



# PLANNING AND MANAGING EFFECTIVE CONSERVATION PROJECTS

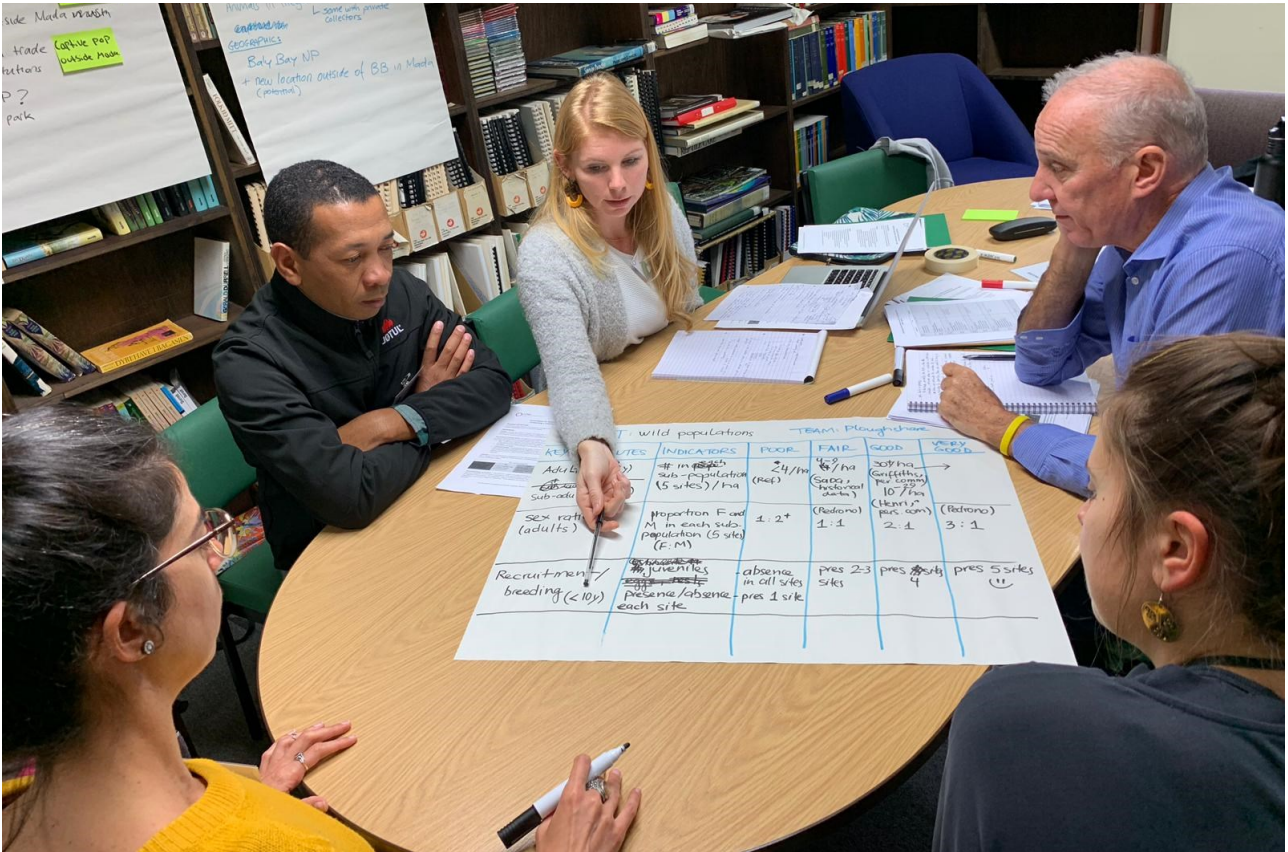
AN INTRODUCTION TO THE CONSERVATION STANDARDS  
ONLINE COURSE



**DURRELL**  
CONSERVATION  
ACADEMY







## COURSE OVERVIEW

Learn how to plan and manage effective conservation projects using the Conservation Standards. This interactive and engaging course will develop your skills in adaptive management using real-life case studies from Durrell, and provide you with tools and skills that can be applied to all types of conservation action.

