Strategies for Effective **Protected Areas Management**

Presented by Conservation Strategy Fund's Numbers for Nature Training Institute

OVERVIEW

The training equips participants with the knowledge and tools to become effective leaders on Protected Areas systems economics and finance, and better integrate natural capital approaches and economic incentives into their conservation efforts.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Participants will gain...

- An essential foundation in basic economic and finance theory underpinning environmental decision-making.
- An understanding of economic drivers, policies, and incentives to reduce threats and increase management effectiveness of protected areas.
- Overview and examples of economic tools for evaluating the tradeoffs of natural resource management and development decisions, including ecosystem service valuation and cost-benefit analysis.
- An exploration of sustainable financing, public budgets, and financial flows with an aim to increase resources and funding for Protected Areas.
- Insight into how to align conservation with economic development priorities and how to integrate environmental objectives into planning for other sectors.
- The ability to articulate the benefits of environmental sustainability in a language that communities, businesses, and governments can understand.

KEY TOPICS

Economic Fundmentals

- Market theory: supply, demand, equilibrium, and competition
- Market failures and the environment

Conservation Finance

- What is conservation finance?
- Scaleable solutions and emerging opportunities

Environmental Valuation

- Ecosystem services and human benefits
- Integrating environmental values into decision-making

Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA)

- What is Cost-Benefit Analysis?
- Evaluating project feasibility using financial and economic analysis

METHODOLOGY & FORMAT

This course can train up to 50 participants in an in-person, virtual, or hybrid format. It consists of four modules designed for environmental professionals with little to no economic background. First, live lectures and discussions help participants understand basic economic and finance theory. Case studies and additional readings then highlight applications to protected areas. Participants also engage in interactive exercises to bridge the gap between knowledge and practice.

All course materials will be collected and made available to participants on the virtual Numbers for Nature learning platform for up to 6 months.

FROM OUR PAST COHORT (AFRICA)

9/10 Overall course quality and value rating

10/10 Average likelihood to recommend this course to a colleague

84% of participants showed an increase in knowledge from the beginning to the end of the course.

"We need more of such courses to open our eyes on conservation matters."

-Elizabeth Atieno, Tsavo Trust, Kenya

"[The] knowledge [I] gained from this course has equipped me with the ability to ask better and more focused questions when discussing management of protected areas."

- Yvonne Khaemba, IUCN, Kenya

"Taking this course has given me a deeper understanding of conservation finance principles and strategies... Additionally, the course has enhanced my ability to analyze economic and environmental impacts, enabling me to make informed decisions that align with ecological sustainability and financial viability."

- Frank Lihwa, Southern Tanzania Elephant Program, Tanzania

"[The] Environment is very close to my heart, so being equipped with tools to estimate its value was so helpful and intrigued my curiosity. I think this introductory course has made me want to learn even more about Conservation Finance."

- Retselisitsoe Tsolo, Ministry of Environment and Culture, Lesotho