

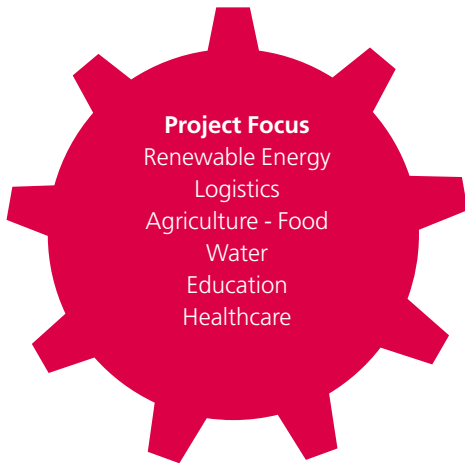
*avans*

# GET INSPIRED.

**SOUTH AFRICA  
INTERNATIONALISATION  
PROGRAMME**

# South Africa Projects

Avans University of Applied Sciences focuses on developing talent, multidisciplinary, diversity and international collaboration, as laid down in Vision 2020 (Ambitie 2020) and the international context strategic vision. Avans students can be recognised by their learning, researching, entrepreneurial and responsible attitude. To support this strategy, the Internationalisation focus group started up a multidisciplinary and multicultural programme in South Africa in 2011. Students from different schools are given the opportunity to develop aspects of a current project or start up new projects. There are six sectors on which they are focusing: renewable energy, logistics, agriculture – food, water, education and healthcare.



These sectors were chosen based on overlap within the Dutch and South African government agenda. There are also examples of these sectors in other regions of the world where projects have been developed within a living lab concept. This concept is supported by NESO – EP-Nuffic to realise international collaboration in higher education. Avans is currently participating in a consortium focusing on the bio-based economy in Brazil. Within the projects that we describe in this brochure, the students acquire specialist knowledge and develop international and intercultural competences. They set up projects in collaboration with the Dutch and South African business world, organisations and universities. In this way, we promote strategic exchanges with people outside of the Netherlands and create a context in which students develop international, intercultural and multidisciplinary competences.

**The following projects are currently underway within the South Africa programme:**

Clear Water South Africa	water sector
Prof Portal Africa	healthcare sector
Disability Practice Programme	healthcare sector
Disability Community Reintegration and Inclusion Programme	healthcare sector
First Aid Programme	education sector
Movement Development Programme	education sector

# Water sector

## CLEAR WATER SOUTH AFRICA

The Clear Water Foundation (Stichting Helder Water) was founded in 2009 and its products, including bottles of water, are sold at the larger supermarkets in the Netherlands. Various water projects in developing countries are being set up and supported with the proceeds from the sale of these bottles of water.

The Clear Water Foundation wants to export the concept to South Africa, where the products are also bottled and sold commercially on the domestic market. The proceeds are then put back into existing or new water projects in South Africa. A number of graduates of Avans conducted a feasibility study during the period from February to July 2015, consisting of four sub-studies:

1. Finances
2. Market research (commercial, new concepts)
3. Market research (development projects)
4. Logistics and distribution

## AIM

The new Clear Water projects focus on researching the financial feasibility of new concepts, writing a business plan, implementing new concepts, setting up an ambassador recruitment plan, developing and implementing a sponsorship plan, researching grant options, setting up marketing activities, developing the Clear Water South Africa website, developing a market launch plan, developing a distribution plan and developing a corporate identity. At the same time, it is being investigated which South African partners are interested in participating in this project. The partners are companies, NGOs and universities.

## POSSIBLE DISCIPLINES

Marketing, ICT, multimedia and finance & control.

The project provides work placement, research and graduation opportunities. The Clear Water project has a minimum duration of two years. The students carry out the assignment during a period of approximately 20 weeks.



## STAKEHOLDERS

Clear Water Foundation	client
Royal Haskoning/DHV NL	expert in the water industry in the Netherlands
Royal Haskoning/DHV SA	expert in the water industry in South Africa
Students of Avans	students of Avans carry out assignments and research activities in a multidisciplinary team
Avans schools	responsible for the content of projects
International Office	coordinates and supports the project in the Netherlands
Avans Local Liaison Office	coordinates and supports the project in South Africa, monitors the process and creates the necessary contacts

# Healthcare sector

## PROF PORTAL AFRICA

The future of healthcare in South Africa is both extremely exciting and challenging. Prof Portal Africa aims to assist in some of these challenges by providing a proven (Dutch) method to support the development of knowledge and skills by means of collaboration. The aim is to make a considerable difference when it comes to standardising healthcare providers' skills and standards with a growing range of blended learning modules.

The platform is supported by PulseWeb® learning technology, which is owned by Noordhoff Health, a web-based learning environment that focuses on individual learning processes in the context of an organisation. Noordhoff Health is marketing leader in the Netherlands when it comes to learning and development in the healthcare industry. Less time in the classroom and more time in the ward/with the patient, and developing healthcare staff in an efficient manner: these are the aims of Prof Portal Africa.

