

COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP COMMISSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

BUSINESS PLAN – APRIL 2015

CONTENTS	Page
1. Foreword	2
2. Membership of the Commission	3
3. Priorities for the Year	4
4. Planned Activities 2015-2016	5
5. Key Performance Indicators	8
6. Budget and Resources	9
7. Published Information	10
Appendix 1: Description of Awards Types offered by the Commission	11

1. FOREWORD

The Commission was established by the Commonwealth Scholarships Act, 1959. The constitution and responsibilities of the Commission are set out in Chapter 6 of that Act, and successor legislation, most notably the International Development Act, 2002. The practical operation of the Commission is guided by a Framework Document and associated Financial Memorandum, copies of which can be found on the Commission web site (<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/commonwealth-scholarship-commission-in-the-uk>). The strategic direction of the Commission is detailed in its Corporate Plan, which can also be found on the web site.

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan are guided by principles adopted by Commonwealth Education Ministers, within these, our stated mission is to:

‘deliver the UK contribution to the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan through the granting of academic and professional awards to able and motivated Commonwealth citizens, and the nomination of UK citizens for awards from other Commonwealth countries. Candidates are selected on the basis of merit, and particularly their potential to contribute to the needs of their home countries. We undertake these activities in order to (1) contribute to the UK’s international development aims and wider overseas interests, (2) support excellence in UK higher education, and (3) sustain the principles of the Commonwealth.’

The Commission’s principal sources of funding remain the Department for International Development (DFID), which funds candidates from developing Commonwealth countries, and UK universities, which share the cost of its awards. The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) and the Scottish Government support a small number of awards for people from developed countries.

The past decade has seen significant diversification in the type of awards that the Commission offers, as we seek to meet a wider range of needs. Although ‘conventional’ scholarships at doctoral and Master’s level are still prominent, large numbers of award holders study by distance learning, many of whom never visit the UK. New models have also included awards for professional staff in key development occupations to spend time in the UK. We have also sought to strengthen our evaluation of awards, to ensure that funds are used in the most effective way possible, and to maintain much stronger contact with alumni. The Commission has constantly sought to keep its administration costs low, so that maximum funding can be devoted to student related activities.

All of these aspirations were reflected in our four year Strategy from 2011-15, the log frame document which provided the basis for DFID support during that period, and in our 2011-15 Strategy. From 2015 these documents will be merged into Corporate and Business Plans, in order to avoid duplication, with retention of the supporting logframe structure to support the Plans. The Commission is currently reviewing its priorities for the period beyond 2015, as indicated in our Corporate Plan. In the interests of consistency, most of the objectives and targets are shared between the two Plans.

2. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP COMMISSION

Under the terms of the Act, the Commission comprises of up to fourteen members, in addition to the Chair. The Commission aspires to an equal number of female and male members. Membership of the Commission during 2015 will be:

Name	Appointed	Appointed to	Comments
Mr Richard Middleton	Jan 2015	End Dec 2017	Chair
Professor Graham Furniss	Jan 2011	End Dec 2016	2 nd term, Deputy Chair
Professor Anne Anderson	Jan 2015	End Dec 2017	
Mr Sandy Balfour	May 2014	End April 2017	
Dr Nick Brown	Nov 2013	End Oct 2016	
Mr Richard Burge	July 2012	End June 2015	Will end first term
Mr Anthony Cary	July 2012	End June 2015	Will end first term
Professor David Cope	Nov 2013	End Oct 2016	
Professor Brian Faragher	Jan 2015	End Dec 2017	
Professor David Francis	Jan 2015	End Dec 2017	
Ms Sarah Laessig	May 2014	End April 2017	
Ms Kathy Mansfield	June 2009	End May 2015	2 nd term
Dr Joanna Newman	June 2015	End May 2018	
Mr Mark Robson	May 2014	End April 2017	
Professor Mary Stiasny	Jan 2015	End Dec 2017	
Professor Jeff Waage	Jan 2011	End Dec 2016	2 nd term

Members and the Chair are normally permitted to serve up to two three year terms, depending on renewal by the Secretary of State for International Development. It will be noted that one member will retire, one will take up an appointment and two members will reach the end of their first term during the year.

All appointments to the Commission are publicly advertised, in accordance with the regulations of the Office of Public Appointments.

3. PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

In accordance with the Corporate Plan, the priorities for the Commission during 2015-16 will be to:

- ensure that awards are fully aligned with the objectives of DFID and other sponsoring organisations, whilst maintaining academic and professional integrity
- maintain progress towards the targets agreed with DFID for the 2011-15 period which are set out below
- ensure that our provision of awards remains relevant, accessible, and good value for money
- provide evidence of the impact of its awards on recipients and their home countries
- initiate activities and encourage award holders and alumni to maintain closer links with the scheme, and thereby contribute more effectively to development
- introduce and consolidate new methods of governance, in line with the recommendations of the recent review of the Commission's Non Departmental Public Body (NDPB) status
- continue to review the proportion of our administration costs, thereby maximising the proportion of resources devoted to scholarships and fellowships, and other directly related activities
- contribute to the maintenance of a vibrant Commonwealth-wide CSFP
- develop new strategies for 2016 onwards
- continue the review of the work of nominating Agencies under the current arrangements
- continue the review of national agencies and universities as nomination routes
- further develop the alumni engagement strategy and review the CSC Professional Networks
- review the format and content of the Development Module and prepare terms for retender
- deliver separate Welcome Programmes for Scholars and Fellows
- undertake an evaluation study of the CSC doctoral programme
- undertake an evaluation counterfactual mid-term review
- complete the cycle of evaluation questionnaire to the full alumni group and produce a final analysis report
- co-ordinate an external review of the Commission's activities for the period 2011-15
- co-ordinate with DFID to deliver seminars in areas of evaluation impact and innovation

4. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2015-16

The Commission will continue to pursue these aims through **three distinct objectives**, as follows:

- To enhance individual research and teaching capacity and to strengthen capacity development of academic and non-academic professionals through scholarships and fellowships awarded to people from all Commonwealth countries
- To expand the involvement of all award holders and alumni in Commission activities, and to maintain a coherent network that benefits international development, and UK and Commonwealth interests
- To maintain an informed, effective, efficient and transparent Commission that provides value for money in delivering its objectives

These objectives will be advanced through a number of specific measures, as follows

Objective 1

To enhance individual research and teaching capacity and to strengthen capacity development of academic and non-academic professionals through scholarships and fellowships awarded to people from all Commonwealth countries

In pursuing **Objective 1** the Commission will undertake the following **activities**:

- a) Review the balance of awards provided by the Commission, with reports being considered at the May or July meetings of the Commission, in time for any changes to be implemented in the following year
- b) Select candidates for Scholarships and Fellowships nominated to the Commission, based on the criteria of academic excellence, development potential (for those from developing Commonwealth countries), research and impact potential (for those from developed Commonwealth countries), and the quality of their research or study plans
- c) Review the new arrangement for a strand of research Fellowships for those working in the academic sector, to assess whether this better meets demand and the purpose of the Commission and, if so, how it can most effectively be targeted
- d) Review nomination routes and processes for b) and c), to ensure as far as possible that its awards are available to diverse groups and attract candidates of the highest standard
- e) Publicise (as permitted under HMG marketing restrictions) and make new awards of Professional Fellowships and appropriate Master's programmes to deliver on the commitment to support capacity development in non-academic professions
- f) Review the balance of awards between Professional Fellowships and Master's awards (including distance learning) to take into account stated development priorities, national strategies of countries within the CSFP, and the objectives of its funding departments
- g) Review nominating routes, working particularly to target priority areas identified in f) above, and disseminating information thereon to appropriate stakeholders
- h) Implement mechanisms to ensure that all award holders have opportunities to engage fully with the Commission's activities, paying particular attention to those on distance learning awards and those who are administered jointly with host universities
- i) Continue to develop and enhance its electronic application systems, and promoting these to applicants, both directly and through nominating agencies

- j) Rigorous monitoring the Commission's selection procedures, criteria and support to award holders, to ensure that these remain fair, open, transparent, and able to draw on independent, expert advice from the UK academic community

The details of the award programmes can be found in Appendix 1.

