

Announcement and Invitation

Training on Participatory 3-Dimensional Modelling and Mapping, Eldoret, Kenya

(August 13th – 31st, 2007)

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INTRODUCTION:

ERMIS Africa in collaboration with **Moi University** has organised a training course on **Participatory 3-Dimensional Modelling and Mapping (P3DM)** in Kenya. The training exercise will be hosted by ERMIS College¹ at Eldoret Town and **Sengwer Indigenous People Development Program (SIDP)** in Cherangany area in Trans-nzoia district.

Training Mapping Context:

The training is part of our collaborative research, training and development programme which is designed to capacity build indigenous people in Africa by equipping them with modern skills in spatial technologies and approaches towards safeguarding their territories, cultures, and natural resources as well as engagement in endogenous development. These initiatives have received donor support and for the second time², ERMIS Africa will be facilitating a community mapping exercise for an Indigenous Community “The Sengwer Indigenous People” who have received a funding from **Rainforest Foundation (UK)** to map their rights and entitlement over their ancestral territories in Cherangany Hills, as well as deliver the 5th Regional PGIS Training for development practitioners from Eastern, Central and Southern Africa.

Field Mapping Context:

Currently, the Sengwer Indigenous People have expressed concern over historical injustices by the colonial and post governments. Their plights have been climaxed by the decision by World Bank to fund the Kenyan Government for the establishment of “**Western Kenya Community Driven Development and Flood Mitigation Project (WKCDD/FM) and the Natural Resources Management Project (NRM)**” without consulting and against their wish. The community has claimed that the project will adversely amplify the Government scheme to dispose them off their ancestral territory; enhance their omission from the country’s social-

¹ERMIS College (College of Environmental Research, Mapping and Information System in Africa) is the “Centre of excellence in Training on Geospatial Technologies and Systems” of ERMIS Africa through which regular modular-based courses on Geospatial Technologies and Systems (GIT&S), Information Communication Technologies (ICT) as well Community Development Studies are offered. The College is Located in Nakuru, Eldoret and soon opening Nairobi Branch

² In August, 2007 ERMIS Africa received financial support from CTA –Netherlands, IPACC and Gaia Foundation, and ESAPP to facilitate community mapping among the Ogiek Indigenous People and PGIS training for 22 development participants from 7 countries within Eastern, Central and Southern Africa Region.

political and economic agenda; and accelerate the assimilative schemes into major ethnic groups. In a bid to safeguard their rights and entitlements, the 15 tribes making up the Sengwer Indigenous People, have planned to map their territorial claims. Community mapping teams composed of elders, youths, and children will, in an inter-generational knowledge sharing mechanism, map and document their ancestral entitlements (territories, landscape, culture, natural resources etc). The information generated will be used by the community towards advocacy for their territorial rights and entitlements over Cherangany hills and for engagement in endogenous development initiative.

Training Objectives

ERMIS Africa and Moi University will collaboratively facilitate the community mapping exercise and PGIS training sessions to build capacities of these indigenous people and development practitioners from the Eastern and Central Africa Region. This Collaborative PGIS Capacity Building Programme is designed to meet the following objectives:

1. Build the capacities of development practitioners and indigenous communities on good PGIS practice in terms of
 - a. Applying good PGIS technologies, approaches and Ethics within indigenous People's context
 - b. Promote local and regional collaborative research, training and development among NGO's³, Universities, CSO's⁴, Middle Level Learning Institutions, and Indigenous People.
2. Facilitate indigenous people to generate spatial data and information on tenure, cultural, natural resources to:
 - a. Promote co-existence, sustainable use and partnership among local communities in the development and implementation of conservation strategies that affect their lands, territories, waters, and cultures.
 - b. Enhance drawing of agreements that respect the rights and recognise the responsibility of indigenous people to conserve biodiversity, ecological integrity, and natural resources harboured in those protected areas.
 - c. Boost decentralisation, participation, transparency, and capacity building in all matters pertaining to the mutual interest of protected areas and of indigenous and other traditional people.
 - d. Advance full and equitable sharing of benefit associated with protected territorial areas with due recognition to the rights of other legitimate stakeholders

Upon delivery of the training course, we expect the participating development practitioners to replicate the efforts within their local context towards utilising good PGIS practice in supporting communities to design, plan, implement and manage projects that safeguards their territories, cultures and natural resources as well as undertake endogenous development initiatives.