Since this project started in 2011, Avans students have contributed to it by conducting a feasibility study and developing and implementing blended learning modules in the various public and private hospitals and healthcare institutions in the Cape Town region, such as the Groote Schuur Hospital, Netcare N1 City, Ambulance College and the Western College Cape of Nursing.

## AIM

New projects within this sector focus on evaluating, improving, developing and implementing blended learning modules – both in terms of content and multimedia. Observation activities, requirement analyses, and training sessions and assessments in collaboration with end users such as nurses and other hospital staff, and in the communities, form part of the assignment.

## STAKEHOLDERS

Prof Portal Africa	client
University of Cape Town	partner and skills lab facilitator
Noordhoff Health	Dutch partner and platform facilitator
Students of Avans	students of AGZ, ASH, ASB, AMBM and AI&I carry out assignments and research activities in a multidisciplinary team
Avans schools	responsible for the content of projects
International Office	coordinates and supports the project in the Netherlands
Avans Local Liaison Office	coordinates and supports the project in South Africa, monitors the process and creates the necessary contacts



## POSSIBLE DISCIPLINES

Physiotherapy, nursing, social work, multimedia and communication, ICT and management

The project and the resulting sub-projects provide various opportunities for work placements and minors, research and graduation. They do not have a deadline. The students carry out the assignment in four to eight months, depending on training-specific frameworks and criteria.

# Healthcare sector

## DISABILITY PRACTICE PROGRAMME

The Disability Studies Programme in the Department of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences started in 2003 as the first of its kind on the African continent. This programme's vision is to forge disability inclusion in Africa. The Physiotherapy and Disabilities Studies department at the University of Cape Town aims to do this by taking an asset-based approach to generating abilities and knowledge on disability inclusion, with a specific focus on youth in Africa within a global context. This programme seeks to develop research and academic capacity that will contribute to the understanding of disability in context, as an issue of diversity and social justice. The Higher Certificate has been set up in collaboration with the Western Cape Department of Health and Rehabilitation Services to equip community health workers and rehabilitation care workers (RCW) with the necessary skills and knowledge for working with children and adults with disabilities in their local communities. The course also provides prospective students with a way in which they can focus on disability studies in greater depth.

The Higher Certificate in Disability Practice consists of five modules, of which Health, Wellness and Function Abilities (HWFA) is one of the largest. The community workers receive training from the different lecturers at the University of Cape Town (UCT). The programme had 30 participants in its first year and a new cohort began in July 2015. However, in order to expand this programme to other areas (including rural ones) in South Africa, UCT would like to have these modules developed into blended learning modules, using the Dutch platform Pulseweb. See the Prof Portal Africa project for further details.

The first cohort of Avans students evaluated the programme based on the feedback from the community rehabilitation care workers. With the feedback and

information from the RCWs, they turned one of the modules into a blended learning module. In order to evaluate the programme and come up with recommendations for the programme, the students shadowed the RCW for a few days to see who they are, what they do, what their level is, the type of patients they have, what the different kinds of treatments are, what computer facilities they have etc. The RCWs work in healthcare facilities such as the Life Care, the Western Cape Rehabilitation Centre and paediatric centres, and a few of them are located in the townships. The RCWs work closely with social workers, speech therapists, occupational therapists and physiotherapists, which means that the students also had to work with and cooperate with these different disciplines.

## AIM

The projects within this sector focus on evaluating, improving, developing and implementing the programme with the help of new blended learning modules. Observation activities, requirement analyses and training sessions and assessments in collaboration with end users, such as the RCWs, and in the communities, form part of the assignment.

In the future, we will roll out this programme to other areas of South Africa, and the students may play a facilitating role in this.

## POSSIBLE DISCIPLINES

Physiotherapy, nursing, social work, multimedia and communication, and ICT.

The project and the resulting sub-projects provide various opportunities for work placements and minors, research and graduation. They do not have a deadline. The students carry out the assignment in four to eight months, depending on training-specific frameworks and criteria.

## STAKEHOLDERS

University of Cape Town, Department of Physiotherapy	client
Prof Portal Africa	module development facilitator
Noordhoff Health	Dutch partner, facilitating the platform
Students of Avans	students of AGZ, ASH, ASB, AMBM and AI&I carry out assignments and research activities in a multidisciplinary team
Avans schools	responsible for the content of projects
International Office	coordinates and supports the project in the Netherlands
Avans Local Liaison Office	coordinates and supports the project in South Africa, monitors the process and creates the necessary contacts

# Healthcare sector

## **DISABILITY COMMUNITY REINTEGRATION AND INCLUSION PROGRAMME**

Life Esidimeni, which means 'place of dignity', is a fully owned subsidiary of the Life Healthcare Group, and is the largest and oldest public/private hospital partnership in South Africa. Life Esidimeni is the leading private sector provider in the field of chronic mental health services to government clients. In addition to providing clinical treatment and care, Life Esidimeni is developing and phasing in a new approach to chronic, institutional mental healthcare, in line with the Mental Health Care Act. This approach focuses on mental health rehabilitation by improving competencies, vocational skills and environmental support for users.

