

# The Structure of Ethiopian Audiology Training

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# Disclosures:

- Dr. Redleaf is a consultant for Med EI in Ethiopia.
- The authors have no funding and no conflict of interest to disclose for this study.



# Background:

- Ethiopia is the second most populous country in Africa, with about 100 million.
- Since 2016 hearing health specialists at the University of Illinois in Chicago have been arranging audiology education in an organized fashion in Ethiopia.
- This is the history/structure of this effort.



# Objective:

- To present the current state of the University of Illinois Ethiopian audiology education projects.



# Local resources:

- Scattered used audiometers
- Scattered technicians doing PTT's
- No tympanometers
- No audiologists
- No training programs
- Spotty internet

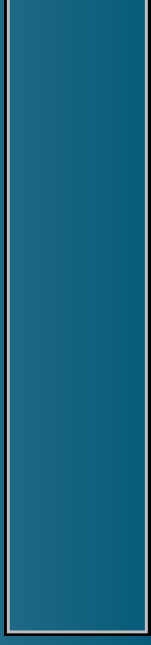


# Exogenous resources:

- WRS lists
- EDUPLEX ® Training Institute
- (Other online programs)
- Donated equipment
- Donated hands-on instruction
- Training sites identified



WRS



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## HEARING AID ACOUSTICIAN

According to the World Health Organisation, one out of three adults over the age of 65 has a hearing loss. Hearing instruments can help people with hearing loss to hear. There is a worldwide need for educated professionals to do hearing tests and perform hearing instrument fittings. Register now to become part of the hearing healthcare community. Click on the links below to register or for more information.

### FOUNDATION PROGRAMME

This is for persons who are working with a hearing aid acoustician, audiologist or ear, nose and throat specialist.

Duration: 4 months

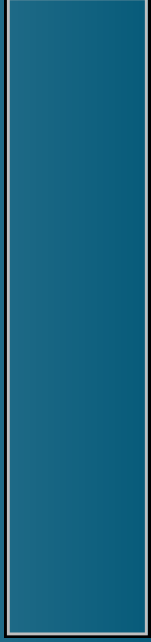
### ADVANCED PROGRAMME

This is for persons who want to work independently as a hearing aid acoustician.

Duration: 12 months

Contact: 09 520 5000

### What is the difference between the Foundation and Advanced programme?





29 April 2019

To whom it may concern:

The following quotation is for five **audiology trainers** to do practical training at Addis Ababa (MCM, EMDNA, EAHAC), Mekelle University and Gondar.

Take note: This is the last round of practical training for the group from Addis Ababa and Mekelle University.

Trainer allocations per site are as follows:

Ms. Christelle Ferreira	Addis Ababa
Ms. Aitsha Lourens	Addis Ababa
Ms. Dorcas Zwigela	Gondar
Ms. Gerie Zwitros	Mekelle University
Ms. Elmé Selesho	Mekelle University

Description	US \$
X2 Return flights between JHB (SA) and Addis Ababa US \$ 890 per trainer	US \$ 1 780
X2 Return flights between JHB (SA) and Mekelle US \$ 1 150 per trainer	US \$ 2 300
X1 Return flight between JHB (SA) and Gondar US \$ 1 150	US \$ 1 150
Bank costs wire transfer	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>US \$ 5 230</b>

This quotation is valid until 3 May 2019

Programme fees payable to:

Account name: Edulex Training Institute Fees  
 Bank: Standard Bank South Africa  
 Branch: Gezira  
 Branch code: 014 845  
 Account no: 281 546 063  
 SWIFT code: SBZAZJ

Elmé Selesho | Programme Coordinator

**EDULEX TRAINING INSTITUTE**

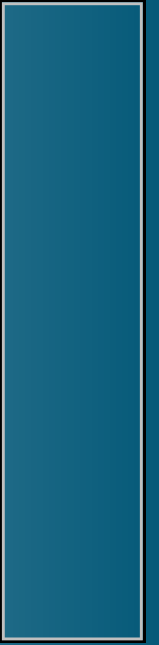
1188 Denner Street, Queenswood 0156, South Africa

Tel: 011 251 2000 Email: [edulex@edulex.co.za](mailto:edulex@edulex.co.za) or [enquiries@edulex.co.za](mailto:enquiries@edulex.co.za)  
 Webpage: [www.edulextraining.co.za](http://www.edulextraining.co.za)  
 Non-profit company: 2009/045129/07

