

Academy of Political Management

2023 Call for applications



**FRIEDRICH
EBERT**
STIFTUNG
Philippines





RESPONSIBLE:

Shenna Kim Karisma | Philippines Programme Coordinator

Larah Del Mundo | APM Coordinator

✉ apm@fes-philippines.org

(+63) 917-864-0143 | (+632) 8634 6919

Rationale

The Philippines is considered to have among the richest and most vibrant civil society organizations (CSOs) in the world. These CSOs are the non-governmental organizations (NGOs), people's organizations (POs) and mass and sectoral movements (labor, youth, women, etc.). From protests to partnerships, CSOs have committed themselves to the tasks of development, protection and promotion of people's rights and welfare, with particular preference for the poor and marginalized. These tasks entail both small changes and reform of the structures or the system. In these tasks, sustainability is key.

The sustainability of CSOs, as they themselves recognize, is challenged, among others, by the dearth of skilled second liners and the 'fragmentation' of progressive movements. This shallow bench of skilled second liners can be attributed to the lack of capacity building programs for its members, among many other factors.

The practice of 'sink-or-swim' learning or 'organizing-on-the-go' (among progressive and activist organizations which make up mass movements and political groups) has worked to activate and capacitate people to address a host of urgent issues, but it has its limits. The country is also faced with the current reality of having far fewer young people going into community organizing work, which used to be where NGO leaders were developed.

Often, as organizations expand, or when seasoned PO/NGO leaders are pulled out of their organic groups to assume other responsibilities, the organizations are left to the care of young, often inexperienced successors. Unfortunately, this often comes with the absence of a thorough, programmatic, coordinated and measured intervention for leadership development. On the other hand, continuous 'de-fragmentation' or the splitting-up of mass movements happen as older generations of leaders take more and more political baggage while having less opportunity to sit, talk, and collaborate.

Within its mandate as a political-education foundation, one area in which FES can assist its partners as well as the general public interested in progressive leadership development is to provide training and capacity-building to potential leaders and "next-generation" or second-line cadres who can perform both organizational and political tasks. This means investing in developing the skills and abilities of individuals that are inclined to undertake activism, or those that are poised to soon be in decision-making positions in FES partner organizations.

The Academy of Political Management (APM) was conceptualized with these considerations in mind. It recognizes that in order to advance reforms that form part of the necessary ingredients for social democratic ideals, the organizations that espouse good governance, political and electoral reforms, social protection, among others, must themselves be sustainable. It recognizes the need to deepen the bench by developing skilled second liners and using them to bridge the divide between progressive movements by creating a venue for structured capacity building, shared learning, and collaborations.

The Academy of Political Management

Now on its tenth cycle, APM is a progressive political leadership training program. It caters to second-line leaders of progressive organizations and/or individuals who are committed to the values of freedom, equality, social justice and solidarity, and plans to pursue social and political development work and political management positions. APM aims to:

- Provide cadre-formation for FES partners and progressive organizations;
- Build a network of and cooperation among young progressives;
- Draw in new leaders to the progressive movement; and
- Develop progressive future leaders in government, elective posts, businesses, CSOs, political parties and social movements.

As of 2022, the Academy trained 250 young progressives from different sectors and regions graduated from the program. And as part of its course, the program also supported six (6) progressive projects that were conceptualized and implemented by each batch.

This is a program fully supported and managed by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Philippines. The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) is a private, not-for-profit, public interest cultural-educational foundation committed to the ideals and basic values of social democracy. FES has been active in the Philippines since 1964. In its cooperation with civil society organizations, labor groups, the academe and the government, it seeks to contribute in consolidating democratic institutions and in strengthening an inclusive political system and a people-centered economic development.

General Criteria

APM accepts 25-30 participants per cycle. We welcome young professionals working in government, non-government organizations, student leaders, activists, and advocates engaged in social-political campaigns in the Philippines to join the training program. Nominees from FES partner organizations are prioritized in filling up the first 10-15 slots while the remaining slots are open to the public. Below are the general criteria for the application:



20 - 35
years old



Can Communicate
in English



Committed to the values of
freedom, equality, social justice and
solidarity, and plans to pursue social
and political development work and
political management positions.

