



# PLANNING AND MANAGING EFFECTIVE CONSERVATION PROJECTS

JERSEY



**DURRELL**  
CONSERVATION  
ACADEMY





## COURSE OVERVIEW

Learn how to plan and manage effective conservation projects using the Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation. 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?

Project planning and management is a key skill for conservation practitioners, and this course is relevant to everyone working or aspiring to work in conservation. The skills and tools we will cover are applicable to conservation interventions at all scales and will help you become more effective.

## WHAT IS THE COURSE CONTENT?

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

Through short lectures, interactive group work, and peer review sessions, you will learn and practice this adaptive management framework using examples from Durrell's conservation programmes.





Durrell ranger on Lac Alaotra © Chris Scarffe

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## COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the workshop, you will be able to apply the Conservation Standards (including the supporting software Miradi) 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.

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“This course has clearly spelled out the methodology in order for me to feel confident to start applying the Conservation Standards. I’ve known about them for some time, but I have been a bit afraid to get started, but now I’m so inspired and just can’t wait!”

### COURSE PARTICIPANT

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Aerial photo of farmland in Madagascar © Chris Scarffe

# 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. The workshop offers a mix of theory, practice, reflection, and peer review. You will be introduced to the theory through presentations and group discussions. You will then put theory into practice during group work 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 set of tools, guidance and associated software, developed to help organisations design and run effective conservation projects. They are based on the

well-known project management cycle and they have been expanded and developed specifically for conservation activities. There are FIVE major phases.

## DAY 1

- Introduction to conservation planning. Defining scope, vision and conservation targets
- Target Viability Assessment Ecosystem Services and Human Wellbeing

## DAY 2

- Developing a common understanding of the indirect threats and opportunities
- Building a situation model

## DAY 3

- Developing and prioritising strategies
- Understanding our assumptions and developing theories of change

## DAY 4

- Developing a monitoring plan
- Developing an operational plan

## DAY 5

- Preparation and delivery of group plan presentations
- Practicing adaptive management
- Closing the cycle and conclusions

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



## COURSE LEADER



### CATHERINE PAYNE

#### FOUNDER & DIRECTOR, ALCEDO CONSERVATION

Catherine is a Certified Conservation Coach, specialising in planning, managing, and evaluating conservation projects using the Conservation Standards. Catherine is passionate about using these adaptive management principles to enable individuals, teams, and organisations to deliver more effective conservation. In 2022, Catherine established Alcedo Conservation to empower individuals and organisations to deliver effective conservation through adaptive management. Alcedo Conservation focuses on strengthening capacity of individuals and organisations through high-quality, accessible, engaging training programmes. Alcedo Conservation also provides Conservation Standards coaching and workshop facilitation and specialises in embedding adaptive management into organisations.

Before launching Alcedo Conservation, Catherine worked with Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, driving the use of Conservation Standards across the organisation. This role allowed her to gain first-hand experience of the benefits and opportunities that widespread adoption of standardised practices can bring, as well as some of the challenges that can occur when pushing for this change. Catherine is proud to be an active member of the global Conservation Standards community, including serving on the Board of Directors for the Conservation Measures Partnership.



## VENUE AND ACCOMMODATION

The course will be held at Durrell Conservation Academy in Jersey, Channel Islands.

Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust (Durrell) was established by the world renowned naturalist and author Gerald Durrell in 1963 with the primary aim of saving species from extinction. We now run 46 projects in 14 countries worldwide and have played a pivotal role in the recovery efforts for several species. Durrell Conservation Academy is located at the Trust's headquarters, Jersey Zoo.

In 1984 Gerald Durrell formally established the International Training Centre (now known as Durrell Conservation Academy) on Jersey as a form of "mini university" designed to equip conservationists from across the world with the animal management and critical

thinking skills required to bring species back from imminent demise. Since this time the academy has taught around 7,000 people (both conservation practitioners and conservation students) from 159 countries.

Our facilities include a 54 seat purpose built lecture theatre, two libraries, a computer lab and a classroom. There is 24 hour access to our computers and free Wi-Fi is available throughout. Most course participants choose to stay at our YHA accredited hostel, which is immediately adjacent to Durrell Conservation Academy.

You will stay in shared rooms in our hostel-style residence right next to the Zoo. The residence includes a TV lounge and dining room, where meals are served for course participants.



# COST AND BOOKING INFORMATION

The course fee is £575.

Optional full board accommodation is available in our on-site hostel.

Optional lunches are available for non-residents.

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



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## **DURRELL WILDLIFE CONSERVATION TRUST**

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**SAVING SPECIES FROM EXTINCTION**