



Sustainable Investments in Agriculture 2016 EXECUTIVE TRAINING PROGRAM



Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment

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

Increased investment in agriculture can support sustainable development and help meet growing food security needs at domestic, regional, and global levels. Yet, if not structured equitably or regulated carefully, investments can also lead to social and environmental degradation. These risks have only heightened as investments in land for agriculture have become increasingly attractive to foreign investors and host countries alike.

Countries concerned about sustainable development confront multiple challenges in managing foreign direct 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 (CCSI), a joint center of Columbia Law School and the Earth Institute at Columbia University, is designed to equip participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to address some of the key challenges posed by international investments in agriculture.



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

Who should attend

The program is designed for mid-level public sector officials and civil society representatives from developing 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.”

Mohamed Coulibaly, Assistant Professor of Law, University of Mali; Consultant, Institute of Research and the Promotion of Development Alternatives (IRPAD): “The training offered me the opportunity to meet and share experience with people from different countries, continents and different backgrounds for a mutually reinforcing experience.”

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. Topics in this course include:

- Introduction to agricultural investment models, including inclusive business models
- Agricultural investments and integrated rural development
- Land rights and tenure security
- Domestic legal frameworks
- How to read, understand, and negotiate investment contracts
- International investment law
- Fiscal frameworks and financial modeling
- Managing environmental and water impacts, and addressing climate change
- Conflicts and overlapping uses of land
- Ensuring investments are gender-sensitive and respect human rights



Dates

July 6-15, 2016

Duration

8 instructional days

Location

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

Fee

The program fee is \$3750. The fee includes instruction, materials, breakfast and lunches, and on-campus accommodation for 11 nights.

Without accommodation, the program fee is \$2000.

How to apply

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until March 25, 2016.

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

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



Contact

Paulo Cunha
Associate Director of
Operations
pcunha@law.columbia.edu
+1.212.854.1830