UOM TRUST

Master of Science (MSc) in Social Protection Financing

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR 2014/2015 INTAKE

OBJECTIVE OF THE PROGRAMME

The UOM TRUST, University of Mauritius is offering a Master of Science (MSc) in Social Protection Financing. This intensive one-year degree programme began in 2010 and is designed to provide students with the required economic and business management tools to contribute to the organisation and evolution of social welfare programmes, but equally importantly opens up space for students to broaden these skills by learning inter alia about populations prone to poverty and destitution, how to target those populations successfully, distinguishing chronic from transient needs, differentiating coverage and impacts by gender, and exploring innovative methods of social transfer delivery to beneficiaries.

CORE STRENGTHS AND CREDENTIALS OF THE PROGRAMME

✓ We have a unique blend of experienced practitioners, academics and Professors from Europe, America and Africa intervening on the programme. The bios of some of them are provided below:

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Biography</th>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Crevier</td>
<td>Charles Crevier is responsible for the social security training portfolio of the International Training Centre of the ILO since 2010. From 2008 to 2010, he was the technical manager of Quatrain Africa, a project designed to enhance financial governance capabilities of social security institutions in Africa. From 2003 to 2008, he worked as an actuary in the Social Security Department of the ILO in Geneva on more than 20 technical cooperation projects concerning actuarial matters and financial governance spanning Europe, Africa, the Middle East and the Caribbean. Mr Crevier has also been invited as a guest lecturer on actuarial modelling at the University of Witwatersrand (South Africa), Chulalongkorn University (Thailand), Mauritius University (Mauritius), Lausanne University (Switzerland) and Maastricht University (Netherland).</td>
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<td>Prof. Chris de Neubourg</td>
<td>Chris de Neubourg studied Economics, Sociology and Philosophy at the Universities of Louvain and Antwerp and holds a PhD in Economics of the University of Groningen. After serving for 3 years as the UNICEF’s chief of Social and Economic Policy Research at the UNICEF Office of Research at Innocenti in Florence Italy, he returned to academia. Since September 2013, he is Professor of Economics at the Economics Department of Maastricht University. He is a guest professor at Nihon University in Tokyo and the University of Mauritius. Before joining UNICEF he has been a Professor at the Universities of Groningen and Maastricht and has been being guest-lecturing and visiting scholar at the University of Colorado, Harvard University, the European University Institute and the Ecole des hautesétudes en Sciences Politiques et Sociales (Paris). He was the founder and first Academic Director of</td>
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Anthony Hodges

Anthony Hodges is a graduate of Oxford University in the UK and the University of California, San Diego, in the USA. He is an Associate of Oxford Policy Management (OPM), specializing in social protection. As a consultant to the World Bank, the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and UNICEF, he has undertaken social protection studies in Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burundi, Côte d’Ivoire, Congo (Brazzaville), Madagascar and Mozambique in 2009-2013, advising governments in several of these countries on the development of national social protection policies and strategies. He was previously Social Policy Advisor in the UNICEF Regional Office for West and Central Africa, Chief of Social Policy in the UNICEF Country Office in China, Senior Policy Advisor in the UNDP Country Office in Angola and a programme officer in West Africa for the Ford Foundation, among other posts.

Dr. Victor Cebotari

Dr. Victor Cebotari is currently a researcher associated with UNU/MERIT and Maastricht School of Governance at Maastricht University and with CEPS/INSTEAD in Luxembourg. Dr. Cebotari holds a PhD in Social Protection from Maastricht University. He also holds an MSc in Social Policy Analysis from KU Leuven in Belgium. Dr. Cebotari’s has expertise in the field of migrant mobility, policy modeling, good governance, childwell-being, ethnic and minority rights, identity formation and conflict. The geographical area of interest for Dr. Cebotari is Sub-Saharan Africa and Eastern Europe. He is involved in teaching activities: as coordinator and lecturer for various courses at Maastricht University, UNU-MERIT, the University College Maastricht, and the University of Mauritius.

Dr. Denisa Maria Sologon

Dr. Denisa Maria Sologon is an Assistant Professor at UNU/MERIT, Maastricht University, (The Netherlands) and a Research Economist at CEPS/INSTEAD (Luxembourg). She holds a PhD in Economics/Social Protection from Maastricht University. During her PhD, Dr. Sologon had a Visiting Research Fellowship at The Wiener Center for Social Policy, Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. Dr. Sologon has expertise in welfare and labor economics, social protection policy, public policy analysis, and applied econometrics. The particulars of her research are income inequality, mobility and poverty, income distribution dynamics, income volatility, policy modeling, microsimulation techniques and policy evaluation.

