Unitar Online Catalogue

Economic Report on Africa 2015: Industrialization through Trade

Deadline: 23 Sep 2016

Type:	Course
Location:	Web-based
Date:	26 Sep 2016 to 4 Nov 2016
Duration:	6 Weeks
Thematic Area:	Governance, , Public Finance and Trade
Website:	http://www.unitar.org/pft/
Price:	$0.00
Event Focal Point Email:	pft-training@unitar.org
Partnership: (UN ECA)	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

BACKGROUND

Africa's growth continued to increase rising from 3.7 per cent in 2013 to 3.9 per cent in 2014. The performance was underpinned by improved macroeconomic management, diversified trade and investment ties with emerging economies among other factors. Africa's social development indicators reveal the weakness of the observed economic performance: high unemployment and poverty coexisting with robust growth. This is a paradox.

Industrialization promises to address this paradox by promoting economic diversification, inclusive growth, efficient utilisation of abundant physical, mineral and human resources and in the process eliminate poverty and hence structurally transform Africa economies.

Trade continues to play a major role in Africa's economic growth performance and it has potential to promote trade-induced industrialization of the continent provided it is deliberately directed at industrialization. For this purpose, trade policy must be consciously designed, effectively implemented and managed with regular monitoring and evaluation. Such a policy must recognise and key into developments in the global production system especially internationalisation of production system with a view to promoting value addition through processing and manufacturing.

Finally, the goal of trade-induced industrialization must also guide the conduct, negotiations and implementation of trade and investment agreements and arrangements.

In order to provide interested stakeholders from government, business, civil society and academia with a better understanding of how trade can serve as an instrument of accelerated industrialization and structural transformation in Africa, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UN ECA) together with its training arm, the United Nations Institute of Economic Development and Planning (UN-IDEP), has partnered with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) to offer this e-learning course based on the UN-ECA Economic Report for Africa 2015 (ERA 2015).

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Discuss the recent main developments in the world economy and how these affect the African continent;
- Define the main economic and social developments in Africa and growth prospects;
- Describe how trade can serve as an instrument of accelerated industrialization and structural transformation in Africa;
- Identify the challenges and opportunities for Africa to industrialize through trade in the context of the rapidly changing regional and global economic environment; and

- Discuss how African countries can meet their major development challenges through mobilizing resources for structural transformation.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

The course consists of the following modules:

Module 1: Recent Economic and Social Developments in Africa and Medium Term Prospects

Module 2: Structural Change and Social Development

Module 3: Trade and Industrialization: Theories and Experience

Module 4: Repositioning Africa in Global Value Chains and Facilitating Trade in Intermediaries and Services

Module 5: Getting Trade Agreements to Advance Africa’s Industrialization

Module 6: Towards a Selective Trade Policy Framework for Industrializing Africa

METHODOLOGY

This self-paced course will be delivered from 26th September to 4th November 2016. All course modules can be accessed at any time however participants must note that each course will be moderated asynchronously on a weekly basis and are required to participate in the weekly on-line discussions. In addition, each module has interactive lessons that provide the core content around the topic for that module. The lessons are designed in a way that learners are also able to self-assess their understanding through built-in quizzes. Additional resources such as bibliographies, web links and optional readings are provided for participants who wish to deepen their knowledge of the course topic.

TARGETED AUDIENCE

The course targets groups and individuals that are interested in obtaining a better understanding of how trade can serve as an instrument of accelerated industrialization and structural transformation in Africa, as presented in the ERA

2015. They include:

- Civil servants in national Ministries, provincial departments and local authorities
- Diplomats from Permanent Missions and Ministries of Foreign Affairs
- Officials from Regional Economic Communities (RECs)
- Professionals in private sector and civil society organizations
- Faculty, researchers and students
- Interested citizens

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Acceptance to the Course

Until the registration deadline, participants are accepted to the course on a rolling basis and subject to availability of slots.

Certificate of Completion

A Certificate of Completion will be issued by UNITAR and UN-IDEP to all participants who successfully complete the course-related self assessments presented for each module.

Technical Requirements

Access to internet is an essential condition for participation. The following specifications, as a minimum in terms of hardware and software, are required to take this e-Learning course, please consult your Network Administrator or Systems person to ensure that you have the following:

- Platform: Windows 95, 98, 2000, NT, ME, XP or superior; MacOS 9 or MacOS X; Linux
- Hardware: 64 MB of RAM, 1 GB of free disk space
- Software:
    - Adobe Acrobat Reader
    - Adobe Flash Player
    - Microsoft Office (Windows or Mac) or Open Office

    - Browser: Internet Explorer 7 or higher or Firefox 3.6 or higher
- Modem: 56 K
- Note that JavaScript, Cookies and Pop-ups must be enabled