

Advanced online course

Environment and climate change in International Cooperation

Sustainable Development Projects with Environmental Mainstreaming Techniques

SCHEDULE

- **Starting date:** April 12th 2021
- **Registration deadline:** April 11th 2021 (early booking by March 28th 2021)
- **16 weeks course:** video live streaming lectures - workshops - exercises, working groups, participatory learning process, high interaction with the teacher, final international workshop (open).
- **Conclusion:** July 30th 2021
- **Final certificate:** Diploma of specialization in "Environment and Climate Change in International Cooperation – Expert in Environmental Mainstreaming Techniques"

TEACHER and PERSONAL TUTOR



Massimo Zortea

Environmental lawyer, expert in international environmental cooperation. Professor at University of Trento (Italy) where he holds the courses *Methods of Development Cooperation and Participatory Management of Projects* as well as *Project Cycle Management with Environmental Mainstreaming*. He collaborates with several other Universities and with a variety of environmental training organisations. Member of UNESCO Chair in Engineering for Human and Sustainable Development's Scientific Committee at the same University. Founder of GREEN VIS, a working group focused on Environmental Mainstreaming in international cooperation. Scientific Coordinator of AFA School (Advanced Training in Agrifood matters). Included in some expert rosters (UNSCC, IDLO, FELCOS Umbria). Engaged for some 30 years in CSOs and non-profit sector. Former President of VIS Rome. Author of books, articles and papers. Among his volumes: *Environmental Mainstreaming in Development Projects* (FrancoAngeli 2013), *El mainstreaming ambiental en los proyectos de cooperación internacional y desarrollo* (Universidad Iberoamericana - Instituto Mora 2016), *Requalifying decommissioned quarries in Italy* (Wolters Kluwer Italy, 2019, in editorial series "Requalifying: environment and circular economy", in which he's supervisor with P. Felice); *Requalifying agrifood supply chains* (Wolters Kluwer Italy 2020).

PRESENTATION

In 2021, more than ever, VIS School of Advanced Training keeps proposing its online courses specifically focused on the theme **Environment, Climate Change and International Cooperation**.

Two web talks on specific topics and two courses have been activated this year, dealing with such a theme:

- a **basic course starting on February 1st**, for Italian-speaking trainees, as first approach but yet well-structured and suitable to provide a theoretical and practical path to begin a serious engagement in this field;
- an **advanced course starting on April 12th** for global trainees, more specializing, devoted to trainees who already have good knowledge and experience in Environment/CC or in International Cooperation but not yet in their cross-cutting combination or want to upgrade their professional profile.

WHY STUDYING AND UPDATING IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS?

There is a growing attention to environment and climate change both by public opinion and by economic, social and political actors, public and private. Even for international cooperation, environmental issues and problems have become a priority, as well as their concrete solution.

Such attention certainly derives from the sharpening of the negative impacts by human action on all environmental aspects, on ecosystem services, until yesterday taken for granted by the majority. But it also descends from a growth of awareness and culture in such matter, which is no longer reserved to technical experts or activists motivated by poetic ideals on nature conservation. The Report published by **IPCC** in October 2018 and the release of **GEO6** in 2019 both confirm the seriousness of the planetary situation. And the global risks liaised to neglected **WASH policies** in many countries, especially during the long-lasting **Covid-19 emergency**, are under everybody's eyes. Not by casualty, according to the WEF **Global Risks Report 2021** the top 3 risks by likelihood are environmental: traditionally (top 5 in 2020, top 3 in 2019).

The global environmental crisis, which has now become evident even in the most skeptical consciences, represents a primary challenge, both geopolitical and economic, no longer merely ecological. It is no coincidence that the new global security horizon is becoming increasingly clear in the environmental dimension and cannot anymore be managed only with military instruments and mentalities. The same high incidence of environmental factors can be found in migratory problems, where more and more scholars but also practitioners of cooperation deal with working on the links between environmental degradation and climate change on the one hand and migratory movements, also linked to conflicts, on the other.

