

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS



INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

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September 8 to October 9, 2025

Application Deadline : August 25, 2025



ONLINE COURSE



CERTIFICATE

Languages : English - French

INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

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Announcement in brief

- Type** : Online course
- Area of focus** : Planning
- Start of course** : September 8, 2025
- Duration** : 5 weeks
- Language** : English - French
- Fees** : Covered by the CEA
- Application deadline** : August 25, 2025
- Website** : <http://services.unidep.org/e-idep/>
- Applications** : <https://idep-applications.uneca.org/>



NB : IDEP strongly encourage and supports the participation of suitably qualified female officials in its capacity development and training programmes

CONTEXT

Africa's development is constrained by several interrelated factors that prevent the continent from reaching its full potential. The main challenges relate to limited economic diversification and production capacity, demographic pressures and the resulting social demands, and the effects of climate change. In addition, the continent is vulnerable to the impact of poor governance, recurrent political instability, and geopolitical tensions.

The continent's heavy dependence on commodities—which account for more than 80% of total exports (AfDB)—makes countries highly vulnerable to external market shocks. In addition, infrastructure deficits, particularly in energy, transport, and digital connectivity, reduce competitiveness and limit market access. The International Energy Agency (IEA) estimates that 600 million Africans, or about 43% of the population, still lack access to electricity (Africa Energy Outlook 2022), which severely hampers industrialization efforts. These economic constraints have led to persistently high unemployment rates, particularly among young people, and have slowed efforts to diversify economies across the continent.

Africa's population growth presents both opportunities and challenges. The continent's population has grown from 283 million in 1960 to over 1.5 billion in 2024 (ECA, 2024), a fivefold increase, and is projected to reach 2.5 billion by 2050. This growth has created substantial demand for basic services such as education, healthcare, food security, and housing. Urbanization is progressing rapidly, with the urban population growing from 35% in 2000 to nearly 45% in 2023¹, contributing to the growth of megacities across the continent. However, rapid urbanization has outpaced the development of essential infrastructure, exacerbating challenges related to informal settlements and access to services.

Climate change poses a threat to Africa's long-term development, even though the continent contributes only 3-4%² to global greenhouse gas emissions. According to the African Development Bank (AfDB), climate change³ could have serious macroeconomic consequences by 2030. Warming scenarios lead to per capita GDP losses by 2030 ranging from -0.6% in the low warming scenario to -3.6% in the high warming scenario. The continent faces increasing climate risks, such as rising temperatures, prolonged droughts, desertification, and more frequent floods, all of which disproportionately affect agriculture, a sector that employs about 48% of the African workforce⁴. In regions such as the Sahel, temperatures are rising 1.5 times faster than the global average, with serious implications for food security and water availability. In addition, data on the African population living in coastal areas suggests that a significant portion of the population is increasingly vulnerable to sea level rise and extreme weather events. By 2030, it is estimated that between 108 and 116 million people in Africa will live in low-lying coastal areas (LLCAs⁵), defined as areas located less than 10 meters above sea level. This figure is expected to double by 2060.

Beyond economic, social, and climate challenges, Africa's development is hampered by several other factors, including political instability, governance deficiencies, and limited access to development finance. Weak institutions and governance reduce the effectiveness of policy implementation, limiting progress on economic reforms and infrastructure projects. A study by the European Court of Auditors highlights the importance of improving fiscal governance in development financing. Africa could mobilize up to \$72 billion per year, or about one-third of

the estimated average shortfall of \$230 billion, to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063 (ERA, 2019)¹.

The African Union's Agenda 2063 and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030 provide comprehensive frameworks for action. Agenda 2063, adopted in 2013, is a strategic framework to guide Africa's socio-economic transformation over a 50-year period. The second Ten-Year Implementation Plan for Agenda 2063 sets out seven strategic priorities, or "moonshots," inspired by its seven aspirations. The projects focus on accelerating economic growth, strengthening regional integration, improving public institutions, resolving conflicts, promoting culture, empowering citizens, and increasing Africa's influence on the global stage. The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted in 2015, is a global development framework that addresses economic, social, and environmental issues through its seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals.

