

Result of the Pre-Training Questionnaire Survey

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Training Workshop on Emergency Management and Disaster Response

How to Conduct Simulation Exercise (SimEx)

10 -12 December 2025, Manila, Philippines



Survey participants

11 countries

Brunei, Cambodia,
Indonesia,
Lao Peoples Democratic
Republic (Lao PDR),
Malaysia, Myanmar,
Philippines, Singapore,
Timor Leste,
Thailand and Vietnam

n=21 survey responders





Context



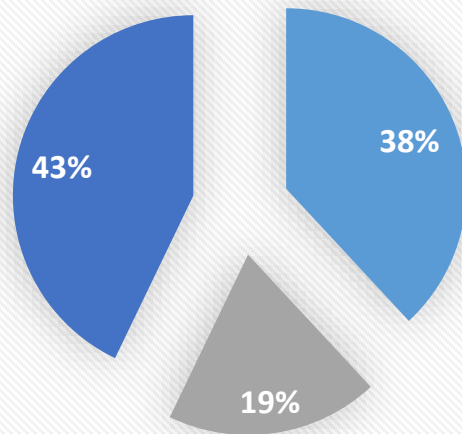
As part of the preparatory process,

- Information sharing on **WOAH Guidelines on Simulation Exercise (SimEx)**
- Gather information from each participant on their **previous experience with SimEx** , understand learning needs, and expectations.
- It seeks insights across various components of the training, including **exercise principles, facilitation, and evaluation**.
- The information collected will enable the workshop to be tailored to participants' **backgrounds, challenges, and future training needs**.



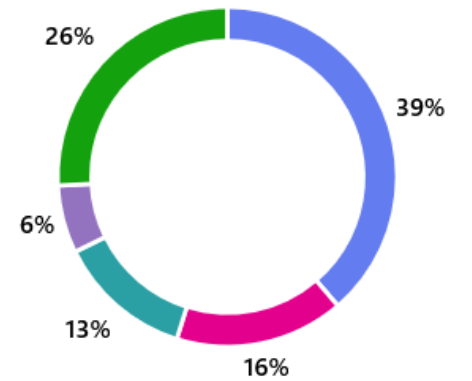
Experiences with SimEx

Experience SimEx



■ Yes, multiple times ■ Yes once ■ No

● Table-top * discussion based exercise led by facilitator	12
● Drills * single task or a procedure of a contingency plan in an operational setting	5
● Functional * agencies respond to simulated events to practice multiple tasks and operations in a time...	4
● Full scale* Equipment, personnel and resources deployed to test most of the contingency plan	2
● Other	8

