

ENHANCING LOCAL INITIATIVES

ABOUT THE TRAINING STAFF:

The training staff are drawn from the advisors and trainers of Forestry Manpower Development Consultants (FMD) and the Management for Development Foundation (MDF), located in the Netherlands. Staff have experience in a wide variety of projects and programmes in Europe, Africa, Latin America and Asia. They offer training programmes on a regular basis for professionals engaged in development, focusing on improving practical skills, offering new insights and developing usable techniques. Consultancy services and training courses are also offered in host countries outside Europe on request.

DURATION AND COST

The course will be offered from **17 May to 26 June 1993** (6 weeks) at a training facility located centrally in the Netherlands. The course fee is

WHAT IS DISCOVERY LEARNING?

In discovery learning, the participants' own experiences and working situation are central. Systematic reflection takes place in small working groups. As a picture emerges of what is *actually* being done at present and of what the participants believe *should* be done, additional knowledge and skills are introduced in order to close the gap. The skills needed to implement this approach are trained. The process will be facilitated by experienced trainers and subject matter specialists. Several excursions are also made. Workshop manuals and readers with recent articles concerning the course are available to the participants.

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Dfl. 15,000, including full board and lodging, insurance (health and third party liability), and training materials. **Excluded** are daily allowances, pocket money and travel costs to and from the training facility. In view of the intensive nature of the training, a maximum of 15 participants will be registered for the course. Participants should arrange their own funding for the course; we regret that FMD/MDF are not able to offer scholarships for attendance.

REGISTRATION, PAYMENT AND ADMISSIONS

To register for the course please send or fax an application to:

FMD Consultants
P.O. Box 10363
7301 GJ Apeldoorn
The Netherlands

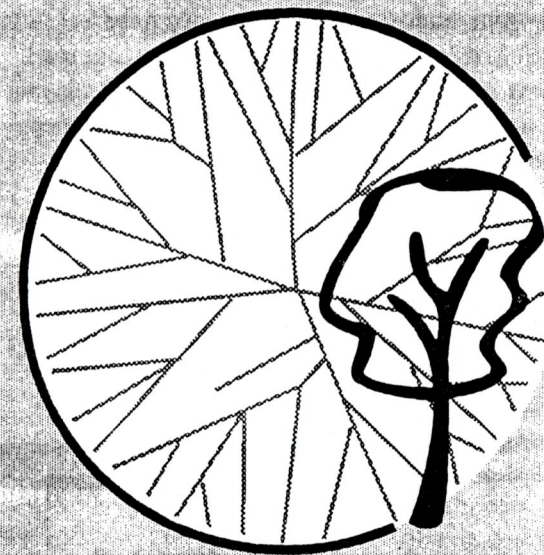
Phone: (+31) 55-222933
Telefax: (+31) 55-225773



You will receive confirmation of your registration once approval has been received from your sponsoring agency. Payment of the course fee must be made before attending the course. Applicants should have an adequate educational background (B.Sc. or equivalent), have at least 3 years relevant field experience and be competent to follow the course in English.

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**participatory tools for
social forestry**

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SOCIAL FORESTRY: PRESENT NEEDS

Over the past two decades, opinions about the role and responsibility of forestry in the context of rural development have changed dramatically. There is an increasing demand for an approach to forestry which will contribute to the process of sustainable development; a development that is equitable and which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Implicit in this interpretation of forestry is a need for new initiatives which contribute to a participatory, equitable, decentralised and self-sustaining process of rural development.

To be able to enhance local initiatives, forestry professionals need new skills for their job. They need to correctly identify these initiatives and support local groups in interchanging their knowledge. They need to assist in developing sustained approaches, using participatory processes to make clear what are the local visions on existing problems and the changes that need to take place. They need to distinguish interest groups and cooperate with farmers and others to make simple plans of action for immediate implementation.

In this course, these needs are addressed in a practical way.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND THIS COURSE?

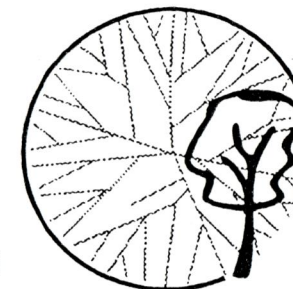
The course is intended for people active in social forestry extension and other forestry professionals who have discovered that integrating farmers' knowledge is essential for success in rural development projects, and who are seeking practical skills and techniques for working with farmers, groups and communities. As women play a major role in rural development, female staff who are involved in programmes for rural women are specially invited to apply.

RESULTS OF THE TRAINING

The course offers professionals the opportunity to enhance their present approach to rural development. It enables participants to evaluate their present working practices by a process of discovery learning. They learn how to systematize their own and local groups knowledge and abilities in view of

the new ideas on social forestry. Central in the training process is that participants recognize the value of existing knowledge among the rural population. On completing the course, participants will have available a diagnosis of their current working practice, and a model or theory of an adapted approach appropriate to their

own situation, which will help them in making their efforts more effective. They will have available specific skills in working with individuals and groups to achieve these objectives. They will be better able to act as intermediary to knowledgeable individuals and to lead groups in making practical and easily implementable action plans. They will also have specific strategies for applying their new knowledge and insights in their home organization. To achieve this, they will by the end of the course, have developed a personal action plan which will guide them in introducing the new practices into their working situation.



WHICH SUBJECTS ARE COVERED

In the first week the present knowledge, and experiences and working context of participants are described, systematized and evaluated. The second week concentrates on the development of a step-by-step participatory model for social forestry. In the third week new social forestry methods and techniques are learned to enhance the process of combining local knowledge and institutional knowledge. The fourth week focusses on development of confidence in applying the step-by-step social forestry approach. In the fifth week participants develop a personal social forestry intervention plan for their own working situation. Finally, in the sixth week strategies are developed and bottlenecks to implementation are identified.

| Week 1 | Week 2 | Week 3 |
|--|---|--|
| Introduction and expectations Learning conditions Diagnosis of participants' practices analysis and reflection | Participatory approaches to social forestry Comparing the new approaches to existing practices Developing a stepwise participatory approach | Tools for group facilitation Tools for participatory intervention Gridding, matrix ranking, diagramming and mapping |
| Week 4 | Week 5 | Week 6 |
| Fieldwork: learning about farmers' management systems Applying participatory tools and individual intervention skills Practicing Action Research and PRA | Developing vision and contradictions analysis Strategic alternatives and implementaries Drafting a personal action plan | Analysing organizational potentials and obstacles to change Developing strategies for implementing the plan among colleagues Fine-tuning personal skills |