



## Announcement

### *E-Learning Course on Decentralization, Local Governance, and Localizing Sustainable Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific*

06 June – 22 July 2022

The registration for the 2022 edition of the e-learning course on **Decentralization, Local Governance, and Localizing SDGs in Asia and the Pacific** is now open. The tutored e-learning program is designed to address the learning needs of ADB staff and government officials of ADB's Developing Member Countries (DMC). Its potential learning benefits include:

- Understanding basic concepts of decentralization and local governance (such as the different dimensions and modalities of decentralization);
- Introduction to planning and budgeting at the subnational level;
- Greater awareness of the implementation challenges of DLG reforms (such as vertical and horizontal coordination, the linking of functions and resources in service sectors, the creation of adequate fiscal decentralization frameworks, and adequate monitoring and evaluation of DLG reforms);
- Familiarization with the policy linkages between the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, the Localizing SDG discourse, and the legal and fiscal framework for sub-national governments; and
- Awareness on introducing Localizing SDG approaches into ADB operations and providing advisory support to DMC governments on the approaches.

#### **Structure and topics of the course**

The course is structured into seven modules, covering the following topics:

- Module 1: Conceptual introduction to Decentralization and Local Governance (DLG);
- Module 2: Modalities and Dimensions of Decentralization (including fiscal decentralization);
- Module 3: Planning and Budgeting at the Subnational Level
- Module 4: Sector Decentralization and Functional Assignment;
- Module 5a: Measuring Performance and Promoting Accountability in the Context of DLG Reforms;
- Module 5b: National Strategies and Road Maps for implementing DLG Reforms
- Module 6: What does Localizing Agenda 2030 mean for DLG Reforms.

Modules 5a and 5b will run in parallel; participants can choose one of them.

#### **Target Group**

The target group for this course includes: (i) ADB staff in Headquarters and Resident Missions who have been or are working, or planning to work on decentralization, local governance, and localizing SDG issues; and (ii) relevant national and sub-national government officials from DMCs. Depending on the number of registrations received, representatives of civil society organizations and of other development partners can be accepted as well.

The course is structured for a maximum of 45 participants. The selection of participants will be done by ADB's Governance Thematic Group (GovTG).

#### **Methodology and Timeline**

The course is designed to include self-paced and self-managed content study and activities such as self-assessment and peer-to-peer consultations. Two tutors will guide participants through the course, provide support, and respond to thematic queries and inputs from the participants. The language of instruction is English.

The course will start on 06 June 2022 with a virtual Opening Session. Modules will go online on a weekly basis, starting with Module 1 on 06 June 2022. Participants can access a new module once the preceding modules have been completed. Once activated, the modules will stay online until the end of the course period. At the end of each week, a virtual Jour Fixe with the moderators will allow participants to raise queries and issues, and to exchange views amongst themselves. External resource persons might be invited as well. A virtual concluding session will be held on 22 July 2022.

Following Module 3, participants will be asked to submit a brief essay of approx. 2,500 words. The tutors will suggest a list of topics for the essays, and the participants can choose one from the list.

Each module will require approximately 2-3 hours of learning time, depending on the participant's previous knowledge and level of engagement. Together with the essay writing, it is estimated that the course will require a learning time of approximately 30 hours.

#### *Tentative time schedule of the course*

02 – 27 May 2022	Registration period
30 and 31 May 2022	Selection of participants
03 June 2022	Selected participants have confirmed their participation
06 June 2022	Opening Session, Module 1 online
13 June 2022	Module 2 online
20 June 2022	Module 3 online
27 June 2022	Essay writing starts
04 July 2022	Module 4 online
11 July 2022	Modules 5a and 5b online
18 July 2021	Module 6 online
22 July 2022	Concluding Session
15 August 2022	Deadline for submitting course essays; course evaluation online
31 August 2022	Sending out of Certificates
31 September 2022	Course Platform goes off-line

#### **Requirements for obtaining a certificate**

ADB's GovTG will issue a Certificate of Participation to those participants who have completed the course and have fulfilled all the following requirements: (i) participation in the self-assessment exercise of each module; (ii) submission of online feedback on each module; (iii) submission of an essay after Module 3 (with approx. 2,500 words), (iv) submission of an individual action plan, and (v) submission of the final course evaluation.

#### **Application procedure and deadline**

Please click [here](#) to apply. The **deadline** for applications is on **27 May 2022**. Selected applicants will be informed of their acceptance by **31 May 2022**. ADB staff members must have the approval of their director-level supervisor to participate. The course will be **free of charge** for all participants.

For further information, please contact:

1. For administrative issues: GovTG Secretariat: Toni Figurasin, [mfigurasin@adb.org](mailto:mfigurasin@adb.org) and Aly Escandor [aescandor@adb.org](mailto:aescandor@adb.org).

2. For course content and methodology: Rachana Shrestha, Public Sector Management Specialist, [rshrestha@adb.org](mailto:rshrestha@adb.org); and Rainer Rohdewohld, Lead Consultant KSTA 9837, [rrohdewohld.consultant@adb.org](mailto:rrohdewohld.consultant@adb.org).