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CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

DESIGNING AND IMPLEMENTING POLICIES THAT PROMOTE THE NEXUS BETWEEN PEACE, SECURITY AND, DEVELOPMENT TO ACCELERATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDGS IN AFRICA

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Call for Applications

Announcement in Brief

**DESIGNING AND IMPLEMENTING
POLICIES THAT PROMOTE THE NEXUS BETWEEN
PEACE, SECURITY AND, DEVELOPMENT
TO ACCELERATE
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDGS IN AFRICA**

Course Type :	Free Online Course
Programme Area :	Peace, Security and Development
Date :	21 st February – 31 st March 2022
Duration :	6 Weeks
Language :	Trilingual (English – French and Portuguese)
Application Deadline :	13th February 2022

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

PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

To help strengthen the capacity of African countries in integrating the nexus approach in their policies, programmes and strategies and plans, the United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (UN-OSAA) is implementing an extra-budgetary project on "Strengthening the capacity of African countries to design and implement policies that promote the nexus between peace, security and development for an accelerated implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)".

The project is being implemented in close collaboration with key partners including the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, the Landlocked Developing Countries and the Small Island Developing States (OHRLLS). The project is funded from the United Nations Peace and Development Trust Fund, the Peace and Security Sub Fund which is supported by the People's Republic of China. Through this project, UN-OSAA aims to contribute towards raising awareness of and strengthen capacities of African countries to formulate and implement policies that reinforce the interlinkages between development, peace, security, humanitarian and human rights.

In implementing the project, UN-OSAA has prepared a baseline assessment study on the nexus, which assesses the degree of awareness, understanding of the nexus at national level and the capacity needed by African countries to formulate and implement policies that reinforce the interlinkages on development, peace, security, humanitarian and human rights. Based on the study, a training manual has also been prepared and both documents were validated during virtual sub-regional workshops that took place in June 2021. Therefore, the current nexus online training course is a direct response to the capacity gaps identified by the study and will be developed based on the training manual.

This is the second edition of the online nexus training course following the first edition organized in 2021. It is being implemented by ECA/IDEP on behalf of and in collaboration with UN-OSAA.

PROGRAMME RATIONALE

With extremism on the rise, young people are further at risk to become susceptible to recruitment into radical and terrorist groups—potentially fuelling conflicts across the region. The case of Boko Haram is illustrative in this regard. Some countries have relapsed into or experienced new conflicts, with significant changes in the frequency and intensity of those conflicts, causing immense human suffering with enormous global impact. For example, recent conflicts in Africa have tended to be more intra-state in nature, with a regional or cross-border dimension and multiple actors or agents with varied goals, tactics and targets (A/73/273- S/2018/566). Violent conflict, coupled with cross-border arms, human and drug trafficking, as well as terrorism, social and political tensions have been increasingly recognized as one of the big obstacles to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. The World Bank estimates that a civil conflict costs the average developing country roughly 30 years of GDP growth, and countries in protracted crisis can fall over 20 percentage points behind in overcoming poverty. Countries suffer a reduction in annual GDP growth of 2-4% and up to 8.4% if the conflict is severe. This reduction is always accompanied by a rapid increase in price inflation. Neighbouring countries often also suffer the burden of spillover effects from violent conflict by an annual decline of 1.4 percentage points in their GDP.

Countries in fragility and conflict lag significantly behind in meeting internationally agreed development goals. Finding effective ways to help societies to avoid lapse and relapse into conflict is critical for global security and development dimensions.

So far, the global, regional, sub-regional and national systems to address conflict has been focusing on preventing interstate war and, increasingly, intrastate conflict. But the changing nature of conflicts and crisis calls for a more comprehensive and integrated approach in identifying solutions. Conflict prevention offers a great opportunity to address these new challenges. The nexus peace, security and development is the approach that global, regional and national organization could be applied to ensure conflict prevention. Strong institutions are critical to nurture a peace, socio-economic inclusivity, justice and rule of law and good governance in a country. In this context, capacity building and strengthening the institutions are the solutions that can support conflict prevention in Africa as stressed in the UN and World Bank joint study on the pathways for peace.

Therefore, achieving sustainable development in all African countries requires a balanced approach addressing both dimensions of peace, security and development. The close interlinkages between human rights, humanitarian affairs, development and peace and security call for more integrated and systematic approaches to advance development across the world. With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union Agenda 2063, all Member States have recognised the need to integrate the nexus between peace, security, humanitarian affairs and human rights and sustainable development in their development framework. Indeed, Sustainable Development Goal 16 which aims at ending violence, promoting inclusive societies, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels is necessary for creating conditions for sustainable development. Aspiration 4 of the African Union Agenda 2063 similarly emphasizes the critical role of peace, security and stability for sustainable development and inclusive growth to prevail in Africa.

The World Humanitarian Summit in May 2016 underscored the need for greater coherence among actors working on humanitarian, development, and peace and security domains and the UN Secretary-General's emphasis on Peace prevention. The New Way of Working (NWOW) encourages interlinkages between peace & security, humanitarian aid, development and human rights pillars to grasp the necessity to promote anticipatory policies/programmes designed and implemented to promote efficiency, inclusiveness and compound gains from interlinked, synergistic working.

