



Training Course for Instructors in Community-Based Fire Management

Balikpapan, East Kalimantan, Indonesia

28 October – 4 November 2007

(Issued May 2007)

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1st Announcement
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PARTICIPATION

Countries and participating INGOs/NGOs on the Training Course are invited to increase their understanding of the underlying causes ecologically-inappropriate fires, policy and legislative frameworks, and create proactive fire management approaches and national strategies in the appropriate use of fire as a management tool.

Participation is by invitation.

COURSE INFORMATION

Further information on FAO and TNC activities can be found at the following websites:

<http://www.fao.org/forestry/site/firemanagement/en>

<http://tncfire.org>

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INFORMATION on the TRAINING COURSE

Training Course for Instructors in Community Based Forest Fire Management (CBFiM) Balikpapan, East Kalimantan, Indonesia 28 October – 4 November 2007

COURSE INTRODUCTION

Background

Over the past thirty years, the frequency and intensity of fires in South Asia has increased. In 1997-1998, nearly 10 million hectares were affected in Indonesia, with damages estimated at nearly US\$9 billion. Additionally, haze from forest fires often results in significant increases in respiratory conditions, lung function complaints and other related impacts. The ecological, human and economic impacts of altered fire regimes are further exacerbated during El Niño years. Whenever adverse fire weather conditions persist, it is almost a foregone conclusion that severe air pollution and haze events, induced by fire-associated smoke, will ensue in South and East Asia and elsewhere.

Over one third of terrestrial habitats in South and East Asia are fire-sensitive, and they largely suffer from too much fire as a result of ecologically damaging fire use for livestock ranching, agriculture, or clearing for rural and urban development. Other fire-related threats include uncontrolled accidental fires in forests and peatlands and forest mismanagement. These sources of fire regime alteration also accelerate climate change by contributing to deforestation and greenhouse gas emissions. The need to address the causes of fire regime alteration is urgent; experts estimate that over 80% of fire regimes in the region are considered degraded or very degraded when compared to ecologically-acceptable conditions.

While some of burning activity in the region is ecologically sound and ecologically useful, a large share of this burning is harmful and damaging to the environment.

For the sustainability of the forestry environment in Asia there is a need to reduce area of unnecessary or harmful burning.

Due to the fact that 95% of all fires are caused by human activities it is necessary to address the reasons for these fires; rather than only trying to increase the suppression capacity or by tightening fire legislation. Proactive fire management approaches are needed to establish data on the underlying causes of these fires; only then is it possible to develop national strategies in the appropriate use of fire as a management tool.

Fortunately, however, long-term fire management programmes can achieve a substantial decrease in the numbers and extent of unnecessary burning. This has been achieved in many parts of the world by raising the awareness of local people and providing training to multiple level stakeholders in the proper use of fire as a management tool in rural activities at landscape level. By managing fires at local level, resources, including forestry can be managed sustainably.

The aim of the training course is to collate all information about community based fire management (CBFiM) in the region, analyse the experiences gained, and increase local capacity to create proactive fire management approaches and national strategies in the appropriate use of fire as a management tool.

Recent local experiences gained in the involvement of government, local communities, NGOs and other stakeholders in integrated fire management (IFM) approaches need to be highlighted; including the obstacles encountered in the process.

There is also a need to highlight the present legislative and policy constraints in involving and transferring fire management responsibilities from government to local communities, including the need to present positive solutions to these legislative constraints; by highlighting experiences from Indonesia, China, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam and Cambodia, and from projects such as The GTZ sponsored IFFM Project (East Kalimantan 1994-2002), Project FireFight South East Asia (PFFSEA) 1998-2002, an initiative of WWF and IUCN, and the European Union funded SSFFMP Project (South Sumatra 2003-2008). There is also a need to reform and focus on policies, mechanisms and institutions that can support sustainable forest management by converting inappropriate wildfires into controlled fires.

