

## Newsletter N° 53 - April 2019

The AISBL ACP Local Government Platform e-Newsletter is an electronic newsletter produced every three months by the ACP Local Government Platform (ACP-LG Platform). The editor of this e-Newsletter invites readers to make comments & contribute news on local government issues from their organisations, local authorities & countries. All former editions of the newsletter are available on the Platform website: [www.acplgp.net](http://www.acplgp.net) (go to 'News', then 'Platform Newsletters'). For those who want to know about the Platform and its history, please visit the Platform website [www.acplgp.net](http://www.acplgp.net) (go to 'The ACP-LG Platform', then 'Background', 'Establishment of the Platform' and 'Future orientation'). The Newsletter N 23 is a special edition to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Platform.

## EC calls for proposals: open / foreseen

Various EC calls for proposals open/foreseen for some programmes of interest to local authorities can be seen at <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome>

### • Non-state actors and Local authorities

Countries	Deadline	Budget (EURO)	Reference
Senegal	21/05/2019	3.600.000	EuropeAid/161907/DD/ACT/SN
Zimbabwe	14/05/2019	5.000.000	EuropeAid/163273/DD/ACT/ZW
Kenya	25/05/2019	2.800.000	EuropeAid/162993/DD/ACT/KE

### • Food Security

Countries	Deadline	Budget (EURO)	Reference
Madagascar	open	1.700.000	EuropeAid/134180/M/ACT/MG

### • EIDHR: European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights

Countries	Deadline	Budget (EURO)	Reference
Timor Leste	21/05/2019	1.000.000	EuropeAid/162863/DD/ACT/TL
Jamaica & Belize	15/05/2019	1.210.000	EuropeAid/163219/DD/ACT/Multi

### • Various fields in ACP countries

Countries	Deadline	Budget (EURO)	Reference
Ethiopia	23/05/2019	11.750.000	EuropeAid/163926/DD/ACT/ET
Gambia	24/06/2019	6.000.000	EuropeAid/161113/ID/ACT/GM
Niger	20/05/2019	5.800.000	EuropeAid/163741/IH/ACT/NE
Senegal	06/05/2019	800.000	EuropeAid/162220/DD/ACT/SN
Chad	30/05/2019	1.503.147	EuropeAid/162493/ID/ACT/TD
Chad	30/05/2019	1.029.031	EuropeAid/162829/ID/ACT/TD
Chad	30/05/2019	777.489	EuropeAid/162884/ID/ACT/TD
Chad	30/05/2019	868.959	EuropeAid/162895/ID/ACT/TD
All ACP countries	open	7.000.000	EuropeAid/130741/D/ACT/Multi
Mauritius	open	56.000.000 (MUR)	EuropeAid/134113/M/ACT/MU

Should you need assistance in responding to an EC call for proposals let the ACP-LG Platform know by sending an email to [platform@acplgp.net](mailto:platform@acplgp.net) and we will be pleased to help you register in the PADOR system, find partners, check your proposal, etc. You are also encouraged to read the article "How to write a good project" on our website [www.acplgp.net](http://www.acplgp.net)

## News from the EU

### 1<sup>st</sup> Preparatory meeting for the European Development Days 2019

The 1<sup>st</sup> preparatory meeting for the EDD 2019 took place in Brussels on 4 March. The EDD 2019 will be organised in Brussels on **18 & 19 June** and will focus on "Addressing inequalities: building a world which leaves no one behind". For its 13<sup>th</sup> edition, the EDD will aim to bring together the EU's commitment to promote equality and shared prosperity with the Agenda 2030. Strong evidence indicates that high levels of inequality negatively affect all dimensions of sustainable development, including economic growth and prospects for poverty reduction. Addressing inequalities is therefore crucial both for sustainable development and to achieve the SDGs.

The promotion of equality and shared prosperity is also an EU priority: both internally, as enshrined in the EU treaties and reflected in the European Pillar of Social Rights, and externally, as the Consensus puts eradicating poverty, tackling discriminations and inequalities and leaving no one behind at the heart of EU development cooperation policy. Moreover, Commissioner Mimica has clearly stated his ambition to raise the profile of inequalities in EU development cooperation.

