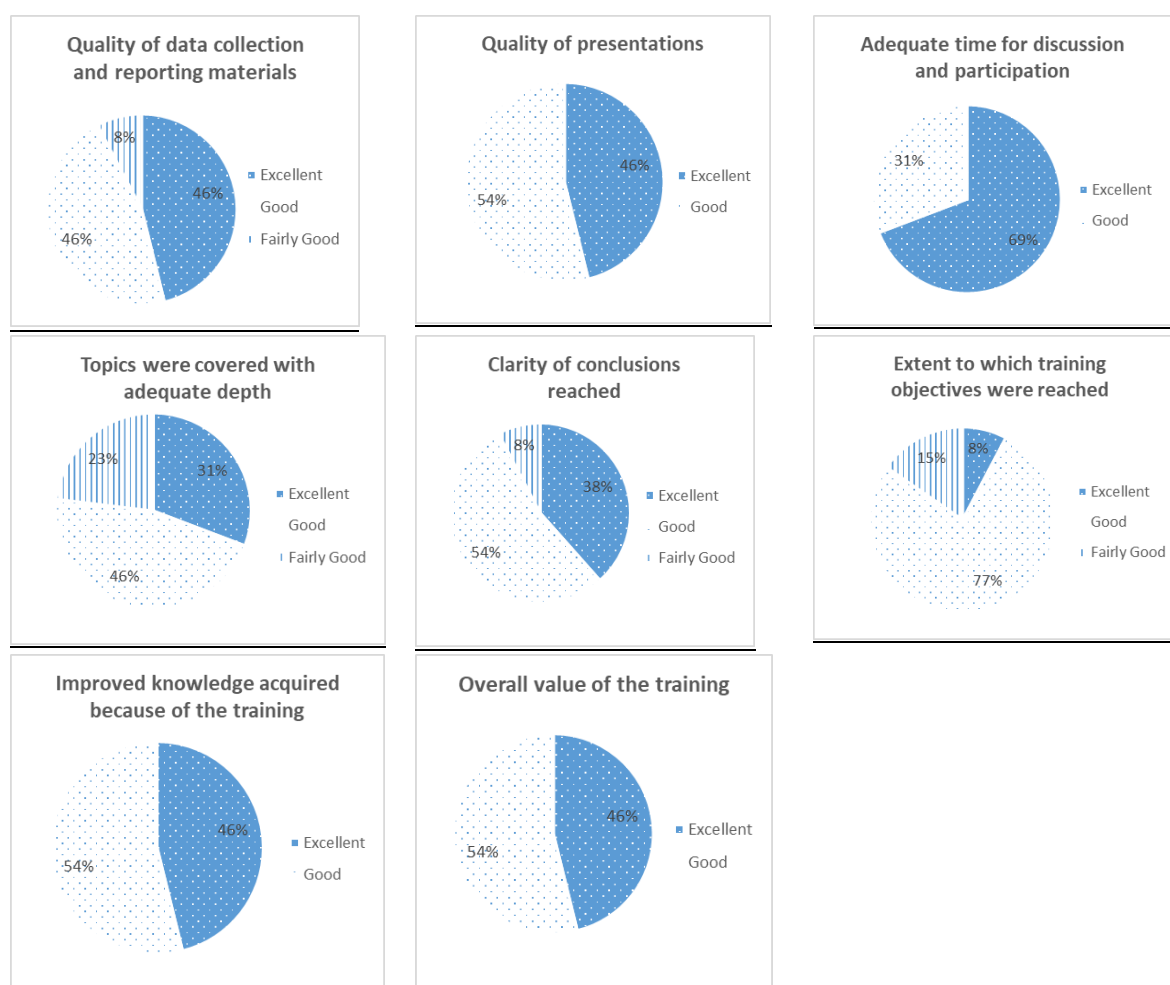
4. Training Evaluation

Quality of technical material

Thirteen participants (57% of total participants) responded to the online anonymous evaluation of the training, which was available online for 3 weeks. 46% of respondents rated excellent the quality of data collection and reporting materials as well as the quality of presentation, while 69% rated excellent the adequate time allocated for discussion and participation. 31% rated excellent the coverage of topics with adequate depth and 38% rated excellent the clarity of the conclusions reached. Although 8% rated excellent the extent to which the training objectives were reached, 46% stated excellent the improved knowledge acquired by the training. Overall, 46% rated excellent the value of the training.

