

APHES Summer Course 2008: Lecturer Bios

ALESSANDRO COLOMBO



After completing his medical degree in 1976 in Italy, Sandro Colombo earned a MSc in Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, a diploma in Health System Management at the same institution (LSHTM) and a post-graduate degree in Preventive medicine in Italy. Between 1978 and 1985, he worked in Italy as epidemiologist, carrying out research and evaluation of health information systems. From 1985 to 1998 he worked in Mozambique with the Italian Cooperation, WHO, the UN Peace-keeping operation, UNHCR and the European Commission. In this period he worked as epidemiologist, trainer, health coordinator and planner. Between 1998 and 2001, he worked as consultant in Africa, Europe and South America, conducting evaluation of different programmes, testing a field manual for emergency management and carrying out research on health in post-conflict. From 2001, he joined WHO HQs, Health Action in Crises, as Medical Officer, and carried out missions to Afghanistan, Liberia, Iraq, Angola, Somalia and Sudan. His main areas of work and interest are health information management, field epidemiology (including needs assessments and mortality surveys), health system analysis and development of sectoral recovery plans for countries in transition. He (co)authored more than 30 articles in peer-reviewed medical journals.

HEDWIG DECONINCK

Hedwig Deconinck has 20 years of experience in emergency health and nutrition with the International Committee of the Red Cross, as an academic researcher at CRED School of Public Health Louvain, as a WHO staff member, and a program manager with Save the Children. She comes to FANTA from Save the Children where she most recently served as Senior Emergency Nutrition Advisor. She holds an MA in Social and Cultural Anthropology, an MSc in Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and an MPH in Developing Countries. Her mother tongue is Dutch; she is fluent in English and French.

OLIVIER DEGOMME



Olivier is a research fellow at the WHO Collaborating Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED). He obtained a medical degree from the University of Ghent, an MPH from the Catholic University of Louvain (UCL) and is currently PhD candidate at UCL. He has been working at CRED since 2003 where he did research on excess mortality especially in Iraq and Darfur. He worked together with the WHO on the 2005 Mortality Survey in Darfur and with UNHCR in an analysis of data collection systems in refugee settings. His special interest is epidemiology in complex emergencies.

GREG GREENOUGH

Dr. Greenough has worked extensively in settings of disasters and conflict applying epidemiologic methods to public health problems within affected populations. After graduating from the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine (1989), he completed a residency and fellowship in Emergency Medicine at UCLA (1997) and earned an MPH at Johns Hopkins University (1998). He held joint faculty positions in Emergency Medicine and International Health at JHU Schools of Medicine and Public Health while working at the Center for Refugee and Disaster Response there. Currently he is the director of research at the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, an attending physician at the Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston, and an editor for *Prehospital and Disaster Medicine*.

Dr. Greenough has worked in relief operations in the Balkans, Central America, Africa, the US, and the Palestinian Territories. He has researched disaster preparedness in Tanzanian hospitals, and in the West Bank and Gaza Strip he directed two national nutrition and food security studies and an emergency medicine development project. He has worked with the American Red Cross during the Hurricanes Katrina and Rita responses in studying public health and sheltered populations, and with the State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration and implementing NGOs in developing and measuring health indicators in protracted refugee populations. He is currently studying the psychosocial effects of landmines with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

DEBARATI GUHA-SAPIR



Debby is the Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) and a professor at the Catholic University of Louvain's School of Public Health in Brussels, Belgium. She holds an Adjunct Professorship at Tulane University Medical Centre (New Orleans) for Health and Humanitarian Aid. Trained at Calcutta University, Johns Hopkins University and University of Louvain, she holds a Ph.D in epidemiology.

Since 1984, she has been involved in field research and training in emergency and humanitarian aid issues, working closely with World Health Organization, UNHCR, UNDP and the European Commission in various regions of the world including China, Sudan, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, the Great Lakes, Somalia and Central America. She is particularly interested in health systems research, epidemiology in unstable situations and international policy related to relief and post conflict transition.