Accordingly, the Commission is working to adapt its tools and approaches to make them more effective in addressing inequalities.

The 2019 edition will be framed around 3 major themes emerging as key aspects in the current context:

- why inequalities matter for sustainable development;
- understanding the structural causes of inequalities; and
- working better together through more effective policies to address inequalities.

Under each theme, a number of topics have been identified and linked with the 5 P's of the preamble of the 2030 Agenda for SDGs: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership. The EDD 2019 programme will include auditoria and lab debates, brainstorming sessions, project and report presentations and webinars. The forum will also feature a Global Village to showcase successful practices.

To register: <https://eudevdays.eu/community/>

For further information: <https://eudevdays.eu/>

#### **7<sup>th</sup> Global Policy Forum on Development (PFD) Meeting in Brussels**

From 13 to 15 March the 7<sup>th</sup> Global Meeting of the Policy Forum on Development (PFD) took place in Brussels, Belgium. The meeting assessed the progress made towards the 2030 Agenda in the light of the EU Joint Synthesis Report. Participants looked specifically at future ways of working, including under the new Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) and using innovative financing that aims to increase private sector engagement. Part of the meeting was dedicated to a stocktaking of progress made on environmental commitments, given the leadership of the EU in this area.

The Policy Forum on Development is a multi-stakeholder platform that brings together more than 100 representatives from networks of civil society organisations, associations of local authorities, professional and business associations as well as European Union institutions and Member States. Commissioner Mimica underlined the important role that all these actors play in the achievement of sustainable development for all: "These discussions are vital. Because this is where we see our Partnership in action. Where we come together as civil society, local authority associations, private sector representatives, and European institutions. Where we communicate and work together with the same goal in mind - a peaceful and prosperous planet for all people". He also assured the members of the PFD that the concerns of "local authorities and civil society will be heard loud and clear. In this direction, we will make sure that local authorities get the right amount of support under Europe's future long-term budget."

In this direction, the Commissioner outlined how civil society consultation will be vital throughout the programming and implementation phase of the next long-term budget for EU external action. The EU work with regional partners will continue in different directions, included the fight to end all forms of violence against women and girls, support to human rights and gender equality worldwide and upholding strong commitments in the area of environment.

#### **Background**

Launched in 2013, the Policy Forum on Development (PFD) is a dialogue platform that brings together civil society, local authorities, EU Member States and institutions to discuss and strengthen EU development policy. Co-chaired by the Director-General for International Cooperation and Development, Stefano Manservigi, it is an example of how the EU supports and engages in multi-stakeholder partnerships to meet its development aims. Since the inception of the PFD, the international community has agreed to the 2030 Agenda and the EU has issued a new European Consensus on Development. Members of the PFD are networks and associations with a global and regional mandate representing millions of people.

Sources: europa.eu. March 2019 & CTA Newsletter N° 596

#### **EU Aid Explorer: European Commission launches new open platform on EU aid**

On 28 March the European Commission launched a new and user-friendly tool to help stakeholders access and use EU aid data: the EU Aid Explorer. Thanks to the EU Aid Explorer, the EU and its Member States will remain among the most transparent donors in the world. The Explorer offers an overview and details of all EU programmes and projects since 2007. It includes over one million entries. The European Commission's Director-General for International Cooperation and Development Stefano Manservigi commented: "I am convinced that easy access to reliable aid data is essential. Not only is it a guarantee of transparency and accountability - it also helps partner countries in their planning processes and the EU itself in working better together to achieve the sustainable development goals."

EU Aid Explorer contains data on major donors such as the European Commission, the EU Trust Funds, the European Investment Bank and all 28 EU Member States. The Commission has introduced the EU Aid Explorer to encourage development practitioners, partner countries, media, academia and the general public to use the data and thus make development and humanitarian assistance more effective. The new EU Aid Explorer has a robust filtering capacity, so that browsing is quick and reliable. A lot of effort has been put into ensuring the accuracy of the financial figures.

#### **Background**

In the new European Consensus on Development, the EU and its Member States reaffirm their commitment to applying the key principles of development effectiveness - among them to enhance transparency and mutual accountability. They commit to develop tools that present and use development cooperation data more effectively.

