



Health Systems Assessment in Humanitarian Crises	
Credits	2 credits ECTS
Dates	14-25 April 2025
Format	Online (combination of self-study time and live sessions). Live sessions are mandatory and take place 2-3 times a week, usually in early afternoon CET <i>Online course requires 20-25 hours of dedicated work per week. We recommend that participants allow at least 50% of their time for the course and adapt their professional activity accordingly.</i>
Language	English
Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full price: CHF 1'700• Partner rate (MSF, ICRC): CHF 1'360 (20% discount)• Special Rate for Government and NGO/CBO Staff: CHF 850. Available exclusively to staff from local and national NGOs, CBOs, and government employees in low/middle-income countries. Proof of local employment and salary required.
Coordinator	Prof. Karl Blanchet – karl.blanchet@unige.ch

Course overview

Short description

The primary purpose of this intensive executive short course, based on the book published by Professor Blanchet *Applied Systems Thinking for Health Systems Research*, is to familiarise participants with a health systems approach to healthcare for communities in low and middle countries affected by humanitarian crises, through practical interactive examples and case studies, and taught by experts with humanitarian expertise in low and middle income countries during or after humanitarian crises. This is the only course specifically focused on health system assessment in humanitarian crises and built on the latest available evidence.

Objectives of the course

At the end of the course, you will be able to:

- Define concepts related to health systems and the six building blocks of the WHO framework.
- Assess the main characteristics of humanitarian health interventions (facility-based, outreach, community-based activities, horizontal versus vertical) and relate to it health system challenges in various areas: financing, human resources, health information system, governance, service delivery, and technology.
- Apply the health system assessment guideline tool in order to translate a local situation analysis into concrete humanitarian interventions

Workload

Around 20-25 hours of work each week, including:

1. Asynchronous self-study activities (such as case studies, videos, recorded slideshows, readings, etc.)
2. Synchronous live sessions

Structure of the course

- Days 1-2: Introduction to health systems, system thinking, the role of governance, and the Health Systems Assessment tool
- Day 3: Health service delivery and quality; governance

- Days 4-5-6: Health systems financing and health economics
- Days 7-8: Health workforce, health technologies, and health information systems
- Days 9-10: Presentation of the Health System Assessment using a real-life case study

Prerequisites

Audience

- Professionals in the humanitarian, development or social sector looking to develop their competencies in the health sector.
- Professionals from any other sectors (policy making, donor agency, government officials, health sector etc) who wish to increase their understanding of health systems in humanitarian contexts
- Graduate students with relevant volunteer or intern experience, looking to undertake a postgraduate course with a view to entering the humanitarian sector

Distance Learning

- Broadband/high speed connection - 2.5 Mbps minimum.
- Please note that a PC/laptop/tablet is preferred to access most weekly content and activities
- microphone and webcam

Admission requirements

1. a university qualification (Bachelor's degree or equivalent)
2. at least three years of relevant professional experience
3. excellent command of English
4. motivation working in the humanitarian sector