



UNIVERSITY OF AGDER



MASTER'S PROGRAMME IN DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

MASTER'S PROGRAMME IN DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

Part of Norad's Programme for Master Studies - NOMA (2006 - 2010)

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MASTER'S PROGRAMME:

120 credits , 2 years

TEACHING METHODS:

E-learning and face-to-face sessions. The programme is part of an international network of partner universities in the South and the North

APPLICATION: The application form can be downloaded from our website

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

15 January for applicants with non-Nordic bachelor's degrees .

1 March for NOMA applicants from partner universities.

15 April for others.

INTAKE OF STUDENTS: 25

Education is critical for promoting sustainable development and improving the capacity of the people to address environment and development issues (Principle 36, Agenda 21, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro).

An international consensus has emerged concerning the critical role of education in achieving sustainable development. Education for sustainable development is also of key importance to support advances in other spheres, such as science, technology, legislation and production.

The main objective of the Development Management (DM) programme is to address the fundamental challenges of sustainable development through education and research. Both at a local and a global level, there is a recognised need for this type of competence.

The master's programme in Development Management is part of the NOMA programme (Norad's Programme for Master Studies). The master's programme was established in 2005 under the overall auspices of the United Nations University (UNU). The programme is implemented by a network of universities in the South and the North. The University of Agder's main partner in the programme is the University of Ruhuna , Sri Lanka

The other partner universities are:

- > Mzumbe University in Tanzania
- > Mekelle University in Ethiopia
- > Makerere University in Uganda
- > Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana.

Idea behind the study programme

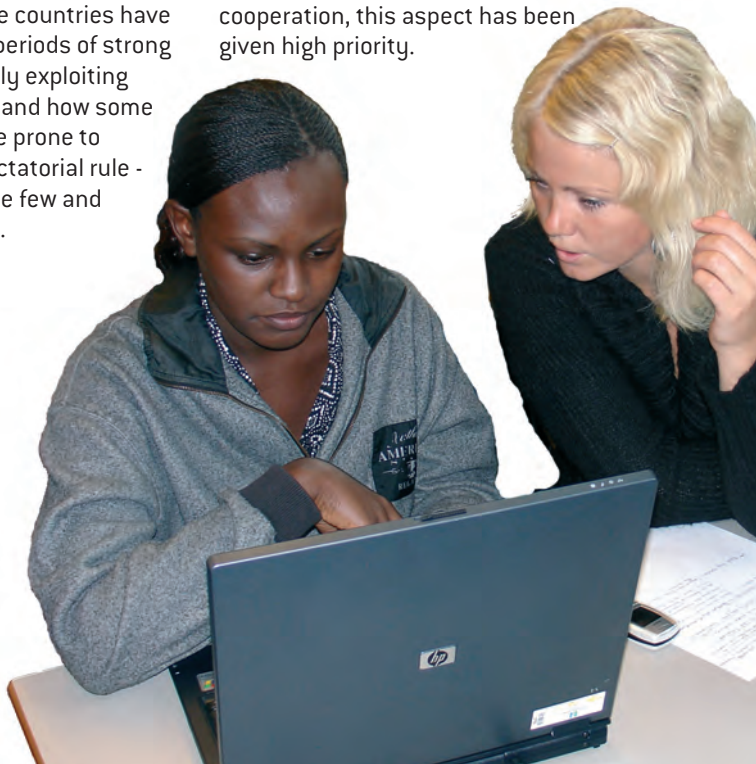
The Development Management programme is primarily concerned with development, and with facilitators and obstacles to development, whether these are environmental or social, economic or

political. On a global level, several interacting factors have led to increased pressure on the environment, such as population growth, overexploitation and mismanagement of natural resources and environmental pollution.

The programme raises issues such as how some countries have progressed to a very high level of income without having strong resource endowments, how other countries have been able to develop through effective use of their natural resources, how some countries have been able to propel periods of strong growth by excessively exploiting their resource base, and how some countries seem to be prone to "cleptocratic" and dictatorial rule - amazing riches to the few and poverty to the many.

The relevance of the study programme

A serious constraint in many poor countries is the lack of managerial competence. Such competence is needed for the development and implementation of policies and practical solutions to social, economic, and environmental challenges. It is clearly recognised both by national and international institutions that there is a need to increase the competence and capacity that can contribute to a positive development process. In Norwegian development cooperation, this aspect has been given high priority.



4 **Programme objectives**

The objective of the study programme is to familiarize students with theories and findings concerning development, and to provide managerial tools to practical problems. Solutions to problems need to be sought from a variety of disciplines, including economics and the functional areas of management, political science, sociology, anthropology, and

geography. A wide variety of institutional contexts need to be considered, including local and international private business, non-government organizations (NGOs), central and local governments, international and national regulatory and donor institutions. In addition, graduating students will be well-skilled in cross-cultural communication and collaboration.



