PEDRR

Ecosystems for Adaptation
and Disaster Risk Reduction

www.pedrr.net

Training Course on Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development

Globally, disasters are increasing and leading to ever increasing human tragedy and economic costs. Significant progress towards disaster reduction will require enhancing capacities and reducing vulnerabilities, which includes arresting environmental degradation and improving management of ecosystems and natural resources. Environmental sustainability and disaster resilience must be built into local and national development to protect lives and assets, sustain livelihoods and manage climate change impacts. In order to support vulnerable countries in addressing these challenges, the Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR) has designed a Training Course on Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development aimed at strengthening resilience at national and local levels.

WHAT IS THE AIM OF THE TRAINING COURSE?

Promote and institutionalize ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction (eco-DRR) as integral to development planning at national and sub-national levels.

WHAT ARE THE LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE?

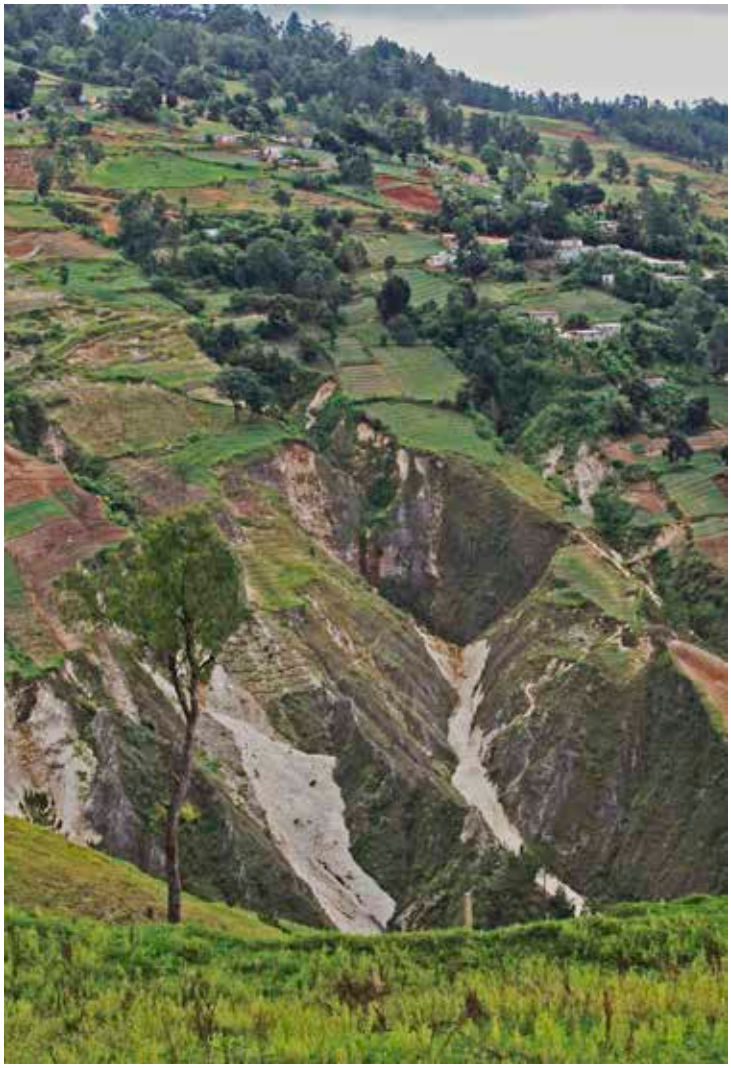
1. Increase awareness of the multiple benefits provided by ecosystems for disaster risk reduction, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and sustainable development.
2. Develop knowledge and skills on how to integrate ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction into development planning processes.
3. Facilitate cross-sectoral collaboration between environmental management, disaster risk reduction, climate change and development actors.

WHO IS THE TARGET AUDIENCE?

Policymakers, programme managers and practitioners from Government, working at national and sub-national levels in various sectors: environmental/natural resource management, environmental protection/ regulation, disaster management, urban planning, land-use planning, public finance, National Platforms for DRR, Hyogo Framework for Action focal points, and National Adaptation Plan of Action focal points. PEDRR also seeks to engage with regional and national training institutions to incorporate eco-DRR in ongoing training programmes.

WHAT IS THE EXPECTED OUTPUT OF THE COURSE?

An Agenda for Action to be taken forward that integrates eco-DRR into development planning at national and/or sub-national levels. It includes the following elements: actionable solutions; roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders; tools for implementation; and capacity requirements.



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OVERVIEW

Session 1 is intended for both senior-level policymakers and practitioners, while Sessions 2-4 are intended for practitioners.

