



Graduate School
of **BUSINESS**
UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

Postgraduate Diploma **IN DEVELOPMENT FINANCE**

Leveraging Finance for Sustainable
Development in Emerging Economies



CONTENTS

Introduction to the Postgraduate Diploma in Development Finance	4
Eligibility	5
Academic Qualifications	
Professional Experience	
Language Proficiency	
Documentation	
Curriculum Overview	7
Detailed Programme Curriculum	7
Banking and Finance in Emerging Markets	
Environmental Finance and Sustainable Investments	
Risk Management and Sustainability of Development Finance Institutions (DFIs)	
Public Private Partnership (PPP) for Development Financing	
Trade Finance	
Distinctive Features of the Programme	9
Practical Application	
Intensive and Focused Curriculum	
Global Perspective and Local Relevance	
Critical Perspective and Transformative Insights	
Specialised Knowledge and Skills	
Career Advancement and Global Network	
Innovative Teaching	10
Faculty Leading the PGDip in Development Finance at UCT GSB	11
Key Faculty Members	11
Contact Us	12



Welcome to the Postgraduate Diploma in Development Finance

The PGDip in Development Finance at the UCT Graduate School of Business is designed to equip professionals with the necessary tools and knowledge to channel finance for sustainable development. This programme is ideally suited for those aiming to work in financial institutions, government or NGOs promoting sustainable development and resilience in emerging markets. It is perfect for individuals eager to gain specialised knowledge in development finance and apply innovative financial strategies to drive impactful, inclusive growth.

The programme is delivered in five modules organised around three main objectives:

1. Provide a foundational understanding of sustainable development, banking and financial systems in emerging markets.
2. Provide insights into core risk management practices of development finance institutions.
3. Build capacity for impact through environmental finance and sustainable investment instruments, trade finance, and public-private partnerships.
4. The programme blends traditional lecture sessions with case studies and interactions with leading practitioners from across the African continent.

The Postgraduate Diploma in Development Finance is a specialised programme designed for those interested in finance as a lever for sustainable development.

The GSB is one of a few universities worldwide offering this degree accredited by the Chartered Institute of Development Finance (CIDEF). CIDEF is a global professional membership and certification body for development finance specialists. The programme provides valuable credits for students who want to attain full professional membership in CIDEF.

UCT's Development Finance Centre (DEFIC) is an active member of the CIDEF global development finance network with members from major institutions including the African Development Bank, Development Bank of South Africa, Afreximbank, AERC, Industrial Development Corporation, SADC-DFRC, KPMG and the South African National Treasury, to name just a few.



To be eligible for the **PGDip in Development Finance**, applicants must satisfy the following criteria:



Academic Qualifications:

Applicants must hold an NQF level 7 (or 3-year undergraduate) qualification in a relevant field such as finance, economics, accounting, commerce, engineering, sciences, or related qualifications. Verification of the qualification's equivalence to a South African degree is required, which can be done through the South African Qualifications Authority.

Candidates with other NQF level 7 academic qualifications may also apply if they have some relevant work experience.



Professional Experience:

Relevant work experience in development finance or the financial services industry is preferable for applicants without academic qualifications in either finance, economics, or accounting to ensure candidates can fully engage with the programme's advanced content.



Language Proficiency:

Proficiency in English is essential. Applicants whose first language is not English or who have not studied at an English-speaking university may need to provide TOEFL or IELTS scores.



Documentation:

Required documents include certified copies of academic transcripts and degrees, a detailed Curriculum Vitae, a motivational letter, and two professional recommendation letters.



This rigorous selection process ensures that all participants are well-prepared to contribute to and benefit from the specialised curriculum offered by the PGDip in Development Finance programme.



For more detailed information on the admission process and requirements, visit its Postgraduate Diploma in Development Finance Entrance Requirements page.





“ The PGDip in Development Finance was a truly transformative experience. The programme deepened my understanding of how finance can drive social impact, equipping me with the tools to contribute meaningfully to responsible investment and development initiatives across Africa.



