International course

Fisheries governance for food security







The dynamics in fisheries and its potential for food and nutrition security

Wageningen, The Netherlands, 22 October - 09 November 2018

Fisheries plays a vital role in global, national and rural economies and contributes to food security and nutrition. Fish is highly nutritious and serves worldwide as a valuable supplement in diets lacking essential proteins, vitamins and minerals. The primary threats undermining the food and nutrition security potential of fisheries results from ineffective management coupled with poor conservation of habitats.

The current status of the world's living aquatic resources varies but the number of fish stocks in trouble seems to exceed the number that is in a good or excellent state. Overcapacities of the world's fishing fleets, unsustainable fishing practices and weak management systems have been some of the key drivers. Climate change impacts fish and the ecosystems they depend on leading to decreased productivity, species migration as well as conflict over resource use and increased risks associated with more extreme climatic events such as hurricanes. At the same time, demand continues to rise and fish products are now one of the most widely traded commodities in the world.

Balancing under pressure

One of the primary tasks of the fisheries manager is to balance the pressure on the fish stocks and the aquatic habitat resulting from exploitation with the carrying capacity of natural populations and ecosystems. However its complexity, diversity and dynamics and the involvement of a large number of stakeholders makes fisheries difficult to govern. To enhance the contribution of fisheries to food and livelihoods security a transition towards more people centred governance approaches is needed. Strengthened governance in the fisheries sector with involvement of the public, civil society and private pressure on the fish stocks and the aquatic habitat sector

Fee: 3,900 Euro

Deadline subscription: 10 September 2018

Deadline OKP/MENA fellowships: 20 March 2018

is required to develop incentives for sustainable ecosystem management and to ensure that the role of fisheries in reaching global food production is taken into account. When stakeholders are able to meet, share experiences and learn together, innovative solutions can be created to contribute to decision making processes.



In this course which is organised in cooperation with other Dutch and international institutes, you will learn about fisheries governance needed to ensure food, nutrition and livelihood security. It will give you new insights on challenges that fisheries governance faces and explore ways to strengthen it. The course provides a framework in which you will acquire insights and skills to bring stakeholders in the fisheries system and help them understand each other's perspectives, manage their conflicts and learn together. Upon completion of the course you will:

- know the potential of fisheries for food and nutrition security and challenges undermining this;
- understand the concepts of food security and fisheries governance and the importance of stakeholder engagement;
- explore the possibilities, and pre-conditions of good (enough) governance;
- be able to apply participatory methodologies and tools to develop a pathway of change for a virtual fisheries case;
- explore institutional and policy arrangements needed to mainstream food security into fisheries governance.



The training programme is highly interactive, and uses case studies to illustrate the effect and impact of different management approaches and practices. Training methods include small group activities, role plays, excursions and individual assignments. You will be challenged to apply the concepts learned to your own work situation. The course will be organised in cooperation with Centre for Development Innovation, Wageningen UR along with other Dutch and international institutes working in fisheries governance and management such as FAO.

We expect you to have a BSc or equivalent in a discipline relevant to fisheries management and governance (i.e. fisheries science, coastal zone management, community development, biology, extension, social science etc.). You are competent in the English language and have at least 3 years of relevant professional experience in:

- fisheries management or research;
- higher education in fisheries management
- fisheries extension & training;
- development of coastal or inland fisheries communities;
- dealing with aquatic resource use issues.

Further practical information

Application, the procedure is:

- Apply at the website of Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation www.wur.eu/cdi
 You will receive a confirmation and more information within a week. Early application is recommended as some procedures to finalise subscription (f.e. funding, visa) can take some time.
- Centre 2) Wageningen for Development Innovation is unable to assist you in obtaining financial support, however if you want to apply for a **OKP/MENA Fellowship**, Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation will provide you with the full instructions and the web address for registration in ATLAS. ATLAS is the online application form for an OKP/MENA Fellowship. You can check the eligibility at www.nuffic.nl/okp or www.nuffic.nl/mena. A limited number of scholarships is available. As this application process takes time and requires several documents, we recommend that you start as soon as possible.
 - Location: The Netherlands. For prices, see the cost estimate on our website. OKP / MENA Fellowships include travel and full board and lodging.
 - Fee includes all course related costs (materials, excursions, administration).
 - Participants will be awarded with a Certificate of attendance. The programme of the course might be changed to incorporate new insights.