

## Call for Applications for online course participants

### Capacity Development Online Programme in Internet Governance (IG) and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Policy

DiploFoundation is currently accepting applications for course participants for the 2011 Internet Governance Capacity Building Programme (IGCBP11). This online programme is designed to improve IG-related knowledge and skills for participants from both developed and developing countries and assist them to participate in the global decision-shaping debates on IG. The programme also facilitates community building among individuals with different national, cultural and professional backgrounds.

#### The programme

The 2011 programme offers 60 places for professionals from diverse stakeholder backgrounds in IG-related fields and is open to individuals from around the world. Two phases of the four-phase programme will be conducted entirely online.

The 12-week **Foundation Course in Internet Governance (7 March-31 May)** introduces IG policy and covers five thematic areas: *Infrastructure and Standardisation, Legal, Economic, Sociocultural, and Development*, and a section on IG processes and actors. Discussions will cover issues such as broadband policy; management of domain names and IP addresses, including the transition from IPv4 to IPv6; network neutrality; jurisdiction, intellectual property rights, open source and peer-to-peer sharing; privacy protection; data security and cybersecurity; child protection; human rights; content management; digital signatures; and other topics, with space for regional and other issues raised by the participants.

Learning activities take place in an online classroom and include the analysis of course materials; interactive group discussions using a variety of communication tools, assignments, and exams; and other dynamic methodologies. Successful participants of the Foundation Course will receive a certificate of completion.

An 8-week online course on **developing and implementing national/regional ICT policy and strategic plans (13 June-12 August)** will follow shortly afterwards and will have a separate application process. Advanced modules will also be offered in Infrastructure, Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), Security, Privacy, and E-participation. A second call for applications will be announced for this course. Priority will be given to successful participants from the Foundation Course.

The ICT Strategy and advanced courses will be followed by an optional 8-week period of supervised, collaborative online research preparation focused on IG policy issues of highest relevance to developing countries, and is closely linked to training activities. The first four weeks consist of **a research policy course**, which emphasises the importance of policy research and research methodology techniques. Each participant will apply these concepts during the second four weeks, while preparing an actual policy research proposal on a topic relevant to their own region. More information will be available at <http://www.diplomacy.edu/ig> later in the year.

An optional, **award-based policy immersion phase** offers capacity-building fellowships to a selected number of the most successful participants in the programme, such as internships with partner organisations or attendance at regional IG and ICT policy-related meetings. The flexible timing of this phase depends on fellowship, partner, and participant availability, and may extend beyond the programme dates if agreed by all parties.

## Languages

Programme materials and the online classroom website are in English.

In addition to English-speaking groups, a bilingual group may be formed for the Foundation Course, having English as the primary language, and either Arabic, French, Spanish or Portuguese as the secondary language for communication and interaction. This option will be offered depending on the needs of the applicants.

## Target Audience

Diplo seeks applications from the following categories of individuals from both developed and developing countries:

- officials in government ministries and departments dealing with Information Society, Internet and ICT-related policy issues (e.g., telecommunications, education, foreign affairs, justice);
- officials in regulatory authorities or institutions dealing with Information Society, Internet and ICT-related issues;
- postgraduate students, academics and researchers in the IG field (e.g., in telecommunications, electrical engineering, law, economics, development studies);
- civil society activists in the IG and Information Society fields;
- journalists covering IG issues;
- individuals in Internet-business fields (e.g., ISPs, software developers).

This programme is directed specifically at citizens of countries in Latin America, the Caribbean, North America, Europe, the Middle East, North Africa, and Asia (all non-**ACP countries**).

Applicants from **ACP countries** (Africa, Caribbean and Pacific) are asked to review the EU-ACP Call for Applications and apply to that programme if appropriate. Visit <http://www.diplomacy.edu/acp> for more information.

## Timeline

- 15 January 2011: Call for Applications begins
- 12 February 2011: Call for Applications ends
- 21 February 2011: Selection results available
- 7 March-31 May 2011: Foundation Course on Internet Governance
- 13 June-12 August: ICT Strategy and Advanced Courses
- To be decided: Policy Immersion (fellowships)
- To be decided: Policy Research

### Scholarships and Fees

Applicants from developing countries\* are eligible to apply for **scholarship support** for a limited number of full and partial scholarships.

#### \* Non-members of OECD

Fees for paying participants are:

1) *Foundation course*: €800.00

2) *Advanced courses*: €500.00

2) *Policy research*: €500.00

Payment must be made before participants are granted access to the classroom.

Applicants from developing countries who require financial assistance to attend the course should remember to carefully read the online application form and check the appropriate box.

### Requirements

The applicants are required to have:

- basic awareness and interest in issues related to the Information Society, ICT and IG;
- knowledge and/or experience of the multistakeholder approach in international affairs;
- fluency in English, as well as fluency in the second language for the applicants to any of the bilingual groups;
- good writing skills, ability to summarise information and focus on details;
- regular access to the Internet (dial-up connection is sufficient);
- **minimum of 10 hours commitment per week during each phase of the programme (this is perhaps the single most important requirement and should be evaluated seriously by any potential applicant); and**
- the readiness to participate in online consultations (once a week at specified times).

### Deadline

The deadline for applications is 12 February 2011, by midnight UTC/GMT.

### How to Apply

To apply, fill in the registration form **here**. (If you are from an ACP country, please visit [www.diplomacy.edu/acp](http://www.diplomacy.edu/acp))

For more information, please visit <http://www.diplomacy.edu/ig/>

Do not hesitate to contact us at [ig@diplomacy.edu](mailto:ig@diplomacy.edu).