

On-Line training on : Land Policy in Support of Agricultural Transformation in Africa

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Announcement in Brief

Type : Short Term Course
Program Area : Land policy
Beginning of the course : 12 October 2020
Duration : 6 Weeks
Language : English & French
Location : Web Based E-Learning
Fee : Covered by the UNECA
Application Deadline : 15 September 2020
Specific Target audience : Technocrat in the fields of Land Policy
Website : <http://services.unidep.org/e-idep/>
Applications : <https://www.unidep.org/?apply>



PROGRAM RATIONALE

Land is the basis for social and economic activities. Societies who were able to put in place appropriate systems to secure collective and/or individual land rights, equitable access to land and manage land conflicts, experienced agricultural performance and overall economic growth. On the contrary, societies without good governance of their land resources faced conflicts over competing access and control of land, experienced poor agricultural development and hunger, and witnessed limited economic growth.

Africa host most of the arable land available in the world. It is widely acknowledged that 60% of uncultivated land in the world are located in Africa (data from World Bank). If properly managed and developed, land resources will form the basis for agricultural transformation, food security, job creation and broad economic development in Africa.

Conscious of the critical role of land in development, the world leaders adopted the SDGs in 2015 including land related targets and indicators. Under Goal 1 related to eradicating poverty, target 1.4 states that by 2030, governments should ensure that “all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance”. For Goal 2 (zero hunger), target 2.3 envisages to “double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous people, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment”. Under Goal 5 related to gender equality, governments are called to “undertake reforms in order to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws”.

The AU led Agenda 2063 adopted in 2015, sets clear development perspectives toward Africa’s economic transformation. Building on the deep expectations of the people Agenda 2063 articulates 7 aspirations with important land policy implications. Particularly, Aspiration 1 related to a prosperous continent, requires an improved governance of the land sector if the continent’s agriculture is to be transformed and modernized and if the quality of life of the people is to be improved through job creation, gender equality and provision of basic services.

In 2009, African heads of State and Government had through a Declaration on land, committed to initiate national land policy development and implementation processes and ensure equitable access to land for all land users including the youth and other landless groups. They also resolved to give special attention to strengthening security of tenure for African women. In this perspective, all AU member states were urged to “review their land sectors with a view to developing comprehensive policies which take into account their peculiar needs” (AU Declaration on land).

The improvement of land policy development, implementation and monitoring will remain an aspiration, unless relevant human capacities are developed at different levels. It is against such a backdrop that the present online training is co-organized by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) through African Land Policy Center (ALPC), the African Institute for Economic Development and planning (IDEP), the Network of Excellence on Land Governance (NELGA) and the African Union Commission (AUC).

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

This online course aims to contribute to advancement of agricultural transformation, of Africa through improved governance of its immense land resources. The following overarching objectives will guide the IDEP online training session :

- Sensitize trainees of the links between land governance and economic transformation of Africa
- Inform trainees on existing key continental and global commitments on land policy and governance;
- Highlight priority land issues which hamper the economic transformation of Africa and affects the livelihoods of African people;
- Explore promising practices which have been identified by research and pilot projects;
- work on follow-up initiatives and actions aiming at sustaining the gains of the learning process and, contribute to change in the land sector in the respective countries.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

The course consists of the following key modules:

- **Module 1** : Introduction: Overview of the conceptual and theoretical frameworks of land governance
- **Module 2** : Key land issues in Africa: commonalities, regional specificities and emerging land issues
- **Module 3** : Continental and global commitments on land governance
- **Module 4** : Best practices in land policy development
- **Module 5** : Challenge of land policy implementation
- **Module 6** : Monitoring and evaluating land governance
- **Module 7** : Conclusion: Becoming a change agent for improved land governance in Africa (*practical exercises*)

METHODOLOGY

This self-paced course will be delivered from **12 October to 27 November 2020**. The course will be moderated asynchronously on a weekly basis and participants are required to participate in weekly on-line discussions. In addition, each module has interactive lessons that provide the core content around the topic for that module. The lessons are designed in a way that learners are also able to self-assess their understanding through built-in quizzes. Additional resources such as bibliographies, web links and optional readings are provided for participants who wish to deepen their knowledge of the course topic.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The target participants are as follows :

- Middle and senior level policy officials and managers directly connected with land policy Governance, development planning, agriculture policy, media, civil society and private actors;
- Officials of national statistical agencies.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Acceptance to the Course

Applicants to the course are expected to have, as a minimum, a bachelor's degree preferably to land policy. In addition, two years of work experience in the field will be required. Qualified women candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

Until the registration deadline, participants are accepted to the course on a rolling basis and subject to availability of slots.

Applications must be completed exclusively on IDEP online application platform at <https://www.unidep.org/?apply>

Certificate of Completion

A Certificate of Completion will be issued by IDEP to all participants who successfully complete the course-related self-assessments presented for each module.

Technical Requirements

Access to internet is an essential condition for participation. The following specifications, as a minimum in terms of hardware and software, are required to take this e-Learning course, please consult your Network Administrator or Systems person to ensure that you have the following :

- Platform: Windows 95, 98, 2000, NT, ME, XP or superior; Mac OS 9 or Mac OS X; Linux
- Hardware: 64 MB of RAM, 1 GB of free disk space
- Software:
 - o Adobe Acrobat Reader
 - o Adobe Flash Player
 - o Microsoft Office (Windows or Mac) or Open Office
 - o Browser: Internet Explorer 7 or higher or Firefox 36 or higher
- Modem: 56 K
- Note that JavaScript, Cookies and Pop-ups must be enabled

CONTACT INFORMATION

IDEP E-Learning and Knowledge Management Division

Tel: +221 33 829 55 00

Fax: +221 33 822 29 64

Email: elarning@unidep.org