

2007 forest and natural resource certification summer program

Oxford, UK

16–20 July 2007

The ProForest summer training program provides a range of courses dealing with current issues for those involved in forest management, certification and sustainable natural resource management.

The courses are based on up-to-date practical experience and are designed to bring together key players in a range of fields to provide a unique training opportunity. Participants can select the combination of courses that suits their needs and attend them in one integrated event. The courses range from one-day introductions to five-day intensive sessions.

Any five-day combination of courses costs £900. The course fees include coffee, lunch, and training materials. All prices are inclusive of VAT.

All courses will be held in central Oxford at the Mansfield College and the adjacent Rothermere American Institute. To book a place, please fill out the booking form on www.proforest.net and return it to the contact below. There are a limited number of places for each course.

Contact: ProForest, South Suite, Frewin Chambers, Frewin Court, Oxford, OX1 3HZ, UK; Tel +44 1865 243439; Fax +44 1865 244820; info@proforest.net or andry@proforest.net; www.proforest.net

International Young Scholar Network for Earth Systems Science – Third Workshop

Bristol, UK

2–5 June 2007

This small workshop will focus on understanding decision making on land-use issues, in order to move towards modeling these processes in Earth System Models. Interdisciplinary applicants from the natural and social sciences, economics, engineers and scholars from the humanities with research interests in the Earth system are encouraged to apply. The goal of the YSN workshop will be publication of a manuscript reviewing state-of-art decision-making in land-use modeling and its impacts on biogeochemistry and climate from an Earth Systems perspective, and to prioritize future research topics. Participants will be expected to write papers before the workshop, and to assist in finalizing the manuscript after the workshop.

Contact/application: http://www.aimes.ucar.edu/activities/YSN/2007_UK/YSN_BRISTOL.shtml

Courses are in English unless otherwise stated. By featuring these courses ITTO doesn't necessarily endorse them. Potential applicants are advised to obtain further information about the courses of interest and the institutions offering them.

International seminar on protected area management

1–18 August 2007

Cost: US\$4750

Application deadline: 17 May 2007

International seminar on forest administration and management

1–19 October 2007

Cost: US\$6500

Application deadline: 15 April 2007

Invited participants for these US Forest Service-supported courses are selected to reflect the widest possible geographic distribution and diversity of experience. Program activities will take advantage of the experience of the participants, as well as the unique heritage of the field locations included in each seminar. The programs are designed for English-speaking senior natural resource management professionals who desire to improve their managerial capabilities and administrative skills.

Contact/application: www.fs.fed.us/global/is

Leadership and adaptive management: supporting decentralised forest and nature management in rural development

2 October–10 November 2007

Cost: first module (three weeks) – €2800 (Wageningen, the Netherlands); second module (three weeks) – €3450 (Ghana)

The course covers state of the art thinking about collaborative action at the local, district and regional level. It offers participants the opportunity to acquaint themselves with methodologies and approaches for facilitation and learning in action, and encourages them to develop strategies for introducing them in the workplace. In particular, the course should enable participants to: build an awareness of their own skills and competencies for leading innovations in multidisciplinary work approaches; practice a broad range of participatory methods and adaptive management tools; understand and assess the implications of up scaling participation to working with diverse stakeholder groups at various levels; design, plan and implement change processes with small teams to support decentralized management practices in natural resources management; assess the impact of their own values and personal learning style and to further develop their competence as team leaders.

Contact: Wageningen International CD&IC Programme, PO Box 88, 6700 AB Wageningen, Netherlands; Tel 31–317–495 495; Fax 31–317–495 395; training.wi@wur.nl; www.cdic.wur.nl

Letter

Sirs

I have been reading your editorial and the contributions by D. Asumadu and PNGEFF with great interest (TFU 16/4). I have been confronted with the issue of what is legal and what is not since the winter 1946–47 when I started my career as forest apprentice in Germany and subsequently accumulated a varied experience of the elusive issue in SFM, utilization and products trade through five decades of practical and academic forestry, including even PNG (the unhappy fate of maturing teak plantations and their timber after the PNGFA had to hand them over to the territorial clans).

Reviewing first the Flyvbjerg book *Making Social Science Matter*, 2001, and just now the report of an international, rather controversial, broad and deep reaching debate on Flyvbjerg's social science approach, titled *Making Political Science Matter*, 2006, and reading in the papers the recent statement of the PM of Thailand concerning the causes and possible remedies of the woes of the southern provinces, in a general way confirmed my forestry

experience. That is, the issue is so multi-faceted, convoluted and site-specifically contextual that focused probes by specialists and narrow repair strategies guided by standard rules, rigid regulations and fragile consensus do not lead to sustained success ...

I also liked your review of Fenton's book and enjoyed the differences in our perspectives. Flejzor's review of Humphrey's book indicates the relevance of reining in the big corporations and making the legal mechanisms more effective and independent. This also comes up in the Flyvbjerg debate.

Eberhard Bruenig

Chair of World Forestry

University of Hamburg

Germany