

The Role of Public Policy in Private Sector Development

International Course

20-24 April 2015

The Cape Milner Hotel, Cape Town



**Graduate School
of Development
Policy and Practice**
*Strategic Leadership
for Africa's Public Sector*

It is widely recognised that private sector performance is a key factor driving any country's growth and development, and that government policies and programmes can either stimulate or inhibit sustainable growth in the private sector.

Long under-appreciated, however, has been the importance of the individuals who design those policies and programmes: the local government officials and members of the private sector making the decisions that frame the business environment.

The University of Cape Town's Graduate School of Development Policy and Practice (GSDPP), in collaboration with the Leadership Academy for Development (LAD), an affiliate of Stanford University, will be offering a course in April 2015 that addresses some of the challenges faced by public sector leaders as they foster economic growth in politically-charged environments.

This course was run successfully in both 2011 and 2013. The 2015 version – updated with new case studies – will also be facilitated by international and national trainers and experts.

Leadership Academy for Development

Promoting the Private Sector through Public Policy

The course

The course is a 5-day, intensive programme for a small number of high level government officials and business leaders from South Africa and other African countries (25-30 in total). It will explore how government can encourage and enable the private sector to play a more effective, productive role in economic growth and development. The curriculum is designed to reinforce and illustrate three critically important hypotheses about the role of public policy in private sector development:

1. Public policy matters! The performance of the private sector and its role as either a catalyst or an obstacle to economic growth is closely connected to how well or badly government policies are designed and implemented.
2. The public officials responsible for enhancing private sector participation must acquire a range of analytical skills to be effective. But policy reform is not like engineering or other technical fields where there is a clear optimal solution to a problem. Designing and implementing meaningful policy reform requires an interdisciplinary knowledge of economics, politics, local history and culture, combined with a sense of how to set priorities, sequence actions and build coalitions.
3. Successful policy outcomes that encourage and strengthen private sector participation are contingent upon the capacity of government officials and business leaders to understand and appreciate the interests, motivations and objectives of their counterparts.

The course objectives will be achieved by a combination of:

1. **Lectures** that provide participants with an analytical framework for thinking about the intersection between public policy and the private sector's role as a driver for economic growth and development.
2. **Case studies** drawn from Africa, Asia and the Americas describing actual examples of public policy initiatives designed to strengthen the private sector's role in the economy. Each case requires participants to assume the role of a policy-maker or private sector actor who must conduct rigorous analysis and then reach a decision about a specific policy initiative or investment.

The case studies focus on issues of the delivery of water and sewerage services, hospital and clinic services, electricity, slum rehabilitation and housing delivery, the intersection between financial regulation and the functioning of private financial markets and institutions, large-scale infrastructure development projects and outsourcing government services to combat corruption.

Who should attend?

The course is open to:

- Mid-level to senior government officials with responsibility for crafting and executing policies designed to attract higher levels of private sector participation that will spur economic growth and development, and
- Strategic leaders from the business community.

Faculty and methodology

The course will draw on capacities and learning approaches of:

The Graduate School of Development Policy and Practice:

The School provides professional and academic training for senior government officials, elected office bearers and those engaged in public policy in South Africa, other African countries and beyond.

It also engages in research, consultancy and policy advice on issues related to development policy and practice in Africa. In doing so, it builds on the academic resources of the different faculties at the University of Cape Town, as well as those of local and international partners. It seeks to strengthen links between the research community and the policy community.

The School promotes the development of strategic leadership in government, including a strong emphasis on accountability in government.

The Leadership Academy for Development:

The Leadership Academy for Development (LAD) is an executive education program housed at Stanford University, under the leadership of Francis Fukuyama, Roger Leeds and Kent Weaver. The mission of LAD is to provide future leaders of the public and private sectors in developing countries with the tools to encourage the private sector to play a more productive role in economic growth and development.

LAD has developed a unique, multidisciplinary curriculum that uses case studies to illuminate the challenges associated with enhancing private sector performance in emerging economies. The cases address a wide range of issues – from the risks and opportunities of private sector participation in high priority infrastructure projects to the nuances of creating a good investment climate. Rather than serve as examples of “best practices” or “how-to” guides, the cases are designed to encourage participants to think critically about the key decisions that have led to policy reforms.

The course will be delivered by:

Roger Leeds, professor at the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) of the Johns Hopkins University and Director of the School’s Center for International Business and Public Policy.

Alan Trager, Senior Research Professor in the International Development Program and the Energy, Resources and Environment Program and Director of Public-Private Partnerships Initiatives at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS).

Alan Hirsch, Director of the Graduate School of Development Policy and Practice (GSDPP) at the University of Cape Town.

Brian Levy, Academic Director of the Graduate School of Development Policy and Practice (GSDPP) at the University of Cape Town and faculty member at the School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University.

How to apply?

Applications close on Thursday 13 March 2015. Participation will be confirmed by 18 March.

To participate you need to be one of the following:

- A senior government official in a position that affects economic development
- A strategic leader from the business community
- In a position to influence and/or apply new approaches to public policy that affects private sector growth.

To apply, please complete and submit the attached form, including the motivation.

Participants will be selected from amongst the applications received.

Costs

Course fees are ZAR 10,000. Course fees exclude accommodation.

*On confirmation of acceptance on the programme, you will receive payment details.
Payment must be received by no later than 13 April 2015.*

A limited number of full or partial scholarships will be available – especially for students from other African countries. Please indicate when you apply whether you wish to be considered for one of these.

For more information or to apply please contact

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University of Cape Town Graduate School of Development Policy and Practice