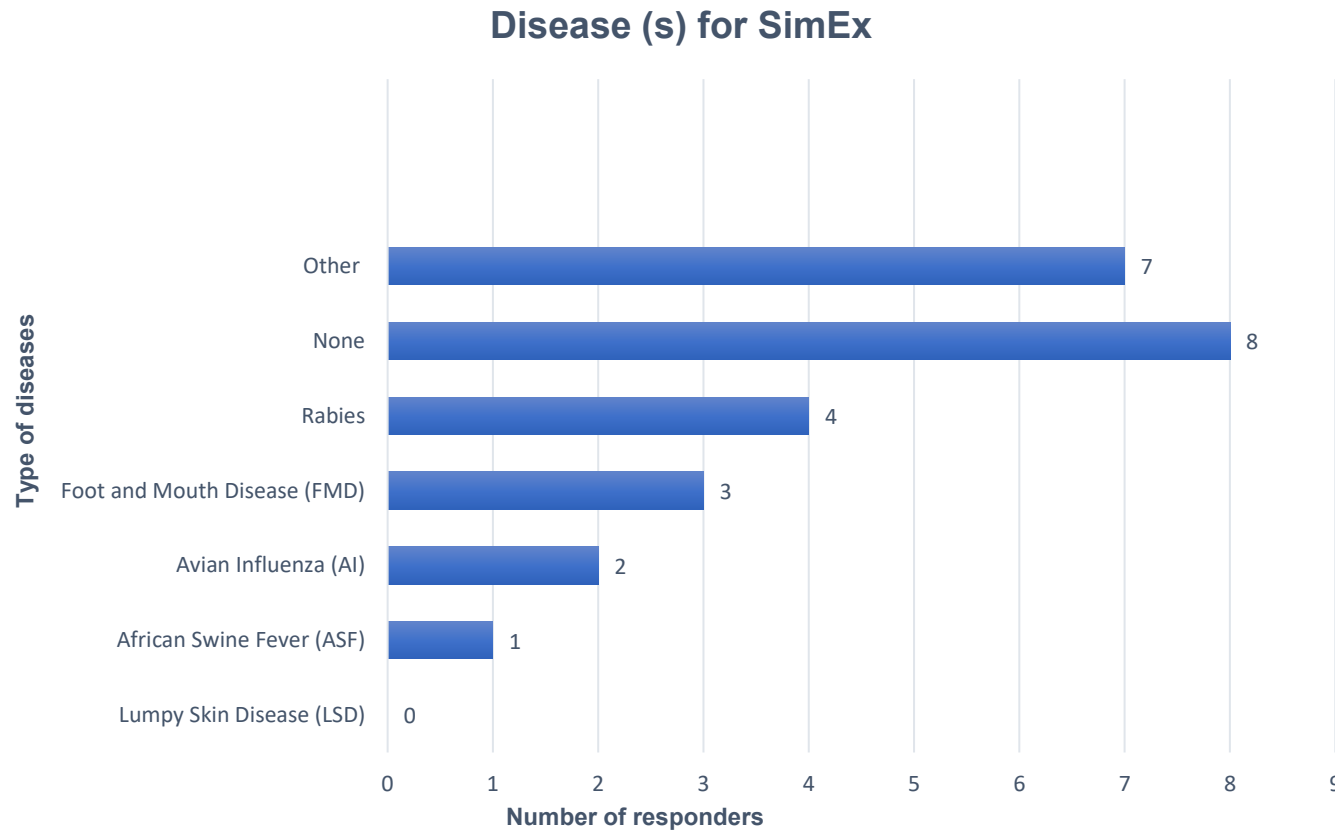


Others:

- Combination of table-top and field simulation,
- One Health Simulation Exercise
- Field Sim-Ex
- On job training



Disease(s) have you worked on in previous SimEx



Others:

- Anthrax
- Public health event
- Zoonotic event

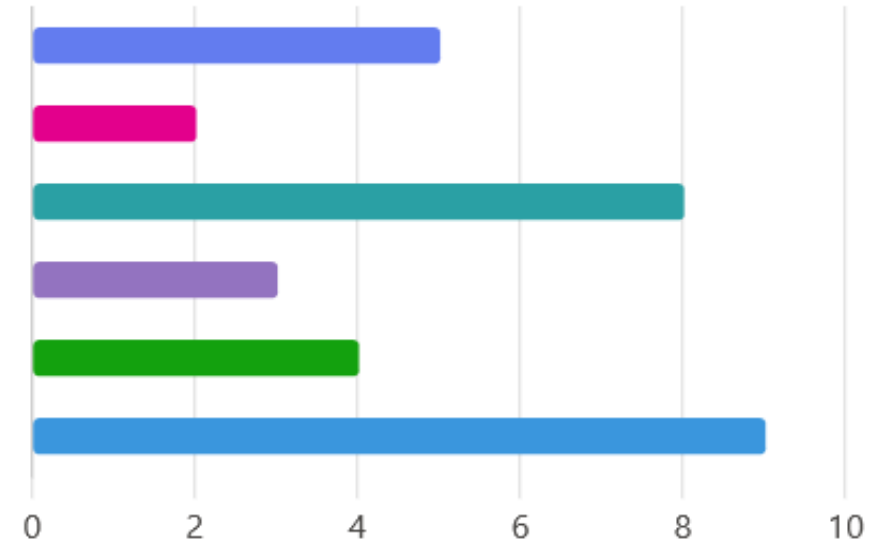
*Multiple choices were not available however some of the responders participated in more than one disease



Roles you have played in the past SimEx

i. Which roles have you played in a Sim-Ex you have participated in in the past?

Facilitator	5
Controller	2
Player	8
Evaluator/Observer	3
Exercise Manager	4
None	9





