



Human Ecology Practical Area (HEPA)

PRACTICE-BASED TRAINING FRAMEWORK ON ECO-FARMING

Co-operation between HEPA and the Vietnam National University of Agriculture

PART A. THEORY: Total 3 days (960 minutes/16 hours + 1 day)

1. Overview of HEPA's ecosystem: Introduction of 5 fundamental characteristics of the HEPA ecosystem through HEPA digital map and My Map (90 minutes).
2. HEPA's ecosystem master planning (60 minutes)
 - a. Spiritual area for worshipping Nature Spirits;
 - b. Local knowledge enrichment area for conservation and development of watershed biodiversity
 - c. Ecological livelihood area including:
 - Huyen Vi spiritual garden;
 - Thuong Uyen ecological-livelihood garden;
 - Linh Moc traditional professional Vocational Area;
 - Rao An ecological- cultural food processing garden;
 - Giac Ngo (Mindfulness) valey.
3. Eco-farming (90 minutes)
 - i. 3 core values;
 - ii. 5 steps in landscape observation;
 - iii. 7 principles in landscape designing;
 - iv. 9 behavioral norms in landscape nurturing.
4. Processes of governing natural energies in HEPA (90 minutes)
 - i. Governing Water source;
 - ii. Governing Solar energy;

iii. Governing Wind energy;

5. Biogeochemical cycles in HEPA: (180 minutes)

- i. Cycle of Nitrogen;
- ii. Cycle of Carbon;
- iii. Cycle of Water;
- iv. Cycle of Phosphorus;
- v. Nitrogen balancing

6. Food chain: Process of production – consumption – decomposition of creature (90 minutes)

7. Definition of eco-farming (360 minutes)

a. History of global agricultures since the World War II

- i. The Green Revolution;
- ii. Industrial Agriculture;
- iii. Biotechnology and Genetically Modified Organism (GMO);
- iv. Organic Agriculture;
- v. Permaculture;
- vi. Agro-ecology

b. Analysis of differences between eco-farming and the rest of these above agricultures

8. Student's open discussion (1 day)

- Monoculture: Situation/challenges/solutions for Vietnam
- GMO: Situation/challenges/solutions
- Agro-ecology – Monoculture – Commercial agriculture: Situation/challenges/solutions;
- Permaculture: Situation/challenges/solutions;
- Agro-ecology: Situation/challenges/solutions.

PART B. PRACTICE (960 minutes/16 hours + 17 days)

1. Field trip on current land use planning in HEPA (180 minutes):

- i. Current land use planning in Huyen Vi model;
- ii. Current land use planning in Thuong Uyen model;
- iii. Current land use planning in Linh Moc model;
- iv. Current land use planning in Rao An model;
- v. Current land use planning in Giac Ngo model.

2. Field transect cutting (300 minutes).

- i. Transect cutting in Huyen Vi model
- ii. Transect cutting in Thuong Uyen – Cay Khe – Ha Uyen model
- iii. Transect cutting in Linh Moc model;
- iv. Transect cutting in Rao An model;
- v. Transect cutting in Giac Ngo model

3. Field technique on banana circle (240 minutes)

Practicing in Rao An model including cleaning up the banana cycle and reversing manure;

5. Layering fruit trees (240 minutes)

6. Nursery: Practicing skills on identifying crop season, collecting, preserving, processing, raising, caring, designing water system for watering and intercropping (2 days);

7. Caring for fruit trees and mulching (2 days);

8. Building up vegetable gardens including system planning and designing (3 days);

9. Composting (1 day for collecting cow manure and green manure plants);

10. Preparing report (1 day);

11. Evaluation, review with lessons learnt, and recommendations for future internship (1 day);

12. Cultural exchange (1 day);

13. Cleaning up the whole area before leaving (1 day);

14. Swimming and relaxation (3 days)

PART C. Transportation to and from HEPA (2 days)

Total internship duration: 22 days

Including: 3 days for theory/14 days for skills practicing /3 days for relaxation/2 days for transportation

PART D. Food – Accommodation – Labor tools

HEPA is responsible for providing food and accommodation, labor tools and materials sufficient for 60 students to practice skills (as mentioned in PART B) during the internship. Students will be grouped in teams for food, accommodation and field work in different models as follows:

- 1) Huyen Vi model: 5 students;
- 2) Thuong Uyen: 20 students;
- 3) Rao An model: 10 students

4) Giac Ngo model: 25 students

COSTS

Each student shall pay a total cost of VND 250,000/day/person including food, accommodation, instruction fee, internet, swimming, yoga and meditation.

Transportation expenses to and from HEPA, and medical insurance around 24 hours during the stay in HEPA shall be covered by students.

A DETAILED TRAINING PROGRAM will be provided as an Annex to the contract to be signed by both parties.

Students must strictly follow HEPA's regulations, including but not limited to:

1. Do NOT use chemical shampoo, soap and plastic bags. Do NOT drink alcohol or beer. Do NOT smoke;
2. Be simple and polite in student-styled dressing, relevant for field activities;
3. Be in a cultural manner in daily behaviors to all;
4. Strictly obey HEPA's timetable.