As a matter of fact, there is a two-way causal chain between environmental degradation and poverty, as well as between human well-being and the quality of the environment. To reverse this vicious circle, it is necessary to insert specific attention to environmental profiles and impacts, in a transversal and widespread manner, in all policies and measures to combat poverty and to promote development, not just those with specific environmental focus. For example, including such attention and enhancement of environment also in projects concerning health, education or production sectors and not only in those traditionally environmental, such as the care of protected areas or the protection of endangered species.

This learning path wants to offer a serious way, even moderately demanding but within everyone's reach, to understand how international cooperation can include in all its initiatives, in a transversal and inter-sectoral way, the environmental protection and the opportunities offered by the environment.

Indeed, environmental protection is no longer just a scientific issue but also political. Therefore, environmental sustainability is not a goal for specialists and professionals only: it concerns everyone and can be really achieved only if the care for the environment spreads in every place, in each individual, in every daily gesture and choice. The growing transversal engagement in this sense by national Development Cooperation Agencies and even by CSOs demonstrates the new way for an Ecofriendly International Cooperation: the **Environmental Mainstreaming Approach (EMA)**, respecting the transversal nature of environmental themes, promoting the integration of environment in all its sectorial initiatives, as means to achieve the goal of sustainable development. Moreover, the very contents of the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** are all set up with a clear approach of EMA, as we'll explain in detail throughout the course.

The growing importance of environment and climate change issues imply important job opportunities. The demand for environmental sustainability is growing all over the world and therefore the demand for people capable to integrate environment into planning. But to seize this opportunity everybody needs first to understand whether and to what extent he/she is really willing to redefine our professional skills and experiences. Practitioners need a solid training in **Environmental Mainstreaming Techniques**. Therefore, we

all need a path of discernment, passing from the mere poetry of nature to basic but solid environmental competences, in order to face a subsequent path of specialization.

LEARNING METHODOLOGY

The course is based on a widely participatory methodology (participatory learning), with an involvement of all trainees even operational (learning by doing) and with a deep attention to expectations and individual needs (demand-driven learning).

Training activities run with a **1 weekly event pace** and include:

a) **7 lessons**: each lesson will be delivered in video streaming through the Zoom platform, with the opportunity to interact with the teacher and all classmates; if missing the live lesson, you can watch the recording; in alternance with:

b) **4 workshops**: all of workshop will deal with specific themes, in dialogue with the teacher and special guests; and with:

c) **4 exercises**: each trainee, individually or in working group, will develop drafts, design documents and/or papers related to real contexts, focusing on specific case studies proposed by the teacher;

d) **learning materials**: lecture slides and additional numerous documents provided in pdf format (at the end of the course, all participants will have built up an electronic library with hundred texts).

The 2021 edition confirms some strengths of previous editions.

First of all, we will still have some contributions by **practitioners** and former trainees, coming from different experiences, even in developing countries: this will allow all participants to work on realities and concrete projects (as well as on numerous case studies), especially in workshops and exercises.

Furthermore, a **customized tutoring** will accompany each trainee.

Then, on July 30th 2020, all the course trainees can take an active part in the VI edition of **WORKSHOP “ENVIRONMENT AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION”**, in blended or full-online modality (depending on the anti-covid19 measures into force at that date), with the participation of experts from several public and private institutions operating in International Cooperation (for instance, in past editions officers from FAO, WFP, WWAP, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, Italian Ministry of the Environment and of the Territory and Sea Protection, etc.).

LEARNING ACHIEVEMENTS

The advanced course leads each participant to complete or update his/her knowledge, skills and competences regarding the enhancement of environment in international cooperation initiatives. Beginning from the course, the trainee can become an expert in **Environmental Mainstreaming Techniques**.

Thanks to the interactive and participatory work method – characterized by an international class, interactive lectures, exercises in interdisciplinary groups, a workshop in Rome with international speakers – all participants will learn in depth what are the themes, the contexts, the problems and the opportunities offered by the environment and the practical modalities useful to make the international cooperation interventions really sustainable.