Key takeaways from past SimEx

Clear objective

Good
coordination
within teams

Realistic
scenario

Clear role and
responsibilities

Effective communication and clear instruction

Debriefing
session
provided a
useful
feedback

Exercise based on the country policies and country context





Key components of SimEx that can be improved

Instructional
design for Sim-
Ex
*(should not be
too technical)*

Resource
(Human and
financial)
availability and
logistics for Sim-
Ex

Scenario realism

Define clear
goals and
objectives

Feedback processes and feedback
mechanism

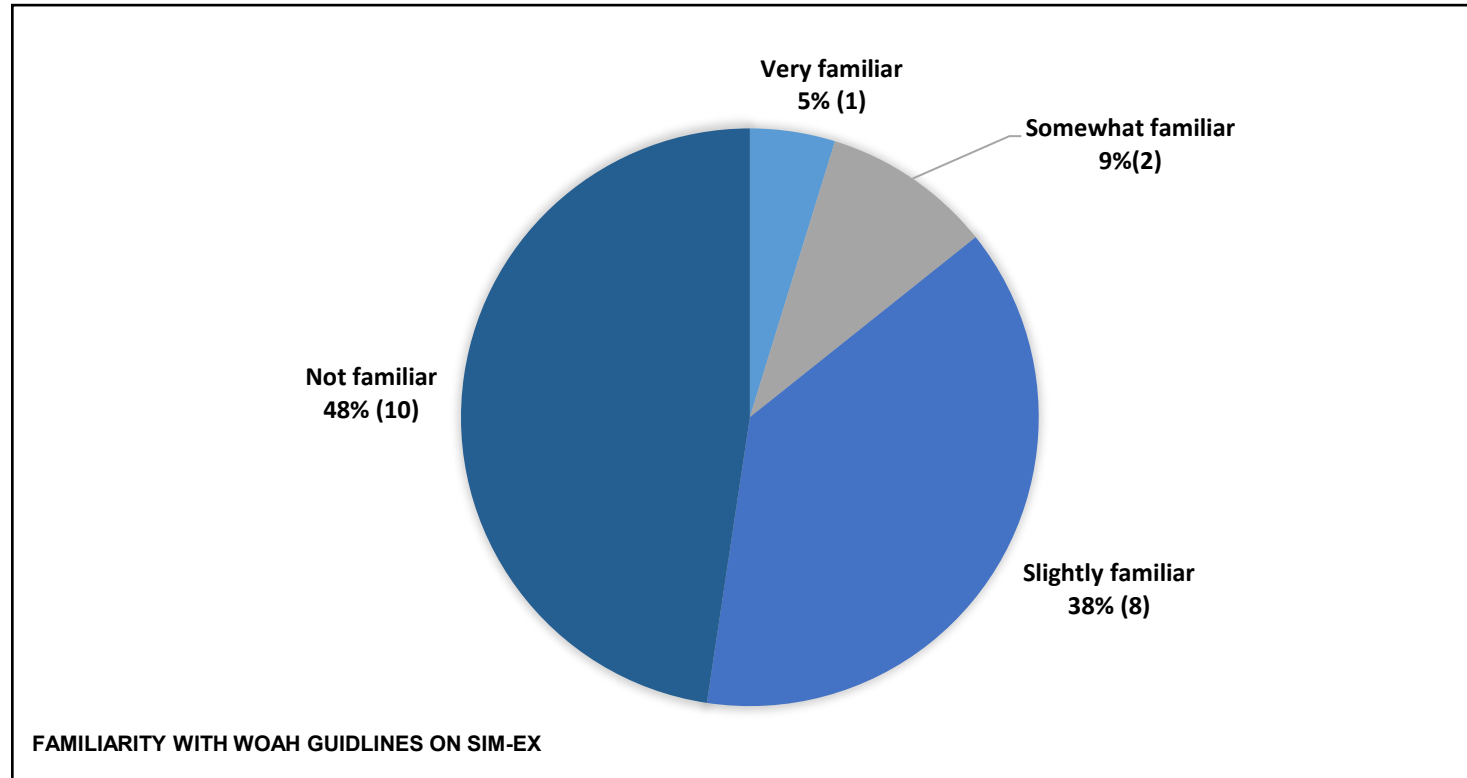
Time
management

- Logistic challenges
- venue
- equipment
- time constraint

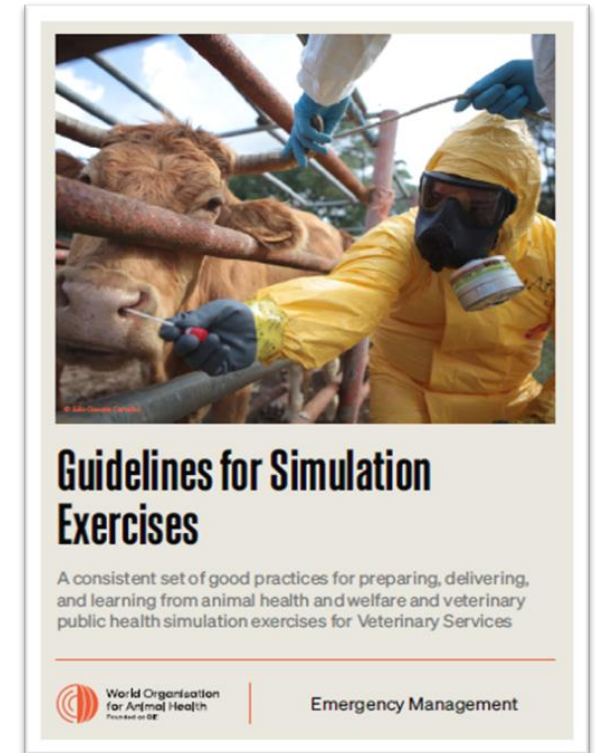
Implement changes and updates based on the lessons learnt



