

International course

# Wetlands, integrated water resources management and food security



Promoting the value of wetlands for conservation, food security and climate change resilience

Wageningen, The Netherlands, 03 - 21 June 2019



**Wetlands for us** We have learned that restoring and maintaining wetlands is often cheaper than man-made solutions to guarantee water and food security. Without wetlands, the water cycle, carbon cycle and nutrient cycle would be significantly altered. Did you know for instance that 40% of wetland habitats have been lost over the last 40 years? Ramsar COP12 opened with this reminder, challenging delegates to address long-standing misperceptions in many sectors about the services wetlands provide to humans and about the need to value wetland services for improved decision making. Investing in your wetlands, thus reinstalling their often degraded functions and services, might financially even be very attractive and benefit local or national economies!

Despite their values, wetlands have been, and continue to be lost or degraded. At the same time policies, agreements and decisions often do not sufficiently take into account interconnections and interdependencies between wetlands and water security, wetlands and food security and wetlands and climate change resilience.

Food security, water management and climate change resilience all call for a cross cutting and inclusive approach involving all relevant stakeholders and sectors. This requires persons who, next to technical knowledge, possess other skills such as to facilitate processes involving sectors and stakeholders with conflicting agendas. In addition, it requires communication skills to advocate the important role of wetlands in integrated water management. In short, there is a need for more wetland stewards safeguarding water and food security!

**Us for wetlands!** As a wetland steward, whether you are a policymaker, a planner, researcher or site manager, you know that one of the difficulties to use

Fee:	4,100 Euro
Deadline subscription:	22 April 2019
Deadline OKP/MSP fellowships:	<b>16 October 2018</b>

water wisely, is the division of management responsibilities between different administrative authorities. This often results in fragmented and competitive approaches for water and food security to the detriment of wetlands.



This course is based on the premise that as a wetland steward you need solid background on what integrated water resources management is, the importance of water governance, what wetlands are, the different types of wetlands, what services wetlands provide and the role the Ramsar Convention plays.

To be able to act as a (more professional) water steward and to advocate for wetlands, you will also need to know how to facilitate multi-stakeholder processes, how to communicate the importance of wetlands for water and food security and how to value wetlands service in monetary terms.

Apply for this course if you wish to become a better wetland steward in an interactive manner!

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## This course aims you to.....

- have a greater understanding of the essence of integrated water resources management and water or wetland stewardship;
- have a better understanding of the interactions between wetlands and food security and the role wetlands play in climate change resilience;
- be better equipped to understand how to value wetland services in monetary terms;
- be better able to express the values of wetlands for water and food security;
- improve your skills to facilitate multi-stakeholder processes;
- have improved your communication, negotiation, lobby and advocacy skills;
- know better how to deal with conflict.



## This course is for you

This course is beneficial for mid-career professionals of government departments, non- governmental and civil society organisations, businesses, development agencies, universities and colleges of higher education, and other professionals responsible for water and food security.

## Requirements for applicants

- Have at least a Bachelor level qualification or equivalent educational background;
- Have at least two years of professional experience in water management and/or food security and/or climate change resilience;
- Be currently involved in water management and/or food security and/or climate change resilience;
- Be fluent in spoken and written English.

**The training** will make use of approaches consistent with Ramsar's wise use principles and will draw upon the expertise of Wageningen University and Research Centre, but also other international and national governmental, non-governmental and private sector organisations. Our wetland-related trainings have been endorsed by the

Ramsar Secretariat since 2004, and this training is one of them!

## Further practical information

**Application**, the procedure is:

- 1) **Apply at the website of Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation** [www.wur.eu/cdi](http://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.
- 2) **Wageningen Centre 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](http://www.nuffic.nl/okp) or [www.nuffic.nl/mena](http://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.

**Apply! Not tomorrow, but do it today...**

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