

ASSER
INSTITUTE



Centre for International & European Law

MATRA South Programme for Arab Countries
Supporting democratic transition in the Arab region

Two-week training programme
on the subject

Administration of Justice

for a total of 25 civil servants from the following countries:
Egypt, Jordan, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia

22 – 31 March, 2015 The Hague, The Netherlands
18 – 21 October, 2015 region

T.M.C. Asser Instituut www.asser.nl



Core Information

This training on the Administration of Justice is intended for:

Senior civil servants (experts and policy makers), Judges, Public Prosecutors and Officers employed by the national Ministries of Justice/(semi) governmental organisations and charged with the development of the organisation of the Judicial procedure in their respective countries.

Objectives:

Through this Matra South training programme, the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs aims to stimulate and support the democratic transition in the Arab region and to strengthen relations between the Netherlands and the target countries by sharing the necessary knowledge and skills with policy advisors, members of the judiciary and other civil servants working for the administration of justice in order for them to lead and inspire the modernisation of the judicial systems of their home countries building from the Dutch experience.

Eligible countries:	Egypt, Jordan, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia
Application deadline:	18 January 2015
Training periods:	22 – 31 March, 2015, The Hague, The Netherlands 18 – 21 October 2015, in the region
Principle language:	English With simultaneous interpretation English-French / French-English
Locations:	Part 1: The Hague, The Netherlands Part 2: In the Region
Programme Costs:	The Netherlands Government will provide full fellowships to selected participants. Each fellowship will cover the cost of international travel (economy), board and lodging, visa and insurance, tuition fees, lecture materials and excursions for part 1 and part 2 of the training programme.
Training venue:	T.M.C. Asser Instituut R.J. Schimmelpenninklaan 20-22, The Hague www.asser.nl and on location
Hotel accommodation:	Hotel Court Garden, The Hague www.hotelcourtgarden.nl Venue in the region: To be announced.
Information:	http://www.matra-south.nl

Introduction

As with other governmental sectors, the administration of the justice is also increasingly affected by the Europeanization and the internationalisation of governance.

In keeping with the Dutch government's foreign policy, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs seeks to contribute to the recent political developments in the Arabic region. The programme intends to support a sustainable transition to pluralistic and democratic societies governed by the rule of law in the Arabic region. The proposed course on the *Administration of Justice (AJ)* is one of the instruments used to implement this policy. Through the provision of an integrated and interactive course encompassing theory, practical training and interlinked study visits and a social component, it is believed that the participants will be exposed to relevant knowledge and practice that will further their individual experience levels and open up new doors and dimensions to some. The diverse group of participants (diverse in terms of functions and countries of origin) will enable individuals to look over borders and experience realities, attitudes and solutions from other areas of their particular working environment as well as from abroad. Through intense, intra-group interaction it is expected that individuals will greatly expand their personal networks towards lasting communication and cooperation with each other and with the lecturing/host body.

The Matra South Training Programme is organised under the auspices of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and is executed by the T.M.C. Asser Instituut on behalf of the NL Agency.

Project goals

Train the participants such that they are equipped with knowledge and practical skills that will enable them to develop their judicial systems from organisational and policy perspectives. It is also the objective to raise awareness among the various participants (policy advisors, judges and public prosecutors) of each others' roles, knowledge and abilities and to stimulate and strengthen the judicial cooperation with and between the participating countries. Moreover, the programme will help train participants to work and manage their national judiciary in order to meet the challenges linked with the multilevel judicial architecture that characterises interaction with the EU, the Council of Europe and in the overall International Community.

The primary focus of the programme is to train the participants on the organisational and policy relevant ways and means to develop a state-of-the-art administration of justice. The best practices from the Netherlands and the EU will be central to this training.

The secondary objective of the programme is the creation of networks among the participants and between them and the (guest) lecturers, so as to stimulate the transfer of knowledge and practical expertise about the administration of justice.

On completion of the training, participants will:

- Have insight in actual developments that influence the field of justice-administration
- Know how the Dutch administration of justice and judicial procedures are organized
- Know how Dutch public servants deal with strategic policy issues
- Be able to use the acquired knowledge and best practices as a source of inspiration for dealing with challenges related to the development of justice administration in their own countries
- Be trained in the practical application of specific subjects and in a number of oft-needed practical skills
- Have had the opportunity to share knowledge and experiences
- Have had the opportunity to create new professional cross-border networking relations.

Approach

The training programme will have a practical and interactive character. This is in line with the objective to share knowledge and strengthen the co-operation between the public servants and magistrates of the participating countries.

