



## LINK Centre

University of the Witwatersrand

Certificate Programme in: **Telecommunications Policy,  
Regulation and Management SADC, East and West Africa 2017**

Venue: Wits Professional Development Hub 92 Empire Road, Braamfontein, Johannesburg

In partnership with: Centre for Cyberspace Studies, Nasarawa State University, Keffi, Nigeria



## Certificate Programme in: Telecommunications Policy, Regulation & Management

### Key discussion topics for 2017

- » *Key items on the agenda of African regulators in 2017: Broadband access, spectrum reform, Internet of Things, consumer protection, digital broadcast media regulation, postal regulation, other...*
- » *How can broadband policies in the SADC, East Africa, Central and West African regions achieve national goals: Consider the Kenyan, Nigerian, South African, Ugandan and other country case studies?*
- » *Are competitive electronic communications markets emerging in African countries?*
- » *In which ways do advances in infrastructure pay off in terms of strong foundations for e-commerce, e-government and social media use?*
- » *How do we harness the value of the undersea cable ecosystem for socio-economic development?*
- » *How is the Internet of Things creating a cyber-Africa? What cyber security measures are needed?*
- » *How do we formulate and foster ex ante regulation for the digital economy?*

### Significance

This certificate course is designed to address the constantly evolving issues and concerns pertinent to the dynamic and fast-paced electronic communications sector on the African continent. Changes are driven by rapidly growing demand for Internet-based content and therefore for broadband access at household level, in the economy, in schools and universities, in urban and rural areas.

A paradigm shift is needed in policy and regulation as it pertains to digital transformation in 21st century African economies. Changes are occurring in the broadband ecosystem: in electronic communications markets, in the undersea cable market, in the market for spectrum and other historically scarce resources. Globalisation of knowledge and convergence in markets has intensified the challenge to remain informed about current developments, trends and practices in policy and regulation.

### Who should attend?

This course is vital to an understanding of both the present and the future of the electronic communications sector. Staff of government policy departments, national electronic communications sector regulators and regulatory departments of electronic communications operators will benefit significantly from the content and learning approaches used in this programme.

In addition, researchers and professionals in the electronic communications sector, including those working in regional regulatory associations, with value-added electronic communications service providers, lawyers, consultants, journalists, trade union officials and NGOs involved in telecommunications and in broadcast and digital media, will gain deeper insight into the world of electronic communications policy and regulation.



## Objectives

By the end of the course, the successful student will be able to:

1. Discuss the structure and process of policy formulation, legislative and regulatory practice, including the relevant processes in various African countries;
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the relevant theoretical knowledge that applies to the policy and regulatory environment for the electronic communications and broadcast/digital media sectors;
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the technological innovations in ICT and the implications for policy and regulation that arise from such innovations;
4. Understand the essential drivers of sector reform, locally and internationally, including the impact of globalisation and convergence;
5. Critically analyse the electronic communications environment in any chosen African country with reference to theories, international models and best practice approaches.

## Programme content overview

A Certificate in Telecommunications Policy, Regulation and Management at NQF Level 6 is awarded to candidates who attend all three modules and complete and pass the group and individual assignments. The syllabus outline set out below is subject to change to keep abreast of developments in the sector.

### Module 1: July 2017, dates to be advised

#### ICT Technologies and Markets

- » Evolution of basic electronic communications technologies: the PSTN and its underlying technologies, digitisation, transmission, switching, next-generation networks
- » Wireless communications: fixed and mobile wireless, WLL, GSM, 3G, CDMA, satellite, WiFi, WiMax, LTE, Bluetooth, mobile broadband
- » Numbering and numbering plans, number portability, carrier preselect, ENUM
- » Spectrum planning and management, and the allocation and assignment of frequency
- » Signal distribution, analogue and digital broadcasting technologies
- » Internet, VoIP, VANS, Web 2.0 and next generation networks (NGN)
- » Electronic communications markets in African countries: selected indicators, status, performance and trends
- » Broadcasting market trends, drivers and the migration to digital media
- » Internet and broadband market trends, developments and drivers
- » Convergence, multimedia, the NGN and the future of digital communications

