

Executive Certificate in Microinsurance



Online Course



CAMBRIDGE
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE — AFFILIATE

Course Overview

The Executive Certificate in Microinsurance is an advanced, Africa-focused executive programme designed to equip professionals with the leadership, regulatory, operational, and implementation capabilities required to design, deliver, and scale sustainable microinsurance solutions in emerging and low-income markets. The programme responds to the growing need for inclusive insurance systems that balance affordability with sustainability, innovation with consumer protection, and social impact with sound insurance discipline.

Microinsurance represents a critical pillar of financial inclusion, resilience, and social protection in Africa and other emerging economies. It enables individuals, small businesses, and communities to manage everyday risks—such as illness, crop failure, accidents, and loss of life—through accessible and affordable insurance mechanisms. However, achieving meaningful impact requires more than technical knowledge; it demands a deep understanding of client realities, proportionate regulation, effective risk assessment, operational efficiency, and ethical leadership.

This programme integrates core insurance foundations with applied microinsurance practice, covering product design, underwriting and risk assessment in low-data environments, pricing and actuarial sustainability, claims governance, fraud management, digital delivery models, and partner-led distribution ecosystems. Strong emphasis is placed on client understanding, communication, trust-building, and financial literacy, recognising that microinsurance succeeds only when clients understand, value, and trust the protection offered.

Through a combination of applied learning, African case studies, and executive-level assessment, participants develop the capacity to evaluate, manage, and scale inclusive insurance programmes responsibly. By the end of the programme, learners are equipped to operate effectively as microinsurance managers, product developers, risk and claims specialists, regulators, development practitioners, and senior leaders driving sustainable insurance solutions across African and emerging market contexts.

Certification & Award

The Executive Certificate in Microinsurance is jointly awarded by the Insurance Institute of East Africa (IIEA) and Cambridge International College (UK). This dual-award structure combines international academic quality assurance with deep regional professional relevance, ensuring the programme meets rigorous educational standards while remaining firmly grounded in the realities of inclusive insurance practice in Africa and other emerging markets.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, learners will be able to:

- Explain the role of microinsurance within financial inclusion, social protection, and development frameworks in emerging and low-income markets;
- Interpret and apply proportionate regulatory, supervisory, and market conduct approaches relevant to microinsurance and inclusive insurance;
- Design microinsurance products that are client-centric, affordable, and operationally viable;
- Apply appropriate underwriting and risk assessment principles in low-income, low-data, and group-based insurance environments;
- Apply actuarial, pricing, and financial management principles to ensure sustainability in low-margin, high-volume microinsurance portfolios;
- Evaluate and manage distribution models, partnerships, digital platforms, and claims processes to scale inclusive insurance responsibly and ethically;
- Monitor portfolio performance using data, dashboards, and early-warning indicators to support informed operational and strategic decision-making; and
- Demonstrate executive leadership and governance capability to lead inclusive insurance programmes with ethical judgement, strategic vision, and a balance of social impact and commercial discipline.

Module 1: Introduction to Insurance and Microinsurance

- Nature and principles of insurance
- The concept of risk, pooling, and protection
- History and evolution of insurance globally and in Africa
- Role of insurance in economic and social development
- Defining microinsurance and its purpose
- Differences between conventional insurance and microinsurance
- Target markets and characteristics of low-income clients
- Relationship between microinsurance and financial inclusion
- Importance of trust, simplicity, and accessibility
- Overview of Africa's microinsurance landscape

Module 2: The Microinsurance Environment and Regulation

- The role of regulation in market stability and inclusion
- Principles of proportionate regulation
- Licensing requirements for microinsurers and intermediaries
- Consumer protection and transparency frameworks
- Role of insurance regulators, associations, and policy bodies
- Regional and global regulatory trends (IRA, CIMA, AIO, FSD)
- Regulatory sandboxes for innovation

- African case studies: Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria, Rwanda

Module 3 – Understanding the Microinsurance Client

- Socio-Economic Characteristics of Microinsurance Clients
- Risk Perceptions and Informal Coping Mechanisms
- Behavioral, Cultural, and Gender Dimensions in Insurance Uptake
- Trust, Client Perception, and Financial Literacy Levels
- Market Segmentation and Client Communication
- Client Satisfaction and Retention Strategies

