

Public Health Emergency Planning and Management:

Training for Districts in Eastern Africa



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HEALTH ALLIANCE

Foreword

Universities in the Eastern Africa Region have come together to implement an initiative Health Emergency Management Program (HEMP) that will build the capacity of local governments in the region to manage and plan for response to major disasters of public health importance. The Eastern African Region is prone to many natural and technological disasters of different kinds. There is not one nation in the region that is not vulnerable to the devastating effects of these disasters. Many of these disasters have a public health significance either directly in the case of epidemics of infectious diseases, or indirectly as a result of the breakdown of infrastructure associated with these disasters. The purpose of this initiative therefore is to increase the capacity of districts to plan for response, mitigation and preparedness for disasters, so as to reduce human suffering, morbidity and mortality that often arise from such incidents.

This program is being implemented in collaboration with Johns Hopkins University and Tulane University in the United States, which are the partner institutions in the Leadership Initiative for Public Health in East Africa (LIPHEA) Program. LIPHEA is composed of Seven Public Health Schools in the region namely Jimma University School of Public Health, Ethiopia, Moi and Nairobi Universities in Kenya, National University of Rwanda, Rwanda, Kinshasa University, DRC, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences, Tanzania and Makerere University School of Public Health, Uganda. As a result of the collaboration of the above Schools of Public Health, an Alliance Higher Education Alliance for Leadership Training in Health (HEALTH) was formed.

This manual is intended for use by National and Regional Trainers in each of the HEALTH Alliance Members countries which include Kenya, DRC Congo, Rwanda, Tanzania, Ethiopia and Uganda. The manual will be used in training district disaster response teams to plan for disaster management in their respective localities.

The success and implementation of this program in the region has been made possible by the funding obtained from USAID, for which I am sincerely grateful on behalf of the whole team. I would like to appreciate the support we have obtained from Makerere University Leadership, specifically that of the Vice Chancellor Prof. Livingstone Luboobi.



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Public Health Emergency Planning and Management for Districts

Course Schedule

Time	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
8.00 – 8.30	Registration	Pre-session	Pre-session	Pre-session	Pre-session	Pre-session
Session 1: 8.30 – 9.30	Opening, Norms Expectations, Pretest, Objectives	Epi-zoonotic Diseases of Public Health Importance	Fires	Group Work: Activities for Capability 1	Writing the plan	Group Work: Background to the Plan
	Introduction to Disasters and their Public Health Consequences		Demo: Fire Extinguishers		Feed-back Capability 2 and 3	
10.30 – 11.00	B	R	E	A	K	
Session 2: 11.00 – 01.00	Epidemics	Mass Casualty Incidents and Risk Communication	Policy Framework for Disaster Management & Coordination	Group Work: Activities for Capability 1	Group Work: Activities for Capability 4 and 5	Feed-back: Background to the plan
	Introduction to Epi-zoonotics					
01.00 – 02.00	L	U	N	C	H	
Session 3: 02.00 – 03.30	Exercise: Hazard Analysis	Complex Emergencies	The Sphere Standards for Disaster Management	Feed-back Capability 1	Group Work: Activities for capability 4 and 5	Post-test/ Evaluation/ Way forward
		Exercise and Presentation: Rapid Needs Assessment	Exercise: Using the SHERE manual			Closure and Certificates
03.30 – 04.00	E	V	T	E	A	
Session 4: 04.00 – 05.30	Exercise: Vulnerability Analysis	Exercise: Mass Casualty Incidents	Principles of Disaster Planning	Group Work: Activities for Capability 2 and 3	Feedback capability 4 and 5	
			The Disaster Management Matrix			
		Optional Activity: First Aid	Review Session (Optional): Jeopardy Game			
			Introduction to Group-work			

Structure of Course

- Session 1.1: Introduction to Disasters**
- Session 1.2a: Epidemics**
- Session 1.2b: Introduction to Epi-zoonotics**
- Session 1.3: Exercise: Hazard Analysis and Risk**
- Session 1.4: Exercise: Vulnerability Analysis**
- Session 2.1a: Conceptual Framework for Public Health Disaster Risk Reduction**
- Session 2.1b: Epizoonotic Diseases of Importance in the Region**
- Session 2.2: Mass Casualty Incidents**
- Session 2.3a: Complex Emergencies**
- Session 2.3b: Exercise: Rapid Needs Assessment**
- Session 2.4a: Exercise: Triage**
- Session 2.4b: Exercise: First Aid**
- Session 3.1: Fire**
- Session 3.2: Policy Frameworks for Disaster Management**
- Session 3.3a: The SPHERE Standards for Disaster Response**
- Session 3.3b: Exercise: SPHERE Standards**
- Session 3.4a: Principles of Disaster Planning**
- Session 3.4b: Introduction to the District Disaster Management Matrix**
- Session 3.3c: Review Session**
- Session 4.1: Developing the District Disaster Management Plans**
- Session 5.1: Writing the Plan**
- Session 6.3: Evaluation and Closure**

Objectives of the Training

Goal: The Goal of this training is to strengthen capacity for public health disaster planning and management at District level

The Specific Objectives of this training are:

1. To create awareness about public health emergencies
2. To develop district disaster response management plans for common emergencies and disasters at district level
3. To build capacity for district officials to train lower levels in disaster response management

Why are we here?

- To produce a district level disaster response plan

How will we get there?

- Day 1: We shall have a consensus on terms and concepts of disasters and how disasters affect the districts
- Day 2: We shall discuss some common hazards in our region and districts
- Day 3: We shall look at some policies and standards for disaster management
- Day 4 and 5: We shall work in groups to produce a District Disaster Management plan
- Day 6: Presentation of the district plans