ERIC NOJI



Dr Eric K. Noji, MD, MPH, a recently retired CDC medical officer has provided extensive domestic and international service responding to natural, toxicological, industrial, and other technological disasters, terrorism, violent civil conflict and wars, and other humanitarian crises.

While at the CDC, he established a section to study the epidemiology of natural disasters, later taking charge of the refugee and complex emergency program, which worked primarily in crisis areas including Liberia, Sierra Leone, Rwanda, Congo, and the Balkans. From 1996 to 2000 CDC seconded Dr. Noji to WHO's Department of Emergency & Humanitarian where he served as Director of Global Health Intelligence for Emergencies. The program he led was responsible for assessing the medical needs of and monitoring the health of refugees and other forcibly displaced populations around the world.

After returning from Geneva, Dr. Noji was Associate Director of Bio-Emergency Preparedness and Response, a Program within the National Center for Infectious Diseases at CDC in Atlanta, Georgia. Following the attacks on the World Trade Center and during the anthrax crises in the fall of 2001, Dr. Noji was assigned to the White House Office of Homeland Security in the Executive Office of the President

During 2003, Dr. Noji served as Deputy Medical Director of the US Government's Humanitarian Assistance Mission for Operation Iraqi Freedom, the program responsible for the rapid determination of the medical and health needs of the Iraqi civilian population. Dr. Noji most recently served as Senior Policy Advisor for Emergency Preparedness and Response to the Director of CDC in Washington, D.C. He is the editor of the most widely used textbook on these topics, *The Public Health Consequences of Disasters* (Oxford University Press), now entering its second edition. In October, 2005 he was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, a most select honor.



	Monday July 7 th	Tuesday July 8 th	Wednesday July 9 th	Thursday July 10 th	Friday July 11 th
9 am – 12.30 pm	Registration & Welcoming (<i>APHES Team</i>)	Session 2a: Public health consequences of natural disasters (<i>Debby Guha-Sapir, Eric Noji</i>)	Session 3a: Public health consequences of complex emergencies (<i>Alessandro Colombo, Olivier Degomme</i>)	Session 4: The use of epidemiological tools in emergency situations (<i>Alessandro Colombo, Olivier Degomme</i>)	Session 6: Assessing the nutritional status in emergency situations (<i>Hedwig Deconinck</i>)
2 pm – 5 pm	Session 1: General concepts of public health (<i>Debby Guha-Sapir, Olivier Degomme</i>)	Session 2b: Public health consequences of natural disasters (<i>Debby Guha-Sapir, Eric Noji</i>)	Session 3b: Public health consequences of complex emergencies (<i>Alessandro Colombo, Eric Noji</i>)	Session 5: Assessing mortality in emergency situations (<i>Alessandro Colombo, Olivier Degomme</i>)	Session 7: Monitoring morbidity in emergency situations (<i>Greg Greenough</i>)
	Monday July 14 th	Tuesday July 15 th	Wednesday July 16 th	Thursday July 17 th	Friday July 18 th
9 am – 12.30 pm	Session 8a: Case study session (<i>Greg Greenough, Olivier Degomme</i>)	Session 8b: Case study session (<i>Greg Greenough, Olivier Degomme</i>)	Session 10a: Preparation of evaluation exercise	Session 10b: Presentation of evaluation exercise	Closing ceremony & Wrap up
2 pm – 5 pm	Session 9a: Epi Info – making forms, entering data (<i>APHES Team</i>)	Session 9b: Epi Info – data analysis (<i>APHES Team</i>)	Session 9c: Epi Info – Exercises (<i>APHES Team</i>)	Session 10c: Epi Info evaluation exercise	



Education:

Professional experience:

Supriya Akerkar

University of Nothumbria

Education: Bachelor of Law (Mumbai University)
Masters in Social Work (Mumbai University)
MSc in Development Studies (Institute of Social Studies, the Hague, Netherlands)

Professional experience: 7 years of work experience in disaster situations

Marcos Arce

Alternate Mission Disaster Relief

Education: International Course for Infrastructure, Hydraulic and Environment (Delft, Netherlands)
Civil Engineer (Major San Andres University, Bolivia)