The continent must adopt a comprehensive approach to development, measuring performance in economic, social, environmental, and governance dimensions. Capacity building is essential to address the above-mentioned challenges.

As part of its commitment to improving public sector management and development planning on the continent, IDEP has developed a new training program on "Integrated Development Planning." The institute aims to foster a new generation of development planners skilled in innovative and integrated approaches to development. Integrated development planning, as a comprehensive method that coordinates various aspects of development, will harmonize economic, social, environmental, and spatial dimensions to ensure that all facets of development are addressed in a coherent manner. By breaking down the silos that may exist between different sectors and government entities, an integrated development planning approach will foster collaboration and synergy, promoting sustainable and inclusive growth. This will ensure that policies are implemented effectively and achieve the desired results.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The course aims to strengthen participants' capacities on the integrated approach to development policy planning.

Specifically, the course will enable participants to:

- Gain knowledge of the fundamentals of development planning to address contemporary challenges and seize opportunities;
- Understand the behavioral approach to improving development planning;
- Understand the strategic priorities of Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030 for sustainable development;
- Understand the role of governance and institutions in development planning;
- Build planning frameworks;
- Integrate thematic issues into development plans;
- Adopt sustainable financing mechanisms for development plans;
- Operationalize development plans;
- Implement a monitoring and evaluation framework in line with the objectives of the 2030 and 2063 Agendas.

CONTENT STRUCTURE

The course covers the following modules:

- **Module 1:** Development planning - Conceptual background and overview of current trends
- **Module 2:** Behavioral economics for effective planning
- **Module 3:** Strategic priorities of Agenda 2063 and the SDGs
- **Module 4:** Governance and institutional framework in development planning
- **Module 5:** Building effective development planning frameworks
- **Module 6:** Addressing thematic issues in development planning
- **Module 7:** Financing development plans
- **Module 8:** Implementing development plans
- **Module 9:** Monitoring and evaluating development plans in line with Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2063

METHODOLOGY

This online course will be held from **September 8 to October 9, 2025**. Virtual sessions are also planned to allow for greater interaction between the teaching team and participants. Participants will be able to self-assess their understanding of the learning material through quizzes.

Additional resources, including suggested readings, bibliographies, internet links, and optional readings, are provided to participants who wish to further their knowledge on topics covered in the training. The course will be delivered in English and French. The teaching team, composed of several resource persons, will provide daily online assistance to participants at scheduled times.

The course will take place over a period of five (05) weeks.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The course is primarily intended for mid-level and senior civil servants working in ministries responsible for development planning, economics, and finance. The course adopts an inclusive approach, and therefore managers from sectoral structures as well as representatives from the private sector and non-governmental organizations are also eligible.

ADMISSION TO THE COURSE

Until the registration deadline, participants will be accepted on a rolling basis, subject to availability.

Applications must be completed exclusively on IDEP's online application platform at <http://idep-applications.uneca.org/>

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Participation in the training course is essentially based on access to the Internet. To follow this online course, you must have at least the minimum hardware and software requirements listed below. Please consult your network administrator or IT manager to ensure that you have the following:

- System: Windows 10 or higher; Mac OS 9 or Mac OS X; Linux
- Memory: 500 MB RAM, 1 GB free space
- Software:
 - Adobe Acrobat Reader
 - Microsoft Office (Windows or Mac) or Open Office
 - Browsers: Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome, Firefox
- Modem: 56 K
- Please note that JavaScript, cookies, and pop-up windows must be enabled.

CERTIFICATE

A certificate of completion will be issued by IDEP to all participants who successfully complete all assessments at the end of each course module.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Application deadline: **August 25, 2025**
- Course period: **September 8 to October 9, 2025**

CONTACTS

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