



29th Annual Human Rights and People's Diplomacy Training for Human Rights Defenders from the Asia-Pacific Region August-September 2019, Timor Leste

Call for Applications

The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) is calling for applications for its 29th Annual Human Rights and People's Diplomacy Training Program for Human Rights Defenders from the Asia-Pacific Region and Indigenous Australia.

This annual, comprehensive human rights and advocacy training course is the longest established human rights training program held in the region. It builds knowledge of international human rights standards and the UN system and skills in strategic advocacy. There are intensive sessions on human rights and development, advocacy and media skills.

Civil society advocacy has a vital role to play in promoting and defending shared values of human dignity. The advocacy and engagement of civil society is a key driver of better governance and accountability. This course will increase the capacity of civil society advocates to use human rights standards and to engage effectively with governments and others – locally, nationally and internationally.

The program will build practical links between advocates in Timor Leste and the region. It will focus on advocacy to address challenges including violence against women, land-grabbing and forced displacements, freedom of religion and freedom of association, the rights of migrant workers and of Indigenous peoples, transitional justice, protecting human rights in repressive and authoritarian environments and integrating human rights into the sustainable development goals.

The course will be held in Timor-Leste, home of DTP's Patron and Founder, the Nobel Peace Laureate and former President, José Ramos-Horta as it celebrates the 20th anniversary of its vote for independence. The vote was a remarkable achievement, made possible through effective international solidarity, including with Indonesia's democracy movement and skilful advocacy using international law and mechanisms.

Locating this program in Timor-Leste at this time will strengthen the domestic movement for human rights and enable participants to share the lessons learnt from this movement, be a part of this historic occasion, and look toward the future of 'people's diplomacy' for human rights.

WHAT WILL PARTICIPANTS LEARN?

- Knowledge of international human rights law and principles, including civil and political, economic, social and cultural rights;
- Understanding of the relationship between development, poverty and human rights, the human rights-based approach to development;
- Practical skills in engaging the UN human rights accountability mechanisms and UN system;
- Practical skills in strategic advocacy, lobbying, media, and 'peoples' diplomacy'.

WHO SHOULD APPLY FOR THE TRAINING?

The program is for human rights defenders working with NGOs in the Asia-Pacific region committed to developing and sharing their knowledge and skills in human rights advocacy.

TRAINERS

Trainers on DTP programs are experienced and highly respected local, regional and international human rights practitioners, academics, and officials who understand and support DTP's philosophy of participatory learning.

TRAINING METHODOLOGY

DTP recognises and values the experiences and skills that participants bring to its programs. The opportunity to share experiences and lessons with other participants and trainers is one of the real benefits and highlights of participating in the program. The training methodology is interactive with an emphasis on group work, role plays, case studies and discussion. The training is conducted in English and an ability to participate in discussions in English is essential.

PROGRAM PARTNERS

The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) is an independent non-governmental organisation (NGO) advancing human rights and empowering civil society in the region through quality education and training and the building of skills and capacity in NGOs. The DTP was founded in 1989 by José Ramos-Horta, the 1996 Nobel Peace Laureate and President of Timor-Leste. It is affiliated with the Faculty of Law at UNSW in Sydney. Since 1990 DTP has provided training to over 3000 community advocates and human rights defenders across the Asia-Pacific region. www.dtp.unsw.edu.au

The Judicial System Monitoring Programme (JSMP) is a Timorese led not-for-profit organisation working to improve the judicial and legislative systems in Timor-Leste. JSMP's mission is to advance and protect democracy, law, justice and human rights through court monitoring, legal education and advocacy. As JSMP is often the sole source of published case summaries, legal reporting and commentary in Timor-Leste, this is its main focus. Though, JSMP also conducts important legal research, analysis and law reform activities. - www.jsmp.tl

COURSE FEES

DTP is an independent organisation and course fees are an important source of income. The course fee of **USD \$4000** covers tuition, accommodation, food, field trips and resource materials during the training. Travel expenses to and from the training are not included in this fee.

DTP recognises that it will not be possible for all applicants to meet the course fee. **Participants are encouraged to submit their application and, if successful, DTP will work with selected applicants to identify and apply to relevant funding bodies for financial assistance.** Some scholarships may be available.

HOW TO APPLY

Application forms can be downloaded from the DTP website or can be requested from dtp@unsw.edu.au. All applications will be acknowledged. For further information please contact DTP. Subject to the availability of places, applications may be considered after the closing date. Please contact DTP office for availability at dtp@unsw.edu.au

The Closing Date for Applications is April 30, 2019.