

# Natural Resource Governance and Energy Transition: Policies and Practice

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Online Course: 24 April – 23 June

- 24–28 April: Introductory Week
- 1 May–2 June: Self-study Phase
- 12–23 June: Live Phase

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# Background

**In resource-rich countries, oil, gas, and mineral revenues offer opportunities to accelerate economic development and reduce poverty.**

The advanced course is designed to equip a pool of exceptional individuals from **government, civil society, parliaments, media, international development agencies, and the private sector**, as well as **academics, researchers, and analysts**, with the knowledge and tools necessary to contribute towards better governance and oversight of natural resources for a better future, particularly considering the energy transition and its impact on the extractives sector.

The advanced course will provide a platform to analyze the political economy of governance in resource-rich states and explore how it impacts domestic policy debates and practice.

In light of the global imperative of a transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy, these skills are paramount to leaders in natural resource governance who need to manage the challenges that come with it and understand the impact of politics and power on policy outcomes.

The course is designed primarily for experienced individuals who have a solid understanding of the subject matter but are seeking to enhance their knowledge and skills to play a more prominent role in developing, monitoring, and/or evaluating their mining and/or gas and petroleum resources, particularly in the context of the energy transition.

This online course is delivered through a unique collaboration between ETH Zürich's NADEL-Center for Development and Cooperation and the Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI).





# The course

## Innovative methodology and world class teaching

**The course will be structured into an introductory live online week, a five-week online self-study phase and a two-week live online phase.**

**The introductory week** will provide an initial overview of the course, topics, and structure, along with introductory live sessions and the introduction to a knowledge-to-action assignment on a chosen challenge the energy transition brings to their specific contexts. Participants will be able to translate what they learn each step of the way (from the self-study phase, through to the online live phase and beyond) into actionable insights for their work.

**The self-study phase will allow participants to access a variety of online material and videos, interact with their peers and refresh their**

**knowledge and skills on political economy, fiscal regime design, revenue management, environmental and local impacts of extraction.**

Although participants will have complete freedom to go through the material at their pace, this phase will provide some structure by featuring weekly group discussions facilitated by module lecturers and organizers.

**During the live online phase participants will attend a series of core live lectures by world class experts on different topics around natural resource governance and choose one of two paths.** Participants will also have the possibility to attend supplementary optional sessions and sign-up for online one-on-one clinics with our experts to discuss individual challenges they face in their countries and request advice.

# During the live online phase participants will choose one of two paths:

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## → PATH 1

### Maximizing tax benefits and managing transition risks

**Participants who choose Path 1 will be able to dive deeper into fiscal aspects and develop key practical and analytical skills.** They will learn to read and use Excel-based models to evaluate and compare different fiscal regimes, make investment decisions, forecast revenue streams and assess risks of revenue leakages. Participants will also learn how to use standardized models developed by NRG1 to inform policy analysis and decision-making through a mock negotiation exercise. In Path 1 participants will also study corruption risks and specific transition risks for state-owned enterprises, as well as engage in an interactive exercise on assessing transition risks and economic consequences.

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## → PATH 2

### Maximizing community benefits and managing diversification

**Participants in Path 2 will examine the causes of weak development outcomes in resource-rich environments and familiarize themselves with tools to minimize socio-economic impacts and risks on the one hand and distribute and manage resource revenues to enhance development on the other.** Participants will study policies to enhance citizen engagement and mitigate socio-economic impacts and conflicts. Furthermore, participants will learn hands-on tools to manage revenue distribution on national and sub-national level, special funds, national and local development plans, economic diversification and the implementation of local content policies and shared-use infrastructure. Participants will also engage in an interactive exercise on assessing transition risks and economic consequences.

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## The 2023 course will cover:

- Energy transition-related challenges on natural resource sectors
- The political economy of natural resource extraction
- Discovery and allocation of resource rights and licensing
- Fiscal regimes and taxation
- Managing natural resource revenues and investment
- State-owned companies governance
- Socio-environmental impacts and conflicts
- Citizen engagement policies and initiatives
- Local content and local transformation of minerals
- Corruption and accountability



The course uses the **Natural Resource Charter** as its primary intellectual framework. The charter is a set of economic principles for governments and societies on how to best manage the opportunities created by natural resources to promote development.



## World-class teaching

The course will be delivered through a unique collaboration between ETH-NADEL and the Natural Resource Governance Institute. Sessions will be delivered by NRGI, ETH-NADEL researchers and internationally incorporating the latest knowledge and techniques.