Familiarity with WOAH Guidelines on SimEx



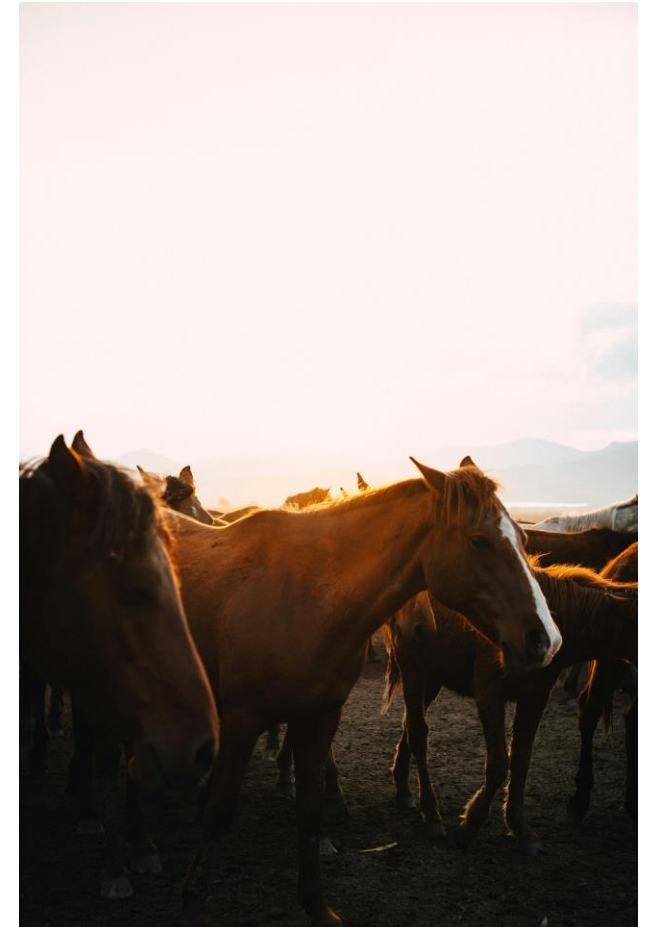
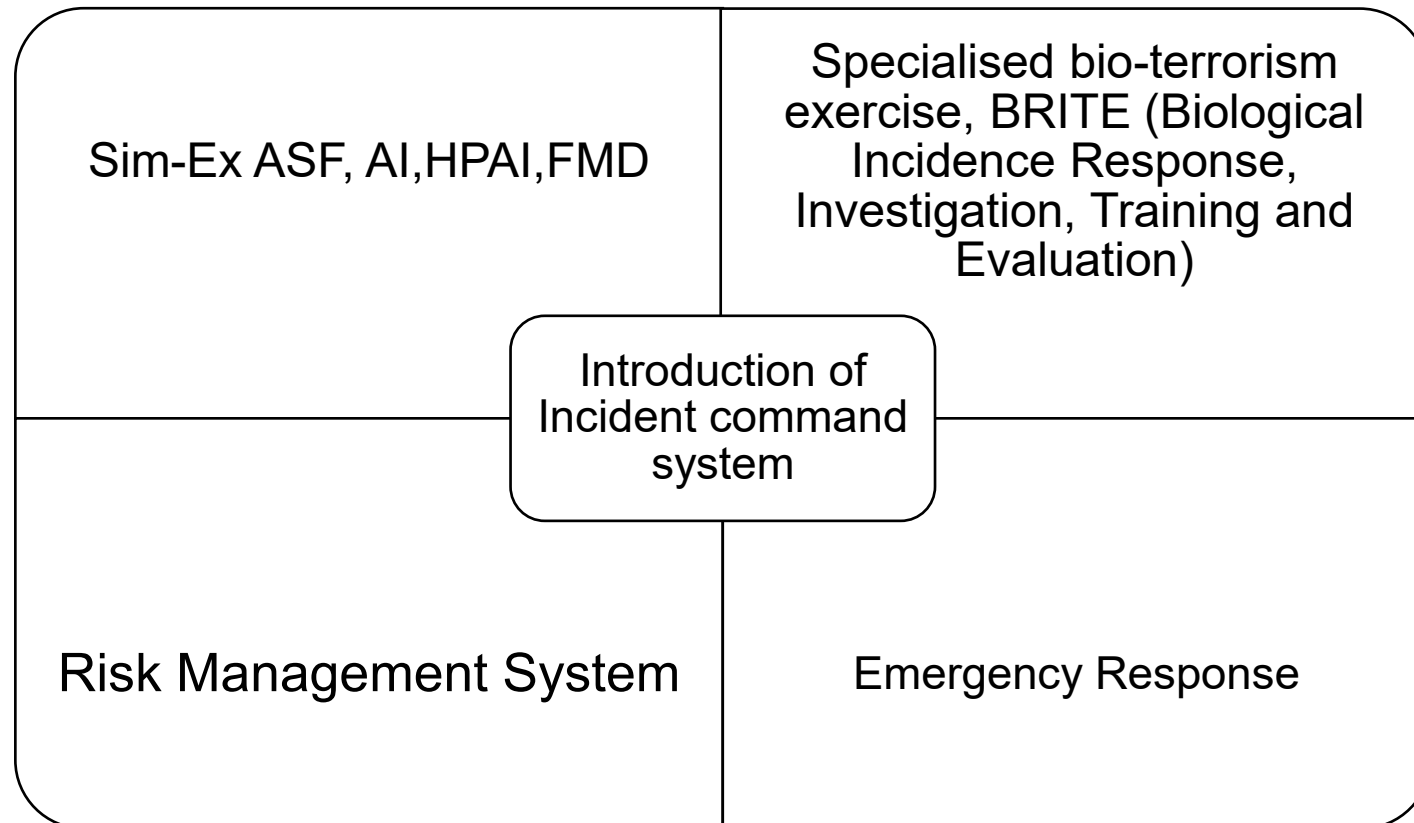
Majority of participants not involved in need assessment