Gaasite Molefe,

Accountant, & 2024 MCom candidate





“ This was an invaluable programme for my career. I've utilised the skills I learnt in all my courses in my career in asset management and now in banking. All the courses are relevant, there isn't a single “filler”. You understand the importance of Development Finance in the context of Africa and, from an analysis perspective, you go beyond reporting information to being able to extract insights from any given information. ”

Mihlali Xozwa

Credit Analyst Bank of China

Distinctive Features of the Programme:

Practical Application

The curriculum merges theory with practical case studies and real-world applications, ensuring that students learn to effectively apply knowledge to their professional environments.

Intensive and Focused Curriculum

The programme is structured around five compulsory courses delivered over five months. This format is designed to provide a concentrated and immersive learning experience that allows professionals to quickly acquire and apply new skills.

Global Perspective and Local Relevance

While the programme offers a global view of development finance, it emphasises issues particularly relevant to Africa, addressing unique challenges and opportunities in the continent's development finance sector.

Critical Perspective and Transformative Insights

The programme critically engages with the notion of development and reflects on the specific challenges and opportunities in Africa. It teaches students to effectively use finance to shape and support sustainable and resilient African economies.

Specialised Knowledge and Skills

The programme imparts specialised knowledge in development finance, equipping students with the skills to enhance the design and implementation of financial strategies and projects. These skills are critical in addressing development challenges and achieving sustainable growth in both public and private sectors.

Career Advancement and Global Network

This programme grants access to UCT GSB's global alumni network. This network is invaluable for career development, providing connections and opportunities across various industries and regions.

Collectively, these benefits ensure that graduates are prepared to meet the challenges of development finance and stand out in their ability to make a significant impact in the field.

Innovative Teaching

Our teaching, learning and research is directed towards building a more economically prosperous, equitable and integrated continent.

Teaching on the Postgraduate Diploma in Development Finance draws heavily on case study analysis with minimal exploration of theoretical concepts.

It provides those who work in, or are intending to work in, development finance institutions or support organisations, government or the financial sector a thorough understanding of the field.



“What I liked most about the PGDip in Development Finance are the contact sessions we had as a Cohort. The fact that Cohort had a diverse background made the class discussions so much richer and also allowed us to gain insight on the various finance industries.”

Mathapelo More

Lead Project Engineer at The Project Company, and 2024 MCom candidate



“My highlight of the programme was the opportunity to share ideas and learn from my peers with different backgrounds, and from different countries. It was the opportunity to build relationships with peers from the continent. The block weeks were long but great especially when attended in person and engaging/learning from the different lecturers with guest lecturers. I particularly enjoyed engaging with asset management companies and a non-profit shareholder activism organisation using shareholder rights and collaborative activism to drive responsible investment, sustainable finance, and urgent action to combat climate change and reduce inequality.”

William Nkutha,

Principal Officer National Employee Benefit

Faculty Leading the **PGDip in Development Finance** at UCT GSB

The PGDip in Development Finance at UCT GSB is supported by a distinguished faculty, renowned for their academic and professional contributions to the field of development finance. The faculty includes both full-time academics and visiting professors, ensuring a rich blend of theoretical knowledge and practical insights.

Key Faculty Members



Dr Cecile Feront:

Cecile is the Programme Director for the PGDip in Development Finance. She teaches sustainable investment and environmental finance while researching how organisations embed sustainability in their strategy. She has gained broad experience in strategy and management through her past roles in the software industry and renewable energy sector.



Dr. Rene Albertus

Rene teaches and researches information systems management and business process modelling, public-private partnerships, accounting and finance, as well as corporate governance. She has gained broad management experience through her past roles in the corporate sector.



These faculty members contribute significantly to the UCT GSB's reputation for excellence, driving forward the school's mission to produce leaders capable of making impactful changes in the world. Their diverse backgrounds and areas of expertise provide students with comprehensive learning experiences, equipping them with the skills necessary to succeed in complex financial environments.



SCAN FOR MORE
INFORMATION ON
THE PROGRAMME.



SCAN ME



Call us:

0860 UCT GSB (824 472)

*27-21-650-7500

info.gsb@uct.ac.za

www.gsb.uct.ac.za