Module 4: Microinsurance Product Design and Development

- The Microinsurance Product Development Process
- Market Research and Needs Assessment
- Concept Development
- Feasibility Analysis
- Pricing, Structure, and Operational Design
- Regulatory Approval
- Pilot Testing
- Launch, Monitoring & Continuous Refinement
- Principles of Effective Product Design
- Customer-Centric Product Development
- Product Structure and Delivery Mechanisms
- Pricing and Actuarial Challenges in Microinsurance
- The Unique Nature of Health Microinsurance
- Health Insurance Reforms in Kenya: NHIF to SHA
- Case Studies and Lessons from Practice
- Monitoring, Evaluation, and Continuous Refinement

Module 5 – Distribution and Partnerships in Microinsurance

- Distribution Challenges in Low-Income Markets
- The Microinsurance Distribution Landscape
- Traditional and Emerging Distribution Models
- The Partner–Agent Model
- Distribution Through Digital Ecosystems
- Partnerships and Stakeholder Synergies
- African Case Studies
- Benefits of Digital Distribution
- Future Outlook

Module 6 – Financial and Operational Management in Microinsurance

- Foundations of Financial and Operational Management in Microinsurance
- Cost Structures and Economies of Scale in Microinsurance
- Premium Collection, Reconciliation, and Financial Reporting
- Claims Ratio, Loss Ratio & Expense Ratio Analysis
- Subsidies, Donor Funding, and Transition to Sustainability
- Financial Inclusion Metrics and Social Performance Indicators
- Technology for Financial Tracking and Operational Efficiency
- Monitoring Frameworks for Financial & Operational Performance

Module 7 – Risk Management and Underwriting in Microinsurance

- Fundamentals of Risk Management in Microinsurance
- Product-Specific Risks in Microinsurance
- Simplified Underwriting and Data-Light Assessment Techniques
- Managing Adverse Selection and Moral Hazard
- Reinsurance and Co-Insurance in Microinsurance
- Catastrophe & Weather-Indexed Reinsurance
- Case Examples: African Risk Capacity (ARC) and Local Reinsurer Partnerships

Module 8 – Claims Management and Fraud Detection in Microinsurance

- Understanding the Claims Life Cycle in Microinsurance
- Importance of Prompt Payment in Building Trust
- Digitizing Claims Through Mobile and Biometric Systems
- Digital Evidence Collection
- Biometric Verification
- Automated Claims Processing
- Digital Payment Systems
- Strengthening Customer Trust and Experience Through Digitization
- Community Verification and Third-Party Administration
- Fraud Typologies and Data-Driven Detection Methods
- Ethical Standards and Consumer Protection
- Case Study: Mobile Claims in Agriculture and Health Microinsurance

Module 9 – Communication, Marketing, and Consumer Engagement in Microinsurance

- The Role of Communication in Insurance Literacy
- Marketing Strategies Tailored to Microinsurance Clients
- Storytelling, Testimonials, and Value Demonstration

- Digital Channels: Social Media, WhatsApp, USSD, and More
- Brand Positioning for Inclusive Insurance
- Feedback Loops and Customer Experience Management
- Case Examples: WhatsApp Campaigns and Radio Awareness Programs

Module 10 – Financial Literacy and Client Empowerment in Microinsurance

- Understanding Financial Literacy in the Context of Microinsurance
- Core Components of Financial Literacy
- The Role of Financial Education in Insurance Uptake
- Behavioral Economics and Decision-Making in Low-Income Markets
- Client Empowerment Strategies
- Communication and Engagement Approaches
- Case Studies: Financial Literacy, Client Empowerment, and Communication in Microinsurance
- Challenges in Financial Literacy and Client Empowerment
- Designing Solutions to Overcome Financial Literacy Barriers in Microinsurance
- Future Directions and Innovations

Module 11 – Actuarial & Financial Modeling for Microinsurance

- Foundations of Actuarial Science for Microinsurance
- Premium Setting in Data-Light and Low-Income Markets
- Claims Analysis and Loss Ratio Evaluation
- Financial Projections and Cash-Flow Modeling
- Scenario Analysis and Sensitivity Testing
- Portfolio Performance Indicators and Business Metrics
- Modeling Tools and Practical Techniques

Module 12 – Leadership & Management in Microinsurance

- Leadership in Inclusive Insurance
- Managing Teams & Field Operations
- Partner Management & Multi-Stakeholder Coordination
- Performance Management in Microinsurance Operations
- Building an Ethical, Client-Centric Culture
- Communication, Influence & Stakeholder Engagement
- Leading Digital Transformation & Innovation
- Change Management & Organisational Scaling



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