

**Community Driven Development: The Asset -Based Approach short course**

Overview

The Asset- based approach to development is an innovative alternative to conventional needs-based approaches. In spite of the wide variety of “participatory approaches” to development, the community development process is, in far too many places, still being “driven “by NGOs and other external players and not the community members themselves.

The purpose of this short course program is to develop the capacity of senior development practitioners to employ asset -based approaches to development that recognize the everyday experience, wisdom, skills and capacity that exist in all communities. Fostering active citizen engagement, building a stronger civil society and creating local economic opportunity are central to the asset-based approach.

**Course Content**

**A**pproaches such as Appreciative Inquiry, Asset-Based Community Development, the Asset-Building Framework and the capacities of local associations, the assets of businesses and institutions, as well as local natural resources toward community building activities and economic development initiatives. At every step of the way the focus will be on ensuring that the development process is and remains “community-driven.”

The course will begin with a series of case studies to expose participants to a range of applications of participatory methodologies around the world. These cases and experience of participants will be discussed and critiqued. This will be followed by exposure to a variety of asset-based approaches and techniques. This course will culminate in the practical application of an asset-based tool in a local community.

**Learning Outcomes**

As a result of this program, participants will be able to:

* Select , design and apply tools for identifying and mobilising community assets
* Critically evaluate various methods and approaches in terms of their potential to strengthen the capacity of community members to control and sustain the development process
* Understand a broad range of asset-based approaches to community development
* Understand their own behaviour and attitudes and how these elements affect their capacity to facilitate community driven development

**Resources**

The Great North Business Incubator / Great North Management and Leadership Training Institute is able to offer its participants access to:

* Comfortable residences/ lodges
* Laptop
* USB

**Admission Requirements**

* A good working knowledge of English
* Mid to senior level position in a community -based organisation, people’s organisation, government department, intermediary organisation, NGO or equivalent
* At least 1- 5 years of experience in community -based development

**Course Details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Course One Start Date** | **18 March 2019- 29 March 2019** |
| **Course Two Date** | **13 May 2019 – 24 May 2019** |
| **Course Three Date** | **5 August 2019- 16August 2019** |
| **Course Four Date** | **14 October 2019- 25 October 2019** |
| **Price Per Person** | **$ 3 000 Vat included** |
| **Accommodation** | **Ranges from $55 Per day per delegate for 12 days including bed and breakfast** |

**Great North Business Incubator**

Great North Business Incubator has been promoting community self-reliance since it opened its doors over 4 years ago to educate community leaders from around Africa. Established in 2013, Great North Business Incubator is world -renowned as a centre of excellence in community - based development . Great North Business Incubator remains at the forefront of innovation within the field of community -based development by adapting and evolving to meet the changing needs of development practitioners. The Organisation is a learning organisation- dedicated to identifying, developing and disseminating knowledge on effective development practice. As champions of community-based development, we provide relevant programs that help others make a positive difference in their own communities.