The EU and its Member States together form the largest provider of Official Development Assistance (ODA) in the world. Information about this assistance is reported to the OECD Development Assistance Committee. The EU institutions and many Member States also publish aid information more frequently as open data for the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI). These data can be used to build digital applications that present the information for non-expert users; however, so far, only a handful of Member States have done this.

Sources: European Commission. March 2019 & CTA Newsletter N° 598

## ACP countries urged to cooperate more in order to survive changing global world

The two-day inter-regional high-level consultation on comparative regionalism in Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific (ACP) held in Barbados on 26-27 March underscoring the need for the 79-member grouping to build a strong, vibrant and energetic relationship among themselves especially in a changing global environment.

“We are presented with the unique opportunity to examine the relationship between the ACP and the European Union, but we are also examining our own relationship as the ACP given the current realities,” Minister in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Sandra Husbands, told the opening ceremony of the conference, dubbed the “Inter-Regional High Level Consultation: Comparative Regionalism in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific”.

She told delegates, including the ACP Secretary General Dr. P.I. Gomes, that the grouping needed to ask how it wishes to position itself in a rapidly changing global environment. “What is the brand and image that we wish to portray as the ACP, a union of diverse economies and regions? It is my desire that as we seek to answer these questions, we give tangible expression to ways in which we can forge deeper links among each of our regions and further unlock the potential existing in each of our economies,” she said.

The conference was organised by the ACP Secretariat, the Guyana-based Caribbean community (CARICOM), the Institute for Pan-African Thought and Conversation (IPATC), the University of Johannesburg (South Africa) and the Shridath Ramphal Centre for International Trade Law, Policy & Services. The organisers said that the two-day event is also expected to include a brainstorming session on revisions to the ACP Secretariat’s foundation document, The Georgetown Agreement that established the grouping in 1975.

Among the topics for discussions include: Continental Regionalism: The African Union; Regionalism in Eastern, Southern and Western Africa, Regionalism in the Pacific; Regionalism and the future of ACP-EU relations.

Sources: tv6tnt.com. March 2019 & CTA Newsletter N° 599

## News on the Post-Cotonou negotiations

### New ACP-EU Partnership: EU and Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific Leaders intensify the regional talks in Samoa

In the context of the ongoing negotiations to modernise relations between the EU and 79 countries in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP), chief negotiators met with Pacific leaders on 26 February.

The talks' aim was to lay the ground for the creation of a EU-Pacific pillar, within the future agreement. The negotiators focused on the specific needs and priorities to address together in the decades to come.

In Apia, Samoa, the EU's Chief Negotiator, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Neven Mimica, said: *“Today's exchanges are a concrete example of how our future bilateral relations EU-Pacific, EU-Africa, EU-Caribbean, will grow deeper and stronger under the next ACP-EU agreement. We need to find new ways to fight climate change, and to protect our people and our planet. We also aim to foster blue growth in a sustainable way, and address cross border challenges together, such as human development and security issues.”*

The ACP Chief Negotiator and Chair of the Ministerial Central Negotiating Group who is also the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Africa integration of Togo Professor Robert Dussey, said: *“The ACP Group cherishes its partnership with the EU, which it has enjoyed since 1975. The process we have embarked on aims to further strengthen our relations. We also recognise the necessity to address specific needs and aspirations of the ACP regions. For that reason, we are delighted to be in Apia to broker Pacific regional interests. We hope to set the stage for negotiating a Pacific-EU protocol for the benefit of the citizens of the region.”*

Prime Minister of Samoa, Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi, added: *“As one of the Pacific's key partner and contributor to our national and regional development programmes, we continue to use every opportunity to foster the strengths of a collective voice and positions of our Blue Pacific in our discussions with the European Union. My Government is very pleased to host this important political dialogue with the EU, and to discuss issues of high priority to the Pacific. We look forward to a partnership with the EU that we can all be proud of, and one which encapsulates the aspirations and hopes of our peoples for a more prosperous and peaceful future”*

### Background

The Cotonou Agreement currently governing ACP-EU relations is due to expire in 2020. Political negotiations on a new ACP-EU Partnership were launched in New York on 28 September 2018. Current talks mainly focus on the so-called common foundation at ACP-EU level. This contains the values and principles that bring the EU and ACP countries together. It also indicates the strategic priority areas that the two sides intend to prospectively work on together.

