

# SOCIAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME IMPACT REPORT

HSBC  
2019-2020



# CONTENTS

OUTWARD BOUND OMAN	3
COURSES OVERVIEW	4
STATISTICAL OVERVIEW	5
SPECIAL FEATURE	6
FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS	8
PARTICIPANTS QUOTES	11
MENTORS QUOTES	13

# OUTWARD BOUND 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 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.

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 and 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.



## COURSES OVERVIEW



From October to December 2019, Outward Bound Oman (OBO) has been delighted to deliver a total of 4 experiential learning courses to 73 young Omanis as part of the continues community support that HSBC 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 Al Abyadh, Wadi Al Arbeen or Ash Sharqiyah desert, 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.

## STATISTICAL OVERVIEW



1	OPAL	Ash Sharqiyah Desert	21 - 24 OCT 2019	19	1368	
2	Open Course	Ash Sharqiyah Desert	18 - 21 NOV 2019	18	1,296	
3	OPAL	Wadi Al Arbeieen	02 - 05 DEC 2019	15	1,080	
4	GUtech	Al Abyad	23 - 26 DEC 2019	10	11	1,512



## SPECIAL FEATURE

One of the sponsored courses by **HSBC** has been honored by the visit of the Duke of Cambridge. He joined the participants to discuss and take part in a problem-solving challenge aimed at putting into practice the skills the students have learned on their course.



# 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   | 92.9%  |
| 2. I now understand the core behaviors and attitudes needed to perform well in a job                                      | 98.6%  |
| 3. I am more likely to do something to volunteer in my community or get an unpaid job to better myself                    | 92.9%  |
| 4. I am more aware of my responsibility to care for the environment here in Oman  | 98.6%  |
| 5. I now believe I can achieve more at university or college through my gained confidence                                 | 92.9%  |
| 6. I have learned that approaching situations with a positive mindset will result in better learning outcomes             | 98.6%  |
| 7. I am more able to work and cooperate with other people more effectively  | 94.3%  |
| 8. I feel more able to deal with failure, and overcome problems. I am more likely to stick at tasks that I find difficult | 100.0% |
| 9. I feel more able to analyse situations, and come up with creative solutions  | 88.6%  |
| 10. I better understand the importance of communication, both when speaking and listening                                 | 94.3%  |
| 11. I have a greater sense of personal responsibility, time management and improving my own performance                   | 94.3%  |
| 12. I am more aware of the aims of our national vision 2040.  | 80.0%  |

“

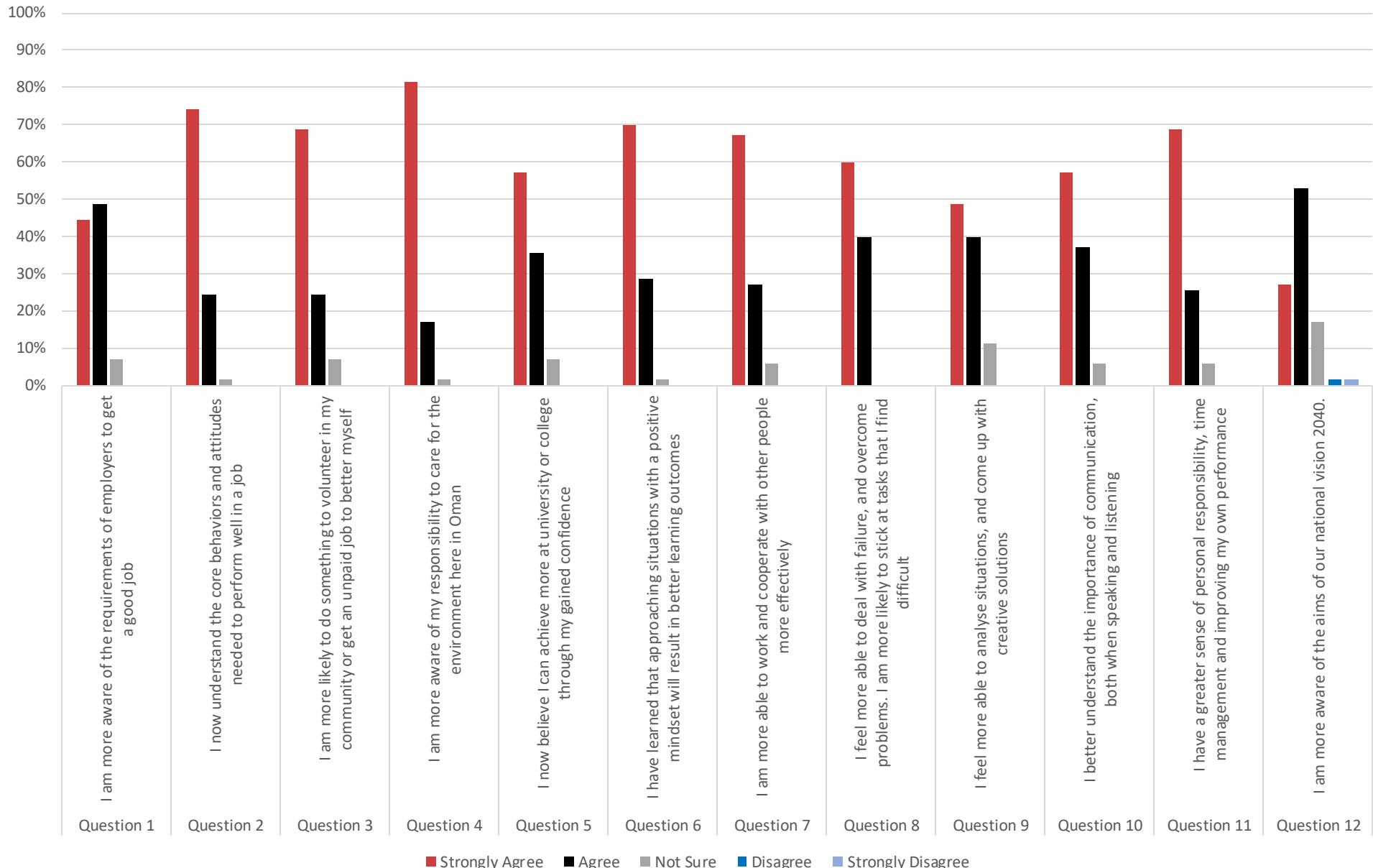
My best part was arriving to the campsite and getting up early to talk about the goals of the day ”

