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Advanced course

ENVIRONMENT IN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

How to enter environment in sustainable development projects



ADVANCED ONLINE COURSE

Environment in International Cooperation

How to enter environment in sustainable development projects

MARCH 19th 2018

REGISTER NOW

DEADLINE: MARCH 8th 2018

SCHEDULE

- *beginning of the course: March 19th 2018*
- *registration deadline: March 8th 2018*
- *registration deadline (optional internship): April 3rd 2018*
- *duration of the course: 10 weeks + 6 optional (internship) weeks*

TEACHING TEAM

TEACHER



Massimo Zortea

Environmental lawyer, expert in international environmental cooperation. He teaches "Methods of Development Cooperation and Participatory Management of Projects" as well as "Development Planning with Environmental Mainstreaming" at University of Trento and collaborates with a variety of environmental training organisations. Member of UNESCO Chair in Engineering for Human and Sustainable Development's Scientific Committee at the same University. Founder of GREEN VIS, a working group focused on *Environmental Mainstreaming* in international cooperation. Member of various expert rosters (UNSCC, IDLO, FELCOS Umbria). Engaged for 26 years in CSOs and non-profit sector. Former President of VIS. Author of books, articles and papers. Among his volumes: *Environmental Mainstreaming in development projects* (FrancoAngeli 2013) and *El mainstreaming ambiental en los proyectos de cooperación internacional y desarrollo* (Universidad Iberoamericana - Instituto Mora 2016).

TUTOR



Claudia Sometti

Graduate in Methodology, Organization and Evaluation of Social Services (MOVASS) in 2016. She specialized in the social-environmental field developing a thesis entitled: "Udzungwa Mountain National Park (Tanzania): assessment of the social, economic and environmental impacts of the partnership between MUSE and UMNP ". He has carried out teaching activities in environmental matters for the Municipality of Trento - Environmental Service. Currently, she is following the design, management and tutoring of numerous advanced training courses in environmental matters at Zortea Sandri Associated Law Firm, Environmental Branch. Among her publications, see "Protected areas, planning and mountains in developing countries: an interesting experience in Tanzania" (Reticula ISPRA No. 13/2016).

FOCAL POINT - HELP DESK



Mariasilvia Cosma

Architect, consultant for public and private clients, with over twenty years of experience in managing building and infrastructure project and its monitoring and control. Since 2012, with Disamis S.r.l., she carries on monitoring and evaluation of cooperation projects, in Italy and abroad, and provides technical support for funding opportunities within EU development policies. Member of GREEN VIS since its foundation, she supports the management of training activities at national and international level. She has always promoted the culture of Environmental Mainstreaming.

PRESENTATION

Even in 2018, VIS Online offers its **training courses** specifically focused on Environment and International Cooperation.

In addition to the usual introductory webinar for Italian audience, held on December 13th 2017, with an unprecedented participation (175 members), this year there will be a second webinar, for an international audience, in English (on 19th February).

Furthermore, two structured courses will be activated, focusing on the theme:

- a **basic course** in Italian, as first approach but yet well structured and suitable to provide a training even operational to engage in this field;
- an **advanced course** in English, with an international trainees class, more specializing and devoted to trainees who already have good knowledge and experience in the subject, with a **final intensive internship** (optional).

WHY STUDYING AND UPDATING IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS?

There is a growing attention to environment both by public opinion and by economic, social and political actors, public and private. Even for international cooperation, environmental issues and problems have become a priority, as well as their concrete solution.

Such attention certainly derives from the sharpening of the negative impacts by human action on all environmental aspects, on ecosystem services, until yesterday almost taken for granted by the majority. But it also derives from a growth of awareness and culture in such matter, which is no longer the preserve of technical experts or activists motivated by more or less poetic ideals on nature conservation.

The global environmental crisis, which has now become evident even in the most skeptical consciences, represents a primary challenge, both geopolitical and economic, no longer merely ecological. It is no coincidence that the new global security horizon is becoming increasingly clear in the environmental dimension and cannot anymore be managed only with military instruments and mentalities. The same high incidence of environmental factors can be found in migratory problems, where more and more scholars but also practitioners of cooperation deal with working on the links between environmental degradation and climate change on the one hand and migratory movements, also linked to conflicts, on the other.

As a matter of fact there is - and we must seriously consider - a two-way causal chain between environmental degradation and poverty, as well as between human well-being and the quality of the environment. To reverse this vicious circle, it is necessary to insert specific attention to environmental profiles and impacts, in a transversal and widespread manner, in all policies and measures to combat poverty and to promote development, not just those with specific environmental focus. For example, including such attention and enhancement of environment also in projects concerning health, education or production sectors and not only in those traditionally environmental, such as the care of protected areas or the protection of endangered species.

This learning path wants to offer a serious way, even moderately demanding but within everyone's reach, to understand how international cooperation can include in all its initiatives, in a transversal and inter-sectoral way, the environmental protection and the opportunities offered by the environment.

