

Mainstreaming free, prior and informed consent

in the context of forest governance

Registration information

Dates: 7 - 12 May 2018

Course location: Bangkok, Thailand (with field visit to a forest community in Thailand)

Course fee: US\$ 1,500 (Course fee includes course materials, lunch during training program, meeting package, and travel and accommodation for field trip (2 nights). Please note that flights, visa, accommodation and other travel related expenses are NOT included in the course fee)

The registration is open until 9 April 2018, or until 25 participants have registered.

When making an investment in a forest or forest land a company or government naturally expects a return, to make a profit. Too often in tropical forests this is not the case as demonstrated by the occurrence of conflict, invariably with significant detrimental social and environmental impacts, including on local communities. A key reason for these failures is that the investors fail to consider the rights and needs of those, including Indigenous Peoples, living in and around the forests that are the focus of the investment.

There are numerous legal measures in place, and tools available to support the investors. One of the most prominent is Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). FPIC is increasingly being recognized as not just an obligation on, for example, REDD+ project proponents, but also an effective way to safeguard investments.

There is, however, a significant need to develop capacity among relevant stakeholders to understand the complex art of negotiating community consent, and to cultivate the necessary skills for effective FPIC implementation.

This course targets company, government and civil society staff working with communities so they can have a stronger grasp of how to incorporate FPIC in their projects, as well as supporting communities in safeguarding their rights under FPIC. In addition to covering the theoretical principles and values that support FPIC, participants can explore practical examples of its implementation during a field trip to an appropriate site in Thailand. Participants will be provided with the opportunity to apply their learning from in-class sessions as they interact with key actors in a natural resource context in Thailand.



Course objectives

At the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Explain the key principles and supporting values of FPIC and its importance in forestry related initiatives
- Appreciate the need for FPIC in the design and implementation of all forestry related projects and link this to their own current work contexts
- Identify initial design steps in respecting local communities' rights when seeking FPIC
- Develop action points for interventions to address potential issues and concerns for applying FPIC in their own work contexts

Who should join?

This training is aimed at:

- Private sector staff responsible for stakeholder management
- Policy makers at the national level and field coordinators who would apply FPIC in the field
- Civil society representatives working on safeguarding the rights of forest communities

Course content

The course will draw on the shared experience of trainers and participants covering the following topics:

- What is FPIC?
- FPIC for what and for whom?
- Why FPIC in forestry related initiatives?
- FPIC and the development of international standards, including in certification, and REDD+
- Supporting values related to respecting the right to FPIC
- Integration of FPIC in the design and implementation of various forestry related initiatives

To reserve your place in this course, or for more information, please contact:

Leela Wuttikraibundit

Tel: +66 (0)2 940 5700 Ext. 1234

Email: training@recoftc.org

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RECOFTC training courses use unique and highly effective approaches that apply experiential learning based on adult learning principles. Through participatory training activities, participants explore information and knowledge based on their own experiences.

At the end of the training, action planning enables participants to take their learning forward in their work. RECOFTC training courses are action oriented, and monitoring and evaluation of the learning and application is an integral part of the training services offered by RECOFTC.

