



Fiscal Decentralization and Local Government Financial Management

July 9 - 28, 2017



"The long-held notions and beliefs on fiscal decentralization have been challenged and given new perspectives, not just from the experts, but more importantly, from the [other] participants."

Nino Alvina,
PFD participant



Duke Center
for International
Development

The Program

Decentralization strategies are being implemented worldwide to improve efficient and accountable service delivery and governance. Reforms are underway to rationalize central-local expenditures and revenues, intergovernmental transfers, and local borrowing, while strengthening local financial management, revenue mobilization, participatory planning, and local service delivery. In the *Program on Fiscal Decentralization and Local Government Financial Management (PFD)*, now in its fifteenth year at Duke, you will develop the knowledge and tools to initiate decentralization policy and administrative reforms. Through a combination of lectures, case studies, presentations, and hands-on computer exercises, this intensive three-week course will teach you the theory and practice of fiscal decentralization and the role of local government in the movement toward more autonomous, accountable, and efficient governance and public service delivery.

The Faculty

Dr. Roy Kelly directs the program and is joined by senior Duke faculty and members of the Public Finance Group (PFG).

PFG is a faculty unit that specializes in research, executive education, and advising services in all areas relating to public financial management and taxation, having collectively lived or worked in over 25 countries during the last 20 years. PFG faculty members have undertaken many projects, trainings, and research activities on fiscal policy, taxation, and public finance throughout the world. The group has extensive expertise in central- and local-government finance, tax policy, and fiscal reform.

"This was just the right course for me. I am more empowered now. My knowledge was scattered, but now I have clear vision on how to communicate with the national government to guide projects."

**Munisa Vahobova,
PFD participant**



In the PFD program, you will learn about:

- Theory and practical applications of fiscal decentralization, intergovernmental transfers, local resource mobilization, and debt management
- Policy analysis and administrative options related to fiscal decentralization, the structure of intergovernmental transfers, and the major revenue sources available to local governments
- Economic, administrative, and legal dimensions of decentralization, with special emphasis on the role of local revenues and intergovernmental transfer systems
- Decentralization strategies that are being implemented worldwide to improve service delivery, economic governance, and citizen participation

What topics will be covered?

Administrative Decentralization

- Trends in political, administrative, and fiscal decentralization
- Roles of central and sub-national governments
- Strategies for effective decentralization
- Managing the decentralization process

Fiscal Decentralization

- Public choice and fiscal federalism
- Allocating expenditure and revenue responsibilities
- Designing intergovernmental transfers
- Structuring local government borrowing
- Enhancing local resource mobilization

Intergovernmental Transfers

- Structuring recurrent and development transfers
- Designing effective performance-based grants
- Coordinating intergovernmental transfers
- Monitoring intergovernmental transfers

Local Revenue Systems

- Property taxation
- User charges and excise taxes
- Business taxation, license fees, and permits
- Income and sales taxation

Fiscal Planning and Management

- Budgeting and financial management
- Debt management
- Resource administration
- Special problems of local revenue administration

Who should apply to this program?

PFD is for government officials, policymakers, program managers, politicians, and consultants dealing with decentralization, public financial management, and local government reforms. Past participants include central- and local-level elected politicians, policymakers and administrators, economists, lawyers, finance managers, and public sector management specialists.

Application Details

What is the application process?

To submit an application and to check for additional program information, visit us online at dcid.sanford.duke.edu.

Priority application deadline:

June 9, 2017

When and where will this program be held?

July 9 – 28, 2017

Duke Center for International Development (DCID)
Sanford School of Public Policy
Duke University
Durham, North Carolina, U.S.A.

2017 program fee: \$8,500

What is included?

Program fee includes housing, local transportation, emergency medical insurance, course materials, site visits, social activities (optional), use of laptop computer for the duration of the program and access to the Duke University Libraries and computer facilities.

Participants are typically sponsored by their employer or a funding organization. Candidates should approach their current employer or other funding organizations as soon as possible to obtain financial support. Duke University and DCID do not offer scholarships or financial aid. Please contact DCID for more information.

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web: dcid.sanford.duke.edu





Sanford School of Public Policy Duke University

Duke University & DCID Duke University is a world-class academic institution and one of the top 10 universities in the United States. It is an independent, comprehensive, coeducational research university that offers a variety of outstanding undergraduate and graduate programs consistently ranked at or near the top of their respective fields.

The Duke Center for International Development (DCID) is an interdisciplinary training, advisory, and research unit offering cutting-edge graduate degree and executive education programs in international development policy. DCID is a unit within the Sanford School of Public Policy.

*Contact us today for
more information.*

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