## WHO IS IT FOR?

This course is open to all persons and organisations interested in improving the practice of conservation, both internally within their organisations and externally across the global conservation community. This includes practitioners, researchers, students, consultants, policy makers, funders, and government officials. The skills and tools we will cover are applicable to all conservation interventions at all scales.

## WHAT IS THE COURSE CONTENT?

This course will introduce you to planning and managing effective conservation projects using the Conservation Standards, a set of tools, guidance, and associated software, developed to help practitioners design and run conservation projects. The framework uses a five-step cycle to help adaptively manage any type of conservation project.

The virtual course will run for five consecutive days, which will include 4 hours per day of online training sessions. The course will offer a mix of theory, practice, reflection, and peer review. Sessions will be live and fully facilitated by trained coaches. Using platforms such as Zoom (video conferencing) and Miro (online visual collaboration), this course is interactive and engaging, allowing participants to put what they have learnt into practice through online breakout group exercises.

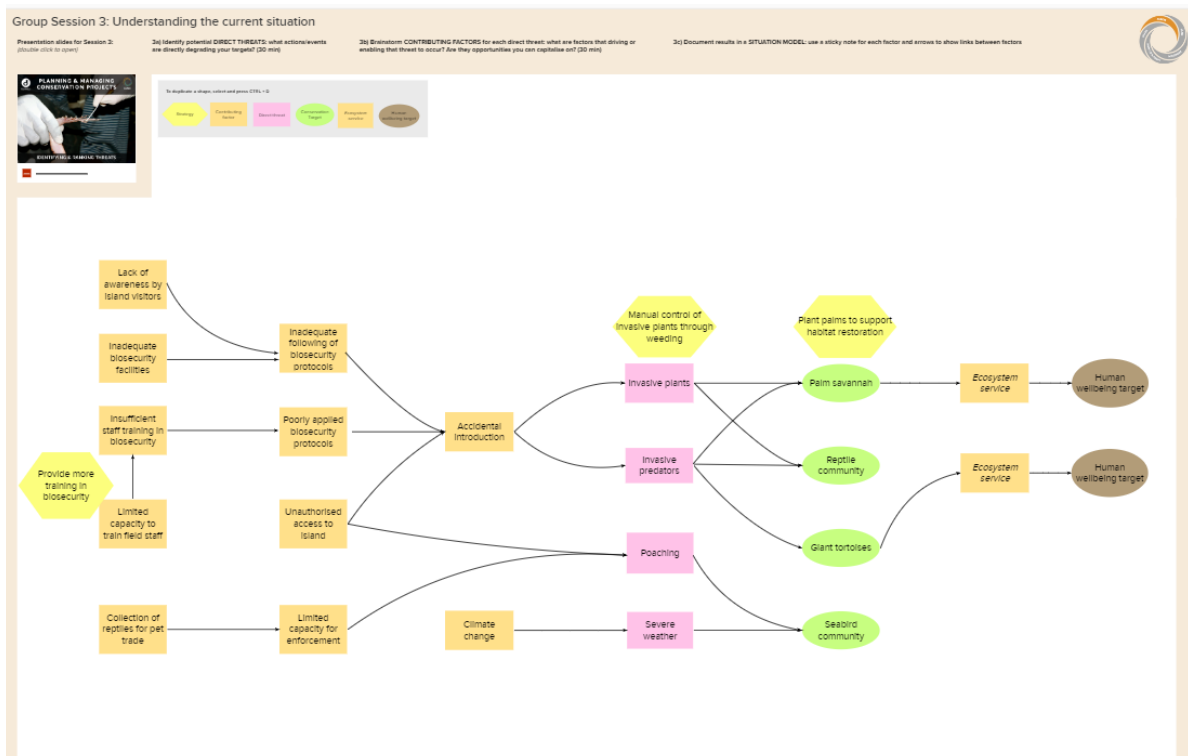
## COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the workshop, you will be able to apply the Conservation Standards to plan and adaptively manage your own conservation projects. This includes being able to:

