



## ASISA Academy Newsflash – March 2021

A year ago, as our country headed into lockdown, the ASISA Academy team was grappling with the challenge of transforming a predominantly face-to-face learning environment into a virtual experience that would deliver the same high quality outcomes.

The concept of a [Sprint](#) was born, which enabled us to convert the content of all our courses into focused, short online workshops. Instead of spending full or half days in a physical classroom, the Sprints enable delegates to participate in engaging 2-hour online workshops with one of our expert presenters on specific topics.

We are pleased to announce that three of our Investment Sprints have been accredited by the Financial Planning Institute of Southern Africa (FPI) as verifiable FAIS CPD activities. The three accredited Sprints are included in our [line-up](#) for April and May:

- 13 April 2021 - Introduction to the SA savings and investment sector (2 hours - earn 1.5 FAIS CPD points per hour)
- 26 April 2021 - Investment management business overview (2 hours - earn 2 FAIS CPD points per hour)
- 26 May 2021 - Fundamentals of pricing and unitisation (2 hours - earn 1.5 FAIS CPD points per hour)

[Click here to enrol](#)

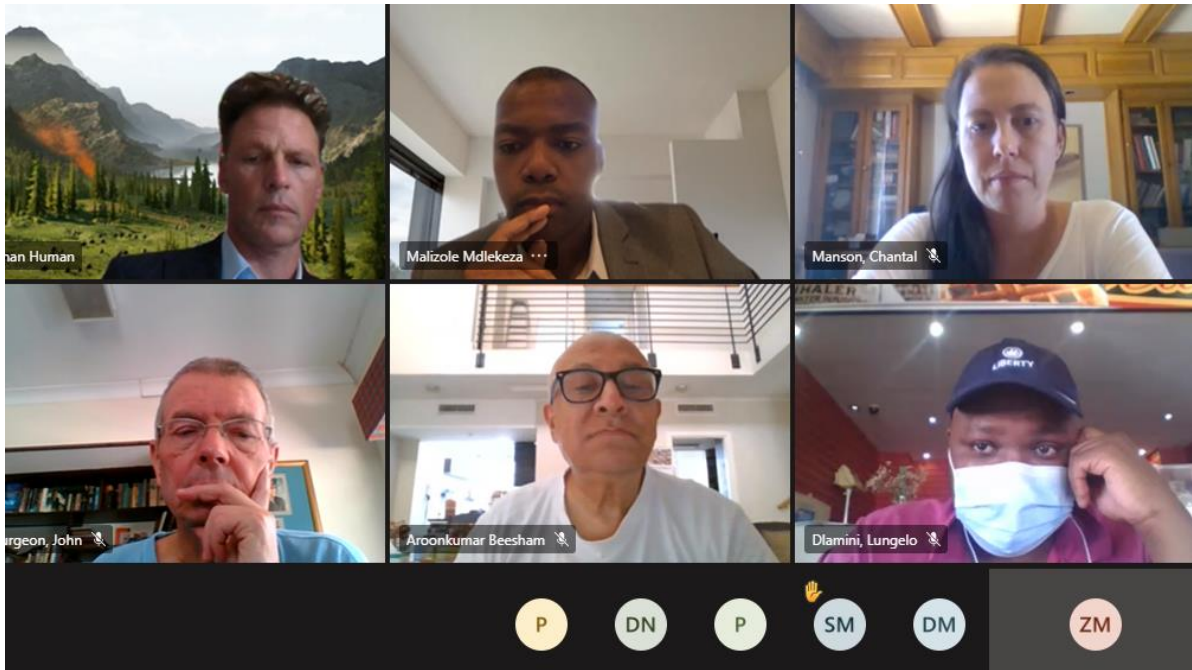
### Retirement Fund Trustee Education

In partnership with the ASISA Foundation, we deliver a range of engaging online [Retirement Fund Trustee Education \(RFTE\)](#) workshops on a fully-funded basis to South African Trustees and Principal Officers.

In March we successfully piloted the [RFTE Infrastructure Investing Workshop](#), designed and delivered by actuaries Malizole Mdlekeza and Johan Human. This workshop provides an overview of the fundamentals of infrastructure investing and how the principles can be practically applied in retirement funds.

In addition, the following RFTE workshops were also presented in March:

- The popular [Investment Fundamental Workshop](#) was delivered to trustees and principal officers from different retirement funds.
- Part 2 of the [Trustee Governance and Ethics Workshop](#) was presented to Institute of Retirement Funds Africa (IRFA) delegates. The IRFA has booked monthly RFTE workshops for the remainder of 2021.
- The [Death Benefits Workshop](#) was presented to delegates from the Consolidated Retirement Fund for Local Government.



*RFTE Infrastructure Investing workshop delivered on 8 March 2021*

With all entities having to comply with the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act by 1 July 2021, the ASISA Academy has designed a RFTE POPI Act for Trustees workshop. We have scheduled a pilot workshop for a single fund in early in April. If you would like to be notified of open workshops or if you would like to request a bespoke workshop, please [contact us](#).

## Other courses presented in March

The following three [Investment Sprints](#) were attended by employees from ASISA member companies:

- Derivates
- Fundamentals of pricing and unitization
- Investment performance overview

The following bespoke Investment Sprints were attended by a team from RMB over four mornings:

- Unitization and performance
- Investment management and legislative overview
- Investment products and structures
- Practical aspects of portfolio management

The [UCT Collective Investment Schemes \(CIS\) Short Course](#) was presented over nine mornings to employees from various ASISA member companies.

## **Learn with us in 2021**

The ASISA Academy has once again been recognised as a Level 1 B-BBEE contributor, with more than 75% of the Academy's beneficiaries being black South Africans. Please feel free to [contact us](#) to discuss how we can support your skills development requirements for 2021.

Please visit our [website](#) for more information on our many learning opportunities and like our [Facebook page](#) for regular updates. We also invite you to interact with us on [LinkedIn](#).

Best wishes  
Alicia Davids

**ASISA Academy CEO**