



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](mailto: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:**