Sources: [eeas.europa.eu](http://eeas.europa.eu). 26 February 2019 & CTA Newsletter N° 593

### European, African, Caribbean and Pacific countries conclude second round of talks on a new ambitious partnership

On 4 April, in N'djamena, Chad, chief negotiators emphasised the progress made while launching the next phase of the negotiations. This new step will ultimately lead to the creation of tailor-made pillars with each region, which are among the novelties to be introduced in the future ACP-EU Agreement.

The EU's Chief Negotiator, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Neven Mimica, said: *“We are on track with the drafting of the foundation text, and we are now pleased to embark on a new path with the negotiation of EU-Africa, EU-Caribbean and EU-Pacific pillars. These pillars will not only fuel our cooperation in bringing new dynamics to it, but they will ultimately allow us to achieve more in responding accurately to the needs and challenges facing each partner.”*

The ACP Chief Negotiator and Chair of the Ministerial Central Negotiating Group who is also the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Africa integration of Togo Professor Robert Dussey, said: *“We have taken stock of the negotiations launched six months ago. I am happy to report that substantial progress has been made and we remain focused to ensure that the Agreement will stand the test of time and serve the needs of our people by tackling present and emerging global challenges.”*

### Next steps

While the drafting process continues to run its course, EU and ACP countries will carry on the regional pillars consultations with each region. As illustrated during the high-level dialogue with Pacific leaders on 26 February, such consultations provide a privileged space to further discuss the needs and priorities faced by each region. Similar meetings with Caribbean and African partners are due to take place soon.

### Background

The two first series of talks mainly focused on the common foundation at ACP-EU level. This contains the values and principles that bring the EU and ACP countries together. It also indicates the strategic priority areas that the two sides intend to prospectively work on together. In the future agreement, on top of the foundation there will be three action-oriented regional pillars to focus on each region's specific needs. Through the future partnership, EU and ACP countries will seek closer political cooperation on the world stage. Together, they represent more than half of all UN member countries and unite over 1.5 billion people.

Sources: [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-1931\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1931_en.htm) & CTA Newsletter N° 600

### News from the ACP-EU

#### The EU and Latin America & the Caribbean join efforts to shape future digital cooperation

On 20-21 March in the Costa Rican capital of San José, over 100 policy makers, regulators, businesses, academics and other representatives of civil society engaged in working groups to deliver proposals for digital cooperation between the European Union and Latin America & Caribbean regions. Participants stressed the importance of enhancing and modernising relations between the two regions in order to seize the opportunities and face the challenges brought by the digital transformation of our economies & societies. The workshop reflected the aspiration of stakeholders from both regions to develop models for cooperation to exchange ideas and best practice, to increase connectivity and to align approaches. The research network community RedCLARA presented the opportunities that will arise from the new transatlantic submarine fibre-optic cable BELLA (Building Europe Link to Latin America). This project is bringing together research networks from the two continents. The discussion also underlined the need to step-up joint approaches between European and Latin America. Participants included members of the Digital Agenda for Latin America & the Caribbean (eLAC) and other initiatives such as Mercosur, the Pacific Alliance, and CARICOM. Regional development banks, regulators, private sector and academia also played a leading role in the discussions.

Sources: European Commission March 2019 & CTA Newsletter N° 597

### Announcements

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional Forum of Local Economic Development for Latin America & the Caribbean, 7-9 May 2019, Barranquilla, Colombia

The objective of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional Forum of Local Economic Development for Latin America & the Caribbean is to facilitate dialogue and exchange among local, national and international actors on local economic development in fragile and conflict-affected territories. The Forum will offer a platform to reflect on and evaluate local economic development as a vehicle for the consolidation of peace, as well as for the creation of decent jobs, promotion of economic growth and reduction of inequalities towards the localisation of the Sustainable Development Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean. Based on the experiences and innovations of the territories shared in the regional event, the voice, vision and regional positioning will be brought to the 5<sup>th</sup> World Forum of Local Economic Development that will take place in Córdoba, Argentina.

