

2025 | 2026

Health Systems Resilience in Times of Crises



Credits

2 ECTS



Dates

20 April – 1 May 2026



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.

This online course requires 20-25 hours of weekly work. To fully engage in learning activities, we recommend that participants take some time off and adjust their professional activities accordingly, with flexibility in working hours.



Language

English



Fees

- **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.



Lecturer

Prof. Karl Blanchet – karl.blanchet@unige.ch



Short description

The primary purpose of this intensive executive short course, based on Professor Blanchet's book *Health System Resilience and Applied Systems Thinking for Health Systems Research*, is to provide practical tools to understand how health systems function and how to assess the performance and resilience.

The course will familiarise participants with a system thinking and complexity science approach to health system management in low- and middle-income countries affected by polycrises (e.g. climate change, financial crises, large-scale populations displacement, humanitarian emergencies). Learning is grounded in practical, interactive examples and case studies, and delivered by experts with extensive experience in low- and middle-income settings.

This course offers a unique focus on health system resilience in times of crises and is built on the latest available evidence.



Learning outcomes 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
- Apply the health system assessment guideline tool in order to translate a local situation analysis into concrete health interventions
- Conduct systemic diagnoses of health systems in context of crises (climate-related, migration, health emergencies)
- Evaluate the institutional and operational capacity and resilience in times of crisis
- Conceive strategies of interventions that combine efficiency, sustainability and good governance



Workload

Around 50 hours of work overall, 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 2: The concept of health system resilience
- 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



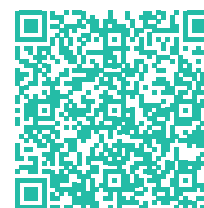
Audience

- 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



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



Application deadline and registration: