

2023 Annual Report

Where Education,
Research and Dialogue
meet to make an impact



GENEVA CENTRE OF
HUMANITARIAN STUDIES
CENTRE D'ÉTUDES
HUMANITAIRES GENÈVE

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by Prof. Yves Flückiger,
UNIGE Rector

Professor Marie-Laure Salles,
IHEID Director

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01

Introduction

Foreword

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

2023 was a special year with the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies and we were delighted to mark this achievement with you. Founded in 1998, the Centre has witnessed the profound contextual and organisational changes of the humanitarian sector over the years. Thanks to its great capacity to adapt to the environment and the latest reforms, the Centre has constantly developed research, training and education, focusing on knowledge production within and about the aid sector, as well as on the expertise, governance and ethos of the humanitarian sector.

At the special event organized in November, we were delighted to participate in a panel of vivid discussions with experts. Key questions included how to define humanitarian action today, how have the profiles of humanitarian workers evolved or been adapted to reflect more inclusivity. Engaged alumni significantly contributed to the quality of the debate.

The importance of trainings for frontline humanitarians in view of the multiplicity of complex crises like the wars in Gaza and between Ukraine and the Federation of Russia is absolutely essential and the Centre is more than ready for these challenges. Research was also very active in 2023 with the early beginnings of the Senselet project in Ethiopia on a very important issue on diabetes and hypertension and the RIHH project on researching impact of attacks and healthcare.

We are confident that the Centre will continue to adapt to the growing and changing needs of the humanitarian sector and we look forward to the successful combination of creativity and continuity in teaching, research, supporting an engaging and active international humanitarian dialogue.

Professor Yves Flückiger,
Rector, University of Geneva

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

Director's Letter



Professor Karl Blanchet,
Director

Adapting to the evolving humanitarian landscape has driven us all through this past academic year in education research and humanitarian dialogue.

Thanks to our strong hybrid teaching programme and dedicated team, our Centre continued to strengthen the capacity and practice of humanitarian professionals wherever they work. We were happy to see the positive results of the consolidation of our renewed teaching programme that we had initiated in 2022 and recorded a rise in the number of our students with a very encouraging trend in the increasing number of female professionals representing the majority of our students.

Our new, open access, Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) “Operational Research for Humanitarians” launched in 2023 in collaboration with the Aga Khan University, the International Committee of the Red Cross and University of Geneva attracted more than 9000 participants. We also were proud to launch a new Certificate of Advanced Studies - putting accountability to affected people (AAP) at the heart of programming. This new CAS on a very important topic was co-developed in collaboration with UNICEF.

2023 was also the occasion to mark our 25th Anniversary in various ways. Highlights include the “Assises Humanitaires” with the Geneva Health Forum, the Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève and the Faculty of Medicine. This day was a real time for reflection, seeking to redefine the role of Geneva’s University hospital institutions in the current environment of International Geneva and Humanitarian Aid.

We are very grateful for the outstanding support of our partners and look forward to continuing this journey together in light of the humanitarian challenges that await us. Supporting with an innovative and flexible mindset, current and aspiring humanitarian professionals in their access to the latest evidence-based knowledge will help them to better respond to the needs of populations of crises.

Our mission

Through research, education, and humanitarian dialogue and exchange, the Centre strengthens 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.

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.

