

Training course: Integrating environmental issues into humanitarian action

**Book now! Training course on “Integrating environmental issues into humanitarian action”
19 - 20 November 2013 at the Palais des Nations, Geneva**

This training course was developed by Groupe URD and the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit and has been delivered for over three years in France and in the field.

The objective of this training course is to help humanitarian workers build their capacity to effectively integrate an environmentally-friendly approach into their programmes throughout the project cycle. As well as raising awareness about crosscutting issues, this training course will provide aid workers with the tools they need to analyse and incorporate them into a quality programme management approach. This is becoming a priority as donor agencies are increasingly asking aid agencies to provide evidence of whether environmental impact has been into account in their programmes.

Whether as a result of direct environmental damage or due to coping strategies that cause indirect stress on natural resources, environmental impact in the aftermath of disaster and conflict can leave local populations with a degraded natural resource base and greater vulnerability to future events.

Similarly, relief and recovery operations may also have a negative environmental impact. Unsustainable techniques used during the emergency phase, combined with short-term planning and *ad hoc* response mechanisms, can leave disaster and conflict-prone regions spiralling towards further overexploitation of natural resources and degradation of the very ecosystems needed for recovery and rebuilding livelihoods.

Who should attend?

This course is aimed at aid workers, IASC cluster members/representatives, global cluster coordinators, UN staff, crosscutting issue focal persons, programme managers, Mission focal persons, donors, evaluators and technical sector managers.

What does the course cover?

- Links between a crisis situation, humanitarian action and the natural environment;
- Taking environmental issues into account at each phase in the project cycle;
- Adopting an environmental approach at organisation level;
- Introduction to various tools, resources, policy support and further training opportunities which exist to assist humanitarian workers integrate the environment into their work.

Learning objectives

By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Identify the links between conflict, disasters, humanitarian action and the environment;
- Analyse the environmental context during programme design and management to assess potential impacts and opportunities;
- Advocate for a better integration of environmental issues at programme, organisation, and sector level;

- Describe how environmental issues are being integrated into humanitarian action;
- List the sources of additional information, tools, policy support, best practices and further training opportunities related to environmental issues.

Date: 19-20 November 2013

Venue: Bocage Annex 2, Room 14 (19 November) and Room 2 (20 November), Palais des Nations, United Nations Office in Geneva

Language: English

Badges and Registration: Registration will take place from 8.45 am to 9.30 am on Tuesday 19 November 2013 in the training room Bocage Annex 2, Room 14, Palais des Nations. Please allow at least 30 minutes to pick up your badge and pass through UN security procedures.

Timing: The training course will commence at 9.30 am on Tuesday 19 November and will terminate at 6.00 pm on Wednesday 20 November with a 1½ hr lunch break from 1 pm to 2.30 pm (14 hours face-to-face training).

Trainers: Blanche Renaudin, Environment Expert for Groupe URD and the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit

Requirements: Candidates must have a solid working experience in the humanitarian sector and must be fluent in English (reading, writing and spoken).

Registration Fees

Band A: **€225** individuals who are funding themselves

Band B: **€430** individuals who are sponsored by a training scheme or whose registration fees are covered by their employer

Groupe URD is a registered training centre, no. 82 26 01542 26.

Participants who book and pay by 19 October will receive an 8% discount.

Refreshments: Lunch will be provided in the UN Cafeteria but please note that these costs are not included in the registration fee (main dishes cost roughly 12 CHF). Tea/coffee breaks are included in the registration fee.

Accommodation and access: For more logistical information, including getting to and from the training room and accommodation, please consult the attached Logistical Note.

Booking:

To book a place on this course, please complete the attached booking form and return it by e-mail to Anna Lear (formations@urd.org) by 4 November 2013.

Groupe URD reserves the right to cancel the training course if fewer than 10 participants have confirmed their participation by 8 November 2013. The maximum number of participants is 20.

Contact: Anna Lear
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