

CENEAM - National Center for Environmental Education





CENEAM





01 General Information

The National Environmental Education Centre (CENEAM) is part of the Autonomous Entity regulating National Parks, part of the Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs. The centre's mission is to increase awareness among citizens of their responsibility towards the environment, using environmental education to do so.

It provides its users with a wide range of services, including: a specialised documentation centre, a variety of educational programmes, training activities for students and professionals, and a wide range of resources for environmental awareness.

It draws up information materials, methodological guides and technical reports, and databases.

It has exhibition areas and self-guided walks with different themes and durations.

It offers meeting rooms which are equipped for courses and seminars, and has its own hall of residence.

It runs a website which provides a wide variety of information about the activities and services offered by the centre.







02 Documentation Centre

The Documentation Centre specialises in environmental education. Its aim is to facilitate access to specialised documentation in order to encourage learning and research for professionals, students and anyone interested in this topic. It coordinates the Spanish network of documentation centres and libraries specialising in the environment and protected natural areas (*RECIDA* - <http://www.recida.net>)

Access and opening hours

Access is free of charge and open to everyone, and the opening hours are Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Themes

Environmental education

Natural areas

Environmental management

Online services

Access to the library catalogue. Loan reservations and renewals:
http://www.mma.es/portal/secciones/formacion_educacion/centro_documentacion/index.htm

Access to the photo library:

http://www.mma.es/portal/secciones/formacion_educacion/fototeca/index.htm

Services

Bibliographical information, reading room, loans within the library, by post and inter-library loans, sale of pictures, user training, cultural activities to stimulate reading, circulation and creation of publications, professional advice and Internet access.

Funds

Books, magazines, videos, electronic resources, multimedia materials, educational games, audiovisual archives specialising in the environment: Spanish ecosystems, flora, fauna, protected natural areas, environmental impact... Sounds, digital photography and professional video pictures.



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03 Information

It provides professionals with specialised information and tools to develop environmental education programmes and activities. The main method of dissemination is the CENEAM website: <http://www.mma.es/ceneam>, which collects information on:

- Environmental training, both formal and courses, seminars, etc.
- Events: conferences, awards, exhibitions, fairs, festivals, etc.
- Resources for environmental education.
- Opinion articles.
- Environmental education programmes.
- Services and activities developed by CENEAM.

To facilitate access to the information included on the website, CENEAM produces an information folder in the form of a monthly electronic bulletin which is sent by e-mail and presents the new content incorporated on the website.

Subscriptions: carpeta.ceneam@oapn.es





04 Training

The training activities carried out by CENEAM are designed to cover different specialised training needs in the environmental field, structured into the following sub-programmes:

Summer school – open

This block of training activities is aimed, in particular, at the sector of environmental education, conservation and sustainable development.

Around the National Parks

This sub-programme arises from the demand existing in and for the National Parks and, consequently, is aimed specifically at people in the socio-economic environment of the National Parks, with specific themes relating to interests and criteria for improved management of these areas.

Virtual classroom

To modernise and environmentalise our training programme, over the last few years we have developed and implemented a variety of online training projects aimed at different groups interested primarily in environmental education and participation, local agenda 21 and research into the causes of forest fires..

Inter-institutional courses

These courses are carried out on the basis of specific agreements reached by the Ministry of the Environment, and Rural and Marine Affairs, or the Autonomous Entity regulating National Parks with different institutions and bodies, and are aimed at professional groups related to the environment such as, for example, the agents of the Guardia Civil's nature protection service (SEPRONA), amongst others.





8 05 Cooperation

CENEAM works in conjunction with various units in the Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs, and with a variety of institutions, groups and entities to develop educational, communication and public participation activities. The following are some examples of the joint work carried out:

Climate Change

Creation of information materials and methodological guides, the carrying out of training activities and the creation and stimulation of social and professional networks.

Advertising

Joint work to create and give impetus to a code of self-regulation on the use of environmental arguments in advertising.

Natural areas

Creation of methodological guides on communication and environmental participation and the development of training activities in these topics.

Ongoing Seminars

CENEAM promotes stable forums for dialogue and reflection for professionals on different environment-related themes. The ongoing seminars opened to date include the following:

- *Environmental participation and education*
- *Environmental education associations*
- *Environmental documentation centres*
- *Environmental audits*
- *Environmental education equipment*
- *Responses from education and communication to climate change*
- *Interpretation of natural and cultural heritage*
- *Volunteer service for the conservation of biodiversity*
- *Reference centres in environmental education*
- *Research into environmental education*





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06 Educational Programmes

CENEAM promotes a wide variety of Environmental Education Programmes aimed at different types of public.

CENEAM and schools

This is aimed at the formal education system and is structured into various different levels, according to the level of education of the students. The participating groups visit the centre, where they follow a didactic route and take part in educational workshops or visit information exhibitions. In addition, the teachers are given a set of suggestions for complementary work so that they can continue working in the classroom.

Green Homes

This is a programme aimed at all those people who want to improve their environmental behaviour in the domestic setting. Taking part in the "Green Homes" programme opens the door to a series of free benefits: attendance at information meetings, obtaining of the programme materials, and access to a personal consultation service.

