



## **GLOBAL LABOUR UNIVERSITY – UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND**

### **ENGAGE Programme South Africa**

### **Union Rights, Policy and Practice: Training for Global Union Activists**

Training Programme for Participants from Africa, Asia, Latin America, North America & Europe

### **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR 2021**

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Workers in both the formal and informal economies as well as trade unions are faced with rapid economic and social change. As yet, adequate regulatory and protective frameworks have not been found to meet the challenges imposed by the varying forces of globalisation. The current world economic and health crises, exacerbated by the global COVID-19 pandemic, urgently requires the development of alternative policies and rules based on universal human rights, international social justice and democratic self-determination. However, to turn these policies and rules into reality a strong voice representing the interests of workers is needed.

ENGAGE helps labour activists and trade unionists to acquire additional knowledge and tools enabling them to take an active part in public debate and the process of policy formulation and implementation. The Certificate Course, made up of six modules, constitutes the core of the activities of ENGAGE. The cause of the decade-long decline in the wage share and the requirements for a wage-led recovery path will be discussed and analysed during the training. The participants will jointly develop strategies to enforce decent work conditions along cross-national chains of production and to regulate financial markets in a way that promotes fair globalisation and inclusive societies.

The topics covered in the course include:

- Global Governance
- Global Wage Policy and Finance
- Labour and Development
- Society and Development
- Trade Union Capacity Building
- Research Project

#### **Target Group**

Participation of labour activists and trade unionists from Africa, Asia, South and North America and Europe makes the ENGAGE training programme a truly unique international experience that offers new opportunities for global networking.

ENGAGE is part of the Global Labour University (GLU) network that has successfully established academic study opportunities for labour activists from all over the world at sites in Africa, Asia, South and North America and Europe with the aims of strengthening the intellectual and strategic capacity of workers and their organisations and fostering stronger working relationships among trade unions. Courses are taught by experienced teaching staff from the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, and other guest lecturers.

## Practical Considerations:

**Certification:** Upon successful completion of the training programme, participants will receive a short-course certificate of competence.

**Classes:** The course will run from 3<sup>rd</sup> May to 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa. Graduation is scheduled for Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June; therefore, return flights should be booked for some time between Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June and Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

**Practical Research Project:** A group research project will be undertaken during the last two weeks of the programme.

## Financing and Scholarships:

The ENGAGE Programme receives support from Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES). There are a **limited number** of scholarships for participants from Africa, Asia and South America. Not all who apply will be funded. All accepted participants are expected to pay R1000 fee when they confirm their participation. This fee should be paid by the union, but it can also be paid by the individual participant.

The scholarship covers the following:

- University short course programme costs
- Accommodation
- Tuition fees at the University of the Witwatersrand

Day-to-day living expenses are the **responsibility of the participants**. The flights to and from students' home countries have to be paid for by the participants or an organisation on their behalf.

## Estimated costs, which are subject to change, if the participant is **NOT** covered by the scholarship:

<b>Accommodation</b>	25,000.00ZAR (for two months)	1300USD*
<b>Tuition Fees</b>	8,000.00ZAR	500USD*
<b>Living Expenses</b>	4,000.00ZAR (per month)	250USD*

*\*Please note: These are estimated US dollar costs for the duration of the ENGAGE Programme. Dollar amounts are subject to currency fluctuations.*

## Admission requirements:

- you are a trade unionist (in full-time employment, a shopsteward and/or voluntary involvement) or are otherwise active in the labour movement;
- you are committed to employing your new skills in labour-related issues;
- you are motivated to pass your acquired knowledge on to others;
- you have at least a School Leaving Certificate (in exceptional circumstances we can also recognise prior learning for those who do not have school leaving certificates); those with tertiary degrees are also encouraged to apply;
- you have at least three years' labour-related work experience;
- you are responsible or will become responsible for labour-related policies in an organisation representing workers or dealing with labour issues; and
- you have a good command of English, can express yourself in writing and willing to participate actively in courses (see below).

## Language requirements

A TOEFL (IBT) score of 60 points or higher or a score of 5.5 or higher in IELTS; or you have been taught in English up to your School Leaving Certificate or your tertiary degree programme.

## Application process

We have moved to an **ONLINE** application process. We **NO LONGER** accept emailed or hardcopy mailed application packages. To apply online, please go to:

<https://www.wits.ac.za/zahrah/display/external/public/392/MVHDwPrabU#section-intro>

Please complete the **ONLINE APPLICATION FORM** which registers your application online. This process will take you to a webpage where you must upload the following documents (in English) online to complete the application process:

- **Your Curriculum Vitae (CV)/Resume**
- **Your Personal Motivational letter**
- **An Official Letter of Recommendation by your Union/Organisation endorsing your application**
- **Copies of your academic certificates**

For more information, please visit us at: <https://www.wits.ac.za/glu/>

## Contact:

For enquiries, please contact Mr Warren McGregor:

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Or the GLU office at:

Email: [GLU.SouthAfrica@wits.ac.za](mailto:GLU.SouthAfrica@wits.ac.za)

Telephone: +27 11 717 4443

**Closing date for applications: Friday 30 October 2020**

**Incomplete applications will NOT be processed.**

**Please ensure all relevant documents, as listed above, are uploaded in your online application.**