

# Advanced Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management (ESBM)

The Advanced Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management was initiated with a view to provide a methodical, theoretical knowledge to entrepreneurial class in managing business successfully, enabling them to make a vital contribution for the development of the country. Sri Lanka, as a developing country has taken tremendous efforts in enhancing the contribution of the entrepreneurs to the national economy. Irrespective of the business climate around, most of these small and medium sized entrepreneurs have failed, suffered from slow growth and occasionally faded away from the industry due to the inadequate knowledge in managing their business efficiently and effectively. Considering the global trend and acknowledging the importance of the education system in producing entrepreneurs of high intellectual and professional caliber, the FMS has introduced one year programme for Advanced Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management.



The programme is designed in a way to enrich the student with all the essential knowledge required as an entrepreneur while encouraging him or her to plan studies at his or her own pace through the open and distance learning. Further, for the students who successfully complete the programme will qualify to seek admission to the Bachelor of Management Studies Bachelor of Management Studies (Hons) Degree programme without sitting for the admission test. This programme consists of eight courses including a project report, designed in a way that enhances the theoretical knowledge of the learners while developing their entrepreneurial attitudes and skills. The ESBM programme is conducted in Sinhalese Tamil and English media. The academic members of the FMS will guide the students when preparing the project report enlightening on how to develop a business venture proposal.

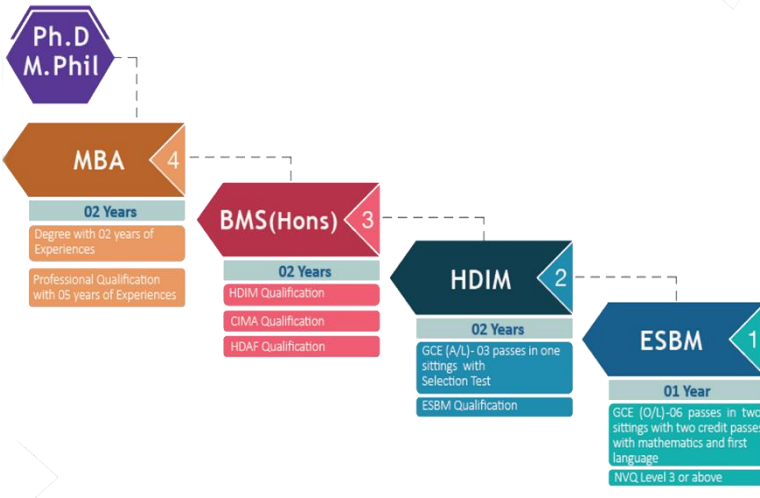
## CSR activities conducted by the ESBM students at Faculty of Management Studies



The students of the ESBM programme of the Faculty of Management Studies has got together and established the CSR society named "Hasaralla" with the theme of "in search of humanity". This project was initiated with the intention to develop project management skills of the students while enhancing the cohesiveness among them by engaging in these activities. The financial contributions to fund the projects were received from the students themselves as well as from the sponsorships received from the corporate sector. The donation campaign of stationary and books to the primary students of Vihara Maha Devi Primary School, Ampara was carried out on 04 September 2017 whereas on 18 November 2018 the students organized an alms giving event at Kudumbigala Monastery, Panama. Project 3 was conducted in year 2019, on February 19th and this made Hasaralla project series to be enriched with the donation of wheel chairs made to the Elders Home at Dompe. In March 2019 another CSR project was carried out by the Hasaralla initiative, where stationary, bags and other equipment were donated to the children of the Vadyaravinda Primary School, Nochchiyagama to help their studies while another initiative was able to resolve the issue on access to drinking water in the school premises. Further to that a New Year celebration was organized for the children as well as donating a mini library for the school children of Nivithigala Ridiella

Vidyalaya, Ratnapura. Various projects have so far been completed and through these activities, participants get the opportunity to learn about management in a more practical manner while serving the local communities in Sri Lanka.

### The Ladder of Opportunity starts from ESBM



OUSL has always been providing management educational opportunities for the students for a long period and with the newest addition of the Faculty of Management Studies, the opportunities would be more strengthened and empowered in future showing grater prospects for the learning community. The Faculty of Management Studies (FMS) provides a ladder of opportunities for the students in strengthening the lifelong learning concept inline line with the Open Distance Learning (ODL) methodology which begins with the ESBM programme. The FMS primarily focus on offering programmes for those who have not had an opportunity of obtaining a structured academic learning on Management specifically when it comes to the tertiary education. This is mainly because FMS not only provides opportunity for the students from commerce stream but also provides opportunities to have turning points for the students who are from other streams as well. Thus ESBM is a starting point for those who willing to progress in their academic and professional life.