Teaching methods

The master’s programme is innovative in its linking of education and research on sustainable development with new information technologies, with particular emphasis on on-line learning (e-learning pedagogy). Most of the teaching, instruction, tuition and supervision will take place on the Internet through the Fronter Learning Management System (LMS). As the pedagogics has a social constructivist approach, group work, discussions and joint

assignments are important. Each student is expected to participate actively, taking his or her share of responsibility for own learning as well as taking part in the development of an optimal learning environment.

The study programme

The master’s programme in Development Management is a four semester full time study programme, comprising 120 ECTS credits. (ECTS = The European Credit Transfer System)

THE STUDY PROGRAMME

	FALL	SPRING
1ST YEAR OF STUDY	Global Environment Issues 10 ECTS (UT-403) Current Development Issues 10 ECTS (UT-404)	Research Methods in Development Studies 10 ECTS (ME-413) Contemporary Topics in Sustainable Development 10 ECTS (UT-402)
	Management in Sustainable Development - Theories and Concepts 10 ECTS (UT-405)	Integrating Environment, Development and Management - a Synergy for Sustainability 10 ECTS (UT-504)
	Thesis Seminar 5 ECTS (UT-505)	
2ND YEAR OF STUDY	Planning and Environmental Assessment: Theories, Methods and Techniques 10 ECTS (UT 502)	Master’s Thesis 30 ECTS (UT-503)
	Master’s Thesis 15 ECTS (UT-503)	

Master´s thesis

Half of the third semester and the entire fourth semester will be fully devoted to the writing of a master's thesis - building upon coursework and fieldwork, and focusing on problems and issues of high interest to the individual student and the societies and institutions they represent.

Students are encouraged to do fieldwork in connection with the master's thesis. Norwegian students will be encouraged to do fieldwork in a developing country as we consider this experience to be of particular value for research on environment and development issues. Students from partner universities in Sri Lanka and Africa will do fieldwork in their own country.

Co-operation between students is a fundamental idea for the entire Development Management programme, including the thesis work.

Face-to-face sessions

The first semester begins with a face-to-face session of 2-3 weeks where students, professors and tutors will meet. The first meeting will be at the University of Agder (UiA) in August. The idea of the first session is to get to know each other, have a brief introduction to learning resources, computer technology and applied pedagogics.

The second session will take place at the end of May / beginning of June (4 weeks), second semester, at one of the partner universities. Norwegian students can apply for additional loan / stipends from Lånekassen in connection with the face-to-face session and field work in developing countries. Please note that face-to-face sessions are compulsory.

Entrance requirements and enrolment

The applicant must hold a three-year bachelor's degree (of minimum 180 ECTS credits) or equivalent. The previous education must include either a two-year integrated study programme or a concentration worth 80 ECTS credits in a social science discipline, of which at least 20 ECTS credits must be intermediate level courses. Examples of relevant concentration areas/social science disciplines are business and public administration, other areas of management or development studies and fields of social sciences such as political science, sociology, geography or anthropology. In addition, applicants need to have a strong command of the English language, oral and written. Non-native English speakers from outside the the European Economic Area (EEA) must document their

English proficiency. Refer to www.uia.no/en/degree
Applicants must be familiar with the use of computers and the Internet. Preferably students should have relevant working experience, e.g. within administration, management, teaching, research or relevant project work. International applicants from outside the EEA that are not part of the NOMA scholarship programme, see www.uia.no/en/degree for further information about entrance requirements. The programme seeks to recruit students who are interested in working with development programmes internationally or in their home country. Applicants should have an interest in seeking careers in NGOs, national and international institutions, in the educational sector, or in special "development"

roles of public service or business administration. The master's programme may qualify for admittance to relevant PhD programmes.

NOMA scholarships

There are a total of 12 available scholarships for each batch of students. These scholarships are distributed between the partner universities. Only applicants from the partner universities can apply for NOMA scholarships. The NOMA scholarship will cover a monthly allowance, tuition fee, travel expenses, food and lodging in connection with face-to-face sessions, curriculum and a laptop. All applications from Tanzania, Uganda, Ghana, Ethiopia and Sri Lanka must be sent to the involved universities.



Autumn 2008 – Students and professors in the Master programme.

