



15 June 2023, Rome

To: Talitha Kum Networks Coordinators
Cc. To the Superiors General

FOURTH TRAINING COURSE FOR THE LEADERS OF TALITHA KUM Preliminary General Description

INTRODUCTION

In the past five years, three Training Courses for the Leaders of Talitha Kum have been organized, involving 83 participants and more than 20 teachers, formators and facilitators. The previous editions had different structures and specifics depending on the background conditions. The first edition saw in-presence gatherings in Rome besides online lectures; the last two editions have been run entirely online (either because of the COVID outbreak or for practical and financial reasons). The last edition has offered translation into three languages (English, Spanish and French) to facilitate and expand the attendance to non-English speaking participants. The turning point of each edition was the Project Work Phase, in which the participants, divided into small working groups, planned, executed and reported a small but concrete project on key priorities of Talitha Kum (advocacy for, prevention of, rehabilitation from Human Trafficking) to test the leadership capacities acquired.

To keep improving the Training Course, the Fourth Training Course for the Leaders of Talitha Kum, having the opportunity to host an in-presence residential stage in Nairobi (Kenya), will use a “learning-by-doing” methodology. Unlike the past, the current edition will not separate the theoretical and operational dimensions of the course. Instead, both dimensions, introduced in the residential stage, will be constantly followed up during the implementation of the concrete on-field projects through online sessions to guide and reinforce the acquisition of the required leadership skills.

THE COURSE’S STRUCTURE AND PRIORITIES

PHASE ONE: June – July 2023.

Recruitment and selection of the participants.

- Receiving candidatures from regional and national Talitha Kum Networks through the mediation of the TKICC (Talitha Kum International Coordination Committee).
- Interview the candidates online to discuss motivations.

Deadline for submitting the candidature: **July 15th, 2023**

Potential participants will submit, in the online application form:

<https://online.forms.app/valerianofiori/untitled-form>

the following four important documents (besides the general information which the form requests):

- **Letter of Endorsement by her/his General Superior** (or appropriate delegate), in which the General Superior agrees that the candidate may attend the course and be engaged in anti-trafficking activities for the three years after the course – (lay participants will not be required to upload this letter);
- **Letter of Endorsement by the Talitha Kum Network Coordinator** or (alternatively) by the Chairperson of the National Conference of Religious, in which the Coordinator agrees that the candidate may attend the course and will be supported by the Conference in engaging in anti-trafficking activities, in collaboration with Talitha Kum.
- **Brief Statement of Commitment** (about half a page) in which the candidate explains the personal reasons why s/he wishes to be admitted to the course and her/his motivation to engage in anti-trafficking activities. In this statement the candidate will also declare his/her fluency in English language, as well as, if selected, his/her commitment: (a) to attend the kickoff meeting in Nairobi (Kenya) on Nov. 20-26, 2023; (b) to allocate the necessary time and effort to follow the online meetings and the activities related to the Project Work Phase during the Course; (c) to remain engaged in Talitha Kum for at least three years after the course ends. (See also below the “Necessary Requirements” and the “Commitment” sections. (**Note** that this document will have to be *dated and signed* by the candidate).
- **Curriculum Vitae (CV)** with previous studies and activities and current positions.

PHASE TWO: September – October 2023.

Planning and organization

- Online meetings with the participants to introduce the next stages, share material, gather expectations.

PHASE THREE: 20-26 November 2023

Kickoff in-presence meeting in Nairobi (Kenya) – residential.

- The selected participants will gather, along with the course coordinators and facilitators, in Nairobi (Kenya) for a week of intense training.
- The meeting will be fully residential, allowing the following working schedule:
 - Mornings: delivery of theoretical contents in the mornings.
 - Afternoons: simulations, working groups and exercises to put in practice the contents discussed in the morning.
 - Evenings: plan the Project Work Phase and fine-tune the monthly “learning pit-stops” (see Phase Four).
- The main topics will include:
 - Talitha Kum's priorities, goals, leadership mode.
 - Talitha Kum's vision about Human Trafficking, its causes and impact at the global and local levels, and the expected actions to prevent the scourge and help the victims;
 - Basic skills attached to the leadership role: Leadership posture and styles, Advocacy, Communication and public speaking, Project planning and management, Case management and protection policies, Team building, Interculturality.

