



AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
INSTITUT AFRICAIN DE DEVELOPPEMENT ECONOMIQUE ET DE PLANIFICATION
(IDEP)

INDUSTRIAL POLICY IN AFRICA

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS¹

Announcement in Brief

Course Type: Short Term Course

Programme Area: Industrial Policy

Date: 1st June – 12th June 2015

Duration: 2 Weeks

Language: Bilingual (English & French)

Location: Dakar, Senegal

Fee: \$2,500 (Excluding air travel and subsistence costs)

Scholarships: Yes (IDEP offers a limited number of partial and full scholarships)

Application Deadline: 24th April, 2015

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

The importance of industrialization as an engine of economic growth and development cannot be overemphasized. Industrial production creates job opportunities at higher skill levels, facilitates denser links across the services and agricultural sectors between rural and urban economies and between consumers, intermediates and capital goods industries. In addition, prices of manufactured exports are less volatile and less susceptible to long-term deterioration than those of primary goods, making them particularly strategic in highly commodity-dependent developing countries. Furthermore, industrialization is a critical tool in employment generation, poverty eradication, and regional development policies. Finally, it can spur technological advancement and innovation as well as productivity gain. Indeed, virtually all the successful countries and emerging ones recognized the critical role of industrialization driven by increased manufacturing share in GDP and actively supported their industries through targeted policies and appropriate investments in institutions.

Africa, with all its rich endowment of natural and mineral resources, is the least industrialized continent of the world. Over half a century after independence, while other regions have increased their share of non-oil exports, the continent still depends on the export of raw materials to the industrialized world, which are processed and resold to Africa at much higher prices. Following independence, many African countries saw industrialization as a central part of the development agenda. It was expected to facilitate the transformation of the structure of their economies away from an agrarian base to a modern industrial one. This objective constituted the backbone of the import substitution industrialization (ISI) model that most African countries adopted in the 1960s and 1970s. With the advent of Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs) across the continent, a new free market policy environment emerged which was diametrically opposed to the ISI approach and triggered its collapse, setting in a phase of de-industrialization across the continent. Matters were not helped by the various trade liberalization measures adopted at a time of intensive globalization. Today, various countries on the continent are experimenting with export-oriented strategies for industrialization which require the production of high quality goods for export at low prices.

In the context of the structural shifts that have occurred over the last 25 years in the world economy, it is clear that some of the most important requirements today for industrialization to take place are the quality of education and technological knowledge. Given that the take-off of industrialization requires the availability of an educated and technically-skilled workforce, the deficit which the continent suffers in this domain continues to play a significant role in hindering the development process in Africa. Other factors that are known to have contributed to the sorry state of industrialization on the continent include inappropriate industrial investment policies, inadequate infrastructure, market size and lack of technology among others. Supply-side constraints have constituted a persistent problem for African industrial development requiring emphasis on creating a conducive and coherent policy environment. Also crucial is the need to generate skills, stimulate productivity, promote investment, upgrade enterprise operations, transfer technology, reduce the costs of doing business and introduce appropriate standards to enable products to compete in international markets.

African leaders have, in recent years, shown commitment to the industrialization of the continent in both the short and long-term, and thus taken a number of major initiatives in this regard such as the decision to focus on the theme “the industrialization of Africa” at their January 2008 Summit. During the Summit, the Heads of State and Government endorsed and adopted the *Plan of Action for the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa (AIDA)* and directed the African Union Commission to speedily operationalize it in collaboration with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and other development partners. It is within the framework of revamping industrial development in Africa and

support to the implementation of AIDA, that UNECA and IDEP are organizing a two-week short course on enhancing industrial policy in Africa.

OBJECTIVES

The aim of the course is to strengthen the capacity of the relevant officials of African countries to design, implement, monitor and evaluate the efficacy of appropriate industrial policies to facilitate structural transformation of the economies of the continent. The specific objectives of the course are:

- Strengthen the understanding of participating officials on the core challenges of industrialization within the context of global competitiveness;
- Reinforce the capacity of participants to develop the analytical frameworks for the design of a competitive industrial economy;
- Contribute to a greater awareness on the range of issues related to the creation of an enabling environment for the development and growth of industrial SME's in Africa;
- Provide comparative knowledge of successful Asian and Latin American industrialization experiences to participants with a view to drawing appropriate lessons for the African environment;
- Update the knowledge of participants on core conceptual, theoretical and methodological issues in industrial policy design and implementation; and
- Update the skills of participants on the core instruments of industrial policy formulation, monitoring, and evaluation.

