

Interactive forest and nature policy in practice

12 September–1 October 2005
Wageningen, the Netherlands
Cost: €3050

Forest and nature management policies have entered a new era—one of facilitating dialogue, joint learning and collaborative action among stakeholder groups and organisations. A new breed of professionals is in high demand. Do you know how to bring different stakeholders together? Can you design and lead processes of critical reflection and learning? Can you help people to understand each other's perspectives and manage conflict? Can you aid in the negotiation of agreements and action between diverse interest groups? If you would like to develop your skills as a 'new' professional, this is a course for you. The process of collaborative learning looks beyond the simple act of stakeholder participation to focus on the social processes and dynamics that make stakeholder participation work as an effective force for sustainable resource management decision-making. Crucial for this so-called social learning is that learning together concerns changes, not only in what a stakeholder knows but also in attitudes, beliefs, skills, capacities and actions.

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The 2005 ProForest forest and certification summer training programme

11–15 July 2005
Oxford, UK

This program provides a range of courses for those involved in forest management, forest 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.

Training courses will be available in the following subject areas:

- introduction to certification and standards (one day);
- forest certification in practice including practical auditing (four days);
- responsible purchasing in practice, including product tracing and chain of custody (two days);
- high-conservation-value forests and biodiversity monitoring (two days); and
- climate change policy and forests (one day).

Delegates 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 courses, and fees range from £200 for one day to £850 for four or five days. Fees include coffee, lunch and training materials.

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Good governance and decentralisation in the natural resource sector

6–16 June 2005
Bangkok, Thailand
Cost: US\$3000

This training course will provide participants with a framework for exploring the principles and processes of 'good governance' in a decentralised planning process. Unique to this course will be the opportunity for participants to explore and analyse governance processes in the field and the resulting outcomes. From this, an assessment can be made as to what is 'good governance', what needs to be in place to achieve this and what outcomes might be expected. The course will:

- increase participants' understanding of the rationale and implications of good governance within a decentralisation process;
- provide participants with an analytical framework in which to explore and evaluate good governance;
- explore and assess field experiences in establishing good-governance processes and provide participants with tools and techniques to evaluate such processes;

- develop participants' knowledge and skills in deliberative and inclusive processes that foster good governance in civil society; and
- provide opportunities for participants to share experiences and ideas on good governance and the ability to convert these discussions into workplace outcomes.

Contact: Peter Stephen, Regional Community Forestry Training Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RECOFTC), Kasetsart University, PO Box 1111, Bangkok 10903, Thailand; opjs@ku.ac.th or contact@recoftc.org; Tel 66-2-940 5700 ext. 1230; www.recoftc.org

Participatory action research for community-based natural resource management

15–30 August 2005
Cavite, Philippines
Cost: US\$2600

This course will enhance the skills of professionals in these areas whilst encouraging them to act as seeds of change within their organisations. Specifically, participants will have the opportunity to reflect upon and share experiences of community-based natural resource management (CBNRM), explore principles of participatory action research (PAR), experiment with a range of tools for examining different perspectives relevant to CBNRM with different actual stakeholders, critically analyse the PAR approach in relation to CBNRM, and be encouraged to apply lessons to their own NRM and organisational contexts. Emphasis will be placed on providing a stimulating learning environment for the sharing of ideas among participants, facilitators and other resource people. The course is geared specifically to senior decision-makers, project managers and middle-level field workers who have experience with and are working on CBNRM. As the workshop is in English, proficiency in spoken and written English is essential. Women are encouraged to apply.

Contact: PAR for CBNRM, International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR), Y.C. James Yen Center Silang 4118, Cavite, Philippines; Tel 63-46-414 2417; education&training@iirr.org; www.iirr.org or Ronnakorn Triraganon, Regional Community Forestry Training Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RECOFTC), PO Box 1111, Bangkok 10903, Thailand; Tel 66-2-940 5700 ext. 1234; contact@recoftc.org; www.recoftc.org

RECOFTC and/or IIRR also provide a customised PAR for CBNRM course in any appropriate requested location. When requesting such a course, three months' notice would be appreciated.

Participatory management of protected areas

12–27 September 2005
Bangkok, Thailand
Cost: US\$2600

It is increasingly recognised that the key to the successful management of protected areas involves the active participation of local communities and other stakeholders. In order to involve communities in the management of protected areas, protected area management personnel require additional skills, knowledge and attitudes which can foster and maintain the participation of local communities. This course is designed to provide forestry, natural resource and conservation professionals with a deeper understanding of why it is important to include local communities in the management of protected areas and to better understand how this can be done. It will also help participants gain the analytical skills needed to enable them to better conceptualise and overcome problems in the application of participatory protected area management within their own specific situations. Applicants should currently have either direct responsibility in a protected areas program or be scheduled to work in PA management on completion of the course. As the course is taught in English, proficiency in spoken and written English is essential.

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