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Interventions in the Aftermath of Civil Wars

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(A) Basic Information

- Course Title: Interventions in the aftermath of civil wars
- Next Term: 12th March- 30th May 2013 (12 weeks)
- Work load: 6/7 hours per week
- Course Instructor: Dr.Claude R.Shema



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(B) Personal Note:

Dr.Claude R.Shema (medical doctor, peace activist, author, and lecturer) has experience in the field of peace building and sustainable development especially in the war torn zones. He served as a medical doctor in Rwanda, during and after the unspeakable Rwanda genocide and massacres in 1994 that claimed more than 800.000 lives in 3 months of massive human slaughtering. Dr.Claude R.Shema also contributed to the rebuilding of Rwanda through psychosocial rehabilitation programs on national and grass root levels, working with youth and for youth organizations and women networks in the great lakes region of Africa. He served as mediator and crisis worker on international levels, in different crisis and various countries like Burundi, Uganda, and Democratic republic of Congo, Sierra Leone, Ethiopia and Eritrea, Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, Middle East. Beside his medical background, Dr.Claude R.Shema pursued his extensive studies in psychiatry (Cardiff University/UK), clinical psychology (California University/USA), and psychological foundation of peace building studies and Conflict Transformation Across Culture (CONTACT) at School for International Training, SIT/Vermont-USA) and United States Institute of Peace studies-USA, and intensive studies in peace and conflict studies in Austria, Romania, South Africa, Norway. He has consultant status with different organizations like WHO, UNICEF, Child Policy Forum, UNIFEM, Doctors without borders (Medecins Sans Frontieres), Humanitarian organisations, etc..., founder of Great Lakes Peace Network, and peace activist, . He lives partially in Norway and Canada.



(C) Course Content:

The **"interventions in the aftermath of civil wars-"** course is tailored on fundamental strategies and approaches that are useful for reconstruction, rehabilitation and reintegration processes in war ravaged countries. The main objective of this course is to share pertinent information acquired through field experience and provide skills or useful knowledge to the learners and stakeholders , who are interested in the field of peace, rehabilitation on the ground. The course encompasses main points related to peace building in the aftermath of civil wars. Among others we shall concentrate on:

(1). The picture and impact of war,

- (2). Assessment of needs in the aftermath,
- (3). Effective approaches for intervention,
- (4). Case studies,
- (5). Cross cultural and other relevant aspects and interventions in the aftermath period.

The main emphasis will also be given to the case studies, to help learners grasp and get a firm grip on the forms of intervention and strategies needed to successfully conduct effective interventions.

Learners will choose from their own experiences or fictitious case studies, and work on the solution oriented approaches for any given case study.

There will also be exercises, interaction/discussion, assignments throughout this course, and a final paper (3 pages minimum) in the end, which will give the learners the right to acquire the certificate.

By the end of this course, learners will be able to design effective strategic interventions to tackle the aftermath challenges, and will be able to improve their performance in the field, or even go beyond this course by tailoring more sustainable and suitable strategies and approaches within their own working experience.



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How is the course designed? **(D)**

The course consists of:

(1) Articles and text-readings (video lectures online in some cases)

(2) Virtual working groups or individual discussion/essays (online)

(3) Diagnosis-Prognosis-Intervention style to any given case study (from experience or simulation)

(4) Assignments.

In some cases, individuals or groups will produce a joint assignment on common case studies or a simulation. Papers should be between 5-10 pages length, in MS word format and written in good English. The case studies and simulations are the backbone of this course. They will enhance the participant's knowledge and skills in this subject, and they will be aim at the Students interest in applying the model to their day-by-day field activities. There will also be enhanced interaction between learners and the instructor via internet for live conversations, where deeper explanations and facilitation will take place, to ensure the smooth understanding of the course content. Q & A series will enhance the sharing of experiences among the participants. Given the importance of online live communication in this course, all learners are required to attend it at least at 80% to be able to earn the certificate of completion. However, some viable circumstances can be discussed between instructor and the learners for a possible accommodation. Please inform the instructor if you cannot attend online live discussion and explain the reasons.

(E) Course Format

The course is tailored in chapters, and fragmented into lectures. In every lecture there will be reading materials that comprise articles and scholarly reading materials in MS Word and PDF format. Online videos and live chat, where possible, will provide an opportunity to exchange experience between learners and the instructor through interactive discussions. The online meeting will be held every 2 weeks, and all learners are required to participate, but the instructor will be flexible to accommodate any individual concern over this matter, to find another appropriate alternative. There will also be papers on case studies, where learners will choose a conflict situation and search for relevant information about the given conflict and country or region information through internet, books or any other existing sources of information and elaborate a short strategic paper for the interventions based on analysis, prognosis and action style.

(F) Content Carriers

Reading materials including lectures, audiovisual, and suggested links will be made available to the learners through TPU administration. In some cases, the materials will be sent directly to the learners on request. To make the course more enjoyable, the format for materials will be provided in MS word and PDF or Power point presentation format, whilst audiovisual materials will be provided and able to be played in Windows media player or any other electronic media player. TPU's online forum will be useful as well.



(G) Course Syllabus and Timetable

The course is anchored on the following timetable (subject to changes to better adjust to the students):

Week 1: -Introduction

-Students are expected to introduce themselves to others briefly (country, work, experience in relation to this course, and expectations from the course).

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- Week 2: -Understanding the impact of devastating conflict and civil wars -Online discussion (time and date to be announced)
- Week 3: -Understanding impacts of devastating conflict and civil wars (cont.) -Assignment One
- Week 4: -Country/Region case study I (students choice)
- Week 5: Urgent needs assessment in emergency interventions -Assignment two

- Week 6: -Country/Region case study II (students choice)
- Week 7:- Civil society contributions in the after-war era -Assignment three
- Week 8:-Case study III -Networking
- Week 9:- Cultural & Gender issues
- Week 10: -Rehabilitation, Reintegration and Reconstruction interventions
- Week 11:- Evaluation and feedback of the interventions
- Week 12:- Final assignment
- NB: Some hard copies for lectures will be delivered throughout the course!!!



(H) Study Material and Suggested Readings, videos and websites

- 1. <u>https://www.estss.org/uploads/2011/04/Booklet-Interventions-in-the-aftermath-of-disaster.pdf</u>
- 2. <u>http://www.saramitchell.org/fortna.pdf</u>

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- 3. Theories Of Conflict" and "A Framework for the Analysis of Social Conflict" (by Prof. Johan Galtung)
- 4. UN Intervention in Civil War and Post-Conflict Economic Recovery (by Kelly Siegel,NYU/2010)
- 5. <u>http://www.academia.edu/689840/Introduction relief in the aftermath of war</u> An Approach to the Kosovo Post-War Rehabilitation Process from a Gender Perspective (By Ana Villellas Ariño,Gema Redondo de la Morena/ 2008)

