Building Wellbeing Economies in Africa
WE-Africa Lab > How to participate

The action-research network WE-Africa and the Global Leadership Academy, in partnership with the African Centre for a Green Economy, are launching a Leadership and Innovation Lab that brings together thought leaders and change agents from different countries and sectors to co-create ideas and transformative actions for a wellbeing economy. Over the course of one year, the Lab will stimulate critical thinking and innovative practices for the achievement of social, political and economic transformation in Africa.

Outcomes of the Lab are expected at different levels: For each individual participant; on the organisational level for the institutions or companies represented and on the systemic level by impacting on global discourses on development as well as fostering change in participants’ home contexts.

Whom we are looking for?

The WE-Africa Lab will bring together up to 25 thought leaders and change agents from several African countries. We seek to build a group that is balanced and diverse with regards to the following criteria:

- Nationality: candidates from across Africa may apply
- Demographic background: gender, age
- Sector: Public service and politics, civil society, academia, private sector, media etc.
- Different viewpoints and experiences on the topic

We look for participants who …

- Are actively exploring, promoting and practising alternative ways of development
- Have identified personal and/or professional challenges in striving for positive impact in the held of societal and economic transformation
- Are deeply committed to building a new economy capable of producing wellbeing for all
- Have an institutional position and outreach that allows them to use their experience to trigger systemic change
- Are open-minded, keen to challenge conventional wisdoms and ready to question their own assumptions and viewpoints
- Have an excellent command of the English language
- Espouse the mission of the WE-Africa network (www.we-africa.org).

What will participants gain?

Participants will benefit from collaborating with a dynamic network of likeminded change agents across the continent. They will have an opportunity to test and develop new ideas and practices, promote cutting-edge innovations and contribute to the co-creation of wellbeing economies and communities in Africa. The Lab will nurture their ability to put ideas into practice, supporting them in the realisation of their change projects. All participants will be invited to join the action-research network WE-Africa and the best of them will be offered the possibility to become ‘ambassadors’ of the African Centre for a Green Economy’s activities across Africa. The Lab will provide a platform for all participants to present their collective transformative actions to a range of political, business and civic leaders on the continent.

What commitment is required?

It is essential that participants attend the two regional gatherings:

Cape Town, South Africa: 28 November – 1 December 2016
Location tbc: 29 October – 2 November 2017

In addition, they will be expected to dedicate time between the modules to organise local dialogues, engage in regular online-exchanges with the Lab group to develop and implement transformative actions and participate in coaching sessions.

How to apply?

Send your CV and a motivation letter outlining
a) why you are interested in the lab,
b) how your profile fits the Lab’s aims and
c) what challenges you are facing to bringing change in your field of work – to leadership-academy@giz.de

Deadline is 15 July 2016. Please indicate on your application if you require support with the cost of travel.

If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact us at any time at katharina.lobeck@giz.de or lorenzo.fioramonti@governanceinnovation.org.