

INTRODUCTION

The University of Cape Town's Community Eye Health Institute (UCT-CEHI) has been developing management capacity in sub-Saharan African blindness prevention programmes since its establishment in 2008. This is done in support of the goals of VISION 2020: *the Right to Sight*, an initiative aimed at eliminating avoidable blindness by the year 2020.

At UCT-CEHI, we believe that management is not for "managers" only: every individual in an eye care team can improve the performance of the programme through better management. Hence our aim is to make effective management a core competency in sub-Saharan African eye care programmes by training more eye care programme staff in community eye health management.

The aim of the training programmes is to develop management competencies in eye care programme managers or teams to enable them to manage their eye care programmes on a facility, district or national level. In particular, the short courses address specific competency areas in eye care programme management. They are offered as interactive learning workshops with outcomes geared towards direct application in the programmes of the participants.

Although the trainings are aimed at individuals (eye care practitioners) working in eye care programmes in sub-Saharan Africa, several non-eye care professionals and participants from countries outside the region have also found the training useful.

If the training of eye care teams is considered, care must be taken to involve at least the lead ophthalmologist, an experienced eye-trained nurse, and an optometrist, if available. In settings where ophthalmic clinical officers and / or cataract surgeons play key roles in managing the delivery of community eye care service these should also be included.

We offer a selection of training programmes to help meet our goal of building management capacity in eye care programmes in sub-Saharan Africa, each specially structured to meet the needs of a particular target audience and / or management training outcome:

- Two academic programmes aimed at providing training in Community eye health, namely the *Postgraduate Diploma* (one year) and the *Master of Public Health* (one year coursework plus one year research)
- The *Certificate Course in Community eye health* (variable duration: 4 – 10 weeks)
- Various short courses, offered in workshop format, including the *Project management* and *Management Essentials for Success in Eye care*, and the *Community eye health course for registrars*.

This brochure contains further information about these courses.

We also offer in-programme modes of training, like the "Management Training for Eye care Workers" project run in Kenya from 2013 to 2015. Email cehi@uct.ac.za for further details.

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN COMMUNITY EYE HEALTH

What is programme's name?	Postgraduate Diploma in Community Eye Health
What is the aim of the programme?	<p>The aim of the programme is to provide the knowledge and skills necessary to plan and manage a district eye care programme. It does not provide clinical training in ophthalmology.</p> <p>The course is in English, and would therefore be most suitable for people from Anglophone countries in low and middle income countries.</p>
Who is the programme intended for?	<p>The programme is intended for people working in prevention of blindness programmes in sub-Saharan Africa. These may include eye care coordinators and managers and other programme staff at national, district and facility level with interest in the management of community eye health services.</p>
What are the entry requirements for the programme?	<p>The minimum requirements of the programme include an undergraduate four year degree or diploma in health sciences, social sciences, or business management, or an equivalent university qualification. Recognition of prior learning is also considered, in line with the University of Cape Town's policies. Proficiency in English and mathematics, as well as basic computer literacy, is essential. At least two years' experience working in community eye health is also required.</p>
What is the duration and what are the dates for 2017?	<p>One year 07 February – 3 November 2017 (provisional)</p>
What is the structure of the programme?	<p>The course comprises an initial 6 to 10-week period on-campus in Cape Town followed by an intermediate 28 week off-campus doing practical assignments. In November, the student undergo final debriefings and assessment. This may be done through remote interaction with faculty. At successful completion, the candidate obtains a Postgraduate Diploma in Community Eye Health, awarded by the University of Cape Town.</p>
What is the closing date?	30 September 2016
How can I get more information about this programme?	<p>Contact the UCT-CEHI at cehi@uct.ac.za, or telephone +27-21-4066216 or +27-21-4066039 to request further information.</p>