

AFRICAN LEADERSHIP IN ICT

Building Leadership for Knowledge Society Development in Africa



The future of African leadership is here...



AFRICAN UNION



MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OF FINLAND



African Leadership in ICT Course

Building Leadership for Knowledge Society Development in Africa

About ALICT

African Leadership in ICT (ALICT) is an African Union Commission initiative, supported by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland and implemented by GESCI (founded by the UN ICT Task Force).

Course Vision

An Africa led by those with the skills, knowledge and vision to create an inclusive knowledge society for all.



Course Objectives

- Equip African leaders with a commanding understanding of the key elements in the development of knowledge societies, with a particular emphasis on new leadership approaches, and new skills for coherent policy development.
- Build a critical mass of leaders across East, West and Southern Africa with the skills and knowledge to develop and implement policies, in the face of rapid change, that will advance national and regional sustainable socio-economic development.

Course Duration

- 8 months
- 15 hours a week (guideline)
 - 50% online learning
 - 50% offline self-study (or as required to complete course work to a satisfactory standard)

Course Delivery

The ALICT course is implemented via a **blended learning approach**. The majority online component is reinforced with face-to-face sessions that facilitate knowledge sharing across sectors, countries and regions. These are strategically staged at the **beginning, middle and end** of the course and prepare the participants to continue engaging in their professional development as ALICT alumni on Africa's only public sector leadership network.

Through the **ALICT virtual workspace** participants access bespoke content customised to African regional and national contexts, designed to the highest of interactive standards, and using the latest available data on key sectors of the knowledge economy.

With the support of expert **African and European tutors**, participants are challenged to revise, analyse and map their countries' future policy needs, engage in ideas presentation and testing, and to work cross-sectorally to gain a deeper and broader understanding of the **policy eco-systems** in key sectors of their societies and economies.

Course Structure

Introduction to the Knowledge Society

This first component will familiarise participants with course structure, key leadership, futures thinking and policy development concepts, the e-learning platform and the role of individual and group assignments during the course.

Key leadership assessment and development tools will be introduced, including the 360 leadership appraisal process, Personal Development Plan (PDP) and leadership journal. The learning journey that will culminate in the development of national roadmaps for policy coherence for knowledge society development will be presented and unpacked.

Module 1

Leadership in the Knowledge Age

This module equips participants with new leadership approaches in the context of knowledge-based organisational and national development. Awareness of personal leadership strengths are enhanced and areas for improvement are identified. Approaches and tools for change management are provided, and leadership capacity for cross-organisational engagement on knowledge society policies and strategies is developed.

Module 2

New Strategies for Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)

This module introduces and analyses the components of innovation systems: national, regional and local. Innovation modes and concepts like Open innovation, Base of the Pyramid, are discussed in the development context. The module addresses linkages between Science, Technology and Innovation and enhances understanding of the elements and characteristics required within policies, plans and strategies

to spur economic growth in African countries. At the national government level, participants learn how innovation is linked to positive changes in efficiency, productivity, employment, growth of SMEs and competitiveness.

Module 3

Telecommunications Infrastructure & Quality Internet Provision

This module develops participants' understanding of the central role of high-speed internet in planning for social and economic development; including present levels of Broadband infrastructure; plans for its development in Africa including private versus public ownership and the importance of competition in forcing down access costs and the ongoing digitisation of media and broadcasting. Possible revenue streams from sale of spectrum, intellectual property, digital rights and patents are also covered.

Issues for discussion and debate include: the role and importance of International and National Internet governance services; the relevance of country domain name systems and their take up; the emerging critical issues surrounding the maintenance of "Net Neutrality" and the free flow of information without censorship, costs or tariffs. The ongoing debate about the future role of ICAAN and its global remit, including the emergence of alternative global initiatives will also be addressed.

Module 4

ICT Applications and the role of Government

This module focuses on the role of government and the public sector in the provision of online services to its citizens through the efficient application and use of ICT. Case studies are presented on ICT- based applications such as the incorporation of mobile technology in enhancing the delivery of education, health and agricultural services and in the provision of personal financial services. This module covers the nature of globalisation and how ICT- based applications are key drivers in doing business in a connected world.

Discussions on the positive role and potential of ICT in corporate governance are key features of this module, as well as the exploration of the role of social media in enabling an informed and participative citizenry. An understanding of the function of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and mapping for national planning is also covered, and the role of ICTs in Diplomacy and the furtherance of good international relations, peace and justice are addressed.

