




Syllabus

Open e-course Inclusive Enterprises for Empowered Communities

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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and Cooperation SDC

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Topic

Community-based enterprises (CBEs) developed within community forestry have the potential to improve the lives of enterprise members and others who depend on forests for their livelihood. In discussions and in practice, women and other marginalized groups are often not represented and are excluded from participating in and benefiting from community forestry CBEs. Many online courses focus on CBEs or on gender and social inclusion or on community forestry but they are usually treated as separate topics. This course looks at the importance of integrating all three concepts.

Learning objectives

At the end of the course, you will be able to:

- Appreciate the importance of inclusion in CBEs
- Describe concepts on inclusive CBEs
- Explain the challenges and opportunities that affect inclusion in CBEs
- Find practical ways to develop inclusive CBEs

Structure

This course is self-paced and takes about eight hours to complete.

Sessions	Content
Introduction	
Session 1 Concepts on inclusive community-based enterprises	The session looks at the characteristics of CBEs and how they relate to community forestry. It examines the reasons why exclusion occurs in CBEs before moving to what inclusion means.

Session 2 Challenges to inclusive community-based enterprises	The session centres on challenges to inclusive CBEs, focusing particularly on gender inclusion. It provides the context for the marginalization of women and how it is reflected in tenure, government policies and regulation, internal governance, business management capacities and relationships with stakeholders. The session also discusses the implications of the challenges to women’s entrepreneurship.
Session 3 Opportunities for inclusive community-based enterprises	The session looks at opportunities in the field of enterprise that can be tapped to promote inclusive CBEs. It uses value chain analysis to see where there are opportunities and support actors.
Session 4 Interventions for inclusive community-based enterprises	The last session is on developing interventions to promote inclusion in CBEs. The interventions can be done in tenure rights, government policies and regulation, internal governance, business management capacities and relationships with stakeholders. It also presents a business case for inclusion.

Parting words

Recommended prior learning

This e-course looks at CBEs in the context of community forestry. We recommend that learners have basic knowledge on community forestry, natural resource management and governance to benefit more fully from the course. Check out the Community Forestry 101 e-course.

Competency tag

Community-based enterprises; intersectionality; inclusion

Grading system

A certificate is available upon completion of the course if you pass the assessments. There are three types of assessments. The first are auto-graded assessments that give immediate feedback of right or wrong answers. The point value for each question is mentioned below the question, and you are allowed two attempts to pass a question. You must have a score of 75 percent or higher to be considered as having passed in the auto-graded assessment.

The second type of assessment is the Workbook, which is an offline assignment. It will take time for the Training and Learning Team to check and provide a grade. The third type of assessment is participation in the discussion forums. Each learner should have at least two posts and comment on at least two posts of fellow learners.

This is the grading system for the course:

Session 1 Concepts on inclusive community-based enterprises	7 points, auto-graded
Session 2 Challenges to inclusive community-based enterprises	7 points, auto-graded
Session 3 Opportunities for inclusive community-based enterprises	15 points, auto-graded
Total	29 points
Session 4 Interventions for inclusive community-based enterprises	A Workbook that is assessed using this rubric: 0 (Insufficient), 1 (Needs work), 2 (Satisfactory), and 3 (Excellent). You must have a score of 2 or 3 to pass.

At least two posts and two comments in the discussion forums

Send the Workbook to app.elearning@recoftc.org



At RECOFTC, we believe in a future where people live equitably and sustainably in and beside healthy, resilient forests. We take a long-term, landscape-based and inclusive approach to supporting local communities to secure their land and resource rights, stop deforestation, find alternative livelihoods and foster gender equity. We are the only non-profit organization of our kind in Asia and the Pacific. We have more than 30 years of experience working with people and forests, and have built trusting relationships with partners at all levels. Our influence and partnerships extend from multilateral institutions to governments, private sector and local communities. Our innovations, knowledge and initiatives enable countries to foster good forest governance, mitigate and adapt to climate change, and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda.

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