



Sexual Violence in Conflict Settings and Emergencies

Credits	2 credits ECTS
Dates	29 September – 24 November 2021
Format	Online Online sessions on Zoom will take place every Wednesday 3-5pm CET – <u>First online session: 6 October 2021</u>
Language	English
Course director	Laura Pasquero – laura.pasquero@unige.ch

Short description of the course

This course was first developed in 2014-15 by the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies working in partnership with a Steering Committee of experts on prevention and response to sexual violence from ICRC, MSF, UNHCR, Refugee Law Project, as well as independent human rights experts. Committee members regularly review course materials and participant evaluations and provide speakers and participants through their organizations.

Learning objectives

General objective

The overall objective of the course is to provide mid-level and senior humanitarian managers with the knowledge, competencies and skills required to conceive multidisciplinary survivor-centered interventions in the field of sexual violence prevention and response, both adapted to specific contexts and as an integral part of humanitarian operations. At the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Comprehend the scale of sexual violence in humanitarian settings and the barriers faced by survivors to accessing essential services
- Conceive safe and ethical multi-sectoral interventions centered on victims/survivors' rights, needs and wishes and competent to respond to the needs of different groups of survivors
- Deepen understanding of sexual violence, its root causes and contributing factors, and its impacts on individuals and communities.

Specific objectives

More specifically, at the end of this course, you will be able to:

- In terms of knowledge:
 - Define the core principles of a survivor-centered approach to sexual violence prevention and response multisectoral interventions in humanitarian contexts, including for specific groups
 - Describe and explain sexual violence root causes and contributing factors and its physical, psychological, social and economic impacts for individuals, their families and communities
 - Identify and discuss ethical and methodological issues when gathering and interpreting data on sexual violence.
- In terms of skills:
 - Conduct a sexual violence context assessment using safe and ethical methods for data gathering
 - Create an enabling environment to facilitate victims/survivors' disclosure, healing processes and access to services, taking into account the specific needs and wishes of different groups such as male survivors and the specific barriers they may face
 - Design and establish the operational components of evidence-based survivor-centered interventions, including to respond to medical, MHPSS and other needs of victims/survivors and in facilitating their access to justice.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In terms of analytical competences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Analyze contextual challenges and opportunities related to implementing adequate and effective evidence-based programs ○ Develop reflective practice on their work and experience as a key component of professional development ○ Share key lessons and promising practices for enhanced sexual violence interventions in conflict and emergency settings.
Assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weekly course assignments - A 3–4-page personal essay as described below and submit it on Moodle to the course coordinator by email by the due date (additional information is available on the document “Assessment criteria”)
Learning process	<p>This online course is organized into 8 modules that will run for 8 weeks. Each week participants have to connect for a 2-hour interactive webinar with experts, and complete readings, written assignments and engage in discussions in small groups.</p> <p>All participants are provided with all the readings discussed in the course, dozens of other resources on the topics addressed in the course, and PDFs of all the slide presentations used in class on Moodle, our learning platform.</p> <p>Upon completion of the course, you will join an alumni network that will enable you to connect with graduates and continuously share knowledge, experiences and resources.</p>

Participation and ground rules

Confidentiality	The course addresses sensitive topics and confidentiality must be respected. We follow Chatham House rules in the class: while participants may share the substance of what is discussed in the class with others, they may not identify who said a given comment or what organization they work for. This is important in order to create an atmosphere of trust that enables us to learn together.
Participation	All participants are expected to contribute actively to discussions in class and on the online forums, sharing experience and questions in order to enhance the collective learning process. Everybody must give feedback at the end of every module – in order for the course to improve every year.
Presence and punctuality	Participants are expected to connect on time for each class, and to stay connected for the full class. Participants who are not present for the full course will not be eligible for a certificate of attendance or course credit.
Respect	We kindly request participants to demonstrate respect for the diverse opinions and experiences of the speakers and other participants, acknowledging all have knowledge and views that are valuable.
Online classes	During online classes, all participants must respect the following rules: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cameras are on• Microphones are muted• Phones and emails are off• Raise hand before speaking

Program for the online Zoom sessions

	WEEK 1 - Wednesday	WEEK 2 - Wednesday	WEEK 3 - Wednesday		WEEK 4 - Wednesday
3pm-5pm	<p>CORE CONCEPTS AND SURVIVOR-CENTERED APPROACH</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Sexual violence evidence and magnitude, Core concepts and survivor-centered approach</p>	<p>COLLECTING DATA ON SEXUAL VIOLENCE: ETHICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS</p> <p>Sexual violence data collection methods and tools, ethical issues</p>	<p>SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST MEN AND BOYS</p> <p>Impacts and interventions: creating safe spaces to enable disclosure by male survivors of sexual violence</p>	2pm-5pm	<p>MEDICAL CARE AND PREGNANCY AS A RESULT OF RAPE</p> <p>Core components of medical response, barriers to accessing care; Policy and implementation of policies on pregnancy as a result of rape</p>
	WEEK 5 - Wednesday	WEEK 6 - Wednesday	WEEK 7 - Wednesday		WEEK 8 - Wednesday
3pm-5pm	<p>MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)</p> <p>Psychological impacts of sexual violence, evidence-based mental health and psychosocial interventions</p>	<p>ACCESS TO JUSTICE</p> <p>Principles, challenges and promising practices in advancing access to justice for sexual violence survivors</p>	<p>PREVENTION AND RISK MITIGATION</p> <p>Key approaches, tools and resources for evidence-based interventions to prevent and mitigate risks of sexual violence</p>		<p>COORDINATION</p> <p>Referral systems, Information-sharing protocols, GBV subcluster or working group</p> <p>Wrap-up and Closure</p>