Training programme

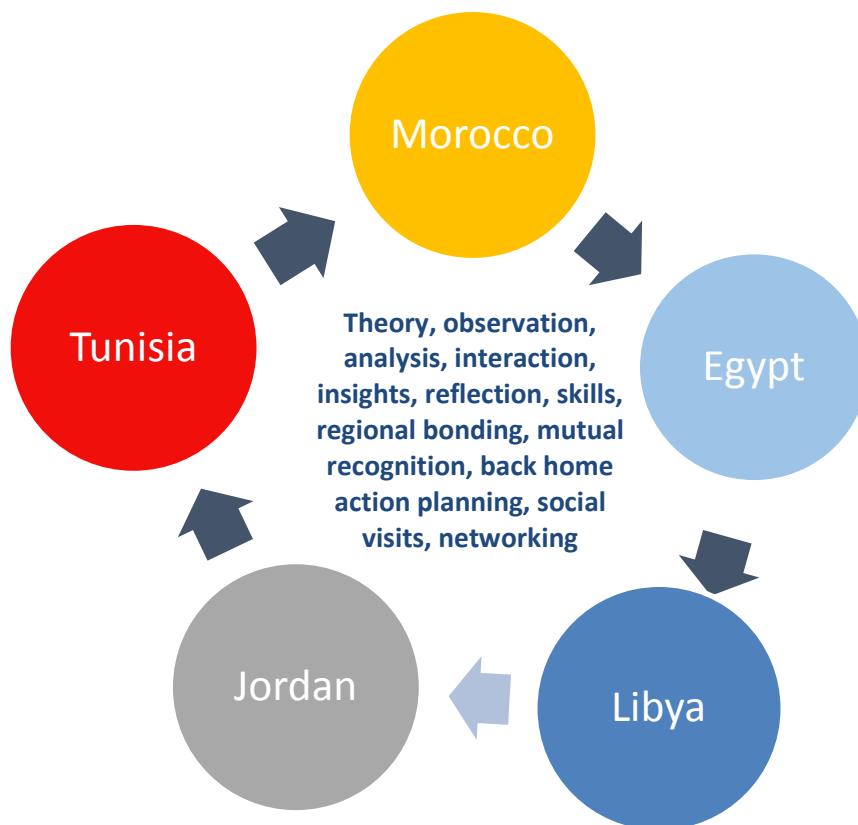
The programme is built around three balanced, mutually supportive and integrated components, namely:

- Theory
- Practical Skills
- Study visits/Social programme

Training programme structure

The training programme incorporates a total of 9 days in the Netherlands and 4 days in the Region.

Part 1: The Netherlands



***Schematic presentation of Matra South training structure
Administration of Justice***

The first part of the training programme will take place in the Netherlands. In order for the participants to meet the goals of the programme, it is essential that they spend some time in the Netherlands, and more specific in The Hague, the capital of international justice, to appreciate the Dutch judicial system. Study visits to key organisations in The Hague are crucial to supporting the structure of the programme and reinforcing the take home message. Secondly, the networking and social aspect: the interaction with Dutch lecturers, peers in the ministerial and judicial departments etc. will be promoted. Furthermore, participants will be facilitated in developing contacts with neighbouring countries and will develop a better understanding of each others national situations with respect to the subject matter of the training, by spending an extended period together away from the immediate workflow.

Part 2: The Region

During part I of the training, participants will be introduced to back home action planning and coached to prepare such a plan for their particular home situations. In order to increase the effectiveness of the training, it is designed as an on-going process.

The second part of the training will take the form of a 2 day workshop in the region where participants will share, discuss and attempt to reach constructive answers and solution to the issues they face and the difficulties or not that they may have in implementing their particular back home plans to get work done. The two days will serve for exchange of experience, highlighting the bottlenecks but also the success stories of implementing what they had learned in Part 1 of the training.

Training programme content (tentative)

The emphasis in the theoretical component will not be on the simple transfer of theoretical knowledge but on sharing the practical knowledge and experience gained in the Dutch situation in the administration of justice with the participants. The primary focus will be on demands on the judiciary system with regard to judicial quality, speed, accessibility, integrity and consistency. Furthermore, issues of judicial cooperation in criminal and civil matters in the European Union will be dealt with, as well as the impact of the European standards as regards the protection of human rights on the administration of justice.

The key elements of the administration of justice

- Administration of Justice: dilemmas for Dutch policymakers
- The organisation of justice in the Netherlands:
 - ➔ The Role of the Police Officer
 - ➔ The Role of the Prosecutor
 - ➔ The Role of the (Investigative) Judge
 - ➔ The Role of the Council for the Judiciary
- Strengthening Judicial Integrity against Corruption
- Theoretical Introduction to the Back Home Action Plan and the T.M.C. Asser Instituut E-Learning Platform

Informatisation of justice administration

- The Use of ICT in judicial procedures
- E-Justice
- Dutch Case law databases and knowledge systems

Court Management

- The Balance between quality of jurisdiction and efficiency of procedures
- Court management systems: Simple proceedings for simple cases

The internationalisation of justice administration

- European standards to protect Human Rights in judicial proceedings
- Claims against the Netherlands in the European Court of Human Rights
- Jurisdiction in relation to Alternative Forms of Dispute Resolution (ADR) with a focus on Arbitration
- Mediation: strengths and weaknesses
- Judicial cooperation in commercial cases
- Judicial cooperation in criminal matters within the EU

Practical Skills component

In addition to the theoretical component and the related study visits, the participants will be provided with the opportunity and guidance to improve their practical skills, inter alia, within workshops and group exercises.

