



Questions and answers with the International Training Centre/ILO's Alessandra Molz about the Skills Academy, 8 to 19 May 2017

Alessandra Molz, Senior Programme Officer at ITC/ILO, talks about Skills Academy, for whom it is intended and deadlines for applying.



Question: Tell us about the Skills Academy: who is it for and what can they expect.

The Academy on Skills Development is a two-week training programme that provides a compact and comprehensive learning opportunity for professionals working on skills development and technical vocational education and training (TVET), from both developing and middle-income countries.

It is directed at professionals, decision-makers and technical staff from Ministries and National Training Authorities, representatives of the social partners (employers' and workers' organisations), staff from NGOs and technical cooperation projects and professionals working with national and international development agencies.

The Academy focusses on critical issues, latest trends and international experience in skills development and TVET. It is composed of different components:

- Morning Lectures on cross-cutting thematic areas, such as TVET systems, innovation in skills development, skills for a greening economy, gender and social inclusion, the involvement of employers' and workers' organizations.
- Elective Courses that cover core topics such as management of vocational training centres, financing of TVET, skills needs anticipation, sectoral approaches to skills development, quality apprenticeships, training for rural areas, quality of TVET – and many more. More information can be found on our website: <http://www.itcilo.org/academies/skillsdevelopment>.
- Inspiration sessions: participants can become lecturers themselves by presenting innovative or successful experiences or research from their work context.
- Practical exercises on analysing TVET in their countries and on the development of a skills policy.
- A study visit to a local training provider.

Participants can construct their own learning pathway by selecting different Elective Courses and Inspiration Sessions in combination with Morning Lectures and other Academy elements.



Question: What is the Academy culture like?

Participating in the Academy is a unique and inspiring experience! The Academy brings together professionals from countries of all world regions and different institutional backgrounds with a rich set of knowledge and experiences.

The training methodologies are very dynamic and seek to build upon the existing knowledge and expertise of the participants. Thematic lectures will alternate with practical exercises and case studies.

An electronic platform will provide information and facilitate the learning process before, during and after the Academy. It also offers participants an opportunity to stay in touch after the Academy.

Question: How do you think participation in the Academy will impact the work of those attending?

Participants will benefit from the training in several ways:

First, they will develop a systemic view of skills development, to understand the inter-connections within a skills development system and the way different components depend on each other.

Second, participants will be able to deepen their understanding of some of the thematic areas and take home new knowledge and new ideas on how to tackle specific challenges in their countries.

Third, a policy exercise will familiarize participants step-by-step with the development of a national skills development policy.

An additional benefit will be the networking effect. Participants will build and strengthen their international professional network with other participants and the resource persons.

Question: What are some important dates to keep in mind if one is interested in the Academy? How does one apply for enrolment?

The application deadline is 20 March 2017.

Interested people are kindly asked to apply online, using one of the following links:

English: http://intranetp.itcilo.org/STDRFFUND?coord_code=A9010424&set_language=en

French: http://intranetp.itcilo.org/STDRFFUND?coord_code=A9010424&set_language=fr

Arabic: http://www.itcilo.org/academies/skillsdevelopment/applyar/at_download/file

In addition, we need an official "sponsorship letter" by their organization (or a donor organization) stating they will cover the cost of the Academy of € 3,625 (or the remaining € 2,225 if applying for a fellowship, see below) and the international travel between the country



of origin and ITC-ILO. The letter should be attached to the application form or sent to: skillsdevelopment@itcilo.org.

This letter is a pre-condition for being accepted to the Academy.

Question: What is the cost of tuition and what does it cover? Are scholarships possible?

The total participation cost is € 3,625 per participant. This comprises training fees (training materials, experts, programme preparation, implementation and evaluation) and subsistence costs (full board and lodging at the ITC-ILO Campus). It does not include the travel costs. ITC-ILO will have a limited number of partial fellowships of € 1,400 available. To apply for a fellowship, please enquire early!

We still have places available and I encourage everyone to apply and to become part of the experience!

END