

INTERNATIONAL COURSE ON PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT

Madrid, Spain. August, 1-9, 2016

SIERRA DE
GUADARRAMA
PARQUE NACIONAL





INTERNATIONAL COURSE ON PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT

Location: Sierra de Guadarrama National Park.
Madrid, Spain.

Dates: August, 1-9, 2016

This is a 9 day intensive training programme offered by the Polytechnic University of Madrid in collaboration with the Directorate-General for Environment of the Madrid Government and EDNYA, a consulting firm specialising in education. The course is intended for University students and professionals within the environmental sector. The course itself is taught in English.

Introduction

The Madrid region is one of the most densely populated and dynamic regions in Spain. It is also home to the majority of Spain's most representative ecosystems. Its network of protected areas constitutes a highly effective tool for the protection and conservation of values intrinsic to this geographical area.

The objective of this course is for participants to analyze the delicate balance between conservation, public use and development in these areas. The chosen case studies are spaces that stand out for their diversity. However, their proximity to urban areas results in a large number of different human impacts, including tourism.

The Sierra de Guadarrama mountain range boasts some beautiful mountain ecosystems, extensive forests of Scots Pine (*Pinus Sylvestris*), spectacular granite crags, and impressive glacial cirques and lakes. The area has been designated with a number of protections since last century, all leading to its constitution as a National Park in 2013.



Main goal

Participants will gain an overall picture of existing problems within protected areas near population centres. They will also be able to extract useful information applicable to the respective national territory.

Specific goals

1. To understand environmental approaches and techniques in protected area management.
2. To apply gained knowledge at the course by participating in practical exercises in relation to the case studies.
3. To develop proposals which further assist in the resolution of environmental conflicts and natural heritage conservation.
4. To contribute to the personal and professional development of the participants, strengthening their leadership and teamwork skills, in relation to the meaning, value and benefits of protected areas.

Contents

The course is articulated around three main axes: the place (protected areas of the Madrid Region), its use by the public (facilities, leisure activities) and problems arising from this use (environmental impacts, carrying capacity and sustainable solutions).

Within this framework, a number of specific themes will be developed:

- Public management of the Protected Areas: tools of territorial governance, diagnosis, trends and threats (extractive uses such as herding, forest harvesting, hunting and fishing).
- Private management of the Protected Areas: recreational use, ecotourism, environmental education, without compromising the environmental resources and values.
- International, European, national and regional context: Aichi Targets. Significance and importance of the Natura 2000 Network. Spanish Network of National Parks. Case studies in Madrid and Segovia.
- Biodiversity conservation and management by objectives: socioeconomic development, social welfare.
- Effects of Climate Change on Protected Areas, mitigation and adaptation.
- Problems and implications for conservation management at different levels: population, ecosystems, landscapes.
- Management and conservation of landscape: fragmentation and heterogeneity, flows in the landscape, connectivity and corridors.
- Analysis of conflicts between the different actors involved in the management and use of protected areas and their adjacent zones. Strategic collaboration among public authorities, researchers, companies and civil society.
- Management of natural and anthropogenic disturbances (fire, invasive species, etc.) for restoring the natural conditions.
- Main ecosystem values to be protected in the case studies (fauna, flora, hydrology and geomorphology).
- Management of change in land use, vegetation, water quality and wildlife in protected sites that suffer from a high human pressure.
- Research and monitoring of facilities and resources available to visitors in an area that will be used as a case study.

Methodology

Classroom work focuses on obtaining information required to understand the characteristics of the environment and the natural values of the protected areas under study. Historical and cultural factors needed to complete this understanding are discussed during fieldtrips and in the classroom. The legislation, and management plans, methods and techniques in force in Spain are presented in a practical manner, applied to the study areas.

During **field trips**, participants learn about the different types of protected areas and their management *in situ*. The most successful management practices are explained, as are those the results of which have not lived up to expectations. Emphasis is placed on the problems encountered in each zone, resulting from their integration in the context of the location in question. The places chosen for visits have similar problems to those normally found in developing countries, such as a lack of coordination and collaboration between institutions; the impacts of private companies and groups of users on resources; the impact of uncontrolled development; uses in conflict with the objectives of the protected area; etc.

The course also provides an opportunity to interact with the main players involved in the management: public institutions; private companies; user groups and local communities.

Towards the end of the course, participants will be ready to work in groups, and in accordance with their specific interests, to make proposals for improving the topics under discussion. On the last day, the results of the group work will be presented to the class. This work will be written up and given to the participants as part of the course material.



Programme

	MONDAY August 1 st	TUESDAY August 2 nd	WEDNESDAY August 3 rd	THURSDAY August 4 th	FRIDAY August 5 th	SATURDAY August 6 th	SUNDAY August 7 th
10 to 14.30h	Opening of the course and Polytechnic. Univ. Lecture	Polytechnic Univ. Lectures	FIELD TRIP	Sessions with experts	Sessions with experts	FIELD TRIP	FIELD TRIP
14.30 to 16h	MEAL TIME			MEAL TIME			FREE TIME
16 to 18h	Round-table: Conservacionists	Round-table: Entrepreneurs		Research work in groups			

	MONDAY August 8 th	TUESDAY August 9 th
10 to 14.30h	Production in groups	Working groups' conclusions
14.30 to 16h	MEAL TIME	
16 to 18h	Production in groups	End of course and awarding of certificates. ¹

¹ For those interested, there is an airport pick-up service, and those who want to stay at the hotel the night of Aug. 9 or on successive nights, will have to notify the course organizers to make the reservation.



Language

The official language of the course is **ENGLISH** and all the materials, lectures, talks, discussions, fieldwork and other activities are undertaken in this language. In exceptional cases, when speakers are not fluent in English, they could be translated by course staff.