Rationale

Several reasons support the idea for this regional Workshop. The majority of wildfires in this region are human caused and are often associated with shifting populations, changes in land use patterns and practices. Many communities in countries located within Asia are quite familiar with fire in terms of its use for traditional livelihood activities such as clearing vegetation for agriculture, hunting and stimulating the growth of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs). As such these communities historically have played a significant role in the management of fire in many areas of the region. However, changes in land use patterns, and top down fire related policy and legislation often conflict with traditional fire use practices. In terms of effective fire management, suppression, prevention and enforcement are only part of the answer; there is also a need to recognize the role of fire in fire-dependant ecosystems and the beneficial uses of fire by rural communities.

Fire is not always used in appropriate ways. For example, excessive or inappropriate burning can lead to damaged ecosystems and altered fire regimes. The top causes of altered fire regimes globally include urban development; livestock farming; ranching and agriculture; fire and fire suppression; resource extraction (including energy production, mining and logging); and climate change. More specifically, in Asia, agriculture and logging have been identified by experts and managers as being two of the greatest threats to biodiversity. Further, inappropriate land development policies have led to extensive deforestation and ecologically inappropriate fire use in many countries. This situation is exacerbated when local peoples' uses and needs are not considered in the development of legal and regulatory systems. The resulting social conflict often becomes an indirect cause of fires in the region. In Borneo for example, Government-granted concessions ignore some indigenous claims on land and trees and are at the root of many forest and fire management problems. This lack of recognition of local people's rights can lead to land tenure conflicts, where stakeholders may resort to the use of fire as a weapon to claim lands.

Fire and forestry professionals need to be looking for solutions to these problems beyond conventional fire management approaches. National and community-based solutions need to be sought; solutions that engage local communities and NGOs and other stakeholders who are critical to success. There is a need to apply an ecosystem approach wherein all fires; regardless of its purpose (agriculture, land clearing) are managed in an integrated manner that takes into consideration the needs of nature and people.

The FAO and The Nature Conservancy, will involve the international community of forest fire scientists, managers, policy makers and NGOs in this workshop. The aim is to develop viable fire management options for the present sociocultural conditions in the Asia Pacific region.

Objectives of the Training Course

The overall objectives of the Workshop are to provide:

- (a) a forum on CBFiM in the Asia Pacific region,
- (b) prepare mechanisms for information and resources exchange in forest and other wildland fire and other resource management within the region, including the establishment of partnerships for joint activities in fire research, training, outreach and policy development, and
- (c) enable preparation of proposals to governments and international organizations of the region to establish mechanisms for sharing resources in fire management and in large fire emergencies in accordance with existing international procedures.

The Course objectives are in line with the scope of work and recommendations of various international organizations including:

- The UN FAO Strategy for International Cooperation in Fire Management
- The ECE/FAO/ILO Team of Specialists on Forest Fire
- The Interagency Task Force for Disaster Reduction of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), its Working Group on Wildland Fire (WG-4) and the UN Wildland Fire Advisory Group
- The Global Wildland Fire Network (GWFN)
- The FAO, in accordance with the recommendations of the fire expert consultations on "Public Policies affecting Forest Fires" (1998) and "International Cooperation in Fire Management" (2001)
- The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) and its joint UNEP Environment Unit, including the Advisory Group on Environmental Emergencies (AGEE) and the UN-WSSD Type II Partnership on an Integrated Approach to Prevention, Preparedness for and Response to Environmental Emergencies in support of Sustainable Development
- The overall scope of the Global Disaster Information Network (GDIN) International
- The World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- The International Wildland Fire Summit; held in Sydney Australia, 8 October 2003
- The 4th International Wildfire Conference, to be held in Sevilla, Spain May 2007
- ASEAN transboundary haze agreements

The Instructors Training Course will deal with concepts at several levels of the learning continuum:

Training; dealing with specific tasks of CBFiM:

Education; dealing with complex sets of attitudes, skills and values: and

Development: dealing with complex sets of tasks and requirements in establishing wildland fire management (with emphasis on CBFiM) which facilitates socio-political, cultural and technological advancement.

Date and Venue

Balikpapan, East Kalimantan, Indonesia
28 October – 4 November 2007

Workshop organization

The Workshop is being organized by FAO and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Global Fire Initiative, and TNCs Indonesia Country Program and Asia Pacific Region.

Participation

Forest Fire Managers from 8 Asian countries; involved in developing participatory fire management policies, legislation, strategies, guidelines and work plans for community participation.

