

**Author:** Catherine Pereira

**Co Author:** Tertia Van Eeden, Elsmari Nel (University of South Africa [UNISA])

**Topic:** Capacity development for public health nutrition

**Title:** Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Education for Effective Nutrition in Action (ENACT) collaboration with University of South Africa: piloting of the ENACT Online course

**Presentation Type:** Oral

The ENACT course aims to build working capacity in nutrition education through practical activities, simulated and real. An online version, now in development, aims to maintain the course's practical, interactive and experiential features. In its search for a relevant, sustainable, effective and appropriate nutrition education programme for communities in developing countries, the University of South Africa (UNISA), a distance education institution, has partnered with FAO to pilot the online course with its students. Three stipulations underpin the project: it should train potential tutors to raise their capacities, improve the nutrition education competences of the students, and contribute directly to the promotion and institutionalisation of the course.

A project team of three lecturers collaboratively participated in the online tutor training programme over a three week period, doing some units as "students", receiving feedback, conducting guided tutoring, and getting to know the materials and online platform. The second phase consisted of student training using the online tool over a five-month period in South Africa. Collaborative conclusions have been reached relating to the implementation period, the scope and contents of the online Tutor's Guide, and recommended actions by tutors, program coordinator and participants.

The piloting feedback of the online course provided to FAO by the UNISA team will promote program development through own analysis and problem-solving. It consists of reports on technical and academic observations, including workload, technical issues, content, length, clarity, and assessment, which will enable the course developers to improve the course and will help to adapt it to UNISA's needs.