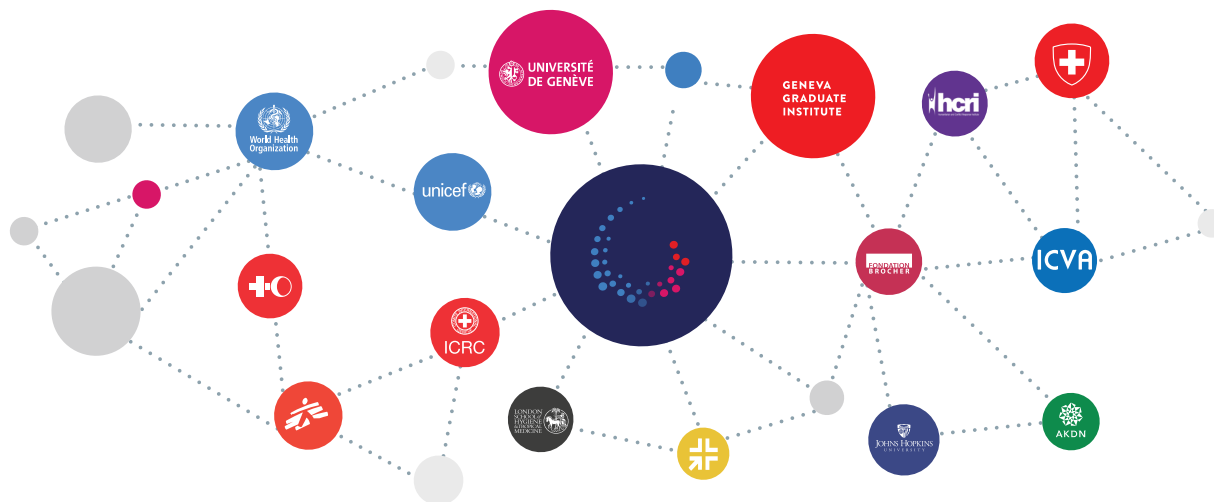
02 About Us

Centre Overview

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

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

Our students also benefit from our unique connections within the Geneva International via public events, and our expert guest lecturers.

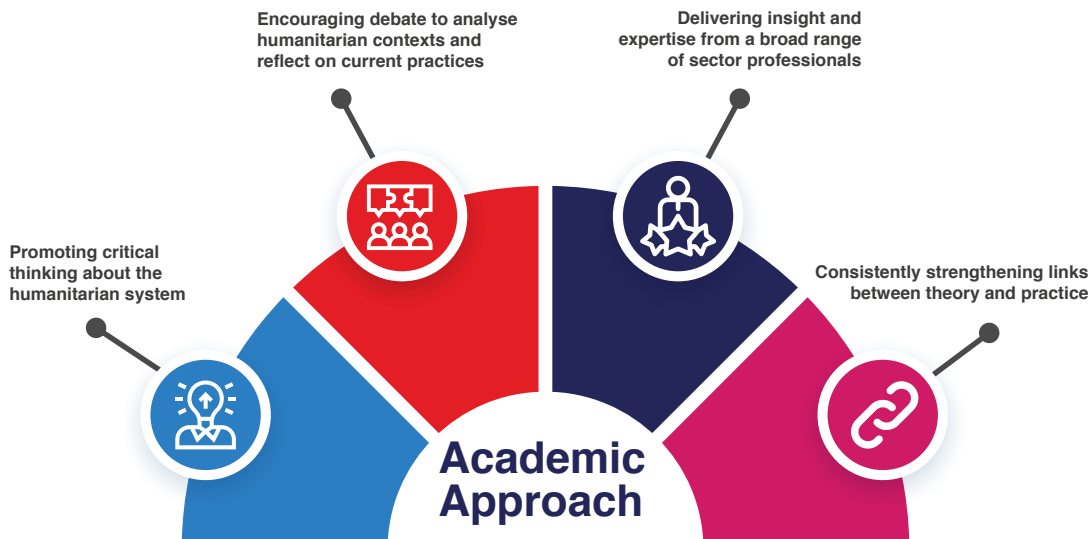


Academic Approach

Our course directors are experts in a wide range of disciplinary fields, including public health, international humanitarian law, political sciences, history, anthropology and management, to reflect the variety of competencies required by humanitarian workers.

As the global, humanitarian landscape changes, we adapt our courses to deliver the support and skills needed for humanitarian professionals at the front line.

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



Master of Advanced Studies in Humanitarian Action (MAS)

DAS

**Diploma of Advanced Studies
in Humanitarian Action**

Term 1: September-December
(25 credits ECTS)

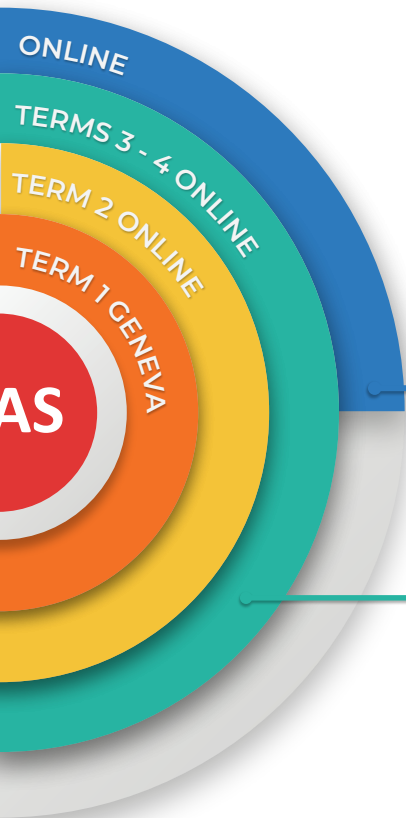
CAS

Two elective options :

