

Participant Feedback
Writing for Development Training Course



The Plan Academy - Harare, Zimbabwe, 17 to 21 June 2013

"I felt my confidence boosted. I liked the writing exercises; they rekindled that flair in me for writing. I feel empowered by this course. I liked the peer-to-peer groups and the open, honest and transparent feedback. This way of doing things makes my day!"

"The course was very interesting with a different style of facilitation. The feedback sessions really helped me improve my writing."

"I found the course to be useful in the sense that most of the time was spend on practical work. This meant that participants had an opportunity to practice what they learnt, rather than listening to presentations. The course was also a way of planting a seed. We can now continue to follow-up and reflect on our own, building on the materials from the course manual."

"The course was very informative, engaging and participatory. I learnt a lot of new skills in writing such as the use of the deep writing approach (Action, Reflection, Learning and Planning). This has equipped me with skills for engaging communities and writing quality reports."

"I generally liked the structure of the course whereby the facilitators introduced the various writing frameworks and gave the participants the opportunity to put the lessons into practice. I found this particular style useful as it allowed me to apply the lessons and see how I can improve further. In addition, it was good to have group work and share written work with others because it gave the opportunity to learn from others."

"This course was very informative, practical and relevant. What really worked for me is the intensity of writing, many a times I become lazy and not detailed in my writings, hence the reflective free writing exercises allowed me to challenge myself into fast thinking and detailed writing. I can now plan, reflect and learn from my previous work as well as give feedback."

"What really worked for me was journaling, it helped me go back to the previous day, gather my thoughts on what I learnt, to be able to start with the new day. This workshop was very fruitful, it sparked the writing need that was in me and made me face my challenges. Four days are not enough but the content is like a suitcase that I will be fishing from."

"The training introduced participants to free writing which is key in building confidence. It was now easy for everyone to switch to the reflective reports, which are our daily business. The free writing sessions gave me confidence because initially I was a bit hesitant to start writing but free writing put me in the mood."

"The continuous writing was good as it stirred the ability in me. I like using the Action-Learning cycle analysis write up. The mind, heart and feet was excellent in critiquing a piece of writing."

"The difference in style of presentations worked well for me. There was deep learning, which is rare from courses."