

ΑΝΑΛΥΤΙΚΗ ΠΡΟΔΙΑΓΡΑΦΗ ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΟΣ ΚΑΤΑΡΤΙΣΗΣ

1. Τίτλος προγράμματος κατάρτισης:

Introduction to Land Degradation, Desertification, and Sustainable Land Management

2. Σύνδεση με Πρότυπα Επαγγελματικών Προσόντων:

Δεν εφαρμόζεται

3. Διάρκεια κατάρτισης (ώρες): 12

4. Ανάγκη κατάρτισης:

The training program addresses a skill and knowledge gap in understanding and managing land degradation and desertification, which are pressing environmental challenges, particularly in arid and semi-arid regions like Cyprus. Many stakeholders lack a comprehensive understanding of the causes, impacts, and sustainable solutions necessary to combat desertification effectively. This gap includes limited awareness of global frameworks like the UNCCD, inadequate knowledge of plant adaptations and soil-water management techniques, and insufficient expertise in using modern tools such as remote sensing for monitoring land degradation. The program bridges these gaps by equipping participants with practical and theoretical knowledge, enabling them to implement sustainable land management practices. Practical approaches to mapping and monitoring desertification will also be discussed, including both in situ and remote sensing techniques, tailored to the context of Cyprus.

5. Στόχοι:

Upon the completion of the program, participants will be able to:

- **Define** land degradation and desertification and **identify** their causes and impacts on global and regional scales. **Explain** the principles of sustainable development and the key Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to land management.
- **Describe** international frameworks such as the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and their relevance to Cyprus.
- **Analyze** the adaptations of plants to dry environments and **evaluate** their role and the role of soil and water management techniques in mitigating desertification.
- **Value** the importance of integrating sustainable practices in land management to combat desertification.
- **Support** the adoption of local strategies and case studies to inform practical solutions for land restoration.
- **Promote** community involvement in sustainable land management practices.

6. Περιγραφή υποψηφίων για συμμετοχή:

The training program is aimed at land managers, policymakers, local community members, as well as agricultural/environmental consultants/officers, and professionals working in natural resource management and environmental protection. It also targets researchers, educators, and NGO members.

7. Περιεχόμενο κατάρτισης:

Α/Α Ενότητας	ΑΝΑΛΥΣΗ ΠΕΡΙΕΧΟΜΕΝΟΥ ΕΝΟΤΗΤΩΝ	ΔΙΑΡΚΕΙΑ (ΩΡΕΣ)
Ενότητα 1	<p>Introduction to Land Degradation and Desertification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition and Causes: What are land degradation and desertification? Key causes and impacts. • Global and regional importance: Overview of the global status and the situation in the region and Cyprus. • Climatic and anthropogenic factors: The role of climate change and human activities in driving desertification. 	2
Ενότητα 2	<p>Sustainable Development and Principles of Sustainable Land Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frameworks and agreements: The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). • Overview of sustainable development and its importance in addressing global challenges. • Introduction to the sustainable development goals (SDGs). • Sustainable land management and Key SDGs 	1
Ενότητα 3	<p>The Role of Plants in Combating Desertification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant adaptations to dry environments: mechanisms of tolerance and examples of tolerant species. • Challenges in plant rehabilitation of degraded lands: soil degradation, climatic challenges, anthropogenic factors. • Mitigating desertification: soil stabilization, water and carbon cycle improvement, biodiversity support. • Case studies and local strategies 	3
Ενότητα 4	<p>Soil and Water Management in Agricultural Systems to mitigate land degradation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing soil health in agricultural systems: practical soil amendments and other sustainable practices • Enhancing water use efficiency and soil moisture retention • Visit to Cyl water group experimental stations 	3
Ενότητα 5	<p>Mapping and Monitoring Desertification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to land mapping & monitoring desertification • <i>In Situ</i> measurements (& Visit to Cyl water group lab) • Remote sensing observations 	3