

GENEVA CENTRE OF
HUMANITARIAN STUDIES

CENTRE D'ÉTUDES
HUMANITAIRES GENÈVE



Rio de Janeiro. ICRC and municipality's health workers during their home visits to patients. Photo © ICRC

2021 | Annual Report

A JOINT CENTRE OF



UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE

GENEVA
GRADUATE
INSTITUTE

INSTITUT DE HAUTES
ÉTUDES INTERNATIONALES
ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT
GRADUATE INSTITUTE
OF INTERNATIONAL AND
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

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North Kivu, DRC. Food distribution programme to displaced persons. An ICRC employee is giving a distribution card to a mother. Photo © ICRC

— Our 2021 highlights

Lancet Migration European Regional Hub

The new Lancet Migration European Regional Hub, co-led by Lancet Migration and ourselves, was launched in the Summer of 2021 with the aim to make a positive impact on the lives of people who migrate to or within Europe, through multidisciplinary research, as well as leadership, engagement, dissemination of research, and advocacy. Task Force members shared their thoughts on the topic and their vision for the Hub in a range of short videos: <https://migrationhealth.org/regional-hubs/europe/hub-launch/>

Launch of Lancet Special Edition on Women & Children's Health in Conflict Settings

This series draws upon expertise from the Bridging Research & Action in Conflict Settings for Health of Women & Children (BRANCH) Consortium – of which we are partners – and provides insights into the nature and dynamics of women's and children's health and nutrition in diverse conflict contexts globally. <https://humanitarianstudies.ch/the-lancet-series-on-womens-and-childrens-health-in-conflict-settings>

Geneva Global Hub on Education in Emergencies

We joined the launch of the Geneva Global Hub for Education in Emergencies. The Hub includes representatives from the Education Cannot Wait, the Global Education Cluster, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNHCR, the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies, the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the University of Geneva, the Graduate Institute and the ICRC. <https://humanitarianstudies.ch/launch-of-the-geneva-global-hub-for-education-in-emergencies/>

Afghanistan crisis

Several faculty members wrote opinion pieces and gave interviews on the crisis in Afghanistan that unfolded in the second half of 2021. A summary of the articles can be seen at: <https://humanitarianstudies.ch/afghanistan-crisis-media-coverage/>

Attacks on Healthcare – Research update

The scope of the Researching the Impact of Attacks on Healthcare (RIAH) programme developed with the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute at The University of Manchester, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and the University of California, Berkeley, was adjusted due to the Afghanistan crisis. Due to the current lack of access to Afghanistan, this project will concentrate on Ethiopia for the time-being. <https://humanitarianstudies.ch/research-0/riah-research-project/>

Decoloniality of Humanitarian Aid

As part of our mission to contribute to critical reflection on contemporary humanitarianism, we hosted the webinar "Addressing Power and Decoloniality in Humanitarian Aid". The goal of the webinar, organised with the Harvard Medical School, was to introduce, discuss, and frame decolonisation of humanitarian aid and humanitarian medicine by involving expertise and opinions from humanitarian academics and practice, global health, and action groups. <https://humanitarianstudies.ch/power-and-decoloniality-in-humanitarian-aid/>

Negotiation Summit

In June 2021, we contributed to the World Summit on Frontline Humanitarian Negotiations organised by the Centre of Competence on Humanitarian Negotiation (CCHN). The summit brought together frontline negotiators, humanitarian policymakers, scholars, donors, and government representatives. <https://humanitarianstudies.ch/cchn-world-summit-on-frontline-humanitarian-negotiation/>

— Foreword

From the University of Geneva and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

In 2021, we continued to support the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies as it consolidated its' academic programme and expanded its' research to cover key under-researched topics including the effects of migration on health.

We were pleased with the successful continuation of the Centre's scholarship programme, which breaks down barriers to humanitarian training and ensures those who will benefit most, can access the courses and research developed by the Centre.

We applaud the Centre's concerted efforts to move the majority of its courses online and adapt their research due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact on healthcare in humanitarian settings worldwide.

We are looking forward to further developing our coordination with the Centre as we enter the post COVID-19 'new normal', which sees us welcome back our students, re-start face-to-face events, while at the same time growing online activities to ensure the Centre's reach is as great as possible.

Both our institutions have worked together during these challenging times, learning and defining how best to navigate the future, ensuring the services to our students and researchers alike remain of the highest standard.

