



NATIONAL ACADEMY ON GREEN ECONOMY IN SOUTH AFRICA

ENHANCING CAPACITIES FOR TRANSFORMATIVE ACTION AT PROVINCIAL LEVEL

Background

South Africa has made great strides in adopting green economy strategies, with the hallmark adoption of the *Green Economy Accord* in 2011 and *National Development Plan* in 2012, infusing significant political support to a new, multi-stakeholder approach to a green economy transition. As illustrated in the Green Economy Inventory for South Africa, green economy initiatives are abound and government resources have backed investments in a range of sectors and provinces. Since 2011, eight of the nine provinces in the country have embarked on drafting provincial green economy or related strategies, notably in renewable energy, which would reflect the particularities of a green economy transition in the province, in relation to the national policy context. The documents below highlight these provincial green economy policy visions:

- Green Strategic Programme for Gauteng, 2011
- The Eastern Cape Sustainable Energy Strategy, 2012
- Renewable Energy Strategy for the North-West Province, 2012
- Developing a Strategy for a Green Economy in KwaZulu Natal
- Limpopo Green Economy Plan, 2013
- Green is Smart – Western Cape
- Free State Green Economy Strategy, 2014
- Mpumalanga Draft Green Economy Sector Plan, 2016

Provinces are at various stages of implementing their green economy strategies, and the proposed National Academy on Green Economy, which primarily targets governmental and non-state actors at sub-national level, provides an opportunity to further enhancing the capacity of key stakeholders to support green economy implementation, while promoting knowledge sharing among provinces.

Training Objectives

The National Academy on Green Economy is a 4.5-day capacity-building event to address a fundamental question: **how to achieve inclusive green economies in South Africa?** By gathering policy-makers and representatives from non-state actors at provincial level, it provides, in a training and knowledge sharing format, an in-depth overview and understanding of the latest global and national inclusive green economy agendas. Participants will have access to practical tools and good practices - from assessments, to stakeholder engagement, national and sectoral policy formulation and strategy implementation – that several countries are adopting in their efforts to transition to environmentally viable and socially inclusive economies.

The key learning objectives are to:

- Share the latest thinking on key topics related to South Africa's green economy transition, drawing on international experience;
- Share experiences on policy making and practical applications related to key topics of South Africa's green economy; and
- Promote knowledge sharing on policy formulation and action strategies at provincial level.

Beyond its specific learning objectives, the overall purpose of the event is to contribute to enhancing institutional capacities for transformative change towards greener economies at the provincial level, and



to create a community of champions that can lead action and spread the message across their networks.

Target Audience

The National Academy on Green Economy aims at bringing together participants from all nine provinces, as well as others interested in adopting low-carbon and climate-resilient green economy strategies at provincial level.

The Academy is primarily targeted to decision-makers from public and private sectors as well as managers, leaders and practitioners from civil society and other non-state actors, including:

- Policy-makers at provincial level in South Africa (sub-national government);
- Decision-makers and technical staff from civil society organizations, trade unions, employers' organizations, business, knowledge and research institutions, in South Africa;
- Staff and practitioners from PAGE partner agencies, collaborating ministries and funding partners.

Training Content

The Academy is structured around PAGE's approach in supporting the formulation, adoption and implementation of inclusive green economy policies and strategies. In complementarity to PAGE's national institutional capacity building strategies, given its global outreach, it also focuses on the sharing of practices across countries at all levels – national, policy, sectoral, value chain and enterprise – in order to offer participants fact-based learning.

The Academy will also feature a Training of Trainers (ToT) with specific focus on green fiscal policy reform. The objective of the ToT is to ensure the sustainability of learning experience by building the competencies of national partners to deliver future trainings in the area of IGE.

Learning Format and Faculty

The event is organised by the ITCILO, in coordination with the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) and its partner agencies in South Africa.

Throughout the 4.5 days of training, training sessions will consist of:

- Early morning plenary sessions that focus on the latest thinking on key topics on Inclusive Green Economy which are of special relevance to South Africa.
- Later morning and afternoon elective workshops that allow for a more thorough analysis and sharing of experiences among participants as to the policy and practical implications of specific topics and economic sectors.
- Study visits to local companies and/or projects in Gauteng province.

The programme will include a **High-Level Policy Dialogue** to set the context for policy-level discussions and exchange of experiences. Together with the High-Level Policy Dialogue, the opening day event of the Academy also foresees a **Knowledge Fair**, whose flexible format provides participants with an opportunity to showcase and discuss tools and practices from on-going initiatives. Furthermore, during Day 1 selected participants will participate in the ToT and afterwards help deliver the elective course on green fiscal policy reform foreseen on Day 2-3.

Each participant by the end of the academy will have attended 2 electives. Details on the content of each elective will be provided to enable participants to appropriately decide which sessions to attend.

The faculty, representative of the collective experience of PAGE partners, national stakeholders and collaborating agencies, consists of: national PAGE coordinators, international and national experts, former participants and delegates who benefitted from previous PAGE training opportunities, researchers, trainers, practitioners and policy-makers.

The learning approach of the Academy is **highly interactive**, building on global knowledge-sharing, using comprehensive and peer-reviewed training materials, and adopting a variety of innovative learning methodologies. Furthermore, it seeks to develop human resources and institutional capabilities, by encouraging participants to:

- Customize their learning experience according to their individual and organizational needs;
- Share knowledge and experience with a large community of practitioners;
- Establish networks with other organizations and centres of excellence.

Date and Venue

The National Academy on Green Economy for South Africa will take place at DBSA Vulindlela Academy from 26 February to 2 March 2018.

Registrations

PAGE will provide full coverage for training, venue, lunches, study visits and insurance costs for all selected participants.

Participants (their respective organisations and/or additional funding partners) should take care of travel and accommodation costs, when applicable. A limited amount of partial scholarships to cover accommodation costs is available and allocated based on a selection process.

Registrations are open until **31 January 2018**: <http://intranetp.itcilo.org/MIF/A1511406/en>

For information, please contact: greenjobs@itcilo.org or visit: www.itcilo.org/greenjobs