To register: <http://www.forodel.org/get-involved/register/>

For further information: <http://www.forodel.org/>

#### Discover new tools and supporting resources to localise the SDGs

The virtual platform offers a selected set of concrete tools and resources to help you designing and implementing development policies in coherence with the SDGs. Among the resources available on the platform you can find:

- **Learning Module 2: Territorial planning to achieve the SDGs.** By UNDP, UCLG, Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments and UN-Habitat. This Module aims to stimulate a reflection on how the SDGs and the principles of the 2030 Agenda can be integrated into local development planning exercises. The goal is to inform participants on how SDGs can be instrumental for improving local development planning processes and, consequently, how local development planning can become a key driver for achieving the SDGs at all levels. <http://localizingthesdgs.org/library/view/595>
- **Guide to incorporate the approach of the 2030 Agenda in the elaboration of state and municipal development plans.** By Coordinación de Agenda 2030, México. This guide to elaborate or revise a development plan at the municipal or state level aims to accompany authorities and municipalities in incorporating Agenda 2030 of Sustainable Development in its various strategies and lines of action. This document takes, step by steps, the construction of an integrated plan in which it is possible to identify and prioritise the accelerators of sustainable development in various areas of action. <http://localizingthesdgs.org/library/view/608>
- **Localisation of the 2030 Agenda in Mexico. Systematisation of the installation and operationalisation of the 2030 Agenda Follow-up and Implementation Bodies.** By UNDP Mexico. In this publication, UNDP presents the status of the localisation of the 2030 Agenda at the subnational level in Mexico. In particular, it seeks to systematise the installation and operationalisation process of the 2030 Agenda Follow-up and Implementation Bodies (OSI, for its initials in Spanish) at the state level in order to generate greater understanding regarding the design and potential of these bodies, as well as the challenges they face. In addition to inviting critical reflection on the actions that Mexico is promoting in this

field, this publication serves as an instrument of South-South cooperation, being particularly useful for countries with a federal system similar to that of Mexico. <http://localizingthesdgs.org/library/view/417>

- ***A Pathway to Sustainable American Cities.*** By SDSN. Since 2015, cities across the United States have begun incorporating the SDGs to reinforce their existing sustainability plans and to provide a common language to discuss goals among peer cities. Since then, SDSN has proudly been a partner to the cities at the forefront of this movement through the USA Sustainable Cities Initiative, partnering with key stakeholders in cities such as Baltimore, San Jose, New York and Los Angeles. The ranks of cities who have understood the benefits of the SDG framework have continued to grow. In January 2019, SDSN hosted a workshop with practitioners and experts to discuss their experiences and consider lessons detailed in the draft practitioner guide: “A Pathway to Sustainable American Cities: A Guide to Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals.” This guide, a re-imagining of a 2016 guide prepared for a global urban audience, presents 10 steps for cities to consider on their way to adapting and adopting the global framework for their own city. <http://localizingthesdgs.org/library/view/616>

#### **Integrity and Anti-Corruption, 17-28 June 2019, The Hague**

This course will help you to understand the drivers of corruption. You will strengthen your analytical skills and learn about the instruments necessary to develop integrity and anti-corruption policies and programmes in line with recent international initiatives, legislation and agreements.

#### Objectives

This course will help you:

- Examine the cross-cutting nature of corruption and its impact on social and economic development and the rule of law;
- Assess corruption vulnerabilities in governance institutions and processes;
- Learn about innovative instruments related to integrity and anti-corruption, and analyse how these instruments can be employed to work in your organisation/country;
- Engage with governments, civil society and private sector leaders to develop and implement integrity and anti-corruption policies and programmes with a view to achieving sustainable and equitable development;
- Support integrity and anti-corruption initiatives and agencies in locally appropriate ways;
- Learn from the experiences of the experts, as well as your fellow participants, and expand your professional network in the field of integrity and anti-corruption.

*After this course, you will receive a professional certificate of completion from The Hague Academy for Local Governance.*

#### Intended audience

This course is intended for consultants and professionals working for: government, international organisations or NGOs and who are involved in anti-corruption, transparency and accountability processes in relation to development and governance.

