

Announcement

Peacebuilding Training Workshops

In May 2014, the African Diaspora Policy Centre (ADPC) in cooperation with The Hague Academy for Local Governance (THA) and The Network University (TNU) launched a Diaspora Academy. The overall objective of the Diaspora Academy (DA) is to upgrade and strengthen professional skills and competences of diaspora organizations in Europe engaged in improving the social and economic conditions and communal harmony in their countries of origin. The duration of the Diaspora Academy is from May 2014 to April 2017.

One of the activities of the Diaspora Academy is to offer peacebuilding training to 10 diaspora peace activists per year. After training the first cohort of peacebuilding activists during the highly successful inaugural training week in December 2014, ADPC is pleased to announce the second Diaspora Academy Peacebuilding Training Workshop. The training is scheduled to take place in **The Hague** between **21-25 September 2015**. The aim of the training is to strengthen the peace-making capacity of diaspora peace activists/brokers, and support them in the application of these gained skills in peace-building activities that they are involved in their countries of origin. By increasing the peace building capacities of diaspora peace activists, it is expected that their efforts to contribute to peace and social stability in their countries of origin will become more effective and enduring. Acquiring adequate conflict transformation techniques, skills and practical tools will enable diaspora peace activists and their counterparts in the home countries to operate more efficiently in their peace making activities. It will also help to widen the number of peace-building actors in the homelands by incorporating the diasporas in the process in a more structured and formal manner.

Learning objectives

The training will provide participants with:

- a better understanding of peacebuilding dynamics and increased insight in concepts and various approaches to conflict transformation, tailored to their specific peace-building needs;
- knowledge of practical tools that can contribute to the process of conflict transformation;
- a reflection on the relevance of a detached strategic position from conflict zones and long-distance involvement of the diaspora in conflict transformation processes in their countries of origin;
- a reflection on how diaspora communities, groupings and individuals can become a *force for constructive conflict transformation* in their respective countries of origin.
- a critical reflection on why, when and how to intervene in conflict situations in home countries;
- an awareness of the potential strategic role of diaspora organisations as peace promoters in the diaspora and countries of origin;
- basic mediation and reconciliation skills;
- knowledge about innovative mechanisms, strategies, networks and viable partnerships necessary for an effective peace-building operation that diaspora peace activists need to have in place beforehand;

- exposure to best practices and lessons learned from experiences of peace-building activities that diaspora organisations, groups and individuals have initiated to foster the resolution and transformation of conflicts in their countries of origin;
- adequate conflict transformation techniques, skills and practical tools that can enhance the capacity of diaspora peace activists so that they operate more efficiently in their peace making activities.

Target beneficiaries

The target beneficiaries of the training are primarily African diaspora organizations, organized professional associations, groups and individuals in Europe active or interested in areas of peace-building and post-conflict reconstruction in their countries of origin. Preference will be particularly given to those diaspora peace activists originating from the seven countries located in the Great Lakes and the Horn of Africa regions.

To be considered for the training please share your CV and letter of motivation by making contact with: **Ciaran Hickey** at: c.hickey@diaspora-centre.org

Timetable of training workshops

Second Peacebuilding Training	10 participants	21-25 September 2015
Third Peacebuilding Training	10 participants	6-10 June 2016

NB. The Diaspora Academy is supported by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Municipality of The Hague.



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands



Gemeente Den Haag

For more information about the Diaspora Academy , see: <http://www.diaspora-centre.org/diaspora-academy/>