Additional comments from respondents revolved around the good quality, ease of navigation, explicit and clear content of the shared data collection documents and requested the files not to be protected by passwords to facilitate adaptation. One respondent proposed having the categories of the Excel tool by sub-sector for ease of navigation, while another proposed

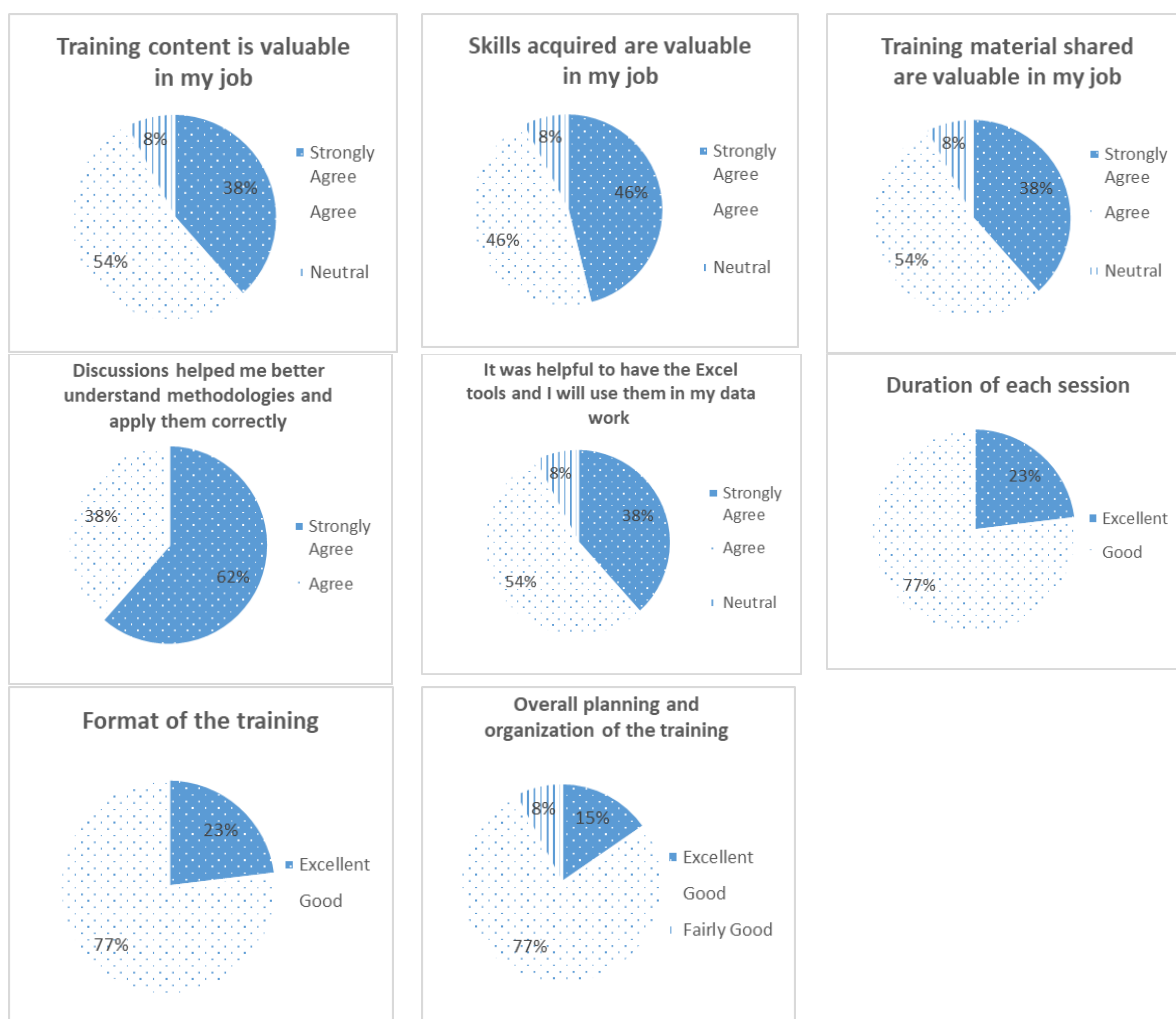
sending the documents well in advance of the training to facilitate data collection prior to the training.