#### Practical information

The course fee is €3,150. This includes all training-related costs, as well as drinks, lunches, training materials and travel during the training programme. Travel to and from The Hague and accommodation are not included. Group discounts are available if you participate with three or more colleagues in this course. Email us for more information. The course language is English.

For questions or more information about this course, please direct your inquiry to [info@thehagueacademy.com](mailto:info@thehagueacademy.com), or call +31-70-37 38 695.

The deadline for the application is **10 May 2019**.

#### Funding opportunities

Participants in our courses are predominantly funded by their own employer (municipalities, ministries, NGOs and training or research institutes) or by a donor or development agencies. If you are looking for additional funding opportunities, there are a few organisations you could approach:

<https://thehagueacademy.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Funding-opportunities-General.pdf>

#### Nuffic Scholarships

The Netherlands Organisation for International Cooperation in Higher Education (**Nuffic**) offers scholarships for training courses in the Netherlands. These scholarships seek to develop and strengthen the skills, instincts, and abilities of professionals to enable their organisations and communities to succeed in an ever-changing world. To learn if this course is open for Nuffic applications, please visit our website:

<https://thehagueacademy.com/blog/2019/03/nuffic-scholarships/>

For more information about the application procedure and the online application form:

<https://thehagueacademy.com/blog/2018/04/2019-course-integrity-anti-corruption/>

#### **Summercourse: Localising the SDGs, 1-5 July 2019, The Hague**

In order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, these global goals need to be translated into local realities. Moreover, all of the SDGs include targets that have direct linkages with the responsibilities of subnational governments. It's therefore vital for local development practitioners to understand what these roles and responsibilities are and what resources and capacities subnational governments need to be able to adapt the SDGs to local priorities and create context-specific implementation strategies. This intensive one-week course offers a broad set of insights, skills, approaches and good practices to help localise the SDGs and empower citizens and their subnational governments in different contexts.

#### Course Content

Participants will discuss how donor and development agencies can support a multilevel governance approach to deal with future development challenges. The course consists of several modules:

- What are the latest insights and recent lessons in decentralisation and sustainable local development? We will explore the potential of local governance in realising sustainable development while taking into account the political economy of decentralisation reforms.

- Inter-governmental (fiscal) relations and local service delivery in different country contexts address different (fiscal) support modalities.
- We will discuss strategies and instruments for empowering local authorities. A new tool for local government capacity development will be introduced. We explore the capacity of local authorities to design strategies, deliver and manage services, increase transparency and accountability and successfully engage with other tiers of governments, civil society and the private sector.

*Participants who successfully finish the course will receive a professional certificate of completion from The Hague Academy for Local Governance.*

#### Intended audience

This course is designed for donor and development professionals. Past participants have represented the UN Department of Political Affairs; the World Bank; UNDP; Oxfam Novib; GIZ; African Development Bank; USAID; the Swiss Development Cooperation; Mercy Corps; and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

#### Practical information

The course fee is €2,450. This includes all training-related costs, as well as drinks, lunches, training materials and travel during the training programme. Travel to and from The Hague and accommodation are not included. Group discounts are available if you participate with three or more colleagues in this course. Email us for more information. The course language is English.

For questions or more information about this course, please direct your inquiry to [info@thehagueacademy.com](mailto:info@thehagueacademy.com), or call +31-70-37 38 695.

The deadline for the application is **24 May 2019**.

#### Funding opportunities

Participants in our courses are predominantly funded by their own employer (municipalities, ministries, NGOs and training or research institutes) or by a donor or development agencies. If you are looking for additional funding opportunities, there are a few organisations you could approach:

<https://thehagueacademy.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Funding-opportunities-General.pdf>

For more information about the application procedure and the online application form:

<https://thehagueacademy.com/blog/2018/04/2019-summercourse-decentralisation-sdgs/>

#### **Summercourse: Sustaining Peace and Local Governance - 1-5 July 2019, Barcelona**

Local governance actors face enormous challenges in fragile and conflict-affected countries. Often, human and financial resources are scarce, the collaboration between the State and the citizens is weak, social cohesion and trust in society have deteriorated, and the central government is weak or absent.

