



# Conservation Strategy Fund's **Economic Tools for Conservation**

**Berkeley**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

**College of  
Natural Resources**





Since 1998, the *Economic Tools for Conservation* course has equipped people with a solid understanding of economic tools and the ability to identify opportunities to apply them. The intensive, two-week course has helped accomplish dramatic environmental victories and widespread acceptance of economics' role in conservation.

*"This training is one of the greatest ideas in community-based conservation. It has empowered me as a key decision maker in a conservation organization to have not just a voice but a voice of reason. This is exactly what I needed, and now I have it, thanks to CSF."*

Titus Muia, Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust, Kenya

Photo © Evonne

At CSF, we know that lasting conservation starts with **motivated people**, passionate about healthy ecosystems. We offer them the opportunity to understand how markets both put pressure on ecosystems and provide rationale for keeping them intact. People graduate from CSF courses **economically literate** and ready to tackle conservation challenges with a new perspective.

We then work with course graduates to provide **economic analysis** and policy advice. Our alumni have used their training to shift the conversation from one of conservation vs. development, to one that focuses on ways to incorporate both. Together, we have helped make **strategic decisions** in favor of sustainability across the globe.



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**95%** of course graduates say, *“The course influenced how I approach my conservation work.”*

**90%** say, *“I continue to benefit from my CSF training”*

**92%** say, *“The training was one of the most useful short courses I have attended.”*

**61%** say, *“The CSF course helped me achieve a specific conservation or sustainable development success.”*

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## SUCCESS STORY



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In 2006, Fernando León came to CSF’s Economic Tools course to add economic analysis methods to his toolkit. On his return home he undertook an ambitious study to estimate the contribution of Peru’s protected areas to the national economy. **“The report convinced the Ministry of Economy and Finance to increase the budget for the protected areas system by 400 percent,”** Fernando reported.

Several years later in a post at the newly created cabinet-level Ministry of Environment, Fernando was charged with developing a policy that would require developers to compensate for their environmental impacts. Relatively few countries have such policies, so he didn’t have precedents to follow, just one to set.

In late 2010, Fernando called in CSF to help. Over several months, with other NGO partners, we hammered out draft guidelines that would require offsetting areas to be permanently conserved, with long-term financing and, most importantly, accounting for projects’ indirect impacts. The guidelines gained momentum and culminated in a Ministerial Resolution in 2014. The policy has the potential to be an **international model for protecting nature** by internalizing the environmental costs of development. And in August 2016, Fernando was appointed as Undersecretary of Strategic Development of Natural Resources in Peru’s Ministry of the Environment.

Environmental gains like these are won because there is someone with Fernando León’s entrepreneurial creativity, ability to bring people together, and access to **timely knowledge** on how to use numbers for nature.



**This course is for people at the forefront of conservation challenges. We are seeking leaders from:**

- Conservation programs and protected areas
- NGOs
- Government agencies
- Academic institutions
- Private sector

Applicants from a variety of disciplines such as biology, forestry, law, anthropology, or economics are encouraged to apply.

Previous training in economics is beneficial, but not essential.



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## PARTICIPANTS & INSTRUCTORS



**John Lynham**  
Associate Professor,  
Economics Department  
University of Hawai'i

John is a Professor of Economics at the University of Hawai'i. He is also an Affiliated Researcher at the Center for Ocean Solutions at Stanford University. John holds an MA and PhD in Economics from the University of California Santa Barbara. He also holds an MS in Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology from UCSB. John's research interests are in environmental and resource economics, marine ecology, and behavioral economics.



**David Johnson**  
Lecturer, Economics Dept.  
University of Wisconsin Madison

Prior to moving to the University of Wisconsin Madison, David taught Microeconomics and Macroeconomic analysis at Wellesley College, Harvard University and Stanford University. He has received wide recognition for his teaching talent and animated style, and strives to make his courses interesting, important and relevant. David has been teaching with CSF since 2004.



**David Roland-Holst**  
Adjunct Professor, Agriculture  
and Resource Economics  
University of California  
Berkeley

David is one of the world's leading experts on policy modeling. He has extensive research experience in economics related to environment, development, agriculture, and international trade. David's current research includes climate policy, biofuel, China's development, infrastructure/development linkages, and avian influenza. He holds a PhD in Economics from UC Berkeley.



**Kim Bonine**  
Training Director,  
Conservation Strategy Fund

Kim joined CSF in 2001 and has led courses in Africa, Asia and North/South America on themes such as investment strategies, values of terrestrial and marine protected areas, cost-benefit analysis, fishery and forestry economics, and endangered species conservation. She holds an MS in Earth Systems and a BA in Human Biology, both from Stanford University.



# COURSE OUTLINE

## Microeconomics

- Market theory
- Externalities, market failures and public goods

## Natural Resource Economics

- Capital theory: The time value of money and interest rates
- Open access, public goods and property rights
- Forestry and fishery economics, optimal harvesting and policy options
- Economic solutions to natural resource management challenges
- Exercises and instruction focused on game theory and negotiation skills

## Environmental Policy

- An overview of environmental policies to correct the problems of externalities, public goods and market failures
- Command and control legislation vs. economic instruments such as taxes, subsidies, and tradable permit systems

## Environmental Valuation and Ecosystem Services

- Overview of links between ecosystem services and human benefits
- Environmental values, methods to calculate them, and how these methods are best used
- Exercises to identify relevant ecosystem services and appropriate valuation methods

## Cost-Benefit Analysis

- Case studies evaluating the economic feasibility of small-scale and large-scale projects, including incorporation of externalities and sensitivity analysis
- Effective strategies for presenting economic analysis results



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# BENEFITS

- An essential foundation in basic economic concepts and language
- Insight into the drivers of environmental problems
- Skills to evaluate the costs and benefits of natural resource management and development decisions
- Ability to formulate more effective conservation strategies and policies
- Invaluable practice using communication and negotiation techniques to articulate environmental values in a way that communities, businesses, and governments can understand
- A close network with fellow conservation professionals

*"I have gained skills in assessing the feasibility of projects, knowledge and understanding of environmental economics and how it affects policies."*

**Carol Kagaba Kairumba**  
Ministry of Water and Environment,  
Uganda

*For more information, please visit our website at*  
**[conservation-strategy.org/training](http://conservation-strategy.org/training)**

## COST

The total cost for the two-week program is US \$5,000. This includes:

- Tuition
- Housing and meals
- Course materials and supplies
- Field trips
- Health insurance

Accepted applicants are responsible for seeking their own funding from employers, government, sponsors or other funding sources to cover the course fee and travel expenses.

*“This course is definitely the most cost-effective way of making environmentalists literate in economics.”*

**Mohamed Bakarr**

GEF / World Bank, Sierra Leone & USA



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## LOCATION

The course will be held on the University of California's flagship campus in the heart of **Berkeley, California**. Situated in the East Bay Area near San Francisco and Silicon Valley, the beautiful 1,232-acre campus includes world-renowned research facilities, a large ecological reserve, and botanical gardens.

The **University of California Berkeley** is recognized as the top public university in the world by The Academic Ranking of World Universities (WRWU) and the U.S. News & World Report, and a leader in applying environmental science and policy to conservation and development challenges. The course is hosted by **International & Executive Programs at UC Berkeley's College of Natural Resources**.



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