

THE SYRIAN AMERICAN MEDICAL SOCIETY



IN COLLABORATION WITH
QATARI RED CRESCENT SOCIETY



*With generous support from the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Qatar
invites you to participate in the first international conference on:*

Transitioning from Medical Relief to Development & Reconstruction in the Syrian Crisis



الانتقال من الإغاثة إلى البناء في سورية
نحو نظام صحي متعافى و مرن

Sharq Hotel

Doha, Qatar on March 23- 25, 2016

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATIONS



Syrian American Medical Society



Qatar Red Crescent

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

WEDNESDAY MAR 23, 2016

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Registration
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Opening Ceremony
7:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Dinner & Awards

THURSDAY MAR 24, 2016

8:00 am – 9:00 am **Session 1: Rebuilding a Healthcare System**

9:00 am – 10:00 am **Session 2: Current models of Syrian healthcare delivery under stress, Aleppo, Idlib and North Hama**

10:00 am – 11:00 am **Session 3: The Bigger Picture, towards recovery** (*parallel sessions*)
Breakout 3A: Building the resilience of communities
Breakout 3B: Building on current Research and Data
Breakout 3C: Mental Health Challenges

11:00 am – 11:15 am **COFFEE BREAK**

11:15 am – 12:30 pm **Session 4: The Human Factor: Addressing the Human Resources** (*parallel sessions*)
Breakout 4A: Preserving Current Resources
Breakout 4B: Future Medical Education
Breakout 4C: Protection of Healthcare facilities

12:30 pm – 2:00 pm **LUNCH BREAK**

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm **Session 5: Lessons Learned: Building upon Experience from Previous Conflicts** (*parallel sessions*)
Breakout 5A: Successes and pitfalls from previous conflicts
Breakout 5B: Improving Coordination among Key Players
Breakout 5C: National and International NGOs, sharing experiences and future plans

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm **Session 6: From Medical Relief to Development of a Sustainable Healthcare system**

FRIDAY MARCH 25TH, 2016

8:00 am – 9:00 am	Session 7: Building a Coalition for the Future (<i>parallel sessions</i>) Breakout 7A: Advocacy building beyond national limitations Breakout 7B: Refugee healthcare in neighboring countries, current models and challenges
9:00 am – 10:30 am	Session 8: The role of the International Community
10:30 am – 10:45 am	Coffee break
10:45 am – 11:30 am	Session 9: Final Recommendations Report
11:30 am – 1:30 pm	Lunch break
1:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Session 10: Training Workshop - Healthcare Systems through Conflict and Recovery
4:30 pm	Meeting Adjourned



A MESSAGE FROM THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

The devastating impact of the crisis in Syria on the healthcare system created major challenges to the International humanitarian and medical relief agencies. While focus is on medical relief, we need to start planning for the post crisis rebuilding phase.

The purpose of the conference is to build consensus among the different local, regional and international stakeholders engaged in the medical relief and recovery in and around Syria and plan for what comes after the crisis focusing on the healthcare and educational systems in Syria.

This will be the first of a series of conferences and working symposiums focusing on rebuilding and recovery. Participants in this activity include a diverse group of world experts in post crisis recovery, academics from the United States major institutions, representatives of major international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), European NGOs, United Nations agencies, international and regional funding organizations, philanthropists, regional foundations and public officials in addition to leaders from the leading Syrian medical relief organizations and leading doctors providing relief in Syria and the neighboring countries.

The organizing committee extends its appreciation for the generous support received from the Qatar Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and the Qatar Red Crescent (QRCS). The success of organizing this event reflects the commitment of our host country and the dedication of the staff at the Qatar Red Crescent.

The interactive environment planned for this activity is to assure a successful exchange of expertise and experiences among all stakeholders. The recommendations and action plan suggested by the conference attendees at the conclusion of this meeting will reflect the dedication and commitment to our humanitarian mission.

We wish all of you a great time in Qatar and look forward to many future events leading to delivering our set of goals set forth by the organizing committee.



FROM MEDICAL RELIEF TO DEVELOPMENT & RECONSTRUCTION IN THE SYRIAN CRISIS

The ongoing Syrian conflict, now in its fifth year, is a complex emergency (level 3) that has led to the disintegration of the public healthcare system in large areas of the Syrian territory. The conflict has led the worst humanitarian crisis since the Second World War. Its deleterious effects on the country's public healthcare system have been documented. Prior to the onset of this fighting, Syria's healthcare system was comparable with other middle-income countries.