Objective 2

To expand the involvement of all award holders and alumni in the Commission's activities, and to maintain a coherent network that benefits international development, and UK and Commonwealth interests

In pursuing **Objective 2**, the Commission will undertake the following **activities**:

- a) Regular communicating with existing award holders, through written and electronic means, and meetings in the UK, whether organised by the Commission or jointly with others
- b) Expand post-award activities (profile updates, events, annual receptions in High Commissions/British Council offices) to support the engagement of alumni in activities contributing to development, UK interests, and Commonwealth values
- c) Increase the proportion of alumni with whom the Commission is in contact, in particular through increased tracing activity of the British Council in the countries where they are represented.
- d) Effective managing and supporting of networks for the continued professional development of alumni and thereby enhancing the development impact of the Commission
- e) Promote opportunities for alumni to become engaged in relevant development, Commonwealth and UK-related activities
- f) Ensure that DFID offices and High Commissions in Commonwealth countries are made more aware of our schemes and the resource that its alumni can provide
- g) Engage with Commonwealth organisations and other member states to promote and develop the CSFP as a Commonwealth-wide institution

Objective 3

To maintain an informed, effective, efficient and transparent Commission that provides value for money in delivering its objectives

In pursuing **Objective 3**, the Commission will undertake the following **activities**:

- a) Monitor procedures to ensure a robust value-for-money administration that is efficient, transparent, and accountable, so as to maximise funding available for awards. This activity will include the review and approval of all administrative fees and service-level agreements with providers
- b) Regular monitoring to ensure that the Commission's governance and committee structures are fit for purpose, with provision for issues of sufficient strategic importance to be addressed between regular Commission meetings. In particular, to ensure implementation of the recommendations of the Commission's NDPB triennial review, on a timescale agreed with DFID
- c) Expanding the reach of the Commission's programme of evaluation and monitoring, reviewing the consequences of the Commission's activities to inform future policy and debate, and sharing information with UK funding departments and other agencies. This will also support the arrangements for a three-yearly review of the Commission's activities

- d) Monitoring of regulations and procedures to ensure that these do not disadvantage any group of potential applicants, drawing, where possible, on comparison with good practice from other scholarship and fellowship programmes
- e) Developing closer working relationships with UK government departments and relevant Commonwealth organisations to ensure that the Commission delivers on their intentions and values
- f) Supporting DFID to ensure selection of an effective balance of Commissioners, necessary to ensure that appropriate expertise and skills are available to make future policy

5. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The Commission has agreed thirteen key indicators with DFID, which will be used to measure success in meeting the above objectives. These are as follows:

- a) Selection of at least 124 recipients from developing Commonwealth countries to commence doctoral studies at UK institutions
- b) Selection of at least 586 recipients from developing Commonwealth countries to commence Master's level studies at UK institutions
- c) A selection breakdown that comprises at least 45% of each gender
- d) Confirmation that all applications for doctoral and Master's programmes in the UK selected by the Commission are possible through electronic means, and that 99% of intended applications are received by the Electronic Application System
- e) Confirmation, through an anonymous survey open to all scholars and fellows in the UK, that at least 90% of Scholars responding regard support from the Commission to be 'good' or 'very good' (the top two categories available)
- f) Selection of at least 178 recipients from developing Commonwealth countries to take up professional or academic fellowships at UK institutions
- g) Addition of a further 750 alumni to the CSC alumni database, with contact details being maintained for at least 8,500 alumni in total
- h) A package of alumni activities including at least one hard copy magazine, participation of at least 1,250 alumni in LinkedIn networks and at least ten alumni events in different countries
- i) Evidence from alumni surveys that at least 90% of completing alumni from DFID sponsored countries completing awards are living/working in developing countries, and/or development related organisations
- j) Collection of at least 150 new examples of alumni who report a personal contribution to government policies or wider socio-economic impact in key development fields
- k) Ensuring that Commission administrative costs should form less than 10% of total expenditure during the year including applicable VAT
- l) Generation of matching contributions of at least £3.5 million from UK universities or other donors to the cost of Commission awards
- m) Completion of all recommendations for administrative reforms made by the NDPB review of the Commission and subsequent internal audit reviews, which reported from 2013

6. BUDGET AND RESOURCES

The budget for the Commission in 2015-16 was agreed at its meeting on 2 December 2014. The Programme budget is based on a firm commitment of support from sponsoring departments. Confirmation of the Commission's allocated Administration Resource is awaited. The Commission Framework Document and Financial Memorandum outline the procedure and timetable for agreeing budgets for future years.

Table 1 shows the budget for 2015-16, approved in December 2014. Detail of the Programme budgets is presented in Table 2.

