Natural Resource Governance and Energy Transition: Policies and Practice

2022 Edition (online)
Introductory week: 23–24, 27 May
Self-study phase: 30 May–1 July
Live phase: 11–22 July
Background

Natural resource extraction can create both opportunities and disadvantages to economic development and poverty reduction.

The advanced course is designed to equip a pool of exceptional individuals from government, civil society, parliaments, media, international development agencies, and the private sector, as well as academics, researchers, and analysts, with the knowledge and tools necessary to contribute towards better governance and oversight of natural resources for a better future. Specifically, the course will examine the political economy of governance in resource-rich states and explore how it impacts domestic policy debates and practice. These skills are paramount to leaders in natural resource governance who need to manage the challenges that come with it and understand the impact of politics and power on policy outcomes. The course will include approaches to analyzing energy transition challenges, among other topics related to natural resource governance.

This online course is delivered through a unique collaboration between ETH Zürich’s NADEL-Center for Development and Cooperation and the Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI). The course is designed primarily for individuals who already have a solid understanding of the subject matter but are seeking to enhance their knowledge and skills to play a more prominent role in developing, monitoring, and/or evaluating their mining and/or gas and petroleum resources.

The Course

INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGY AND WORLD-CLASS TEACHING

The course will be structured along an introductory live week, a five-week self-study phase and a two-week intense live phase. The introductory week will include live sessions, group discussions and an individual assignment to systematize the impact of the energy transition on their specific contexts. The self-study phase will allow participants to access a variety of online material and videos, interact with their peers and refresh their knowledge and skills on political economy, fiscal regime design, revenue management and local impacts of extraction. During the intense live phase participants will attend a series of core live lectures by world class experts on different topics around natural resource governance. Participants will also have the possibility to attend supplementary optional sessions and sign-up to one-on-one online clinics with our experts to discuss individual challenges they face in their countries and request advice.

This online course includes self-study material (readings, videos, quizzes and exercises), online forum discussions, interactive live lectures by leading experts, group discussions and skill-building workshops.
Thereafter, participants will be asked to choose one of two paths:

**Path 1: Getting a Good Deal: Designing and Evaluating Fiscal Regimes**

Participants who choose **Path 1** will be able to dive deeper into fiscal aspects and develop key practical and analytical skills. They will learn to read and use Excel-based models to evaluate and compare different fiscal regimes, make investment decisions, forecast revenue streams, and assess risks of revenue leakages. Participants will also learn how to use standardized models developed by NRGI to inform policy analysis and decision-making through a mock negotiation exercise. Courses and exercises covered in **Path 1** will include licensing and allocation of rights and links to cost-benefit analyses, institutional capacity, revenue management, state-owned companies, and political economy considerations, providing participants with a nuanced and practical understanding of tax policy in resource-rich countries.

**Path 2: Distributing, Managing, and Spending Resource Revenues**

Participants in **Path 2** will examine the causes of weak development outcomes in resource-rich environments and elaborate on some available tools to improve the distribution, management, and use of oil, gas, and mineral revenues. These tools include: rules describing revenue distribution to the national budget, special funds, sub-national jurisdictions, and state-owned companies; rules controlling the amount of resource revenues that enter the domestic economy; public accountability mechanisms for revenue and expenditure management; and formulation and implementation of national and sub-national development plans. **Path 2** participants will also examine how national and local economies can benefit from the presence of extractive companies through implementation of “local content” policies and shared-use infrastructure.
The 2022 course will cover topics including:

- Energy transition related challenges on natural resource sectors
- The political economy of natural resource extraction
- Discovery and allocation of resource rights
- Fiscal regimes and taxation
- Managing natural resource revenues and investment
- State-owned companies’ governance
- Environmental and social impacts of extraction
- Corruption and accountability

The course uses the Natural Resource Charter as its primary intellectual framework. The charter is a set of economic principles for governments and societies on how to best manage the opportunities created by natural resources to promote development.

Previous speakers include:

Fritz Brugger
NADEL Center for development and cooperation, ETH Zurich

David Manley
Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI)

Bernhard Wehrli
Department of Environmental Systems Science, ETH Zurich

Andrew Bauer
Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI)

Elisabeth Caesens
Resource Matters

Ana Carolina González E.
Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI)

Robert F. Conrad
Duke University

Patrick Heller
Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI)

Valérie Marcel
Chatham House

Eric Parrado
Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)

Tobias Schmidt
Department of Humanities, Social and Political Science, ETH Zurich

Nicola Woodroffe
Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI)

Susan Maples
Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP
The course is delivered online and consists of two phases:

- **Introductory week** (approx. 10h of study):
  23. and 24.05.2022 2pm–4pm CET — Introductory live sessions
  27.05.2022 2pm–4pm CET — live group discussion

- **Self-study phase** (approx. 30h of study):
  30.05.–01.07.2022 — Self-paced learning
  *Every Friday* 2pm–4pm CET — live group discussions

- **Live phase** (approx. 30h of study):
  11.07.–22.07.2022 — Live sessions
  *Every day* 2pm–4pm CET — mandatory live sessions
  Additional supplementary live sessions are offered at 5pm CET

The course is delivered fully online and in English.

**Course Fees**

The full cost of participation in this online edition of the course is **CHF 1,500**. Fees only include online course tuition.

