“The program has something for everybody, from tax administrators to policy makers to academics. My experience at Duke opened my eyes about my own country... My view of the world will never be the same.”

Patrick Kambewa, TARF participant
The Program

Tax analysis and revenue forecasting have become increasingly important functions as governments undertake reforms of their tax and budget systems to enhance revenues, improve the equity and efficiency of taxes, and promote investment, economic growth and exports. In addition, fiscal and tax policy stability are widely recognized as key to promoting private-sector investment, both domestic and foreign. In the Tax Analysis and Revenue Forecasting (TARF) program, now in its fourteenth year at Duke, you will develop the knowledge and tools required to analyze key tax policy issues and implement tax system reforms. Through a combination of lectures, case studies, presentations, and hands-on computer exercises, this intensive four-week course will teach you about the economic foundations of tax policy, revenue forecasting, statistical techniques, and revenue estimation models.

The Faculty

Professor GP Shukla directs the program and is joined by the other senior Duke faculty from the Public Finance Group (PFG) and the International Taxation Program (ITP). The faculty has extensive experience in all areas relating to taxation, having collectively lived or worked in over 30 countries during the last 20 years. PFG faculty have been involved in projects, reforms, trainings, and research in fiscal policy, taxation, and public finance throughout the world in central and local governments.

The Duke faculty is supplemented each year by visiting faculty and leading experts from international institutions for special taxation topics.

“The models and tools used in the program were job related and hands-on. I was engaged, intellectually stimulated, and above all, inspired by the skills and in-depth knowledge of the faculty and other experts.”

Paul Ahey, TARF participant

The TARF program has been designed to:

• Equip participants with the theoretical foundations for analyzing tax systems and hands-on techniques for evaluating their revenue performance
• Enable participants to assess and quantify impacts of alternative fiscal policies on a variety of economic entities and stakeholders
• Instruct participants in the use of microsimulation and macroeconomic models for effective tax analysis and revenue forecasting
• Build an international network of professionals to enhance understanding and experience sharing
What topics will be covered?

**Tax Analysis**
- Principles of taxation
- Tax reform and its implementation
- Economic impact of taxes and subsidies
- Consumption and expenditure taxes
- Taxes on international trade
- Taxation of income
- International tax harmonization
- Wealth and asset taxation
- Property and real estate taxes
- Taxation of natural resources
- Taxation of financial sectors
- Taxation of e-commerce
- Inflation and taxation

**Revenue Forecasting**
- Value-added and excise taxes
- Trade taxes
- Personal income taxes
- Corporate income taxes
- Taxes on natural resources
- Property taxes

**Computer Applications**
- Introduction to computers and computerization
- Microcomputers in revenue forecasting

**Empirical Techniques and Models**
- Micro-simulation models
- Typical taxpayer model
- Macroeconomic models
- GDP-based forecasting models
- Regression analysis
- Sampling techniques
- Consumer expenditure surveys
- Receipts model

*Special Topics may include:*
- Risk management of tax compliance
- Transfer pricing and international dispute resolution
- Tax competition and investment incentives

Who should apply to this program?

TARF is for individuals working in tax policy, tax administration, economics, finance, accounting, management, or other related fields. These include public and private sector executives, officials of revenue authorities and ministries of finance, professionals in multilateral and regional banks, and consultants providing assistance to decision makers in public and private sectors.

Application Details

**What is the application process?**
To submit an application and to check for additional program information, visit us online at [dcid.sanford.duke.edu](http://dcid.sanford.duke.edu).

**Priority application deadline:**
May 27, 2016

**When and where will this program be held?**
June 26 – July 22, 2016
Duke Center for International Development (DCID)
Sanford School of Public Policy
Duke University
Durham, North Carolina, U.S.A.

**2016 program fee:** $10,250

**What is included?**
Program fee includes housing, local transportation, emergency medical insurance, course materials, social activities (optional), use of a laptop computer for the duration of the program, and access to the Duke University Libraries and computer facilities.

Participants are typically sponsored by their employer or a funding organization. Candidates should approach their current employer or other funding organizations as soon as possible to obtain financial support. Duke University and DCID do not offer scholarships or financial aid. Please contact DCID for more information.

**Phone:** +1 919-613-9277
**Fax:** +1 919-681-0831
**Email:** dcidexed@duke.edu
**Web:** dcid.sanford.duke.edu
Duke University & DCID  Duke University is a world-class academic institution and one of the top 10 universities in the United States. It is an independent, comprehensive, coeducational research university that offers a variety of outstanding undergraduate and graduate programs consistently ranked at or near the top of their respective fields.

The Duke Center for International Development (DCID) is an interdisciplinary training, advisory, and research unit offering cutting-edge graduate degree and executive education programs in international development policy. DCID is a unit within the Sanford School of Public Policy.