- 1- Certificate of Advanced Studies
Quality Management of
Humanitarian Projects**
- 2- Certificate of Advanced Studies
Accountability to Affected People**

Term 2: January-March
(10 credits ECTS)





FINAL DISSERTATION

(15 credits ECTS)

ESC

Executive Short Courses
x 5 (ESC)

Terms 3 and 4: April-October
(2 credits ECTS for each course)

Our Courses

Master of Advanced Studies in Humanitarian Action

The MAS in Humanitarian Action blends online and residential learning, equipping professionals with crisis response skills. Developed in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), this unique course offers cross-disciplinary education, fostering critical analysis for effective humanitarian response. It explores the humanitarian system, normative frameworks, power dynamics among actors, and various contexts like conflicts, disasters, and migration. The Master of Advanced Studies is a flexible course, with two-thirds online, and options for a 14-month or 2-3 year duration.

More info



Diploma of Advanced Studies in Humanitarian Action

The Diploma of Advanced Studies (DAS) aims to offer professionals a critical understanding of the humanitarian system and an ability to contextualize humanitarian action in today's world. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, it explores the historical, political, social, cultural and economic roots of humanitarianism and the power dynamics at play in relationships between States, non-State actors, international organisations, international and local non-governmental organizations and affected populations. Finally, the programme addresses the postcolonial legacy of past and present humanitarian interventions to identify new avenues for contemporary and future crises.

More info



Certificate of Advanced Studies Quality Management of Humanitarian Projects

The “Quality Management” CAS 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. The course follows the Result-Based Management approach and takes into account ethical issues, specificities of contexts and organisational mandates. Participants will be able to apply a qualitative framework in order to manage projects and teams in line with local and international prerogatives.

More info



Certificate of Advanced Studies Accountability to Affected People

The “Accountability to Affected People” (AAP) CAS focuses on improving AAP within the humanitarian sector. It covers components, underpinnings, and practice of AAP in various contexts, enabling participants to realise accountability in their field. The course explores existing modalities and practices, critically assessing their promises and limitations. By enhancing understanding of accountability as a mindset and utilising tools, it empowers vulnerable communities and enhances responsiveness. This online course, with a residential week in Nairobi, Kenya, is organised in partnership with UNICEF.

More info



Executive Short Courses

We run a range of Executive Short Courses (ESC) looking at various aspects of humanitarian action including: Humanitarian Leadership and People Management, Addressing Sexual Violence in Conflict and Emergency Settings, A Relationship at Stake: Media and Aid Organisations and Negotiation in Humanitarian Crises.

Led by senior academics and experienced humanitarian professionals, our ESC 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. 13 ESC were offered in 2023 & 18 sessions organised. See the full list of ESC on our website.

[More info](#)



Massive Online Open Course

The free Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) “Operational Research for humanitarian professionals” created in partnership with Aga Khan University and ICRC for humanitarian professionals and junior researchers in challenging environments affected by crises was launched in 2023. The MOOC focuses on providing practical and theoretical knowledge to conduct research in humanitarian settings. It aims to bridge the gap between research and practice to improve the lives of those affected by emergencies. Participants learned the value of operational research, research processes, ethical considerations, and how to use evidence to support policies. The MOOC attracted 6,958 participants in 2023.

[More info](#)



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY



ICRC

Restoring Family Links

Human beings are social beings who are defined by their links with others. When those links are broken, they lose part of their identity and their bearings. Giving and receiving news and finding one's loved ones again are elements of stability that are even more essential during crisis situations.

Architect: Diébédo Francis Kéré

Familienbande wiederherstellen

Der Mensch ist ein soziales Wesen, er definiert sich durch die Beziehungen zu seinen Mitmenschen. Wenn diese Bande zerstört werden, verliert er einen Teil seiner Identität und seiner Orientierung. Neuigkeiten erhalten und früher erzählten seine Angehörigen wiederfinden... Diese Aufgaben sind in Krisensituationen noch wichtiger.

Architekt: Diébédo Francis Kéré



03 Highlights

25th anniversary

In 2023, the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies celebrated its 25th anniversary







Tala Ezz Edin,
Master of Advanced Studies
in Humanitarian Action (2022), Alumna.



