



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

MACROECONOMIC MODELLING FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANNERS

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS & NOMINATIONS¹

Announcement in Brief

Course Type: Short Term Course

Programme Area: Macroeconomic Modelling

Date: 24 April - 5 May 2017

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: 24 March, 2017

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

INTRODUCTION

The rebirth of development planning in Africa means that policymakers now need to adopt a holistic approach when designing social and economic policies. In this framework, macroeconomic modeling is an important tool for decision making as it aims to represent the linkages between different variables of the economy in order to answer crucial questions relating, for instance, to the impact of particular policy measures or economic shocks on growth. Apprehending the methods and tools of macroeconomic modeling is thus essential for African policymakers and economists for development planning.

Economic models broadly speaking vary in terms of their theoretical foundations and/or objectives. They are characterized by: (i) the way they describe macroeconomic equilibrium in each market and (ii) the way they describe economic behaviors (investment, consumption etc.). More precisely, models offer a simplified vision of the functioning of an economy via a quantitative analysis and they aim to predict the evolution of macroeconomic variables.

It is therefore important that policymakers understand recent developments in the area of macroeconomic modeling and their implications for the construction of economic models which can efficiently address key policy issues in the specific context of a developing country.

OBJECTIVE OF THE COURSE

The goal is to enable participants learn about how economic models are built and to use models to enquire and answer questions regarding how shocks affect the economy. This course aims to develop participants understanding and use of different models in the analysis of national economies and its sectors. Topics will typically include relevant economic theory, development of models and the interpretation of results. The emphasis throughout is on familiarizing participants with the practical application of multi-sectoral modelling techniques to address important issues in development economics and policy analysis.

SKILLS TO BE IMPARTED

- A comprehensive understanding of the different types of models and instruments used in the analysis of national economies and its sectors.
- Practical skills of how to design macroeconomic models for development planning
- Knowledge of how to use macroeconomic models to produce forecasts and to evaluate the development impact of alternative economic policies

CONTENT

The course will focus on the following: (i) Basic Macroeconomic Concepts, Definitions and Concepts Use in Modelling; (ii) Steps in Building and Formulating Macroeconomic Models; (iii) Analysing Macroeconomic Models; and (iv) Interpretation of Results and Case Studies.

PEDAGOGICAL APPROACH

The pedagogical approach will combine lectures, roundtables, and simulation exercises. It will

emphasise practical applications through the use of case studies and group discussions. Group work will also be employed for peer learning and to impart knowledge and skills. Participants admitted into the training programme should be prepared to present short technical reports on specific themes covered in the course.

MODE OF DELIVERY

- **Language:** The course will be delivered in English and French (simultaneous interpretation services will be available)
- **Duration:** Two (2) weeks
- **Resource persons:** The course will be delivered by a group of experts/trainers invited by IDEP to lead the programme. These resource persons are economists and top-level professionals with a first-hand knowledge and experience of macroeconomic modelling.
- **Number of participants:** A total number of twenty five (25) participants are admitted into each IDEP short course

TARGET PARTICIPANTS

1. Middle and senior level policy officials and managers directly connected with macroeconomic policy issues, designing models for planning, monitoring and evaluating macroeconomic policies in their countries;
2. Officials of national statistical agencies with a professional interest and involvement in macroeconomic modelling

COURSE TUITION & SCHOLARSHIPS

The cost of this course is USD 2,500, this fee excludes air travel and subsistence costs. IDEP offers a limited number of partial and full scholarships to those admitted to participate in its short training courses. Consequently, self-sponsored candidates are given priority for admission.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Deadline for Applications and Nominations: **24 March 2017**
- Course Period: **24 April - 5 May 2017**

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.