“WE BELIEVE THAT REAL DEVELOPMENT STARTS AT A LOCAL LEVEL.”

The Hague Academy for local governance
Dear reader,

As mayor of Monrovia, I was confronted with the Ebola outbreak just after my induction into office in March 2015. One of the crucial methods we used in dealing with the situation was the involvement of local community leaders. We went into the communities, spoke to block leaders, and trained them on how to inform their people regarding awareness and prevention. Our solid waste staff, community service department and environmental health department also assisted in spreading the information.

I am convinced that this comprehensive, local approach is most effective in getting things done for people at all local levels in cities and villages. It is important that communities take ownership for their welfare whenever there is a crisis.

As local authorities we can support them in creating structures to put forward their needs, and for them to get benefits, such as clean water, toilets and clinics.

There is also the need for a good community organisation. The problem with Ebola in the beginning was that many local and international organisations were doing their own thing in the communities, without coordination. As a consequence, some areas were not receiving any help at all! We were able to inform the community leaders in all the townships of greater Monrovia that they should monitor and coordinate the support being offered to the residents.

The courses of The Hague Academy for Local Governance all take this local perspective as a starting point. Both in The Hague and elsewhere, they are based on the idea that governments and citizens have to work together to plan and realize development. So if you want to expand your professional knowledge, strengthen your skills and learn from practices in other countries, take a closer look at this brochure. I AM SURE IT WILL INSPIRE YOU!

Ms Clara Doe Mvogo
Mayor of Monrovia

“IT IS IMPORTANT THAT COMMUNITIES TAKE OWNERSHIP FOR THEIR WELFARE WHENEVER THERE IS A CRISIS.”
The Hague Academy for local governance

Experience, expertise and exchange

“Experience, expertise and exchange is what makes our programmes unique. We focus on real life challenges and facilitate a lively exchange of experience between colleagues. Participants discuss practical examples with internationally renowned experts and relate these to their work back home. They visit projects to learn from experiences in other countries and engage in simulations and role play to develop their skills.”

We believe that real development starts at a local level. Our programmes support people who work on strengthening service delivery, local economic development and security and rule of law. Elected representatives, civil servants and staff of NGOs and development organisations are all welcome to participate. We help them increase their capacity to jointly promote inclusive, sustainable development.

Participants to the citizen participation and inclusive governance course in front of the Dutch Parliament buildings ask questions to local police officers.

EXPERIENCE, EXPERTISE AND EXCHANGE

“WE FOCUS ON REAL LIFE CHALLENGES AND FACILITATE A LIVELY EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES.”
The Hague Academy aims to strengthen local governance by focusing on various areas:

- **Local service delivery**: Increase the quality of and access to services for all citizens.
- **Disaster management & resilience**: Build resilience and improve local response mechanisms of local authorities.
- **Decentralisation & inter-administrative relations**: Enhance effective cooperation between different levels of government.
- **Fiscal decentralisation & local finance**: Increase local financial capacities by fiscal arrangements and local revenue generation.
- **Gender responsiveness**: Work on gender mainstreaming and participation of women in local policies and service delivery.
- **Leadsership & municipal management**: Improve skills to create a shared vision, communicate with stakeholders and manage the municipal organisation.
- **Multilevel water governance**: Create financial, legal and administrative conditions for effective cooperation in the water sector.
- **Subnational conflict & peacebuilding**: Work on conflict prevention and social cohesion between different groups in society.
- **Local economic development**: Develop a LED-strategy and improve conditions for entrepreneurship and job creation.
- **Human rights & the rule of law**: Promote access to justice and protect minorities and vulnerable groups.
- **Lobby & advocacy**: Increase capacities to influence decision making.
- **Citizen participation & inclusive governance**: Include voices of all citizens in the policy process.
- **Integrity & anti-corruption**: Promote integrity, transparency and anti-corruption measures of government institutions.
- **Fiscal decentralisation & local finance**: Increase local financial capacities by fiscal arrangements and local revenue generation.
In our courses, we visit many local projects, municipalities, ministries and citizens’ initiatives. These visits offer the participants a closer look at the practice of local governance. They can ask questions and bring in their own experience. They will go home inspired and with many new ideas.