SKILLS TO BE IMPARTED

The course is expected to provide senior officials drawn from relevant ministerial and extra-ministerial departments from across Africa with tools and knowledge for industrial policy formulation and application. In addition, the following benefits are expected to flow from the course:

- i. Increased awareness among participants regarding the importance of industrial policy for economic diversification, structural transformation, economic growth and poverty reduction;
- ii. Improved knowledge about the prerequisites and conditions for the development and implementation of effective and sound industrial policies and strategies;
- iii. Equipping 25 carefully-selected officials at an appropriate level of seniority and responsibility with enhanced skills for industrial policy design, monitoring and evaluation;
- iv. Enhanced knowledge of the Plan of Action for the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa (AIDA) and its potential for galvanizing local-level action; and
- v. A better appreciation of comparative experiences of industrialization from other developing regions of the world and the implications of those experiences for Africa.

CONTENT

The course consists of key modules offering an in-depth coverage of a broad range of issues pertaining to industrial development policies, strategies and management in Africa, and allowing participants to test the practical application of the knowledge imparted, participate in field visits, and prepare individual technical reports on the various themes covered. Among the main areas that will be covered in the course and which are expected to contribute to the achievement of its objective: *Analysis of Industrial Strategies and Policies in Africa; Industrial Policies in Africa: Concepts, Frameworks and implementation strategies; Instruments and Techniques of Industrial Sector Analysis and Project*

GROUP PRESENTATIONS: Participants will undertake group work during the course and present the results which will be assessed by the resource persons.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS AND FIELD VISITS: In addition to the key modules, a roundtable discussion and field visit are scheduled to take place during the session. Field visits will enable participants to test the relevance of the training that they have received, in relation to the realities on the ground. They will make some direct observations and findings in the field to link the concepts to real experiences and draw some lessons from them.

PEDAGOGICAL APPROACH

The course is facilitated by experienced resource persons with first-hand knowledge of the historical and contemporary issues in industrial policy in Africa. They also come with strong comparative insights from other regions of the world. The resource persons are coordinated by a resident course director. In addition to lectures delivered by the experts / trainers, roundtables discussion case-studies are also presented. Furthermore, participants are called upon to present experiences from their own countries and participate in group work and simulation exercises. A field visit for the benefit of participants is integrated into the course programme.

An annotated bibliography is offered, along with the course prospectus and syllabus, to each participant for the purpose of enabling them to be able to follow-up on the core references introduced by the resource persons during the delivery of lectures. At the end of each session, a comprehensive evaluation of the course is carried out to enable IDEP to continuously improve its capacity development and training activities.

Participants will be assessed throughout the programme by various experts/trainers. Based on overall performance for each participant, three (3) types of certificates will be awarded: (i) **Certificates of Competence** (with a classification of Excellent, Very Good or Good), (ii) **Certificates of Participation** or (iii) **Certificates of Attendance**.

MODE OF DELIVERY

- **Language:** The course will be delivered in English and French (simultaneous interpretation services will be available)
- **Duration:** The course is structured to run over a period of ten (10) working days with a minimum of 60 hours of class work. A field visit will be organized to allow participants to have a first-hand experience of industrial policy issues covered in the course.
- **Number of participants:** A total of twenty five (25) participants are admitted into each IDEP short course.
- **Resource persons:** Resource persons will include specialists with knowledge of, and practical experience, and expertise in industrial policy analysis, design and implementation in Africa.

METHOD OF APPLICATION AND NOMINATIONS

Applications and nominations are on the basis of a form which all interested participants are expected to complete and send back to IDEP along with their CV and copies of the main pages of their passport. **The forms are available on the IDEP website and can be downloaded for transmission by fax or as e-mail attachment. Alternatively, candidates can complete an online application form which is also accessible on the IDEP Website.** Candidates are advised to complete all the relevant sections of the forms as incomplete applications will not be processed.

TARGET PARTICIPANTS

The course is mainly targeted at senior African officials drawn from ministries and extra-ministerial departments responsible for industry. Officials of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) with a direct responsibility for industrial policy matters are also encouraged to participate in the programme as are appropriately positioned staff members of the African Union Commission and the NEPAD Agency.

COURSE TUITION & SCHOLARSHIPS

The cost of this course is USD 2,500 (excluding air travel and subsistence costs). Please note that IDEP offers a limited number of partial and full scholarships to those admitted to participate in its programs. Thus, self-sponsored candidates are also encouraged to apply to this capacity development and training programme. Please note that priorities are given to self-sponsored applicants.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Deadline for Applications and Nominations: **24 April 2015**
- Course Period: **1st June -12 June, 2015**

CONTACT INFORMATION

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N.B.: IDEP strongly encourages and supports the participation of suitably qualified female officials in its capacity development and training programme.