



Call for applications

Online Course

WOMEN AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT IN AGRICULTURE



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Online Course

WOMEN AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT IN AGRICULTURE

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS ¹

Announcement in Brief

Course Type : Online course (free of charge)

Programme Area : Agricultural Policy

Date : 1st – 28th november 2021

Duration : 4 Weeks

Language : Bilingual (English – French)

Application Deadline : 17th october 2021

¹ IDEP strongly encourage and supports the participation of suitably qualified female officials in its capacity development and training programme

PROGRAM BACKGROUND

The economic growth is determined by the productivity of its determinants such as capital and labor. The latter seems to be a pregnant issue in Africa as the number of unemployed is rising on the continent. Moreover, the quality of jobs should be addressed. Several workers are underemployed or working in indecent conditions.

According to ILO estimates, the number of unemployed people in Africa has been increasing over the years, from 25 million in 2010, it reached nearly 34 million in 2019. Of these, roughly 12 million were young people aged between 15-24 years. The youths represent over a third of the total working age population in Africa (34%) as compared to 23.6% at the global level. In addition, the youth labor force is still growing over the continent while the trend is steady in most regions of the world. This situation could entail a heavy pressure on the job market which might not be able to absorb all the new entrants. In terms of unemployment, Africa has recorded a rate of 6.8% in 2019 above the world average of 5%. It is worth mentioning the high level of informal employment in the total employment (nearly 86% in 2019). Regarding gender considerations the female unemployment rate has been systematically greater than the male unemployment rate since 2010. In 2019, it was 7.5% as compared to 6.3% for men. Women are also relatively more represented in the informal sector than men. They are likely to suffer from indecent and low paid work.

The agricultural sector is the main source of employment across the continent. It employs more than half of the working population (54%) in 2019. However, the agricultural activities are correlated with informal employment, and employ several women who hold fewer land property rights than male farmers. Many experts reported that a better access to land tenure could enhance access to credit and thus, develop businesses including agribusiness. Therefore, there is need to empower the workers of this sector to enhance their productivity and the overall competitiveness of this branch. The utilization of innovative solutions offered by digital agriculture could also be an option to further develop the agribusiness value chains.

With the onset of COVID-19 pandemic which negatively impacted the world economy there is an urgency to create decent opportunities for actors in the agricultural sector, notably women and youth to move towards the achievement of structural transformation of the continent.

The benefit of this action would be at both macro and micro-levels with inter-alia the achievement of food security, the greater competitiveness of agriculture, the alleviation of poverty, etc.

For this purpose, capacity building is a key component. It is against this background that the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) is organizing a digital training on Women and Youth Empowerment in Agriculture.

OBJECTIVES

This training programme aims at strengthening the capacity of officials involved in the agricultural sector as well as all interested candidates on the need and how to empower youth and women in this sector for a better productivity of employment and poverty alleviation.

Specifically, the course objectives are:

- To introduce course participants on the roles of agriculture in rural and economic development for the empowerment of women and youths.
- To provide course participants with knowledge on Women and Youth as concepts for community and agricultural development
- To provide course participants a thorough understanding of the problems and policies for agricultural development with options for empowering Women and Youth
- To expose course participants on the opportunities for job creation and employment of Women and Youth in agriculture
- To provide course participants with knowledge on the strategies for modernizing agriculture to empower women and youth

CONTENT

The course will cover the following topics:

- The Role of Agriculture in Rural and Economic Development
- Women and Youth as Concept for Community and Agricultural Development
- Problems and Policies for Agricultural Development: Issues Options and Challenges for empowering Women and Youth
- Job Creation and Employment of Women and Youth in Agriculture
- Strategies for Modernizing Agriculture to empower women and youth

SKILLS TO BE IMPARTED

By the end of the course participants should be able to:

- Be knowledgeable on the roles of agriculture in rural and economic development for the empowerment of women and youths.
- Be aware of the issues related to Women and Youth for community and agricultural development
- Undertake analysis of the problems and policies for agricultural development with options for empowering Women and Youth
- Identify opportunities for job creation and employment of Women and Youth in agriculture
- Be knowledgeable on the strategies for modernizing agriculture to empower women and youth

PEDAGOGICAL APPROACH & MODE OF DELIVERY

The course will be run as an interactive online course. In line with the IDEP and ECA pedagogical philosophy, the presentation of the course modules will combine a knowledge-building component with experience-based case studies designed to impart core skills.

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.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The course targets the following groups:

- Mid-level to senior policy officials in national Ministries (primarily agriculture, planning, economic development, women and youth affairs)
- Officials from the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs)
- Professionals in private sector and civil society organizations
- Officials from the UN system and other international and regional organizations including multilateral financial institutions.
- Faculty, researchers and students
- Interested citizens

ADMISSION IN THE COURSE

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>

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: Google chrome, Firefox 36 or higher or Internet Explorer 7 or higher
- Modem: 56 K
- Note that JavaScript, Cookies and Pop-ups must be enabled

IMPORTANT DATES

- Deadline for applications and nominations: **17th October 2021**
- Course Period: **1th – 28th November 2021**

CONTACT INFORMATION

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