Experience

This year we paid visits to:

- Ministries of Interior in The Netherlands and Morocco
- Ministry of Labour and Civil Service Bureau Jordan
- Court of Audit of The Netherlands
- Regional Police Haaglanden
- Public Prosecutor’s Office
- Province of South Holland
- Knowledge centre in glasshouse horticulture (Demokwekerij) Westland
- Municipalities of Amsterdam, The Hague, Rotterdam and Westland
- The Hague Environmental Services
- European Commission Brussels
- Anti-corruption Agency Brussels
- Radio Netherlands Training Institute in Hilversum
- House for Democracy and the Rule of Law (Prodemos)
- Father Centre The Hague (gender equality project)
- Citizen engagement projects in developing neighbourhoods
- Ombudsman The Hague
- Dutch Delta Works and Maeslantkering
- ‘Room for the River’-project and Dutch Water Authorities
Our programmes aim to strengthen local, inclusive governance in different fields of expertise. A vast network of internationally experienced experts contribute to our programmes, facilitated by our professional trainers.

Experts that contribute to our courses work for a.o. the Urban Institute in Washington, the OECD, UNCDF, the World Bank, the Hague Institute for Global Justice, the Institute for Social Studies in The Hague, the University of Wageningen, the Dutch Water Governance Centre, integrity and anti-corruption institutes in The Netherlands and Brussels and many municipalities and (semi) government organisations in The Netherlands.

Our programme managers Lars Burema and Emmely Benschop in conversation with some course participants.
Participants to our programmes come from all parts of the world. This offers a unique opportunity to discuss challenges and solutions with colleagues from other countries. Our online network facilitates an exchange of knowledge and experiences long after the training has ended.
We develop tailor made programmes for capacity building of government authorities, civil society organisations, training institutes and development organisations. Thanks to our professional back office and elaborate network of trainers and experts, we are able to facilitate training in various languages, both in The Hague and in partner countries.

Before the design of a training programme, a thorough needs analysis is conducted to make sure the content suits the knowledge level and training needs of the participants. Often, a train-the-trainer component is included, to help transfer the acquired knowledge to others in or outside the organisation.
Since 2012, we develop and deliver training courses for government officials from countries in the Arab region. Nearly 200 participants from Egypt, Jordan, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia followed practice oriented training in The Netherlands, Tunisia, Morocco and Jordan and engaged in online learning activities.

The courses cover topics like employment policies, local economic development, social affairs, local governance and citizen participation, and are part of the democratic transition programme for the Arab region financed by the Netherlands’ Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

BILJANA TADIC
Working for the Basic Court
Novi Sad, Serbia

“I participated in the training Integrity of Civil Servants in 2014 and was recently appointed a judge. My group of training participants, is slowly, but steadily, marching towards decision making positions, ‘infected’ by integrity-awareness. Inspired by the training in The Hague, I proposed to the Dean of the University in Novi Sad where I also teach, to set up an academy of integrity. The academy should sensitise students to this crucial social value, free in expressing what kind of society they would like to live in and holding public institutions and public service representatives accountable. The Dean supports me and agreed to build up a team that will work on this. We are in the stadium of setting things up and I am very much looking forward to the start the first activities.”

Biljana Tadic
Working for the Basic Court
Novi Sad, Serbia

Supporting democratic transition in the Arab region
From 2012 to 2015, The Hague Academy facilitated several leadership masterclasses and citizen participation courses as part of the Youth Engagement Programme in Burundi, Palestinian Territories and South Sudan.

Programme manager Freddy Sahinguvu: “It is inspiring to see that the action plans the participants have been working on for the past three years, are showing clear progress. We are now helping the participants to sustain the results already booked”.

According to the participants, the masterclasses helped to bring more focus in their actions, improved their leadership and advocacy skills and enhanced their confidence to engage in political and policy making processes.

PHOTO TOP: Participants of the Youth Engagement Programme in South Sudan discuss their advocacy strategies.

PHOTO BOTTOM: Albanian participants visiting the Municipality of Diemen where the mayor is explaining the role of the municipality in local security.

Senior civil servants from Ministries of Justice and Home Affairs, municipalities and police in Albania, Serbia and Turkey came together in Ankara in April 2015 to exchange their experiences with the Leadership programme for Security and Rule of Law. The programme increased their awareness on practices of good governance, promoting the rule of law and protecting minorities and human rights. They also strengthened their personal leadership skills. It also very much increased cooperation between the different actors in the security sector. National training programmes were developed through a training of trainers component, on topics such as local leadership, integrity and anti-corruption and municipal disaster response. Moreover, concrete policy recommendations were formulated and addressed to the relevant stakeholders. A number of municipalities started pilot projects to set up local security councils inspired by Dutch best practices.
Each year we organise open enrolment courses in the Hague. In these courses, professionals from all over the world meet each other which stimulates a lively exchange of ideas and experiences. They get acquainted with different international concepts, frameworks, tools and practices that broaden their frame of reference. Fellowships are available on a regular basis.