Table 1 : All Costs 2015-16: Approved, December 2014

Year	Allocation 2015-16, December 2014, 000s
Awards Programmes (DFID)	22,750
Awards Programmes (BIS) *	415
Awards Programmes (Scotland) *	50
Administration	1,600
Other Programmes	1,050
Health Levy costs	150
External Evaluation	100
Expenditure/Allocation	26,115

* confirmation awaited

Award Expenditure 2015-16

Table 2: DFID Programme (Awards) Budget 2015-16, approved December 2014

Programme	Allocation / 000's (all awards)	Costs already committed / 000s	Available for new Awards	2015 Intake (Projected)	2015 Intake vs 2014	Allocation / % Programme
Agency Master's	4,850	940	3,910	160	0	21.3
Shared Scholarships	3,700	0	3,700	211	-21	16.3
Distance Learning	1,900	1,000	900	215	-5	8.4
PhDs	9,775	7,212	2,563	100	-10	43.0
Split-site PhDs	600	115	485	18	+6	2.6
Academic Fellows	625	0	625	30	n/a	2.7
Medical Fellows	225	0	225	15	0	1.0
Professional Fellows	1,075	0	1,075	133	-2	4.7
	22,750	9,267	13,483	882	-32	100

7. PUBLISHED INFORMATION

As laid out in its publication scheme, the CSC publishes the following information:¹

Class of information	Location
Who we are and what we do	
List of all Commission members	https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/commonwealth-scholarship-commission-in-the-uk
Location and contact details	https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/commonwealth-scholarship-commission-in-the-uk
Governance statement	Annual Report / https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/commonwealth-scholarship-commission-in-the-uk
What we spend and how we spend it	
Statement of income and expenditure	https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/commonwealth-scholarship-commission-in-the-uk
What our priorities are and how we are doing	
Monitoring progress	https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/commonwealth-scholarship-commission-in-the-uk
Evaluation Programme results	www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk
How we make decisions	
Scholarship eligibility and selection criteria	www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk
Our policies and procedures	
Prospectuses for each type of award offered by the CSC	www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk
Handbook for Commonwealth Scholars and Fellows on award	www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk
Guidance on using the Electronic Application System	www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk
FAQs for selected candidates	www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk
Travel Policy	www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk
Lists and registers	
Register of Interests	Available upon request
Risk Register	Available upon request
CSC Anti-Fraud Policy	https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/commonwealth-scholarship-commission-in-the-uk
CSC Code of Conduct	https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/commonwealth-scholarship-commission-in-the-uk
CSC Rules on Conflicts of Interest	https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/commonwealth-scholarship-commission-in-the-uk
CSC Complaints Procedure	https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/commonwealth-scholarship-commission-in-the-uk

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/commonwealth-scholarship-commission-in-the-uk/about/publication-scheme>

Appendix 1: Description of Award Types offered by the Commission

1. CSC Academic Fellowships

Purpose: to provide early career academics with the opportunity to plan, conduct or write research, to encourage applications for those institutions where capacity building is a priority, and to enhance knowledge, skills and contacts in Fellows' given disciplines

Intended Beneficiaries: early-career academics (no less than two years and no more than ten years post-doctoral academic experience) working in developing-country Commonwealth Universities

Focus Sector(s): Higher Education, all disciplines

Award duration: three to ten months

Invitation/Application Process: Nominations are invited from selected sub-Saharan African universities. CSC doctoral alumni from all countries may apply direct to the CSC

Fellows are selected based on the following criteria:

- Academic merit and career stage of the candidate
- The quality of the proposal, particularly the likelihood that valuable research outputs will be developed
- The strength of the existing and proposed collaborative partnerships with UK institutions
- The likely impact of the work on the development of the candidate's home country

Objectives of the Scheme (Desired Outputs):

- sabbatical leave enjoyed by Fellows, from institutional commitments such as administration and teaching
- research outputs developed, helping Fellows to build their CV
- skills and knowledge gained, which will contribute to development

Objectives of the Scheme (Desired Outcomes):

- improved research quality and outputs
- catalytic effects on Fellows' workplaces
- networking and building or maintaining collaborative partnerships and links with UK research/academic institutions
- development of future research collaboration

2. CSC Professional Fellowships

Purpose: to provide professionals with the opportunity to enhance knowledge and skills in their given sector and to have catalytic effects on their workplaces

Intended Beneficiaries: mid-career professionals (defined by CSC as having five years' relevant work experience) working in development-related organisations in developing Commonwealth countries

