

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AFRICA

Certificates in Humanitarian Policy & Practice -
Diploma in Humanitarian Assistance



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2012





UPDATE FROM DHA ALUMNI

I got confirmation on a posting with GIZ's emergency program in Afghanistan during the DHA program in Johannesburg, South Africa. I therefore started my preparation courses in July after returning from South Africa, and left for Afghanistan in August 2011.

Since then, I have been working as the Disaster Risk Management Advisor in Feyzabad, Afghanistan-where I manage a project for natural disaster preparedness & mitigation.

It's a tough job and a lot of work. Professor's Munslow's modules on 'The Humanitarian Arena' were an excellent preparation and inspiration. I still profit from what I learnt on the DHA in 2011.

To get a better picture on the happenings on my work on the ground in Afghanistan, read my recent article "Strengthening Administration of Disaster Risk Management in Badakhshan, North Afghanistan". It was published by the World Bank along the G20 in Mexico in June 2012 (Please see:<http://www.gfdr.org/gfdr/nodel/1197> -Page 155-159-By Sebastian Wigele & Walter Osenberg, GIZ DETA).

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DHA alumni can use the Facebook group to share updates from your different fields of work post the DHA. Engage with fellow DHA alumni on various cutting edge humanitarian issues, and find recent reports and updates on the programme.

MSF-South Africa

www.msf.org.za

LSTM

<http://www.lstmliverpool.ac.uk/>

P&DM

<http://www.wits.ac.za/Academic/CLM/PDM/>



DHA Africa-Building Humanitarian Power

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

CERTIFICATES IN HUMANITARIAN POLICY & PRACTICE-DIPLOMA IN HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

To provide humanitarian workers with an awareness of policies in the humanitarian Arena;

To identify and promote standards of good practice in humanitarian responses;

To encourage cooperation and create dialogue between governmental, non-governmental, national and international agencies.

To promote synergy of emergency humanitarian interventions and sustainable development



The Certificates in Humanitarian Policy and Practice and the Diploma in Humanitarian Assistance are intensive training programmes run by University of the Witwatersrand's Graduate School of Public and Development Management (P&DM) in partnership with the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM) and Médecins sans Frontières (MSF) in South Africa.

These multi-disciplinary programmes take on a regional focus in tackling humanitarian issues.

The programmes are designed and taught by practitioners with field experience and critical reflections on challenges in the humanitarian field, from international humanitarian agencies including; MSF, multilaterals such as the UN agencies, media houses and Professors from LSTM and Wits University.

The Certificates in Humanitarian Policy and Practice are offered as either separate certificates accredited by P&DM; or consecutively towards a Diploma in Humanitarian Assistance accredited by LSTM.



Students Profile

Since 2009, the DHA Africa programme has trained 123 participants from over 21 countries. In addition to postgraduate individuals, most of the 123 participants came from a vast number of organizations.

PARTICIPANTS COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

- DRC
- Zimbabwe
- Sudan
- Uganda
- South Africa
- Lesotho
- Malawi

The class of 2012 was no exception to this diversity, with strong representation from the African continent. It provided a unique and equal environment in which policy makers and senior management of the major international humanitarian players were studying alongside local government and emergency services personnel as well as people who had experienced or been affected by 'natural' and conflict-related crises themselves.

In fact, each year the programme has hosted students who were previously child soldiers, and this year was no exception.

In recognition of the need for stronger links between development planning and emergency response, government representation on the programme was strong. Five participants were from local government (City of Johannesburg and Limpopo Legislature); there was also government representation from the SADC Desk of the Department of International Relations & Cooperation, and from the Government of Lesotho's Ministry of Finance & Development Planning.