Module 5

Education in the Knowledge Age

This module provides participants with the opportunity to examine and understand the pivotal role of education in the development of knowledge societies. It explores how ICT integration can contribute to both the quality of teaching and learning and the equality of access to educational opportunity. Participants learn how to apply leadership skills and futures thinking tools to promote policy analysis of education and development issues in their country contexts and in the context of the transformative role of digital technologies.

Module 6

Knowledge Society for Africa

This module provides participants with opportunities to apply leadership, policy development and futures thinking tools to their own country and system contexts. Participants use the skills acquired, trends identified, data gathered and new knowledge of the policy eco-system to collaboratively develop a policy coherence roadmap for knowledge society development in a Futures Thinking workshop. They return to their organisations having put their newly acquired abilities to the test, confident that they can continue to utilise these leadership and policy development competencies to support policy development and implementation for knowledge societies.

Certification

Participants who successfully complete the course will receive a Professional Development Certificate in African Leadership in ICT (AUC/ MFA/GESCI).

Participants may also choose to register for the concurrent award of Graduate Diploma in *Leadership Development in ICT and the Knowledge Society* awarded by Dublin City University (Ireland), a leading European university. Participants awarded a graduate Diploma may wish to proceed to a Masters degree.

Course Benefits

- Strengthened career-advancement opportunities
- 21st Century skills for the development of Knowledge Societies
- Enhanced leadership capabilities
- Membership to a continent-wide professional leadership network.
- Expected accumulated credits for post-graduate qualifications.
- Working knowledge of Futures Thinking and web 2.0 tools
- Appreciation for the importance of innovation and creativity in strategy formulation.
- Improved policy planning, policy development and policy implementation skills.
- Mastery of Leadership Toolkit for Knowledge Societies

What people are saying about ALICT

"The gap between developed and under developed countries is decreased by the proper proliferation of knowledge. The African Leadership in ICT programme is one of the African Union's key initiatives contributing to the development of sustainable Knowledge Societies in Africa."

H.E. Dr. Elham M.A. Ibrahim, Commissioner, Infrastructure and Energy, AUC



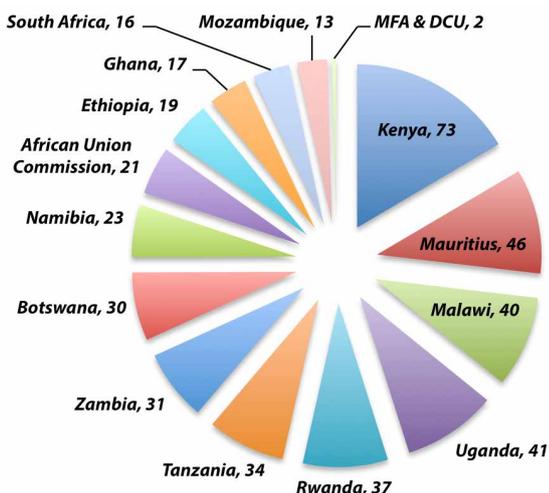
Dr. Elham M.A. Ibrahim, Commissioner, Infrastructure and Energy, AUC, awards an ALICT graduate with a Diploma in African Leadership in ICT for the Knowledge Society on July 5th 2013



ALICT graduates celebrate at the Rift Valley Hotel and Golf Resort, Kenya, in July 2013. Graduates from eight African countries attended the graduation and awards ceremony

ALICT alumni by country

436 graduates from 13 countries



"ALICT has to a great extent impacted the lives and knowledge of participants, given that it achieved one of the highest ratings from the survey."

Independent Evaluation of GESCI - November 2012

"This course was not what I had initially anticipated. It was so much more in terms of e-content and connectivity with other ICT leaders in Africa! The level of critical thinking and networking through technology was great."

Ricaud Auckbur, Director e-Education and TVET, Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Mauritius

"The course is really comprehensive. It made me realise that there is really no excuse anymore for ICT policy-makers not knowing what to do to enhance the lives of ordinary citizens using ICTs, as various policies and good practice case studies are only a mouse click away."

Johan Neethling, Department of Science and Technology, South Africa

The ALICT Model



Visit www.gesci.org to find out more.

You can also contact us directly by emailing grace.omondi@gesci.org ALICT Communications Lead

GESCI Address: 9th floor, Unga House, Muthithi Road, Westlands, P.O. Box 66380-0800, Nairobi, Kenya. Tel: +254 20 3746060/1/2

GESCI is registered under section 10 of the Non-Governmental Organizations Co-ordination Act of Kenya. Registration number 218/051/2007/0102/4537