Focus Sector(s): agriculture/fisheries/forestry, economic growth, education, engineering/science/technology, environment, governance, and public health

Award duration: typically three months (one to six months possible)

Invitation/Application Process: applications from organisations in the UK willing to set up a programme of activity and either host the Fellow themselves or provide a link to a host. Organisations wishing to apply are required to set up a suitable programme and identify the Fellow(s) themselves

Objectives of the Scheme (Desired Outputs):

- gain of technical and other skills relevant to Fellows' work
- skills and knowledge transfer allowing for institutional capacity building

Objectives of the Scheme (Desired Outcomes):

- enhanced collaboration and links between UK hosts and overseas partners;
- improved management practices

3. CSC Medical Fellowships

Purpose: to provide mid-career medics with the opportunity to enhance their clinical skills and to have catalytic effects on their workplaces

Intended Beneficiaries: early/mid-career medics working in developing-country Commonwealth universities or affiliated teaching hospitals

Focus Sector(s): Health

Award Duration: Typically six months

Invitation/Application Process: applications are invited from nominating universities in selected Commonwealth countries, and from inter-university bodies in south Asia

Fellows are selected based on the following criteria:

- Academic merit of the candidate (including career achievements and publications)
- The quality of the proposal
- The likely impact of the work on the development of the candidate's home country

Objectives of the Scheme (Desired Outputs):

- gain of technical and other skills relevant to Fellows' clinical work
- skills and knowledge transfer

Objectives of the Scheme (Desired Outcomes):

- implementation of new clinical skills
- improved management practices

4. CSC Doctoral Scholarships

Purpose: to enhance individual teaching and research capacity leading to increased institutional capacity in nominating countries and to contribute to UK higher education and research by attracting high calibre international candidates and encouraging links and collaboration

Intended Beneficiaries: high quality graduates who have the potential to become influential leaders, teachers or researchers in their home countries and whose proposed research topic has been described to the satisfaction of the selection committee has a developmental and leadership focus

Focus Sector(s): all sectors. A number of awards are specifically offered to academic staff, in all disciplines, from selected Commonwealth universities

Award Duration: Typically three years with awards offered for an initial tenure of twenty two months and extended following confirmation of upgrade to PhD status

Invitation/Application Process: Applications are accepted directly from national nominating agencies, invited NGOs and from selected developing country universities. Nominating institutions and agencies are encouraged to identify their own priority areas and nominate accordingly

Objectives of the Scheme (Desired Outputs):

- gain of technical and other skills relevant to Scholars' work
- skills and knowledge transfer
with
- Increased numbers of highly qualified and skilled researchers working in home country universities, or
- Increased numbers of highly qualified and skilled researchers working in home country research institutes, or
- Increased numbers of highly qualified and skilled research graduates working in a policy or implementation role in home countries

Objectives of the Scheme (Desired Outcomes):

- increased collaboration between Commonwealth and UK institutions and development of future research collaboration
- improved research quality and outputs
- improved practices in public, private and third sector institutions
- networking and building or maintaining collaborative partnerships and links with UK research/academic institutions

5. CSC Split-Site Doctoral Scholarships

Purpose: to widen access to UK equipment and expertise for quality doctoral candidates from Commonwealth countries as well as to contribute to UK and Commonwealth higher education and research through collaboration and partnerships

Intended Beneficiaries: high quality graduates who have the potential to become influential leaders, teachers or researchers in their home countries and whose proposed research has a developmental and leadership focus

Focus Sector(s): all sectors. All awards are offered to students, in all disciplines, registered for PhDs in universities in developing Commonwealth countries

Award Duration: Twelve months, which can be taken as one twelve month period or separated into two six month periods

Invitation/Application Process: Nomination has previously been by national agency and VCs in certain developing country universities, or by lead DelpHE partners. Direct application has been advertised in 2015

Objectives of the Scheme (Desired Outputs):

- gain of technical and other skills relevant to Scholars' work, and skills and knowledge transfer
- use of resources (academic expertise, laboratory facilities and archive material) not available in the Scholar's home country)
with
- Increased numbers of highly qualified and skilled researchers working in home country universities, or
- Increased numbers of highly qualified and skilled researchers working in home country research institutes, or
- Increased numbers of highly qualified and skilled research graduates working in a policy or implementation role.in home country universities