Managers responsible for wildland fire management need to receive special training because their daily duties require skills in: explaining, demonstrating, communicating, delegating, coaching and in training of employees, stakeholders and the general public. Managers will need to better understand local needs for fire use in the face of changing policy, ownership patterns and land use practices in order to truly apply a collaborative and integrated approach to fire management.

Participant's Learning Objectives (pedagogical objectives) of the training course

After completion of the training course the participant should:

- Be able to recommend to hers/his government/organization about where and how to avail of regional or international assistance in forest fire management;
- Be able to determine the basic requirements for a successful application of CBFiM activities in hers/his country;
- Be able to propose to the government/organization about the necessity for local communities to use fire as a management tool at ecosystem level; and
- Be able to identify current barriers (local and regional) to successful implementation of CBFiM and identify strategies to overcome these barriers.

The trained participants will become CBFiM Instructors; they will in their daily duties act as change agents, as facilitators, as enablers, as catalysers, as informal and referral centres, as linkers and as exponents of empowerment.

Training benefits for employer's organizations: (e.g. for Forest Departments)

The capacity building of participants on this training course for Instructors in CBFiM leads to: improved delivery of services to their clientele, improved environmental management of resources; which leads to improved working morale, better relations with institutions and the public; increased food and energy security for the local population and better national compliance with international conventions and agreements.

Training benefits for local communities and stakeholders

The training of local communities and stakeholders in CBFiM implies;

- How people act together to protect their collective interest
- How people mobilize resources for their own livelihood
- How people bid for participation in activities affecting them, their areas, their lives

The training will enable the communities/stakeholders to develop; it will impact their attitudes and behaviour and will increase their capacity to use fire as a management tool in a safe and environmentally acceptable way.

Certificate of Attendance

The training course will provide a certificate of attendance for successful participation.

Programme overview

**COMMUNITY BASED FIRE MANAGEMENT (CBFiM) WORKSHOP
INDONESIA 2007**

Dates: 2007	Duration:	Activity:
Sunday	07:00-18:00	- Arrival of participants - Transport to the meeting facility - Orientation of the participants upon arriving - Registration
	18:30	Dinner
Monday		
	7:30	Breakfast
	08:30-9:00	Introduction of the Participants and Trainers
	09:00-9:20	Group dynamics and integration
	09:20-9:30	Announcements - Logistics
	09:30-10:30	Inaugural Session - Welcome - Objectives of the Course. - General vision of FAO
	10:30-10:45	Recess
	10:45-11:00	Global perspective of TNC - Who is TNC? What is the Global Fire Initiative?
	11:00-11:45	- What is CBFiM/IFM? (45 minutes)
	12:00-13:30	Lunch
		General presentations on the programs of fire management at the community level: the successes, the problems and the needs.
	13:30-14:00	Regional Perspective: SE Asia
	14:00-14:15	Recess
	14:15-14:30	Local Perspective: Case study (Indonesia)
	14:30-14:45	Recess
	14:45-15:00	Local Perspective: Case study (Thailand)
	15:00-15:15	Local Perspective: Case study (Malaysia)
	15:15-15:30	Recess
	15:30-15:45	Local Perspective: Case study (Cambodia)
	15:45-16:00	Local Perspective: Case study (Vietnam)
	16:00-16:15	Recess
	16:15-16:30	Local Perspective: Case study (China)
	16:30-17:00	Create 3 Discussion Groups: Use of skits, puppets, etc. in presentations