**IN 2015, THE HAGUE ACADEMY ORGANISED OPEN COURSES FOR:**

- **Participants:** 108
- **From:** 45 different countries
- **They worked for:**
  - National Governments: 36
  - Local Governments: 28
  - Non Governmental Organisations: 13
  - Donor and Development Organisations: 39
My expectations
"In my work as a development officer at the department of agriculture of Parepare Municipality I have a lot of contact with different ethnic groups and religions. I also work closely together with local farmers who are a minority group and are often not involved in participation processes. By joining this course, I hope to get new ideas about how to change the public’s perception about minorities in their communities, how agriculture can be a part of society and bring communities together, and how local government can stimulate and develop citizen participation."

After the training
"I learned that the best way to encourage citizen participation is to make citizens your partner, listen what they need, and involve them from the first instance. Furthermore, the course provided a good opportunity to learn from the other participants. The staff and facilitators were very professional. The practical and active approach in the training inspired and motivated me to contribute to the development process in my country."

Turiyah Bakri
Development officer at the department of agriculture of Parepare Municipality

Parepare is a city of 130,000 inhabitants, located on the southwest coast of Sulawesi Province in Indonesia. The province is an important cattle producing centre of the country and ParePare is known as the cattle-exporting port of the province. It is one of the major population centers of the Bugis people, the largest of the three major linguistic and ethnic groups of South Sulawesi.

TRAINING
Participated in training Citizen Participation and Inclusive Governance 2015.

GOAL
To learn more about how local government can stimulate and develop citizen participation.
The Hague Academy for local governance

OVERVIEW OPEN COURSES 2016

| LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT | Jan. 18-29 2016 | This course discusses strategies and tools to manage inclusive and sustainable local economic development (LED) processes. It addresses questions such as: how to develop a joint vision for the area in a participatory manner, involving government, citizens, businesses and CSOs? How to promote job creation and entrepreneurship? How to improve conditions for business investments and small and medium enterprises? And how to finance local economic development? |
| | Sept. 19-30 2016 | How to improve conditions for business investments and small and medium enterprises? And how to finance local economic development? |

- [www.thehagueacademy.com/led](http://www.thehagueacademy.com/led)

| GENDER MAINSTREAMING AND SERVICE DELIVERY | Feb. 15-19 2016 | In this course, participants explore gender aspects of governance and service delivery and discuss ways to include women's empowerment and participation in development projects aimed at inclusive service delivery. They learn about tools for gender mainstreaming and the integration of gender in all stages of their programmes. |
| | | How to develop a joint vision for the area in a participatory manner, involving government, citizens, businesses and CSOs? How to promote job creation and entrepreneurship? How to improve conditions for business investments and small and medium enterprises? And how to finance local economic development? |

- [www.thehagueacademy.com/gendermainstreaming](http://www.thehagueacademy.com/gendermainstreaming)

| INTEGRITY AND ANTI-CORRUPTION | Mar. 7-18 2016 | This training focuses on the complexities of corruption, its root causes and the impact on society. The course introduces participants to different examples of institutional reforms and anti-corruption measures. Furthermore, participants discuss integrity dilemmas from their own working practice. They get familiarised with the Dutch landscape of integrity as well as examples of policies to improve the integrity of an organisation's workforce. |
| | | Key question in this course is how governments can decentralise policies and services to local levels to promote more inclusive development. Support modalities for donors are discussed as well as the political economy of decentralisation, central-local government relations and the 5C-approach to strengthen local government capacity. |

- [www.thehagueacademy.com/integrityandanticorruption](http://www.thehagueacademy.com/integrityandanticorruption)

| MULTILEVEL WATER GOVERNANCE | Apr. 4-15 2016 | This course addresses the administrative, planning, financial, legal and stakeholder aspects of multilevel water governance. Participants will get a unique insight into international best practices and water governance tools and work actively to apply the five building blocks for sound water governance for their own local context. |

- [www.thehagueacademy.com/watergovernance](http://www.thehagueacademy.com/watergovernance)

| CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AND INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE | May 23- Jun.3 2016 | This course discusses basic principles of good governance, accountability and civil participation. Participants will explore possibilities to engage citizens in the policy and decision making process with a special focus on marginalised groups. They will discuss a.o. the participation ladder, the accountability chain, do's and don'ts in participation processes and the role of the media. |

- [www.thehagueacademy.com/citizenparticipation](http://www.thehagueacademy.com/citizenparticipation)

| SUMMERCOURSE: A LOCAL PERSPECTIVE TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS. | Jul. 11-15 2016 | Key question in this course is how governments can decentralise policies and services to local levels to promote more inclusive development. Support modalities for donors are discussed as well as the political economy of decentralisation, central-local government relations and the 5C-approach to strengthen local government capacity. |