TESTIMONIAL

I heard about the scholarship by chance over dinner with friends and it came at the perfect timing for me.

As locally hired staff working with a humanitarian organization for over 5 years, I was grappling with the frustration born out of difficulties of career development for “resident” staff. More importantly, the reality of our work challenged the ideals and principles of humanitarian work that I tried to follow to the letter, leading me closer to a burnout.

Throughout the programme, these principles have been challenged at times and reinforced at others. We had to take a deep look at our work and critically reflect on its heritage and current practices devoid of the self-glorification that humanitarians could fall into.

Today, after having lived this beautiful experience and shared it with so many colleagues from all over the world, I am proud to say that I go back to humanitarian work, having achieved one of my longstanding dreams of starting to work internationally. I feel that I have matured into a more founded understanding of our role as humanitarians and a renewed determination to perform my tasks ethically and to the best of my ability.

I am grateful to the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies for giving a platform to humanitarians that are not sufficiently represented in decision making, allowing us to be part of modern debates taking place in our domain.”

Our Students in Numbers



271

people studied
at the Centre

Increase of 25% in comparison to
2021-2022



62%

of them being
female course
participants

Increase of 4% of Female presence

In terms of
continent of origin

56% of the course
participants
came from



**Africa
and Asia**

and 32% from
Europe

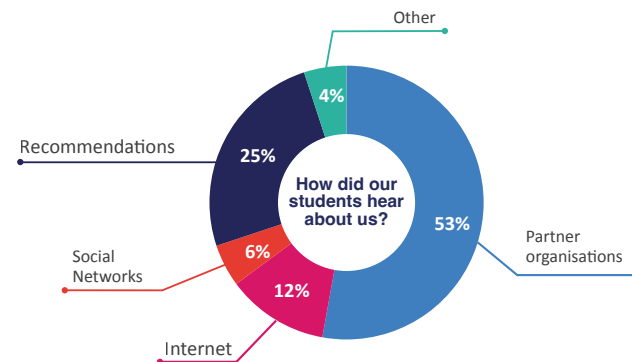
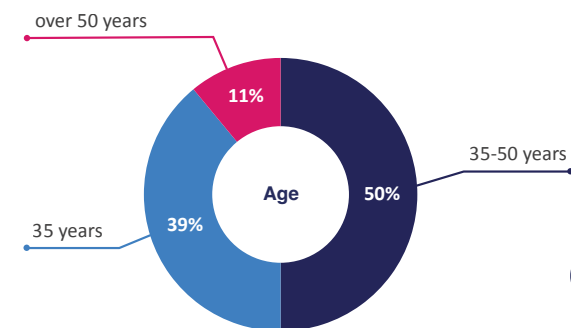


Increase of participants from Africa and Asia
(56% together instead of 48% last year)

Who are our students?

(51% from low- and middle-income countries)



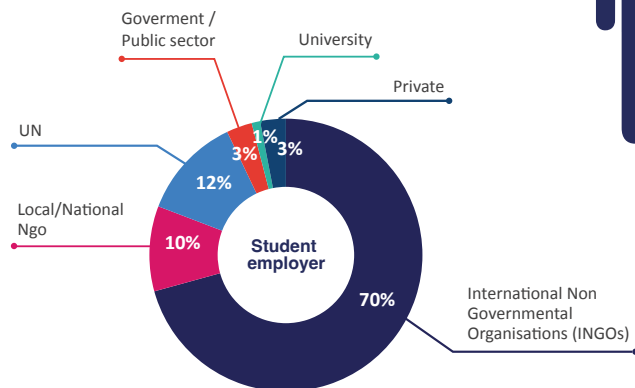


Gender

38%



62%



Why did our students study with us?

01	Improve their skills
02	Career improvement
03	Training offered by my employer
04	University certification & Flexibility
05	Acquire specific competencies
06	Centre reputation

Scholarships

We strongly believe in promoting diversity and inclusiveness within our Centre. With this in mind, the **Scholarship Programme** for the Master of Advanced Studies in Humanitarian Action (MAS) removes barriers so humanitarian professionals specifically benefit from crisis-affected countries, can benefit from our training.

Thanks to our scholarships, we have a diverse mix of students in the classroom to ensure their experience reflects the diversity of their working environments. Such diversity creates a great opportunity to hone intercultural and listening skills, which are key to a successful project and people management. We are very satisfied to see a growing number of applications coming from Asia and the Middle East, which comforts us in our vision to promote capacity building of frontline responders in conflict affected areas.

