

## INTERNATIONAL COURSE ON COMMUNITY-BASED INTEGRATED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Watershed management offers a unique approach for integrating technologies, governance, and socio-economic strategies within the natural boundaries of a drainage area. This allows for the optimum development of land, water and plant resources to meet the basic needs of people and animals in a sustainable manner. The watershed is a natural ecosystem, defined by its critical resource - water. How soil, water and plant resources are used in one part affect – either positively or negatively – their availability and use in other parts of the watershed.

Watershed management has become a prominent concept today in dealing with issues of land and water resources as indicated by increased financing by international banks and other funding institutions, as well as government agencies in the North and the South. Despite this awareness and the opportunities available, many development organizations lack the capacity to initiate and implement successful watershed management initiatives.

Community-based integrated watershed management is a process of involving local communities and local governance structures in formulating and implementing a course of action involving the water and land resources or watershed, with emphasis on the linkages between the upstream and downstream parts of a watershed and their respective human and biophysical endowments.

### Course Description

This course is designed for mid and senior level rural development professionals and government functionaries to learn concepts and strategies of a watershed approach in solving many of the problems that beseech rural development and natural resources management initiatives. Participants will learn the skills and techniques necessary to systematically plan, implement, monitor and evaluate community-based watershed initiatives in partnership with local communities, government line agencies, and rural development practitioners. Hence, the course design strikes a balance and practical integration between the technical, social, economic, and political elements of community-based integrated watershed management implementation.

### Course Content

**Situational Analysis:** an introductory session that allows participants to review, describe and share with others their own experiences, lessons and challenges in addressing rural development and natural resources management problems within their own context.



Participants helping communities analyze their CBIWM issues



Integrating GIS and PRA Training



Exposure to leading experts in hydrology and water management



**Module 1: Concepts and Framework of Community-based Integrated Watershed management** - describes the basic elements and concepts of community-based integrated watershed management, stressing the watershed approach as a relevant and practical response to a wide range of issues affecting rural development and natural resources management at community and provincial levels.

**Module 2: Planning and implementing community-based integrated watershed management** - discusses how to assess, along with the stakeholders, the needs and opportunities for watershed management using various planning tools based on an appreciation of local social, cultural and environmental situations. This module highlights the use of social and programmatic analytical tools such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools as they apply to doable community-based integrated watershed management initiatives.

**Module 3: Multi-level applications of community-based integrated watershed management** - provides first hand practical experience on community-based integrated watershed management applications at national, provincial and local levels and attempts to link theory to practice by exposing participants to the realities and challenges of undertaking watershed management programs. Module 3 takes place in the 'field' and covers elements of community assessment and analysis.

**Module 4: Support Mechanisms to Community-based Integrated Watershed Management** - discusses a number of additional considerations to support community-based integrated watershed management to ensure that community-based watershed management approaches lead to desired results and outcomes.

**Module 5: Action planning** – provides participants opportunity to synthesize lessons learned from the previous modules and identify lessons and specific actions to apply them, given their own particular work situations.

## Who Should Attend

The course is targeted towards planners, middle and senior level officials/staff, technical and non-technical staff, and others working in rural development, with government and non-government organizations who work in the areas of food security, sustainable agriculture, and water and natural resources management. English proficiency is a requirement.

## When and Where

The two-week course will be held on **December 6-17, 2010** at IIRR's Y.C. James Yen Center in Cavite, Philippines. IIRR is an ideal environment for learning and reflection. Courses are held in IIRR's 54-hectare campus in Silang, Cavite, about an hour's drive from Manila. Facilities include air-conditioned training rooms, open-air centers for outdoor sessions, a dining hall, and participants' hostel and dormitories, swimming pool, and other sport and leisure facilities.

## Course Fees and Related Terms

The course fee of US\$2,500 covers the registration fee of \$200, training costs, course-related local travel, materials, meals, accident insurance and shared double room accommodation (single room accommodation can be requested for an additional fee of US\$10 per day of stay). It does not include international airfare, laundry and incidental expenses (a minimum pocket allowance of US\$100 per week is suggested for incidental and personal expenses). Applicants are encouraged to secure financial support from their organizations or donor agencies.

## How to apply

For more information and to receive an application form, contact:

### Education and Training Program

International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR)  
Y.C. James Yen Center, Silang, Cavite 4118, Philippines  
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## INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL RECONSTRUCTION

The International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) works with the rural poor in developing countries to improve their lives by building on their unique assets and strengths. IIRR achieves this through field research, training, publications and field programs with rural communities and in partnership with other development organizations. Rural reconstruction is a development strategy first advanced by the Mass Education and Rural Reconstruction Movement founded by Dr. Y.C. James Yen in 1923. The strategy is sustainable, integrated and people-centered.

One of IIRR's thrusts is the sharing of its rural development experience and insights with development organizations and practitioners. IIRR is one of the few organizations offering development training that has its own field operations. IIRR has 40 years of experience in offering international training courses. In developing these courses, it draws from its 80 years of experience working with the rural poor.

IIRR is a recipient of various awards in recognition of its contributions to development. Among these are the 1995 World Hunger Award in recognition of "IIRR's exceptional work to provide opportunities for small rural farmers throughout the developing world to prevent and reduce hunger and malnutrition in their communities." IIRR received the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award for International Understanding twice for Dr. James Yen's work in rural reconstruction (1960), and for the institute's work in rural Asia (1986).

IIRR was incorporated in the United States in 1960 as a research and training institute in rural reconstruction for development workers in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Its headquarters is in the Philippines. It operates two regional centers in Africa (for East Africa) and Asia (for Southeast Asia and Southern China)