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### Previous speakers include:

- **Fritz Brugger**  
NADEL Center for development and cooperation (ETH Zurich)
- **Elisabeth Caesens**  
Natural Resource Governance Institute (Resource Matters)
- **Ana Carolina Gonzalez**  
Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI)
- **Patrick Heller**  
Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI)
- **Bernhard Wehrli**  
Department of Environmental Systems Science (ETH Zurich)
- **Susan Maples - Curtis**  
Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP
- **David Manley**  
Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI)
- **Valérie Marcel**  
Chatham House
- **Tobias Schmidt**  
Department of Humanities, Social and Political Science (ETH Zurich)
- **Andrew Bauer**  
Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI)
- **Nicola Woodroffe**  
Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI)
- **Eric Parrado**  
Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)
- **Thomas Lassourd**  
IGF Mining



# Course structure, important dates and workload

## Dates and times (in Central European Time, CET) of live online sessions are listed below.

Additionally, participants will use time for self-study activities, assignments and exercises. In total (live online sessions and self-study activities) participants commit to about 10 hours in the Introductory week, 30 hours during the self-study phase and 30 hours during the two intense live online weeks. In total, approximately 70 hours will be dedicated to the advanced course.

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### Introductory week (approx. 10 hours of study):

- 24 and 25 April, 2-4 p.m. CET: Introductory live sessions
  - 28 April, 2pm-4 p.m. CET – live group discussion
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### Self-study phase (approx. 30 hours of study):

- 01 May – 02 June – Self-study phase
  - Every Friday 2 p.m.-4 p.m. CET – live group discussions
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### Live phase (approx. 30 hours of study):

- 12 June – 23 June – Live sessions
  - Every day 2 p.m.- 4 p.m. CET – mandatory live sessions
  - Four additional supplementary live sessions are offered at 5 p.m. CET – (two sessions per week)
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# Course fees