# Donated equipment and expertise:

- Amplivox audiometers
- Otowave tympanometers
- Hi Pro Boxes
- Trim pot HA's and USB-powered HA's
- Many trips from Dr. Cager





# Capacity building in progress:

- Sites
- Personnel
- Trained trainers
- Auditorium/lecture room
- Audioboosts



# Sites:

- Mekelle U\*
- Bahir Dar U\*
- Gondar U
- Hawassa U
- Ethiopian Women with Disabilities\*
- Myungsung Christian Medical Center\*



# Cultivating leaders:

- Alpha Solomon – coordinator of all sites, all equipment, all trainees, all programs
- Abel Shimeles – educational director
- Kibra Dimsu – administrator at Mekelle U
- 2/4 ENT residents to teach in Mekelle U
- Three MCM nurses to teach at MCM site
- Three EWDNA women to teach at EWDNA site and MCM



## 2020 goals:

- Audiometry technician program taught in Amharic by our first tier of trainees
- At Mekelle U (accreditation process underway)
- At EWDNA/MCM in Addis Ababa
- And 2020- in Bahir Dar





# Key interventions:

- Find the stand-alone online program
- Identify interested, smart people
- Be sure the site's administrators support the project
- Spend a lot of money



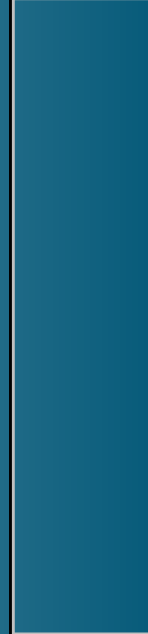
# METRICS:

- To be determined.

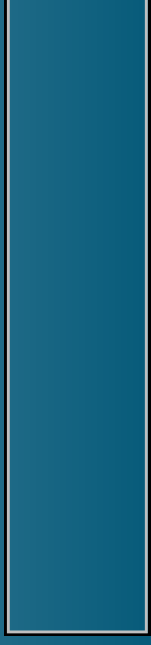


Ethiopian practical 18 – 24 May 2019: Student feedback

Describe your overall experience of the course (online and practical workshop)	Do you have any recommendations on how we can enhance the course (online and practical workshop)	Are there any specific areas that you feel need further support or training after completing the workshop? If yes, list topics	Other remarks
It was a nice journey except internet problem. It was difficult even to download the reading materials.	If it is possible to have another practical section in between the two sessions.	Experiences on speech audiometry testing, ABR (at least screening)	X
The course is very descriptive (full of enough videos and written material). The practical session is also made something which were difficult to understand easy and clear.	Everything was nice, no other comments.	I would love to do more practical practice again.	X
It was really an amazing experience. Reading material were very interesting to read. Pictures are very elaborative. Practical workshop is well organized and attractive to attend.	All is good and maybe more practical workshop to be added.	More training on verification of hearing aid, software management.	X
Generally, it was very nice, very explanatory, very good course	The practical workshop should be frequent. The online course is very nice, keep it up.	After the practical workshop I feel; I could have been happy if I could get some of the equipment to use during the workshop. So I feel afraid that I may forfeit my knowledge if I didn't practice	The patience you have is extraordinary, keep it up. Inform prof. Miriam to help us with hearing aids and equipment.
Overall both the online and practical workshops are very helpful especially the practical workshop give us very good experience. Sometimes we are	If it is possible increase the practical workshop	Hearing aid fitting and verification	I would like to thank our trainers and the rest of the group. Thank you!



<p>clear.</p> <p>It was really an amazing experience. Reading material were very interesting to read. Pictures are very elaborative. Practical workshop is well organized and attractive to attend.</p>	<p>All is good and maybe more practical workshop to be added.</p>	<p>More training on verification of hearing aid, software management.</p>	<p>X</p>
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encouraged, but the time frame

was short

I enjoy the course online and practical workshop was very good. I get confident in my workshop to help my clients more than ever

It's all good and more books to help the students offline.

There is no but more practical workshop on software

Eduplex is one of my fist and best institutes to me it helps me to help my peoples, so thank you all so much.



# Current major obstacles:

- No hearing aids available – have to be purchased and carried in
- Batteries always a problem
- Have to arrange jobs for the graduates –
- Reluctance to give up their fulltime jobs.



# Conclusion:

- Identification of willing institutions, a stand-alone online program, interested people, and funding for equipment may have resulted in the first Ethiopian audiology training programs.

