



academy for
humanitarian
action



Course Curriculum

2022

As of August 2026
Contact: suppLocation@aha-trainings.de

Training Overview

Training Overview 2022

The Use of Geoinformation in (Proactive) Humanitarian Action
Introduction to the Humanitarian System
Data Protection in Humanitarian Action
Complaint Mechanisms in Practice
Current Approaches and GIS Methods to Support Proactive Humanitarian Action
Humanitarian Negotiations in Practice
People-First Impact Method (P-FIM)
Delivering Better Action Together – Partnerships with Diaspora Organizations
Transforming Partnerships – Changing Partnership Models
Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction
Mainstreaming Protection Concerns
Presentation and Use of Coordination Platforms and Information Resources in Humanitarian Action
Fundamentals of MEAL in Humanitarian Action
Discussion on the Introduction and Implementation of Proactive Humanitarian Action: Current Status, Challenges, and Best Practices
Internal Investigations into Sexual Exploitation, Sexual Abuse, and Sexual Harassment (SEAH)
People-First Impact Method (P-FIM)
Participatory Methods in Humanitarian Action – Dealing with Local Ownership, Opportunities, and Dilemmas
Locally Led Action in Crises: Experiences with Implementing the Survivor- and Community-Led Response (sclr) Approach in Ukraine
International Humanitarian Law: An Introduction
Introduction to WASH – Focus on Water Treatment and Supply

Course Program 2022

The Use of Geoinformation in (Proactive) Humanitarian Action

Certificate:	Certificate of Advanced Studies - 1 ECTS		
Location:	Online		
Course Trainer	Instructor /	German Red Cross (organizational course instruction)	Duration: 24 Hours
Content:	Course description An introduction to the use of geodata and QGIS to support proactive humanitarian Action, including data sources, risk analysis, and evidence-based decision-making. You will learn how to... • Identify relevant geodata and information products • Use geoinformation throughout the entire cycle of proactive Action • Apply the basic functions of QGIS and use geodata for risk analyses		

Introduction to the Humanitarian System

Certificate:	Certificate of Advanced Studies - 1 ECTS		
Location:	Online		
Course Trainer	Instructor /	Peter Zihlmann	Duration: 22 Hours
Content:	Course description A basic introduction to the humanitarian system, its actors, coordination mechanisms, principles, and recurring operational dilemmas. You will learn how to... • Explain the humanitarian system and its key actors • Link humanitarian principles to coordination and operational decisions • Utilize key structures, mandates, and information sources		

Data Protection in Humanitarian Action

Certificate:

-

Location:

Online

**Course
Trainer**

Instructor / Maryline Chabanis and Brice Pruvost

Duration: 20 Hours

Content:

Course description

Course on data protection principles, responsible data processing, and organizational requirements in the humanitarian sector.

You will learn how to...

- Apply data protection principles and the GDPR in a humanitarian context
- Understand key concepts of data protection
- Use tools and methods to improve data protection

Complaint Mechanisms in Practice

Certificate:

-

Location:

Online

**Course
Trainer**

Instructor / Ester Dross

Duration: 21 Hours

Content:

Course description

Hands-on course on designing and implementing accessible, secure, and responsive complaint and feedback mechanisms.

You will learn how to...

- Identify the functions of complaint mechanisms
- Understand the steps involved in handling a complaint, from receipt to resolution
- Establish mechanisms for case management and review procedures

Current Approaches and GIS Methods to Support Proactive Humanitarian Action

Certificate:	Certificate of Advanced Studies - 1 ECTS		
Location:	Online		
Course Trainer	Instructor /	German Red Cross (organizational course instruction)	Duration: 24 Hours
Content:	Course description Advanced course on current GIS approaches for analyzing risks, exposures, and forecasts in proactive humanitarian Action. You will learn how to... • Select appropriate GIS data and analysis methods • Interpret spatial risk and forecast information • Apply GIS results to forward-looking decisions and planning		

