

*TWAS - the academy of sciences for the developing world**
FORGEA International - Training and cooperation centre
in the field of geo-mining and environment

Training Course

Capacity Building in Environmental Related Issues in the Field of Geo-mining: Remote Sensing and other Environment-related Issues

17-30 May 2009

(The course will be held in English)

Deadline for applications: 16 March 2009

Themes

The course will focus on the following topics:

- Mine site characterization as a prerequisite for remediation;
- Remote sensing techniques applied to satellite and aerial hyperspectral data for land degradation monitoring;
- Ground penetrating radar (GPR) and electromagnetic tomography imaging for characterizing deposits;
- GPS and photogrammetry techniques in quarrying areas;
- Environmental restoration of mining area surfaces; and
- 3d modelling: visibility analyses, volume measurements, relief images.

Course format

The course will consist of lectures, group-learning activities, computer exercises, field work and case study reports provided by the participants. The course will arrange some 20 didactic modules and visits to relevant sites.

Eligibility

The course is open to a limited number of participants from south Mediterranean, Middle Eastern and Balkan countries and is aimed at university researchers, professors and graduate students, decision makers, mid-career technologists, and professionals from public authorities and companies involved in the management of environmental problems related to mine site rehabilitation, reclamation and/or closure. Experience in thematic cartography is preferred.

Candidates committed to presenting technical papers or case studies based on their personal or institutional activities will be given priority.

Course venue

The course will be held at Cagliari University, c/o AUSI Monteponi, Iglesias, Sardinia, Italy.

* The administrative and financial operation of TWAS is undertaken by UNESCO in accordance with an agreement signed by the two organizations. www.twas.org

Description

The aim of the course is to contribute to the capacity building process in the geominig and the environmental sectors of the selected beneficiary countries with a specific use of new technology tools, so as to ensure an economically sustainable and environmentally compatible exploitation and management of the active and former mining areas.

Expected output

- Increased awareness of long-term social and economic costs of exploiting non-renewable natural resources.
- Transfer of technology and know-how in the geominig and environmental sectors.
- Increased level of skilled technicians and decision makers in the countries.
- Improved image of the countries.
- Strengthened capacity of the local public institutions and private counterparts so as to meet the requirements relating to the development of the concerned sectors.
- A multidisciplinary and more systematic understanding of the environmental impacts of specific activities of the respective organizations.
- Increased awareness of participating authorities and companies to promote the inclusion of environmental aspects, including bio- and phyto-remediation, as part of their routine activities.
- Greater skills and capacity at counterpart and support institutions to undertake training and upgrading projects

Application

The selection of participants will be made by a committee composed by TWAS and Forgea International, based on the academic background, professional experience and evaluation of the case studies submitted by the applicant.

Contact

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The attached application form should be returned before 9 March 2009 by email (forgea@tin.it) or fax (+39 070 672 229).

Logistics and administration

Forgea International/TWAS will manage air travel expenses (by the most economical, direct route) from originating country to Cagliari Elmas Airport. Details will be given through invitation letters to the admitted candidates.

Forgea International will arrange transportation to and from the airport to the activity locations and transportation for the field visits.

Full board accommodation in hotels of the Iglesias area and meals will be covered by TWAS/Forgea International.

Forgea International will officially forward to the Italian Embassies of the relevant countries the names of the selected participants to enable them to contact the consulates for visa procedures.

Medical arrangements: Forgea International and TWAS ask participants to arrange comprehensive medical cover or health insurance for the period of your stay in Italy.

For additional information, contact: forgea@tin.it