Training on animal health emergency

- 30% (n=8) participants attended the training on animal health emergencies or disasters.





Interest in SimEx types

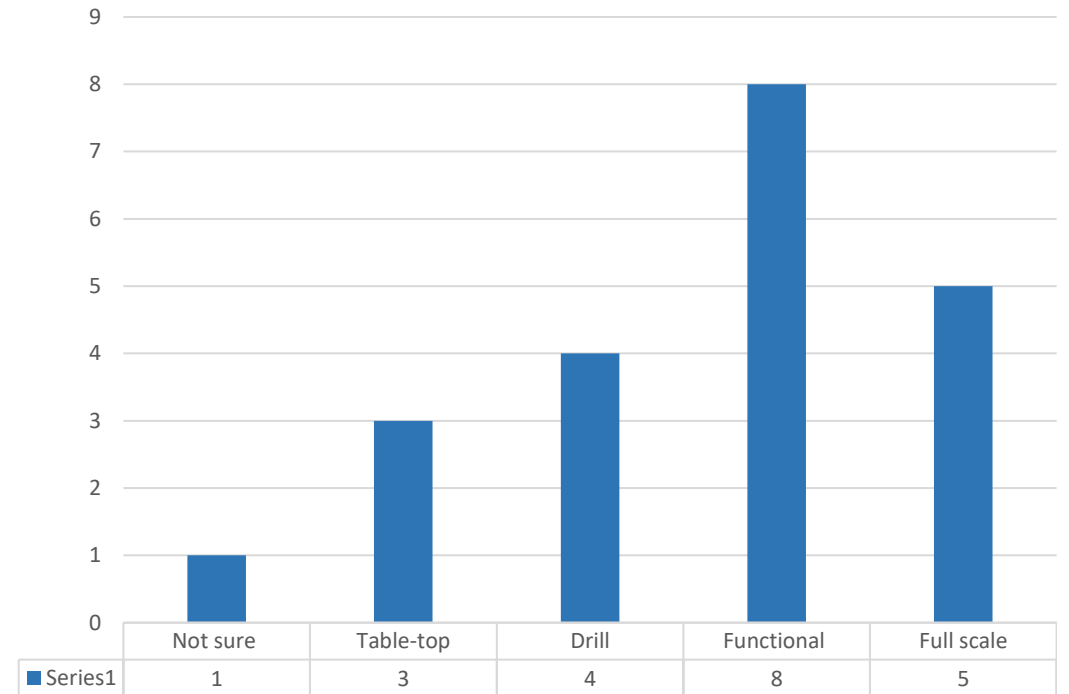
Table-top exercises are practical, low-cost, and allow discussion-based review of contingency plans, making them suitable for our country's current preparedness level.

Drill -spent less money -Not time consuming

Functional Exercise (FX) is the most relevant as it helps test coordination mechanisms, communication, and emergency response functions across veterinary, public health, and other One Health sectors

it provides the most realistic environment to test the country's actual emergency response capacity, including field operations, coordination and logistics.