The programme includes workshops on practical skills:

- Presiding tips
- Debating techniques
- Public speech
- Building self-confidence

Participants will be requested to prepare and present a Back Home Action Plan. This is an essential element of the course and will take the form of a group exercise. This exercise will be introduced to participants in the first half of the first week of the course, after a group discussion on the challenges faced in justice administration 'back home'. In advance of the programme, the selected participants will be asked to provide us with information pertaining to their individual learning needs and objectives. The collated responses will serve to feed the further fine-tuning of the training programme to ensure maximum effectiveness. Participants will twice devote half a course day to working together on the exercise before making group presentations on the final day of the course. Not only will this exercise stimulate the interaction among participants, it will also allow them to put the best practices and lessons learned into practice when they go back home.

Lecturers

All programme lecturers are carefully selected and have, broad European experience, particularly in the target countries, with respect to the many aspects of legal reform. They have an open eye for differences in national systems and have a thorough understanding for and practical experience in the problems the participants face at home.

Lecturers are drawn from:

- The Ministries of Justice and of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands and other Dutch policy departments
- Academic Institutions and NGOs
- The courts and tribunals in The Hague.

Participants

Senior civil servants (experts and policy makers), Judges, Public Prosecutors and Officers employed by the national Ministries of Justice/(semi) governmental organisations and charged with the development of the organisation of the Judicial procedure in their respective countries are invited to apply. The training is intended for applicants from Morocco, Tunisia, and Jordan.

The maximum number of participants is 25. The total will represent a balance in the number of participants from the individual countries.

Admission Requirements

Important points on which the selection of participants will largely be based are:

- The participant should clearly demonstrate an immediate need for training in the field of the development of the judiciary;
- The participant should have experience with the current judicial practices and the many aspects of the judicial (legal) reform in his/her country;
- The participant should command a **good level** of spoken and written English or French;
- The participant should be highly motivated and enthusiastic;
- The participant should be comfortable sharing his/her knowledge with fellow participants (solo presentation during the programme will be required);
- Deliver a signed employer's statement during the application.

How to Apply

Applications should be made online through the course page on Matra South website english.rvo.nl/matra-south as follows:

To apply you have to create an account which will enable you to fill out the online application form.

Go to Downloads, click on application form for the relevant training programme, click on your country; you can then download the application form.

Applications should be submitted **before January 18, 2015**. Please note that the application instructions on the website need to be followed carefully. Failure to do so may result in your application not being considered.

Only fully documented applications will be considered. Admission will be on a competitive basis. The participants will be selected by a committee of representatives from the Netherlands Ministry of Security and Justice, Agentschap.nl and The T.M.C. Asser Instituut.

Applicants who have been awarded a place are expected to attend both parts 1 and 2 of the training programme. In case of no-shows or cancellations within 3 weeks before the start of the course, the organisers reserve the right to claim any costs incurred from the applicant's employer.

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Information and training programme organisation

T.M.C. Asser Instituut

Located in the 'international zone' of The Hague – the City of Justice, Peace and Security, The T.M.C. Asser Instituut (1965) is a unique, strongly **networked**, inter-university centre. The Institute harbours extensive knowledge on actual developments in the law. This knowledge is created and maintained in the areas of public and private international law, European Law and International and European sports law. The Institute is specialized in research, training and education and valorization. It is a leading and authoritative provider of quality (executive) education and training to students and professionals operating in the judicial sector with a focus on International Law. The T.M.C. Asser Instituut has a long and rich tradition in successfully developing and delivering topical and quality training programmes to participants from the (international) judiciary and civil servants.

Its core activities of fundamental and applied research, postgraduate education/ PhD candidate guidance, executive training, publishing and knowledge dissemination and valorisation are predominantly carried out from its premises in The Hague but the Asser Institute also delivers various services abroad (capacity building, technical support and “on demand” training).

Building on more than forty five years of experience, the institute has an excellent track record and real-world experience at national and international level in serving its diverse population of stakeholders (e.g. policy research for governments, capacity building in developing countries judiciaries and the development and delivery of innovative education models).

Website: www.asser.nl

Contact person: Ms Sanae Hamzaoui, Department of Education, T.M.C. Asser Instituut

E-mail: educationtraining@asser.nl

More information on the Matra South programme

The Royal Netherlands Embassy in your country can supply more information about the other courses. For further information, you can contact either the Royal Netherlands Embassy or Netherlands Enterprise Agency:

Netherlands Enterprise Agency

P.O. Box 20105 | 2500 EC | The Hague | The Netherlands

Website english.rvo.nl/matra-south

Contact person: Ms Sheila Kwint

E-mail: sheila.kwint@rvo.nl