PERMACULTURE TRAININGS

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All of these can be done in either English or through translation. If the course is through translation the time necessary for this means less will be covered in the same amount of time. We also have qualified instructors that can teach these courses directly, in both Nepali and Khmer.

I have included the course length, whom the training is for, and some curriculum that will be included. I will work up actual course schedules once we have discussed your specific needs and desired outcomes.

*NOTE: for descriptions of the various hands-on projects, exercises, games, and films included in or available for all these courses go to *course documents.* You will also find *sample schedules* of course we have done in the past.

HALF-DAY INTRODUCTION TO PERMACULTURE

This is not a course, rather it is a presentation of what permaculture is, what it incorporates, how it is used and its multiple benefits. We will cover all elements used within a permaculture design, see lots of photo examples, and hear stories of permaculture applications in different parts of the world.

This presentation is good for NGO officers and staff, funding agencies, board of directors, community groups, community based organizations, and anyone else who wishes to learn what permaculture is and how it would benefit them and their work.

1 DAY INTRODUCTION TO PERMACUTURE

This is also more of a presentation, though greater depth. All the same subjects will be covered, though with more time for each, including space

for discussions, games and exercises. This length allows for a more relaxed experience with time to digest and integrate some of what is presented.

This presentation is good for NGO officers and staff, funding agencies, board of directors, community groups, community based organizations, and anyone else who wishes to learn what permaculture is and how it would benefit them and their work.

2 TO 3 DAY COURSES

From my experience this length is not so good for an adequate Introduction to Permaculture for farmers villagers, or people as the time is to restricted to get an adequate introduction to its various elements and how permaculture integrates them into a holistic regenerative system. We are willing to consider a course of this nature and this length, but strongly encourage you to really consider a longer course for higher likelihood of seeding permaculture into the community of participants.

This length of course is good for teaching about a specific element that falls within the permaculture framework. This includes, but is not limited to; Soil Health and Building (intro to soil science, various composting methods, mulching, planting for soil health, IMO's, etc), Integrated Pest Management, Water (harvesting, storage, and cycling), Appropriate Technologies and their application on the Home/farm/village, Land Restoration, Black and Greywater systems, and Introduction to the Farm as an Ecosystem.

There are other possibilities. If you have an idea of what you are wanting and it is not in this list we are open to discussion.

Urban Permaculture can be presented within this timeframe, though 3 to 4 days would be a better length for a fuller and more integrated learning experience with more opportunities for discussions, exercises, networking, and hands-on.

These courses tend to be specific to a community and their needs, such as farmers, NGO workers, homeowners, or organizations with a specific focus or mission.

PERMACULTURE TRAINING FOR FARMERS AND VILLAGERS

5 DAYS

This training is for farmers or villagers directly. Usually these courses are taught through translation and is similar to the introduction course, except with less focus on ideas and more on information and hands-on with practical ready to use permaculture techniques and strategies. Permaculture basics will still be presented, but in a shorter simpler format. This will allow for more time with subjects directly affecting farmers, with an emphasis on hands-on projects.

Subjects will include; Permaculture basics, water cycling, greywater, composting toilets, soil building, plants and cropping patterns, appropriate technologies, animal systems, integrated pest management. Hands-on projects can include; installation of a greywater system, building a solar water heater, harvesting IMO's, making a compost pile, making bio-preparations for insect control and plant nutrition, making seedballs, building and using an A-frame for terrace building and broadscale water harvesting.

This course can be run in whatever communities are receiving it or a centralized venue where they are hosted with room and board. If course is in the village the daily schedule will be a bit more open as people attending from their own villages and farms will have daily work and distractions that reduce the amount of time each day that they will be available. Doing this course in the village allows for examples of systems (e.g. greywater) to be installed for the whole village to see and have available to learn from. Additionally, I will be able to provide site specific recommendations to farmers and the village. Though more expensive, doing this course at a venue allows for a captive audience, thus more focus and time for learning. NGO or organizational support staff can also be part of these courses, thus building their knowledge base and experience with Permaculture.

INTRODUCTION TO PERMACULTURE

5 to 7 Days

This course is for educated farmers, foreigners, NGO staff and field workers. This length is the minimum amount of days necessary to give an adequate introduction to all the elements within permaculture and how they can be fit together into a regenerative holistic system, be it a home, farm, or community. this length is especially necessary if the course is to be taught through translation.

The purpose of this training is to introduce the participants in the use of Permaculture as both the foundation of a sustainable organic agricultural production system, and as a tool that can be taught and applied for the creation of all aspects of human habitation; including water, soil, cropping, infrastructure, appropriate technologies, economic structures, organizations, and how these link and support each other.