Member Interest in Exercises Types





Feedback on Planning, Delivery and Evaluation

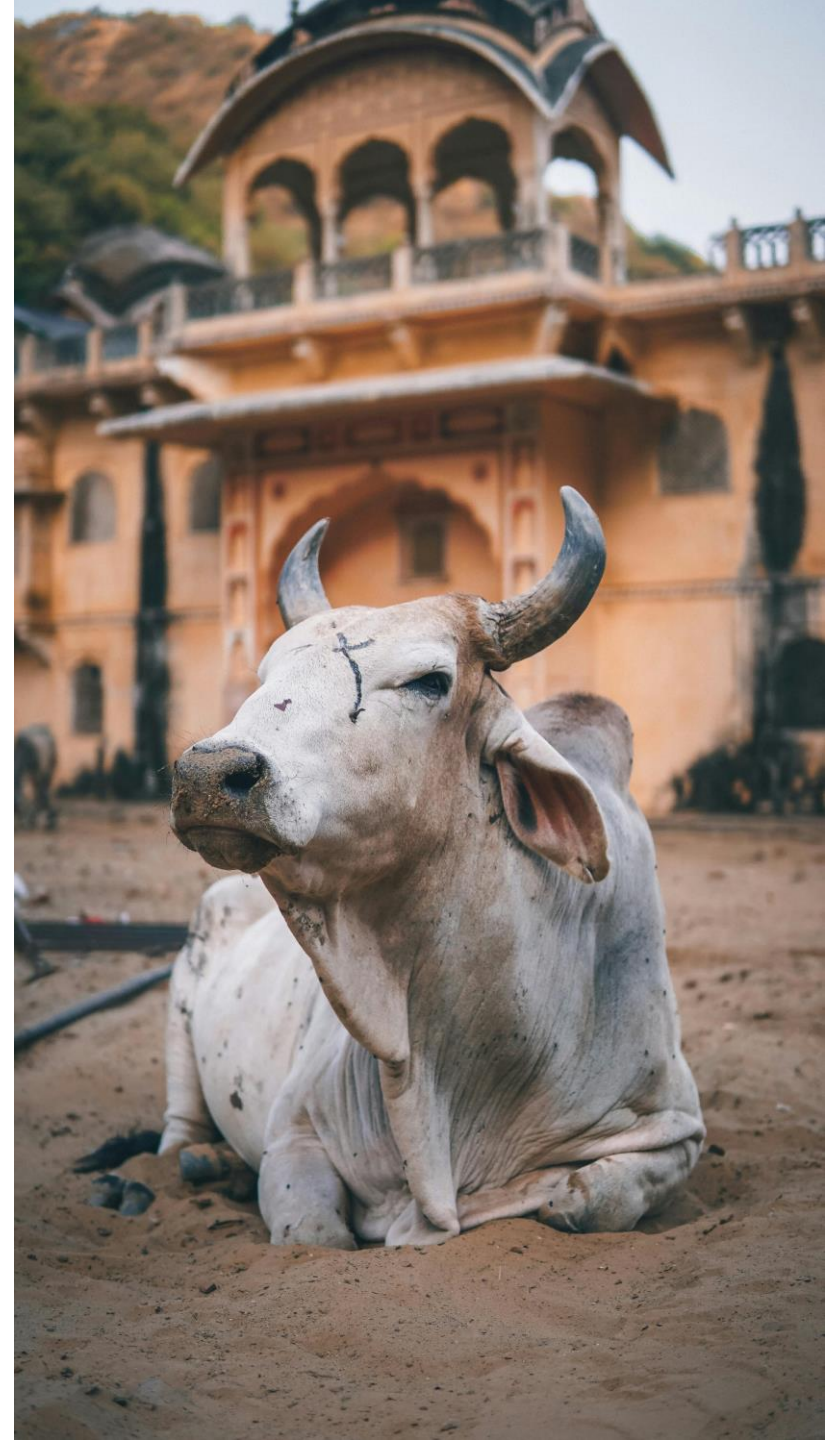
- 81% (n=17) familiar with defining Sim-Ex purpose and objectives but need guidance
- 30 % (n=8) participants contributed to developing scenarios, injects, role plays, or timelines for Sim-Ex.
- 29 % (n=6) Sim-Ex plans, facilitator guides, inject templates, or evaluation forms

Topic	Average rating (out of 5)
Choosing appropriate type and scope	2.67
Facilitating the discussion	2.67
Familiarity with Sim-Ex evaluation methods (After Action Review (AAR), checklists, feedback forms)	2.19



Key Challenges

- **Time allocation** as many field exercises are limited to only a half-day in the morning, restricting the scope of practical training and scenario execution.
- **Availability of experts, qualified evaluators** is limited, which can affect the assessment and feedback process for the exercise.
- **Lack of budget**
- **Policies on specific actions** are not available.
- **Lack of participation** from other agencies