### Module 2: August 2017, dates to be advised

#### International ICT Trends, Organisations and Developments

- » Globalisation, emerging African knowledge economies and digital transformation of key economic sectors, including banking and finance, travel and tourism, other
- » Global trends in regulatory reform: liberalisation, privatisation and ICT regulation in a converging ICT ecosystem
- » Global e-governance structures, institutions and obligations: WTO, GATS, World Bank, ITU, WIPO, ICANN
- » Regional regulation of electronic communications: ATU, NEPAD, SATCC, CRASA, EAC, WATRA
- » ICT for development: the digital divide, ICT and gender, ICT and labour, ICT4 education and other ICT4D concerns
- » ICT development initiatives and institutions: GK, dotForce, UN ICT Task Force, WSIS, Internet Governance Forum (IGF), Measuring the Information Society
- » Universal access and service

### Module 3: September 2017, dates to be advised

#### Telecommunications and Broadcasting Policy, Law and Regulation

- » Overview of ICT sector reform
- » Electronic communications sector policy and regulation: rationales, principles and approaches
- » Relevance of constitutional and administrative law
- » Competition law for the telecommunications and broadcasting sectors
- » Legislative, regulatory and institutional frameworks governing telecommunications and broadcasting in selected African countries
- » Licensing: the objectives, typology, procedures, content and monitoring of licenses
- » Interconnection, facilities leasing, infrastructure sharing and local loop unbundling: principles, law and regulation
- » Pricing and tariff regulation
- » Quality of service and consumer protection.

## Teaching and learning approach

An interactive and intensive teaching methodology is used, comprised of several learning methods including lectures, syndicate group work, case studies, structured learning, group discussions and presentations from local and international experts in the field. In this way, participants develop a strong practical focus directly applicable to their own institutions. The course is evaluated via one individual examination and two group assignments. Group assignments are professionally presented by the group. External examiners are drawn from the academic and practitioner community.

## Course Fees 2017

**ZAR 39 900 per participant for the full course** (including local taxes)  
(South Africa as venue)

**NGN 950 690 per participant for the full course** (including local taxes)  
(Nigeria as venue)

The fee includes tuition, instructional materials, lunches and refreshments. Individual modules may be taken at a fee of ZAR 19 950 or NGN 475 350 per module per participant (including local taxes). A small fee discount is available for bulk enrolments – please enquire for enrolments of three persons or more per organisation.

## Venue

**Lectures in Johannesburg:** Wits Professional Development Hub (PDH), corner Empire Road and Jan Smuts Ave (entrance Empire Road), Braamfontein.

**Lectures in Keffi:** Nasarawa State University, Keffi-Akwanga Road. Lectures run daily from 09:00 sharp to 17:00, with breaks for lunch and teas.

## About the LINK Centre

The LINK Centre is the leading educational institution in Africa in the field of public policy and regulation for the electronic communications and Internet sectors. LINK focuses on capacity building in the private, public and development sectors through quality educational programmes, through research in the spheres of policy and regulation and through academic research. It conducts the knowledge building activities necessary to maximize the opportunity for transition to an information society and digital economy.

Visit the LINK website at <http://www.wits.ac.za/linkcentre> for more information.

## About the Centre for Cyberspace Studies, Nasarawa State University, Keffi

The first multi-disciplinary centre in Nigeria, is established to carry out R&D, develop and build vital e-skills for the rapidly changing cyberspace. The Centre aims to develop relationships and collaborate with various cyber-focused research, education, and training communities within the African continent and other relevant research groups across the globe. The Centre's activity focuses on the general area of Cyber Governance that span Cybersecurity, Cybercrime, Regulation and Compliance, Social Media Networks as well as Internet of Things (IoT).

We aim to drive and actualize global, regional and national thinking and aspirations on cyberspace through formal research and innovations. We aspire to continuously make contributions to the body of knowledge in the cyberspace domain by providing authoritative and advisory services on all aspects of the cyberspace. Our dedicated e-skills training and courses are tailored towards bridging the skill gaps thereby building strong digital people and skills.

## Application and registration

Register at <http://wits-enterprise.co.za/c/certificate-in-telecommunicationspolicy-regulation-and-management>

**Please note:** Because this course is offered at NQF Level 6, you will be required to submit proof of your eligibility by providing a copy of your school-leaving certificate.

Please refer to the Wits Enterprise Short Courses website for Short Course dates and updates <http://www.witsenterprise.co.za>.

## Contact details

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