

May 2015 Professional Certificate Program Summary

Health & Humanitarian Supply Chain Management

In May 2015, the Center for Health and Humanitarian Systems (HHS) successfully completed its fourth professional certificate program in Health & Humanitarian Supply Chain Management. The 2015 class brought together a geographically diverse group of students who have lived and worked in 42 different countries, bringing extensive experience and insights from the global health and humanitarian sectors.

The course topics focused on logistics and supply-chain management related to a broad range of activities including preparing, responding to, and recovery from natural and man-made disasters, as well as ongoing humanitarian crises due to war, famine, infectious diseases, and chronic health problems.

"I have attended many humanitarian logistics trainings but this one was the best. This training distinguishes [itself] by providing the mathematical, statistical, technical and tactical tools which can help supply chain managers to take well calculated decisions... to improve the performance of the team I will be working with, leading towards the better response to our beneficiaries and all other stake holders," said Muhammad Waseem Anjum, Supply Chain officer for the UNHCR in Sudan.

Each participant highly valued the diverse group of experiences and the opportunities to network with and learn from others in the program. Kevin Horrocks In-Kind Logistics Manager at World Vision USA noted that field practitioners often focus solely on their own experience, but by *"hearing experience in the field from other organizations,"* practitioners are better able to *"put all of this training into context and to break down the 'blinders'... to create a more rounded perspective of the material."*

Many of these participants rely on scholarships to attend professional education courses. The HHS Center is fortunate to provide a limited number of scholarships that are made available through the generosity of The UPS Foundation, Andrea L. Laliberte, Pete Quinones, and Richard E. and Charlene O. Zalesky. This year's scholarship recipients represented organizations such as Family Health International (FHI 360), Last Mile Health, MSF (Doctors Without Borders), Save the Children, USAID and World Vision in addition to United Nations agencies such as UNICEF, UNHCR and the UN World Food Programme. Other participants included representatives from

national ministries of health in their countries, non-governmental organizations such as Catholic Relief Services, MedShare, and Partners in Health, and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

The certificate program consists of three courses: Pre-planning Strategy for Health and Humanitarian Organizations; Tactical Decision Making in Public Health and Humanitarian Response; Systems Operations in Health and Humanitarian Response. It is offered in a 6-day format (2 days per course), which enables individuals traveling from outside of Atlanta the opportunity to earn a certificate in less than a week. The blended delivery format includes pre-course reading assignments, in-class lectures, discussion, interactive games and group work.

The 2015 courses were led by HHS Center Co-Directors, Drs. Özlem Ergun, Pinar Keskinocak and Julie Swann. Guest speakers included Georgia Tech faculty member and supply chain expert Dr. John Bartholdi; Rollins Professor and chair of the Hubert Department of Global Health at Emory University, Dr. Carlos Del Rio; Medical Officer assigned to the Emergency Response and Recovery Branch (ERRB) at the Center for Global Health of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Dr. Mark Anderson; and Academic Director of the Master of Advanced Studies in Humanitarian Logistics and Management (MASHLM) at the University of Lugano, Switzerland, Paulo Gonçalves.

For more information about the scholarships or to sponsor students for scholarships in 2016, please visit: <http://hhls.scl.gatech.edu>.

For more information about the courses, visit:
<http://www.scl.gatech.edu/professional-education/HHL/>
Email: hhscenter@isye.gatech.edu



**Georgia Tech Professional Certificate Program in
Health & Humanitarian Supply Chain Management**

2015 Participant Countries Represented