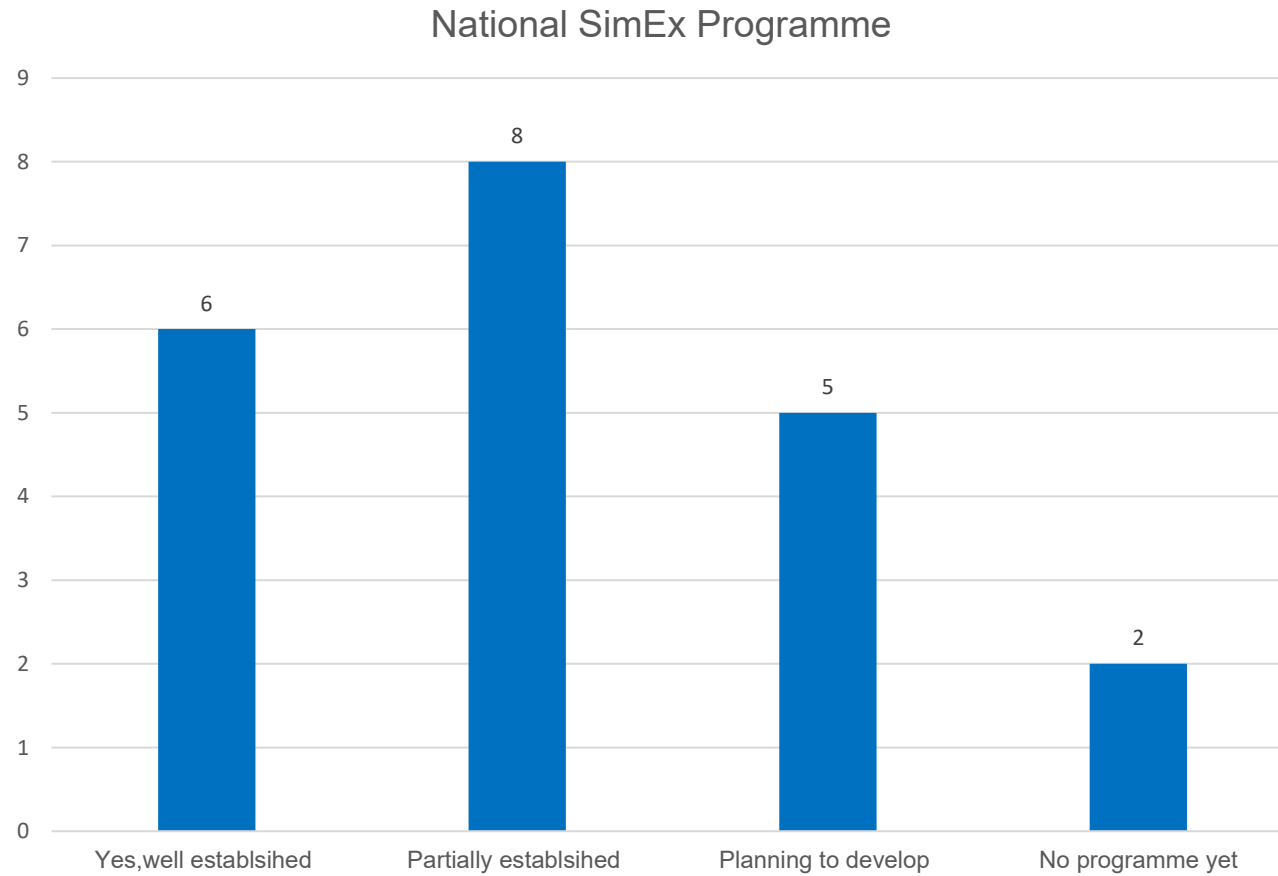
Constraint to conduct Evaluation

- Difficult to set measurable indicators of success (e.g., response time, communication accuracy, resource allocation efficiency).
- Feedback timing
- Suitable design for practical application
- Participants behavior change
- Data collection
- Objective assessment, timeliness & actionable feedback.