Each year, thanks to the financial support of the Service for International Solidarity of the State of Geneva and the Foundation Hans Wilsdorf, we offer full and partial scholarships for our MAS.



This course offers a great opportunity for any passionate humanitarian who sees the value of their work and perspectives, and want to grow professionally in the sector and be recognized”.

Amera Markous,

Master of Advanced Studies
in Humanitarian Action, Alumna.

Bangui, communitarian hospital. A doctor does
administration work after an operation.
Photo © ICRC



New Report:

Systems Thinking for Global Health “Reimagining the Future of Global Health Initiatives”

This report delves deep into the intricate world of Global Health Initiatives (GHIs), offering invaluable insights into their trends, challenges, and positive contributions that are shaping the global health landscape. In an ever-evolving world, the realm of global health is marked by both opportunities and complexities. The report takes a closer look at the dynamic trends that are shaping the future of global health initiatives. From innovative financing strategies that are revolutionizing healthcare funding to unforeseen outcomes that have sparked new discussions, this report is a treasure trove of knowledge for those invested in the world of health. This publication is designed for healthcare professionals, researchers, policymakers and people interested in global health.

The study was funded by the Wellcome Trust and co-directed with Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh, Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies, Faculty of Medicine, University of Geneva, Aga Khan University, Cheikh Anta Diop University, Institut de Recherche pour le Développement and the Stellenbosch University.



More info





Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRC), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and PULSE researchers (Dr Luisa Enria and Alex Odum) meeting with community leaders in Kano, Nigeria.

Research

senselet | ሰንሰለት

Senselet

Senselet | ሰንሰለት means ‘chain’ in Amharic: a series of things depending on each other as if linked together. The aim of the Senselet project is to enhance and strengthen the capacities of people working within healthcare supply chain management (HSCM) for essential non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in Ethiopia. Over three years, the project will build competencies in collaboration with local academic partners and identify areas for improvement to ensure access to care for patients in areas marked by humanitarian crises and disasters.

The Senselet project is based on a partnership between the Addis Ababa University (AAU), the Kühne Foundation, the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies, Novo Nordisk A/S, the World Diabetes Foundation, and their additional network of dedicated humanitarian stakeholders, NGOs and representatives from the Ministry of Health (MoH), the Ethiopian Pharmaceutical Supply Service (EPSS) and the Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI).

Timeline: 2022-2025

Funding: the Kühne Foundation, Novo Nordisk A/S, the World Diabetes Foundation.

Partners: Addis Ababa University (AAU), the Ethiopian Pharmaceutical Supply Service (EPSS), Ethiopian Red Cross.

More info



Pulse

In recent years, there has been increasing recognition of the crucial role of community engagement in the successful delivery of public health interventions in humanitarian settings, including for vaccine delivery. However, that evidence is fragmentary and has rarely been used as the systematic basis for planning public health interventions.

The study is conducted in Nigeria and Ethiopia and aims to understand how community engagement can be researched and improved during vaccinations programmes.

Timeline: 2023-2025

Funding: United Kingdom Humanitarian Innovation Hub (UKHIH)

Partners: London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Addis Ababa University, Childcare & Wellness Clinics, International Federation of the Red Cross Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Ethiopian Red Cross Society and the Nigerian Red Cross.

More info





RIAH: Researching the Impact of Attacks on Healthcare

A consortium of researchers, led by the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute at The University of Manchester in collaboration with the University of Geneva's Centre of Humanitarian Studies, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and the University of California, Berkeley, have developed a new research programme: Researching the Impact of Attacks on Healthcare (RIAH). The programme currently receives funding from the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). The aim of this multi-institution and interdisciplinary research programme is to improve our understanding of the immediate, long-term, and wider impacts of attacks on healthcare on populations in contexts that have experienced armed conflict. In 2022, data collection in Afghanistan was completed with national researchers and the analysis is underway.

Timeline: 2019-2025

Funding: UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)

Partners: The University of Manchester, John Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health, Insecurity Insight.

More info



HUMANITARIAN
ENCYCLOPEDIA

Humanitarian Encyclopedia

In 2023, the Humanitarian Encyclopedia concluded its transition to a consortium governance model, led by key stakeholders including Sphere Association, SEEDS India, the University of Granada, and the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies. The consortium will ensure the sustainability of the online Humanitarian Encyclopedia platform and community, and the involvement of local, regional and global humanitarian practitioners. As part of this process, the Humanitarian Encyclopedia facilitated concept discussions with practitioners in Asia to localize the Humanitarian Encyclopedia, produced short concept explainer videos, and built an interactive dashboard to explore concept data.

