

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In 2009 the course will generally maintain its initial structure addressing major areas sustainable of human development from both academic and policy angle. The experience so far suggests that this combination of theoretical exposure and practical experience makes it unique and interesting for participants not just from Europe and CIS but also beyond the region.

In 2009 the main purpose of the course will be to increase participants' awareness of HD and MDGs and their policy relevance in respective countries. It will consist of two modules - on-line self-learning module in April and in-residence course at CEU in July. The self-learning module intended to familiarize the participants with the major theoretical approaches in the area of sustainable human development. The in-residence module will build on the initial knowledge the participants are expected to have gained from Module 1, will extend it through additional lectures and will bridge it with practical dimensions using the experience of practitioners from the region.

Ideally each day of the in-residence course will be devoted to one topic and will be structured in dual pattern - one part devoted to theoretical aspects of the topic and the second addressing practical dimensions and experience (how theory translates or does not translate into policy practice). Part of the time of the in-residence course will be devoted to developing individual projects related to the topics discusses. The participants will be asked to identify their preferences in advance, during Module 1. After the completion of Module 2 they are supposed to present the results of their individual work.

The selection of participants for the in-residence course will be made on the basis of the results of the test participants will pass after completing Module 1.

COURSE CONTENT

Module 1 - distance learning on-line course addressing theoretical basics of the topics to be addressed in Module 2. Module 2 - In-residence course at CEU, July 2009

Day 1

Sustainable human development concepts. Relations between "human development" and "sustainable development. Translation of both concepts into policy practice and different development policy agendas. Introduction to the Millennium Development Goals.

Day 2

Major pillars of sustainable human development. Sectoral dimensions - environment, education and health, gender, participation and governance, human rights. Examples of policies targeted into individual areas of SHD.

Day 3

Measuring human development. Indicators for Sustainable Development and Human Development - overlaps and complementarities, reliability, problems in computation, interpretation. Other related indicators. Practical experience in individual countries attempts to bring measurements closer to reality, addressing the data gaps.

Day 4

Economic and social aspects of sustainable human development. Development economics theories' evolution and links to SHD. Economic transition versus economic development in the region. Specific aspects of development in transitional context. Poverty and its challenges in the region - trends and specific experience. The role of private sector for promoting sustainable human development.

Day 4

Human rights, participation and governance and sustainable human development. Civil society for promoting sustainable human development in the context of transition. The roles of CSO and the state. Social enterprises in the context of transition. Rights-based approach and human development. Examples from the region.

Day 5

Human development and social inclusion. Gender and human development. Spatial aspects of human development and human poverty. Vulnerability, vulnerable groups at risk and ways of reaching them.

Day 6

Human development and regional development strategies. Regional integration trends in Central Asia, Caucasus, Western CIS. Trade and human development.

Day 7

Field trip to a project site on sustainable development in regional context.

Day 8

Mainstreaming HD and MDGs into national development agendas. Country-level Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs). Translating national MDG targets into regional/local level priorities: MDGs and regional/local development planning.

Day 9

Decentralization, services delivery and attainment of MDGs. The role of local-level stakeholders in the process of localizing MDGs. Fiscal decentralization, local level budgeting, sustainability of development process at local level. Public administration reform: what needs to be done in terms of capacities to achieve MDGs. Political change and policy sustainability - institutional perspective.

Day 10

Reflection back and presentation of individual project results. Next steps.