Effective Advising In Peacebuilding Contexts

02-10 September 2019
Bogis-Bossey, Switzerland

Deadline for applications: Monday 20 May 2019

About the Course

National and international experts/advisers are often mandated to provide assistance and guidance on policy formulation and implementation in countries emerging from dynamics of violence and polarization. Reviews of decades of technical assistance make evident that the expertise provided is not always producing the desired results nor contributing to sustaining peace. Often complex governance challenges interfere with the effective delivery of technical assistance.

This course seeks to better equip advisers by honing essential analytical, advisory and interactional skills. It offers frameworks and guidance on how to understand and navigate the broader institutional environment, and change processes they find themselves in. It also creates a space for exchange and learning on the practice of advising from resource people and between participants.

Peacebuilding will not be taught during this course. This is a course about the challenges advisors face in peacebuilding contexts.

Who is this Course for

This course is relevant for you if you:

- Are an international or national expert, civilian or uniformed;
- Have a job wherein advising in any domain is a major focus;
- You provide advice to governmental or civil society entities, national or international;
- Are working with or for national public-sector entities;
- Already have experience, and are currently deployed or about to be redeployed/reassigned such role;
- Have a strong command of the English language.
Main topics of the course:

- The variety and choices of advisory roles;
- Trusted adviser: managing relationships and building rapport in intercultural contexts;
- Understanding capacity and capacity strengthening;
- Change processes and understanding resistance;
- Inclusive governance, multi-stakeholder processes and public participation;
- Thinking strategically in peacebuilding contexts.

Content of the Course

- Analyze their own advisory roles and working challenges;
- Assess some of their personal inclinations, reflexes and interpersonal skills that are central to effective advising;
- Understand key dimensions of the complex change processes they are part of;
- Apply key frameworks for capacity, change and inclusive governance to their own cases.

At the End of this Course
Participants will be able to

- Analyze their own advisory roles and working challenges;
- Assess some of their personal inclinations, reflexes and interpersonal skills that are central to effective advising;
- Understand key dimensions of the complex change processes they are part of;
- Apply key frameworks for capacity, change and inclusive governance to their own cases.

Methodology

The course is geared towards adult learning, using case studies, group work and personal reflection. Participants will work with their own real-life challenges.

Further, it provides carefully selected frameworks and methodologies that advisers can apply to better understand and handle the challenges they are confronted with.

Participants shall therefore be ready to prepare and share with the group a case study emerging from their working experience.

Application Form, Process and Cost

There will be a maximum number of twenty participants. Interested individuals are requested to apply, using the application form that can be downloaded from www.ipat-interpeace.org or requested by email at effectiveadvising@interpeace.org. Selection will be based on the profile, experience and personal case study shared by applicants.

There is no course fee and residential expenses of food and accommodation are covered during the course period. Participants are responsible for their travel to and from the course venue and visa application fees. Health insurance that covers Switzerland is strongly advised.

The course is in English – translation cannot be provided.
“It has been a profound experience and will potentially shape the rest of my career.”

“I will take a lot of learnings with me that are directly applicable to my work and that will help me to do a better job”

“Excellent time to reflect and boost creative responses for me”

Participants from previous years

When and Where

The course starts after breakfast on Monday 2d. of September 2019, and finishes early afternoon on Tuesday 10th September 2019. Saturday 7th of September will be a day off.

The course takes place at the Chateau de Bossey, some 20 km east of Geneva, Switzerland.

For more information, contact: effectiveadvising@interpeace.org