Governmental Departments

- Ekurhuleni Disaster Management (SA)
- Dep. International Relations & Cooperation (SA)
- Gov. of Lesotho Ministry of Finance & Development Planning

UN Agencies & Regional Platforms

- UNICEF
- UNDP
- NEPAD

Non-Governmental Organizations

- MSF
- Al Imdaad Foundation
- GIZ
- World Vision
- Al Jazeera

Lecturing Organization

- UNHCR
- Al Jazeera
- CSVR
- MANGO
- UNOCHA
- UNAIDS
- ICRC
- Ekurhuleni Disaster Management
- Wits Law School

Lecturer Profile

In addition to lectures from the 3 partners: MSF-South Africa office & Brussels, LSTM and P&DM; the programme was delivered by 24 academic and field-based lecturers from a number of different organizations and agencies. Lecturers used a variety of teaching methodologies, from lectures, to case studies, group work, scenarios, discussion etc. This year also included innovative methods such as an ex-DHA student based with Al Jazeera in Doha, who delivered a session on the Social Media via video-web link-up. Importantly, many organisations providing staff to teach on the programme are also strong partners in supporting the long-term success of the initiative.



Since 2011 when the programme was run by P&DM and held in Johannesburg, the dates have coincided with the MSF General Assembly. Students are then afforded the opportunity to attend public debates held at the General Assembly. This opportunity remains critical in the way students are able to reflect on the content covered during the programme, and some of MSF's public reports shared during the General Assembly.



This year was no different; students and lecturers attended debates during the MSF General Assembly, with topics that looked at “Humanitarian Negotiations” and visited the MSF *Solidarity for Survival* exhibition.

PROGRAMME CONTENT



Since 2011, the Public School of Development Management (P&DM) has had the privilege of hosting the programme as 2 Certificates-Humanitarian Policy and Humanitarian Practice. The Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM) also affords the opportunity for students who enroll for these 2 certificates consecutively to sit in a final exam to qualify for a Diploma in Humanitarian Assistance (DHA).

During the intense 6-week period there were approximately 233 hours of classes, including innovative student-led recap sessions each morning.

Topics for assessed Presentations

"Reducing the impact of fires in the informal settlement and enhancing emergency responses in SA"

"The Political Economy of South Sudan – a study of the impact of food aid on Warab state during the war (1998-2005) and after the CPA"

"Is humanitarianism compatible with the new emerging world order dominated by China?"

"Political constraints on humanitarian work in Afghanistan"

"Evolving humanitarian crisis in Zimbabwe since 2000 – a case study of social structures and access to health"

HUMANITARIAN POLICY & PRACTICE CERTIFICATES

The Certificate in Humanitarian Policy covers a wide range of modules including; *The Political economy of aid and complex humanitarian emergencies; Global Climate Change, 'Natural' disasters; Disaster Management; Applications of the Law-International Humanitarian Law; Mind the Gap - the Emergency versus Development Divide; Media & Policy in Humanitarian Action; and Advocacy.*

The Certificate in Humanitarian Practice also covers modules including: *Introduction to emergencies and the 'new' aid machine; Responses to Displacement; Security & Self Care of Humanitarian workers; Mobilising & Managing Human and Financial Resources; Public Health and Disease Control in Emergencies; HIV, AIDS and TB in emergencies; Logistics and Communications; Water & sanitation practical day; Human Resources.*

During the Certificate in Humanitarian Practice, students are expected to choose 1 of the 2 specialist modules- Health or Technical. These 2 specialist modules have students engage on a practical level with various case studies and technical assistance relevant in responding to humanitarian crises such as Water & Sanitation and Logistics.

The final DHA exam is based on the content covered throughout the 2 certificates.

The students are graded on their level of participation in lecture discussions, group and individual presentations on various topics linked to the modules covered. The Individual presentations are a great platform for students to link their respective experience to the programme content.



“...to have a mix of people involved in managing humanitarian crises and people affected by humanitarian crises in one room was great part of the programme I appreciate.”

George Mapiye - MSF SA OCB Johannesburg, Health Promoter



APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR 2013:



"The DHA completely surpassed my substantial expectations. Sitting at UNICEF in New York, I am amazed at the relevance and direct applicability of the DHA to my everyday work in the humanitarian field. I highly recommend the programme and am grateful the knowledge and network I have been able to develop as a result of this programme!"

Gordon MacKay-Intern at UNICEF

Humanitarian Policy
6th - 27th May 2013

Humanitarian Practice
27th May – 14th June 2013

For application forms and more information, please contact:

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