Training Programme

The training programme exercise is designed to include 3 sessions:

1. Contextualising PGIS: (6 days)
 - a. Ecological (Flora, Fauna and Watershed), Landscape, Tenure, Culture, Gender, Policy, etc;
 - b. Elementary P-GIS Practical Sessions

³ NGO's Non-governmental Organizations

⁴ Civil Society Organizations

2. Field-based Participatory 3-Dimension Modelling and Mapping Sessions as well as GPS Field surveys (6 days)
3. Advanced Data Extraction, Map Composition and Information Sharing Technologies (5 days)

The venue of the training will comprise a mix of Classroom, GIS Laboratory, and Field work scheduled as follows:

1. **Session 1 and 3:** will be conducted at ERMIS College and Moi University, Department of Geography, Main Campus, Eldoret.
2. **Session 2:** will be conducted in SIDP Cultural Center in Kapolet Village, Cherangany Hills, Trans-nzoia district

An elaborate [programme](http://www.ermisafrica.org) is available in our website www.ermisafrica.org

While the Lecture theatres and GIS Laboratory sessions will utilise a mix of scientific expertise and participatory experience in grassroot projects accumulated over the years by ERMIS Africa and Moi University, the field-based sessions will utilise indigenous knowledge systems accumulated over generations by Elders, youth and children from Sengwer Indigenous People.

Participants will also experience a tremendously rich rural setting presented by the ecology, landscape, and sociology of Cherangany Hills.

Participants:

The training is designed for:

1. Community development practitioners
2. Researchers, Scholars and Trainers
3. Professional Aspirants
4. Government officers
5. National and International Observers

The training will accommodate “**ONLY 20 Participants**” to allow full interactive learning based on the first to register and make payment. No reservation will be done by mere submission of registration form.

Trainers: Joint facilitation will be done by High Profiled Researchers, Lecturers and Technologist from Africa and Italy:

1. Lecturers and Researchers from Moi University,
2. Geospatial, Web and Decision Support Systems & Technologies Specialist from ERMIS Africa,
3. Geospatial Technologists Volunteers to ERMIS from Italy

Course Certification:

Participants will receive a “**Joint Certificate**” by **Moi University** and **ERMIS College**

Reporting Dates

The training is scheduled for **13th to 31st August, 2007.** All trainees are required to ensure that they get to Eldoret in time for registration at 8.00 am and be in the lecture room by 9.30 am on **Monday, 13th August 2007.**

Tuition Fee:

The tuition fees for the course is **Kshs 30,000** for the entire duration of 3 weeks, for Eastern, Central and Southern Africa participants, while participants outside this geographic region will pay **Kshs 40,000**. Participants should send their bank slip sent so as to reach us on or before **5th August 2007**. Conversion rate to be applied | USD = Kshs 75 and | € = KShs 96 due to bank transactions.

Request for Payment details from

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**Please make all Cheques payable to ERMIS Africa*

Field Trips:

A field trip is organised on **Sunday, 19th August 2007 from 9.45am to 4.00pm** to the magnificent Kerio Valley part the Great African Rift Valley. This scenic topographic gradation from a estimated elevation of 3000 m a.s.l to 1000 m a.s.l with a horizontal distance of 10 Kilometres give a whole learning, leisure and tourist experience on the ecology, geology, landscape, culture, socio-economic settings of the Great Rift. You will experience the ever snake-like meandering road network with a tremendous civil engendering workmanship, rapid transition from high agriculturally potential area (Mosop) through an elaborate escarpment (Lagam) and an extensive semi-arid valley floor (Keu) divided by sharp scarps; scenic satellite lakes formed from Kerio River that meanders all the way to lake Turkana, as well as other interesting social, cultural, political, economic settings. The Trip will cost USD 75. Registration for the field trip **MUST** be done by **Tuesday, 14th August 2006** and confirmed by **Wednesday, 15th August 2007** to allow good arrangements and field coordination.

Transport, Accommodation and Meals

- Course participants will be required to organize for their own transport, accommodation and meals. Please access a [list of hotels rates in Eldoret](#) to help you in planning for your accommodation.
- Refreshment during the sessions (Tea and snacks) will be provided at USD 2.5
- Accommodation at Cherangany Hills has been Organised in Sengwer Cultural Centre Hostels USD 15, meals at USD 4, and teas and snacks USD 2.5
- ERMIS Africa may, upon the request of participants, organize for their accommodation (bed and breakfast). In this case, participants will be required to make arrangements dinner, lunch and local transport.
- *Please contact us before 1st August 2007 should you want us to organize for your accommodation.*

Attached to this letter please find an application form, fill in your details and return it to us either by email or by post. Should you require further clarification, do not hesitate to contact us as well as visit our website. In addition, we invite you to join the “Community Mapping Network for Eastern, Central and Southern Africa” through our site www.ermisafrica.org.

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