TRAINING ON THE SOCIAL ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

YAOUNDE, REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

MARCH 2020

The Centre for Social Excellence (CSE) is a unique educational initiative focused on training students in the key skills required to be effective social practitioners working with companies, governments and civil society organizations. The mission of the CSE is to create an enabling environment for social harmony and realized human rights by equipping companies, civil society and governments with well-trained social practitioners from the regions where they operate.

The CSE is currently looking for smart, motivated young professionals who would like to pursue a career as a social practitioner with an agriculture or forestry company operating in their home country to join our 10-month intensive training program. In this program, students will receive best-in-class training from international social experts who have strong experience working with companies and communities in Africa. The training program will include five months of course work and a 5-month internship with a company, helping them to address social issues in their operations. Applicants should already have a degree related to social sciences, agriculture, or natural resource management and should enjoy working with a wide variety of people in remote settings.

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 practitioner. As a social practitioner, 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 respecting human rights of local peoples and workers, and in being good neighbours to the people who are impacted by their operations.

The CSE is an initiative of The Earthworm Foundation (EF), an international non-profit organization with headquarters in Switzerland (see www.earthworm.org). EF is a membership organization that works with member companies and their supply chain partners to develop and implement new production models that respect communities, workers and nature. The CSE has been training students through our landmark 10-month program since its founding in 2008, and is currently based in Yaoundé, Cameroon.

Applications are now being accepted for the tenth training batch that will begin in Yaoundé in March 2020 and will be taught in French and English.

Best regards,

The CSE Team
CONTENT OF THE TRAINING

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

1. *Ethnology and anthropology to understand forest peoples and local populations in West and Central Africa*
2. Communication, conflict management, (setting up of discussion platforms, procedures...)
3. *Socio-economic studies and surveys*
4. Various certification systems and their requirements (legislation, traceability, sustainable management of forests and plantations)
5. *Legislative aspects of the forest and agricultural sector in Central and West Africa.*
6. Concepts and tools such as social and participatory mapping, FPIC (Free Prior and Informed Consent), HCV (High Conservation Values) and HCS (High Carbon Stock forest).
7. Community-based projects identification and implementation

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.

PLANNING

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<th>Months</th>
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<td>Training</td>
<td>Acquiring tools and concepts</td>
<td>Internship in a forest or agro industrial company</td>
<td>Evaluation of the social programme of the company</td>
<td>Elaboration of a social action plan and drafting of a final report</td>
<td>Oral defence of final report</td>
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| Training | Yaoundé, Cameroon | | | | |

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 logging or plantation company that is seeking to ameliorate its practices.

From the 5th to the 9th month of the program, 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 locations of the 5-month field phases will be mainly in companies related to natural resources (agro-industries, forestry companies, ...) taking into account the qualifications of the
students and their country of origin; preferably the internships in companies will take place in the home country of the participants.

ORGANISERS

The CSE is a EF project. EF’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 Chirac Foundation, PPECF/COMIFAC Project and the Waterloo Foundation.

**CSE Africa’s 10th training session is funded with UK aid from the UK government.**

PARTICIPANTS

This ten-month training is open to graduates from Central and West Africa with at least a first degree in forestry, sociology, anthropology, environment, agronomy, rural development, geography, law, sustainable development or economics...

**LANGUAGE**

This tenth training session is in French and English. Fluency in English will be a valuable asset for participants from French speaking countries.

**SELECTION PROCESS**

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


Only shortlisted candidates will be informed by email in **January 2020**.

The second phase of the selection process, i.e. **interviews, will be scheduled during January and February 2020**, 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 and local transport – 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 they are off-classes. They are also responsible for costs related to the issuing or renewal of passports.

No pocket money is allocated to the students.

**LODGING**

Students are lodged in the CSE dormitories (shared rooms). The CSE 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**

Students are expected to come along with their personal laptop during the training.
In addition, he/she has permanent access to the internet and the CSE library (both hard and soft collections). Didactic materials are provided by the CSE.

**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.

In order to travel in the sub-region, it is mandatory 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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