LEGAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT (RWANDA)

Capacity Development Program for legal professionals and advanced students

INSPIRE. EMPOWER. IMPACT.
PROGRAM OVERVIEW
The Rwandan Ministry of Justice invites leading global law firms and schools to travel to Rwanda and help train the governmental legal staff in how to better implement its laws, more efficiently accomplish transactions, and better resolve disputes as part of the country’s ongoing development and transition from civil to common law. Participants develop and present curricula on one of over 25 predefined priority topics.

PROGRAM DESTINATION
Imagine an African nation where you can feel safe and secure walking the streets of its modern green capital, where zero tolerance for corruption really means zero tolerance, a country which the World Bank applauds as one of the world’s top business reformers, with the most gender-equal parliament in the world, increasingly globally admired for its achievements in healthcare and education, with a national fiber-optic broadband backbone that many far more developed countries dream of… all just a stone’s throw away from world-class tourism activities like the tracking of endangered mountain gorillas…

… Welcome to Rwanda, possibly the greatest development success story in the world today.

PROGRAM INTRODUCTION
Rwanda’s legal professionals are largely overwhelmed with the country’s on-going transition from civil to common law so that the main challenge today is a widespread lack of human capacity. This is particularly obvious with regard to the consistent and prompt application of the new laws. In many cases, there are long delays, and judicial personnel do not receive any specific training for the new legislation. On top of a lack of knowledge, a lack of experience is still pronounced. The majority of judges named to the Supreme Court, for example, have never been judges before.

Today, with just over 600 lawyers, most of whom are relatively young and inexperienced, the country has an advocate-to-population ratio of 1 to over 16,000 citizens (compared to ratios of 1 to 265 in the USA or 1 to 401 in the UK). Capacity and skills building for both official and private institutions are key needs, especially when it comes to developing and implementing new elements of the common law system. The Ministry of Justice initiated this capacity development program to help bridge that gap.
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NEXT PROGRAM DATES
- Main program: Flexible
- Mountain gorilla trek extension: Flexible

PROGRAM COSTS (EXCLUSIVE OF FLIGHTS)
- Main program: $2,990 per person (double occupancy)
- Mountain gorilla trek extension: $1,700 per person (double occupancy)

PROGRAM ITINERARY
Day 1: Personal welcome at the airport | program briefing | welcome dinner
Day 2: Half-day workshop | lunch with training participants | meeting with the Minister of Justice or the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Justice
Day 3: Half-day workshop | lunch with training participants | historical exploration of Kigali
Day 4: Half-day workshop | lunch with training participants | meeting with the Legal Aid Forum, a local organization that promotes and supports the provision of accessible and quality legal aid services
Day 5: Half-day workshop | lunch with training participants | visit to the Kigali Memorial Center, the country’s largest genocide memorial and a museum on comparative genocides
Day 6: Half-day workshop | lunch with training participants | visit to Les Enfants de Dieu, an innovative street children project whose governance is modeled on the structure of the Rwandan government
Day 7: Morning at own disposal | personal farewell at the airport
  OR (optional extension)
Day 7: Tracking of mountain gorillas in Volcanoes National Park | afternoon at own disposal
Day 8: Return transfer to Kigali | optional souvenir shopping | personal farewell at the airport

“I warmly welcome educational and training partnerships that build the capacity of our Ministry while expanding knowledge and horizons on both sides. I encourage your institution to play a unique and valuable role in the development and strengthening of Rwanda’s legal system.”

Honorable Tharcisse Karugarama
Rwandan Minister of Justice
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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
• Rwanda is a unique country on the ascent, rebuilding its institutions and recovering from the trauma of a genocide 18 years ago. Your training will make an important contribution to the development of the country’s rule of law and legal system and, ultimately, to poverty reduction and nation building.
• You can learn first-hand about the challenges arising from a transition from civil to common law.
• This is a rare international pro bono opportunity where transactional lawyers can participate and make a real impact.
• Build professional connections and friendships with Rwandan counterparts that can last a lifetime.

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS
GEI programs are inclusive experiences that cover the entire in-country arrangement:
• All accommodation in 4* hotels
• All in-country transportation for the delegation
• All meals, as specified in the itinerary, inclusive of one locally produced soda or mineral water per meal
• Admission to all activities, as specified in the itinerary
• Mineral water on the vehicle
• Full-time local delegation management and guiding
• 24/7 emergency support from our local program office

Not included are the international transport (flights, airport taxes etc), visas, travel and medical insurance, alcoholic and additional non-alcoholic drinks, personal expenses and other extras.

ABOUT GEI
The Global Engagement Institute (GEI) is a social business that provides high-impact short-term programs for international students and professionals in developing countries. These experiences encourage transformation towards proactive global citizenship, and contribute to the personal and professional development of international participants and local counterparts alike.

Let us inspire and empower you to make a difference.