Professor Yves Flückiger,
Rector, University of Geneva

Professor Marie-Laure Salles,
Director of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

— Director's letter

A year of readiness and tenacity

We started 2021 still in the shadows of the COVID-19 pandemic, however due to our tenacious adaptations in 2020, we were ready and prepared for any further challenges the pandemic would bring. Our students and lecturers alike had all adapted to the 'new normal', and online courses took place throughout the year. We learnt by doing, and each iteration of our course programme became stronger as the year progressed.

Tenacity was key to our research too. Though our ambitions to carry out research in Afghanistan had to be put on hold due to the political crisis in the country, we intend to revisit the project as soon as we can. We are in talks with our partners on how best to deliver a comprehensive healthcare package for the country.

COVID-19 also put the structure and system of the humanitarian sector in sharp focus. It made us reflect on whether the system is fit for purpose when it comes to 21st century humanitarian challenges. Through a range of webinars we looked at how the sector needs to change and shed light on under-examined issues such as bias in humanitarian aid, lack of trust between international and local organisations, and the unfair distribution of aid to name a few of the issues debated through the lens of COVID-19.

Our research also expanded into other new areas including migration and health, through a partnership with the Lancet known as The Lancet Migration European Hub. This initiative looks at how migration, asylum and border policies are key determining factors in the health and well-being of refugees and migrants.

Our recently launched 2021-2025 strategy positions us well as we develop the Centre to ensure it keeps pace with the changing humanitarian landscape. We will continue to provide relevant, online and in-person training for humanitarian professionals by partnering with universities to increase the reach and accessibility of our courses, including partnerships with Aga Khan University. We will also continue to carry out pertinent research on under-researched issues within the sector and to offer a neutral space for debate on sensitive subjects.

We aim to fulfill three institutional commitments: breakdown barriers to learning opportunities for humanitarian professionals; ensure our training and research is multi-faceted, and covers a wide range of perspectives, and adapt the Centre to humanitarian reality by continually analyzing new trends and under-researched issues in the sector.



Professor Karl Blanchet, Director.



Sa'ada governorate, Al-Safra district, Dammaj, Yemen. The ICRC distributes food parcels to displaced persons. Photo © ICRC



— Centre Overview

Our Centre is a unique teaching, research and policy platform for humanitarian action. We are a joint centre of the University of Geneva, and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, two internationally renowned centres of academic excellence.

Based in Geneva, we use our location and our institutional partnerships to our advantage to enhance our academic programme and research agenda. The University of Geneva with its numerous faculties and institutes and The Graduate Institute with its international relations expertise enrich the academic content of our courses.

We also ensure our students can benefit from our unique connections within Geneva International, including access to key international organisations including ICRC and MSF, via organized tours, public events and through our guest lecturers.

Our Strategy 2021-2025

In 2021 we launched our 2021-2025 strategy to ensure the Centre keeps pace with the changing humanitarian landscape as it provides relevant, timely **training** for humanitarian professionals, carries out pertinent **research** on under-researched issues within the sector and offers a neutral **humanitarian exchange** space for debate on sensitive subjects.

Within the strategy, the Centre undertakes to fulfil three institutional commitments to:

- breakdown barriers to access learning opportunities for humanitarian professionals in middle-and low-income countries;
- ensure our training and research is multi-faceted and covers a wide range of perspectives and schools of thought that explore humanitarianism;
- adapt the Centre to humanitarian reality by continuously analysing new trends and under-researched issues.

The Strategy includes four strategic pillars: Education, Research, Humanitarian Exchange, and Management, Collaboration & Partnerships.

For more information please read our strategy publication at <https://humanitarianstudies.ch/centre-strategy-2021-2025/>.

Our Students

As a post-graduate Centre, our students come to us usually with working experience in the humanitarian sector and benefit from the range of professional backgrounds and experience of their fellow students and lecturers alike. During the academic year 2020-21, the Centre trained over **250** students.