Certificate and Credits

The Polytechnic University will issue participants with a certificate. The certificate will state the duration of the course, hours of training with the option of credits equivalent to 1ECTS/25hours training.

The Polytechnic University of Madrid

The Polytechnic University of Madrid (UPM) was founded in 1971 with the objective of creating, developing, transmitting and critically analyzing science, technology and culture. Today it is one of the most prestigious Spanish Universities, doubly recognized as an International Campus of Excellence; in recognition of the quality of its teaching and research activity.



Instructors

Professors from the Polytechnic University of Madrid.
Protected area managers of Autonomous Community of Madrid.
Experts in required disciplines in order to follow the programme.



Cercedilla

Cercedilla is a pretty mountain village in the heart of the Sierra de Guadarrama with a population of 6,700. It is 56 km from Madrid and 30 km from the city of Segovia. The village is of national and international tourist interest, especially in the summer. During the month of August it is typically warm during the day but cools down at night. Fieldwork may involve visits to high, cold zones, so we recommend hats and sun cream, as well as warm clothing.

Logistics

ACCOMMODATION: Course participants stay at different accommodations located in the village of Cercedilla, within the area of action of the Guadarrama National Park. If you would like information on accommodation for companions, the course organizers can send you a list of hotels and hostels in Cercedilla.

Accommodation is scheduled for the duration of the course (from the night of the July 31 to the August 9th). If you would like to extend your stay in Cercedilla, or to arrive before the start of the course, you can make use of our list of places to stay.

FOOD: All meals will be served in the place where the course is taught, except on days on which fieldtrips are scheduled. In this case, participants will be provided with a packed lunch to eat on route. If you have any kind of dietary requirements or allergy, please let us know as soon as possible so they can be catered for.

TRANSPORT: Transport to Madrid from the countries of origin of the participants, and the organization of visas and passports in the event these are necessary, are the responsibility of participants or their sponsors. Participants must arrive in the Madrid Barajas-Adolfo Suárez Airport by the 31th of July. We do however recommend arrival on the 30st of July to allow for a day's rest before the course begins. Participants who want can be picked up at the airport by course staff. The cost of pick-up is 100 Euros (not included in the price of the course). Similarly, on the 9th of August the course coordinators can take any participants requiring it to the airport. Those participants who want can travel from Madrid to Cercedilla and back by train, following the instructions provided by the coordinators of the course.



Recommendations

We suggest participants ensure they have enough cash for everyday expenses and emergencies (telephone calls, taxis, personal shopping).

Recommended equipment: mountain boots, light comfortable and weather-proof clothing, a small rucksack for trips, and a hat, sunglasses and sun cream.

Cost

The price of the course is 1400 Euros. University students or professional collegiate will get a 20% discount, and is 1120 Euros. In this case, you may request the discount when submitting the application for admission.

Course fees include: registration, welcome kit containing logistical information for getting around Madrid, course materials, accommodation and meals in Cercedilla, insurance (health and accident), fieldtrips, packed lunches for trips, payments for speakers, experts and guides, transport during the course, certificates and administrative costs.

Course fees do not include: transport to Madrid and between Madrid and Cercedilla. The course organizers do however provide a transport service between the airport and the residence for 100 Euros/journey. The organizers supply participants with instructions on public transport in the event that they wish to make use of this option. These participants will be picked up from the RENFE railway station in Cercedilla free of charge.

Application and notification of registration

The methodology employed in the course (fieldtrips, group work, etc.) means places are limited. To complete the application, please send the form alongside your CV to internationalcourses@ednya.org by the 31st of May.

To download the application form click below:

<http://www.ednya.org/index.php/educacion/international-course-on-protected-area-management>

Notification of admissions will be made by email as soon as possible after the deadline for applications to the course.

Deadlines and timescales:

- Applications for the Course must be submitted to EDNYA by 30st of June in any case.
- After the acceptance notification, applicants have 15 days to make payment.
- Participants should plan to arrive in Madrid on or before July 31st, so they have an opportunity to rest before beginning the programme.
- The Course will be held from the 1st to 9th August 2016.



Payment and refunds

The payment of the course in its entirety must be completed 15 days from reception of the admission notification, in order to reserve your place. The organizers do not accept responsibility for the loss of your place because of delayed payments. Payment must be made by means of electronic bank transfer in Euros.

- ◆ For **cancellations made by participants on grounds of force majeure and documentally justified**, the amount paid will be refunded minus 400 EUR. These unrefundable deposits are required to cover commitments made by the institution.
- ◆ For **cancellations made by the institution**, the fees paid will be refunded in their entirety.

Bank transfers

Information to make a wire transfer:

“Tuition Protected Areas” should be specified within the bank transfer. If the originator of the transfer is a person other than the course participant, the name of the participant should be included in the subject of the bank transfer, to allow the organizers to reserve his/her place.

Once the wire transfer has been made, the receipt for the transfer should be sent to EDNYA (internationalcourses@ednya.org). This enables the administrators to trace the payment should an error occur.

Enquires

Should any further information be required in regards to the programme, please do not hesitate to contact EDNYA:

internationalcourses@ednya.org

We recommend contacting by email instead of by phone, due to time differences.

Information to make a wire transfer from a Spanish bank:

Account holder: Educación,
Naturaleza y Animación S.L.U.

Bank: BANKIA

Account number:

ES72 2038 2223 6360 0035 4769

Information to make a wire transfer outside of Spain:

Account holder: Educación,
Naturaleza y Animación S.L.U.

Account number (IBAN): ES72 2038
2223 6360 0035 4769

Spanish Bank: BANKIA

Swift Code: CAHMESMMXXX

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