Dr. Franziska Gassman

Franziska Gassmann has a PhD in Economics (Maastricht University, 2000) and more than 15 years of experience in development economics and related fields. She has demonstrated her skills and expertise as a consultant and researcher in the economics of poverty reduction, social policy reform, transition and development. Dr. Gassmann has extensive experience in the design, implementation and assessment of social protection programs, the analysis of large household data sets, methodologies to analyze poverty and social exclusion and to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of formal and informal social protection systems. She is experienced in the development of monitoring systems, indicators and data collection methods that allow the regular assessment of poverty and the effectiveness and efficiency of social assistance policies. Dr. Gassmann has advised Governments on social protection reform issues in numerous projects in Central and Eastern Europe, countries of former
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<th>Dr. Michael Samson</th>
<th>Yugoslavia and Central Asia. Since 2005, Dr. Gassmann has been working as a senior researcher and head of training and research projects at the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance.</th>
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<td>Dr. Michael Samson</td>
<td>Dr. Michael Samson is EPRI’s Director of Research. He has 25 years’ experience working in social protection, and specialises in designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating social cash transfer programmes. He has recently completed policy design projects for social assistance programmes in Malawi, Lesotho, Senegal, Ghana, Rwanda and Kenya, and is currently working on social protection projects in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Mozambique, Nepal, the Pacific, South Africa and Uganda. Michael co-ordinates and co-leads the team implementing the impact assessment of the Child Support Grant in South Africa, and has completed previous evaluations of social grants in South Africa and an impact assessment in Mozambique. In 2009 he organised a workshop in Nairobi, Kenya on open source management information systems for social cash transfer programmes. He lectures at policy conferences and training workshops in around the world. He is also a Visiting Associate Professor of Economics at the Williams College Center for Development Economics in the United States.</td>
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<td>Professor S. K. Sobhee</td>
<td>After joining University of Mauritius in 1996, he submitted his PhD (supported by TEC) on Macroeconomic Policy in 1998 and was a visiting scholar of the University of St Andrews, Scotland. He was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1999, to Associate Professor in 2003 and Professor in 2008. He has taught on both undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and has been the Programme Coordinator of the MSc Applied Economics for over 5 years. He recently introduced and taught the Harvard Business School module ‘Microeconomics of Competitiveness’ taught by renowned Prof. Michael Porter, now incepted on several postgraduate courses. His recent research has been on applied macroeconomics with a particular focus on development studies and environmental issues. He has published essentially on these topics using data pertaining to the Mauritian Economy and also sub-Saharan economies.</td>
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- To ensure high standards of the programme, all examination papers are reviewed and moderated by Prof. Frank Ellis, our external examiner. Prof. Ellis has a background in agricultural economics and rural development. Earlier in his career he wrote two of the established texts in this area Peasant Economics (1988; 1993) and Agricultural Policies in Developing Countries (1992). Since 1999, he has had a special interest in the livelihoods approach to poverty reduction in low income countries with its emphasis on the assets of rural households, the activities in which they engage and the outcomes they achieve, set within risk and institutional contexts. From 2005-10 Frank Ellis was co-principal investigator of the research component of the southern Africa Regional Hunger and Vulnerability Programme (RHVP), funded by DFID. This programme sought to provoke a major shift in thinking about policy responses to hunger in southern Africa, moving away from crisis-driven emergency responses to continuity in social transfers to the chronically most vulnerable. His co-authored book Social Protection in Africa was published in 2009, following the first phase of research under RHVP.  

- The organisation of regular symposiums and seminars on a contemporary topic related to social security and social security financing promotes awareness that social security is
a human right and that implementation of effective Social Protection systems can only be determined in a national decision-making and social dialogue process.

INTAKE, TUTION FEES AND REGISTRATION

A maximum of 30 students will be accepted for the Masters Programme. Priority for admission will be given to serving officials from African social security institutions and ministries (managers, actuaries, financial and policy analysts), and from organisations representing African workers and employers. Applicants from other parts of the world and with other professional and institutional backgrounds will be considered if space permits.

The Masters Programme will be offered in English. The tuition fee will be USD 10,000. For the session beginning in August 2014, the deadline for submitting applications is 30 April 2014.

International Development Research Centre (IDRC) FUNDED FELLOWSHIPS

For the Academic Year 2014/2015 the IDRC (http://www.idrc.ca/EN/Pages/default.aspx) is providing fellowships to eligible candidates from sub Saharan African countries wishing to embark on the above one year full time Masters Programme in Social Protection Financing. The fellowship will cover the following expenditures:

1. Return airfare in economy class
2. Full Tuition Fees
3. Contribution towards living costs
4. Medical Insurance Cover

A fellowship committee consisting of representatives of the UOM TRUST and the IDRC will screen and rank eligible applicants based on rules and regulations set out by the University of Mauritius as per Section 7 - Selection of Postgraduate Applicants on Taught Programmes (http://www.uom.ac.mu/ABOUTUS/QA/Recruitment_and_Admission/Selection_PostgraduateApplicants.pdf). Marks will therefore be awarded for relevant educational qualifications and relevant work experience. Additional consideration will also be given to the motivation and commitment of the applicant as expressed in his /her letter of motivation attached to the application form available at http://www.uomtrust.ac.mu/images/uomtrust/postgraduate/Application_Form_MSc_in_Social_Protection_Financing_Programme_Aug_2013.pdf

For more information on the Masters Programme, including how to apply, please see: http://www.uomtrust.ac.mu/