07 Visitors Service: Guided resources

The offer of Didactic Walks gives visitors the chance to get to know the Valsain mountains, which are home to CENEAM, from a wide variety of perspectives. The area's natural heritage, culture and traditions are discovered through different itineraries, guided by experts in different disciplines. These walks are offered during weekends in spring and autumn, and are an attempt to continue the teaching and naturalist tradition which has been practised in the Sierra de Guadarrama since the end of the 19th century.

"A Cielo Abierto" (Open Sky) is a new programme of open-air activities and guided walks, designed for all kinds of participants, which takes place at weekends and on public holidays. Nature and history are, once again, the central themes of this offer, which includes 12 different proposals.





08 Visitors Service: Self-guided resources

The offer of Temporary Exhibitions brings visitors closer to the most important environmental challenges of our time. The themes are dealt with from different perspectives, including science, art and humour. Some of the themes on which we focus our attention are the values of the countryside and natural heritage, the challenges posed by the major environmental problems of our times and large-scale projects for the conservation of spaces and species.

Six self-guided Itineraries which start from the main CENEAM building allow visitors to discover the nature and history of the area. Each itinerary has its own booklet-guide which is provided at the reception counter in the centre::

A walk through the Valsaín forest

A walk along a trail which takes you into the woods around the CENEAM centre.

A walk around the Royal Fisheries

A walk to the beauty spot of La Boca del Asno along the old stone roadway, built in the times of Carlos III, which runs along the Eresma river.

A walk between Valsaín and La Granja

A walk along the Camino del Nogal de las Calabazas, which passes through pine and oak forests and links the historic sites of Valsaín and La Granja..

War landscapes

A route tracing a former position dating from the Spanish Civil War.

“Máximo Laguna” Arboretum

Located opposite the main CENEAM building, it contains a selection of trees and bushes from the Iberian Peninsula. It was planted in 1997 to commemorate World Forestry Day.

A walk through the history of Valsaín

This route makes it possible to discover the fascinating history of the village and the forest.



09 Travelling Exhibitions

The programme of Travelling Exhibitions offers non-profit making institutions and groups free loan of a variety of exhibitions with an environmental theme.

The exhibitions available are:

Our own solutions

Susta... what? development

Climate change

Nomadic and transhumant shepherds

Ecology around the home

The world we have... can we improve it?

Seeds of the forests of the future





10 Installations

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Meeting rooms

CENEAM has a variety of meeting rooms equipped for courses and seminars. It also has the media for organising videoconferences.

Exhibition Spaces

The centre has a variety of exhibition spaces, including a temporary exhibition room.

CENEAM Hall of Residence

As support for the centre's activities, CENEAM has a hall of residence, with a maximum capacity for 48 guests in single, double and triple rooms.

El Robledo Cabins

The beauty spot of "El Robledo", 3 kilometres from Valsaín, has cabins which are loaned free of charge to groups taking part in CENEAM educational programmes, and to non-profit making groups and associations which want to carry out their own environmental education activities.

They can accommodate a total of 52 guests.





11 Environmental responsibility

Since 2003, CENEAM has been carrying out an environmental improvement plan, the aim of which is to minimise the use of water and energy, and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. Measures are also applied to reduce the consumption of resources, and we use green procurement criteria when buying frequently used materials.

The centre has biomass boilers in the main building and in the residence hall, which are fed with plant remains from the nearby Valsaín sawmill.

The environmental improvement programme has allowed a reduction of direct emissions of CO₂ at CENEAM of around 40% between 2004 and 2009.

Similarly, since 2007, CENEAM has looked to strengthen its commitment to responsible management by obtaining the ISO 9001, 14001 and OSHAS 18001 standards certificates, and has also signed up to the European EMAS regulation.

12 How to get there

From Madrid by train.

Shuttle trains from Chamartín station (high-speed line) to Segovia station.

From Segovia.

Buses to Valsaín every 45 minutes from the bus station.

From Madrid by road.

Via the A-6 and M-601 (Puerto de Navacerrada) or via the M-607 (see map).







13 Telephones and E-mails

CENEAM

Central	921-471-711
	921-471-744
Fax	921-471-746
ceneam@oapn.es	
Documentation Centre	921-473-869
bib.ceneam@oapn.es	
doc.ceneam@oapn.es	
Temporary Exhibitions	921-473-882
int4@oapn.es	
Travelling Exhibitions	921-473-891
exp.ceneam@oapn.es	
Carpeta Informativa	921-473-867/68
carp.info@oapn.es	
Education Cooperation	921-473-880
int.ceneam@oapn.es	
Training	921-473-864/65
for.ceneam@oapn.es	
Health Centre at San Ildefonso	921-470-202
Segovia Fire Department	921-422-222
Emergencies	112
Guardia Civil	921-470-029 062
Protección Civil	921-471-033
Centro Montes	921-470-037
Segovia Bus station	915-413-283
Tourism Bureau at San Ildefonso	921-473-953
Tourism Bureau at Segovia	921-466-070





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