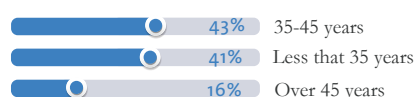
For the Academic Year 2020-21 our students came from multiple backgrounds as illustrated below:



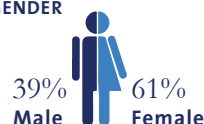
STUDENT REGIONAL SPLIT



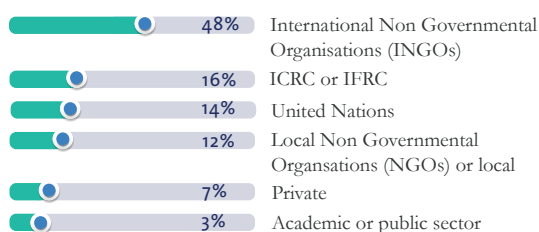
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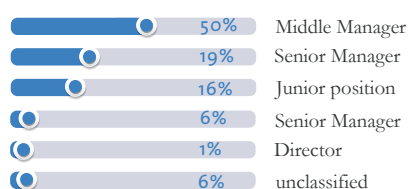
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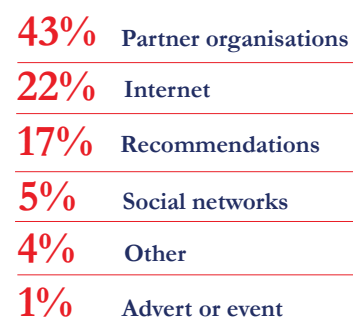
STUDENT EMPLOYER



STUDENT EMPLOYMENT LEVEL



How did our students hear about us?



Why did our students study with us?

- Improve their skills
- Career improvement
- Career change
- University certification
- Centre reputation

Scholarships

At the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies we strongly believe in promoting diversity and inclusiveness. Our scholarship programme helps overcome financial barriers so that all humanitarian professionals can benefit from our training.

Thanks to our scholarships, we have a very diverse mix of students in the classroom to make sure their experience reflects the diversity of their working environments. Such diversity creates a great opportunity to hone negotiation and listening skills, both key to successful project and people management.

Each year we offer full scholarships for two of our courses:

MAS	Executive Master of Advanced Studies in Humanitarian Action	60 ECTS
DAS	Executive Diploma of Advanced Studies in Humanitarian Action	30 ECTS

We have two categories of scholarships holders:

- A full scholarship to cover their 4-month living expenses in Geneva + MAS tuition fees.
- A scholarship to cover their tuition fees for the DAS

“

Receiving a scholarship allowed me to improve my humanitarian skill set and meet many fascinating people through the course.”

Master Student



MAS students 2021 in our new classroom
Photo © Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies

— Our Academic Approach

Our lecturers are experts in a wide range of disciplinary fields including public health, economics, history, anthropology and management to reflect the variety of competencies required of humanitarian workers in the field. As the global landscape changes, we adapt our courses to deliver the support and skills needed for humanitarian professionals on the frontline.

Through interactive and participative, interdisciplinary approaches, students increase their capacity to develop effective humanitarian strategies, to support the plight of populations affected by humanitarian crises. We enhance their learning by:

- Promoting critical thinking about the humanitarian system
- Encouraging debate to analyse humanitarian contexts and reflect on current practices
- Delivering insight and expertise from a broad range of sector professionals
- Consistently strengthening links between theory and practice

Our Courses

Our courses focus on strengthening competencies for humanitarian professionals. Prospective students can select from a wide variety of courses in terms of length, specificity, and discipline with flexible and modular opportunities for professionals to widen and deepen their expertise and knowledge.



Master in Humanitarian Action

Our Executive Master programme is a unique **blended** postgraduate course on humanitarian action providing current and future humanitarian professionals with the managerial, theoretical and practical skills needed to optimise responses to humanitarian crises. Our programme has been developed in response to the growing need to understand, question and reform today's humanitarian system, and is delivered in collaboration with our partner organisations, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF).

This blended course combines evidence-based, cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural education, in a unique adult-learning environment, to empower humanitarian professionals with reflective and critical analysis for a more effective humanitarian response. The course work focuses on deconstructing the humanitarian system, learning about its normative frameworks and reflecting on the interactions and power dynamics among humanitarian actors. It provides expertise in assessing methods, tools and approaches used to assist affected populations in different humanitarian contexts including armed conflicts, disasters, urban settings and migration.

The Master of Advanced Studies in Humanitarian Action is a flexible and modular course, with term one being residential, and terms two and three, online. Students can choose from two options to organize their studies: either a 14-month consecutive course, or a flexible 2-3 year course.

“This one year with the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies has pushed me beyond my own limits, help me position myself in the sector and decide what I want to do and how to do it.”

