AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
MALAYSIAN TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME
(IDEP – MTCP)

EVALUATING PUBLIC POLICY

---------------------------------------------------------------

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS & NOMINATIONS

Announcement in Brief

Course Type: Short Term Course
Programme Area: Policy Evaluation
Date: 29 July – 2 August 2019
Duration: 1 Week
Language: English
Location: Malaysia
Scholarships: Yes (A limited number of full scholarships are offered)

Application Deadline: 20 May 2019

1 IDEP and MTCP strongly encourage and support the participation of suitably qualified female officials in its capacity development and training programme.
INTRODUCTION

The African continent has recorded results in terms of economic growth these recent years. In fact, according to the African Economic Outlook (2019) of the African Development Bank Africa, the real GDP growth has been increasing all around the continent, from 2.1% in 2016 to 2.4% in 2017 and 3.5% in 2018; this growth is expected to be around 4% in 2019. Despite these encouraging macroeconomic results, it is worth noting that the economic growth did not contribute enough to job creation to effectively alleviate poverty. The African Development Bank in its African Economic Outlook (2018) mentioned that the number of poor people in Africa raised despite the decrease of the poverty rate from 56% in 1990 to 43% in 2012. In the meantime, inequalities grew; the Gini coefficient augmented from 0.52 in 1993 to 0.56 in 2008. Given this situation in which the economic growth does not result into an improvement of people welfare, it is necessary to question the relevance of development policies, programmes and projects implemented in Africa. This interrogation is essential since important public policies components are funded by the international aid which is subject to conditions. To this end, a possible approach would be to proceed to an evaluation of actions undertaken by public administration.

With the endorsement of the 2015 United Nations Agenda for sustainable development, many countries around the world undertook the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) including African countries. For this purpose, there is a need for an effective monitoring and evaluation framework to track the progress made at national and sub-national levels. The fifth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD) which took place recently from 16 – 18 April in Marrakech (Morocco) aims at advancing the implementation of SDGs and Africa’s Agenda 2063. The ARFSD was an opportunity to review in-depth some SDGs before a further review during the upcoming 2019 High-Level Political Forum.

Malaysia volunteered to present its Voluntary National Review (VNR) at the High-Level Political Forum in 2017 as suggested by the UN General Assembly. The current Malaysian plan “Anchoring Growth on People” ensures that no part of the society if left behind as the country moves forward and is aligned to most of the SDGs. Some African countries also presented their VNRs to date. In 2018, 46 countries including 9 African member States presented their VNRs during the annual 2018 High-Level Political Forum under the theme “Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies”.

It is against this backdrop that the African Institute for Economic Development (IDEP) and the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) are organizing jointly a one-week course on Evaluating Public Policy in Malaysia’s Perspective for the benefit of African officials. This training will offer an opportunity for Malaysia to share its expertise in the framework of the South-South cooperation with developing countries such as African member States. This initiative is in line with the establishment of the MTCP which aims at strengthening the South-South cooperation by its training programs on various development fields targeting developing countries nationals.

OBJECTIVE OF THE COURSE
The course aims at sensitizing participants on the need to put in place an effective framework for evaluating public policies. In this regard, participants will be exposed to the experience of Malaysia in public policy implementation, monitoring and evaluation through some case studies. There will also be a comparison with African experiences in terms of policy evaluation. Thus, the course will encourage experiences sharing and learning of good practices.

**TARGET PARTICIPANTS**

This course is designed for mid and high-level officials from the public sector who are involved in the design, implementation as well as monitoring and evaluation of development policies, programmes and projects. Officials involved in the monitoring of SDGs are also concerned and encouraged to apply.

**SKILLS TO BE IMPARTED**

- Understanding policy analysis framework
- Understanding policy monitoring and evaluation framework.
- Learning some transformative public policies implemented in Malaysia
- Learning good practices to better evaluate public policies in Africa
- Develop and consolidate framework to monitor impact of public policies

**CONTENT**

The course will focus on the following:

- Policy making and analysis in the context of Malaysia
- Policy evaluation and monitoring
- Project monitoring and evaluation
- Evaluation of Public policies: Housing Policy, Urban Policy, Healthcare Policy, Foreign Direct Investment, National Water Services, Budgeting System
- Comparison with African experiences

**PEDAGOGICAL APPROACH**

The pedagogical approach will combine lectures and discussions. It will emphasise practical applications with case studies and group discussions. Group work will also be employed for peer learning and to impart knowledge and skills through interactions among participants and between participants and the trainers on the other hand.

**MODE OF DELIVERY**

- **Language**: The course will be delivered in English ONLY.
• **Duration**: One (1) week.
• **Resource persons**: The course will be delivered by a group of experts/trainers invited to lead the programme. These resource persons are top-level professionals with a first-hand knowledge and experience of public policy evaluation.
• **Number of participants**: A total number of twenty (20) participants are admitted into this course.

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

A limited number of scholarships are offered for this course.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

• Deadline for Applications and Nominations: **Monday, 20 May 2019**
• Course Period: **29 July – 2 August 2019**

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Training and Research Division-UNIDEP
Tel: +221 33 829 55 00
Email: training@unidep.org

• **IDEP and MTCP strongly encourage and support the participation of suitably qualified female officials in its capacity development and training programme.**

• **Kindly note that only selected participants will be contacted**