



Albertina Sisulu
Executive Leadership
Programme in Health
Excellence, Innovation, Transformation

A partnership of



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ABOUT US



ASELPH represents a unique and novel academic and health-policy focused partnership between South African and international partners including University of Pretoria (UP), University of Fort Hare (UFH), Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and South Africa Partners.

Working closely with the National Department of Health, ASELPH:

- Provides executive leadership training;
- Builds capacity at local universities to offer this leadership training;
- Conducts applied research grounded in key South African health policy initiatives; and
- Hosts policy seminars and round tables on major health policy options.



This partnership has allowed ASELPH to make meaningful strides in helping to transform the South African healthcare system and build the capacity of individuals and health-care organisations within the health sector, while building the leadership and expertise needed to expand executive-level training in the country.

The Albertina Sisulu Executive Leadership Programme in Health (ASELPH) was launched in 2013 by Health Minister, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, to meet the needs of health managers leading health systems transformation in South Africa.



The work and focus of ASELPH is guided by a Steering Committee chaired by the Deputy Director-General (DDG) for Hospitals, Tertiary Health Services and Human Resource Development in the National Department of Health, Dr Terence Carter. This Steering Committee represents all partner organisations, as well as independent health experts from the private sector and parastatals, funding partners, representatives of the national and provincial Departments of Health and the Sisulu family.



ASELPH honours the lifelong contributions of Albertina Sisulu – an educator, nurse, wife, mother, and highly-respected leader in the anti-apartheid struggle. She dedicated her life to improving the health and well-being of all South Africans.



AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH

ASELPH takes an innovative, multi-faceted approach to transforming the South African healthcare system and supporting leaders and managers who are at the centre of service delivery. The ASELPH programme draws on the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health's case study method and validated adult-learning techniques to provide:

- Targeted training of executive, district and hospital managers who are responsible for services related to the National Health Insurance Initiative (NHI) and other key health policies – the Re-engineering of Primary Health Care being one of them.
- Growth of management capabilities among current and emerging district leaders within the public health system who are responsible for the implementation of the Primary Health Care (PHC) system and the NHI.
- Education and training for health executives who are responsible for the management of large public health programmes, including the South African National Strategic Plan on HIV, STIs and TB (2016-2020).
- E-learning – opportunities for leaders and managers in healthcare to be exposed to internationally-recognised modules taught directly from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health via an e-learning platform. This

is a blended learning approach adopted by ASELPH partners to enhance the learning experience and interactions between faculty and fellows.

- Mentoring – providing mentoring for ASELPH fellows in helping them to address daily management and leadership challenges and allowing ASELPH fellows to provide mentoring for their peers in terms of skills and knowledge transfer and internal capacity building.
- The development of case studies – specific to South African situations – that provide insight and understanding of health-related management and leadership issues within the context of ASELPH.

"I came into a situation where the quality of health care was poor, infrastructure was neglected and stakeholder confidence was low. Staff were angry and demoralised. ASELPH helped me to focus on the people, what we are supposed to be doing and get people to concentrate on our core business of quality care. This, linked to operational efficiency, has led to a turnaround at the Frere Hospital Complex" – Rolene Wagner, CEO of Frere Hospital Complex in East London in the Eastern Cape.

INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC COLLABORATION

South African faculty members from UP and UFH continue to work closely with their counterparts from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in Boston, USA. This collaboration ensures that the academic content of the ASELPH programme is world-class and relevant to the South African context. ASELPH faculty members include:

- Dr Thomas Bossert, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health – Dr Bossert is a Senior Lecturer in Global Health Policy and Director of the International Health Systems Program of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. He has worked around the world for organisations including USAID, DfID, the World Bank, WHO and the Inter-American Development Bank and teaches on the Harvard/World Bank Flagship Course on Health System Strengthening. His specialities include health reform, decentralisation, strategic planning for health, political economy of health systems and organisational and institutional analysis.
- Prof Eric Buch, University of Pretoria – Prof Eric Buch has held various senior academic positions including Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences and Professor of Health Policy and Management at the University of Pretoria. He was formerly Health Adviser for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Agency, Deputy

Director-General for Health Care in Gauteng, served as General Secretary of the National Progressive Primary Health Care Network and co-founded the Wits Rural Health Services Development Unit.

- Prof Daniel Goon, University of Fort Hare – Prof Daniel Goon is a profile researcher with extensive experience in epidemiology, kina-thropometry and health-related fitness testing and exercise. He has published more than 100 articles in national and international journals and has over 10 years of teaching and research.
- Prof Stephen Hendricks, University of Pretoria – Prof Stephen Hendricks is a Harvard graduate and the Programme Manager for ASELPH at the University of Pretoria. His experience includes serving as a Professor of Public Health at the Medical University of South Africa (MEDUNSA), Deputy Director-General for Human Resources in the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health and Acting Director General for the South African Management Development Institute (SAMDI).
- Prof Noddy Jinabhai, University of Fort Hare – Prof Noddy Jinabhai has spent over 30 years as an academic, researcher and public health specialist at the Nelson Mandela School of Medicine at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. He is an expert in public health policy, systems development, management and leadership.

ASELPH MODULES

As an academic he has been awarded life membership of the College of Public Health Medicine of the College of Medicine in South Africa.

- Prof Eunice Seekoe, University of Fort Hare – Prof Eunice Seekoe is the Head of the School of Health Sciences as the University of Fort Hare. In her career she has held various management positions in public health and academia, has been the recipient of scholarship awards from the Human Sciences Research Council, the National Research Foundation and the Medical Research Council and has collaborated with over five international universities. Her specialities include academic leadership and change management, curriculum innovation, mentoring for sustainable rural community resilience and public health and evaluation of health policies.
- Dr Leena Thomas, University of Pretoria – Dr Leena Thomas is a Principal Specialist in Public Health Medicine in Gauteng. She has over 20 years of experience and holds a Master's Degree in Public Health Medicine and a Diploma in Occupational Health. Dr Thomas is directly involved in the re-engineering of primary health care and sits on a ministerial task team working on reviewing health science training and tertiary services in South Africa.

The ASELPH programme includes some of the following modules:

POST-GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN HEALTH SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT – EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP (DHSM) – UP

- Health System and Policy Transformation
- Health System Re-engineering
- Executive Leadership for Health
- Health Informatics, monitoring and evaluation
- Strategic Financial Management in Health
- Implementation of quality improvement strategies in the health system
- Ethics, values and strategic thinking

MASTER'S IN PUBLIC HEALTH – UFH

- Organisational Strategy in Health
- Public Health Policy Transformation, Governance and Legislation
- Strategic Economics and Finance Management in Health
- Quality Assurance Modalities in Health
- Centralisation and Decentralisation and National Health Insurance
- Hospital Management and Leadership
- Health Research (Epidemiology, Advanced Epidemiology, Biostatistics)

THE ASELPH FELLOW JOURNEY

ASELPH fellows are selected based on a number of criteria including their existing qualifications, their occupational level within their current positions and the academic requirements needed to enter the programme. Based on this aspiring fellows are recommended by their supervisors following which Heads of Department become involved in the selection process and approve fellows for the ASELPH programme.



"ASELPH is not linear-learning, it is an integrated and practical approach to addressing the needs of public sector managers in the health environment" – Dr Sibongile Zungu, former HOD of the KZN Department of Health.

CONTACT US



If you are interested to know more about the ASELPH programme:

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