Learning outcomes

At the completion of the master´s programme in Development Management, the students will:

- > have knowledge of major theories and findings concerning sustainable development
- > have developed a critical attitude to mainstream theories and findings concerning environment and development issues
- > have developed an understanding about to which degree and under what circumstances environmental factors affect development, and vice versa
- > have acquired managerial skills necessary for improving the development process
- > be able to use management and planning methods as tools for sustainable development
- > recognize and see connections and synergies between environment, development and management
- > be able to seek solutions to development challenges from an interdisciplinary perspective, combining knowledge from a variety of fields, including management, economics, political science, sociology, anthropology, and geography
- > be able to write an academic paper
- > be able to use research methodology

Trainee programme

The Centre for Development Studies is working to establish a trainee programme for Norwegian students who have graduated from the Master´s programme in Development Management. The trainee programme will be established in collaboration with NGOs and other organisations in Norway and will be a good opportunity to gain working experience in the field of development and management.



From face-to-face session in South Africa in 2006.



JUDITH IRENE NAGASHA, UGANDA

Judith graduated from the master's programme in Development Management in June 2007.

“The course itself is very important in a globalized world. It has enabled me to think critically and analyze issues at length, especially in the Fronter Discussion Forum. While based in my country, I am able to draw reflections from students in other countries like Ghana, Norway, Tanzania, hence sharing knowledge with other cultures. The two face-to-face sessions build strong bonds between the students.

The study programme has fostered self-placed learning where by I have gained self-discipline. It has enabled me to take responsibility for my own learning and I have succeeded in building self knowledge and self confidence. In the beginning of the study programme I was not good at public speech, but now I find myself confidently addressing an audience.”



ROBERT HOFFMAN, NORWAY/MEXICO

Robert graduated from the master's programme in Development Management in June 2007.

“The Development Management programme has been an exciting adventure. The courses are very relevant and interesting and the professors and supervisors are updated and very competent. In my opinion, the master's programme deals with the most important issues in the world today: environment, development, poverty reduction, etc. This master's programme is actually about how we can make the future a little better for everyone.

During the study programme there have been two face-to-face sessions, the first at UiA in Norway and the second at the University of Pretoria in South Africa. During the first meeting, all the students in the programme got to know each other - these two weeks together made a good foundation for the online communication and group work in the programme.

I feel very fortunate to have studied the Development Mangement programme – it has made a great impact in my life and I will always bring the experience and knowledge with me.“

UiA Development Studies Programmes

University of Agder has offered a one-year programme in development studies since 1981. The programme has for a number of years been among the most popular at UiA, with a high number of well qualified applicants. In 2003 UiA launched a three-year bachelor's

programme in Development Studies. The master's programme in Development Management started in 2005. Nearly 30 members of the faculty have participated in joint North-South research collaboration programmes, mainly with partners from Mzumbe University, Tanzania, and with Gadjah Mada University in Indonesia.

ACADEMIC STAFF

NAME		INSTITUTION	COUNTRY
Aikins, Samuel	Lecturer	Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology	Ghana
Atapattu, Danny	Professor	University of Ruhuna	Sri Lanka
Babikwa, Daniel	Senior Lecturer	Makerere University	Uganda
Baker, Jonathan	Professor	University of Agder	Norway
Barret, Brendan	Academic Programme Officer	United Nations University, Tokyo	Japan
Bjørke, Sven Åke	Lecturer	University of Agder	Norway
Breetzke, Greg	Associate Professor	University of Canterbury	New Zealand
Gebremedhin, Yidhego	Assistant Professor	Mekelle University	Ethiopia
Grindheim, Jan Erik	Associate Professor	University of Agder	Norway
Haaland, Hanne	Associate Professor	University of Agder	Norway
Havnevik, Kjell	Professor	University of Agder	Norway
Kristiansen, Stein	Professor	University of Agder	Norway
Lucas, Brian	Lecturer / tutor	University of Agder	Norway
Michalsen, Camilla	Lecturer / tutor	University of Agder	Norway
Njovu, Simon	Senior Lecturer	Mzumbe University	Tanzania
Reinfjord, Kristine	Lecturer / tutor	University of Agder	Norway
Rogan, Dyveke	Lecturer / tutor	University of Agder	Norway
Sæbø, Øystein	Associate Professor	University of Agder	Norway
Webersik, Christian	Associate Professor	University of Agder	Norway
Wilberg, Jeanett	Lecturer / tutor	University of Agder	Norway
Øyhus, Arne Olav	Professor	University of Agder	Norway

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

Centre for Development Studies

Academic adviser

Jannik Stølen Timenes

Phone no. +47 38 14 16 20

e-mail Jannik.S.Timenes@uia.no

Director

Arne Olav Øyhus

Phone no. +47 38 14 17 63

e-mail Arne.O.Oyhus@uia.no

UNIVERSITY OF AGDER

KRISTIANSAND | GRIMSTAD | ARENDAL

GIMLEMOEN 25A SERVICEBOX 422 4604 KRISTIANSAND NORWAY

PHONE +47 38 14 10 00 POSTMOTTAK@UIA.NO WWW.UIA.NO

