

Course Outcomes

Participant should attain expertise in the following skills

- To do functional assessment of a PwD
- To recommend the most appropriate assistive device
- To implement it to improve particular functions
- To follow up and measure the outcome
- To create or customize AT

Course topics and resource persons

- 'Rapid Creation and Deployment of Low Cost Assistive Technology Solutions' by Prof Therese Willkomm, Director of New Hampshire AT programme, University of New Hampshire, US
- 'AT for Seating & Positioning' and 'AT for Mobility' by Nekram Upadhyay, Head, AT centre, Indian Spinal Injuries Centre, New Delhi
- 'Accessibility' by Anjlee Aggarwal, Samarthyam, New Delhi
- 'AT for communication' by Kalpana Botta and Bhavna Botta, Vidyasagar, Chennai.
- 'AT for vision' by Shankar Subbiah, AT consultant, Agate Infotek
- 'AT for hearing' by Dr Ajish Abraham, AIISH-Mysore.
- 'Workplace AT solutions' by Mr Shiva, Enable India, Bangalore.
- 'AT for farmer with disability' by Ned Stoller, Purdue University, US.
- 'Matching Person with Technology' by Dr Maria Scherer, Institute for Matching Person & Technology, NY, USA.
- 'Digital fabrication for low cost AT solutions' by Fablab, KSUM, Trivandrum.

How to enrol?

Visit cati.nish.ac.in to register for the course before **June 25, 2019**.

Any question ?

Mail nishcati@nish.ac.in or call **Dr Akila Surendran (Phone : 0471-2944673)**

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Certificate Programme in Assistive Technology Solutions

July to December, 2019



NISH
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National Institute of Speech & Hearing (NISH), National Institute for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (NIPMR) and Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC) are collaborating to conduct a six-month part-time Assistive Technology (AT) course from July to December, 2019, which is the first of its kind in India, combining international expertise as well as local know-how in a unique blended learning model.

The course would consist of a series of workshops by practitioners in AT, with hands-on training in creating and implementing low cost solutions. The course participants are expected to be from varied backgrounds, with an interest in deploying AT solutions for persons with disability (PwDs). The class will get together in one of the venues (NISH, Trivandrum or NIPMR, Thrissur) for 3 to 5 days every month, where they will meet and learn from AT experts as well as AT users such as Dr Therese Willkomm (University of New Hampshire, US), Mr Nekram Upadhyay (ISIC, New Delhi), Dr Namita Jacob (Chetana Trust, Chennai), Dr Ajish Abraham (AISH, Mysore), Ms Bhavna Botta (Vidyasagar, Chennai), and Ms Anjee Aggarwal (Samarthyam, India).

The course will also include training sessions at Fablab in 2D & 3D modeling, basic electronics and usage of machines like laser cutter, 3D printer, and Shopbot to make low cost and customized AT solutions. Apart from attending these sessions, the participants are expected to enrol online in a Learning Management System (LMS) and asynchronously complete reading assignments, participate in online discussion forums and also work on a project. The project would involve assessing a person with disability, creating and implementing the right AT solution to improve any particular function and measuring the outcome.

Need and relevance of the course

Assistive technology enhances the quality of life of persons with disabilities. The Rights of Persons with Disability (RPwD) Act of 2016 mandates Central and State Governments to facilitate development of technology, assistive devices and equipments, and their usage to ensure full and effective participation and inclusion for persons with disabilities in the society. Technology nowadays makes it possible to achieve inclusion at a very low costs. Awareness and implementation know-how are important. Last mile difficulties can be overcome by evidence-based implementation.

Duration

- Synchronous sessions - Five days in July, six days in November and three days on all the other months between July to December, 2019. (23 days*8 hours per day = 184 hours)
- Asynchronous - 8 hours every month (8*6=48 hours) - complete reading assignments, participate in online discussion forums and also work on project.

Course eligibility

Professionals or graduates with an experience in disability, tech-savvy and self-driven. Rehabilitation professionals like Occupational Therapists, Speech Language Pathologists and physiotherapists will be most benefited.

Course requirement

Since the participant would be expected to complete assignments and participate in discussion forums online, he or she would need a laptop or any smart device with internet connection.

Course fee

Rs.40,000 (tuition fee alone). This does not cover travel, accommodation, food etc.