Professional experience: 2003 up to now: Alternate Mission Disaster Relief Officer and Program Development Specialist - Food for Work Program - "USAID"
2001-2002: Construction Manager for new water supply network in Sucre City, Bolivia
1998-2000: Chief Water Treatment Department, Aguas del Illimani
1987-1998: Coordinator of the Special Development Activities (SDA): Rural development program for isolated communities through rural Bolivia
1986-1987: Rural Sanitation Technical Advisor (USAID)
1985-1986: Sanitary Engineer for Rural Sanitation Project (Ministry of Health; USAID)
1977-1985: Technical responsibilities in the Water Supply Co (SAMAPA), La Paz, Bolivia
1972-1976: Sanitary Engineer for water supply projects in rural area

Edith Cheung

UNICEF

Education: Bachelor in Human Nutrition (University of Western Ontario)
Master in Nutrition Science and Policy (Tufts University)
Master in International Law and Diplomacy (Fletcher School)

Professional experience: several years in nutrition for UN agencies
since 2006: UNICEF child survival and development and emergency specialist in NY

Sarah Depuydt

Education: MD (UCL Brussels)
Anaesthesia science

Professional experience: several medical missions to sub-saharian Africa

Carrie Hasselback

International Medical Corps

Education: Master of Public Administration (NY University)

Professional experience: Field Consultancy and program management in Afghanistan
project assistance for the UN in NY
since 07: Program Officer for IMC in Bagdad



Prashant Khattri	University of Delhi
Education:	MSc Social Anthropology Course in quantitative research methods
Professional experience:	Research fellow for MICROCIS published 3 papers related to disasters
Quang La Ngoc	Hanoi School of Public Health
Education:	Master of Public Health (KIT, Amsterdam) MD at Binh Medical College (Thailand) medical specialization in Hygien and Epidemiology (Hanoi Medical College)
Professional experience:	several academic positions in Public Health at asian universities
Grégoire Lacoïn	UNHCR
Education:	MSc in International Economics (Lyon, France) Masters in International Relations (Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva) internship with WHO in Geneva on health economics, vaccination and immunisation
Professional experience:	04-06: Volunteer on HIV for the French Cooperation in Zimbabwe since 06: Policy Officer on HIV for UNHCR in Ghana and Senegal
Ha Le Thi Thanh	Hanoi School of Public Health
Education:	MSc in Epidemiology (Columbia University) Bachelor in Biology (Hanoi University)
Professional experience:	95-99: researcher for a local development NGO since 01: Lecturer at Department of Epidemiology, Hanoi School of Public Health
Rangani Matema	UNICEF - Zimbabwe
Education:	Diplomas in General Nursing, Midwifery and Community Health Nursing MSc in Nursing Science
Professional experience:	Experience in disease outbreak management District Nursing Officer for 10 years in primary health care strategies responsible for UNICEF immunization programme and health needs assessment in Zimbabwe
Dereje Muluneh	UNICEF
Education:	MD (Addis Ababa University Ethiopia)
Professional experience:	UNICEF project officer for malaria and emergency health Consultant for Ethiopian ministries and the Global Fund Malaria epidemic response work for WHO in Ethiopia



Mohammed Diaaeldin Omer

UNICEF

Education: Doctor in Public Health
MD, specialized in community health

Professional experience: 1 year experience as health specialist for UNFPA in West Darfur

Meidy Prameswari

University of Indonesia

Education: Master in Public Health (University of Indonesia)

Professional experience: research on Leptospirosis and Dengue for MICRODIS in Jakarta
research assistance for population and maternal health survey conduction in Indonesia

Chen Reis

WHO

Education: Bachelor in Anthropology (Johns Hopkins)
Int Human Rights & Humanitarian Law (Columbia University)
Master in Public Health (Johns Hopkins)

Professional experience: 98-99: Research & advocacy Coordinator at Children in Armed Conflict Unit (University of Essex)
01-04: senior researcher on gender, conflict and HIV for Physicians for Human Rights USA
since 04: technical officer on gender in emergencies for WHO in Geneva