**The full cost of participation in this online edition of the course is CHF 1,500.**

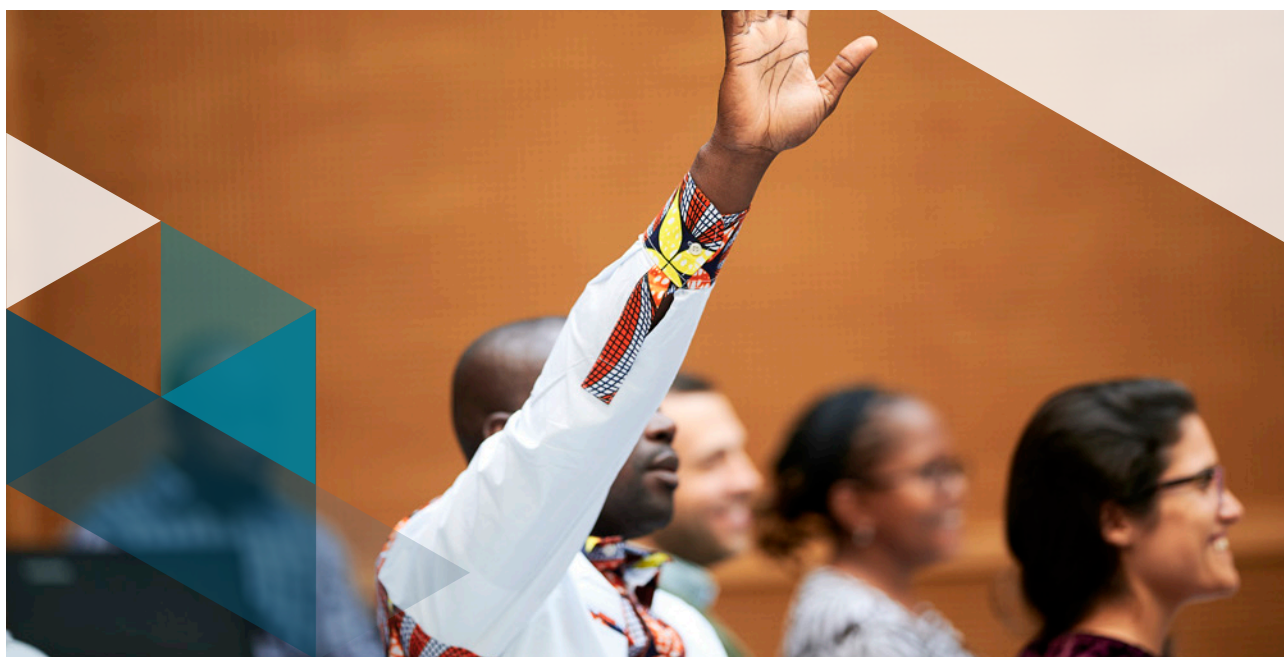
## Scholarships

A limited number of scholarships covering either the full course fees or 50% of the course fees are available on a competitive basis for **members of government, civil society, parliaments, and the media** from selected resource-rich countries: **Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Guinea, Mexico, Mongolia, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Tanzania, Tunisia, and Uganda**. Women and gender diverse candidates are particularly encouraged to apply. A restricted number of exceptions from this list may be made for outstanding applicants from other countries.

## Important information on payment

Please note that you may receive an offer for the course but no scholarship, even though you applied for both. **ETH-NADEL and NRGi will only be able to grant scholarships to a restricted number of participants.** You will have to accept the offer to course participation one week after receiving it (latest 19 March). **We recommend you also look for funding elsewhere, in case you get accepted for the course but not for our scholarship.**

We advise applicants who are planning to receive (partial) funding from their employer (or any other third party) to inform them early enough about your application, so that, once you receive the offer, you can confirm your participation and make the online payment.



# Application process



## Who should apply?

The course is open to participants with at least 5 years of experience falling into the following categories:

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- **Civil society leaders** with a track record of analysis, oversight, and policy advocacy around the governance of extractive industries.
  - **Mid- to senior-level government officials** from ministries and departments involved in policy design, implementation, and compliance, including audit agencies.
  - **Officials from state-owned enterprises.**
  - **Members of parliament**, parliamentary staffers, and researchers well versed in the governance of extractive industries.
  - **Journalists** with previous experience reporting on extractive sector governance.
  - **Academics and doctoral students** undertaking applied research or teaching on the governance of natural resources.
  - **Professionals from development agencies**, including consultancies, aid agencies, and international financial institutions.
  - **Representatives from extractive industry associations** such as chambers of energy and minerals or country-level industry think tanks.
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A good understanding of, or background in, economics is highly desirable. Good quantitative and Excel skills are required for both paths of the course. Please Note this is not an entry-level course. NRGI and partners offer other courses for those new to resource governance.

**The course is delivered fully online and in English.** Applicants who are not native English speakers must demonstrate sufficient proficiency in this language by satisfying one of the requirements listed below before beginning the course. Applicants will be accepted if they:

- Have been educated full-time in English
- Work in English
- Have done English Language proficiency tests

Please consult [www.resourcegovernance.org/learning](http://www.resourcegovernance.org/learning) for details on other opportunities.



## How to apply?

Applicants must complete an online application form and upload the following documentation:

- Personal résumé/CV (one page)
- A brief essay (one page) on a particular governance challenge associated with extractive industries in the applicant's country of interest and the applicant's expectations of how the course will benefit them and their organization in efforts to help address this particular challenge. Course participants will work on their personal challenges in several moments throughout the course, to track their individual learning process and relate the learnt course theory to their particular personal work contexts.
- A short biography (not more than 200 words)
- A photo (portrait style)

Applicants will also have to indicate which path they wish to take. Every effort will be made to accommodate path choice. To apply visit the course website:

[nadel.ethz.ch/education/individual-courses-for-professionals/Spring-Semester-2023/Natural-Resource-Governance.html](https://nadel.ethz.ch/education/individual-courses-for-professionals/Spring-Semester-2023/Natural-Resource-Governance.html)



## Important Dates for application process

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### → 23 January

Applications open.

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### → 19 February

Applications close.

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### → 13 February – 5 March

Long listed applicants will be notified and given a pre-course assessment. They will have to **submit the pre-course assessment within a week.**

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### → 21 March

Short listed applicants will receive an offer of participation as well as ETH-NADEL and NRG I scholarship offer, in case it was requested and granted (please note that you may be accepted for the course but not for the scholarship).

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### → 28 March

**One week after receiving the offer** – short-listed applicants will have to **accept the offer by making the online payment of the course fee.**

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To accept the offer and make the payment, you will need to register with the ETH University portal. You will receive an email with the detailed instructions on how to register, accept the offer and make the payment online.