Content and conduct of the presentations

38% of respondents strongly agreed that the training content is valuable to their job, 46% strongly agreed that the skills acquired are valuable to their job and 38% strongly agreed that the training material shared are valuable to their job. In addition, 62% strongly agreed that discussions helped them better understand methodologies and how to apply them correctly, and 38% strongly agreed that the Excel tools were helpful and they will be used in performing data work.

Respondents commented on the (a) good quality and presentation of the technical material, (b) how detailed presentations helped them better understand the indicators, methodological calculations and concepts, and (c) how the trainer easily facilitated the sessions. Respondents stated the benefits of using more concrete, real-life examples from other countries to be used where data was unavailable and proposed UNEP to provide more training on the collection of missing data and development of studies to calculate indicators focusing for example on recycling. One comment proposed substituting the term “wild fishing” by “fishing”.



Organization of the training

23% rated excellent the duration of each session as well as the format of the training. Overall, 15% rated excellent the planning and organizing of the training.

Respondents shared their satisfaction with the good organization of the training and had the following additional remarks: (a) repeat the training for complete ownership; (b) training information and documentation to be sent in advance; (c) shorten the duration of the training; (d) provide travel allowance; (e) relocate the training to a location away from offices to reduce regular office interruptions; (f) identify participants by name ahead of the training to ensure all relevant stakeholders and entities be present and benefit from the training; (g) ensure that participants attend the training from the beginning to avoid re-explanation; (h) conduct two weeks of data preparations and stakeholder identification and one week of training; and (i) continue the technical and financial support to Benin to produce circular economy indicators.

5. Training documentation

List of participants

Name	Institution	Email
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Agenda

Semaine du 24 au 28 Mars 2025	
Lundi 24 Mars 2025	
Session 1: Ouverture et introduction	
08:30 – 9:30	Ouverture de la formation Présentation du projet et des objectifs de la formation Présentation des participants Présentation de l'agenda et des matériels
9:30 – 10:30	Présentation par l'Institut National de la Statistique et d'Analyse Économique (INS) sur les statistiques et comptes de l'environnement en Benin. Sources de données et parties prenantes.

	Présentation par l'INS sur les comptes de flux matières à l'échelle de l'économie au Bénin. Sources de données et parties prenantes.
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Pause-café</i>
11:00 – 12:30	Travail pratique sur les comptes de flux de matières.
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Déjeuner</i>
14:00 – 15:30	Travail pratique sur les comptes de flux de matières.
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Pause-café</i>
16:00 – 17:00	Travail pratique sur les comptes de flux de matières.
Mardi 25 Mars 2025	
Session 2: Comptes des flux de matières à l'échelle de l'économie (CFM-EE)	
08:30 – 10:30	Travail pratique sur les comptes de flux de matières (CFM-EE)
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Pause-café</i>
11:00 – 12:30	Travail pratique sur les comptes de flux de matières (CFM-EE)
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Déjeuner</i>
14:00 – 15:30	Travail pratique sur les comptes de flux de matières (CFM-EE).
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Pause-café</i>
16:00 – 17:00	Travail pratique sur les comptes de flux de matières (CFM-EE).
Mercredi 26 Mars 2025	
Session 3: Déchets (Déchets solides et dangereux)	
08:30 – 10:30	Présentation par les institutions du Bénin (l'INS et autres agences ou ministères) sur les statistiques et comptes de déchets au Bénin. Sources de données et parties prenantes.
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Pause-café</i>
11:00 – 12:30	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs de déchets
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Déjeuner</i>
14:00 – 15:30	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs de déchets
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Pause-café</i>
16:00 – 17:00	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs de déchets
Jeudi 27 Mars 2025	
Session 4: Niveau de stress hydrique et traitement des eaux usées	
08:30 – 10:30	Présentation par les institutions du Bénin (l'INS et autres agences ou ministères) sur les statistiques et comptes de l'eau et des eaux usées au Bénin. Sources de données et parties prenantes.
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Pause-café</i>
11:00 – 12:30	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs de l'eau et des eaux usées
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Déjeuner</i>
14:00 – 15:30	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs de l'eau et des eaux usées
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Pause-café</i>
16:00 – 17:00	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs de l'eau et des eaux usées
Vendredi 28 Mars 2025	
Session 5: Les émissions et les comptes des flux de matières à l'échelle de l'économie	
08:30 – 10:30	Présentation par les institutions du Bénin (l'INS et autres agences ou ministères) sur les statistiques et comptes des émissions au Bénin. Sources de données et parties prenantes.
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Pause-café</i>
11:00 – 12:30	Travail pratique sur les comptes de flux de matières (CFM-EE)