Despite these challenges, local governance remains the level where the State and citizens interact. This provides an entry point for development assistance and inclusive governance to support sustainable peace. At the same time, several conditions are necessary for stability including the prevention of conflict, reduction of violence, strengthening the collaboration between the State and the citizens, social cohesion, delivering inclusive economic development, and accountable governance.

To discuss how local governance can be more effective in addressing the root causes of conflict and achieve resilient and sustainable peace, The Hague Academy will convene a one-week course on Sustaining Peace and Local Governance in partnership with the Barcelona International Peace Center.

Participants will be challenged on the following core questions:

- How can local governance promote conditions for sustainable peace?
- What lessons can be learnt from local governance actors' approaches to sustaining peace in different fragile settings?
- How can development partners improve the effectiveness of their support for local governance in fragile settings?
- In what ways can decentralisation contribute to sustaining peace and what is the specific role of local governments in this process?

The course will provide insights on the nexus between decentralisation, local governance and sustaining peace. Participants will compare and discuss the effectiveness of the different approaches used by development partners to support local governance in fragile and conflict-affected countries and how to make them more effective. Examples of lessons learned will include cases from the Middle East, North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa.

#### Objectives

This interactive course requires participants to actively exchange their experiences and engage with their peers on various topics. At the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Discuss the role of local governance in sustaining peace in fragile settings;
- Identify under what conditions decentralisation in fragile settings can contribute to sustaining peace;
- Identify governance approaches and modalities for local service delivery in relation to sustaining peace;
- Recognise the impact of peace interventions and the role of inclusive local economic development in fragile settings;
- Advise local government actors on how to create and maintain conditions necessary for sustainable and resilient peace; and
- Develop ideas for evaluating peace intervention at the local level to improve learning and accountability.

*After successful graduation from this course, you will receive a professional certificate of completion from The Hague Academy for Local Governance*

### Intended audience

This training is designed for the staff of donor and development organisations, NGOs, ministries and local governments. It is also aimed at practitioners who wish to remain well-informed about the local dimensions of sustaining peace in fragile and conflict-affected settings.

### Practical information

This training is organised in partnership with the Barcelona International Peace Center.

The training will take place at the historic Casa Sant Felip Neri in Barcelona.

For general inquiries, please contact [info@bcnpeacecenter.org](mailto:info@bcnpeacecenter.org). For questions specific to the course, please direct your email to [info@thehagueacademy.com](mailto:info@thehagueacademy.com).

The course fee is €2,450. This includes all training-related costs, as well as drinks, lunches, training materials and local transportation during the training programme. Accommodation and travel to and from Barcelona are not included. Group discounts are available if you participate with three or more colleagues in this course. Email us for more information. The course language is English.

For questions or more information about this course, please direct your inquiry to the Programme Manager, Freddy Sahinguvu at [info@thehagueacademy.com](mailto:info@thehagueacademy.com) or call +31(70) 37 38 695.

The deadline for the application is **31 May 2019**.

### Funding opportunities

Participants in our courses are predominantly funded by their own employer (municipalities, ministries, NGOs and training or research institutes) or by a donor or development agencies. If you are looking for additional funding opportunities, there are a few organisations you could approach:

<https://thehagueacademy.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Funding-opportunities-General.pdf>

For more information about the application procedure and the online application form:

<https://thehagueacademy.com/blog/2018/04/summercourse-sustaining-peace-and-local-governance/>

### Reading

**Continental drifts in a multipolar world.** ECDPM

<https://ecdpm.org/publications/continental-drifts-multipolar-world-challenges-paper-2019-ecdpm/>

**Youth unemployment and the role of regional organisations.** ECDPM

<https://ecdpm.org/publications/youth-unemployment-and-the-role-of-regional-organisations/>

**Who's interested in the EU's open invitation to join a post-Cotonou Agreement?** ECDPM

<https://ecdpm.org/talking-points/who-interested-eu-open-invitation-join-post-cotonou-agreement/>

**The African Union's self-financing agenda: 3 ideational measures that should guide it.** Africa Portal

<https://www.africaportal.org/features/african-unions-self-financing-agenda-3-ideational-measures-should-guide-it/>

**Africa's historic free trade deal now has enough countries signed up to go into force.** Quartz Africa

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