The conflict has created an unprecedented strain on health services and systems due to the protracted nature of the crisis, the targeting of medics and healthcare infrastructure by the government, the exodus of physicians and nurses, the shortage of medical supplies and medications, and the disruption of medical education and training.

The war has reduced life expectancy by a shocking 20 years: from 75.9 years in 2010 to 55.7 years by the end of 2014, and led to massive economic losses estimated at over \$200 billion. While global attention is focused on the 4.1 million refugees that have fled the country, roughly 7.6 million are internally displaced inside Syria. 80% of Syrians now live in poverty, and more than 12 million are dependent on humanitarian assistance.

Among the worst consequences of the crisis is the systematic attack on healthcare facilities and workers that led to the flight of more than of Syrian healthcare professionals and the destruction of more than half healthcare facilities and ambulances inside Syria according to the WHO. The exodus of trained staff has left junior residents and medical students to work beyond their capabilities in increasingly difficult circumstances.

Since 2012, the conflict has become the leading cause of death in Syria. The deliberate destruction of the health infrastructure has led to a severe public health crisis. Vital services including water, phone lines, sewage treatment, and garbage collection, were deliberately cut by the Government and other armed groups to areas under siege. Health systems have been separated into areas controlled by the government, different armed groups (sometimes termed the FSA), and the self proclaimed "Islamic State". These areas differ vastly in terms of capacity for service delivery, the number of trained staff and access to essential medicines.

In many areas in Syria, there is a critical shortage of life-saving medicines, including for non-communicable diseases. Routinely used items such as insulin, oxygen, nitrogen gas, anesthetic medications and intravenous fluid are not available.

Syrian Diaspora NGOs (like SAMS, SEMA and UOSSM), INGOs (like IMC, IRC, QRCF) and UN agencies in close collaboration with local Syrian NGOs and organized physicians and administrators have been instrumental in providing medical and humanitarian relief throughout the crisis in spite of the numerous challenges.

Healthcare delivery to millions of Syrians depends on funding and oversight by NGOs that provide program guidelines, monitoring and evaluation.

Medical relief organizations are not driven by health development approaches (such as supporting health as a human right, achieving the MDGs, or investing in health care for economic growth). Instead, they are driven by a humanitarian impulse; there are overwhelming needs and there is an obligation to respond to those needs. Development agencies do promote health as a human right, the MDGs, and investments in health care for economic growth.

Now that the crisis is entering its fifth year, there should be a planned transition from relief to development building on the current programs.

The link between relief and development within the post conflict reconstruction involves a long commitment to certain projects that supports individual's humanity and self-respect. Such transition should provide restoration of infrastructures and reforming psychologically those that were affected by the conflict. It entails the quick adjustment from relief actions towards restoration and achieving a sustained development.

There should be a linking of relief and development in conflict situation which strategically gives more coherence to projects and evolved. Linking relief to development is indispensable of linking relief to security. Such link will assist Syrians to move towards rehabilitation and development and push for security and stability. To reach this difficult link, there is a need to a more comprehensive approach, that ensure stricter system for reporting, following guidelines, information sharing, monitoring and evaluation and networking between IGO, NGOs, and donor governments.



SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

THURSDAY MARCH 24TH, 2016

8:00 am – 9:00 am Session 1: Rebuilding a Healthcare System: Setting the Stage

Moderator: Zaher Sahloul

Panel: Qatar MOFA Representative, WHO, ESCWA, Syria Trust, John Hopkins and World Bank

9:00 am – 10:00 am Session 2: Current models of Syrian healthcare delivery under stress, Aleppo, Idlib and North Hama

Moderators: Abdulrahman Al Omar & Zeidon Alzoubi

Panel: MSF, IRC, MSF, ORC, WHO

10:00 am – 11:00 am Session 3: The Bigger Picture, towards recovery (*parallel sessions*)

Breakout 3A: Building the resilience of communities

Moderators: Krishna Rao & Husam Junaid

Panel: UNOCHA, USAID, ACU, DFID,

World Bank, Country Representatives:(Jordan/Lebanon/Turkey)

Session objectives:

X Policy recommendations, the role of the international community and its ability to aid in building the resilience of communities

X How to scale up the current healthcare programs?

X How to incorporate SDG (Sustainable

X Development Goals) in transition plan?

How to improve coordination and networking among the keep players?

