Training Partners

The Community Involvement University (CIU) provides opportunities for headquarters and regional staff from EPA’s programs to build skills needed for successful community involvement. CIU offers different community involvement, facilitation, risk communication, and cross-cultural collaboration courses each year. The CIU is managed by the Community Involvement and Outreach Branch in EPA’s Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation. For information, visit www.trainex.org and select the CIU.

The Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC) is a state-led coalition working together with federal partners, industry, academia, and stakeholders to achieve regulatory acceptance of environmental technologies. In conjunction with EPA’s Technology Innovation and Field Services Division, ITRC delivers training through the Internet to reach a geographically dispersed audience of regulators, consultants, and other members of the environmental community. For information, visit www.trainex.org and select the ITRC.

As part of EPA’s comprehensive program for protecting the public and environment from hazardous materials, EPA’s Environmental Response Training Program’s (ERTP) courses are designed for personnel who respond to spill events and investigate and clean up abandoned hazardous waste sites. Training is provided in health and safety and various technical operations needed to identify, evaluate, and control hazardous substances that have been released. ERTP also can quickly develop technically focused courses to address current issues facing responders (such as Anthrax, biohazards, and air monitoring for weapons of mass destruction). For information, visit www.trainex.org and select the ERTP.

More Information

For information about the CERCLA Education Center and the schedule of course offerings, visit EPA’s Training Exchange Web site at www.trainex.org.

Course Description and Objectives

Triad Training for Managers introduces the Triad process, which can be applied to site characterization, remedial design, remedy implementation, remedy operation and maintenance, and remedy optimization. The Triad process is designed to streamline the project lifecycle for environmental restorations in a legal, technically sound, and cost-effective manner.

By taking the course, participants will achieve the following objectives:

- Understand how the Triad process uses systematic planning, dynamic work strategies, and real-time measurement tools. The Triad process combines systematic planning, dynamic work strategies, and real-time measurement tools to collect information, which provides a more in-depth view of the environmental issues at a site and lead to more certain and defensible decision-making. The course will provide a thorough explanation of what is involved in systematic planning, dynamic work strategies, and real-time measurement tools.

- Examine concrete site examples where the Triad process has been applied and discover the quantifiable benefits of using the Triad approach. The Triad approach has saved time and money at sites in a variety of regulatory programs. The course will evaluate case studies to show how the Triad approach improved project efficiencies and the certainty of the decisions at several sites. These decisions are similar to the decisions that are typically recommended and made by the managers taking this course. In addition, the course will review those situations where implementation of the Triad approach would not be recommended.
Learn how to design new procurements and use existing contracting vehicles to facilitate use of the Triad approach. Contracting mechanisms can become obstacles to implementing the Triad process. The course describes how procurements can be designed to remove those obstacles and how existing contracts can be used to overcome them.

Explore how the conceptual site model (CSM) serves as the foundation of the Triad approach and how dynamic work strategies are planned and implemented. The development and maturation of the CSM is at the heart of the Triad approach. The course will show how the CSM is used to guide decision-making during the process. Participants will learn how dynamic work strategies are planned and implemented in an effort to make the CSM as accurate as possible. The course will show how accuracy of the CSM affects the certainty of remedy decisions, design, implementation, and ultimate project success.

Evaluate opportunities for employing the Triad approach at various points in the project lifecycle. The Triad approach can be used at any point in the life of a project, from the early stages of site characterization to the later stages of routine operation and maintenance and remedy optimization. The course will demonstrate how best management practices embodied in the Triad approach can be integrated into existing work routines at any point in the lifecycle of a project.

Review the importance of devising an exit strategy before beginning a project. Exit strategies define when a project or phase of a project is complete. The course will demonstrate the importance of having an exit strategy and will show how the Triad approach addresses exit strategies during the planning phase.

**Target Audience and Registration Information**

The *Triad Training for Managers*, a 1-day course, is held at various locations in the continental United States. Visit [www.trainex.org](http://www.trainex.org) and select the CERCLA Education Center to view the current schedule of offerings and register to attend.

There are **no tuition costs** for this training course. The target audience includes individuals who manage technical staff and project managers, and those technical staff and project managers with little to no experience with the Triad process. There are no prerequisites for this training course.

Participants will receive reference material, including a detailed manual, to continue their education after the course ends.

**Other CERCLA Education Center Courses**

- **Advanced Triad Training for Practitioners.** Provides specific methods for improving project performance and discusses best business practices. It is a 2- to 3-day course that targets technically oriented project managers with greater than five years of experience applying the use of innovative technologies and approaches at hazardous waste sites.

- **Best Practices for Efficient Soils Sampling Designs**, a 1-day course, discusses sampling designs for contaminated soils that go beyond simple random or “gridded” grab-sample formats. More advanced designs can reduce sampling and analytical costs while simultaneously improving data quality and usability. This course is presented using common sense concepts (not statistical equations!). Project managers who attend will find they are more confident providing critical reviews of proposed sampling designs and communicating their data needs to their contractors.

- **Advanced Design Application and Data Analysis for Field XRF Instrumentation in Soil Matrices**, a 1-day course, covers material that generally is not presented in XRF presentations or training courses. This is an applications course: how can a FP-XRF be used so that its data are highly dependable and defensible. The course will cover sampling design and sample handling options for FP-XRF, along with the benefits and limitations of each. This course will be of interest to staff developing XRF sampling and analysis plans, reviewing the plans for quality assurance, field operators, and those using XRF data to make project decisions.

**Course Outline**

I. Overview of the Triad Process  
II. The Triad Approach at Work  
III. Systematic Planning and Conceptual Site Models: Creating a Consensus Vision  
IV. Lowering Project Lifecycle Costs and Improving Decision Quality  
V. “Lightening your Work Load” During Management of Triad Projects  
VI. Debunking “Triad Myths”