

## ANNOUNCEMENT

**VIII International Shortcourse on Agroecology 2007  
at the  
University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC)  
Santa Cruz, California, July 8-21, 2007**

**Special Focus:  
“Action Education and Training in Agroecology”**

### **Description**

The **International Short Course on Agroecology** for 2007 will be held in Santa Cruz, California July 8-21, 2007. This year we continue to build strategic alliances to give the course a special focus on developing education and training programs where agroecology becomes the key to promoting action and change in the development of sustainable food systems. Besides Dr. Stephen R. Gliessman’s agroecology research group at the Department of Environmental Studies (UCSC), this course will be jointly organized by the Program in Community and Agroecology (PICA), the Community Agroecology Network (CAN), and the Agroecology Program of Heifer International.

These partners will greatly enrich the content, perspectives, and special focus of this year’s course. PICA is a living/learning program providing UCSC students opportunities to integrate cultural and ecological knowledge in our search for sustainability. CAN is a non-governmental organization with the objective of supporting agroecological and social development in rural communities of Central America and Mexico. Heifer International is a global NGO whose mission is to work with communities to end hunger and poverty and to care for the earth.

### **Academic Activities**

The course will consist of lectures, demonstrations, and field applications of teaching and training in agroecology. Discussions of course concepts will be complemented with on-farm experiences in agroecological research and production systems. Activities will include presentations on specific topics given by invited specialists, group discussions on assigned readings, hands-on lab and field activities, individual and group presentations, field trips to local farms, and the preparation of a case study demonstrating the teaching or training on the principles of agroecology and sustainability based on food systems in the participant’s home area. Participants will receive key texts, bibliographies, and publications in the field of agroecology, and will access the University of California library system and other on-line resources to search the contemporary knowledge-base on agroecology and sustainable food systems.

### **Instructors**

Dr. Gliessman’s Agroecology Research Group of the University of California (<http://www.agroecology.org/people.htm>) will provide core instruction for the course, and will be joined by instructors and specialists from the course partners ([www.ucscpica.org](http://www.ucscpica.org), [www.communityagroecology.net](http://www.communityagroecology.net), and [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org) ) Additional instructors will come from an extensive network of educators, trainers, practitioners, and activists in agroecology and food system work.

### **Eligibility**

We encourage applications from research centers, governmental and non-governmental organizations, colleges and universities, private institutions, community development groups, farmers, teachers, and agricultural professionals interested in teaching and training in agroecology

and the promotion of sustainable agriculture. Enrollment is limited to 30 participants. The course will be in English, so a working knowledge of English is required for participation.

### **Requirements for Admission**

Interested candidates should send a short resume and cover letter explaining their background, current work, and reasons for taking the course by the application deadlines listed below. Participants will be selected by a committee and notified of their acceptance within 2 weeks of their application submission, at which time they will need to pay their fees, within the established deadlines below. Upon completion of the full program of the course, participants will be granted a Certificate of Participation.

### **Fees/Accommodation Options**

The course fee is comprehensive, including all tuition, course & lecture materials, accommodations, three meals per day, field trips and administrative fees. Fees do not include airfare or stays for the period before and after the course. We are offering two payment options depending on the timing of registration. In an effort to facilitate assistance for developing country residents, we have established a reduced fee rate. Regrettably, although we are seeking funding for scholarships, at this time we are unable to provide any type of financial support for course participants.

#### **Early Registration Package:**

**Application received by April 1, 2007**

**Fees received by May 1, 2007**

*Developed country residents:* \$1800.00

*Developing country residents:* \$1500.00

#### **Normal Registration Package:\***

**Application received after April 1, 2007**

**Fees received by June 15, 2007**

*Developed country residents:* \$2000.00

*Developing country residents:* \$1700.00

\* We will accept these packages until the enrollment reaches 30 participants.

### **Mail:**

International Agroecology Shortcourse  
c/o Ms. Bee Vadakan,  
Program in Community and Agroecology (PICA)  
1156 High Street  
University of California  
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

**Fax:** 831-459-2867

### **Electronic submission:**

Email resume and letter to: [vvadakan@ucsc.edu](mailto:vvadakan@ucsc.edu)

**note:** please use text within the email message or attach a document in MS word format.

### **Payment**

Participants should pay course fees by the dates indicated by bank check or money order in US dollars payable through a United States bank to: **Community Agroecology Network (CAN)** and

mailed to the address above. Information will be made available on the possible use of international bank transfers for payment

**For More Information**

Information will be continuously updated. For the updated information please visit the web site at <http://www.agroecology.org/shortcourse.htm>, Questions regarding the course can be emailed to [vvadakan@ucsc.edu](mailto:vvadakan@ucsc.edu) or contact the course organizer, **Bee Vadakan** at Tel. 831-459-5818, Fax. 831-459-2867.