

Teaching module 6. Environmental projects management

Introduction

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The sixth course module is dedicated to the management of environmental projects and was carried out by members of the project team from the Faculty of Management at the Bucharest University of Economic Studies Florin Anghel, Daniel Constantin Jiroveanu and Mihai Vrîncuț (coordinated by Cezar – Petre Simion as responsible for the project). This module aims to train the students' skills in terms of the development, foundation, implementation and exploitation of this type of projects in local communities. The course module dedicated to the management of environmental projects is structured in three units with the following subjects:

- Phases of environmental projects. Time management and cost management in environmental projects;
- Resources management. Risk management;
- Good practice examples.

The first unit of the "Environmental projects management" module is dedicated to students acquiring the fundamental concepts regarding the management of environmental projects, time management and cost management of this type of projects. After the students have gone through the content of this unit, the students will have knowledge about:

- the concept of an environmental project and the main characteristics of the projects as highlighted by the specialized literature;
- classification of environmental projects according to different criteria;
- the phases within an environmental project and the life cycle of the projects;
- the time management components of an environmental project and the realization of its execution schedule;
- scheduling the execution of an environmental project using classic and modern methods (Gantt; C.P.M; P.E.R.T)
- the main types of costs that appear in the realization of environmental projects and their calculation;
- project budgets and project cost optimization by reporting added value.

The assimilation of concepts and methods related to time and cost management will allow students to have in the future a scientific approach to the realization and exploitation of environmental projects with positive effects on their results.

The second unit of the course has as its main topics resource management and risk management in environmental projects. After studying the materials in this unit, students will have the opportunity to know:

- determining the need for material resources for a project;
- the way resources are used in environmental projects;
- programming of material resources in environmental projects;
- improving the programming of material resources using the allocation and leveling of resources;
- stages of the risk management process;
- specific methods and techniques applicable in the risk management process.

After assimilating the essential elements regarding resource management and risk management, the students will be able to apply them in the future environmental projects in which they will be involved so that they achieve their objectives under the conditions of securing the necessary resources and minimizing the impact of potential risks.

In the third unit of the "Environmental projects management" course module, some examples of good practices regarding environmental projects in the rural area are presented. The best practice examples cover three types of projects:

- Project regarding the construction of a solar power plant in Avram Iancu commune;
- Ecological reconstruction project through afforestation of degraded agricultural land in Fălcu commune, Vaslui county;
- Sewerage and treatment plant in Hulubești commune, Dâmbovița county.

In the three projects presented, examples of good practices are illustrated regarding:

- Presentation of the purpose and objectives of the projects;
- Time management of environmental projects;
- Realization of environmental project budgets
- Identifying the risks of environmental projects;
- Realization of the risk register;
- The benefits and results of this type of projects.
- The impact of projects on the environment.

The examples of good practices were thought of as the first step that the students go through in highlighting the application side of the acquired knowledge, with important effects on gaining the confidence of the students regarding their own possibilities of initiating and implementing some environmental projects.

Through the three component units (sections), the sixth module constitutes both a theoretical-methodological approach, for the specialization of project management knowledge, in the field of environmental projects, and one with a pronounced application character, for the training of specialists able to develop, implement and exploit this type of projects for the benefit of local communities, especially in rural areas.