All the topics will be addressed through the lenses of Catholic Social Teaching, Gospel Spirituality, and the Integral Ecology approach.

PHASE FOUR: December 2023 – April 2024

Project Group Work, monthly “learning pit-stops” to facilitate the learning-by-doing approach.

- The core activity of this phase will be the implementation of the Projects elaborated during the kickoff meeting by the groups formed based on the chosen topic/priority and the regional area of the members’ mission.
- During the development of the Group Project Works, the participants will also gather for the monthly “learning pit-stops” which will have the key role of constantly monitoring the progress of the project and, at the same time, reinforcing the leadership skills acquired during the in-person session..

It must be emphasized that the Project Works aims not to achieve concrete results in preventative or supporting-oriented actions but to experiment with the leadership role.

PHASE FIVE: May – June 2024.

Dissertations, “wrap-up”, Diplomas

- After the completion of the Project Work Phase, the participants will draft an **individual dissertation or evaluation** in which they, starting from the experience of the Project Work and on the topics discussed throughout the course, will resume the competencies gained and how they will use them in Talitha Kum.
- An online meeting will invite the participants in sharing the key contents of their dissertations.
- A final ceremony (online) will be organized to deliver the official Diplomas for the Fourth Training Course for the Leaders of Talitha Kum.

NECESSARY REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Be already involved* (either directly or indirectly) in the activities of Talitha Kum networks in their area of mission. This will have to be certified by the letter(s) by the Superior and/or Network Coordinator the participants will be asked to send also with their request to attend the course.
2. Be absolutely certain the be able to attend the kickoff meeting 20-26 November 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya for all its duration (apart from really unforeseeable events, of course).
3. Be moderately fluent in English – as all the meetings, activities, materials, etc., will be in English.
4. Declare a commitment to remain engaged in Talith Kum’s network and activities for at least three years after the course completion.
5. Must be committed to the project group work and accommodate the time requirements

* Being part of an already existing Talitha Kum local network or actively engage in anti-trafficking activities on a leadership level, in order to establish a new Talitha Kum Network.

Among the candidates matching the above requirements, the final list of participants will be selected also on the basis of the candidates’ CVs and competences, country of mission, religious congregation (if any), motivations and attitudes as understood from the submitted documents and the interviews.

COMMITMENT AND PARTICIPATION

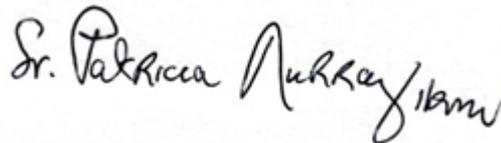
- A. Each selected participant for the course is responsible for ensuring to attend all sessions on the schedule, both online and onsite meetings (**3- justified absence limits** for the online meetings). Those who miss more than 3 online sessions¹ and/or miss in-person training will be automatically withdrawn from the leadership course. Assuring availability of time to follow the courses, actively participate to the activities, and attend the meeting that will be planned.
- B. Expect to access reliable internet.
- C. Read or watch through the required materials carefully, as its vital to participation in the program.
- D. **Talitha Kum/UISG will cover course expenses**, including travel, accommodation for the kick-off meeting, the official Certificate of Attendance, and the Diploma of the Course.

We hope that the Talitha Kum Fourth Leadership Training Course will continue to bring valuable and beneficial growth for Talitha Kum networks, for religious life in general, and most importantly for the “wounded humanity” in need of care and help!

United in Prayers,



Sr. Abby Avelino, MM
Talitha Kum International Coordinator



Sr. Patricia Murray, IBVM
Executive Secretary of the UISG

¹ In case – requires to contribute an agreed amount to cover up the onsite training.