Each trainee will also learn to work in an interdisciplinary manner, dialoguing and working with classmates coming from mostly diverse locations and back-grounds.

SCHEDULE

The course is structured in weekly events in virtual classroom (usually on Tuesdays, exceptionally on Fridays) and home-based activities. More precisely, there are **14 weeks of e-learning activities**, (7 lectures, interspersed with in-depth workshops and practical exercises on case studies) ending with the traditional **international workshop**. (this time full-online).

In detail, the planned **ROADMAP** is the following:

START: April 12, 2021- **END:** July 30, 2021

WEEK 1 – April 12-18, 2021

Tuesday 13.04.2021, 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

LESSON 1

INTRODUCTION: ENVIRONMENT AND HUMAN WELL-BEING (NEW HORIZONS FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT)

WEEK 2 – April 19-25, 2021

Tuesday 20.04.2021 – 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

WORKSHOP 1

ENVIRONMENTAL MAINSTREAMING TECHNIQUES IN WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT

WEEK 3 – April 26- May 2, 2021

Tuesday 27.04.2021 – 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

LESSON 2

ENVIRONMENT AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

WEEK 4 – May 3-9, 2021

Tuesday 04.05.2021 – 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

EXERCISE 1

WEEK 5 – May 10-16, 2021

Tuesday 11.05.2021 – 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

LESSON 3

ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRATION: THEORY AND PRACTICES IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

WEEK 6 – May 17-23, 2021

Tuesday 18.05.2021 – 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

WORKSHOP 2

ENVIRONMENTAL MAINSTREAMING TECHNIQUES IN MARINE LITTER MANAGEMENT

WEEK 7 – May 24-30, 2021

Tuesday 25.05.2021 – 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

LESSON 4

APPLYING ENVIRONMENTAL MAINSTREAMING (1): IN STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL SETTING OF THE INTERVENTIONS

WEEK 8 – May 31- June 6, 2021

Tuesday 01.06.2021 – 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

EXERCISE 2

WEEK 9 – June 7-13, 2021

Tuesday 08.06.2021– 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

LESSON 5

APPLYING ENVIRONMENTAL MAINSTREAMING (2): IN FINANCIAL PROFILES (BUDGET AND ACCOUNT) OF INTERVENTIONS

WEEK 10 – June 14-20, 2021

Tuesday 15.06.2021 – 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

WORKSHOP 3

ENVIRONMENTAL MAINSTREAMING TECHNIQUES IN CLIMATE CHANGE AND FINANCE

WEEK 11 – June 21-27, 2021

Tuesday 22.06.2021 – 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

LESSON 6

APPLYING ENVIRONMENTAL MAINSTREAMING (3): IN IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF INTERVENTIONS (PCM, MONITORING EVALUATION)

WEEK 12 – June 28-July 4, 2021

Tuesday 29.06.2021 – 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

EXERCISE 3

WEEK 13 – July 5-11, 2021

Tuesday 06.07.2021 – 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

LESSON 7

CONCRETE APPLICATIONS: MOVING FROM THE ANALYSIS TO THE ACTION WITH A PRECISE ROADMAP

WEEK 14 – July 12-18, 2021

Tuesday 13.07.2021 – 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

WORKSHOP 4

ENVIRONMENTAL MAINSTREAMING TECHNIQUES IN ENVIRONMENTAL CONFLICTS

WEEK 15 – July 19-25, 2021

Tuesday 20.07.2021 – 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

EXERCISE 4

WEEK 16 – July 26-30, 2021

Tuesday 27.07.2021 – 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

PREPARATORY SESSION

TASK FORCE IN SUPPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Friday 30.07.2021 – 7:00-8:00 PM CEST

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP "ENVIRONMENT AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION" (VI EDITION)

VIS ADVANCED TRAINING SCHOOL

The Advanced Training School is an initiative promoted by **VIS (International Voluntary Service for Development)** with the aim of spreading a culture of cooperation and solidarity towards the developing countries and of providing professional competence to those dealing with international issues.

