

CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

online learning

[Online Field Courses](#)

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OL 2.2: Project Architecture: Planning for Impact

March 9, 2010 – April 26, 2010: 6 Weeks, and

May 18, 2010 - June 28, 2010: 6 Weeks

Prerequisite for this course: [OL 2.1: From the Ground Up](#)



Project Architecture: Imbed impact into your project design with a set of powerful management tools: Logframes, budgets, compelling fact sheets. They will communicate to donors & stakeholders exactly what you are going to accomplish and can be used for effective management of the project once funded.

Project Architecture is an online version of our 3-day [Impact Short Course](#) of the same name. It is a course in international development where you will each complete the development of your project—hopefully a real one—that was started in OL 2.1, [From the Ground Up](#), the prerequisite for this course. Each one of the assignments will be a concrete element that can be used for completing the design of your project, in real time, in this course.

The classes are designed to be fun and interactive: you will be collaborating with colleagues from around the globe. You have the opportunity of creating your own personal field course by taking your assignments into the field; we will encourage you to collaborate with colleagues and donors during your project's development.

We will supply two levels of mentoring. Each week's assignment will be accompanied by a clear, professional example of what we want you to achieve that week. It is yours to use as a template for your assignment—and for developing future projects. We will also provide comments, suggestions and encouragement for each one of your assignments individually. We want you to develop high quality project components, and we also want you to understand the hows and whys.

This course will take your needs assessment and project concept developed in OL 2.1, and build a Logframe matrix. This Logframe will provide the basis for developing a detailed budget, a schedule, and a compelling project fact sheet—transforming the project into one that can be presented to donors—and used for leading the effective management of the project once funded.

Who should attend? Southern and Northern development students, field staff, grant writers, project managers, directors, and donor staff. You will only need to have functional knowledge of Word, Excel, email, and the Internet. There are no books to buy—all course materials can be linked to, or downloaded from the course site.

Some of the assignments below suggest doing them in a community. This is not a requirement if it impractical for you, but this is where partnering with someone in the field can add depth to your experience.

Course Syllabus

Week 1. We will take the project challenge, proposed solution, and activities that you developed in OL 2.1, and transform them into a simplified logframe.

Week 2.

1. The focus will be on outcomes and impact, how the current world of development sees them. We will see how we can use them to improve the logframe.

2. We will incorporate outcome and impact statements into the logframe, and begin adding indicators and means of verification in preparation for developing a monitoring and evaluation plan in the next course if this series, 'Positive Outcomes', which covers in detail the design of M&E plans.

Week 3. You will each write a compelling project fact sheet for presentation to donors that is no longer than 2 pages. This concise, quick-to-read document can present a focused message to a donor.

Week 4. We will take the activity list from the logframe and create a budget, and then apply costs to each of the different activities.

Week 5.

1. We will take our detailed budget and transform it into a visual timeline/schedule.

2. Make a list of two colleagues, two potential NGO partners, and two donors that you can share this working project proposal with. Make appointments with three of them.

Week 6.

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1. Share your project informally with a donor, your boss, your professor, someone in the development world for feedback. We will discuss why it is a good idea to visit a donor at this preliminary stage, and why you should wait on writing an actual proposal.
2. We will polish this family of documents by including the constructive feedback, and by making sure that the docs are absolutely parallel to each other. We will then carefully print them out and make an appointment with a donor to present your project.

The Course will also Provide the Following Resources

- Documents on course topics by contemporary experts.
 - Books, posters and manuals available online for download.
 - Internet development links organized by sector.
 - Class blog for sharing your project stories and photos from the field.
 - Class forum for posting questions to your classmates.
 - Access to tools and resources on the Center site.
- There are no books to buy—all course materials can be linked to, or downloaded from the course site.

In Summary

This course will take the project concept developed in OL 2.1 and transform it with a powerful set of management tools into a project for presenting to donors. Logframes, detailed budgets, and compelling fact sheets: these tools will communicate to donors, staff, and stakeholders exactly what you are going to accomplish, and lead the effective management of the project once funded.

Course Fee

The 6-week course is being offered at the following fees for both local citizens living in developing countries and citizens of developed countries:

1. \$75.00 for developing country citizens: register by February 19, 2010
2. \$100.00 after February 19
3. \$125.00 for developed country citizens: register by February 19, 2010
4. \$150.00 after February 19

In-country NGOs. Up to ten staff all working on the same class project:

5. \$500.00 by February 19, 2010
6. \$650.00 after February 19: Contact us for details.

Registration and Payment

To pay by debit or credit card, select the correct course cost below, enter your nationality, and click 'Add to Cart.'

When you are ready to pay, click 'Proceed to Checkout.' PayPal membership is not required to submit the payment; in the lower left you will see 'Don't have a PayPal account?' Click 'continue' and you will be linked to a form for non-PayPal members.

If you aren't able to pay by credit card, contact the Center and we will provide bank-to-bank wire transfer information.

You will be sent your Login username and password, and instructions for starting the course on Monday, March 1, 2010. We look forward to meeting you!

The online course will be led by Tim Magee, CSD's Executive Director, who has over 30 years experience in both working with nonprofits and leading training workshops.

Registration closes March 5, 2010.

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