



شركة النفط العمانية ش.م.ع.م.  
Oman Oil Company SA.O.C.

أوربيك  
Orpic

# Social Investment Programme IMPACT REPORT

2018-19

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## OUTWARD BOUND OMAN

On 11 May 2019, Outward Bound Oman celebrated 10 years of operation in Oman. Launched in 2009 by the Minister of Education and granted Foundation status in 2014 by Ministerial Decision, Outward Bound Oman (OBO) is a not-for-profit educational initiative that works in close partnership with the Ministry of Social Development. Our mission is to inspire young Omanis to fulfil their potential through challenging outdoor experiences, raising self-esteem, developing personal skills and creating effective teams and leaders, so enabling people to face the future with confidence.

Founded in 1941, Outward Bound is one of the world's oldest and most far reaching human resource development organisations, with over 30 schools world-wide. Outward Bound Oman is the first Outward Bound school in the Arab World, something that reflects the forward thinking vision of His Majesty's government as it strives to develop the human potential of Oman.

OBO uses the desert and mountains as an outdoor classroom to enable people to enter the workplace with the skills required to succeed. It works in close partnership with schools, colleges and employers to develop courses that expand people's horizons. Our courses give them the confidence to achieve things they never thought possible, developing essential life skills such as collective responsibility, teamwork and respect for others. Outward Bound Oman helps develop the skills employers seek when recruiting and training young people and contribute to making the government's vision 2040 a reality.





## COURSES OVERVIEW



From January 2018 to July 2019, Outward Bound Oman (OBO) has been delighted to deliver a total of 4 experiential learning courses to 59 young Omanis as part of the continues community support that Orpic and Oman Oil Company provide across the country. The 4 courses were Next Generation (NG) courses for job seekers and university and college students who are about to enter the job market.

Taking students to the wilderness of Musandam, or up to the cooler heights of Jebel Akhdar, the focal point of our NG courses is an adventurous 4 days journey and has a focus on employability issues, skill-set evaluation, basic work ethics and action planning. A combination of an extended, shared challenge, integrated with a series of facilitated problem solving activities away from mobile phones takes young people out of their comfort zones, and into a powerful learning environment. The results see young people build core capabilities, gain skills that increase their employability and will make a positive difference to their performance as employees.

By Oman standards, where most social investment programmes involve training for a few hours or a day at most, OBO's courses are quite unique as they offer students an immersive 72 contact hours with experienced instructors, in a learning environment free from modern distractions. Both the quantity and quality of this time away makes our courses extremely powerful learning tools, as the following pages of this report will demonstrate.

# COURSES DETAILS



1	Musandam Job Seekers	Musandam	15 - 18 JAN 2018		9	648
2	A'Sharqiyah University	Jabel Akhder	19 - 22 MAR 2018		19	1,368
3	A'Sharqiyah University	Jabel Akhder	26 - 29 MAR 2018		14	1,008
4	Ibri College of Applied Sciences	Jabel Akhder	01 - 04 JUL 2019		15	1,080





# FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS

On every OBO course participants are asked to reflect on their experience. Along with written answers to specific questions, participants are given different statements and asked whether they strongly agree/agree/disagree/strongly disagree with them or are not sure of their answer.