National SimEx Programme



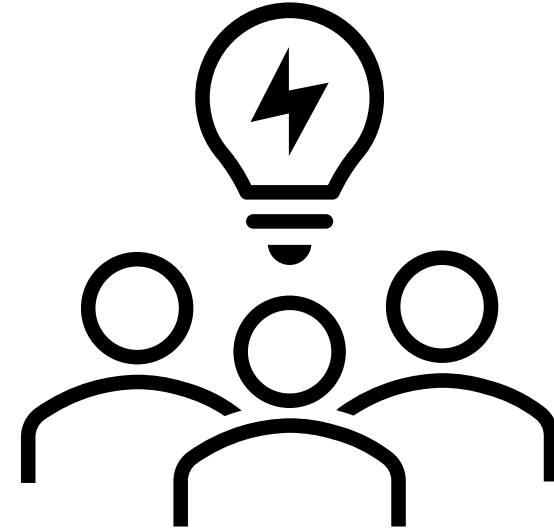
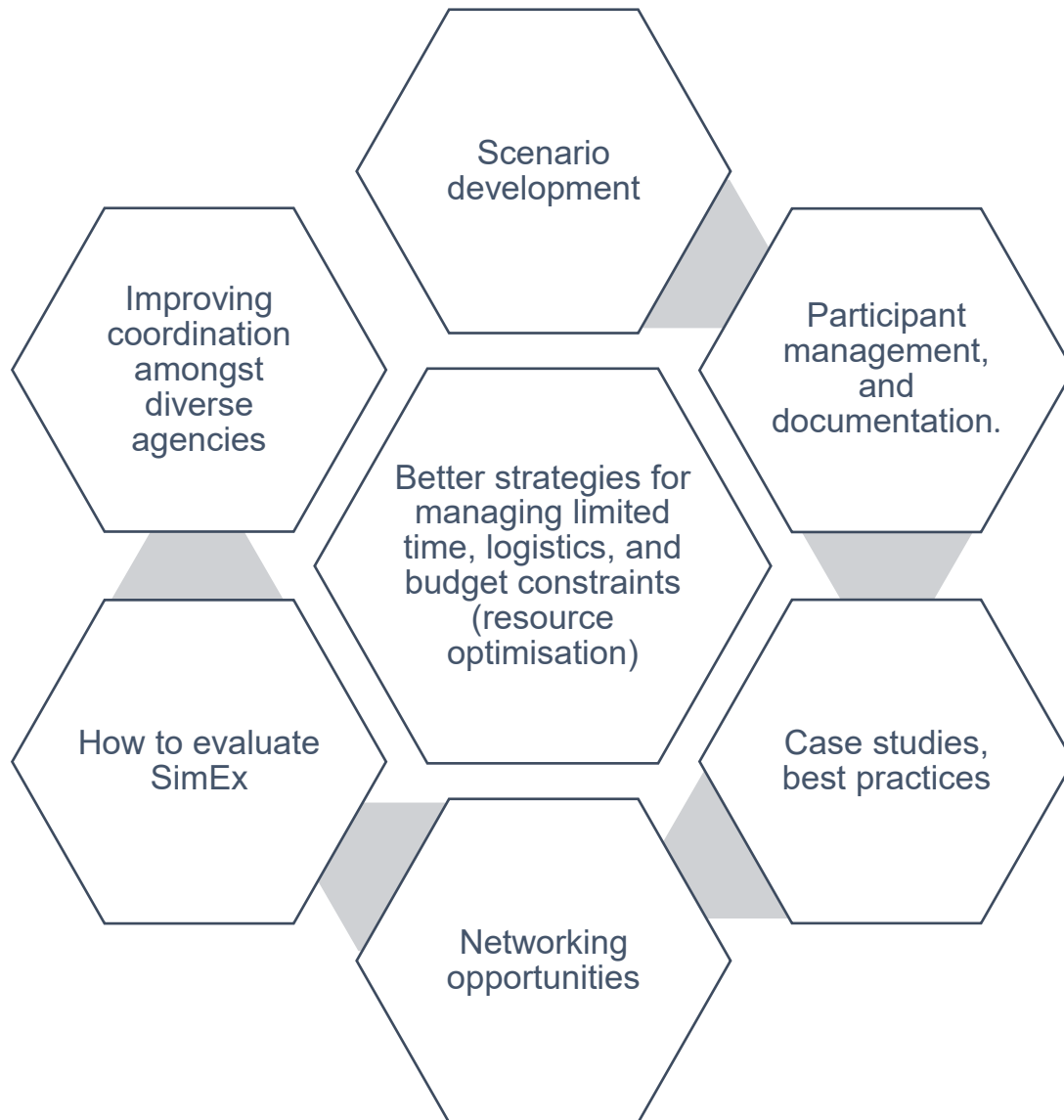


Learning Needs for Advancing National Simulation Exercises

- Strengthen understanding of **WOAH guidelines**, and improve **planning, design, and implementation** of SimEx.
- Build skills to **make systems work effectively**, including logistics, resource planning, inter-agency coordination, and operational efficiency.
- Enhance capacity to **design, conduct, and evaluate SimEx covering scenario development**, assessment frameworks, performance indicators, and feedback processes.
- Improve abilities to **communicate policies and training content** clearly, relay SimEx programmes to others, and conduct needs assessments for target audiences.
- Increase awareness of **emergency management and multisectoral cooperation**, aligned with national disaster management programmes and real-world risks.
- Learn from **best practices and experiences**, including examples from other countries, and expand professional networks to support stronger national SimEx programmes.



Expectations





**Thank you for your
contribution and time
to complete the survey**

Acknowledgement:
All survey respondents and
Members



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How to Conduct Simulation Exercise (Sim-Ex)**

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