- ✓ Define the scope and vision of your project, and identify and assess the conservation targets (species and ecosystems of interest)
- ✓ Assess the current situation, including identifying direct threats to targets and the primary drivers, and human wellbeing benefits provided through ecosystem services
- ✓ Identify and prioritise conservation strategies
- ✓ Develop and test theories of change for chosen conservation strategies and develop a monitoring plan that enables you to test your assumptions and measure your impact
- ✓ Develop a strategy-oriented work plan and budget
- ✓ Use your project results to reflect, learn, and adapt your conservation plan to ensure you are being effective

“MY ORGANISATION IS GOING TO BENEFIT ENORMOUSLY BY USING THE CONSERVATION STANDARDS APPROACH... CAREFULLY PLANNING PROJECTS AND USING ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT WILL HELP US SEEK, ASSESS AND FIND A SOLUTION TO THREATS ON TIME.”

### COURSE PARTICIPANT



## COURSE OUTLINE

This workshop is designed to be as participatory as possible and includes regular group work sessions. Everyone will have a chance to share their thoughts and there will be plenty of time for discussion.

The workshop will take participants through the five-step approach of the Conservation Standards. You will be introduced to the theory through presentations and group discussions. You will then put theory into practice during group breakout sessions focusing on a case study, before sharing your results with the other groups. Each group will be supported by a facilitator to enhance your learning and participation in the practical sessions.



The Conservation Standards are a widely adopted set of principles and practices that bring together common concepts, approaches, and terminology. Oriented around a five-step management cycle, the Conservation Standards aim to streamline conservation project design, management, monitoring, and learning to help practitioners improve the practice of conservation.

The Conservation Standards (also known as the Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation) were developed by the Conservation Measures Partnership, and are regularly updated in collaboration with the broader conservation community.

### DAY 1:

- Introduction to the Conservation Standards
- Defining Scope, Vision, and Conservation Targets
- Exploring Ecosystem Services and Human Wellbeing

### DAY 2:

- Identifying and ranking Threats
- Developing a common understanding of the conservation situation
- Strategy selection and prioritisation

### DAY 3:

- Understanding our assumptions and developing Theories of Change
- Setting Goals and Objectives
- Developing a Monitoring Plan

### DAY 4:

- Developing a high-level Operational Plan
- Reporting on Activities and Indicators
- Storing and analysing data
- Practicing Adaptive Management

### DAY 5:

- Sharing lessons and fostering a learning environment
- Real-world application of the Conservation Standards
- Detailed introduction to the Conservation Measures Partnership, and the Conservation Coaches Network
- Additional tools and resources

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ABOVE COURSE OUTLINE MAY BE SUBJECT TO MINOR CHANGES**

## COURSE STAFF



**Catherine Payne**

Conservation Effectiveness  
Manager, Durrell



**Claire Relton**

Conservation Effectiveness  
Officer, Durrell



**Helen Gath**

Conservation Training  
Officer, Durrell

## COST AND BOOKING INFORMATION

The course fee is **£175 per person**, which includes:

- all course materials and access to virtual training sessions and exercises
- a certificate of attendance
- updates on upcoming, related training opportunities

We are committed to delivering this course at cost price, without profit to Durrell, to maximise accessibility and reach, particularly to practitioners from low- and middle-income countries.

Limited scholarship places are available for conservation practitioners who are unable to afford the standard course fee.

**For further information or to book a place, please contact +44 (0)1534 860037 or email [academy@durrell.org](mailto:academy@durrell.org)**

### **DURRELL WILDLIFE CONSERVATION TRUST**

Durrell Conservation Academy, Les Augrès Manor,  
La Profonde Rue, Trinity, Jersey, JE3 5BP

**T** +44 (0)1534 860037

**E** [academy@durrell.org](mailto:academy@durrell.org)

**W** [www.durrell.org/training](http://www.durrell.org/training)



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