



# DATA ANALYSIS FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANNERS

## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS & NOMINATIONS<sup>1</sup>

### **Announcement in Brief**

**Course Type:** Short Term Course

**Programme Area:** Data Analysis

**Date:** 12 – 23 March 2018

**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:** 9 February, 2018

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

## BACKGROUND

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The re-birth of development planning in Africa's economic management, alongside the investment of effort in the formulation of long-term national visions, is occurring at a time when institutions of public policy in most countries of the continent are yet to fully recover from the significant losses of talents and skills which they experienced during the crises, stabilisation and adjustment years of the 1980s and 1990s. Although major investments are being made by governments across the continent to re-build institutional capacities as part of broader state renewal efforts, the progress registered to date is still uneven both across ministerial departments and agencies, and with regard to different types of professional skills. Planning institutions have found themselves tasked with assuming or resuming a central role in the management of long-term national development even as they are struggling to, among other things, enhance the skills base of their officials. A frequently-cited area of need centres on data collection and analyses for development planning. It is a particularly important area of need given that no meaningful development planning can take place without reliable data that is collected using methodologically sound approaches and well-designed instruments, and which is analyzed equally soundly both for current needs and future projections.

## OBJECTIVE OF THE COURSE

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The overarching objective of the course is to contribute to the development of a critical mass of highly skilled middle and senior policy officials and decision makers who will be suitably or better equipped to collect and/or analyze data for the purpose of national, sub-regional, and regional development planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. More specifically, the course will provide training on different methods and types of data collection and analyses. The course content covers a range of both theoretical and practical issues in data collection and analysis. Softwares which can be deployed to undertake complex analyses will be demonstrated and their uses taught. The course will respond to the needs articulated by African governments for a corpus of skilled mid-level and senior development planners who are adequately equipped to collect and analyse data.

## EXPECTED RESULTS

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A comprehensive understanding by participants of the different methods and instruments available for collecting and analyzing data.

## CONTENT

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Among the themes that will be covered in the course and which are expected to contribute to the achievement of its objectives are: (i) Role of statistics in Development planning; (ii) Fundamentals of Data Cleaning and Validation; (iii) Statistical Concepts and Exploratory Data Analysis; and (iv) Introduction to Time Series Analysis and Applications of Econometric Models.

## PEDAGOGICAL APPROACH

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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 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

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- **Language:** The course will be delivered in English and French (simultaneous interpretation services will be available)
- **Duration:** Two (2) weeks.
- **Number of participants:** A total number of twenty five (25) participants will be admitted into this short course.
- **Resource persons:** The course will be delivered by a group of experts invited by IDEP to lead the programme. These resource persons are top-level professionals with a good understanding of Development in Africa, and a first-hand knowledge of Data Collection and Analysis tools.

## METHOD OF APPLICATION AND NOMINATIONS

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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 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

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1. Middle and senior level policy officials and managers directly connected with or responsible for planning, designing, managing, monitoring and evaluating development in their countries.
2. Officials of national statistical agencies with a professional interest in development.

## COURSE TUITION & SCHOLARSHIPS

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The cost of this course is USD 2,500 (this fee excludes 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

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- Deadline for Applications and Nominations: **Friday 9 February, 2018**
- Course Period: **12 – 23 March 2018**

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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- *IDEP strongly encourages and supports the participation of suitably qualified female officials in its capacity development and training programme.*
- *Kindly note that only selected participants will be contacted.*