RECOFTC – The Center for People and Forests

Training courses
As a capacity development organization, RECOFTC – The Center for People and Forests has trained government officials, researchers, practitioners and local forest users in community forestry for over 25 years. By enhancing capacities, RECOFTC’s mission is to promote stronger rights, improved governance and fairer benefits for local people in sustainable forested landscapes in the Asia and the Pacific region.

RECOFTC training courses are facilitated by experienced trainers who use unique and effective approaches that apply experiential learning and participatory processes rooted in adult learning principles. All of our courses are action-oriented, enabling participants to apply their learning in the workplace environment.
RECOFTC’s participatory method has helped develop my own capacity as a trainer. RECOFTC also gave me a network by attending the course. Following RECOFTC’s conflict management training course, I was invited by another forestry organization to conduct a training course at its own training center.”

Dr. Kusdamayanti, Center of Forestry Education and Training at the Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia
“What I enjoyed the most about the RECOFTC training experience was the interactive learning approach based on sharing individual experiences, the dynamic atmosphere and the diversity of participants; during the training course we built a strong network of landscape ambassadors (and friends) we can rely on in the future.”

Ms. Verónica Molina, World Food Programme
Our approach to training

Because our training participants come to us with a wealth of experience and from a diverse set of backgrounds, our training courses build on their collective experiences, skills and knowledge. Through the participatory process, we emphasize a collaborative learning approach and promote the sharing of information between participants and experienced field practitioners. We ensure that our participants take an active role in their own learning, because professionals learn best through analysis and reflection, understanding what they need for their specific workplace environment. Through field visits, participants get to interact with and learn from community forest managers, local government staff and support organizations.

From learning to action

Our trainers expand participants’ existing skills and knowledge by introducing new concepts and innovations and exploring issues through case study analysis and presentations by invited specialists. Participants and trainers work together to analyze and reflect on their personal results and develop plans for future action. Participants are then able to apply what they have learned in the course in their own workplaces, and assess the effectiveness of the new practices. As RECOFTC training courses are action-oriented, monitoring and evaluation of the learning and application is an integral part of the training services offered by RECOFTC.
Scheduled training courses

Throughout the year, RECOFTC holds scheduled courses available for open registration in the following areas:

- Community forestry and natural resource management
- Forest conflict and governance
- Markets and livelihoods
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Gender equity and social inclusion
- Participatory action research

Popular topics include:

- Community forestry for enhancing livelihoods and markets
- Improving grassroots equity in the forests and climate change context
- Community-based forest biomass monitoring
- Community forestry for climate change adaptation
- Strengthening forest tenure systems and governance
- Community-based natural resource management

Customized training courses

RECOFTC develops customized courses upon request, which can be fully tailored to suit your specific requirements. Each curriculum can be adapted to address specific issues and contexts, from the international to the national to the regional and local levels. Courses can be conducted at our Bangkok facilities or in your home country and national language, delivered through collaboration with experienced trainers and organizations.

For more information about our upcoming courses and training programs, visit www.recoftc.org, or contact training@recoftc.org.

“After RECOFTC’s participatory action research training course, I completely reconsidered my research methods. Previously, I had barely involved communities while conducting research. But the participatory tools I gained from RECOFTC’s training course opened my eyes to how communities can help researchers both clarify and achieve their objectives. I really think that all research students – especially PhD students – should learn the participatory action research approach.”

Mr. Hasanuddin, PhD candidate at University of Hasanuddin
Local people hold the key to healthy forests
RECOFTC’s mission is to enhance capacities for stronger rights, improved governance and fairer benefits for local people in sustainable forested landscapes in the Asia-Pacific region.

RECOFTC holds a unique and important place in the world of forestry. We are the only international nongovernmental organization that specializes in capacity development for community forestry and devolved forest management. We engage in strategic networks and effective partnerships with governments, nongovernmental organizations, civil society, the private sector, local people, and research and educational institutes throughout Asia-Pacific and beyond. With over 25 years of international experience and a dynamic approach to capacity development – involving research and analysis, demonstration sites, and training products – we deliver innovative solutions for people and forests.