Subjects will include; basic permaculture concepts and understandings (ethics and principles, flows and patterns), water and water cycling, soil building, plants and cropping patterns, appropriate technologies, animal systems, integrated pest management (IPM), Invisible Structures and an introduction to design. Hands-on projects can include; Installing a greywater system, sheet mulching, building a compost pile, making compost soup, harvesting indigenous micro-organisms (IMO's), building and using an A-frame for terracing and building, and building a solar hot water heater.

ADVANCED PERMACULTURE TRAINING

4 or 6 DAYS and up

This course is for those who have had some training in Permaculture. This training can be tailored to the needs and interests of the participants. Generally, both more advanced techniques and strategies of Permaculture and sustainable agriculture will be presented, as well as training in how to teach and share Permaculture to the communities you serve.

Subjects will include, review of introductory course material, advanced water technologies, deeper work with soils and composting, more complex cropping and agricultural production systems, advanced IPM, the farm as an ecosystem, basic design, teaching Permaculture to farmers and traditional cultures, appropriate technologies for farmers. Hands-on techniques and strategies that can be presented and/or done include: constructed wetlands for water treatment, solar water heater, solar cookers, solar driers, vermicomposting, bio-preparations for insect control and plant nutrition.

PERMACULTURE DESIGN CERTIFICATION COURSE (PDC)

14 TO 18 DAYS

***This course can be done through translation, however, we will need to add a few days for the extra time needed for this. If the course is not through translation than all participants must have a working knowledge of English. They are welcome to ask questions in their native language, provided someone present can translate, and discussions in their native language is strongly encourage with time allowed for such. I am hoping by 2013 that I will have students qualified to teach the PDC in their native tongue. This will include Nepali and Khmer.**

This course is both for those who want a general but comprehensive introduction to sustainability and how to create it, as well as those wishing to get a complete and in depth introduction to permaculture, all its component elements, and the process and methodologies for creating a holistic permaculture design. It is especially beneficial for farmers, ranchers, all types of agriculturalist, architects, urban planners, engineers, resource managers, and anyone else who works with our physical world or does design work in its many forms. However, one does not need to be going into a permaculture career or a related field to benefit from this learning. Many artists, medical professionals, business people, housewives, and others have gained insights and understandings that have enabled them to both increase their quality of life, as well as move all their endeavors towards creating a more sustainable world.

Using a variety of learning techniques and strategies this course presents Permaculture as an integrated design approach to create sustainable human habitat. Course time will consist of traditional lectures, guest presentations, group discussions, games, exercises, hands-on projects,

photos, movies and site visits. While we will focus on land systems, many discussions and examples will be explored of applications in the 'Invisible Structures'. These are the social, cultural, political, and economic structures we create as humans that powerfully shape much of our world today.

Not only will the course be about Permaculture, but it will also model it by its structure and the environment we create together during the course.

Subjects will include:
  Permaculture Ethics and Principles
 Observation
 Flows

 Pattern Literacy and Application (physical and invisible)
 Edge and Yield
 Energy Storage and Resources
 Sector and Site Analysis
 Zonation
 Water; Harvesting, Holding, and Cycling
 Grey and Blackwater
 Soil Health and Building (composting, IMOs, vermicomposting)
 Plants and Cropping Patterns
 Animal Systems
 Aquaculture
 Agriculture; From Your Doorstep to the World
 Microclimates
 Buildings: Siting and Integration with Environment
 Appropriate Technology
 Design Process and Methodologies
 Designing for Catastrophe
 Climatic Strategies
 Urban Permaculture and Community Scale Design
 Invisible Structures and Alternative Economics
 Peak and Post Petroleum
 Permaculture in the Majority World
 Permaculture and Organisations

Hands-on projects may include:
  Greywater system construction
  Sheet mulching
  Spiral garden construction
  Solar hot water construction
  Seed ball making
  Harvesting Indigenous Micro-organisms (IMOs)
  A-Frame construction
  Swale design and building
  Building a terrace
  Mapping

During the latter part of the course design teams will be formed and given real life design assignments that are relevant to the course venue. The course will culminate with each team giving presentations of their designs to the class and interested local people and groups. These designs will be left with venue to become valuable resources for them. Elements to whole sections of past student designs have been incorporated by many sites were this course has been hosted.

As an expression of permaculture ethics, this course will contribute to the enrichment of its site and each of its participants. When and where appropriate we will try to have half international students and half local students. This not only creates a much richer, dynamic and rewarding experience, it will also offer an opportunity to understand that we can create a regenerative, sustainable world together.

The person attending this Permaculture Design Course will not only gain theoretical and practical knowledge on Permaculture, they will be awarded a basic Permaculture Design Certificate. This certificate will enable the participant to be a certified Permaculture Practitioner and to use the word 'Permaculture' to earn a living.