Huda Al Rahbi, Participant



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

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



“

Coming to the course changed the way I think about my future career, I learned that work ethics are important, and I'll implement them to have a healthy job ”

Maha Al Mahrooqi, Participant



## PARTICIPANTS QUOTES

"Coming to this course made me change my future career and made me know myself better"

- Mohammed Al Fazari, Participant

"Thank you from the bottom of my heart for supporting such courses, I wouldn't be able to come if it wasn't for HSBC"

- Hamed Al Ghafri, Participant

"I set a goal for myself after this course, to start my online courses, do more researches about the organization I want to work in, and see what they want exactly"

- Fatima Yusuf, Participant

"The course made me a better thinker and a good supporter to my teammates, especially in the team working activities"

- Al Julanda Al Muharami, Participant

"Meeting people with different personalities as it reminded me that everyone has something special inside him/ her. Teamwork has also been the best part as I realized that things are done quicker"

- Maya Al Barwani, Participant

"My favorite two parts were the adventure and great teamwork with the group who became my friends after I got to know them"

- Saeed Al Ghailani, Participant

"My favorite part of the course was hiking in the desert; it was very challenging and it made me feel very strong and worthy of the best"

- Fatima Al Breiki, Participant

"The course made me feel very responsible when we do anything especially dealing with limited resources"

- Saeed Al Ghailani, Participant





"My best parts in the course were the hiking and getting to know each other as we don't interact much at the University"

- Omar Ali, Participant

"Camping was my first experience ever; I loved the long walks on the dunes. It was really tough but with my teams' motivation I did it"

- Tamadhir, Participant

"This course makes a person discovers his abilities, skills and self-development"

- Mundhir Al Nafei, Participant

"I liked the discussions, because through them we learned a lot of new things that will be beneficial now and, in the future,"

- Mazoon Al Busaidi, Participant

"This course changed me, I became more honest and realistic with myself"

- Fatima Al Breiki, Participant

"I felt like I was in a dream which never wanted to end, everything was amazing"

- Mohammed Al Fazari, Participant

"I'd like to send my thanks and gratitude to Outward Bound Oman for this amazing experience"

- Mazoon Al Busaidi, Participant

"I'd like to thank the sponsoring company for paying for the course, their cooperation and support"

- Mujahid Al Mayahi, Participant

"Thanks to those who paid for the course, it was an amazing experience, you did not waste your money, this is a good investment"

- Maha Al Mahrooqi, Participant

# MENTORS QUOTES

## Ahmed Al Ghallabi

"We exchanged life/ work experience to give them a taste of what they'll be facing in the near future"

"I'm very proud to work for such an organization cares about the community"

"This young generation are the future of the country and its our duty to nurture them in the best way we can"

## Khaldoon Al Ojaili:

"The passion to share knowledge with young people and to benefit from them and OBO staff as well is what made me volunteer as a mentor for this course"

## Mehdi Kamran, teacher at Gutech

"I learnt although maybe you don't feel this at university, they are worriers and they have the spirit of fighting for improvement and for the future"

"I believe the course will help me in my teaching from different aspects, as I know the strengths and weaknesses of the students better, I improved in making a better communication with the students knowing their culture"

"As a result of this course I learnt that the students really behave differently when they are not in the University, I also learnt that they understand your efforts as a teacher, and they appreciate you"





OUTWARD BOUND®  
OMAN