



Political Economy Analysis in Action

Training course for staff in the international development sector (face-to-face and on-line versions)

We are delighted to announce general availability of the **Political Economy Analysis in Action training offered by ODI and The Policy Practice**. This is available in both a three-day face-to-face version, designed for large organisations, and an online version tailored to the needs of smaller groups and individual participants.

The training is based on the flagship face-to-face course we have provided over 35 times since 2008 for organisations including DFID, the Netherlands Foreign Ministry, Belgian Technical Cooperation, GIZ, Irish Aid, the Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia, the IMF, the European Commission and UNDP. The on-line version of the course has been successfully delivered at least four times to UK Government staff. Since being opened to wider participation, it has been offered at least twice to staff of implementing organisations and think tanks.

The course is delivered by [David Booth](#) of ODI and [Alex Duncan](#) of The Policy Practice (TPP) with contributions from other ODI and TPP staff. It is professionally facilitated by [Samantha Wade](#) of TPP.

What is the course and who is it for?

Political economy analysis is about understanding the contexts – national, sectoral and local – in which development happens and the incentives that determine how the relevant actors behave and interact with each other.

The course is designed to equip advisers and programme managers to identify key political and institutional challenges and opportunities in a variety of different contexts, and to draw well-grounded conclusions for strategy, and programme design and implementation.

By the end of the course, participants will understand:

- What political economy analysis is, and where it comes from
- Why it has the potential to improve development policy and programme design and management
- What is involved in applying a framework for political economy analysis.

Participant requirements

The face to face course takes place over two and a half to three days in one location, hosted by the commissioning organisation. The on-line training comprises ten interactive sessions spread over thirteen weeks, with reading breaks. We estimate that 30+ hours are needed to complete the course, or about 3 hours per week.

On-line participants are strongly encouraged to sign up with colleagues in the same location or organisation (3+

participants). This enables us to set up Study Groups to discuss course material and work together through session tasks.

You are given access to an on-line teaching platform. This provides you with a combination of study guides, video lectures, an on-line library, webinars and several stimulating case studies. Participants take part in interactive exercises with both tutors and other participants, and contribute to both discussion forums and four webinar discussions.

To register your interest and obtain details of the next scheduled courses, including timings and costs, please email training@thepolicypractice.com

Testimonials from former participants on the online training course

- 'Thanks for a well-organised course!'
- 'This is one of the best courses I have taken in my current role. It was relevant and well delivered.'
- 'Fantastic course which prompted many discussions within my current team based on their country office experience and with colleagues. Very high quality tutors, materials and support.'
- 'The discussion groups are a key feature – without them I think the volume of material would have been quite overwhelming. I also really appreciated the annotated bibliography, one of the key benefits of the course.'
- 'Well-curated rich academic texts and concepts lent this real substance. Varied, concise case studies well mingled with theory throughout. Great flexible delivery model that allowed us to pursue in our own time, while nudging us to keep on track via webinars and study groups.'
- 'Availability of tutors, the quality of materials, the high level of organisation all worked well. The amount of good substance, including additional materials for when you had more time.'
- 'The course was well structured and manageable.'