

Announcement

Advocacy and Lobbying Training Workshop

In May 2014, the African Diaspora Policy Centre (ADPC) in cooperation with The Hague Academy of Local Governance (THA) and The Network University (TNU) launched the Diaspora Academy. The overall objective of the Diaspora Academy (DA) is to upgrade and strengthen professional skills and competences of diaspora organisations 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 *Advocacy & Lobbying Training* to 10 diaspora activists per year. From the 19th till the 23rd of October 2015 the second training on these topics will take place. The training is aimed at supporting diaspora development practitioners to design and implement lobby and advocacy strategies and to formulate their priorities effectively. This is of critical importance, because often diaspora organisations do not get their voices heard at places of relevance. Many diaspora are lacking the knowledge and skills to get access to decision making and negotiation processes and therefore they remain outside the established circles in the development field. The objective of this training is to up-scale the capacity of the diaspora to get their message taken into account. This training aims to help the diaspora to increase their influence within development cooperation circles both in their respective host and home countries.

In order to respond to the above needs and goals, the Advocacy & Lobbying Training will provide the participants with:

- An understanding of the public policy making process;
- Theoretical and practical information on influencing the public policy making process;
- Knowledge about analysing the opportunities and challenges for diaspora participation in their home and host countries;
- Support for drafting an advocacy and lobby action plan to further the goals of their organisation;
- Different advocacy and lobby tools;
- Ample space for discussion and exchange of experience amongst participants;
- Opportunities to create viable contacts and networks.

The target beneficiaries of the training are mainly members of the African diaspora active in diaspora organisations or organised professional associations interested in areas of development and social changes in their countries of origin. Individual African diaspora development practitioners will also be taken into consideration.

The training will take place from the 19 – 23 October 2015 in The Hague, the Netherlands. The training is fully funded by the Diaspora Academy.

To be considered for the training, please share your CV and cover letter by making contact with Sari Holtland, s.holtland@diaspora-centre.org, no later than **24 September**.

Timetable of training workshop

First Advocacy & Lobbying Training	10 participants	13 – 17 April 2015
Second Advocacy & Lobbying Training	10 participants	19 – 23 October 2015
Third Advocacy & Lobbying Training	10 participants	April 2016

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

For more information about the Diaspora Academy, visit: <http://www.diaspora-centre.org/diaspora-academy-2/>

For specific information about this training, see the [background note](#).



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
Netherlands