

Short course: Biodiversity modeling with GLOBIO3

2-4 November 2011, Enschede, The Netherlands

Human activities continue to have a large impact on the environment and on biodiversity. Agricultural, urban and infrastructural developments are often realized at the cost of biodiversity. Climate change and habitat fragmentation exacerbate biodiversity loss. As a result ecosystem functions and services are affected and may have serious consequences for people who rely on them. Policymakers are aware of the relations between land-use change, biodiversity loss and the consequences for ecosystem services and food security. Targets to reduce biodiversity loss are adopted by the parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. To achieve these targets policymakers need tools that can help assess the impact of drivers that lead to biodiversity loss and ecosystem change.

Existing information on biodiversity is often fragmented and species inventories are in general costly and time-intensive. Practitioners of sustainability assessments need a simple tool to determine the general impact of socio-economic developments on biodiversity in a relatively short time. Biodiversity modeling can support policymakers, planners and assessment practitioners to do this. Key sustainability issues can be addressed, such as: *What is changing and where, How is it changing, What can we do about it and What is the impact of different policy options?*

The Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency, in collaboration with Aidenvironment and ITC, offers you a short course on biodiversity modeling with GLOBIO3. In this course the focus will be on a regional and national implementation of the GLOBIO3 model to assess current and future biodiversity. For future assessments the model is integrated with the CLUE land use model.

Key modelers from different parts of the world will present their experiences and provide support during practical sessions.

Course objectives

The short course aims to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of the GLOBIO3 methodology for implementation at a regional and national scale.

Target group

The course is designed for assessment practitioners, planning authorities and researchers that are involved in impact assessments of socio-economic developments at regional or national scale. The course is also useful for students (MSc or PhD) that would like to work with GLOBIO3. No specific skills are required for this course. A few hands-on practical examples, using basic GIS techniques, will be applied during the course.

Course topics

In this course theoretical and practical working sessions will alternate each other. Experiences from international key modelers will be shared. The principles of the GLOBIO3 and CLUE models will be explained. Among the topics that will be taught are: biodiversity drivers, indicators, international biodiversity assessments, basic GIS calculations, calculation of biodiversity loss per driver, assessment of current and future land use and biodiversity, linkage with food security, land use scenario building, land use allocation, tabular and graphical presentation of results and analysis of findings. Participants will discuss how the tools can be embedded in sustainability or integrated assessments and finally each participant will bring back home the complete biodiversity assessment tool (GLOBIO3 + CLUE), including manuals and sample data.

Course duration and dates

Two and a half day from 2-4 November 2011

Location

ITC, Enschede, the Netherlands

Course fee

650 euro, inclusive hotel accommodation and food

Deadline application

15 October 2011. Maximum 20 applicants

Please fill in the attached application form and send this before 15 October 2011 to: wilbert@aidenvironment.org

Information

For more information on this course please contact the

course leader Wilbert van Rooij by e-mail:

wilbert@aidenvironment.org