

Call for Applications

Training Course on Economic Analyses of Invasive Species in the Caribbean

The training course will be conducted by Landcare Research NZ with funding for participating countries of the GEF/ UNEP funded Project:
"Mitigating the Threat of Invasive Alien Species in the Insular Caribbean"

Globally it is estimated that the economic impact of Invasive species is approximately 5% of the worlds GDP. There are little or no such data for CARICOM. The GEF/UNEP funded project managed by CABI CCA is hosting with Landcare Research a training course that will facilitate that will build capacity in the region to do this as well as conduct case studies under expert guidance to generate economic data on invasive species.

ABOUT THE COURSE:

This course will teach project managers and professionals working in the area of invasive species management, methods to develop, conduct, and present economic analyses of invasive species eradication or control. The training will provide the methodology and tools for participants to conduct their own cost-benefit analyses in the field. It will include a mix of facilitated classroom learning sessions and hands-on practical experience. Emphasis will be placed on how to estimate economic and environmental benefits of managing invasives at the project level. Participants will leave the course with the experience of completing an economic analysis on an invasive species of their choice.

3-PART COURSE:

1. Classroom Training: March 18-21, 2013. *St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago.*
2. Case Work Development: April - September 2013. *At participants' home organisations*
3. Evaluation and Presentation of Case Studies: 2 days in March 2014 (date TBD), *Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago.*

COST:

This program is fully funded for UNEP/GEF MTIACIC project. There will be limited space for participants of non-project participating countries, at a fee of US\$1,000.00 plus airfare, accommodation and meals. Lunch will be provided during the classroom training sessions.

PREREQUISITES:

We encourage project managers and professionals from a variety of backgrounds and organisations working with issues surrounding invasive species in the Caribbean Region to apply. The training will be in the English language. Knowledge of Microsoft Excel is essential. Participants would need to provide their own laptops for the classroom exercises.

APPLICATIONS:

Application forms can be obtained from the MTIACIC National Coordinators or Project Manager at: n.ramnanan@cabi.org. Applicants are asked to submit a brief overview of a proposed study project that provides information on the invasive species of interest, location of the study and proposed option of eradication/control.

COURSE STRUCTURE:

1. Initial 3-day intensive classroom course outlining the necessary tools to conduct an economic analysis of invasive species eradication or control. The course will emphasise defining the problem, quantifying economic, environmental, and social benefit of reducing local impacts from invasive species, estimating costs of eradication or control, collecting data, and presenting findings. Case studies from the Caribbean Region will be used to illustrate the methodology.
2. Participants will develop and conduct their own cost-benefit analysis for a problem of their choosing over a six-month period. Guidance and assistance for the case study part of the course will be provided electronically by the instructors.
3. Individual case studies will be presented, evaluated, and discussed over a 2-day period in March 2014 (date to be determined).

The course will be led by Environmental and Natural Resource Economist, Landcare Research NZ.

Applications due: Friday, February 15 2013
A limited number of spaces are available.



Landcare Research
Manaaki Whenua

