

Advanced Pre-Evaluation Quiz – NASLA Course on Governance Principles in DTCs. Dr Asek

1. What do you understand by the term 'governance' in a decentralized setting?

- A. The control of public servants by the central government
- B. The ability of elected officials to deliver campaign promises
- C. The process of decision-making and implementation at all levels involving various actors
- D. Organizing community events by local councils

RIGHT ANSWER: C – Governance in a decentralized setting involves making and carrying out decisions with participation from institutions and citizens.

2. What is good governance in decentralized territorial communities (DTCs)?

- A. Council control over regional decisions
- B. Efficient project delivery regardless of public feedback
- C. Transparent, participatory, and accountable systems that include the local population in decisions
- D. Legal enforcement of state plans only

RIGHT ANSWER: C – Good governance in DTCs means involving citizens, respecting the law, being accountable and transparent.

3. What governance frameworks exist in your local council and how do they support participation or policy-making?

- A. Legal advisory team and staff rotation
- B. Public notice boards and central government instructions
- C. Participatory budgeting, public consultation forums, grievance mechanisms
- D. Monitoring units and elite committees

RIGHT ANSWER: C – These frameworks allow citizens to engage in decision-making and hold leaders accountable.

4. What are the characteristics of governance and good governance in your local municipality?

- A. Budget secrecy, elite decision-making, quick execution
- B. Lawful processes, citizen involvement, and public trust
- C. Government orders, loyalty, and discipline
- D. Delays in decision-making and restricted communication

RIGHT ANSWER: B – Good governance is marked by legal conduct, inclusion, effectiveness, and trust.

5. What is administrative governance and public governance in decentralized local systems?

- A. Administrative governance is staff welfare and public governance is event organization
- B. Administrative governance is elections and public governance is tax collection
- C. Administrative governance refers to internal systems and rules; public governance is how the public interacts with governance processes
- D. Both refer to the same activities

RIGHT ANSWER: C – Administrative governance is internal council management, while public governance includes service delivery and public engagement.

6. What is the style of governance model operational in Cameroon and DTCs?

- A. Fully devolved power to local councils
- B. Hybrid model with strong centralized executive authority
- C. Federalism with autonomous councils
- D. Decentralized model with no state oversight

RIGHT ANSWER: B – Cameroon's model is hybrid but with strong central oversight through governors and appointed officials.

7. What types of public governance evolution are you aware of from the course?

- A. From monarchy to dictatorship
- B. From exclusion and elite dominance to inclusive participatory models
- C. From donor-led development to independence
- D. From elections to referendums

RIGHT ANSWER: B – The course outlines a shift from closed systems to models where citizens and institutions interact more openly.

8. Where do Cameroon's DTCs stand in the public governance approach today?

- A. Fully autonomous with high digital inclusion
- B. In a transitional phase with partial participation and central oversight
- C. Operating with complete local legal independence
- D. Governed entirely by regional governors

RIGHT ANSWER: B – DTCs today show mixed practice: some openness, but still dominated by central controls.

9. What are the key principles of good governance?

- A. Rule of law, transparency, accountability, participation, responsiveness, equity, and inclusiveness
- B. Obedience, structure, control, power, loyalty
- C. Efficiency, privatization, media, planning
- D. Sanctions, compliance, and security

RIGHT ANSWER: A – These are foundational principles outlined in the good governance section of the course.

10. List three governance principles and their common obstacles in decentralized systems.

- A. Transparency (Obstacle: secrecy); Participation (Obstacle: exclusion); Accountability (Obstacle: impunity)
- B. Participation (Obstacle: public interest); Rule of Law (Obstacle: clarity); Transparency (Obstacle: citizens)
- C. Responsiveness (Obstacle: elections); Equity (Obstacle: taxes); Accountability (Obstacle: budgets)
- D. Fairness (Obstacle: discipline); Legality (Obstacle: development); Efficiency (Obstacle: complaints)

RIGHT ANSWER: A – These pairings reflect the governance challenges detailed in the training content.

11. Scenario: The council adopted its budget in a private meeting and the community feels left out. What governance principle is being violated?

- A. Legality
- B. Transparency and participation
- C. Rule of law
- D. Responsiveness

RIGHT ANSWER: B – Budgets must be discussed openly, and communities have a right to be involved.

12. Scenario: A mining company wants to set up in a forest area used by villagers. The Mayor agrees, but no consultation is done. What is your duty as SG?

- A. Defend the mayor's decision
- B. Stay silent to protect your position
- C. Call for community consultation and ensure council procedure is followed
- D. Quickly sign the partnership deal

RIGHT ANSWER: C – Governance principles require community consultation and due process.

13. Scenario: Your technical department submits a road construction plan that excludes remote villages. The council approves it. What should you do?

- A. Recommend a review based on inclusiveness
- B. Ignore it as it's already approved
- C. Ask for a contractor to fix it
- D. Send the file to the governor only

RIGHT ANSWER: A – Good governance means ensuring fairness and access for all parts of the community.

14. Scenario: Public complaints about water access are growing, but council has no redress system. What action promotes governance?

- A. Block the complaints and issue a press release
- B. Propose a grievance mechanism and public consultation
- C. Increase security in water zones
- D. Shift the problem to regional authorities

RIGHT ANSWER: B – A grievance system allows the public to speak and supports responsive governance.

15. Scenario: During procurement, the mayor excludes finance officers from evaluation. What's your duty as SG?

- A. Remain neutral
- B. Demand written justification
- C. Report it internally and call for compliance with procedure
- D. Sign off on the deal quickly

RIGHT ANSWER: C – SGs must protect institutional integrity and prevent procedural violations.

16. Scenario: You discover audit findings showing unapproved spending. The mayor refuses to act. What do you do?

- A. Notify the regional controller and initiate internal checks
- B. Keep quiet to maintain loyalty
- C. Approve future spending quietly
- D. Request political protection from higher offices

RIGHT ANSWER: A – Legal procedures and oversight demand accountability even when politically difficult.

17. Scenario: Women and youth are underrepresented in planning discussions. How should the SG address this?

- A. Recommend elite-led focus groups
- B. Maintain the current process for simplicity
- C. Call for inclusive dialogue and planning sessions with all groups
- D. Send the issue to the Ministry

RIGHT ANSWER: C – Inclusiveness means giving all groups space to share their views.

18. Scenario: A community group wants to monitor project spending. The mayor is against it. What is your advice?

- A. Deny the group permission
- B. Encourage the mayor to support civic oversight
- C. Postpone action until the next budget year
- D. Refer them to an NGO

RIGHT ANSWER: B – Civic monitoring increases trust and aligns with transparency principles.

19. Scenario: You are invited to draft a local anti-corruption action plan. What approach do you use?

- A. Use only internal documents
- B. Copy national policies and apply them
- C. Consult staff, community members, and legal guidelines to draft the plan
- D. Use political manifestos

RIGHT ANSWER: C – Participatory planning ensures ownership and effectiveness.

20. Scenario: Council decisions are regularly made through informal WhatsApp groups among senior staff. What do you recommend?

- A. Support the process as fast and modern
- B. Replace meetings with emails
- C. Establish formal council procedures and record-keeping
- D. Let the practice continue to save time

RIGHT ANSWER: C – Informal channels must not replace legal and transparent processes.