

Informal Sector Enterprise, Entrepreneurship & Local Economic Development

May 15, 2025 – May 28, 2025 (2 weeks)

Rationale

The predominance of an informal economy is seen as a positive entry point to address the challenges of population growth and concentration in rural areas and cities. The informal economy enables wealth to be shared by all. The demographic transition, envisaged in the ensuing years means that LED strategies will have to address the economic reality of large informal and smaller formal economies. Supporting the development of the informal sector as well as the transition of actors from the informal to the formal sector is neither well understood, nor is there significant practice upon which to build. There is a general consensus that the strategic planning effort should be led by local government, although project implementation is necessarily undertaken by public, private and community actors and that the institutionalization of LED needs to be carefully calibrated to both national and local environments and conditions.

Enabling flow of investment and stimulating entrepreneurship is one of the important pillars of most local and regional development strategies.

Objectives:

The training programme in this context is designed:

- To provide the participants with necessary knowledge and skills to design and implement Local Economic Development strategies, in which informal enterprises and entrepreneurship development have significant roles.
- To equip with skills, tools and techniques to assess the state of territories/locality by identifying the strong elements, opportunities, weaknesses and threats.
- To provide the participants with skills to build social and business networks, increase motivational level of locals and promote growth of informal enterprises to formal.
- To provide the participants with skills to conduct locally customized EDPs and identify local specific interventions and build strategies to implement the same.

Target Group:

The programme is most suited for individuals working with:

- Business/Industry Associations
- Funding Agencies focussing on Informal Sector/Entrepreneurship
- Civil Society Organizations/NGOs
- Professionals involved in managing development projects
- Government officials who are involved in Local Economic Development Programmes
- Supporting Institutions such as financial institutions, researchers, academicians and training organizations
- Local entrepreneurs

Course Content:

Keeping the objective in view, the programme will have the following key inputs:

Module 1 - Local Economic Development Models & Strategies including PPP models for local development

Module 2 - Local Business Environment Scanning & Local Governance Regulations/Policies

Module 3 - Informal Sector Enterprise Growth & Development

Module 4 - Promoting Culture of Entrepreneurship among locals

Module 5 - Community Enterprise & Group Enterprise, Clusters

Module 6 - Local Lead Products: Value Chain Analysis & Value Addition

Module 7 - Business Management, Growth and Expansion

Module 8 - Visit to Institutions and Organizations engaged in such programs

Benefits to participants:

- The participants will be able to undertake project management for livelihood related programmes.
- It will also provide outcome based market oriented strategy perspective.
- Participants will also be provided skills to bring in programme effectiveness and carry on suitable research and monitoring towards sustainable programme implementation.