Student, Master course, 2020

Diploma in Humanitarian Action

Our 14-week Diploma aims to offer humanitarian professionals a critical understanding of the humanitarian system and the ability to contextualise humanitarian action in today's world. It explores the role of humanitarianism in the way the world is governed, as well as the political economy at play in relationships between States, non-State actors, international organisations, international and local non-governmental organisations and affected populations. The programme also addresses the postcolonial dynamics of past and present humanitarian interventions to identify new avenues for contemporary and future crises.

“I really recommend the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies for quality teaching combined with a respectful and friendly atmosphere that will improve students practical skills and critical-thinking analysis and the fact that the location of the school, Geneva is a host to several humanitarian organisations and UN agencies”.

Student, Diploma course, 2020

Certificate in Humanitarian Action: Quality Management of Humanitarian Projects

Our 12-week Certificate addresses the dynamics and components that guarantee the quality management of adapted projects and cohesive teams. It integrates fundamental principles such as inclusion and diversity, do no harm, accountability and participation into processes, methods and tools of project and people management.

Executive Short Courses

Led by senior academics and experienced humanitarian professionals, our Executive Short Courses deliver an intensive focus on specific issues relevant to humanitarian practitioners. These highly interactive courses allow participants to analyse a range of issues that are of strategic importance to contemporary humanitarianism.

“I found both group and individual exercises very enlightening about negotiation techniques, approaches and don'ts of humanitarian negotiations. It was great to discuss during the group work on several elements which to me were obvious, but other members had a completely different vision and perspective. Several elements of this part will be used in my team's and my future negotiations”.

Student, Negotiation in Humanitarian Crises, 2020

Our 12 Executive Short Courses focus on various aspects of humanitarian action:

- Addressing Sexual Violence in Conflict Settings and Emergencies
- Negotiation in Humanitarian Crises
- Humanitarian Project Cycle Management
- Cash and Voucher Assistance in Humanitarian Settings
- Protection of Civilians from Humanitarian to Peace Operations
- A Relationship at Stake: Media & Aid Organisations
- Sexual & Reproductive Health in Humanitarian Crises
- Humanitarian Advocacy: From Bearing Witness to Activism
- Health Systems Assessment in Humanitarian Crises
- Non-Communicable Diseases in Humanitarian Settings
- Planetary Health
- Humanitarian Leadership and People Management

Future courses

In 2022 we will be starting two new exciting courses. First, a new Certificate of Advanced Studies in Accountability, which will be run with UNICEF.

Secondly, we are launching an open access course in Operational Research in May 2022. This new MOOC (Massive Online Open Course) on **Operational Research for Humanitarians** is under production with the support of the MOOC team of the **University of Geneva** and is developed in coordination with **Aga Khan University** and **ICRC**.

This five-week open access course will help humanitarian professionals identify the benefits of conducting research in humanitarian settings, develop clear and realistic research questions, clarify different methodologies and look at how research can be translated into knowledge.

“I was fortunate enough to be part of this course as we are setting up gender and sexual violence response and prevention activities in Borno state, Nigeria. This has meant that I was able to already feed in some of the learnings into the activity design. As a result of the course, we will, for instance, be implementing more comprehensive support to survivors than previously planned to respond in a more tailor-made way to the needs of each survivor.

More than anything, this course has motivated me to continue seeking ways to improve and extend our programming to support survivors of sexual violence and to prevent it from occurring where possible.”

Student, Addressing Sexual Violence in Conflict & Emergency Settings Executive Short Course, 2021



Mannar, Sri Lanka. An ICRC employee explains the activities carried out by the institution to restore family links. Photo © ICRC

— Our Research

We aim to provide a research platform for researchers from various faculties of the University of Geneva, the Graduate Institute (IHEID) and humanitarian organisations. The key objective is to encourage a critical assessment of humanitarian practice to improve humanitarian response.

Our research is essentially multidisciplinary, reflecting the multifaceted nature of humanitarian action. Research activities will continue to be developed in three main areas:

- **Multidisciplinary research programmes examining various aspects of the humanitarian enterprise.**
- **Research on particular humanitarian interventions with interested partners.**
- **Studies and analyses for humanitarian organisations responding to their specific needs.**

Researching the Impact of Attacks on Healthcare (RIAH)

Our research programme the Impact of Attacks on Healthcare (RIAH) has entered its third year. This initiative is led by the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute at the University of Manchester, in collaboration with Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, University of California (Berkeley) and Insight Insecurity. Funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), the programme aims to improve the understanding of the nature, frequency and scale of attacks on healthcare and their impact on the health services delivery in armed conflict.