Humanitarian Negotiations in Practice

Certificate:	-		
Location:	Online		
Course Trainer	Instructor /	Olivier Baconnet	Duration: 22 Hours
Content:	Course description A practical course on preparing for and conducting humanitarian negotiations with government authorities, armed groups, and other stakeholders. You will learn how to... • Who is responsible for planning humanitarian negotiations and who conducts them • Which negotiation methods and strategies are relevant for humanitarian professionals • How these skills and concepts are applied in practice		

People-First Impact Method (P-FIM)

Certificate: Certificate of Advanced Studies - 1 ECTS

Location: In person

Course Instructor / Trainer / Gerry McCarthy; Anne Hild Rivera

Duration: 39 Hours

Content:

Course description

Intensive course on the People-First Impact Method, an approach to working with communities that measures impact from the perspective of people affected by crises.

You will learn how to...

- Understand what the People-First Impact Method (P-FIM) is, its unique features, and its potential.
- Understand how P-FIM contributes to transparency, shared learning, and trust among participants.
- Learn how you can facilitate and lead P-FIM exercises yourself

Delivering Better Action Together – Partnerships with Diaspora Organizations

Certificate: -

Location: Online

Course Instructor / Trainer / DEMAC – Diaspora Emergency Action & Coordination

Duration: 8 Hours

Content:

Course description

A specialized course on partnerships with diaspora organizations to improve crisis response and locally based humanitarian Action.

You will learn how to...

- Understand the comparative strengths of diaspora organizations
- Identify barriers to effective partnerships
- Develop practical and more equitable forms of collaboration

Transforming Partnerships – Changing Partnership Models

Certificate:

-

Location:

Online

Course Instructor / Trainer / Smruti Patel; Koenraad Van Brabant

Duration: 9 Hours

Content:

Course description

Workshop on transforming humanitarian partnership models through the analysis of power, roles, risks, and organizational behavior.

You will learn how to...

- Identify weaknesses in existing partnership models
- Discuss power, risks, and accountability more openly
- Plan concrete changes toward equitable partnerships

Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction

Certificate:

-

Location:

Online

Course Instructor / Trainer / Aktion Deutschland Hilft

Duration: 8 Hours

Content:

Course description

An introduction to inclusive disaster preparedness, in which people with disabilities and other groups at risk of exclusion actively help shape preparedness and resilience.

You will learn how to...

- Identify social exclusion and varying disaster risks
- Apply principles and tools for inclusive disaster risk reduction
- Strengthen participation in disaster risk reduction and resilience planning

Mainstreaming Protection Concerns

Certificate: -

Location: In person

Course Instructor / Trainer John Condon

Duration: 16 Hours

Content: **Course description**

Practical course on consistently embedding protection principles across all sectors of humanitarian programs.

You will learn how to...

- Understand key protection concepts and principles
- Apply the core elements of protection mainstreaming
- Take protection considerations into account in program planning and decision-making

Presentation and Use of Coordination Platforms and Information Resources in Humanitarian Action

Certificate: -

Location: Online

Course Instructor / Trainer Sophie Perreard; Dr Phil Connors

Duration: 6 Hours

Content: **Course description**

A concise overview of humanitarian coordination platforms and information resources for finding, sharing, and categorizing operational evidence.

You will learn how to...

- Use central coordination and information platforms
- Find relevant humanitarian datasets and information products
- Assess how information supports coordination decisions

Fundamentals of MEAL in Humanitarian Action

Certificate: Certificate of Advanced Studies - 1 ECTS

Location: Online

Course Instructor / Trainer / Susanne von Jan

Duration: 30 Hours

Content:

Course description

Introductory course on monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning (MEAL) throughout the humanitarian program cycle.

You will learn how to...

