



TRAINING AND COOPERATION CENTRE  
IN THE FIELD OF GEO-MINING AND ENVIRONMENT

Training Course on:  
**"Environmental and Natural Resource Economics.  
Theoretical foundations and applied issues"**  
**26<sup>th</sup> September - 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2010**

(The course will be held in English)

**Deadline for applications: 15<sup>th</sup> June 2010**

### **Themes**

The course will focus on the following topics:

- The interaction between the economy and the natural environment: market failure and government intervention
- Economic analysis of the optimal use of natural resources following the basic distinction between renewable and non-renewable resources
- Pollution as an external effect of production and/ or consumption: instruments to internalise the related social costs (standards, taxes, emission permits,...)
- Conflict on natural resources' use: relative and absolute scarcity – limits to growth (example: land, water)
- Methods to assess the “value” of environmental goods and services for which market prices are incorrect or do not exist
- Growth sustainability
- National environmental accounts – National indicators of resource use, environmental quality and sustainability
- Developed and less developed countries' relation – international treaties.

### **Course format**

The course will consist of lectures, case studies, simple exercises voluntary made by the participants outside lectures' hour and discussed in class, reading-seminar (within the availability of time).

### **Eligibility**

This Course is open to a limited number of participants from South Mediterranean, Middle Eastern and Balkan countries and is aimed at university researchers, graduate students, decision makers, technologists and professionals working in public authorities as well as in private companies, who have to deal with the great variety of issues addressed by the discipline known as Environmental Economics. The course intends to provide scholars/ researchers with the basic theoretical background to continue their studies in the field; at the same time it offers to practitioners and decision makers the necessary knowledge of the instruments now available to protect the environment and to make growth sustainable.

### **Venue**

The Course will be held in Cagliari University, Monteponi, Iglesias, Sardinia, Italy.

### **Description**

Starting from both the interaction between the biophysical laws and the economics of natural resources and the actual “facts” of recent human being history, such as the industrial revolution, the exponential growth of Gross Domestic Product and of population, the course has two purposes. On one hand, it aims at investigating how our production and consumption models affect the quantity and quality of natural resources availability and on the other, how optimal design of government interventions can improve environmental quality and natural resource management for the present and future generations.

## **Expected output**

- increased awareness of the “natural limits” to growth
- increased attention on technical progress: the role it plays for growth, how it can be measured, how it evolves
- information diffusion about costs and benefits of pollution control
- skills enhancing for people working in government bodies/ authorities in managing environmental issues (“disaster”)
- providing the basic economic knowledge necessary for the stipulation, implementation and enforcement of international treaties
- preparing for possible growing conflicts on natural resources
- providing actual methods of calculating costs and benefits of social actions and of “valuing” environmental services.

## **Specific issues and case studies will include:**

- The best use of natural resources: focus on air, water, forests, fish;
- External effect (=market failures): focus on pollution control instruments, with two “case studies”:
  - Energy prices and environmental policy in the EU
  - The acid Rain Program for SO2 Emissions in the USA
- Method of assessment, including costs-benefits analysis;
- Priorities: shortage in agricultural land, highly vulnerable natural and socio-economic environment, mining sites, environmental impact and recovery;
- Renewable energy and investment incentives: the case of solar panel installation;
- Water pricing and the true value of water (case studies);
- Mineral extraction costs and mineral prices, exploration and discovery (case studies).

## **Application**

The selection of participants will be made by Forgea International Scientific committee, based on the academic background and professional experience.

The attached application form should be returned by **15 June 2010.**

## **Contact**

**Mrs. Luisa Bertucci,  
Forgeia International  
Via XXIX Novembre, 57  
09123 Cagliari – Italy  
Tel +39 070 655 385 – mobile +39 338 2938361 – Fax +39 070 672 229**

Application forms submitted by mail (**forgeia@tin.it** or by fax (0039 070 672 229) are eligible.

## **Logistic and administration**

- Forgea International will manage air travel expenses (by most economical, direct route) from the 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 field visits.
- Forgea International will cover full board accommodation in hotels in Iglesias and meals
- Forgea International will officially forward to the Italian Embassies of the relevant countries the names of selected participants to enable them to contact their respective consulates for VISA procedures.
- Forgea International ask to participants to arrange comprehensive medical cover or health insurance for the period of your stay in Italy.

**For additional information, contact: Mrs. Luisa Bertucci - forgeia@tin.it**