Environmental Collaboration and Conflict Resolution: Collaborative approaches in community forestry in rural Java, Indonesia





Course description

This practice-oriented course focuses on collaborative approaches to natural resource governance and conflict resolution. Combining theoretical foundations with real-world case studies, the course provides students and practitioners with practical skills in facilitating multi-actor discussions, consensus-building, and mediation practices. The course participants will explore environmental and natural resource conflicts and gain hands-on experience in analyzing conflicts and applying appropriate resolution strategies. The course is structured around a comprehensive framework of environmental collaboration discussing topics like collaborative governance, interest-based negotiation, and consensus-building models. This course includes a field excursion to a community forest area in Gunungkidul in rural Java. This excursion provides a practical opportunity to deepen understanding of classroom concepts by observing a local community that has collaboratively managed its forests for over 25 years. By the end of the course, participants will have for example skills to (1) analyze conflict situations and suitable response strategies; (2) understand principles of mediated negotiation as a resolution strategy and; (3) facilitate and participate meaningfully in collaborative and multi-party processes.

Application details

To apply for this course, please prepare a CV (max three pages) and a short motivation letter of why you are interested in this course (maximum 250 words), both in PDF format, and submit them to the course coordinators ida.herdieckerhoff@uef.fi and rijalramdani@umy.ac.id. Deadline for applications is the end of February 2025. There are no tuition fees for this course. The participants need to cover their costs of travel to and accommodation etc. during the course.

About the organizers

The Environmental Collaboration and Conflict Resolution (ECCR) Network promotes partnerships in environmental collaboration, conflict resolution and collaborative approaches in environmental and natural resource governance. Working alongside partners from Finland, Indonesia, Tanzania, Uganda, Mexico and the United States, we aim to co-create knowledge and develop skills for environmental collaboration and conflict resolution through teaching, networking and strong partnerships across continents. The Environmental Collaboration and Conflict Resolution (ECCR) course series is a key activity of the network. The ECCR course was first held in 2016 in Finland and since has been organized as part of the University of Eastern Finland's Summer School and every second year in one of the partner countries. In 2025, the ECCR course is funded by the Finnish National Agency for Education.









