This course targets senior government officers who are responsible for policymaking on combating desertification in Sub-Saharan Africa. The aim of the course is to enhance participants’ capacity for formulating policy to combat desertification through acquiring necessary knowledge from lectures and discussions. This course encourages the participants to share their knowledge and experiences with others.

### Objective/Outcome

**Objective**
Understand the international discussions of desertification and measures for combating desertification of Japan and other countries, and develop an action plan to improve their policy and plan on this issue.

**Outcome**
1. To understand international discussions of desertification in UNCCD and other international forums
2. To understand supports of Japan for combating desertification
3. To understand effective techniques and approaches to combat desertification, which include revegetation, food security by soil conservation, poverty reduction, and participatory development
4. To develop an action plan to improve their policy and plan on combating desertification
5. To build network among participants

### Target Organization / Group

**Target Organization**
Governmental agencies those are responsible for addressing desertification or internally/internationally coordinating this issue

**Target Group**
Senior governmental officials who are taking a leadership role in combating desertification and responsible for internal and international coordination in their government. A desirable working year is more than 15 years.

### Contents

**Preliminary Phase** A participant will prepare an inception report, which includes:
1. A current situation of policymaking and its implementation on combating desertification of his/her organization and challenge they face,
2. Topics that he/she wants to learn from the course,
3. A target that he/she wants to achieve in the course.

**Core Phase** The course will be composed of lectures, technical visit, discussions covering the following items:
1. Lecture: international discussions of desertification in UNCCD and other international forums, supports of Japan for combating desertification, effective techniques and approaches to combat desertification (revegetation, food security by soil conservation, poverty reduction, participatory development etc.) and others
2. Technical visit: Arid Land Research Center, Tottori University (TBC)
3. Making an action plan and discussions

**Finalization phase in home country** Write a follow up report of the action plan that the participant created during the course.