Time line: 2017-2023

Funding: Private Foundation, Government of Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

Partners: Sphere Association, SEEDS India, the University of Granada

More info





Dr Rony Brauman gives a keynote speech in October 2023
at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Geneva.



Events

The Centre offers a neutral academic safe space for discussion and debate on sensitive humanitarian issues

Our Centre continued its collaboration with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum for their series of conversations called “Let’s talk about mental health” The idea for these conversations was born in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, which had an impact on mental health of the world population. From February to June 2023, four thematic conversations brought together experts in mental health and psycho-social support to explore questions such as: What are the new therapeutic approaches? How to represent and destigmatize mental health? Which participatory approaches allow to care with affected populations? How can I take care of myself or others? Dr Valerie Gorin, our Head of Learning, coordinated these conversations with the Museum, to propose cross-sectoral perspectives, critical tools and practical resources to a broad audience.

On 4 April 2023, the Centre organised with the Centre Maurice Chalmers en sciences des sexualités of the University of Geneva, a conference about Humanitarian action through the prism of sexualities: what responses? The conference took place as a dialogue between Dr Valerie Gorin, our Head of Learning, and Nelly Staderini, SRH reference in the medical department of Médecins Sans Frontières Switzerland. The conversation interrogated the challenges faced by humanitarian organisations in the field of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) to guarantee free and secure access to healthcare in politically and culturally-sensitive contexts for populations affected because of their gender or sexuality.

During Spring, several webinars focused on health initiatives. On May 23, an interactive discussion about “The Future of Global Health Initiatives” led by our Director Prof Karl Blanchet, brought together several key speakers from Ministries of Health (Norway, Kenya, DRC, Ethiopia, USA) and aid organisations such as WHO, Global Fund, Gavi, Amref Health Africa. The discussion was related to a time-bound multi-stakeholder process of dialogue, deliberation and action to identify and enable options for global health initiatives to more effectively, efficiently and equitably complement domestic financing to maximize country-level health impacts, as part of country-led priority-setting processes and trajectories toward universal health coverage.

On June 2, the Centre partnered with the Centre for Global Chronic Conditions at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) to organize an online panel discussion on the humanitarian response to non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in the war in Ukraine. The discussion explored the different NCD responses that were implemented, review some of the key lessons learned, and link those to previous crises and future opportunities. The discussion was part of our Executive short course Non-communicable diseases in humanitarian settings coordinated by our colleague Benjamin Schmid.

Assises de l'humanitaire “ Humanitaire, principes et réalités” On the occasion of the 25th anniversary, the Centre, the Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève, the Faculté de médecine and the Geneva Health Forum gathered in a conference to reflect on the future of the humanitarian sector. This day was a crossroads of reflection and sought to redefine the role of Geneva's university hospital institutions in the current environment of International Geneva and humanitarian aid. Dr Rony Brauman, former President of Doctors without Borders and researcher at the CRASH MSF closed the conference as a key note speaker.

In December 2023, the Centre launched a new collaboration with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum about “Digital Dilemmas” (2023-2024). A series of events on digital dilemmas will explore how digital technologies and innovations are increasingly reshaping responses to humanitarian crises, sometimes with a positive impact, yet creating new digital risks. Alongside numerous partners from the world of humanitarian innovations, culture and research, several workshops, roundtables and performances will confront ideas, debates and techniques to reflect on the digital revolution in the humanitarian sector in particular, and in the societies in general.

04

Behind the scenes

Finances

Over the last five years, the Centre's budget has increased by more than 70%. This trend is mainly due to the strong development of one of our four pillars.

In 2023, several studies were conducted.

Researching the Impact of Attacks on Healthcare (RIAH)

Pulse

Future of Global Health Initiatives

Senselet – Strengthening healthcare supply chain management and education

Societal Acceptance of Drones in Urban Switzerland (SADUS)

Lancet Migration European Hub

The Humanitarian Encyclopedia

The Centre has also focused in recent years on its first pillar: Education, to better meet the needs and expectations of humanitarian workers. The MAS in humanitarian action has evolved into a blended format to offer greater flexibility in conciliating professional career and executive education.

