Principles of Advocacy for Humanitarian Intervention in Health

20-24 April 2009

One-week training module

Médecins Sans Frontières Switzerland (MSF)
Programme Interdisciplinaire en Action Humanitaire (PIAH)

Place
University of Geneva, Uni Mail
PIAH
Passage Baud-Bovy 8-10 – 1205 Geneva

Fees
CHF 750.– Free of charge for PIAH students

Duration & dates
20-24 April 2009
Preparation by reading background papers - 10 hours
One week seminar - 40 hours
Homework - 10 hours

Credits
2 ECTS corresponding to 60 hours SIT, broken down as follows:
- Preparation & self study (individual reading): 15 hrs
- Lectures & theoretical inputs: 15 hrs
- Practical group work with facilitators: 15 hrs
- Individual work after the week: 15 hrs

Language
Course in English, with possibility of reading & working group interaction in French

Application
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Content

Four case-studies are the core of the seminar each representing a particular aspect of humanitarian intervention in health. Participants will elaborate and present a focused strategy for advocacy in a given context (below some examples of cases that could be adapted and applied to current challenges):

1. Mozambique – decentralization and simplification strategies in HIV/AIDS treatment program (MSF)
2. Kazakhstan – discrimination and exclusion of drug-users from treatment (IFCR)
3. Darfur – integration of mental health into primary health care (MSF)


Lectures will explore the concepts and principles underlying the focus of each case study including:

- Human resource development
- Discrimination and exclusion
- Political commitment
- Communication and relations with media

Methodological inputs (exercise and lecture), participants will perform a:

- Stakeholder analysis (MSF)
- Press releases
- Advantages and disadvantages of advocacy

In a final synthesis lecture, we will present advocacy approaches on regional, national and global levels to promote humanitarian intervention in health.

Objectives

General
To acquire tools and skills for effective advocacy in support of humanitarian intervention in health.

Learning objectives
By the end of the module, students are able to:

- Analyse the epidemiological situation and responses to it in relation to the health policy, stakeholders, program performance and available resources
- Analyse the role of advocacy in the field of humanitarian intervention in health
- Identify barriers and opportunities for implementation of humanitarian intervention in health

- Elaborate and implement an advocacy plan to support programmatic objectives in humanitarian intervention in the fields of i.e. human resources, development of political commitment, discrimination and hand-over strategies

Audience

Participants wishing to attend this optional module must comply with the admission criteria defined by the PIAH / Master in Humanitarian Action, i.e.:

- An academic degree or equivalent
- At least three years professional experience in humanitarian, social, development or human rights related fields

Fluency in English (reading, speaking, writing) required (TOEFL score of at least 550 points paper-based or 213 points computer-based or an equivalent approved test)

Assessment

Participants’ performance assessment focuses on two aspects, in line with the objectives and course of the week:

- Development of analytical skills in a given context
- Application of strategies and tools to develop innovative approaches in advocacy for humanitarian intervention

This will be assessed through:

- Observation, the products of group work & contributions in lecture throughout out the week (50%)
- An individual written test, sent by e-mail (1,000 to 1,500 words) one week after the course at the latest (50%)

Learning methods

Experienced humanitarian advocates working in a variety of country-settings and contexts will lecture and introduce participants to a broad range of perspectives and advocacy initiatives.

Essentially group work, but class discussions and exercises will serve to integrate lecture topics in preparation for their application. Interactive and participatory methods are central, based on the experience and profiles of the participants, with frequent back and forth between working groups and lecturers. The approach is based on recognized adult learning techniques and practice.

Attendance

The total number of participants is limited to 25, amongst which a priori 10-15 students from the PIAH Masters in Humanitarian Action.
Application form

Principles of Advocacy for Humanitarian Intervention in Health

20-24 April 2009

Application should be sent before 10th of April 2009 to:

Programme interdisciplinaire d’action humanitaire (PIAH)
Rue Rothschild 20 – 1211 Geneva 21
Fax +41 (0)22 738 39 96
piah@unige.ch

Please fill in this form in capital letters

☐ Ms ☐ Mr. Surname ........................................................................Name...........................................................................................
Profession ............................................................................................................................
Institution ............................................................................................................................
Address ...............................................................................................................................
Zip code/City/Country ........................................................................................................
Phone ...............................................................................................................................Fax: ..........................................................................................
E-mail ...............................................................................................................................

I WOULD LIKE TO REGISTER FOR

☐ The One-week training module Principles of Advocacy for humanitarian intervention in health and agree to pay the tuition fee of CHF 750.- upon receipt of acceptance

CANCELLATION FEE

Any withdrawal before the beginning of the full course on 20 April, incurs a CHF 100.- cancellation charge. On the first day of the course, the full fee is due.

Date: ........................................................................................................Signature: .............................................................