**Scholarships**

A limited number of scholarships covering the course fees are available on a competitive basis for members of government, civil society, parliaments, and the media from selected resource-rich countries: DRC, Ghana, Mexico, Tanzania, Tunisia, and Uganda. Women are particularly encouraged to apply. A restricted number of exceptions from this list may be made for outstanding applicants from other countries.
Who Should Apply?

The course is open to participants with at least 5 years of experience falling into the following categories:

- Civil society leaders with a track record of analysis, oversight, and policy advocacy around the governance of extractive industries.
- Mid- to senior-level government officials from ministries and departments involved in policy design, implementation, and compliance, including audit agencies.
- Officials from state-owned enterprises.
- Members of parliament, parliamentary staffers, and researchers well versed in the governance of extractive industries.
- Journalists with previous experience reporting on extractive sector governance.

- Academics and doctoral students undertaking applied research or teaching on the governance of natural resources.
- Professionals from development agencies, including consultancies, aid agencies, and international financial institutions.
- Representatives from extractive industry associations such as chambers of energy and minerals or country-level industry think tanks.

A good understanding of, or background in, economics is highly desirable. Good quantitative and Excel skills are required for both paths of the course.

Please note this is not an entry-level course. NRGI and partners offer other courses for those new to resource governance.

Please consult https://www.resourcegovernance.org/learning for details on other opportunities.
How to Apply

Applicants will be asked to upload the following documentation:

- Personal résumée/CV (one page)
- Brief personal statement (one page) on the governance challenges associated with extractive industries in the applicant’s country of origin/residence (or internationally for global practitioners) and the applicant’s expectations of how the course will benefit them and their organization in efforts to help address those challenges.
- A photo (portrait style)
- A short biography (not more than 200 words)

Applicants should also indicate which path they wish to take when submitting the application. Every effort will be made to accommodate path choice.

To apply please visit the course website:

Important Dates

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>21 February 2022:</td>
<td>Applications open</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 April 2022:</td>
<td>Applications close</td>
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<td>7 March–10 April 2022:</td>
<td>Long listed applicants will be notified and given a pre-course assessment. They will have to submit the pre-course assessment within a week after receiving it.</td>
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<td>26 April 2022:</td>
<td>Short listed applicants will receive offer of participation</td>
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<td>3 May 2022:</td>
<td>Final selected applicants have to accept the offer of participation</td>
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Only complete applications will be considered. Applicants must fill in all the required information in the application form and submit all required documents by 10 April.

Cancellation of once sent application forms up to two weeks prior to the course commencement will be subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50 CHF.

Cancellation within two weeks prior to course commencement will be subject to a cancellation fee equal to the full course fee.
The Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI) helps people to realize the benefits of their countries’ endowments of oil, gas and minerals. They do this through technical advice, advocacy, applied research, policy analysis, and capacity development. NRGI works with innovative agents of change within government ministries, civil society, the media, legislatures, the private sector, and international institutions to promote accountable and effective governance in the extractive industries. www.resourcegovernance.org

The mission of the Center for Development and Cooperation (NADEL) is to build and share knowledge for effective policy making that addresses challenges of sustainable development. This mission is met by offering interdisciplinary postgraduate programs in development and cooperation, by promoting public outreach activities that bridge science and policy, and by engaging in research activities. A key objective of our research is to develop sustainable solutions to poverty reduction and to sustainable resource extraction and management. www.nadel.ethz.ch
TESTIMONIALS

“The NADEL–NRGI Advanced Course provided a structured, fast-paced forum, which gave me the chance to interact with world-class thinkers in the resource management sector and government peers. Excellent lectures complemented with a comprehensive bibliography and thought-provoking assignments. The course has changed my frame of reference as an energy sector professional, and I use information from it on a daily basis in my work.” —Alexandra Jardine Wall, Director of International Affairs, National Hydrocarbons Commission, Mexico

“The advanced course gave me an opportunity to learn more about natural resource governance, especially for developing countries. I was enthused about the political economy of resource governance and “getting a good deal” in resource contracts. Working with people from other countries afforded the opportunity to understand the governance from the perspective of other developing countries, and provides a platform to learn and identify best practices from other jurisdictions. The course provides a solid foundation for more advanced discussions on resource governance issues.” —Charles G. Ofori, Policy Lead, Climate Change & Energy Transition, Africa Center for Energy Policy (ACEP), Ghana

“Participating in the Advanced Course was a professionally rewarding opportunity for me. The experience helped me to holistically understand the fundamental governance issues in the mining, oil and gas sectors. Another key highlight of the course was learning and interacting with different colleagues from across the globe. As a natural resource governance professional working in the Civil Society, I am now better equipped with the right knowledge and tools to competently do my work.” —Mukupa Nsenduluka, Policy Officer, Tax & Natural Resource Governance, Tax Justice Network Africa

“I was very excited to be part of the advanced course on “Natural Resource Governance and Development: Policies and Practice”. The course unpacked some of the gaps – ‘red flags’ – that undermine the full exploitation of natural resources by countries including Uganda. Since February 2021, I am one of the civil society proxy representatives on the Multi Stakeholder Group on EITI and will be able to use the knowledge and skills garnered during the engagements and beyond.” — Regina Navuga, Programme Coordinator, Financing for Development Programme, SEATINI, Uganda