master of development (MDEV) degree

The Master of Development (MDEV) degree is designed to build or enhance capacity for development management within the public and private sectors and also in the non-government and civil society sectors. It targets middle to senior managers involved in development work.

Admission requirements
Prospective candidates must have at least a Bachelor’s degree plus a minimum of three years’ related practical experience in the field of development.

Duration and credits
The MDEV degree is offered over a minimum of three years and a maximum of four years. A candidate qualifies for the degree after having acquired 240 credits.

Curriculum
The MDEV curriculum consists of modules which are designed to enhance a candidate’s theoretical and applied knowledge in critical areas which are relevant to social and economic development.

Compulsory modules
- Development theory and practice
- Ethics, development planning and management
- Regional and local economic development
- Community development, leadership and facilitation
- Research methodology
- Human resource management
- Project planning and management
- Public financial resource management

Elective modules
Offered over the last few years include the following:
- Environmental management and tourism
- Agriculture and rural development
- Public policy analysis

Candidates are also required to write a mini-dissertation on a development-related topic of their choice. This equips students with both theoretical as well as practical skills in conducting research, analysing data and writing a research report on development issues.

Career prospects
The MDEV degree offers a wide range of career choices mainly in the public sector, non-government and civil society sectors.

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