Disaster resilience-informed curriculum

from bounce-back to bounce-forward ability

Dr. Bernard Manyena (Bern)
Outline

• About HCRI

• Resilience Framework

• MSc International Disaster Management

• General considerations
Origins of HCRI

Founded in August 2009.

Response to demand for a centre of excellence for humanitarian action.

To bring together academics, practitioners and policy-makers to facilitate improvements in crisis response on a global scale.
HCRI NICHÉ

HCRI is truly **multi-disciplinary** – bringing together medicine, science and the humanities.

The Institute brings together both humanitarianism and conflict response.
HCRI PROGRAMMES

- Intercalated BSc in Global Health
- Online MSc in Global Health (in collaboration with IFRC)
- MA in Humanitarianism and Conflict Response
- MA in Peace and Conflict Studies
- MSc in International Disaster Management
- PhD in Humanitarianism and Conflict Response
HCRI ESSENCE

- Disaster Management
- Health/Medicine
- Peace and conflict studies
- Humanitarianism and conflict response
- Resilience
ASSUMPTIONS OF RESILIENCE INFORMED CURRICULUM

• Multiple realities
• Disasters are destructive – of major concern
• Disasters are constructive
• Individuals, communities, societies, systems and institutions have inherent resilience
• Impacts of shocks and stresses can be assessed reduced
ASSUMPTIONS OF RESILIENCE INFORMED CURRICULUM

• Higher learning Institutions have interest in resilience but uncertain about what to do

• Social workers are central to resilience building
WHAT IS RESILIENCE?
Resilience:

- Contested term
- Multiple definitions
- Means everything
- Means nothing
- A Trojan Horse
- A shining star
Definition of Resilience

• The capacity of a system, community or society potentially exposed to hazards to adapt, by resisting or changing in order to reach and maintain an acceptable level of functioning and structure.

• This is determined by the degree to which the social system is capable of organising itself to increase its capacity for learning from past disasters for better future protection and to improve risk-reduction measures.
Some constitutive elements of resilience

- Prevention (from exposure)
- Anticipation
- Absorption (withstand/ resistance)
- Adaptation (mitigation)
- Transformation (change, opportunity)
Conceptual Framework: Elements of Resilience

**Context**
e.g. country, social group, institution

**Disturbance**
e.g. Natural hazard, conflict, food shortage

**Resilience**
Capacity to deal with disturbance

- Anticipation
- Prevention
- Absorption
- Adaptation
- Transformation

**Outcome**
- Bounce forward
- Bounce back
- Recover but worse than before
- Transient collapse
- Permanent dysfunction/vulnerability

**System or processes**

- Resilience of what?
- Resilience to what?
- Resilience through what action?

**Time**

ASSESS AND REDUCE RISK

MANAGE RESIDUAL RISK

**Structural transformation**
PREVENTION

• Prevention better than cure

• Being proactive eg vaccinations against diseases
ANTICIPATION

• Actions in advance of a disaster to reduce its impact
• Early warning and early action systems
• Information systems
• Risk assessment
ABSORPTION

• Systems / plans to persevere and maintain stability following disturbances
• Emergency / Contingency plan activation
• Search and Rescue
• Coping mechanisms
• Support for victims / survivors
• Community-based systems / Cultural systems
ADAPTATION

• Adjustments, modifications, changes that can be made on benefiting communities, institutions and organizations to moderate potential future damage (e.g., migration to urban areas for better medication, education etc.)

• Opportunities to continue functioning without major changes in function or structural identity
TRANSFORMATION

• Drastic / incremental change

• Evidence-based advocacy

• Policy change

• Governance
Humanitarian Action

Prevention

Transformation

Adaptation

Absorption

Anticipation

Risk Reduction

Shock

Ongoing elements
- Assessment
- Learning
- Organising

Resilience Cycle

Humanitarian Action
Disaster Management Studies

CONTEXT OF RISKS, SHOCKS AND STRESSES

PROGRAMME

Skills
- Prevention
- Anticipation
- Absorption
- Adaptation
- Transformation

Resilience

Research
Practical
Analysis
Ethical
Presentation
Programme integrating resilience

CONTEXT OF RISKS, SHOCKS AND STRESSES

PROGRAMME

Theme
Risks/shocks/stresses
Skills
Resilience

Prevention
Anticipation
Absorption
Adaptation
Transformation
MSc in International Disaster Management
Médecins San Frontières – Longstanding partnership with MSF. Dr Rony Brauman, MSF president between ‘82-’94 is Institute Director.

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies – Partner in the delivery of 3 year long distance learning Online Programme in Global Health.

International Alert – Dan Smith OBE, Secretary General of International Alert, is HCRI Professor of Peace and Conflict Studies. Teaches on MA Peace and Conflict Studies.
MSc International Disaster Management

- Develops theoretical and practical disaster resilience
- Supports continuing personal development
- Multi-disciplinary approaches
- Prepares for further postgraduate studies
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research skills</th>
<th>Research, documentation and report writing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Practical skills</td>
<td>Risk, vulnerability and resilience/capacity analyses, policy strategies, contingency planning and business continuity planning</td>
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<td>Policy analysis skills</td>
<td>Humanitarian policy development and analysis, and humanitarian principles and standards.</td>
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<td>Ethical skills</td>
<td>Recognition and consideration of ethical issues in humanitarianism</td>
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<td>Presentation skills</td>
<td>Planning, organising and presenting to wider audiences, using ICT</td>
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# Semester One

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CORE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disaster Management: Theory and Application</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research and Evaluation Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TWO OPTIONAL</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency Humanitarian Assistance</td>
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<td>Fundamentals of Epidemiology</td>
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<td>Humanitarianism and Conflict Response: Inquiries</td>
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<td>Conflict Analysis</td>
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<td>Ethics in World Politics</td>
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<td><strong>CORE</strong></td>
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<td>Integrated Preparedness and Response</td>
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<td>Climate Change, Disasters and Urban Poverty</td>
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<td>Global Health and Food Insecurity</td>
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<td>Work Placement</td>
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<td>Reconstruction and Development</td>
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<td>Democracy Theory and Practice</td>
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<td>Human Rights in World Politics</td>
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<td>History of Humanitarian Aid</td>
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<td>Water Sanitation Planning and Policy in Developing Countries</td>
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DELIVERY
Events

Conferences, seminars, lectures, book launches and public events

Signing agreement with IFRC
CONSIDERATIONS

What are the global and local contexts of risk, shocks and stresses?

Why your university?

What does your university already have?

Quality assurance?

Students destinations? Collaboration with policy and practice?
Thank You & Questions

www.hcri.manchester.ac.uk