**To guarantee participation for accepted candidates, we recommend seeking other funding opportunities, given that ETH-NADEL and NRG I are not able to accommodate all scholarship requests and might accept a candidate for participation without offering a requested scholarship.**

Only complete applications will be considered. Applicants must fill the required information in the application form and submit all required documents by 19 February

Cancellation of once sent application forms up to two weeks prior to the course commencement will be subject to a cancellation fee equal to CHF 50.

Cancellation within two weeks prior to course commencement will be subject to a cancellation fee equal to the full course fee CHF 1,500.

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## About the organizers



### Natural Resource Governance Institute

The Natural Resource Governance Institute is an independent, non-profit organization that supports informed, inclusive decision-making about natural resources and the energy transition. We partner with reformers in government and civil society to design and implement just policies based on evidence and the priorities of citizens in resource-rich developing countries.

[www.resourcegovernance.org](http://www.resourcegovernance.org)

## Nadel Center for Development and Cooperation, ETH Zürich



The mission of the Center for Development and Cooperation (NADEL) is to build and share knowledge for effective policy making that addresses challenges of sustainable development. This mission is met by offering interdisciplinary postgraduate programs in development and cooperation, by promoting public outreach activities that bridge science and policy, and by engaging in research activities. A key objective of our research is to develop sustainable solutions to poverty reduction and to sustainable resource extraction and management.

[www.nadel.ethz.ch](http://www.nadel.ethz.ch)

### Host Institution (online)

- NADEL, ETH Zürich, Zurich, Switzerland
- Ranks 9th globally and 3rd in Europe in the 2023 QS ranking
- Ranks 11th globally in the 2023 World University Rankings (THE)
- 21 Nobel Prize Winners (including Albert Einstein)

### NADEL Center for Development and Cooperation

ETH Zürich Clausisstrasse 37, Building CLD 8092  
Zurich, Switzerland

+41 44-632-4240 | [info@nadel.ethz.ch](mailto:info@nadel.ethz.ch)

[www.nadel.ethz.ch](http://www.nadel.ethz.ch)

### Natural Resource Governance Institute

88 Pine Street (Wall Street Plaza), Suite 540,  
New York, NY 10005

+1 646-929-9750 | [info@resourcegovernance.org](mailto:info@resourcegovernance.org)

[www.resourcegovernance.org](http://www.resourcegovernance.org)

# Testimonials

“Taking the advanced course has been one of the best experiences in my professional development. It provided me with a deep understanding of the best practices of governance when dealing with the development of natural resources in developing countries; and excellent tools for my own performance. After finishing the advanced course I had to teach a course on Environmental Management in Mine Operations for government officials in Panama, and the information gained during the virtual training with NADEL and NRGI was instrumental in my preparation for it!”

## **Freddy Caceres**

Manager, Extractive Resource Governance Program (ERGP) – The School of Public Policy, University of Calgary

“The advanced course provided me with new tools to reimagine the energy transition in a context of volatility and transformations. The conceptual framework offered by the course contributed to updating the conceptual framework for analyzing public policy and the critical sectors of hydrocarbons and mining. Through interactive sessions with top-level experts and peer-to-peer exchanges, I had the opportunity to discuss the main current challenges of natural resource governance and learn how they are being addressed in different corners of the world.”

## **Santiago Novoa**

Economist and General Coordinator at Fundación Patagonia Natural

“The advanced course gave me the opportunity to develop my knowledge in natural resources governance. I am currently better equipped as a Tunisian civil society actor to be involved in fiscal policy projects. I also got in touch with my peers around the world to discuss comparative experiences and to build partnership opportunities between our organizations.”

## **Mohamed Adem Mokrani**

Lawyer & Legal Advisor, Tunisia Energy Society TENS, Tunisia





“The advanced course directly improved my ability to conduct research and assist reformers working to open up the extractives sector. Many OGP members are advancing reforms to strengthen transparency and accountability in natural resource governance. The course’s comprehensive content has helped me to view these reforms within the wider political, environmental, and economic context. Consequently, I’m better placed to support the efforts of these open government champions in my work at OGP’s Independent Reporting Mechanism.”

**Mia Katan**

Research Officer,  
IRM, Open Government Partnership

“Participating in the advanced course was a very rewarding experience. If anyone is looking to expand their knowledge on natural resource governance in the context of the energy transition, this is the program to take. What I found was a strong and up-to-date content, experienced professors, and a diverse group of professionals from all around the world, which enriched the discussions and expanded my knowledge about the challenges faced by many countries with extractive industries and energy transition.”

**Veronica Morelli**

Attorney