



Sustainable Investments in Agriculture 2020 EXECUTIVE TRAINING PROGRAM



Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment

A JOINT CENTER OF COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL
AND THE EARTH INSTITUTE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Increased international investment in agriculture can support sustainable development and help meet food security needs at domestic, regional, and global levels. Yet, if not structured equitably or regulated carefully, investments may fail to provide expected benefits or may lead to social and environmental degradation. Despite these risks, investments in land for agriculture have remained attractive to foreign investors and host countries alike.

Countries concerned about sustainable development confront multiple challenges in managing international investment in agriculture. These challenges include developing robust legal and fiscal frameworks, negotiating equitable deals with investors, mitigating environmental impacts, and protecting human rights. This program, hosted by the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, is designed to equip participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to address some of the key challenges posed by international investments in agriculture. Participants learn from each other as well as from top caliber experts, and are supported to integrate training lessons into their work once they return home.



This program presents an interdisciplinary approach to sustainable international investments in agriculture. Participants work with practitioners and experts from within and beyond Columbia University, gaining substantive knowledge, analytical tools, and relevant skills, and receive a Statement of Attendance from Columbia University.

Who should attend

The program is designed for mid-level public sector officials and civil society representatives from low- and middle-income countries, whose responsibilities relate to investments, agriculture, land, or rural development. A select number of representatives from development agencies and the private sector may also be admitted.

Please note that all participants must be able to read and communicate in English.

What past participants have said:

Shyamal Chandradathsingh, Vice President, Investor Sourcing, Invest in Trinidad & Tobago: “The quality of the presenters was top notch... I highly recommend it.”

Jeremy Agyemang, Head of Agribusiness Unit, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ghana: “The training at CCSI was phenomenal. It equipped me with knowledge that has enhanced my understanding of the investor-state relationship. Those delivering the training were experts in their field...I highly recommend the training to anyone working in the agricultural investment space.”

Yuliya Neyman, Land Governance and Legal Advisor, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID): “I found the CCSI Executive Training on Sustainable Investment to be practical, engaging and diverse. The topics presented were cutting edge ... the caliber of speakers was diverse and impressive ... [and] perhaps the most interesting part of the training was the diversity and experience of the participants, who hailed from five continents and spanned the range from private sector to government agencies and academia.”

Christian Schulze, Officer, Climate, Energy and Tenure Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO): “I can highly recommend the training course I gained new knowledge and practical skills to address some of the key challenges posed by international investments in agriculture, which will be valuable for my future work.”

Topics

The course provides an overview of pressing issues related to agricultural investments, as well as an introduction to relevant practical skills. Past topics have included:

- Agricultural investments and the Sustainable Development Goals
- Inclusive business approaches
- Attracting investment and understanding investment drivers
- Investment incentives
- Land rights and tenure security
- Domestic legal frameworks
- How to read, understand, and negotiate investment contracts
- International investment law
- Human rights law
- Fiscal regimes and modeling
- Long-term planning and linkages to agricultural investments
- Managing environmental and water impacts, and addressing climate change
- Gender impacts
- Transparency and accountability
- Addressing land grievances and legacy issues post-investment

Dates

June 9 - 19, 2020

Duration

9 instructional days

Location

Columbia University
New York City, U.S.A.

Fee

The program fee is \$3800. The fee includes instruction, materials, breakfasts and lunches, social events, and on-campus accommodation.

Without accommodation, the program fee is \$2500.

A limited number of partial scholarships are available for those who apply on or before December 13, 2019.

How to apply

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until February 14, 2020.

To apply, please visit the application page on our website:

<http://ccsi.columbia.edu/work/projects/agtraining/>



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