

## Training course on the MARISCO method

### About MARISCO

Developing strategies for effective conservation measures with measurable outcomes is difficult – the **MARISCO** methodology ('adaptive **MA**nagement of vulnerability and **RISK** at **CO**nervation sites') offers a strategic approach to better handle complex management situations. It was developed by the Centre for Econs and Ecosystem Management at Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development, Germany, on the basis of the *Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation* and has been applied in a number of German development cooperation projects in close cooperation with GIZ. Importantly, MARISCO, as a tool for risk-robust, adaptive, and ecosystem-based conservation of biodiversity, is a step-by-step approach to planning and affirms that uncertainty and risk are common factors to be considered in adaptive management and demonstrates how to go about it. MARISCO can also facilitate adaptation to climate change if it is integrated into a broader concept of ecosystem-based climate change management and -sustainable development. Using a visualised systematic process designed for collecting, organising and documenting both knowledge and non-knowledge related to biodiversity, threats and drivers of change, as well as the conservation management for a given site, MARISCO constitutes an ongoing process of revising, informing and improving decisions about the management area.

### About the Training

The Programme "Implementing the Biodiversity Convention" implemented by GIZ on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) has commissioned CEEM to implement a training course for future coaches of the MARISCO methodology. The course is scheduled from 21 to 27 February 2016 in *Schorfheide Chorin Biosphere Reserve* close to Berlin, Germany. It will be conducted in close collaboration with the administration of the *Schorfheide Chorin Biosphere Reserve* and the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN).

Training participants will be introduced to and apply the steps of the MARISCO methodology and discuss opportunities to adapt it to the needs of different target groups. MARISCO has been tested with diverse participants worldwide, ranging from national, regional, and local decision makers to students or local communities involved in adaptive community-based natural resource management. The training comprises the following elements:

- ✓ From situation analysis to strategy design: Real-life application of ecosystem-based adaptive methodological steps to an exemplary conservation site with short excursions (*Schorfheide Chorin Biosphere Reserve*)
- ✓ Opportunities for enhancing moderation skills in working groups
- ✓ Learning about case study experiences from Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America
- ✓ Discussions about opportunities for applications in partner countries of German development cooperation and target group-oriented adaptation of the methodology

Access to the MARISCO guidebook, case studies and further learning materials as well as additional logistical information (will be available soon): [www.marisco.training](http://www.marisco.training)

## Objectives

After the training course participants will...

(a) ... be familiar with:

- adaptive and step-by-step options for participatory measures of risk and vulnerability management based on principles of ecosystem-based development (embracing ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change)
- a systemic approach to vulnerability assessments and corresponding risk-robust strategic portfolios for vulnerability reduction

(b) ... feel confident to apply, adapt, and facilitate the working steps of the MARISCO methodology under different circumstances and with different target groups

(c) ... have discussed exemplary options for application, networking, and peer support within the group

## Target Group

The training course has been designed for practitioners and technical staff from government, development agencies, applied research, NGOs, and consultants who plan to facilitate the application of the MARISCO methodology in the context of German development cooperation.

## Application

Please apply by sending your registration form to Josiane Lowe ([josiane.lowe@hnee.de](mailto:josiane.lowe@hnee.de))

Registration deadline: 27 November 2015

Your application will be considered based on a number of criteria, such as

- Regional balance
- Related work experience
- Motivation and relevance to work context

Confirmations will be sent out by 15 December 2015.

Pre-registration inquiries: [josiane.lowe@hnee.de](mailto:josiane.lowe@hnee.de)

Number of participants: 15 - 20

Duration: 6 days

Costs: Around 800 € per participant that have to be calculated based upon the actual number of participants (including board and lodging). The final price can only be set by mid-January 2015. A late cancellation of your registration within 30 days prior to the start of the seminar will imply a fee in case no substitute can be found.

Contact: CEEM/ Christina Lehmann ([christina.lehmann@hnee.de](mailto:christina.lehmann@hnee.de))  
GIZ Programme 'Implementing the Biodiversity Convention' / Eva Axthelm ([eva.axthelm@giz.de](mailto:eva.axthelm@giz.de))