



In 2013, the Health Systems Management Association (HeSMA) was established and registered as an organization to champion Health Systems Managers' aspirations. Guided by the motto *Professionalism in Health Management*, HeSMA supports Health Systems Managers in their professional and academic growth and development. Since its inception it was acknowledged that HeSMA was positioning itself for a long arduous but rewarding journey.

Today HeSMA remains the only advocacy association for professionals and institutions in the Health Systems Management industry. Augmented by its broad infiltrative growing membership; both individual and corporate, HeSMA continues to evolve as the premier organization for health manager capacity building and development. Aligned to the Kenya Health Policy Framework (KHPF) 2012-2030, our approach is anchored on adopting multispectral and/or multidisciplinary collaborative partnerships. Towards exemplary success, HeSMA will continue to transcend organizational and geographical boundaries to responds to the ever-changing dynamic needs of Health Systems Managers.

ABMA came at a time we decided to build healthcare leaders competencies for attainment of quality health in Africa. In our Strategic plan for 2018-2022, we intend to provide skills based capacity development programs to over 4500 healthcare leaders in East Africa. Anchored on a 4-year collaboration agreement between ABMA and HESMA, this initiative will lead to development of health care managers' knowledge and skills as well as support healthcare organizations on the areas of leadership, management and governance.

This sector-wide goal intended to build not just individual skills but healthcare organizations capacity to address health systems challenges, would involve; developing and delivery of innovative short courses, coaching and mentoring healthcare leaders, career guidance and life skills development and provision of scholarship and other assistance to members of HeSMA and healthcare sector. HeSMA carefully reviewed several short and long courses ABMA has developed for developing countries. On top of the list was the Essential Business Skills course aimed at invigorating healthcare managers is a best fit for advancing the healthcare business knowledge and skills of managers participating in our continuous development program. As we build on the competencies of healthcare managers this course comes in handy especially on development of the following skills; Time Management, Problem Solving, Decision Making, Report Writing, Presentation Skills, Coping with Organizational Change, Critical Thinking, Emotional

Intelligence, Conflict Resolution, Motivation: Self & Others, Teamwork, Leadership, Coaching, Mentoring and Networking.

HeSMA has started delivery of Essential Business Skills program as a mandatory course for managers on Wired4Excellence project, a mentorship program intended for healthcare leaders in East Africa. The managers are guided by the course instructors and mentors regarding how they can maneuver from novices to experts in managing healthcare management through application of 21st century skills at their workplace. We hope to build on the experience of delivery of ABMA courses, customized to our settings. Through an interactive learning management system we hope to mount these courses to be able to provide value added professional development points towards HeSMA progressive framework on credentialing and certification. We are looking for partners to support servicing of this important step towards having an all inclusive capacity development program for healthcare managers in Eastern Africa.

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