Jytte Roswall

Danish Red Cross

Education: MSc in Pharmacy
Master in Public Health
Diploma in Business Administration

Professional experience: 15 years of health and development work in Botswana, Uganda and Cambodia
International Health Advisor for Danish Red Cross

Theresa Adama Sesay

Sierra Leone Red Cross Society

Education: Bachelor in Health Science (University of Freetown, Sierra Leone)
MSc in Public Health (London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine)
Para Medical School (Freetown)

Professional experience: 2000-02: Community Health Officer, Sierra Leone
02-03: First Aid Officer with MSF, Sierra Leone
since 04: Emergency Health Officer, Red Cross Sierra Leone

Eeva-Maria Vuorenmaa

World Food Programme

Education: Master in Geography

Professional experience: Programme assistance for the Embassy of Finland in Kenya
Programme Officer for the Finnish ministry of foreign affairs
Health & Nutrition Programme Officer for the WFP in Cambodia



Laima Warnecke

Education: Master of Business Administration (University of South Florida)
Professional experience: 16 years practice as a pediatrician
4 years experience in public health preparedness
3 years consultancy and teaching for the Department of Homeland Security

Tim Wind

Health Net TPO

Education: MSc Cross Cultural Psychology (University of Groningen, University of Arlington, Texas)
MSc Clinical Psychology (University of Groningen)
MA. Network of Humanitarian Action (University of Groningen, University of Bilbao)
Professional experience: 2006: Psychologist in La Paz, Bolivia
2007: Psychologist for the Colombian Red Cross in Bogota
currently: Research fellow for HealthNet TPO for MICRODIS

Rukia Yacoub

WFP

Education: MSc in Human Nutrition
Professional experience: 15 years of experience in complex emergencies on nutrition and food security

International CRED Summer Course 2008



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Assessing Public Health in Emergency Situations July 7-18th, 2008



WHO
Collaborating Centre



Description

This two-week intensive course is designed to familiarize professionals with epidemiological techniques that help to determine the impacts of disasters and conflicts. The course will be given by a renowned international faculty and will introduce participants to the methods and tools of epidemiology in the context of humanitarian emergencies. Upon successful completion participants receive a university certificate and 10 ECTS credits.

All applicants require English fluency.

Register: April 7th, 2008 (late May 31st)

Cost: €1,500 (+ €100 late fee)

Where: Brussels, Belgium

Key themes: Malnutrition, mortality, morbidity, population displacement, and EPI computer applications.

Organizers: Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED), L'Université catholique de Louvain (UCL), and Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (Harvard University).



Monday July, 7th

General concepts of public health

- 14:00 - 14:45 *Basics of Public Health*
Olivier Degomme
- Definition of public health
 - Historic overview
 - The different branches of modern public health
- 14:45 - 15:30 *The Role of Public Health with Health Sciences*
Olivier Degomme
- External factors influencing the health of individuals
 - Different dimensions of health and the role of public health
 - Opportunities for public health interventions
- 16:00 - 17:00 *The Role of International Public Health*
Debby Guha-Sapir
- Public health in an international context
 - Historic successes of international public health
 - International institutes and organizations working on public health
 - International public health in the 21st century

Tuesday July, 8th

Public health consequences of natural disasters

- 09:00 - 09:45 *Setting the context: what are "Natural Disasters"*
Debby Guha-Sapir
- Definition of natural disasters
 - Concept of vulnerability
 - Past and future trends in natural disasters
 - Geographical distribution of natural disasters
- 09:45 - 10:45 *General overview of the health impacts of natural disasters (1)*
Eric Noji
- Classification of natural disasters
 - Hazard-specific factors contributing to high mortality and morbidity
- 11:15 - 12:30 *General overview of the health impacts of natural disasters (2)*
Eric Noji
- Vulnerability-related factors contributing to high mortality and morbidity
 - Summary of the major health impacts in natural disasters
- 14:00 - 15:30 *Specific health impacts of natural disasters*
Eric Noji
- Communicable diseases (water-borne, vector-borne, rodent-borne, skin infections, respiratory infections, others)
 - Mental health
 - Injury and trauma
 - Chronic diseases
- 16:00 - 17:00 *Natural Disasters Case-studies*
Eric Noji
Debby Guha-Sapir



