ALSF NOMADIC TRAINING: AN INNOVATIVE MOBILE PROGRAM ON BUILDING PPP-RELATED LEGAL CAPACITIES IN AFRICA

An Urgent Need for PPP Training

As part of their efforts to attract private investments in infrastructure development and public services delivery, many African governments are developing legal and institutional frameworks on Public-Private Partnerships. However, the majority of these governments still lack the legal capacities to prepare, negotiate and implement PPP agreements effectively.

In order to ensure the effectiveness of their institutional and regulatory frameworks on PPPs and enhance their capacities to negotiate equitable PPP agreements, African governments need to develop legal expertise in relevant ministries, contracting authorities and among private lawyers.

Building Essential Legal Capacities

In October 2012, the ALSF, in partnership with the training center of the French Development Agency (CEFEB) and the International Agency for Technical Assistance of the French Ministry of Economy and Finance (ADETEF) launched the Nomadic PPP Training Program.

The Nomadic Training Program is designed to transfer legal knowledge and provide key African officials in relevant ministries, contracting authorities and private lawyers with the necessary legal capacities to deal with institutional, legal, contractual and financial aspects of PPPs. Aimed at African countries with limited experiences and legal capacities on PPP, the program uses a range of training methods, to help participants develop their capacities to handle negotiations and implementation of PPP agreements.

The Program provides African officials and legal experts with easy access to high quality legal training close to their countries and offers them opportunities to connect with other experts in the region and share ideas and experience.

Measurable Success in a Short Time

The first edition of the Nomadic PPP program provided training to 27 representatives of PPP units and technical ministries from 11 African countries. Participants received training on a wide range of issues such as developing a PPP regulatory framework, best practice in developing and implementing PPP operations and financial management. Participants in the first Nomadic workshop were highly satisfied with the quality of the training and the content of the presentations.

"The ALSF Nomadic workshop gave me the opportunity to work on actual case studies and legal questions similar to issues I am dealing with in my country. The skills I acquired during the training will help me handle legal matters relating to PPP and negotiate contracts much more effectively." - Abdoulaye Gounou, Technical Adviser of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Benin in Public Private Partnership Development.

Abdoulaye Gounou
Technical Adviser of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Benin in Public Private Partnership Development.