We closed the year with a positive financial result of CHF 125,722. The overall expenses in 2023 were CHF 3.58 million and the total income of the Centre was CHF 3.71 million.

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) provides CHF 300,000 in core funding.

In addition, 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 of the SDC is valued by us.

Each year, the Republic and Canton of Geneva and a private Geneva foundation provide funds for scholarships for the MAS and/or the DAS in Humanitarian Action.

In 2023, 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. They also provided support to the Centre in core funding and scholarship for short courses (ESC).

The Centre also received a 2-year support from a private Geneva foundation to support the Humanitarian Encyclopedia project.

In 2023, University of Manchester provided a contribution of CHF 176,986 from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) for the project Researching the Impacts of Attacks on Health-care (RIAH).

The Centre received a 3-year contribution from Kühne Foundation to contribute its expertise and knowledge to conduct a baseline situation analysis to analyse the emergency supply chain both during disasters and in humanitarian settings and to demonstrate the potential link between an effective supply chain and increased access to quality NCD services in Ethiopia.

The Centre received financial support from Swiss National Science Foundation (Scholars at Risk) and from Fondation privée des HUG to allow an Afghan researcher to pursue his public health research activities at the Centre.

United Kingdom Humanitarian Innovation Hub (UKHIH) via ELRHA provided a contribution of 617,698 GBP to the Centre for the PULSE project to establish an evidence base and practice network to support community-led vaccine deployment strategies in humanitarian contexts.

The Wellcome Trust Limited supported the Centre in a research consortium of 5 universities (University of Geneva (the Centre), Queen Margaret University (Scotland), Stellenbosch University (South Africa), Aga Khan University (Pakistan) and Cheikh Anta Diop University Dakar (Senegal) for re-imagining the Future of Global Health initiatives.

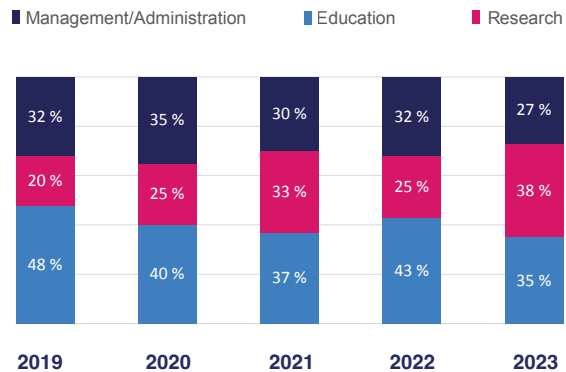
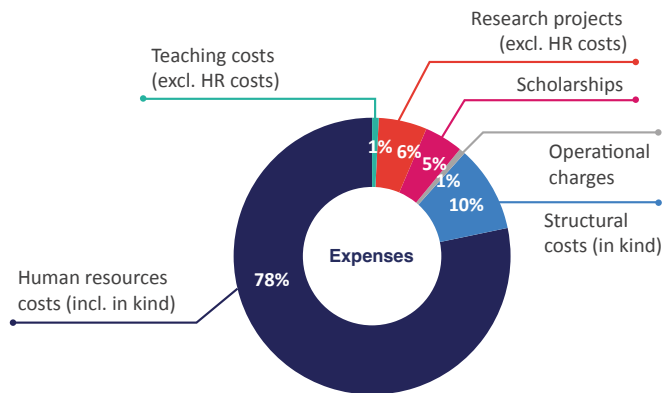
In 2023, the Centre received a joint funding from University of Geneva and University of Zürich for the Societal Acceptance of Drones in Urban Switzerland (SADUS) project, led by Dr Ning Wang.

UNICEF provided a contribution to the Centre to develop and implement an inter-agency course to support staff, implementing partners and other humanitarian organizations to master the key principles around accountability to affected populations (AAP).