There is a global consensus that attacks on healthcare violate international humanitarian law and disrespects individuals' right to receive the healthcare they need. Evidence collated from attacks to date have been crucial in raising awareness of the issue, however this evidence is largely restricted to the reporting of incidents and their immediate impact. Further evidence is required on the longer-term and wider impacts of attacks on availability, quality and utilization of health services as well as impacts outside of the public health paradigm, such as the economic and societal costs, and the effects on medical ethics, international or national law.

Our Centre will continue to play a key role in this project, leading the research focused on Afghanistan and the Central African Republic, as well as organizing events with key humanitarian actors in Geneva. <https://riah.manchester.ac.uk/>

SYSTAC EUROPEAN HUB

We launched the European Hub of SYSTAC, the Systems Thinking Accelerator, in partnership with the Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute. This area of research looks at Systems Thinking which is a powerful approach and set of tools for improving health and well-being and strengthening health systems. However, the use of systems thinking remains limited in research, policy, and practice, particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) which are often countries in need of humanitarian assistance.

SYSTAC is a global community of practice for systems thinking researchers, policymakers, and implementers to engage, connect, and collaborate to improve health and well-being. It seeks to be a platform for systems thinking science and practice in health policy and systems research, a community to strengthen systems thinking capacity, and an amplifier to promote and advocate for applied systems thinking in implementation and policymaking in LMICs.

The European region of the global SYSTAC network seeks to be a hub for Europe-based systems thinkers who are working inside Europe or in LMICs. The European hub is open to systems thinkers in research, policy, and practice. Our focal areas include:

- **Health systems resilience**
- **Systems thinking for health systems strengthening**
- **Systems thinking in fragile and conflict-affected settings**

The European hub aims to arrange regional activities that build capacity, support collaboration and practice, link members to resources and promote systems thinking for health.

SYSTAC is supported and funded by the **WHO Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research**.

Lancet European Migration Hub

This new initiative, the **Lancet Migration European Regional Hub**, co-led by Lancet Migration and the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies, was launched in 2021. The hub aims to make a positive impact on the lives of people who migrate to or within Europe, and the environments in which they live, through multidisciplinary research, as well as leadership, engagement, dissemination of research, and advocacy.

To launch the initiative, we asked a series of experts to share their thoughts on the topic and their vision for the Hub. Through a public webinar the experts, including **Professor Bernadette Kumar**, Co-Chair, Lancet Migration, and Co-Lead European Regional Hub; Norwegian Institute of Public Health, and **Professor Karl Blanchet**, Co-Lead European Regional Hub; Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies, covered the challenges and opportunities in migration and health in the European Region, and how the European Regional Hub can advance migration health through sustainable multidisciplinary research, policy, and practice.

Lancet Migration is a global collaboration between The Lancet and researchers, implementers, and others in the field of migration and health that aims to address evidence gaps and drive policy change, building on the recommendations of the UCL-Lancet Commission on Migration and Health published in December 2018.

The Hub aims to bring together local and regional researchers, civil society, students and young professionals, non-governmental bodies, multilateral organisations, policymakers, and migrants across the region. There are many

initiatives in the European Region working to improve and study the health of migrants. Rather than duplicate existing initiatives, the Hub aims to build a sustainable platform for research and policy action between and within sectors to amplify existing work and advocacy across the region.

See the hub launch page and videos at: <https://migrationhealth.org/regional-hubs/eu-rope/hub-launch/>

The Humanitarian Encyclopedia

At the Humanitarian Encyclopedia, 2021 has been a breakthrough year. We developed an exciting new online platform and welcomed a community of humanitarian practitioners and researchers to this online space. We rolled out the platform in a series of interactive workshops from March through May at online conferences and events around the world.

From June to August, we worked with a wide range of authors and experts to analyse concepts and provide new insights on key challenges and trends in the humanitarian sector.

Since September, we put the spotlight on a new concept each week in the Concepts & Community newsletter, and welcomed a steady stream of new visitors, users and authors to the Humanitarian Encyclopedia community.

<https://humanitarianencyclopedia.org>

COVID-19

Our COVID-19 research and learning efforts continued in 2021. Alongside key partners including the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the Centre for Humanitarian Health at John Hopkins, we continued to explore under-reported aspects of COVID-19, including a webinar on 'How have COVID-19 & commitments to decolonise the aid sector accelerated power shifts within the humanitarian sector, or not?'

