

WHAT IS THE HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS PROGRAMME (HOP)? ESSENTIAL FOUNDATIONS FOR THE HUMANITARIAN SECTOR



“I discovered a lot about my hidden potential and built more self-confidence especially in leadership and teamwork”

Participant, HOP Response simulation, Kenya, 2019

“It helped me understand what humanitarian response is all about and what is expected of us as humanitarian workers”

Participant, HOP Core training, Nigeria, July 2019

IN EMERGENCIES, LIVES ARE AT RISK

The quality and speed of humanitarian action is critical. Coordination throughout emergency responses is vital.

The humanitarian landscape is complex, needs are growing at an extraordinary pace, and every response is unique. To be effective, humanitarian staff must have the skills, knowledge and confidence to deliver support to those who need it, when they need it.

It is critical that those new to humanitarian responses, or those developing their potential, from any relevant organisation across the sector, have opportunities to learn and practice their skills. This improves their capability for when it matters most.

The HOP helps strengthen the capacity of staff working in emergency response at national and regional level. Designed for those wishing to understand fully the fundamental principles of humanitarian action, it covers essential elements in setting up and running a humanitarian response.

We use the Core Humanitarian Competency Framework and the Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability (CHS) as a foundation. The HOP is driven by the need to be relevant to the context in which participants work. We blend face-to-face learning with distance and simulation learning to maximise impact.

Participants learn theoretical knowledge and practice new skills so they are confident for future emergencies and can share their skills with others. Passing on learning helps multiply the humanitarian impact, supporting those affected by disaster. The HOP is also a platform for a successful career in humanitarian work, enabling participants to work across the sector in the future. We believe that learning never stops. It is our shared responsibility to work together and help trigger the change needed to achieve our common aim: that is, a network of skilled, local humanitarians able to drive quality responses.

WHAT ARE THE ELEMENTS OF THE HOP?

HOP Fundamentals

This is an open access, self-paced series of interactive modules hosted on the on-line platform KAYA.

Quality assured, it provides a streamlined learning journey, covering key topics in emergency responses. These topics include: Law, Principles and Approaches, Operations Management, Response Setup and Management, Response Support Skills and Technical Skills. HOP Fundamentals is perfect for people: beginning their career in the humanitarian sector, transitioning from the development sector, who have never had formal training in 'essentials', or who would like a refresher.

Core Training

This is a five-day face-to-face training, including:

- Two and a half days of interactive sessions varying from Introductions to Humanitarian Action and Proposal Writing to key cross-cutting themes and humanitarian dilemmas.
- Two and a half days desk-based scenario: an early response simulation contextualised to the humanitarian realities participants may face. Run in a condensed timeframe to allow for application of knowledge.

Response Simulation

An intensive 7-day exercise in real time over a fictional response:

- Designed to test good practice of participants, it blends practical learning, mentoring and experiential simulation training. Participants navigate the complexities of a rapidly evolving emergency response.
- By the end of the exercise, participants are able to show an understanding of many aspects of professional humanitarian response including: political and cultural contexts, analysing complex or conflicting information, making sound judgments, and other leadership skills. Graduates boost their confidence by demonstrating their learning in practice to support people affected by crisis.

RESPONSE SIMULATION EXERCISE, KENYA, 2019

Nineteen participants took part, from a mixture of international and local organisations and countries including Somalia, South Sudan, Zambia and Kenya. Post training evaluations showed that 89% of participants felt their learning objectives were fully achieved and 72% found the mentoring aspect of the training really positive.

ACROSS ALL THE HOP TRAINING PROGRAMMES IN 2019

Overall average rating for the training was 4.6 out of 5 in 2019 and consistently 100% respondents would recommend the training to others.

For more information, or to apply, contact: HOP@savethechildren.org.uk

To find out more about Save the Children and Humanitarian Capacity Building, visit our [site](#)