Diversity among the participants and representation of various regions and cultures are encouraged by the Academy. Hence, applicants from various backgrounds (geographical location, sex, gender orientations, ethnic and religious groups in the Philippines) are encouraged to apply.

All applications are still subject to the selection process of the Academy.

The Curriculum

The curriculum aims to address both skills and knowledge development of the second line of leaders. In the curriculum, personal skills will be first developed, such that these skills can already be used in the knowledge/content-based module. The curriculum covers themes/topics which are grouped into five (5) sessions, consisting of 3-day modules, spread over a calendar year. The topics were chosen and developed in close coordination with partners to suit their organization's needs. The five sessions are:

SESSION 1	Personal Development Skills
SESSION 2	Political Communication Skills
SESSION 3	Political Theories
SESSION 4	Economic Literacy and Political Economy
SESSION 5	Project Management Tools and Skills

The curriculum is a modular training program with a clearly designed yet dynamic content that will continuously be informed by the learning from program implementation. It is a balanced mix of theorizing development, political and sociological conditions anchored on the praxis of social change as it has evolved in the country.

The curriculum is different from that in an academic institution but it is a learning program oriented towards practical life-skills needed most by individuals who see themselves as catalysts of change. Throughout the course of the training, the academy's participants will develop a progressive project, which they will then implement after the training program with the support of FES.

Training Schedule

The participants are required to attend all sessions. Here is a schedule of this year's training clusters:

CLUSTER 1	28-30 April 2023
CLUSTER 2	2-4 June 2023
CLUSTER 3	21-23 July 2023
CLUSTER 4	1-3 September 2023
CLUSTER 5	13-15 October 2023

How to apply

Your application should contain the following documents:

- Letter of Application addressed to FES Resident Representative Dr. Vinzenz Huzel
- Accomplished Application Form (download [here](#))
- Letter of Recommendation (download [template](#))
- Interview timeslot (please see "Interview Process" below)

Please email the abovementioned documents to apm@fes-philippines.org. In the subject field, use this format: Last name, First Name | APM 2023.

Letter of Recommendation

At least one (1) letter of recommendation should be written by a person of authority who has worked with the applicant in a particular project and/or advocacy. Please use the official recommendation letter template.

Please inform the person giving the recommendation to send the letter directly to apm@fes-philippines.org. They may also properly seal it in an envelope, sign across the seal, and (1) give it to the applicant directly for submission, or (2) mail it to: Ms. Larah Del Mundo, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Philippine Office, Unit 2804 Discovery Centre, #25 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, 1600 Pasig City, Metro Manila.

Deadline of Application

All application documents should be submitted to FES not later than 25 February 2023 (Saturday), 11:59PM. Incomplete applications will not be entertained.

Interview Process

Interviews are scheduled for 10 - 11 March 2023 (Friday - Saturday). All applicants will be interviewed by a 5-member APM Selection Panel. Each interview will last for around 10-15 minutes. Please sign up for a timeslot before sending your application. We will email or call you to confirm your timeslot at least 3 days before your scheduled interview.



Sign up for your timeslot here
<https://bit.ly/apm-batch10-interview>

For applicants based in Metro Manila, interviews will be in-person at the FES Philippines office in Ortigas, Pasig. For applicants based outside Metro Manila, interviews will be done via Zoom. A link will be provided to you a day before your scheduled interview. Please be at the FES Office or the Zoom meeting room at least fifteen (15) minutes before your interview.

For any queries or clarifications, you may contact us by emailing Larah Del Mundo, the APM Project Coordinator at apm@fes-philippines.org



Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Philippine Office
Unit 2804 Discovery Centre #25 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center 1600 Pasig City, Metro Manila
✉ apm@fes-philippines.org

<https://philippines.fes.de/trainings/academy-of-political-management-apm>
(+63) 917-864-0143
(+632) 8634 6919