

Urban Nature Forum 2009

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

12-13 June 2009

Cost: see weblink below

Natural areas within the urban setting are managed by local authorities, and other natural areas and conservation initiatives run by conservation agencies need the support of local authorities in order to succeed in the urban setting. Virtually all aspects of urban governance impact biodiversity directly or indirectly. These areas include land use planning, municipal service provision (for example waste treatment and water management), and even procurement (by purchasing biodiversity-friendly and sustainable products and services, producers and service providers are encouraged to be sustainable and environmentally conscious).

The Urban Nature Forum, unparalleled in its scope and international representation, is an engaging platform for local governments, communities and their partners to meet, share and exchange best practice, science and new directions in the field of urban biodiversity. The forum will be attended by representatives of local and regional governments, scientists, and representatives of various local and international conservation organizations.

Themes that will be discussed include:

- Local action in cities around the globe
- Working together: cities, province and federal government agencies
- Biodiversity and its link with mitigation of and adaptation to climate change at the local level
- The role of local government in securing of protected areas and stewardship of natural areas
- Ecosystem services: How cities can measure the economic advantages of biodiversity

For more information and to register, visit www.iclei.org/urban-nature2009.

ProForest Summer Training Programme 2009

Oxford, United Kingdom

13-17 July 2009

Cost: Varies depending on courses selected

The Proforest Summer Training Programme, now in its eighth year, is a unique opportunity for anyone involved in the sustainable management or certification of forests, implementing responsible purchasing programs for timber, responsible sourcing and production of agricultural commodities or biofuels. Courses cover current issues and are designed to bring together key players from around the world.

Participants can design their own program choosing one to four courses from the following (each of 1-3 days duration):

- Forestry: understanding certification, legality and governance initiatives;
- Responsible sourcing and production of agricultural commodities;
- Responsible purchasing and supply chain management of forest products;
- Introduction to the High Conservation Value (HCV) concept;
- Identifying and managing high conservation values (HCVs) within natural resource - production systems;
- Forests and climate change;
- Update on responsible biofuels; and
- Understanding social requirements within sustainable certification.

The training courses involve presentations, group work and discussions to maximize opportunities for shared learning. Priority will be given to participants coming for the full week.

For more information and to register, visit <http://www.proforest.net/summer-training>.

Managing Natural Resource Conflict: Concepts and Practice

Bangkok, Thailand

15-25 September 2009

Cost: US\$2000

Conflict is an inherent part of natural resource management. Local communities, governments, companies, and NGOs often have very different views as to how resources should be managed and utilized and so conflict in its many forms is therefore often inevitable and unavoidable. Forestry and natural resource professionals are increasingly called upon to mediate among various stakeholders in these challenging situations.

This training course will provide participants with an understanding of the basic principles, skills, and techniques used in analyzing and mediating conflict. Participants will increase their knowledge and skills in analyzing conflict, assessing management options, and developing strategies to manage conflict. They will practice a variety of conflict management techniques in order to negotiate and build agreements, and learn how to plan and support collaborative conflict management approaches. Importantly participants will also learn to take a proactive role in anticipating and addressing conflict in its early phases.

Contact: Leela Wuttikraibundit, Capacity Building Services, Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia and the Pacific (RECOFTC), P.O. Box 1111, Kasetsart University, Bangkok 10903, Thailand; Tel 66-2-940-5700 ext. 1234; Fax 66-2-561-4880, 562-0960; leela@recoftc.org or contact@recoftc.org; www.recoftc.org