

**THIRTY-EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE IN
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

24 May - 25 June 2010

Nagoya, Japan

ANNOUNCEMENT

The United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) provides capacity-building support to developing countries through its training programmes. The UNCRD also provides advisory services to a number of governments and has carried out research activities in many parts of the world. The results of its research projects are widely disseminated through its publications and workshops. They are also used in its training activities.

The annual International Training Course (ITC) is UNCRD's flagship training course and represents all the training experiences and know-how which have been accumulated during the Centre's thirty-seven year history, since its establishment in 1971. UNCRD has trained nearly 1,000 professionals from more than seventy countries in Asia and the Pacific, the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean through its annual training courses held in Japan. Development agencies - both international and bilateral - have utilized these courses to help strengthen the staff capacity of the central and local governments in developing countries where they support ongoing development projects.

38th International Training Course in Regional Development

ITC 38, to be held in May - June 2010, will continue to reflect the concept of "Sustainable Regional Development" based on the Centre's focus areas, namely, environment, human security, and disaster management.

The five-week Course will deliver the expected outcomes through a compact programme replete with cases for study and discussion, as well as field study visits to provide insights into Japan's regional development experience.

Dates: Monday, 24 May - Friday, 25 June 2010

Venue: Nagoya, Japan

Number of Openings: 15

UNCRD will support eleven successful candidates with entitlements of the "United Nations Study Tour" (see section on "Funding"); there are four additional places for those who are able to obtain funding from other agencies. In addition, the Centre welcomes Japanese central and local governments to send their staff members as "associate participants." (On average, two participants in this category attend each year.)

Participant Eligibility: Mid-level officials from central and local governments (provincial, district, state, and municipal authorities), public autonomous bodies (local and regional development boards and authorities) and NGOs in developing countries who wish to explore alternative approaches to sustainable regional development and those with practical experience in the broader aspects of development.

Language: Proficiency in both spoken and written English is essential to enable full participation in all related activities.

Goals and Objectives:

The main goal of the Course is to make a contribution to sustainable regional development through a concerted programme aimed at the capacity development of each participant.

The specific objectives are:

- (1) To provide a venue for sharing and learning from each participant's country experiences. By the end of the Course, the participants will have-
 - a. increased their insights concerning the development issues in their countries from the viewpoint of sustainability;
 - b. identified new ideas and approaches that are relevant and applicable to their particular contexts; and
 - c. understood the prerequisites for making the ideas and approaches work.
- (2) To maximize learning potential gained by being located in Japan. By the end of the Course the participants will have-
 - a. discussed the factors which have made Japan what it is now; and
 - b. identified and prioritized the possible ways towards the targets which they consider necessary for their own countries.
- (3) To increase awareness on sustainable regional development. By the end of the Course, the participants will have -
 - a. learned various methods of dealing with the environment-, human security-, and disaster management-related concerns in sustainable regional development and acquired the skills to apply them; and
 - b. incorporated concrete activities into their individual action plans.

Course Contents:

Under the theme of "Sustainable Regional Development," the Course consists of several modules each of which deals with interrelated topics of actual concern for practitioners. The programme has been continually restructured and updated to reflect issues and problems as well as training needs in developing countries. It is a participatory and output-oriented Course which draws upon the participants' own experiences, their professional skills, and individual initiatives. Outputs from participants will be presented during group workshops.

In particular, the 38th Course will revolve around the following topics:

- Sustainable Regional Development
- Human Security
- Socioeconomic Development and Governance
- Environmental Management
- Disaster Management
- Regional Development Planning and Management

In addition to lectures, case studies, and field visits, the Course is structured to encourage participants to share their ideas and experiences through small group discussions and workshops. During the Course, participants will make individual presentations based on their country case papers which are required to be submitted to UNCRD prior to the Course. Towards the end of the Course, participants will prepare individual action plans which will constitute the final output from the Training Course. These plans should reflect the learning gained from the Course and indicate the actions which the participants will undertake upon returning to their home countries.

UNCRD staff from different countries and disciplines will be involved in various roles in the Course. There are also local government officials on secondment to UNCRD who will provide insight and input on the Japanese experience.

Admission Requirements:

Applicants must –

- (1) have at least a bachelor's or equivalent degree from a recognized university;
- (2) preferably between 30 and 45 years of age (to focus on mid-career professionals);
- (3) have at least five years' working experience in a government department, public autonomous body, or NGO concerned with regional development;
- (4) be nominated by their organization;
- (5) be proficient in both written and spoken English;
- (6) be mentally and physically fit; and
- (7) be able to attend the entire six weeks.

Funding:

UNCRD does not charge fees for participation in the Course. Participants' entitlements are as follows;

- (1) Economy class round-trip air travel to Nagoya, Japan from the capital city of a participant's country or from the nearest international airport by the most direct, economical route;
- (2) DSA (Daily Subsistence Allowance) or living allowance at rates established by the UNCRD. The allowance is to cover the participant's cost of lodging, board, and incidental expenses. There are no facilities or support for family members of the participants; and
- (3) The reimbursement of certain medical expenses through the J. Van Breda Insurance Co. International, Belgium

Please note that other sources of funding such as CITYNET, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and bilateral aid agencies may be tapped by the applicants themselves to provide round-trip air tickets and/or to cover living expenses (meals and accommodation) and medical expenses for the duration of the Course.

In case the applicant has obtained financial support from other agencies, a letter explicitly stating the sponsoring organization and the coverage of expenses must accompany the United Nations Study Tour Participant Form. In parallel, the funding agency should send a letter of endorsement to the UNCRD to confirm that the applicant has been awarded financial support.

How to apply:

Please complete and submit the following:

- (1) A UN Study Tour Participant Form, and a Personal Information Form and the Medical Report contained therein (Note: Do not send chest X-ray film.). The Forms can be obtained through UNCRD's home page (<http://www.uncrd.or.jp/>)
- (2) A country case paper, covering the following topics with descriptive title: (a) background in which his/her organization operates and functions; (b) how environment-, human security-, and/or disaster management-related issues are dealt with in development strategies and actions in his/her current work assignment; (c) problems he/she faces in carrying out his/her job; and (d) topics he/she wishes to focus on in his/her action plan. (A4, double space, 7-10 pages with a one-page summary, with data and maps attached)
- (3) A passport-sized photo (3 x 4 cm)
- (4) For those applicants whose native language is not English, evidence of proficiency in the English language must be supplied. If no evidence is attached, telephone interviews with UNCRD staff will be conducted in English to evaluate his/her English proficiency.

Please send the completed Forms and application documents by airmail to:

Training Unit
United Nations Centre for Regional Development
1-47-1 Nagono, Nakamura-ku, Nagoya 450-0001, Japan

Deadline: 20 February 2010

Applications that reach UNCRD by airmail after the deadline cannot be accepted for any reason. Due to the volume of applications received, receipt of application forms cannot be acknowledged individually.

The Screening Committee at UNCRD will review and select participants based on the above criteria, relevant professional experience, country case paper contents, and English language proficiency. Only successful applicants will be notified, in late March or early April 2010. A confirmation of acceptance shall be read and signed by the successful applicant. UNCRD cannot take any further action without the confirmation of acceptance.

For further inquiries, please contact the Training Unit:

Mr. Katsuaki Takai, Training Coordinator

Ms. Nana Urakami, Researcher

E-mail: training@uncrd.or.jp

Phone: (+81-52) 561-9377

Fax: (+81-52) 561-9374

Homepage: <http://www.uncrd.or.jp/>