In fact, environmental protection is no longer just a scientific issue but also a political one. Therefore environmental sustainability is not a goal for specialists and professionals only: it concerns everyone and can be really achieved only if the care for the environment spreads in every place, in every individual, in every daily gesture and choice. The same Italian Development Cooperation, respecting the transversal nature of environmental themes, promotes the integration of environment in all its sectorial initiatives, as the main means to achieve the goal of sustainable development (Environmental Guidelines 2011). Moreover, the very contents of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are all set with a clear approach of Environmental Mainstreaming, as it will be explained in detail throughout the course.

The environment offers important job opportunities. The demand for environmental sustainability is growing all over the world and therefore the demand for people capable to integrate environment into planning. But to seize this opportunity we need first to understand whether and to what extent we are willing to redefine our professional skills and experiences. Therefore, we need a path of discernment,

passing from the mere poetry of nature to the basic but solid environmental competence, in order to then face a subsequent path of specialization.

LEARNING METHODOLOGY

The course is based on a widely participatory methodology (participatory learning), with an involvement of all trainees even operational (learning by doing) and with a deep attention to expectations and individual needs (demand-driven learning).

The training offer includes, for each student:

- a) **7 main lessons on a weekly basis.** Each lesson will be delivered in streaming video through the GoToWebinar platform, with the possibility to talk with the teacher and ask questions; in case of impossibility to attend the lesson live, it will be possible to view the recording;
- b) **4 workshops.** The class of trainees will deal with specific themes, in dialogue with the teacher;
- c) **4 exercises.** They consist in the development of design documents or papers related to the design and are set up on real case studies;
- d) **final workshop** in Rome (see below), in the form of a seminar and round table of experts on environment and international cooperation;
- e) **learning materials.** They are ppt of lessons and additional documents provided in pdf format, which will constitute, at the end of the course, a small electronic library.

The 2018 edition confirms some strenghts of last edition and offers an interesting novelty.

First of all, we will still have the involvement of participants from some **Planning Development Offices (PDO)** based in developing countries, which will allow us to work on realities and concrete projects (as well as on numerous case studies), especially in workshops and exercises.

There will be a **personalised and dedicated tutoring service.**

Finally, on **May 25th 2018**, all the course trainees can take an active part in the **IV edition of the WORKSHOP “ENVIRONMENT AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION” in Rome**, with the participation of experts from: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, Ministry of the Environment and of the Territory and Sea Protection, in partnership with some Italian Universities.

The big news that further enriches the advanced course will be the **intensive internship** (see below).

WHAT ARE THE LEARNING ACHIEVEMENTS?

The advanced course leads each participant to complete or update their knowledge, skills and competences regarding the enhancement of environment in international cooperation initiatives.

Thanks to the interactive and highly participatory work method - characterized by an international class, interactive lessons, exercises in interdisciplinary groups, a workshop in Rome with international speakers, a final internship to which a selected group of trainees is admitted - you will learn in depth what are the themes, the contexts, the problems and the opportunities offered by environment and the practical modalities useful to make the international cooperation interventions really sustainable.

Each trainee will also learn to work in an interdisciplinary manner, dialoguing and working with classmates coming from mostly diverse locations and back-grounds.

SCHEDULE

The course is structured in mandatory and optional activities. More precisely, there are 10 mandatory weeks of teaching activities, divided into 8 weeks of virtual classroom lessons, interspersed with in-depth workshops and practical exercises on case studies with working groups, and 2 weeks dedicated to the final exercise and an international workshop in Rome, held also in online streaming.

In addition, the course offer 6 optional weeks of practical training, with individual preparation, subsequent internship at a PDO (Planning Development Office, VIS partner), and final Report preparation.

Currently, 3 destinations are under study: India, Sri Lanka and the Philippines. The trainee will elaborate an environmental assessment or project planning document which will then be made available to the hosting PDO. The tutor follows all the students during the whole course, supporting them in the learning path, both for first learning and for subsequent deepening.

In detail, the following **route** is envisaged:

1. PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES

2. MODULE 1

INTRODUCTION: ENVIRONMENT AND HUMAN WELL-BEING (NEW HORIZONS FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT)

3. WORKSHOP 1

4. MODULE 2

ENVIRONMENT AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

5. INTERMEDIATE EXERCISE 1

6. MODULE 3

ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRATION: THEORY AND PRACTICES IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

7. WORKSHOP 2

8. MODULE 4

APPLYING ENVIRONMENTAL MAINSTREAMING (1): IN THE STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL SETTING OF THE INTERVENTIONS

9. INTERMEDIATE EXERCISE 2

10. MODULE 5

APPLYING ENVIRONMENTAL MAINSTREAMING (2): IN FINANCIAL PROFILES (BUDGET AND ACCOUNT) OF INTERVENTIONS

11. WORKSHOP 3

12. MODULE 6

APPLYING ENVIRONMENTAL MAINSTREAMING (3): IN THE IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF THE INTERVENTIONS (OPCM, MONITORING EVALUATION)

13. INTERMEDIATE EXERCISE 3

14. MODULE 7

CONCRETE APPLICATIONS: MOVING FROM THE ANALYSIS TO THE ACTION WITH A PRECISE ROAD MAP

15. WORKSHOP 4

16. FINAL EXERCISE

17. ROME WORKSHOP PREPARATION

18. IV EDITION OF THE WORKSHOP "ENVIRONMENT AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION"

START: 2018.03.19

Official Start

Credentials assignment to trainees, access to the online platform and mutual presentation

CONCLUSION: 2018.05.25

IV EDITION OF THE WORKSHOP " ENVIRONMENT AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION" – ROME

ENVIRONMENT & FOOD. Environmental sustainability and food safety.