Life Esidimeni Intermediate Care (LEIC) is a 220-bed sub-acute/step-down rehabilitation facility based in Cape Town, South Africa. The private/public partnership with the Department of Health allows our public patients to be housed and rehabilitated for a maximum period of six weeks, after which time the patients need to be reintegrated back into their respective communities. The hospital is staffed by doctors, nursing staff of various categories, and a full multi-disciplinary rehabilitation team consisting of physiotherapists with physiotherapy assistants, occupational therapists with occupational therapy assistants, social workers, speech therapists, dieticians and rehabilitation care workers (RCWs).

The facility currently has a particular focus on in-patient hospital services. However, the facility's ambition is to become a more comprehensively and holistically-minded rehabilitation facility, with a particular focus on community reintegration and inclusion, so as to reduce the effects of disability in the communities. Inclusion within the community is key to making this happen.

A key aspect to ensuring that the facility's ambitions are met is to connect, engage and communicate with the communities, focusing initially on the immediate surroundings of the Mitchells Plain area. However, before starting to implement ideas, there needs to be a strategic plan as to what the projects would entail, such as the objectives that need to be met, and the measurements to be taken or collected. Questions that need to be addressed are, for example: How do we come into contact with the communities? How do we get the community leaders involved (marketing)? What is the new role of home-based carers and the RCW in terms of community reintegration? How can

we ensure continuous support for patients being discharged? How do we engage our staff in making this happen? What kind of training and coaching do the staff require, and then what kind of programmes need to be developed to address this? What are the implications of current and future processes and procedures for staff, patients, families, head office and the Department of Health? Does this proposal fall in line with the current intermediate care policy? What budget is available and would the Department of Health be interested in being involved in this project?

In the end, it means that all departments/stakeholders will need to work together in multidisciplinary and integrated teams. The facility is considering employing a rehabilitation coordinator to focus on this ambition and assist in the integration of the various departments/stakeholders. Once this step of achieving a focus on community reintegration has been achieved and programmes have been set in place, the next step would be to adequately train and upskill all categories of staff so that they have the skills to work according to the new ambition and execute the ideas. This will require all staff to adopt a different mindset.

### **AIM**

To implement this change according to the new ambition and identified strategy, Life Esidimeni Intermediate Care would be very interested in collaborating with Avans and possible consortium partners. As stated above, a strategic plan on what the projects would entail needs to be developed.



## POSSIBLE DISCIPLINES

Social studies, nursing, marketing, physiotherapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, finance, business and technology.

The project and the resulting sub-projects provide various opportunities for work placements and minors, research and graduation. They do not have a deadline. The students carry out the assignment in four to eight months, depending on training-specific frameworks and criteria.

## STAKEHOLDERS

Intermediate Care	client
University of Cape Town	facilitator
Department of Physiotherapy	partner, expert
Students of Avans	students of AGZ, ASH, ASB, AMBM and AFM carry out assignments and research activities in a multidisciplinary team
Avans schools	responsible for the content of projects
International Office	coordinates and supports the project in the Netherlands
Avans Local Liaison Office	coordinates and supports the project in South Africa, monitors the process and creates the necessary contacts

# Education sector

## FIRST AID EDUCATION

The townships in the Cape Town region are often extremely poor, and have a great deal of unemployment and complex family situations in which children are often largely responsible for running the family and everyday life.

The primary schools and high schools within the townships have few resources and are dependent on sponsorship. They do everything they can to ensure that as large a number of pupils as possible successfully finish school. In doing so, they work in close collaboration with Cape Town's school boards, teachers, sponsors and local authorities.

In this project, students develop and implement educational projects in multidisciplinary teams to help give pupils and teachers useful tools for their everyday lives in the township communities, such as knowledge and skills relating to first aid or hygiene.

### AIM

To continue the projects in a sustainable manner, opportunities are being sought to bring in students from local universities. Requirement analyses should also create ideas for new educational programmes. 'Refresher lessons' are also being developed.

The first aid project was the first to be developed and is being evaluated and revised. This ultimately created a portfolio of educational projects that give

pupils a stronger basis for their everyday lives in the townships. The projects also play a part in community development.