Objectives of the Scheme (Desired Outcomes):

- increased collaboration between Commonwealth and UK institutions and development of future research collaboration
- improved research quality and outputs
- improved practices in public, private and third sector institutions
- networking and building or maintaining collaborative partnerships and links with UK research/academic institutions

6. CSC Masters Scholarship

Purpose: To contribute to development needs of Commonwealth countries by providing training for skilled and qualified professionals and academics. To contribute to UK Higher Education and foreign policy aims by encouraging collaboration and links

Intended Beneficiaries: high quality postgraduate students who have the potential to enhance the development of their home countries with the knowledge and leadership skills they acquire

Focus Sector(s): all sectors. Courses provide knowledge and skills likely to have a significant development impact

Award Duration: Typically twelve months or the length of the specific qualification (exceptionally up to 24 months). Awards are wholly tenable at institutions in the United Kingdom

Invitation/Application Process: Applications are accepted directly from national nominating agencies and invited NGOs

Objectives of the Scheme (Desired Outputs):

- gain of technical, policy or other skills relevant to graduate career paths, or
- preparation of graduates for doctoral level study
with
- Increased numbers of highly qualified and skilled doctoral level entry researchers working in home country universities or qualified to continue UK study, or
- Increased numbers of highly qualified and skilled technical or policy experts working in home countries

Objectives of the Scheme (Desired Outcomes):

- Qualified individuals working in home countries
- Professional development of individuals leading to further study and/or career development
- Institutional capacity development in both the academic and non-academic sectors

7. CSC Shared Scholarships for Masters Study

Purpose: To contribute to development needs of Commonwealth countries by providing training for skilled and qualified professionals and academics who would not otherwise have been able to study in the United Kingdom

Intended Beneficiaries: high quality postgraduate students who have not studied extensively overseas before and who would not otherwise have the opportunity to study in the United Kingdom, and who have the potential to enhance the development of their home countries with the knowledge and leadership skills they acquire

Focus Sector(s): all sectors. Courses provide knowledge and skills likely to have a significant development impact, and must be approved as having a development focus

Award Duration: Typically twelve months or the length of the specific qualification (exceptionally up to 24 months)

Invitation/Application Process: Commissioners select those courses that will receive a scholarship. Institutions must agree to fund living cost component of scholarship. Successful UK institutions make initial selection of students, subsequently approved by the Commission. Applicants should not have studied in a developed country for a period of longer than one year previously and are explicitly asked to declare that neither they nor their families have the funds to undertake the course without a scholarship

Objectives of the Scheme (Desired Outputs):

- increase in the number of students able to study in the UK by sharing the costs of their scholarships with UK HE institutions.
- gain of technical, policy or other skills relevant to graduate career paths, or
- preparation of graduates for doctoral level study with
- Increased numbers of highly qualified and skilled doctoral level entry researchers working in home country universities or qualified to continue UK study, or
- Increased numbers of highly qualified and skilled technical or policy experts working in home countries

Objectives of the Scheme (Desired Outcomes):

- Qualified individuals working in home countries
- Professional development of individuals leading to further study and/or career development
- Institutional capacity development in both the academic and non-academic sectors

8. CSC Distance Learning Scholarships for Masters Study

Purpose: To contribute to development needs of Commonwealth countries by providing training for skilled and qualified professionals in key development areas

Intended Beneficiaries: high quality postgraduate students who wish to access training not available in their country and who wish or need to remain in their home country whilst they study, and who have the potential to enhance the development of their home countries with the knowledge and leadership skills they acquire

Focus Sector(s): all sectors. Courses provide knowledge and skills likely to have a significant development impact, and must be approved as having a development focus

Award Duration: Awards are tenable for six years however the modular nature of the course means that awards are funded on an on-going basis

Invitation/Application Process: Commissioners select those courses that will receive a tranche of scholarships. Successful UK institutions make initial selection of students, subsequently approved by the Commission

Objectives of the Scheme (Desired Outputs):

- gain of technical, policy or other skills relevant to graduate career paths, for immediate implementation in the workplace; and
- Increased numbers of highly qualified and skilled technical or policy experts working in home countries.

Objectives of the Scheme (Desired Outcomes):

- professional development of individuals allowing for improved outcomes in workplaces
- widened access of CSC awards to high quality individuals who might otherwise have been unable to benefit.