A full list of the webinar series can be found at: <https://humanitarianstudies.ch/webinar-series-covid-19-humanitarian-settings-exploring-the-controversial-issues/>



— Our Communications

In 2021 the communications team continued working on diversifying its promotional products to promote the Centre's activities, its faculty, courses and projects, including the regular publication of blog posts - 16 in 2021 and a series of videos to present the courses in a simple, direct way. Regular newsletter, events invitations and updates are also shared with a subscribers list of over 6,000 people.

In line with the Centre's new organisational strategy, **the team focused on consolidating the role of the Centre as a source of expertise on humanitarian issues via a series of activities, such as webinars on research projects** including the role of innovation in the humanitarian sector, addressing coloniality in humanitarian aid, the launch of The Lancet Migration European Regional Hub, a project co-led by the Centre and Lancet Migration. The communications team also supported the Centre's presence at various events throughout the year, including the Center of Competence on Humanitarian Negotiation's World Summit on Frontline Humanitarian Negotiations, the WSIS Forum, the Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Weeks 2021, The Open Geneva Festival, and the Analysis & Evidence Week of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The communications team also supported the media relations of various staff members. In 2021, our faculty members have been regularly featured in the news as experts on a number of subjects, including the Afghanistan crisis in August 2021, COVID-19, sanctions, and the relation between the academic and humanitarian sectors. The most recent media coverage can be found [here](#).

In 2021, the digital presence of the Centre was further consolidated. The team mainly focused on two social media platforms: [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#).

in

LinkedIn saw the highest increase in 2021 with an **89.5 %** growth rate in terms of followers.

f

Facebook, the third social media channel where the Centre is active, registered a very limited growth (approximately **10%**).



Our **Twitter** account, opened in March 2020, gained **675 new followers in 2021**, with a total of 1,756 followers by the end of the year **(62% growth)**.

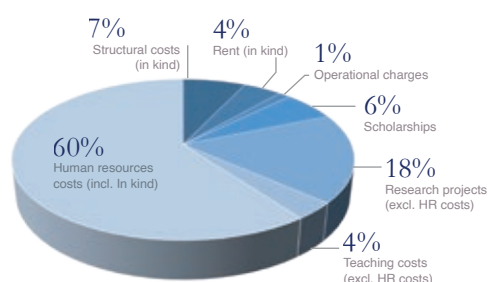
In 2021 an average of **4,900 people** per month visited the **website**, a growth in line with the previous year.

— Our Finances

Ensuring financial sustainability is a key component to long-term success and we work tirelessly to ensure this each year.

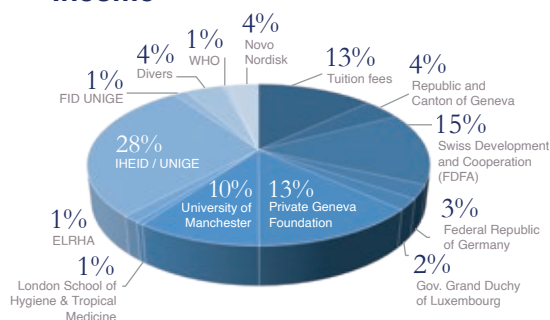
We closed the year with a positive financial result of CHF 140,790.

Expenditure



The overall expenses in 2021 were CHF 3.09 million which represents an increase of 18 % compared to 2020. This is mainly the result of the development of our new research projects which is now as important a strategic pillar as Executive Education.

Income



In 2021, the total income of the Centre was CHF 3.23 million. This 23 % increase compared to 2020 is also due to the development of the second pillar of the Centre: Research.

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) provides CHF 300,000 in core funding. In addition, SDC provided CHF 148,980 for the project 'Humanitarian Encyclopedia'. The Centre also received a 3-year contribution from the SDC for the Addressing Sexual Violence in Conflict and Emergency Settings including an evaluation of the course and four scholarships per year. The support and of the SDC is valued by us.

Each year, the Republic and Canton of Geneva and a private Geneva foundation provide funds for scholarships.

In 2021, the Centre also received support from the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg for the Humanitarian Encyclopedia project. The Centre thanks their support and confidence.

In 2021, Federal Republic of Germany provided a last contribution for the Humanitarian Encyclopedia project.

The Centre also received support from a private Geneva foundation to support the Humanitarian Encyclopedia project.

In 2021, University of Manchester provided a contribution of CHF 322,328 from the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom (DFID) for the project Researching the Impacts of Attacks on Health-care (RIAH).

