

TRAINING ON THE SOCIAL ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

YAOUNDE, REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON, JANUARY – APRIL 2013 SESSION

The Forest Trust (TFT) launched in 2008 the initiative of a Centre of Social Excellence in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo. In 2010, TFT opened a branch of the CSE in Yaoundé, Cameroon. The main aim of the CSE is to promote social excellence through practical training in ameliorating the quality of the relationship between private companies (forest companies, plantations ...) and local communities. This enhances the dialogue and improves the practices of long-lasting forest management.

The CSE spirit is to train young graduates such as yourself in an innovative, participative and interactive way, in order to help you undertake present and future professional challenges. As a social expert, you will not only help the local communities to participate in the management of their resources but you will help reinforce the commitment of private companies towards best practices. In the forest sector, this means toward FSC (*Forest Stewardship Council*) certification, the international reference for sustainable forest management.

In May 2009, February 2010, June 2010 and January 2012, the CSE welcomed the first four groups of students. Applications are now being accepted for the **fifth training** that will begin in Yaoundé in **January 2013** and will be taught in **English**.

Best regards,
The CSE Team

CONTENT OF THE TRAINING

The teaching covers a range of topics related to the sustainable management of forests:

1. *Ethnology and anthropology to understand forest peoples*
2. *Communication, arbitration, (setting up of discussion platforms, procedures...)*
3. *Socio-economic studies for use in forest concession management plans*
4. *Various certification systems and their requirements (legislation, traceability, sustainable management of forests) with an emphasis on the social principles of FSC certification (P2, P3, P4, P9)*
5. *Legislative aspects of the forest sector in Central and West Africa.*
6. *Concepts and tools such as social and participatory mapping, FPIC (Free Prior and Informed Consent)*

The modules are taught by 20 international experts with extensive experience in the Congo Basin and West African sub regions.

Each module is completed by practical sessions, assignments, readings and sharing of experiences with professionals.

Details of the training modules are downloadable from:

<http://tft-forests.org/projects/portfolio.asp>

(Click on CSE project)

PLANNING

Months	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Training	Acquiring tools and concepts Yaoundé, Cameroon				Internship in a forest company					Drafting a final report
					Evaluation of the social programme for forest concession management	Elaboration of a social action plan				

TEACHING

A multidisciplinary programme is offered by the CSE for this ten-month training: a solid theoretical base is given in the first four months followed by five months of internship in a private company that is seeking to ameliorate its practices.

From the 5th to the 9th month of the programme, students undertake an evaluation of the social aspects of the company's practices and propose an action plan to enhance the company's long-term management methods.

DATE AND VENUE

The CSE is based in Yaoundé, Cameroon where the first stage of the training takes place (from the 1st to the 4th month).

The spaces for the five-month internship depend on the private companies' demand as well as the availability and qualifications of students.

ORGANISERS

The CSE is a TFT project. TFT's strategy is to help its partners and members (distributors and suppliers) deliver responsible products to the market through transparency and traceability of the origins of their products.

To date, the CSE has been financed by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, the AFD/FFEM-funded ECOFORAF project, the Fondation Chirac and the Waterloo Foundation.

PARTICIPANTS

The ten-month training is open to graduates from Central and West Africa universities with a first degree in forestry, sociology, anthropology, environment, agronomy, rural development, geography, law, or economics. The CSE also offers a shorter training for employees of forest companies.

LANGUAGE

This fifth training session is in English.

SELECTION PROCESS

All applicants must meet the requirements set by the CSE and as stated in the downloadable file available on TFT's web site.

Deadline for all applications:
Wednesday, October 31, 2012

Please send your completed dossier to: cse.team@tft-forests.org. All candidates will be informed by email by November 15, 2012 if he/she has been shortlisted.

The second phase of the selection process, i.e. interviews, will be scheduled during the month of December 2012 and the shortlisted candidates will be invited either to Yaoundé, or another city in the sub-region.

All costs inherent to this second phase – except fees for the candidate's passport – will be covered by the CSE.

COSTS OF THE TRAINING

For those students who are definitively admitted to the programme, the CSE will cover the following expenses: (i) transportation costs (visa and flight ticket), (ii) accommodation and (iii) lunches during classes.

Students are responsible for their remaining meals (breakfast and dinners) plus lunches on days when they are off-classes. They are also responsible for costs related to the issuing or renewal of passports.

No scholarships are granted nor is pocket money allocated to the students.

LODGING

Students are lodged in the CSE dormitories (shared rooms). The CES also provides bed sheets and towels. Students are responsible for the cleaning of their rooms. During field work, an appropriate lodging is provided.

WORKING MATERIAL

Every student receives a laptop on loan during the training.

In addition, he/she has permanent access to the internet and the CSE library (both hard and soft collections).

PASSPORT

Every student admitted to the CSE training, following the second phase of selection, must have a passport valid for at least 18 months with a minimum of four blank pages. All fees related to the issue of these documents are the responsibility of the student.

Finally, in order to travel in the sub-region, it is obligatory that each student be vaccinated against yellow-fever and carries a valid vaccination card. This expense is covered by the student.

INSURANCE

Students are covered by a four-month accident policy paid by the CSE.

Any medical costs incurred during the training are the responsibility of the student; the CSE highly recommends that every student subscribe to a health insurance policy.

CONTACTS

For additional information, please contact us :

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Web Site:

<http://tft-forests.org/projects/portfolio.asp>