The School relies on the long-standing VIS experience in the field of development cooperation and employs highly qualified teachers, coming from the university world and with relevant experiences of international cooperation. The School aims at:

- a) building or strengthening skills and professionalism in the field of cooperation and education for sustainable development;
 - b) providing a tool to better grasp the economic - anthropological - political and planning implications related to interventions in developing countries;
 - c) reporting and helping develop professional opportunities both for young people in search of first employment and for workers and / or professionals looking for new job prospects and capacity development.
- The teaching validity of the courses provided by the School is guaranteed by a Scientific Committee, made up of teachers and experts.

TARGET TRAINEES

The advanced course offers a learning programme that allows an in-depth knowledge about international cooperation in environmental matters and about the ways for taking care of environment, especially in

project approach, with the typical **Environmental Mainstreaming Approach (EMA)**. It provides all trainees with a wide range of theoretical and practical contents, materials and suggestions, with the support of exercises and case studies on the **Environmental Mainstreaming Techniques**.

It is addressed to all those who have advanced skills or experience in international cooperation but not in environmental issues or viceversa are experts in the environment but not in cooperation. In particular:

- professional and voluntary operators of international cooperation;
- development project designers and project cycle managers;
- aspiring international volunteers and expatriate cooperators;
- journalists, communication experts, information sector operators;
- university students and graduates wishing to specialize;
- teachers of all school groups and development educators;
- development cooperation officers in national or local authorities.

REQUIREMENTS

From a technical point of view, trainees are required to be equipped with good internet connection and a pc with good audio in/out performances (best would be even with webcam, but not necessary), in order to access weekly classes and to share communications with classmates and teaching staff. The estimated time of global commitment required to each trainee is about **6 hours per week** average.

EVALUATION OF EXERCISES

In **2021 edition** we will apply these criteria for getting the final diploma:

1) minimum number of exercises: **2 tests** over 4

2) minimum global score: **65/100**

3) the final assessment will be expressed in 100/100, resulting from the sum of the scores achieved in each exercise:

EXERCISE 1	max 20
EXERCISE 2	max 20
EXERCISE 3	max 20
EXERCISE 4 (FINAL)	max 40

4) the scores will be assigned taking into account these **parameters**:

- a) vocabulary and clarity
- b) rational setting
- c) relevance of the proposed solutions
- d) originality
- e) efficacy

(for each parameter will be assigned a maximum score to 1/5 of the maximum overall score of each exercise).

5) to facilitate the students, by grading the workload, **two thresholds** are provided:

- diploma (**at least 2 exercises + 65/100 points**);
- diploma and admission in GREEN VIS Group (**all 4 exercises + 85/100 points**).

FINAL CERTIFICATE

At the end of the course, each trainee is awarded with a **Diploma of specialization** in "Environment and Climate Change in International Cooperation – Expert in Environmental Mainstreaming Techniques", attesting the successful participation in the course and successfully overcoming the required tests.

REGISTRATION FEE

Registration fee is **€ 290,00** for those who enroll by **April 11th 2021**.

Early birds registration fee (by **March 28th 2021**) is **€ 265,00**.

Students who have previously attended a VIS paid training courses are entitled to a 20% discount from the full registration fee. To receive the reduction coupon, please write an email to corsionline@volint.it

Fee includes: lectures, workshops, exercises, access to all recordings, lesson and workshop slides, study and consultation materials, tutoring, access to all materials and interviews realized and / or provided during the final workshop.

ENROLLMENT PROCEDURE

Applications can be submitted online through the following [LINK](#)

Registrations will be accepted until the day specified in this announcement and in any case until all available places are available (maximum **25 participants**). The course will be activated with a minimum of **12 participants**.

After submission, you will receive an email containing your credentials to access the e-learning platform.

For further information or for applications through wires send an email to corsionline@volint.it or contact the Secretariat - tel. **+39 06 51.629.1**

Scuola di Alta Formazione

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