Sustainable Investments in Agriculture
EXECUTIVE TRAINING PROGRAM

Vale Columbia Center
On Sustainable International Investment
A JOINT CENTER OF COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL AND THE EARTH INSTITUTE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
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Executive Training Program

Increased investment in agriculture can accelerate sustainable development and help meet growing food security needs at domestic, regional and global levels. Yet, if not structured equitably or regulated carefully, investments can also lead to social and environmental degradation. These risks have only heightened as investments in land for agriculture have become increasingly attractive to foreign investors and host countries alike.

Countries concerned about sustainable development confront multiple challenges in managing foreign direct investment in agriculture. These challenges include developing robust legal and fiscal frameworks; negotiating equitable deals with investors; leveraging investments for greater sustainable development outcomes; and mitigating environmental impacts while protecting human rights.

Program overview
This program, hosted by the Vale Columbia Center on Sustainable International Investment (VCC), a joint center of the Law School and the Earth Institute at Columbia University, is designed to equip participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to address some of the key challenges posed by international investments in agriculture.

The program provides an interdisciplinary approach. By working through real case studies and with practitioners and experts from within and beyond Columbia University, participants will learn to use analytical tools and frameworks to harness agricultural investments for sustainable development.

Who should attend
The program is designed for mid-level public sector officials and civil society representatives from developing countries, whose responsibilities relate to investments, agriculture, land, or rural development. A select number of representatives from development agencies and the private sector may also be admitted.

Topics
The one-week course will provide an overview of pressing issues related to agricultural investments, as well as an introduction to relevant practical skills. The crosscutting themes are aligned with the VCC's Five-Pillar Framework for maximizing the impact of investment for sustainable development. Topics in this course will include:

- Introduction to agricultural investment models, including inclusive business models
- Investments, food security and integrated rural development
- Land rights and tenure security
- Domestic legal frameworks, and how to read and understand investment contracts
- International legal frameworks
- Fiscal frameworks and financial modeling
- Managing environmental and water impacts

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www.vcc.columbia.edu/agtraining

Dates
March 16-21, 2015

Duration
6 instructional days

Location
Columbia University
New York City, U.S.A.

Fee
The program fee is $2,750. The fee includes instruction, materials, breakfast and lunches, and on-campus accommodation for 7 nights.

Without accommodation, the program fee is $1,750.

How to apply
Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until November 30, 2014.

To apply, please visit the application page on our website:
www.vcc.columbia.edu/agtraining

Please note that all participants must be able to read and communicate in English.