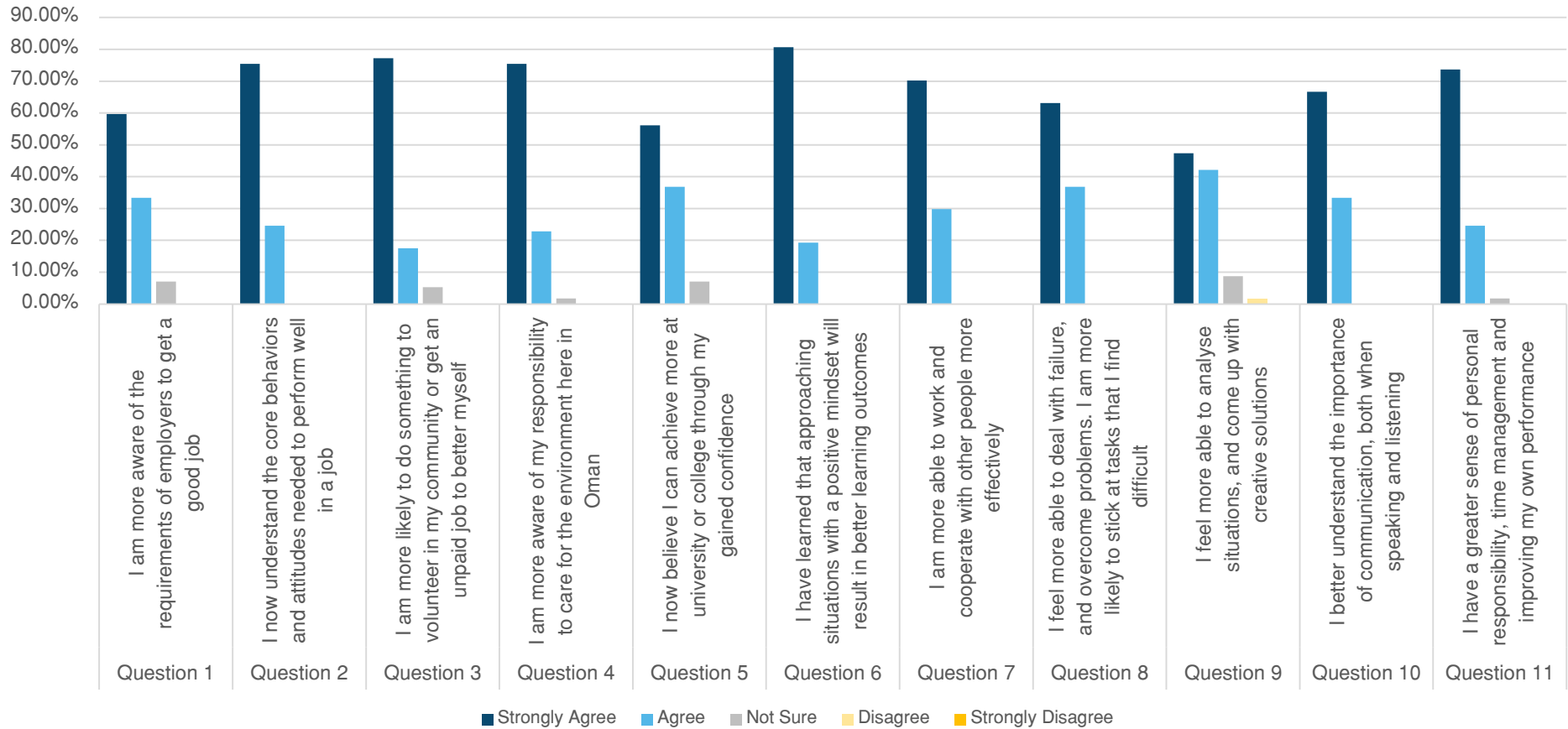
The statements are designed to reflect the course objectives. Responses are below:

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| 1. I am more aware of the requirements of employers to get a good job   | 93%  |
| 2. I now understand the core behaviors and attitudes needed to perform well in a job                                      | 100% |
| 3. I am more likely to do something to volunteer in my community or get an unpaid job to better myself                    | 95%  |
| 4. I am more aware of my responsibility to care for the environment here in Oman  | 98%  |
| 5. I now believe I can achieve more at university or college through my gained confidence                                 | 93%  |
| 6. I have learned that approaching situations with a positive mindset will result in better learning outcomes             | 100% |
| 7. I am more able to work and cooperate with other people more effectively  | 100% |
| 8. I feel more able to deal with failure, and overcome problems. I am more likely to stick at tasks that I find difficult | 100% |
| 9. I feel more able to analyse situations, and come up with creative solutions  | 89%  |
| 10. I better understand the importance of communication, both when speaking and listening                                 | 100% |
| 11. I have a greater sense of personal responsibility, time management and improving my own performance                   | 98%  |

The numbers in **cyan** indicate the combined percentage for **strongly agreed and agreed** answers

The full range of responses are detailed on the opposite page.







## QUOTES FROM PARTICIPANTS

“This course taught me to look at difficulties and challenges in a different way. I have learned how to choose the better solution for a problem, and how to work with a team as one unit.”

**Salim Al Jahdhami**

“I would like to thank OOCEP for sponsoring this course from which I have benefited a lot, and I am sure it will reflect positively on me and my community”

**Al Husain Al Maskari**



“My best part was hiking, I’ve always wanted to test my endurance with the heavy backpacks, the hot weather, it was a beautiful experience which helped me reveal a lot about myself”  
**Inas Al Ghafri**

“Challenging difficulties to achieve goals throughout the course made me feel different about my ability to succeed in life”  
**Zainab Al Affari**



“I learnt that failure can be the start of success”  
**Ahmed Al Sawafi**

“This course taught me to look at difficulties and challenges in a different perspective”  
**Salim Al Jahdhami**

“I want to share the knowledge I gained during the course with my family and friends”  
**Ahmed Al Jabri**

“The course gave me self confidence and believe in my abilities”  
**Maryam Al Maskari**

“I learnt that failing help you realize your mistakes and trying again to overcome them until you reach success”  
**Fatma Al Jabri**

“This was a new experience with everything that the coming generations need”  
**Anwaar Al Mahrooqi**





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