

UN COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
16th Session, New York, 5-16 May 2008

Guidelines for CSD Learning Centre Course Proposals

The Commission on Sustainable Development will hold its sixteenth session (CSD-16) from 5 to 16 May 2008 at UN Headquarters in New York. As in previous sessions, the official programme of CSD-16 will include the **Learning Centre** which constitutes a series of **3-hour** instructional courses focused on the **specific themes** of the session, as well as on cross-cutting issues. Summary of the instruction and/or copy of power point presentation will be posted daily on a dedicated CSD web page.

The CSD-16 themes are: **Agriculture, Rural Development, Land, Drought, Desertification, and Africa**. Proposals for courses related to the CSD **cross-cutting issues** will also be considered. In the past, such courses have focused on education, financing, gender, indicators, national sustainable development strategies, and sustainable development law.

The Learning Centre is intended to facilitate teaching/training at a practical level on various aspects of sustainable development. Courses are designed to impart useful/practical knowledge to enable CSD participants to implement Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Mauritius Strategy for Small Island Developing States in their home countries.

Courses are held in parallel to the CSD plenary sessions with the possible exceptions of the Opening and Closing sessions and the opening session of the high-level segment. Instructors are usually experts from universities and organizations with hands-on expertise in the course subject. Sufficient time for interactive discussions or questions and answer period should be planned.

A proposal for each CSD-16 Learning Centre course should include the following:

- One page synopsis of the course including objectives, content, instructional methodology and intended impact;
- Brief bio data of instructor(s) – *please do not plan to bring more than 3 instructors*;
- Name and contact information of the coordinator or key instructor.

The deadline for the receipt of proposals will be **14 March 2008**. Courses to be selected for inclusion in the Learning Centre will be made on the basis of quality, relevance and the need to ensure a balanced course offering. The final course listings will be posted on the CSD website and will be open to all CSD participants.

If you have any questions, please write to:

Learning Centre
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