



UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE

FACULTÉ DE MÉDECINE
Centre d'études humanitaires
Genève

ESC 2024-2025 Course at a glance

Addressing sexual violence in conflict and emergency settings (East Africa regional course)

Credits	2 credits ECTS
Dates	17 – 21 November 2025
Format	Face-to-face training in Nairobi, Kenya
Language	English
Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full price: CHF 1'700 (fees) + travel cost to be included• Partner rate (MSF, ICRC): CHF 1'360 (20% discount) + travel cost to be included• Special Rate for Government and NGO/CBO Staff: CHF 850 + travel cost to be included. 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.
Course director	Laura Pasquero – Laura.Pasquero@unige.ch

Course overview

Short description

The overall objective of this Executive Short Course (ESC) is to provide humanitarian mid-level and senior managers working in Eastern Africa or with population from this region with the knowledge, competencies and skills required to conceive and operationalise survivor-centred interventions in sexual violence prevention and response, both adapted to conflict and emergency settings and as an integral part of humanitarian operations. The course deepens understanding of sexual violence in the region—its root causes, contributing factors, and multidimensional impacts on individuals and communities—and strengthen capacities to design comprehensive, multisectoral response models within contextually-appropriate, survivor-centred frameworks. Participants will also explore evidence-based, multisectoral response models and good practices in various contexts in the region.

The course is delivered in partnership with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Médecins sans Frontières (MSF), Refugee Law Project (RLP), Utu Wetu Trust, UNHCR and in collaboration with local and regional expert organisations, survivor-led community organisations, and academic scholars.

Objectives of the course

- Deepen understanding of sexual violence dynamics, its root causes and contributing factors, and its impacts on individuals and communities
- Conceive safe, ethical interventions across multiple sectors that prioritize the rights, needs, and wishes of victims and survivors including specific groups such as male survivors, children born of sexual violence, and other individuals and groups with intersecting identities and characteristics
- Explore effective practices, key organizations, and evidence-based interventions addressing sexual violence in East African contexts
- Expand analytical perspectives of the complex nature of survivor-centred approaches and reflect on strategies through which humanitarian organisations can enhance their survivor-centred practices within specific contexts.

Workload

Approximately 50 hours of work during the week, including lectures, case studies, discussions and group work.

Thematic structure of the course

The course comprises thematic modules grounded in regional evidence and local expertise, delivered by a diverse team of local, regional, and international specialists in sexual violence prevention and response. The thematic areas include:

- Core Concepts and Evidence Overview: Sexual Violence in East Africa
- Ethics and Methods of Data Gathering
- Medical Care for Survivors of Sexual Violence

- Pregnancy as a result of rape
- Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)
- Sexual Violence Against Men and Boys
- Survivor-Centred approaches and Ecosystems
- Access to Justice for Survivors of Sexual Violence
- Risk Mitigation
- Preventing Sexual violence and Addressing Stigma

Prerequisites

Audience

- Mid-level and senior humanitarian managers currently operating in East Africa or serving populations from this region. Participants include those working directly with sexual violence survivors or providing technical guidance and supervision for such programs.
- Other participants with relevant experience and expertise may be accepted if space is available.

Admission requirements

- Be based in East Africa, or work with people from this region
- Hold a university degree (Bachelor's degree or equivalent)
- Have at least three years' relevant professional experience
- Have an excellent command of English
- Demonstrate strong commitment to humanitarian work and ethics