12:30 – 14:00	Déjeuner
14:00 – 15:30	Travail pratique sur les comptes de flux de matières (CFM-EE).
15:30 – 16:00	Pause-café
16:00 – 17:00	Travail pratique sur les comptes de flux de matières (CFM-EE).
Semaine du 31 Mars au 4 Avril 2025	
Lundi 31 Mars 2025	
Session 6: Indicateurs en relation aux comptes des flux de matières à l'échelle de l'économie	
08:30 – 10:30	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs en relation aux comptes de flux de matières
10:30 – 11:00	Pause-café
11:00 – 12:30	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs en relation aux comptes de flux de matières
12:30 – 14:00	Déjeuner
14:00 – 15:30	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs en relation aux comptes de flux de matières.
15:30 – 16:00	Pause-café
16:00 – 17:00	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs en relation aux comptes de flux de matières.
Mardi 1 Avril 2025	
Session 7: Indicateurs en relation aux comptes des flux de matières à l'échelle de l'économie	
08:30 – 10:30	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs en relation aux comptes de flux de matières
10:30 – 11:00	Pause-café
11:00 – 12:30	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs en relation aux comptes de flux de matières
12:30 – 14:00	Déjeuner
14:00 – 15:30	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs en relation aux comptes de flux de matières.
15:30 – 16:00	Pause-café
16:00 – 17:00	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs en relation aux comptes de flux de matières.
Mercredi 2 Avril 2025	
Session 8: Déchets (Déchets solides et dangereux)	
08:30 – 10:30	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs de déchets
10:30 – 11:00	Pause-café
11:00 – 12:30	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs de déchets
12:30 – 14:00	Déjeuner
14:00 – 15:30	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs de déchets
15:30 – 16:00	Pause-café
16:00 – 17:00	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs de déchets
Jeudi 3 Avril 2025	
Session 9: Niveau de stress hydrique et traitement des eaux usées et indices sur les aliments	

08:30 – 10:30	Présentation par les institutions du Benin (l'INS et autres agences ou ministères) sur les statistiques des aliments au Benin. Sources de données et parties prenantes.
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Pause-café</i>
11:00 – 12:30	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs de l'eau et des eaux usées
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Déjeuner</i>
14:00 – 15:30	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs de l'eau et des eaux usées
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Pause-café</i>
16:00 – 17:00	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs de l'eau et des eaux usées
Vendredi 4 Avril 2025	
Session 10: Indicateurs en relation aux comptes des flux de matières à l'échelle de l'économie. Clôture de la formation.	
08:30 – 10:30	Travail pratique sur les indicateurs en relation aux comptes de flux de matières
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Pause-café</i>
11:00 – 12:30	Présentation des résultats de la formation. Prochaines étapes. Remarques de clôture de l'INS du Benin et du PNUE
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Déjeuner</i>

Photos



