



SOUTH AFRICAN
CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE

OUR EDUCATIONAL MISSION

The establishment of the **ILI South African Centre for Excellence (ILI-SACE)** has been driven by two major concerns: that Africa is not fully prepared to play the role that it should be playing in fostering development on the continent and that the continent is not fully prepared to play the role that it should be playing on the world stage. Among other concerns, Africa must meet the challenges of new forms of trade, investment, and infrastructure relations with partners around the world. One key to facing these challenges is increased private-public cooperation within African states and regionally.

To these ends ILI-SACE will offer courses and study tours that explore how laws and regulations and issues of finance and corporate governance impact business management and government. Our courses will explore a range of subjects that are central to the work of African lawyers and business executives and to African development in the 21st century. Our teachers will be leading specialists in their fields and our students will be lawyers from private practice and government service, business executives, and public administrators. Together teachers and students will share insights, analyse common problems, and explore how law and regulation work to foster (or impede) development. The focus is on practical problems and practical solutions. Case studies from Africa and elsewhere, problem-solving, interdisciplinary teaching, emphasis on creative thinking, the exposition of issues critical to Africa's development and growing leadership role on the world stage, a focus on integrity in both the private and public sectors, facilitating communication and understanding between lawyers and their private and public clients, creating networks of lawyers and business executives and public administrators across the continent (and with counterparts in study-tour countries), and exemplary teaching will be the hallmarks of the program.

The coronavirus pandemic has recently forced a reset domestically and internationally of how business, law firms, and government agencies work -- requiring institutions across all disciplines to rethink how business, law, and government interact and intersect. Before the pandemic, African nations were already struggling with disruptive forces of climate change, the fourth industrial revolution, artificial intelligence, a growing demographic of youth and an increasing elderly population, and the increasing competition among the major powers for Africa's attention, to name a few. All of these phenomena require new and creative thinking about the role of law, regulation, finance and governance within African countries, across the continent, and across the globe. The jobs of lawyers, business executives and public administrators will continue to evolve at a rapid pace.

In brief, our goal is to empower lawyers and business executives to become leaders in the new Africa: lawyers who will be prepared to advise and guide clients with world class skills, insights and knowledge and business executives who will be prepared to understand and manage a complex world of the laws, regulations and finance that shape and influence how they do business.

