

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

The Professional Masters in Chemicals Risk Management (MCRM), offered by the Environmental Health Division in the School of Public Health and Family Medicine at UCT, provides students with an interdisciplinary and holistic approach to chemicals risk management.

UNEP's Global Chemicals Outlook II highlighted that chemical production will double by 2030 and we cannot have business as usual if adverse impacts from chemicals and waste are to be minimised.

Capacity building is key for countries, particularly low- and middle-income countries, to manage chemicals and waste sustainably. The Professional Masters provides skills and training in all the relevant areas a chemicals risk manager will need, and is aimed at health professionals, chemists, biologists, sociologists, anthropologists, ecologists, agronomists, toxicologists and other professionals working in chemicals management. This programme builds on the Division's postgraduate diploma in Pesticide Risk Management (DPRM).

The Programme benefits from the support and guidance developed under the GEF funded integrated health and environment observatory (ChemObs) project - a surveillance and information management system designed to strengthen national and regional institutions to implement priority chemicals and waste related interventions for improved health and environment. The project is a UNEP and WHO led initiative developed within the implementation framework of the Libreville Declaration on Health and Environment in Africa.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A PROFESSIONAL MASTERS

- ✓ Apply for a promotion or better job.
- ✓ Work for government in health, environment, agriculture, labor, waste management, etc
- ✓ Work in an academic or research institution
- ✓ Work for a non-governmental organisation (NGO)
- ✓ Work for an international governmental organisation (e.g. UN)
- ✓ Be a consultant

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

This blended programme is offered as a two-year, part-time, flexible-learning programme with a substantial distance-learning component, using internet-based education technology. Students are required to be on-campus for two weeks at the beginning of the programme. They will be required to be in weekly electronic contact. Students may not be registered beyond three years.

The programme expects students to be self-directed and to implement good time management.

COURSES YEAR 1

- Pesticide Risk Management
- International Chemical Management Agreements
- Health and Safety Management (Toxicology)
- Research Literacies

COURSES YEAR 2

- Policy Brief and Risk Communication Development
- Core Course in Chemicals Risk Management
- Chemicals Risk Assessment
- Situation Analysis Task
- Master's Project