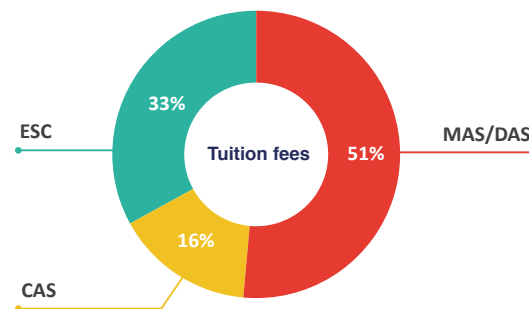
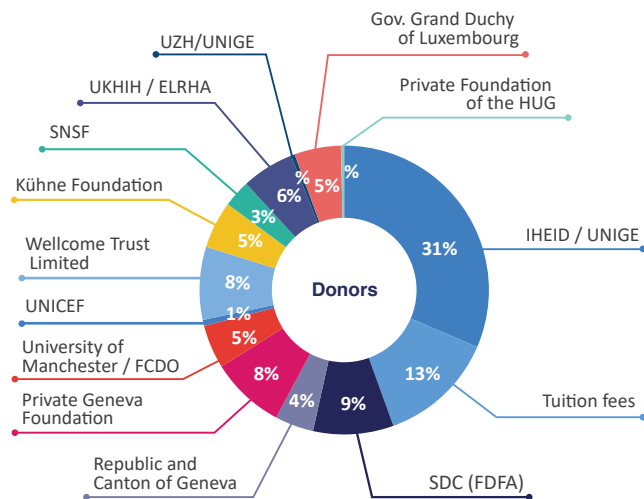
In addition to their invaluable direct financial contribution, the University of Geneva and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID) provide lecturers, office space, classrooms, and administrative support.

Finances

EXPENSES



INCOME



Our Donors

Public institutions:

- Federal Department of Foreign Affairs: Swiss Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- Republic and Canton of Geneva: Service for International Solidarity (SSI)
- Government Grand Duchy of Luxembourg: Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs
- Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)
- Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)

Private institutions:

- Private Geneva Foundation
- Kühne Foundation
- Private Foundation of the HUG
- Wellcome Trust Limited

Other organisations and academic institutions:

- United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)
- United Kingdom Humanitarian Innovation Hub (UKHIH)
- University of Zürich / University of Geneva

Our Partners

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 we look forward to continuing our work with them.

Strategic partnerships:

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

Technical partnerships

- International Museum of the Red Cross and Red Crescent
- Aga Khan University (AKU)
- Health in Humanitarian Crises Centre, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
- Centre for Humanitarian Health, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health
- Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute, Manchester University
- Addis Ababa University
- Childcare and Wellness Clinics
- Security Insight

University of Geneva and Graduate Institute partnerships:

- The Institute of Global Health, UNIGE
- InZone
- Centre for Humanitarian Medicine and Disaster Management (WHO Collaborative Centre)
- Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève (HUG)



Board of Directors

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

Prof. Alexandra Calmy

Professor, University of Geneva
Head of HIV/AIDS Unit of the University Hospital of Geneva

Mr William Empson

Head of Learning & Development
Médecins Sans Frontières

Ms Mohini Ghai Kramer

Global Head of Learning & Development,
International Committee of the Red Cross

Prof. Davide Rodogno

International History, IHEID

Prof. Marco Sassòli

Faculty of Law, UNIGE

Mr Anton Zuber

Head of HA Resources Field
Swiss Humanitarian Aid, SDC-FDFA

Our Team 2023

Prof. Karl Blanchet

Director

Claire Barthélémy

Course Director Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in Quality Management of Humanitarian Projects
Course Director Executive Short Course (ESC) Humanitarian Leadership and People Management
Course Director ESC Humanitarian Advocacy: from Bearing Witness to Activism

Prof. Julie Billaud

Course Director DAS Module in Revising Needs and Vulnerabilities
Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, IHEID

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 (until November 2023)

Communications Manager

Dr Erna Burai

Course Director CAS in Accountability to Affected People

Dr Rachel Cassidy (until September 2023)

Researcher

Ludovic Clément

Distance Learning Specialist

Larissa Da Silva Araujo (until February 2023)

Teaching Assistant, IHEID

Sandrine Delattre

Course Director CAS in Quality Management of Humanitarian Projects
Course Director ESC in Humanitarian Project Cycle Management

Lucas Dias Rodrigues Dos Santos (from March to August 2023)

Teaching Assistant, IHEID

Joëlle Gentile

Administration Manager

Léo Gérard (until February 2023)

Administrative Assistant

Dr Anne Golaz

Course Director ESC Planetary Health

Dr Valérie Gorin

Head of Learning

Course Director Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) in Humanitarian Action

Course Director DAS Module in Humanitarianisms

Course Director DAS Module in The Humanitarians and the Social World of Aidland

Course Director ESC A Relationship at stake: Media and Aid Organisations

Course Director ESC Digital Innovations in Humanitarian Action: Opportunities and Challenges

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Course Director ESC in Cash and Voucher Assistance in Humanitarian Crises: What works?

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