

IMPROVING GRASSROOTS EQUITY IN THE FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE CONTEXT



Successful forest governance mechanisms, in particular in the context of climate change, should address key issues such as unclear land tenure rights, unfair benefit sharing systems as well as weak governance in order to be sustainable. To do this, social inclusion and equity – clear and strong rights, good governance, fair benefit sharing from forest resources, gender inclusion, opportunities for learning about new knowledge and empowerment – need to be considered, particularly to address the persistent risk of marginalizing forest-dependent communities in the planning and implementation of related policies and projects.

The setting up of effective multi-stakeholder engagement platforms is an important way of improving equity in the forests and climate change context. Within these platforms, grassroots facilitators will need to analyze, synthesize and communicate the concerns and perceptions of the grassroots communities about the implications of equity (or lack thereof) in forest management and forest-based climate change mechanisms. Through increased capacities, these actors will be able to better engage and facilitate discussions that can generate opinions and positions about equity at the grassroots level, which can then be conveyed to relevant decision makers and other stakeholders.

In response to this need, RECOFTC, under the USAID funded Grassroots Equity and Enhanced Networks in the Mekong Program (USAID Green Mekong) provides the training course **Improving grassroots equity in the forests and climate change context**.



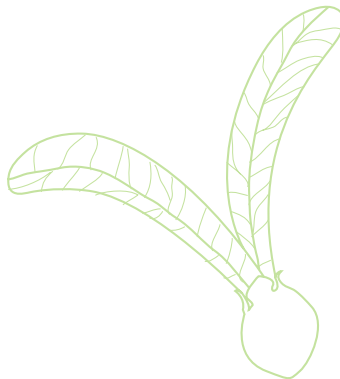
Registration Information

Dates: 3-8 August 2015

Course location: Chiang Mai,
Thailand

Email: tiamkare.t@recoftc.org
for more inquiries and registration

Registration will close
on 25 May 2015 or when the
maximum number of participants
(20) has been reached



Course objectives

At the end of the course, participants will:

- Be able to explain the basic principle of equity and highlight the relevance of rights, governance and benefits sharing in the context of forests and climate change;
- Be able to identify opportunities and roles for a grassroots facilitator to address issues of grassroots equity in engagement processes, particularly in the context of forests and climate change;
- Have practiced specific skills necessary for designing and delivering effective and equitable multi-stakeholder engagement processes; and
- Have reflected on opportunities to improve equity, and designed an engagement plan that promotes grassroots equity in their own context.

Who should join?

Field practitioners, grassroots facilitators, managers and trainers from civil society organizations and governmental agencies at sub-national level who:

- Have at least 2 years of experience and a working knowledge of forest co-management and forest-based climate change mitigation, in particular REDD+;
- Work in a forests and climate change context and relevant community development and/or grassroots stakeholders empowerment, pro-people and equity approaches including consideration of gender and indigenous issues; and

- Are involved in setting up and facilitating multi-stakeholder platforms that contribute to the discourse on equity in the context of forests and climate change.

Participants should have substantial experience with practical field work and participatory processes, in addition to proficiency in written and spoken English, as the course will be delivered in English. Training materials will be available in the national languages of the Lower Mekong region.

Priority may be given to participants working with USAID funded projects in the region.

Course content

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

- equity in the context of forests and climate change;
- the role and skills of a grassroots facilitator in improving equity through effective engagement;
- creating the space for engagement opportunities through the design of an effective engagement process;
- gender equity and diversity;
- basic verbal facilitation skills; and
- communication of grassroots perspectives and concerns regarding equity issues related to forests and climate change.

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

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RECOFTC holds a unique and important place in the world of forestry. It is the only international not-for-profit organization that specializes in capacity development for community forestry. With over 25 years of international experience and a dynamic approach to capacity development, RECOFTC delivers innovative solutions for people and forests.