



DIPLOMACY TRAINING PROGRAM

AFFILIATED WITH THE FACULTY OF LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
A training program for peoples of the Asia-Pacific region

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Human Rights, Advocacy and Business

A Capacity Building Program for Advocates in the Asia-Pacific Region

In partnership with Human Rights Working Group and Business Watch Indonesia
24-28 May 2010, Jakarta, Indonesia

The Diplomacy Training Program is calling for applications for its 5th regional program focused on human rights advocacy and business. The program has been developed to assist human rights defenders and community advocates as they respond to the human rights issues raised by the growing power and influence of corporations, particularly multi-national corporations.

Processes of economic globalisation across the Asia-Pacific have seen greater competition by governments for inward investment and business recognised as a key driver of economic development. Trade and investment agreements have favoured multi-national corporations at the same time as constraining the regulatory scope of national governments. The ability and willingness of governments to hold corporations accountable for their negative impacts has increasingly come into question.

Corporations have been associated with a wide range of human rights concerns. The use of child labour and the abuse of migrant labour, the exploitation of women workers in the global supply chain through low wages and oppressive working conditions in the garment sector, the displacement of Indigenous communities by mining companies, the impacts on community livelihoods of forestry, breaches of privacy by internet service providers, the patenting of traditional knowledge and collusion with state repression are some of the areas that have drawn the focus of advocates.

Human rights, social justice and environmental advocates have sought to respond to the challenges by pressing for change – for human rights and environmental standards to apply to corporate conduct, for international avenues of accountability and redress, through mobilising international opinion and developing new approaches to campaigning.

Industry codes of conduct, the UN Global Compact, multi-stakeholder initiatives and the OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises, are responses to the demands for greater corporate accountability. The international community, through the UN Human Rights Council, has adopted a new framework on human rights and business – recognising governments' responsibility to protect human rights, the responsibility of business to respect all human rights and the need for their to be effective remedies for victims when abuses occur. The UN's SRSG on Human Rights and Business, Professor John Ruggie has had his mandate extended to elaborate the practical application of this framework.

This program aims to explore how existing and emerging standards can be applied in practice, to share knowledge and lessons learnt in this area and to build the skills necessary for engaging in effective advocacy on business and human rights. Reports of DTP's past Human Rights and Business programs are available at <http://www.dtp.unsw.edu.au/publications.htm>

WHO SHOULD APPLY FOR THE TRAINING?

The program is for advocates/human rights defenders from Asia/Pacific countries and who work for and with non-government and community based organisations. It is for those who have an interest in learning more about the relevant standards and advocacy strategies in relation to the human rights responsibilities of business. Applications are particularly invited from those with experience of campaigning on corporations. Applications from women and Indigenous peoples' are encouraged. The training is conducted in English.

WHAT WILL PARTICIPANTS LEARN?

- Awareness and knowledge of existing and emerging human rights standards and codes of conduct relevant to corporations
- Practical skills for holding business accountable to its human rights responsibilities, including research skills, lobbying and working with the media
- Lessons from different strategies used by NGOs and the experiences of other advocates in the region

THE DTP AND ITS PARTNERS?

The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) is the longest established NGO providing practical training in human rights and people's diplomacy in the Asia-Pacific region. The DTP is affiliated with the Faculty of Law at UNSW in Sydney. DTP is holding this program in partnership with Human Rights Working Group and Business Watch Indonesia.

TRAINERS & TRAINING METHODOLOGY

Trainers on DTP programs are experienced and highly respected local, regional and international human rights practitioners, academics, and officials who understand and support DTP's philosophy of participatory training. The DTP recognizes and values the knowledge that participants bring to its programs. The opportunity to share experiences and lessons with other participants and trainers is one of the real benefits and highlights of attending the program. The training methodology emphasises group work, role plays, case studies and discussion.

COURSE FEES & APPLICATIONS

There is a course fee of **US \$1500** which covers tuition, accommodation, food, field trips, and resource materials during the training. Travel expenses to and from the training are not included. **Interested applicants are encouraged to enquire about subsidised spaces.** Application forms can be downloaded from the DTP website www.dtp.unsw.edu.au or can be requested from dtp@unsw.edu.au.

All applications must be received by DTP by 9 April 2010. All applications will be acknowledged. For further information contact dtp@unsw.edu.au Website: www.dtp.unsw.edu.au