

# Global Leadership Training Programme for Sustainable Development in Africa

UNU-IAS

January and February 2022

## Course Overview

This document lays out a four-week curriculum focusing on Global Leadership Training Programme for Sustainable Development in Africa offered by UNU-IAS in collaboration with New York University and the University of Johannesburg, for postgraduate students working in international development with an interest in Africa. This certificate-bearing institute will provide an opportunity for participants with wide and diverse interests in Africa and sustainable development studies to learn from African leaders about *innovative leadership, democracy, civic engagement, and public policy*. The online program includes lectures, workshops, resources and activities prepared by scholars and practitioners in a range of fields (e.g. health, education, technology, environmental studies, governance, law/human rights, NGOs/CSOs) from the public and private sectors across Africa. A variety of online teaching modalities and resources will help participants consider a variety of leadership approaches undertaken across disciplines and fields, and strategies that they employ to strengthen community and civil society engagement, build and enhance human rights, and contribute to sustainable development across Africa.

The goals for this program are:

- Creating opportunities to engage with African leaders across fields and disciplines (health, education, environment, governance, human rights, etc) to learn from their leadership skills and understand the strategies they are using to promote sustainable development initiatives, particularly the UN SDGs;
- Building a network of Asian and African and development practitioners (faculty, researchers, staff, and graduate students) who might begin to work together in a diverse range of organizations in and across the continent to support and enhance the UN SDGs and research priorities;
- Creating learning opportunities for all participants to discuss some best practices in governance, community mobilization, public management and social innovation; assess their relevance to a range of African contexts; and apply as appropriate;
- Building agenda-setting, strategic-planning and community-engagement skills in order to build ethical, relevant and context-specific development practitioners; develop skills that further each participant's professional learning objectives and addresses key development planning needs.

## Schedule at a Glance

The four-week course consists of 8 modules in an online portal (moodle). Each module will include a variety of materials (e.g. topical videos, powerpoints with audio lectures, and relevant readings) that will be available online and downloadable to participants. Participants will also meet during the month of January, approximately twice per week for a 2-hour online lecture in a synchronous face to face format (e.g. zoom), led by the co-instructors and with guest presenters from various countries and industries.

**All classes meet on Zoom:** 17:00-19:00 (in Tokyo)  
(10:00-12:00 in South Africa (UCT/GMT+2))

## Tentative Program Overview: (subject to change)

Week 1:	Innovative Leadership and Sustainable Development: SDGs for Africa
Week 2:	<i>Sustainable Development: Research and New Technologies for Sustainability</i>
Week 3:	Leadership, Human Rights and Participatory Governance
Week 4:	Social Development: Health and Wellness focusing on Gender and Youth
Week 5:	Mobilizing Resources for Innovation and Change

This programming draws heavily from the expertise of a range of professionals across the African continent and interdisciplinary development practitioners, combining insights from experiences in education, health, environmental studies, and government. In addition, these sessions will inform participants about the realities African leaders face leading their organizations in various contexts, cultures and countries. While the course is online all face-to-face sessions will be highly interactive and draw on the participants' and presenters' experiences, strengths/challenges, and successes in each area in their sector and country. The goal is for participants to learn from each other as well as from faculty and guest presenters. In addition to team building, we will introduce the concrete skills for development practitioners to work with and support initiatives that promote civil societies, engaged communities, and flourishing locally sustainable economies.

## Weekly Themes and Topics (subject to change)

### *1<sup>st</sup> week: Introduction to Innovative Leadership and Innovative Development*

- **January 12: Leadership for Sustainable Development: SDG Agenda for the Continent**

### *2<sup>nd</sup> week: Sustainable Development: Research and New Technologies for Sustainability*

- **January 17: 4IR: Technology and Higher Education Transformation in Africa- Lessons and Challenges**
- **January 19: Leadership for Environmental Sustainability**

### *3<sup>rd</sup> week: Leadership, Human Rights and Participatory Governance*

- **January 24: Human Rights Based Approaches to Development**
- **January 26: Participatory Development and Governance**

### *4<sup>th</sup> week: Building Strong, Inclusive, Participatory Communities: Gender, Health, Education and Sustainability*

- **January 31: Gender, Health and Creating Sustainable Livelihoods in the Informal/Formal Sectors**
- **February 2: Social Development: Youth Development and the Education Sector**

### *5<sup>th</sup> week: Sustainable Development and Mobilizing Resources for Social Change*

- **February 9: Leading Innovation and Change: Financing Development - Government duties and Lessons from Private Sector Investment**