The educational projects focus on:

- First aid
- Hygiene
- Prevention and information in a wider context

The aspects quality, continuity, feasibility and accessibility are also of major importance and therefore form part of the assignment. The aim is to roll out this project to primary schools and secondary schools in other townships, for which feasibility studies and strategic plans are required. Given the local organisations' limited resources, fundraising may also form part of the assignment.

### POSSIBLE DISCIPLINES

Physiotherapy, nursing, social work, education, multimedia and communication, ICT, School of Education (Pabo), marketing & business management, accountancy and economy & financial management

The project and the resulting sub-projects provide various opportunities for work placements and minors, research and graduation. They do not have a deadline. It is also expected that sufficient sub-projects will be developed for the coming years. The students carry out the assignment in four to eight months, depending on training-specific frameworks and criteria.

## STAKEHOLDERS

Primary and secondary schools	client
University of Cape Town	facilitator
Various external organisations	sponsorship and support
City of Cape Town	local authority
Students of Avans	students of AGZ, ASH, ASB, AMBM and AOMI carry out assignments and research activities in a multidisciplinary team
Avans schools	responsible for the content of projects
International Office	coordinates and supports the project in the Netherlands
Avans Local Liaison Office	coordinates and supports the project in South Africa, monitors the process and creates the necessary contacts



## Education sector

### MOVEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

In the complexity of life in townships, making healthy lifestyle choices is not always a matter of course, and is sometimes even impossible. The primary schools and secondary schools within the townships have few resources and are dependent on sponsorship. Opportunities, as well as teachers' knowledge and expertise, are often insufficient or inadequate for offering sport and exercise. And sport and exercise are a good way to spend your time, reduce crime, promote a healthier lifestyle and can help to develop skills that the pupils need in their everyday lives, but also as future professionals; skills such as working together and taking on challenges.

**Nelson Mandela expressed the importance of this beautifully:**

**“Sport has the power to change the world... it has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Sport can create hope where once there was only despair. It is more powerful than government in breaking down racial barriers.”**

In this project, students develop and implement sports projects in multidisciplinary teams that encourage personal development and the development of a healthy or healthier lifestyle. What's more, sport and exercise projects contribute to the development of the communities to which the school and the pupils belong.

### AIM

To continue the projects in a sustainable manner, opportunities are being sought to involve students from local universities in these projects. These projects also have a strong link to the 'train-the-trainer' principle, because the teachers from the primary schools and high schools are potential forces for providing the pupils with further supervision and for giving sports lessons.

Requirement analyses and strategic plans should result in the roll-out of these sports and exercise projects to other communities and high schools. In addition to fundraising, these aspects also form part of the

assignment. The aspects quality, continuity, feasibility and accessibility are also of major importance and therefore form part of the assignment.

### POSSIBLE DISCIPLINES

Physiotherapy, social work, education, multimedia and communication, ICT, marketing & business management, School of Education, accountancy and economy & financial management.

The project and the resulting sub-projects provide various opportunities for work placements and minors, research and graduation. It has a considerable interdisciplinary nature and requires good collaboration opportunities, given the commitment of many local organisations.

The projects do not have a deadline. It is expected that it will be possible to develop sufficient sub-projects over the coming years. The students carry out the assignment in four to eight months, depending on training-specific frameworks and criteria.



## STAKEHOLDERS

Primary and secondary schools	client
University of Western Cape	participant (including local students)
Western Cape Gymnastics Association	facilitator
City of Cape Town	participant
Sports for Children Foundation	sponsorship and support
Janssen-Fritsen	sponsorship
Students of Avans	students of AGZ, ASH, ASB and the School of Education carry out assignments and research activities in a multidisciplinary team
Avans schools	responsible for the content of projects
International Office	coordinates and supports the project in the Netherlands
Avans Local Liaison Office	coordinates and supports the project in South Africa, monitors the process and creates the necessary contacts



## A look at future projects

Within the renewable energy, logistics, agriculture – food, water, education and healthcare sectors, it will be possible to develop new projects over the coming years. Local requirement analyses have already resulted in a few ideas that we are developing further. The Avans schools that are involved and possibly also other local and international stakeholders play a part in this. Avans wants to have contact with foreign partners, and take joint regional action within the South African projects.

Parallel to this, the projects provide opportunities for research, enabling us to collaborate from a wider perspective. Therefore in addition to opportunities for bachelor students, collaboration may also take place at master's and PhD level. This will make the link more interesting and more realistic for local South African universities and also provide different opportunities for obtaining grants.


- Rolling out educational and sports and exercise projects to several communities and high schools
- Further developing the e-learning modules for the Higher Certificate in Disability Practice in collaboration with the Life Esidimeni Intermediate Care Centre, with the aim of promoting multidisciplinary expertise among the RCWs
- Developing a Standardised Patient Programme in collaboration with UCT for enhancing the curricula of healthcare and medical training programmes: the patient-partner programme
- New projects in other sectors


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