SESSION 1. Awareness-raising: Making the case for eco-DRR

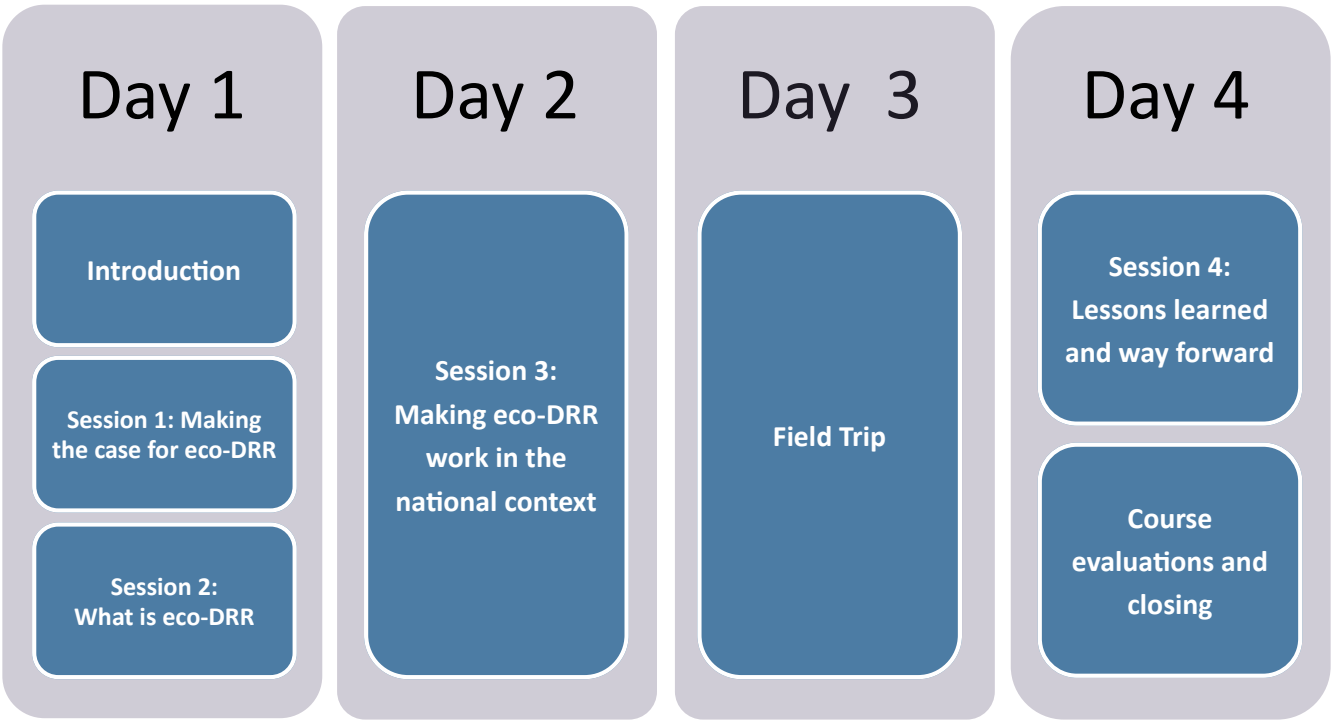
Through the use of graphics and visuals and grounded by examples, this session presents the fundamental concepts of eco-DRR and its multiple benefits for risk reduction, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and sustainable development. The cost-benefit of eco-DRR as a disaster prevention strategy is demonstrated. A panel discussion with key policymakers may also be convened to share their views on the opportunities and challenges of applying eco-DRR in their area of responsibility.

SESSION 2. What is eco-DRR?

This session is intended to deepen participants' understanding of the core messages presented in the first session. Using graphic and visual tools together with plenary discussions and small group interactive exercises, this session establishes the nexus between ecosystems, disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and sustainable livelihoods. It presents different country examples and case studies that demonstrate the value of eco-DRR. The session then leads participants in undertaking a situation analysis based on their own country and local context, applying what they have learned about environment-disaster-development linkages.

SESSION 3. Making eco-DRR work at national level

This session provides a step-by-step approach towards the development of an Agenda for Action by the participants themselves to promote integration of eco-DRR into development planning processes. Each step is introduced by a technical presentation to enhance knowledge and examine experiences from different countries. The Agenda for Action comprises the following elements: stock-taking of existing and past initiatives, actionable solutions, roles and responsibilities of different actors, tools/ techniques/ methods for implementation; and capacity requirements.

SESSION 4. Lessons learned and way forward

This session provides an opportunity for participants to present their respective action plans, ideally by reconvening senior policymakers who participated in the initial session. The session concludes by identifying follow-up actions in bringing forward the consolidated Agenda for Action.