Wednesday July, 9th

Public health consequences of complex emergencies

09:00 - 10:00 *Setting the context: what are "Complex Emergencies"?*

Alessandro Colombo

- Discussion of the prepared group exercise 1: classifying humanitarian crises (groups provided the day before with a number of countries, must group them and define according to their criteria);
- Description the different types of humanitarian crises and compare them in terms of impact, trends, new challenges;
- Characteristics, nature and causes of complex emergencies;
- Discussion of the prepared group exercise 2: identify 2 changes/milestones in humanitarian assistance over the last 10-5 years;
- Recent patterns in humanitarian aid;
- New challenges in humanitarian response

10:00 - 10:45 *The Impact of Complex Emergencies on Health Systems*

Alessandro Colombo

- Key functions of a health system
- Analysis of health systems; key features
- Main consequences of a CE on health systems
- Quick exercise in groups: to be defined

11:15 - 12:30 *How do Complex Emergencies affect Public Health of Affected Populations?*

Olivier Degomme

General overview of a conceptual framework illustrating relationships (to be discussed in the subsequent sessions) between complex emergency and public health including:

- Mortality, morbidity, malnutrition, mental health, etc
- Destruction of health service infrastructure, WATSAN infrastructure, trade, etc
- Migration

14:00 - 15:00 *Complex Emergency Case Study 1: Iraq*

Alessandro Colombo

Eric Noji

Illustration of the concepts discussed in the morning.

- the context of the conflict
- the dynamics of the conflict
- the impact of the conflict on the health system
- the changes in mortality due to the conflict
- the changes in nutritional status due to the conflict
- the changes in morbidity due to the conflict

15:15 - 16:30 *Complex Emergency Case Study 2: Darfur*

Alessandro Colombo

Illustration of the concepts discussed in the morning.

- the context of the conflict
- the dynamics of the conflict
- the impact of the conflict on the health system
- the changes in mortality due to the conflict
- the changes in nutritional status due to the conflict
- the changes in morbidity due to the conflict



Thursday July, 10th

The use of epidemiological tools in emergency situations

09:00 - 10:45 *The Role of Information and Epidemiological Tools in Assessing Emergency Situation*

Alessandro Colombo
Olivier Degomme

- Definition of the terms “data”, “information”, “knowledge”
- Limitations of information due to a crisis
- Types of surveys
- Potential biases in surveys

11:00 - 12:30 *Rapid Health Assessments*

Alessandro Colombo

- Placing Rapid Health Assessments in the bigger picture of assessments
- Risks and dangers
- Planification of a Rapid Health Assessment
- Limitations

Assessing mortality in emergency situations

14:00 - 15:30 *Methods to Measure Mortality in Emergency Situations*

Alessandro Colombo
Olivier Degomme

- Rational motives to measure mortality
- Different types of mortality indicators
- Sources that can be used to obtain mortality data
- Different steps in conducting a mortality survey (questionnaire development, choosing the right sampling design, calculating the sample size, etc)

16:00 - 17:15 *Analyzing mortality data*

Olivier Degomme

- Calculation of mortality rates
- Concepts “baseline” and “excess”/“attributable”
- Differences in baseline mortality rates across different regions
- Interpretation of mortality rates
- Exercise

Friday July, 11th

Assessing the nutritional status in emergency situations

09:00 - 10:30 *The different types of malnutrition and their indicators*

Hedwig Deconinck

- Causes and symptoms of the different types of protein-energy malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies
- Indicators of malnutrition (W/H, W/A, H/A, MUAC, BMI, oedema)

11:00 - 12:30 *Measuring the nutritional status of a population*

Hedwig Deconinck

- Steps for conducting an anthropometric survey
- Identifying the appropriate survey design depending on the context
- Development of a form for an anthropometric survey
- Measurement techniques to obtain correct anthropometric data
- Analysis and interpretation of anthropometric data
- Steps in organizing a screening exercise