With national and international speakers, in partnership with various international cooperation actors. During the workshop there will be the presentation of the results of the online course and the participatory drafting of a final document, with the active involvement of the course trainees.

WHO PROPOSES THE COURSES

The **Training Center for Human Development** is an initiative promoted by **VIS (International Voluntary Service for Development)** with the aim of spreading a culture of cooperation and solidarity towards the developing countries and of providing professional competence to those dealing with international issues. The Center relies on the long-standing VIS experience in the field of development cooperation and employs highly qualified teachers, coming from the university world and with relevant experiences of international cooperation.

ONLINE COURSE OBJECTIVES

- a) build or strengthen skills and professionalism in the field of cooperation and education for sustainable development;
- b) provide a tool to better grasp the economic - anthropological - political and planning implications related to interventions in developing countries;
- c) to report and help develop professional opportunities both for young people in search of first employment and for workers and / or professionals looking for new job prospects.

RECIPIENTS

The advanced course offers a learning programme that allows an in-depth knowledge about international cooperation in environmental matters and about the ways for enhancing environment, especially in project approach.

It is addressed to all those who have advanced skills or experience in international cooperation but not in environmental issues or vice versa are experts in the environment but not in cooperation. In particular:

- professional and voluntary operators of international cooperation;
- aspiring international volunteers and expatriate cooperators;
- journalists, communication experts, information sector operators;
- university students and graduates wishing to specialize;
- teachers of all school groups and development educators;
- development project designers and officials of local authorities cooperation.

REQUIREMENTS

From a technical point of view, trainees must have an Internet connection in order to access (at least twice a week) classes and communications with students and teaching staff. The estimated time of global commitment required to each trainee is about **10 hours per week** average.

FINAL CERTIFICATE

At the end of the course, each trainee is awarded with a "**Diploma of specialization in Environment and International Cooperation**", attesting the successful participation in the course and successfully overcoming the required tests.

AWARDS

The teaching validity of the courses provided by the Training Center for Human Development is guaranteed by a Scientific Committee, made up of teachers and experts. The academic councils of various Italian universities assign training credits to the qualifications awarded by the Center.

SUBSCRIPTION CONTRIBUTION

For the mandatory phase (i.e. all activities from 2018.03.19 to 2018.05.25, including free participation in the Rome Workshop), the **registration fee is 500 euros (A)**.

It includes: lectures, workshops, exercises, access to all recordings, lesson and workshop slides, study and consultation materials, tutoring, access to all materials and interviews realized and / or provided during the Rome Workshop).

For the optional part (i.e. all the personalized intensive training) a **supplement of 500 euros (B)** is required. It includes: individual preparation before departure, supervision of the teacher on the work plan and final report, tutoring before departure, during the trip and after the return, access to the offices of the PDO and to the documents made available by the PDO's representatives, study and consultation materials, assistance for accommodation in the country of destination.

Attention: obviously travel, board and lodging expenses for the Rome Workshop are not included. Likewise, for travel, board, lodging, visa or other typical travel expenses for the internship are not included.

Payment deadlines:

- for (A), by the deadline of registration (2018.03.08)

- for (B), once confirmed admission to the internship (limited places) and in any case no later than 2018.04.15.

Early bird registrations (and payments) **by 20 February 2018: 10% off (450 euros) for (A)**.

Those who have previously attended one of the paid training courses offered by VIS: 10% off **(450 euros) for (A)**.

For the part concerning the internship (B), given the high organizational costs compared to a very low contribution yet required, to facilitate access to the initiative, no discounts are possible.

VIS online diploma courses are a non-profit initiative and totally self-financed by registration fees.

ENROLLMENT PROCEDURE

To register, please send the following documents to the Learning Secretariat: iscrizionecorsi@volint.it :

- completed registration form [click here](#)
- curriculum vitae;

and write in the subject: REGISTRATION ENVIRONMENT ADVANCED COURSE.

The Secretariat will reply and give you further information.

Registrations will be accepted until the day specified in this announcement and in any case until all available places are available (maximum **25 participants** will be admitted).

The Scientific Committee will examine each submitted application every week and, within few days after getting the registration application, will evaluate the request and communicate to the candidate the possible admission and the procedure for completing the enrollment.

For further information: Learning Secretariat / Coordination - tel. **0039 06 51.629.1**.