



## ***Constitution Building for Democracy***

*16 – 20 April 2012 in Lusaka, Zambia*

The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) and the Foundation for Democratic Process (FODEP) are collaborating to jointly organize a capacity-building workshop on *Constitution Building for Democracy* for constitution-building practitioners from **Namibia, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.**

### ***Introduction***

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Constitutions do much more than establish government and regulate its relationship to citizens – for many states, they have become tools to manage crisis and conflict, build inclusive democracies and lay the foundation for a culture of human rights. Constitution building is a political process aimed at addressing the challenges that modern democracies are facing.

Constitutional reform has thus become a characteristic part of intrastate conflict resolution, peace building, democratic reform and equitable economic development. National stakeholders across many sectors must have a competent understanding of the process of constitution building, the challenges and constraints during these processes as well as the realistic opportunities for political and social transformation. This course will address what kind of practices will help citizens, leaders and their supporters build democratic, sustainable constitutions.

### ***Overview***

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This five day workshop on **Constitution building for democracy** is aimed at stakeholders interested in developing their knowledge on constitutional reform processes and how constitution building practices influence the protection of political and other rights as a means to building democracies that resolve conflicts peacefully. The training workshop is based on a participatory, interactive, adult-learning methodology.

The workshop will revolve around norms, comparative practices and problem-solving supported by resource materials from Constitution Building Training Programme:

- ✓ Module on constitution building practices and mechanisms
- ✓ Module on constitution building for a human rights culture

### ***Objectives***

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Participants of the training will be able to:

- Improve their understanding of and engagement in constitution building processes
- Be able to identify viable constitution building practices that are suited in their own contexts
- Understand how constitution building can contribute to the development and strengthening of a culture of human rights

- Use constitution building to solve some of the challenges of building a sustainable democracy

## ***Training team***

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The focus of the training workshop is the experience of the individual participants. The use of comparative options that are practice-oriented will assist participants to explore specific issues that they confront in their own contexts. A team of experienced trainers will lead the course and facilitate interactive exercises, discussions and case study analysis.

To enrich discussions, provide feedback to participants and to ensure that technical aspects, especially from a legal perspective, are thoroughly addressed, the training team will be complemented by resource persons who are constitutional and human rights experts.

## ***Who should participate?***

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The course is open to participants from **Namibia, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe**, with about one-third of participants from Zambia. Participants will have a variety of disciplinary backgrounds and skills. They will be individuals working in political and technical aspects of democratic reform and conflict management within a range of institutions and organizations. Specifically, the following stakeholders will benefit from attending the training:

**Decision-makers:** Those who make decisions about the content of a constitution and the process of creating it, including elected representatives, members of political parties and members of constitutional bodies and committees.

**Implementers and technicians:** Those who will implement decisions and administer constitutional processes, including state officials, legislators/parliamentarians, members of constitutional bodies and committees, lawyers, drafters, administrative staff, members of the security sector and those who run public education and participation programs.

**Advocates:** National and non-state actors, members of NGOs and human rights groups, members of the media, and others who seek to influence the constitutional process and decisions.

The course is limited to 29 participants.

## ***Travel, accommodation & visas***

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The organizers will cover the costs of economy-class round-trip transportation to Lusaka, Zambia and will provide accommodation for participants. There is no course fee.

Participants are responsible for ensuring the validity of all necessary travel documents and for obtaining a visa to travel to Zambia. The organizers will provide visa support documentation.

## ***Registration***

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Registration forms should be submitted as soon as possible given the limited number of spaces in the training workshop. Submission of a registration form does not guarantee a place in the training; you will be contacted by the organizers to confirm your participation.

## **Organizers**

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International IDEA is an intergovernmental organization whose mission is to support locally-owned and sustainable democratic change worldwide. It has 27 member states drawn from all continents. IDEA undertakes its work in the fields of electoral processes, constitution building, political participation and representation, and democracy and development. International IDEA works worldwide. Its global headquarters is in Stockholm, Sweden, with regional programmes in Asia and the Pacific, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, West Asia and North Africa. For more information on International IDEA, please visit [www.idea.int](http://www.idea.int). For more information on constitution building, please visit [www.constitutionnet.org](http://www.constitutionnet.org).

FODEP is a civic, non-governmental organization dedicated to the promotion and strengthening of democratic governance in Zambia through advocacy and civic education programmes on the electoral process, local governance and development, and human rights. The organization was formed in 1992 as a successor to the Zambia Election Monitoring Coordinating Committee (ZEMCC), a consortium of civil society organizations which was in-turn formed in 1991 to monitor Zambia's first round of multi-party elections. For more information on FODEP, please visit <http://fodep.blogspot.com/>.

## **Contact**

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