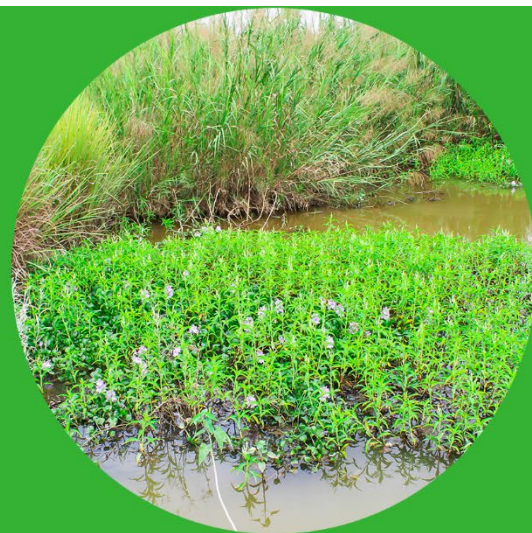


Refresher course

Adapting to climate change: wise water management for urban and rural resilience



Nepal, 06 – 17 May 2019

Wetlands are extremely vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Freshwater environments are already under pressure from drainage, dredging, damming, pollution, extraction, silting and invasive species. Climate change exacerbates these challenges. But wetlands are also one of the planet's most effective carbon sinks and represent unrealised potential for climate mitigation. They make communities more resilient to the impacts of climate change by providing buffers against sea level rise and storm surges, and reduce the impacts of floods, droughts and cyclones. using overlapping methods and tools to monitor, analyse and address disaster and climate change risks.

Wetland managers face a new set of challenges when addressing the impacts from global climate change. The refresher course 'Adapting to climate change: wise water management for urban and rural resilience' will strengthen the capacity of the participants to better respond and adapt to the complexities and uncertainties of climate change in wetlands. More specifically, it will discuss the importance and role of wetlands for climate change mitigation and adaptation and promote the benefits of wetland restoration for rural and urban resilience.

Building resilience to climate change requires concerted efforts amongst different players involved in the management of ecosystems, science of weather forecasting, severe weather predictions and climate change projections as a necessary input in improved management of water.

Deadline subscription:	29 March 2019
Location:	Nepal

With the current global move to mainstream climate change into sector ministries and policies, at the same time, capacity to help facilitate and support this movement need to be strengthened.

This refresher course **will equip you with state-of-the-art knowledge and skills to be better prepared for climate action.** It will help you to support the implementation of global, national and local climate agreements and formulate more resilient conservation policies, adaptation responses and management action.



The training will have a theoretical and a more applied practical part. The **theoretical sessions** will discuss the concepts behind the course to better understand the socio-ecological system, the current problems faced in wetlands (e.g. pollution leading to degraded wetlands, leading to health impacts and loss of biodiversity) and the aggravating impact of climate change. The **practical training** is about communicating this understanding to the different stakeholder groups which hopefully will contribute to behavioural change and eventually (political) will to restore a wetland system, adapt to climate change and strengthen urban and rural resilience. The use of cultural themes and items to convey environmental and ecological concerns can help raise awareness and support more sustainable wetland management practices under a changing climate. In particular you will learn ways how to develop visual aids and tools to better communicate with the community and other stakeholders.

Local and international resource persons from different disciplines will expose you to a broad range of topics. Practical tools, cases studies, role plays, group and individual work will help you look for innovative ways to strengthen resilience of watershed communities. Local and international case studies will provide the participants with tested strategies for wetland protection and restoration to reduce vulnerability to changing climates. The theory of change approach and the personal action planning will help you to look critically at your own work and reflect on your role as a change manager.

The course will be very hands-on and the Danda river basin and adjacent wetlands will act as a study pilot site. You will actively work on a concept plan for restoration and waste management of these wetlands and start with the development of role-plays and an educational toolkit to translate climate science effectively for communities and public schools. The skills and approach can be tailored to your own working context and culture.

Partners

The training programme is organised by Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation, Wageningen UR in partnership with the Pratiman Neema Memorial Foundation (<http://pnfoundation.org.np/>) and with expert input from IHE Delft Institute for Water Education (<https://www.un-ihe.org/>)

How to participate?

To be able to participate, you need to meet the general OKP Refresher Programme criteria. We also expect you to **work in water & wetland management** and be an **alumni** of one of the following Wageningen CDI courses conducted between **2010-2016**:

- Wetlands, integrated water resources management and food security
- Managing risk in the face of climate change
- Climate change and food security nexus

Your work experience, motivation and the relevance of the course for your work will play a role in the selection process. We are aiming for a balanced mix of participants from NGO, government, universities and research institutes, countries, gender and age with the purpose to take a maximum of advantage of 'cross fertilization' of experiences.

Further practical information

Application procedure:

- 1) Apply at the latest March 30 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. Please include the following:
 - Motivation letter
 - CV
 - Name and year of the WCDI course that you have participated in
- 2) A limited number of scholarships is available.** You will be informed by WCDI if you have been awarded a scholarship once the selection has been done.
- 3) As this application process takes time and requires several documents, we recommend that you **start as soon as possible**.**
- 4) Location:** Nepal. For prices, see the cost estimate on our website.
- 5) OKP Fellowships includes** all course related costs, travel and full board and lodging.
- 6) Participants will be awarded with a **Certificate of attendance****
- 7) The programme of the course might be changed to incorporate new insights.**