



## Supporting decentralised forest and nature management for rural development

### Course focus

Rapid change and increasing complexity characterise the development practice. Sustainable Natural Resources Management (NRM) is increasingly seen as a multidisciplinary practice, matching various ecosystem functions with social and economic livelihood requirements. Results depend on the ideas and opinions of a wide variety of stakeholders, often from outside the traditional NRM sectors. Coming from a mainly technical profession, the NRM manager is now expected to address complex socio-economic challenges in multi-disciplinarily teams, and take a leading role in often necessary change processes. Adaptive management approaches recognise the uncertainties this creates, and emphasise collaborative action learning among groups and organisations in order to generate strategies for joint action.

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 of change and learning in action, and encourages them to develop strategies for introducing them in the workplace. Critical analysis of the current developments and trends in decentralised NRM practices are combined with skill development and ample opportunity for sharing and mutual learning from participants' experience.

Do you know how to bring expert and local knowledge together, and encourage joint learning to improve impact? Can you help people to understand each other's perspectives better and to manage conflict? Are you ready to challenge your own professional

assumptions? If you would like to develop your skills as a 'new' professional, and your aim is to be a leader within your own team and work organisation, this is a course for you.

### Aims and objectives

The course aims to offer participants the opportunity to reflect on current work approaches, review best practice and develop skills to support adaptive collaborative natural resources management with active stakeholder participation. In particular, the course should enable participants:

- To build an awareness of their own competencies for leading innovations in collaborative learning processes in multi-stakeholder settings
- Understand and design an Adaptive Management process selecting appropriate participatory tools and methods to support decentralised management practices in NRM
- Understand and organise a participatory "managing for impact" process (monitoring and evaluation elements) as part of the AM learning cycle; and
- Contribute to the skillful facilitation of local level AM multi-stakeholder processes.

### Target group

The course is designed for people who already have some basic understanding of participatory approaches, and would like to integrate these in their working methods. A keen interest in collaborative management and a willingness to critically reflect on one's own practices and assumptions are prerequisites. The course is suitable for project and programme managers, policy makers, consultants, researchers, NGO staff, community leaders and business managers.



## Programme

### *Adaptive management tools & methods for sustainable NRM (in Ghana) (32/25)*

#### *Week one*

- Adaptive management concept, approach and tools
- Social learning, multi-stakeholder approach and other AM process principles
- Stakeholder analysis tools, modelling and scenario building

#### *Week two*

- Participatory monitoring (PM&E) for impact

#### *Week three*

- Field practice in analysing and designing local PM&E systems
- Application of course content to participants' own situations

*Wageningen UR – Centre for Development Innovation reserves the right to change the programme.*

## Partners

This course programme is developed in partnership with a number of national and international organisations in the region (e.g. Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and technology – KNUST in Kumasi/Ghana) and will give specific attention to NRM and rural development issues in Africa.

## Requirements for admission

Participants should meet the following requirements:

- Relevant tertiary education, preferably BSc
- At least five years of professional experience related to the subject matter of the course
- Competence in the English language.

## Certificate

Participants are granted a Certificate of Attendance.

## Fees and Accommodation

The tuition fee is **€ 2500**. This amount includes administration fees, lecture materials and excursions.

Participants will be accommodated in Ghana on the basis of full board and lodging. Prices are available upon request. These costs are not included in the tuition fee.

## Fellowships

A limited number of fellowships are available from the Netherlands Fellowship Programme (NFP) for nationals of specific NFP-eligible countries **worldwide** (course admission is not restricted to candidates from Sub-Saharan Africa). Please read the most recent [eligibility criteria](#) as posted on the NUFFIC website: [www.nuffic.nl](http://www.nuffic.nl)

NFP-candidates must **FIRST** apply to Wageningen UR – Centre for Development Innovation for admission to the training. Acceptable candidates will receive a PROVISIONAL LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE from Wageningen UR – Centre for Development Innovation. Candidates can then apply for a NFP fellowship through the Netherlands Embassy or Consulate in their own country. Applications for NFP fellowships should be submitted to Wageningen UR – Centre for Development Innovation before **1 June 2010**.

More information: [www.cdi.wur.nl/UK/Courses](http://www.cdi.wur.nl/UK/Courses)

*Wageningen UR – Centre for Development Innovation can NOT provide any funds to finance the participants and is also unable to assist applicants in obtaining sponsorship.*

## Application

The admission deadline for application directly to Wageningen UR – Centre for Development Innovation, with funding other than a NFP fellowship, is **18 September 2010**. For additional information, application forms and online application: [www.cdi.wur.nl](http://www.cdi.wur.nl)

*Wageningen UR Centre for Development Innovation  
P.O. Box 88, 6700 AB Wageningen, The Netherlands*

*Telephone: +31 317 486 800,*

*Fax: +31 317 486 801*

*E-mail: [training.cdi@wur.nl](mailto:training.cdi@wur.nl); Website: [www.cdi.wur.nl](http://www.cdi.wur.nl)*



*Code: 32/25, Duration: 3 weeks, Period: 18 October –5 November 2010*

*Application deadline for full programme: 18 September 2010*

*NFP Fellowship application deadline: 1 June 2010*

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