Course description: Planning for the recovery of threatened species or ecosystems is a complex process. Often multiple stakeholders and interests need to be balanced, alongside those of the biological units we value. Navigating through this socio-cultural ‘minefield’ takes a suite of skills which are rarely covered within existing degree or post-graduate biology course programmes.

As conservation professionals, we can find ourselves in the challenging position of having to manage inter-stakeholder disagreements over how best to respond to a given conservation problem. Likewise, we may end up in a deadlock with other colleagues over what the ‘right’ decision is, to resolve a conservation issue. Facilitation skills can provide us with the confidence and competence we require to work through such situations and often end up with good decisions that are endorsed by everyone.

These skills can be particularly valuable for various aspects: species conservation planning processes or site-specific projects/problems.

In fact, wherever problems are complex or decisions require the collaboration of multiple individuals or organisations, facilitation skills will help improve the outcome.

Learning outcomes: By the end of this course participants will be able to:
- Demonstrate how to facilitate effective workshops and meetings
- Apply the ‘One Plan Approach’ to species conservation planning processes
- Deal with conflict under different circumstances
- Demonstrate effective listening skills
- Describe how to provide feedback to individuals to improve relationships and work effectively

The courses are offered free and will be held at the NCF office in Mysore from 23-26 March 2020. Limited travel and/or accommodation support will be available for a few candidates.

Resource people: Jamie Copsey (Director of Training, IUCN Conservation Planning Specialist Group), Sanjay Molur (Convener, CPSG South Asia/Executive Director Trustee, Zoo Outreach)

Co-ordination: Aparajita Datta

Duration: 4 days

Capacity: 20 participants

Dates: 23–26 March, 2020

Location: NCF office, Mysore

Course format: This will be a blended course, mixing pre-course online lectures and knowledge checks with a four-day face-to-face taught workshop in which participants spend much of their time in facilitated scenarios to develop their skills.

WHO CAN APPLY:

The course is open to Indian researchers/students/local community members/conservation practitioners/government officials. It is meant for people who are engaged in on-ground conservation action.

Individuals may choose to apply for the course. Participants will be selected based on order of application and potential applicability of the course content to their conservation efforts. Please make sure that you emphasize this in your application.

Please apply at least 10 days before the start date.

HOW TO APPLY:

Please click here and fill in this online form to apply.