- Develop a basic system of outcomes and indicators
- Select appropriate monitoring and evaluation methods
- Use accountability and learning to improve programs

Discussion on the Introduction and Implementation of Proactive Humanitarian Action: Current Status, Challenges, and Best Practices

Certificate: -

Location: In person

Course Instructor / Trainer / Dr Katrin Radtke; Sören Schneider

Duration: 13 Hours

Content:

Course description

Peer-learning workshop on the components, concepts, and challenges of proactive humanitarian Action, with a focus on the experiences of small and medium-sized NGOs.

You will learn how to...

- Compare organizational implementation models
- Identify recurring obstacles and enabling conditions
- Translate insights from peer learning into practical next steps

Internal Investigations into Sexual Exploitation, Sexual Abuse, and Sexual Harassment (SEAH)

Certificate:

-

Location:

Blended Learning

Course Instructor / Trainer / Ester Dross; Karoline Krähling

Duration: 31 Hours

Content:

Course description

Blended-learning specialized course on planning and conducting fair, survivor-centered internal investigations into sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment.

You will learn how to...

- Plan an investigation and manage evidence securely
- Conduct trauma-sensitive interviews and analyses
- Report findings fairly and protect those involved

People-First Impact Method (P-FIM)

Certificate:

Certificate of Advanced Studies - 1 ECTS

Location:

In person

Course Instructor / Trainer / Gerry McCarthy

Duration: 39 Hours

Content:

Course description

Intensive course on the People-First Impact Method, a participatory approach that fosters transparency, collaborative learning, and trust, and involves affected communities in the analysis and prioritization of their own issues.

You will learn how to...

- Understand the characteristics and potential of P-FIM
- Assess its contribution to transparency, learning, and trust
- Identify possible applications in assessments and project work

Participatory Methods in Humanitarian Action – Dealing with Local Ownership, Opportunities, and Dilemmas

Certificate: Certificate of Advanced Studies - 1 ECTS

Location: In person

Course Instructor / Trainer / Thomas Lahnthaler

Duration: 21 Hours

Content: **Course description**

A reflective, practice-oriented course on participatory methods, ownership, and the dilemmas of collaborating with affected communities.

You will learn how to...

- Select appropriate participatory approaches
- Address dilemmas regarding ownership, ethics, and power
- Facilitate participation that influences actual decisions

Locally Led Action in Crises: Experiences with Implementing the Survivor- and Community-Led Response (sclr) Approach in Ukraine

Certificate: -

Location: Online

Course Instructor / Trainer / Local to Global Protection (organizational course instruction)

Duration: 22 Hours

Content: **Course description**

A course on survivor- and community-led crisis response that draws on practical experience to support locally tailored measures.

You will learn how to...

- Explain the principles of the SCLR approach
- Support community-led analyses and micro-initiatives
- Adapt organizational systems to locally led crisis response

International Humanitarian Law: An Introduction

Certificate: Certificate of Advanced Studies - 1 ECTS

Location: Online

Course Instructor / Trainer / Vincent Sautenet

Duration: 24 Hours

Content: **Course description**

An introduction to international humanitarian law, its scope of application, its core principles, and its significance for humanitarian operations.

You will learn how to...

- Determine when and where international humanitarian law applies
- Explain key rules for the protection of people in armed conflicts
- Recognize operational and legal dilemmas in practice

Introduction to WASH – Focus on Water Treatment and Supply

Certificate: -

Location: Online

Course Instructor / Trainer / Kompetenzzentrum Humanitäre Hilfe, FH Münster

Duration: 7 Hours

Content: **Course description**

A concise introduction to WASH in emergency situations, with a particular focus on water treatment and supply.

You will learn how to...

- Explain the basic requirements for WASH in emergency situations
- Compare basic water treatment methods
- Plan safe and appropriate water supply measures



academy for humanitarian action

Prepare for Humanitarian Action

Akademie der Ruhr-Universität gGmbH

Suttner-Nobel-Allee 4 (Opelring 1)
44803 Bochum-Laer
Germany

Phone: +49 234 32-24103

Fax.: +49 234 32-14255

Website: <https://aha-trainings.akademie.rub.de/>

E-Mail: support@aha-trainings.de