Course Aims

This goal of this course is to enable eye care professionals to be able to deliver gender appropriate services that are locally informed and tailored to address the specific local issues that are barriers to achieving gender equity in eye health programming. Whilst focussing on improving the eye health outcomes of women and girls this course is relevant to broader sustainable development programming in Pakistan.

Course Facilitators

Judith Stern is the Global Manager for Learning & Teaching at the Brien Holden Vision Institute, where she provides leadership in the global development of eye care courses and educational resources. Judith has been central to the development and delivery of the Institute’s education programs for the last 10 years, with a focus on ensuring education programs are learner centred, locally relevant and of a global standard. She has a special interest in education programs that develop leadership skills in the eye health sector including; EyeTeach for educators program, Gender Equity and Advocacy in Eye Health.

Drew Keys is the Project Manager for PNG & Pacific at the Public Health Division of the Brien Holden Vision Institute. He has extensive experience working with partners in Papua New Guinea and the region to build sustainable programs, including vision centres, spectacle supply and training facilities. Drew is passionate about developing human resources across the sector, with a particular interest in cross-cutting issues and the need to work ‘outside the silo’. This has been given impetus by the opening of the Institute initiated Lions National Resource Centre for Eye Health in PNG, which has greatly increased the capacity for training programs in the sector.

Sumrana Yasmin is the Regional Director for South East Asia and the Eastern Mediterranean at the Public Health Division of the Brien Holden Vision Institute. Sumrana has dedicated her career to increasing accessible eye health services in the region and working in collaboration with other organisations, helping address broader health and wellbeing issues. She has been working in the development sector for the last 14 years in the South Asia and Middle East Region. She has wide experience in documenting and researching gender issues related to health, education, sustainable development, and access to resources in the region.
Student Learning Outcomes

On the successful completion of this course students should be able to:

1. Advocate to local stakeholders for the provision of equal opportunity for women to access and benefit from eye health services, education opportunities and related programs
2. Identify and begin to address areas within their organisation that could be improved to include, mentor and provide opportunities at all levels for women.
3. Evaluate local eye health services and programs from a gender perspective, (including understanding cultural, economic, institutional, health and education systems and political environment) identifying barriers and enablers to gender equity in the local setting (using tools provided).
4. Begin to use gender responsive program design, planning & budgeting tools to make changes to existing services/programs or begin new eye health initiatives.
5. Identify potential relevant local and/or global partnerships to further facilitate gender equity in eye health

Topics

This course will be delivered in a blended learning format, which includes 2 hours online and a 2 day face-to-face workshop. The course will cover the following topics:

- An introduction to Gender, Development & Health
- Framework for Gender Evaluation
- Gender equity in Eye Health Services
- Gender Equity in Eye Health Education & Research
- Gender Equity within the workplace
- Partnerships & Advocacy

Expectations

It is expected that all course participants:

- Complete all course requirements in a timely manner
- Demonstrate an open collaborative and enquiring mindset towards the course activities and participants
- Actively contribute to Discussion Forums and Activities to progress the discussion
- Submit online learning on time unless prior arrangements have been negotiated with the course facilitators
- Reflect on feedback given by the course facilitators
- Respect the opinions, experiences and points of view of all participants
- Attend the entire 2-day face-to-face workshop. Attendance and active participation in this workshop is a pre-requisite to receive a certificate of participation
- Consider professional and personal workloads, and commitments during the timeline of the course and make suitable arrangements to ensure time to engage in the course activities
- Share experiences. These will be valued and encouraged
- Complete course evaluation surveys