- [www.thehagueacademy.com/summercourse](http://www.thehagueacademy.com/summercourse)
LOCAL SERVICE DELIVERY
Oct. 3-14 2016
In this course, participants learn how local governments can effectively deliver services to their citizens and how they can plan and finance it. They discuss questions such as: how can the different layers of government work together to ensure basic services also reach the poorest people? How can they set up the financial management of services in a transparent and democratic way? And how can partnerships with NGOs and the private sector help local governments to better deal with challenges in service delivery?

www.thehagueacademy.com/localservicedelivery

CONFLICT, RULE OF LAW AND LOCAL SECURITY
Nov. 7-18 2016
The key issues in this training are: How can governments promote citizen security and protect human rights after violent conflict? What policies and instruments do they have to foster reconciliation and peacebuilding amongst different ethnic or religious groups? And what attitude and skills do government officials need to lead conflict transformation processes?

www.thehagueacademy.com/conflictandruleoflaw

“I participated in the training Decentralisation, Democratisation and Development in March 2013. Certain ideas I got from there stimulated me to think about gender and e-governance and I am happy to say that I was able to initiate a project ‘e-jaalakam’ (electronic window) for promoting gender inclusion in e-governance in my state Kerala in India.

I am proud to say that the project won the national award on e-governance 2014-2015 by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pension and the Kerala Chief Ministers Award for Innovations in Public Policy in 2013. Part of the credit goes to the exposure I got at the Hague Academy of Local Governance which made me think of designing a handbook for the common man. The citizens’ handbook has increased the access to 23 core e-governance services by making them available in the local language, Malayalam. Also, more than 1500 people from around 20 civic groups have been trained, and the project has been included in the National e-Governance Plan.”

Dr Nirmala Padmanabhan
Associate professor St. Teresa’s College, Kerala India

Dr Nirmala Padmanabhan with students of St. Teresa’s College who were part of the e-jaalakam project. Photo: The Hindu
My expectations
“I work as resident project manager in a water governance project in Ethiopia. Different government levels are involved in this project, such as the Ministry of Water and Irrigation and the Awash Basin Authority. I wanted to participate in this training to learn more about perspectives, frameworks and approaches of water governance, and how these are applied in different countries.”

After the training
“This training was a real experience and opened my eyes. It simplifies my daily work by providing tools, methodologies and proven and practical experiences through case studies. The five blocks of good water governance was one of the most interesting things I learned. It really helped me to structure my thinking. In addition to that, the study visit to the regional water authority Delfland about waste water treatment, the different technologies that were presented and the cooperation with the municipality, has really inspired me.”

The Awash river basin, with a total length of 1,250km, is located in central Ethiopia. It flows through five regional states and two administrative councils and is one of the most utilised rivers in the country, serving as a source of drinking water, hydropower, industrial consumption, irrigation and disposal of waste water.

**TEGENU TSIGE**
Adviser integrated water systems and water governance, resident project manager

**Integrated water management in Ethiopia**

**FACTS**
Awash river basin
Ethiopia

- Dutch and Ethiopian water partners work together to establish a framework for good water governance in the basin.
- Tegenu receives an explanation on the planning of the Dutch Delta Works.

**TRAINING**
Participated in training Multilevel Water Governance 2014.

**GOALS**
To learn more about perspectives, frameworks and approaches of water governance in order to advise partners on good water governance in the Awash basin.
Talent for Governance is The Hague Academy’s talent programme. We provide practice oriented learning experiences to young, talented local government practitioners and support them in implementing community projects in their home country. Talent for Governance only selects people who possess a strong motivation to make a difference for their citizens.

The talent programme consists of a training course at The Hague Academy for Local Governance, an internship in a Dutch municipality and worldwide networking activities. Thereby, the young talents develop their knowledge and skills, learn from experiences elsewhere and build an international network. This helps them to deal with the challenges they face in their daily work.

During the three-week programme, the talents work on the design of a project plan together with the trainers, experts and fellow participants. Back on the job they will do homework assignments and implement their project plan with the support of their employer and The Hague Academy.

Talent for Governance relies on the financial support of organisations and individuals who believe in the importance of good local governance. By means of their donations, they help strengthen the capacity of villages, cities and countries to improve services for their citizens and foster sustainable economic development.

Application opens once a year and for more information see www.thehagueacademy.com/talentforgovernance

These talents participated in our Citizen Participation and Inclusive Governance programme in June 2015. They went home with new ideas and action plans for projects that will benefit their local community.
The Hague Academy for Local Governance is a not-for-profit organisation based in The Hague. The Hague Academy is recognised by the Dutch tax department as an organisation that serves the general interest of society.