The Centre received CHF 115,500 from Novo Nordisk to provide an assessment of the Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) care management and drug supply chain in Afghanistan.

The Centre has also received several contributions for the realization of additional research projects (SYSTAC, Health interventions in countries affected by armed conflict, Innovation for SRH in Humanitarian Crises: Situation Analysis): World Health Organization, the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and ELRHA.

The Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies is very grateful for the trust and support of all these institutions.

In addition to their invaluable direct financial contribution, the University of Geneva and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID) provide lecturers, office space, classrooms, and administrative support.

— List of the donors

Public institutions

- Federal Department of Foreign Affairs: Swiss Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- Republic and Canton of Geneva: Service de la solidarité internationale (SSI)
- Federal Republic of Germany: Federal Foreign Office
- Government Grand Duchy of Luxembourg: Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs

Private institutions

- Private Geneva Foundation
- Novo Nordisk

Other organizations and academic institutions

- University of Manchester
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- Enhancing Learning & Research for Humanitarian Assistance (ELRHA)
- London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)



— Our partnerships

Our partnerships are at the core of what we are. Over the years, we have built a rich network of collaborating institutions that contribute to our achievements. We are very grateful for their ongoing support and look forward to continuing our work with them.

Strategic partnerships

- Médecins sans frontières (MSF)
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Technical partnerships

- Health in Humanitarian Crises Centre, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
- Hospice général
- International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA)
- Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health
- Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute, Manchester University
- Médecins sans Frontières (MSF)
- The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- UN Population Fund (UNFPA)

University of Geneva and Graduate Institute partnerships

- Institut Santé Globale
- Global Health Centre
- Geneva Academy (International Academy of Humanitarian Law and Human Rights)
- InZone
- Centre for Humanitarian Medicine and Disaster Management (WHO Collaborative Centre)

— Board of Directors 2020

Prof. Alessandro Monsutti

President of the Board

Anthropology and Sociology, IHEID

Prof. Karl Blanchet

Director, Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies

Academic Director, InZone

Faculty of Medicine, UNIGE

Mr Philippe Besson (until July 2021)

Head of Multilateral Division,

Swiss Humanitarian Aid, SDC

Prof. Alexandra Calmy (from August 2021)

Faculty of Medicine, UNIGE

Prof. Stéphanie Dagon (until May 2021)

Faculty of Medicine / Faculty of Law,

UNIGE

Ms Barbara Dätwyler (from October 2021)

Head of Multilateral Division,

Swiss Humanitarian Aid, SDC

Prof. François Dermange (until May 2021)

Faculty of Theology,

UNIGE

Mr William Empson

Head of Learning & Development,

MSF

Ms Mohini Ghai Kramer

Global Head of Learning & Development,

ICRC

Prof. Simon Hug (until May 2021)

Political Science & Intern. Relations,

UNIGE

Prof. Germain Poizat (until May 2021)

Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education, UNIGE

Prof. Davide Rodogno

International History, IHEID

Prof. Marco Sassòli

Faculty of Law, UNIGE





— Our Team 2021

Prof. Karl Blanchet

Director

Claire Barthélémy

Course Director Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in Quality Management of Humanitarian Projects

Prof. Julie Billaud

Course Director Diploma of Advanced Studies (DAS) in Humanitarian Action
Course Director DAS Module in Revising Needs and Vulnerabilities
Course Director DAS Module in Humanitarian Normativity: Ethics, Laws, Principles
Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, IHEID

Dr Jean-Marc Biquet (until August 2021)

Course Director CAS (Humanitarian Distance Learning) in Designing Strategies and Projects for Humanitarian Action

Marianne Boddèle

Education Administrative Officer

Dr Joanna Bourke-Martignoni

Course Director DAS Module in Humanitarian Normativity: Ethics, Laws, Principles
Senior Lecturer on Human and Social Development, IHEID

Sian Bowen

Partnerships & Communications Manager

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Our vision

Current and aspiring humanitarian professionals have access to past and latest evidence-based knowledge to better respond to the needs of populations in crisis.

Our mission

Through research, education, and humanitarian dialogue and exchange, the Centre will strengthen the capacity and practice of humanitarian professionals wherever they work in order to empower them to respond effectively to global humanitarian challenges.

We also aim to contribute to critical reflections on contemporary humanitarianism with the view of bringing positive transformations to the humanitarian system.