	17:00-17:15	Discussion of Thursday's Site Visit: Establish Groups. Groups will be given a scenario to present that will either: 1. Convince NGO's in Indonesia of the importance of fire as an ecological process in reserves. 2. Focus on the community needs. 3. Focus on Gov. agencies that need to be influenced. 4. Policy and legislative issues 5. Other ideas...
	18:30	Dinner
	19:30	Evening Activity
Tuesday	07:30	Breakfast
		Discussion of Regional Case Studies
	08:30-09:00	Discussion of yesterday's presentations: the successes, the problems and the needs.
	09:00-09:10	Recess
	09:10-09:40	Discussion of yesterday's presentations: the successes, the problems and the needs.
	09:40-09:50	Recess
	09:50-10:20	Discussion of yesterday's presentations: the successes, the problems and the needs.
	10:20-10:30	Recess
		Policy and Legislation
	10:30-10:50	Strategies to strengthen and to complete appropriate legislation pertaining to fire
	10:50-11:00	Recess
	11:00-11:15	International legal issues for forest fires: Agreements and international groups
	11:15-11:30	Recess
	11:30-12:00	Regional agreements for the management of Fire in South East Asia (Trans Boundary Haze Issues etc., GFN)
	12:00-13:30	Lunch
		Learning and Qualifications
	13:30-14:15	Tools and basic studies for the identification and characterization of the fire problem: Who is burning, why, when and how? (slides that show the problems with dealing with fire at regional/community level) <i>Examples from Botswana and Kalimantan</i>
	14:15-14:30	Recess
	14:30-15:15	Development of Position Standards: Combatant, Volunteer, Fire Boss: (the importance of why we need standards)
	15:15-15:30	Recess
	15:30-16:15	Learning Theory: What is learning; the phases of learning and examples as they pertain to fire. <i>(Focus more on modes of learning and methods of instruction).</i>
	16:15-16:30	Recess

	16:30-17:00	Modes of learning and methods of instruction
	18:30	Dinner
Wednesday	07:30	Breakfast
		Integrating Ecological Factors in the Handling of Fire: Natural Protected Areas and communities
	08:30-09:15	TNC East Kalimantan Case Study: Conservation and fire management
	09:15-10:00	Ecology of Fire (Fire regime concepts)
	10:00-10:15	Recess
	10:15-11:00	Planning (Applying ecology into Prescribed Burn plans)
	11:00-11:15	Recess
	11:15-12:00	Basic concepts in fire behavior and the handling of fuels
	12:00-13:30	Lunch
	13:30-14:00	Theory of Prescribed Burning
	14:00-14:30	Basic Techniques of Prescribed Burning
	14:30-14:45	Recess
	14:45-15:15	Introduction to the US Incident Command System (ICS)
	15:15-15:45	Fire suppression (example from Indonesia)
	15:45-16:00	Recess
	16:00-16:15	Overview of site visit village fire management program
	16:15-17:00	Site Visit Discussion: Overview, Logistics, Objectives, etc.
	18:30	Dinner
Thursday	07:00	Breakfast
		Site Visit an Example of CBFiM
	08:00-12:00	Site Visit to a Local Village: Break into groups and conduct interviews of community members and village fire management staff.
	12:00-13:30	Lunch
	13:30-14:30	Site Visit
	14:30-14:45	Recess
	14:45-16:00	Site Visit
	16:00-17:00	Return to Meeting Facility
	18:30	Dinner
Friday	07:30	Breakfast
		Site Visit Presentations & Discussions
	08:30-09:15	Groups prepare site visit presentations

	09:15-09:30	Recess
	09:30-10:15	Groups prepare site visit presentations
	10:15-10:30	Recess
	10:30-11:15	Groups prepare site visit presentations
	11:15-11:30	Recess
	11:30-12:00	Site Visit Group Presentations; discussion
	12:00-13:30	Lunch
	13:30-14:15	Site Visit Group Presentations; discussion
	14:00-14:15	Recess
	14:15-16:00	Site Visit Group Presentations; discussion
	16:00-16:15	Recess
	16:15-16:45	Site Visit Summary and Conclusions
	18:30	Dinner
Saturday	07:30	Breakfast
		“The Two Faces of Fire”
	08:30-09:15	Presentation “The Two Faces of Fire”. Assign tasks to groups (developing educational materials that convey the concept of the 2 faces of fires).
	09:15-09:30	Recess
	09:30-11:00	Groups Develop Presentations
	11:00-11:15	Recess
	11:15-12:00	Group Presentations of Assigned Tasks
	12:00-13:30	Lunch
	13:30-14:15	Discussion of Group Presentations
	14:15-16:00	Next Steps: Strategies for sharing and disseminating scientific knowledge and technical information with regards to IFM-CBFiM within the region.
	16:00-16:15	Recess
	16:15	Closing Ceremony
	18:30	Dinner
Sunday	07:30	Breakfast
	08:30	Participants Depart