Moreover, in 2016, the United Nations General Assembly and the United Nations Security Council adopted resolutions A/70/262 and S/2282 on "sustaining peace" recognizing inclusive development as a critical element building peace.

Further, African leaders have declared 2020 as the AU year on Silencing the Guns in Africa by 2020 in support of the AU flagship initiative of the same name. This initiative envisages the critical role of peace, security and prevention for the promotion of inclusive growth and sustainable development and was decided by African heads of state and government to transform into a decade long initiative until 2030.

Over the past 20 years, in his reports on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa, the Secretary-General has repeatedly stressed the primacy of the nexus between peace, security and development in pursuing sustainable development and addressing the root causes of conflict in Africa.

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Further, the Secretary-General has made conflict prevention and the United Nations' partnership with Africa, through the AU, two important priorities, with a vision that all actions are taken to assist African countries in averting the outbreak or recurrence of crises and violent conflicts, which undermine institutions and state capacities for peace and development. In this context, the UN and the AU signed the Joint UN-AU Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security and the joint UN-AU partnership for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and the African Union Agenda 2063. These frameworks see the promotion of economic and social development an investment for future peace and security.

OBJECTIVES

The course aims to strengthen the capacity of African policy makers to design and implement policies that promote the nexus between peace, security, human rights, humanitarian affairs and development for an accelerated implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

• The course will raise awareness and understanding on the nexus between peace, security, development, human rights and humanitarian affairs and its implications towards the implementation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063

• The course will outline the conceptual and practical issues in the application of the nexus, tracing its evolution over time and global and regional efforts to popularize it.

• The course will provide the rationale and evidence on the need to adopt an integrated approach in policy design and implementation along the nexus with a view to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063.

• The course will provide scenarios to showcase best practices and lessons learnt from Africa and around the world as well as challenges to implementing such an integrated approach between peace, security and development, humanitarian and human rights. It will also identify challenges and opportunities to promote the nexus approach in Africa.

• The course will provide the tools to reinforce an integrated approach in policy design and implementation along the nexus peace, development, humanitarian and human rights.

• The course will explore policy making and mid and long-term planning as well as budgeting tools that can help to design integrated approach on the nexus.

CONTENT

The course consists of the following key modules:

• **Module 1**: Introduction to the Nexus

- **Module 2**: The Nexus in practice: Case studies
- **Module 3**: Transboundary problems: The Sahel and Northern Mozambique
- **Module 4**: New finding on the Nexus
- **Module 5**: Challenges in implementing the nexus and Emergent issues
- **Module 6**: Advancing with the interlinkages: action points and recommendations

SKILLS TO BE IMPARTED

At the end of the course, participants will have among others:

• An enhanced understanding of the role of the nexus between peace, security and development, humanitarian and human rights on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063

• Strengthened capacity on planning and budget preparation tools that would promote an integrated approach along the peace, security and development nexus to achieve sustainable development and provide also the opportunity to build back better given the additional challenges brought about the pandemic.

• An enhanced understanding of fiscal frameworks and tools that could help facilitate mobilization of resources (domestic and foreign) for development financing.

• An improved knowledge on the drivers of peace and stability including equitable and inclusive access to public services, social services, employment opportunities (and social infrastructure, and environmental sustainability).

• Improved knowledge about the importance of coherence, coordination and communication among the various departments and ministries for an integrated approach on the nexus.

• An understanding of best practices and lessons learned to identify key issues and conducive environment for optimizing the fiscal policy to promote Africa's peace, and security as well as equitable, inclusive and sustainable development

PEDAGOGICAL APPROACH & MODE OF DELIVERY

The course will be run as an interactive online course. In line with the IDEP and ECA pedagogical philosophy in collaboration with UN-OSAA and UN-OHRLLS, the presentation of the course modules will combine a knowledge-building component with experience- based case studies and a practical, hands-on techniques designed to impart core skills. In addition, live interactive sessions between the course director and the trainees will be organized to promote fruitful interactive discussion. Interpretation in English, French and Portuguese will be available during these sessions to facilitate communication. It will also benefit from a baseline assessment study on the Nexus and a training manual that were commissioned by UN-OSAA in 2021 as part of the Nexus project and the outcomes of the two sub-regional workshops on the Nexus organized by OSAA in June 2021.

CERTIFICATE AND COMPLETION

A Certificate of Completion will be issued by IDEP and UN-OSAA 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 Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Justice, Interior, Defense, Social Affairs, Infrastructure), provincial departments and local authorities
- Officials from the African Union including AUDA-NEPAD and APRM Secretariat and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs)
- Diplomats from Permanent Missions and Ministries of Foreign Affairs
- 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

ACCEPTANCE OF 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://idep-applications.uneca.org/

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:
    - Adobe Acrobat Reader
    - Adobe Flash Player
    - Microsoft Office (Windows or Mac) or Open Office
    - Browser: Internet Explorer 7 or higher or Firefox 36 or higher

    - Modem: 56 K
    - Note that JavaScript, Cookies and Pop-ups must be enabled

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IMPORTANTS DATES

- Deadline for applications and nominations: 13th February 2022

- Course Period: 21st February – 31st March 2022

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.*