Breakout 3B: Building on current Research and Data

Moderators: Ziad Issa & Hani Mowafi

Panel: WHO, MSF, OSCHA and UNHCR

Session objectives:

X Describe the importance of hospitals data to improve outcome of healthcare delivery

- X** Standardization of codes and simplification of input methods

- X** Develop a strategy for independent data collection and mining

Breakout 3C: Mental Health Challenges

Moderators: Mamoon Mubayed & Iyad Alkhouri

11:00 am – 11:15 am **COFFEE BREAK**

11:15 am – 12:30 pm **Session 4: The Human Factor: Addressing the Human Resources**
(parallel sessions)

Breakout 4A: Preserving Current Resources

Moderator: Randa Loutfi, Mazen Kewara

Panel: SAMS, SEMA and USSOM offices representatives (Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon), Qatar Red Crescent, Aleppo, Medical Council, Education Above All, Johns Hopkins, Palestine, PAC and Sham

Session objectives:

X This session addresses the shortage of healthcare human resources. Discussion will revolve around possible ways to retrain the healthcare force and bring them back into Syria

X How to address Post Conflict National Assessment and phases (Stabilization, Transformation and Institution Building, Consolidation?)

Breakout 4B: Future Medical Education

Moderators: Amer Chaikhouni & Fouad Fouad

Panel: Cornet University, Lebanon, Palestine, AUB, John Hopkins team, Qatar University, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Higher Education

Breakout 4C: Protection of Healthcare facilities

Moderator: Hassan Muhaish & Tawfeek Shammaa

Panel: John Hopkins, MSF, PHR, USSOM, SAMS and SEMA

12:30 pm – 2:00 pm **LUNCH BREAK**

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Session 5: Lessons Learned: Building upon Experience from Previous Conflicts (parallel sessions)

Breakout 5A: Successes and pitfalls from previous conflicts

Moderators: Basel Atassi & Mamoon Mubayed

Panel: World Bank, ESCWA, Bosnia, Lebanon & Afghanistan

Session objectives:

X How to learn from the experience of other counties that went through prolonged crises like Afghanistan, Kosovo, Lebanon, Haiti, Palestine and Bosnia incorporating best practices?

Breakout 5B: Improving Coordination among Key Players

Moderators: Majd Isreb & Ahmad Ajaj

Panel: InterAction, Crisis Action, Syria Relief Network, Syria Healthcare, Clusters (through Turkey), RAF (Save a Life), Qatar Charity, ARC Syria

Session objectives:

X How to improve coordination and networking among the key players on the ground?

Breakout 5C: National and International NGOs, sharing experiences and future plans

Moderators: Nabil Muriden & Zaher Sahloul

3:30 pm – 5:00pm

Session 6: From Medical Relief to Development of a Sustainable Healthcare system

Moderators: Amjad Rass & Luai Khuzai

Panel: Experts on post crisis recovery, World Bank, Country representatives, Ministries of development, Brookings Institution in Doha and Pavignani Enrico

Session objectives:

X How to transition from relief to development within the Syrian context?

X How to transition to sustainable healthcare model/s from the currently free, or semi-free, healthcare programs?

X How to learn from the experience of other counties that went through prolonged crises like Afghanistan, Kosovo, Lebanon, Haiti, Palestine and Bosnia incorporating best practices?

X Planning with data in a war zone

FRIDAY MARCH 25TH, 2016

8:00 am – 9:00 am

Session 7: Building a Coalition for the Future (*parallel sessions*)

Breakout 7A: Advocacy building beyond national limitations

Moderators: Tawfeek Shamaa & Rim Albezem

Panel: Mazen Hashim, Azmi Bishara, SEMA, UOSSM, Reem Turkmani, SAMS, ESCWA, US Department of State

Session objectives:

X What role that the resourceful Syrian Diaspora can play to provide sustainable healthcare after the conflict? And how to build its capacity in order to play proactive role in post crisis recovery and development?

Breakout 7B: Refugee healthcare in neighboring countries, current models and challenges

Moderator: Gilbert Burnham & Abdulghani Sankari

Panel: Representatives from Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Germany and Sweden

9:00 am – 10:30am

Session 8: The role of the International Community

Moderators: Pavignani Enrico & Abdallh Al Dardari

Panel: UN, WHO, Education Above All, Norway, Canada, ECHO (European Commission, CIDA, IRC, MSF)

Session objectives:

X This session will cover the ability to break the divide between development and Humanitarian aid in the Syrian context and beyond

X As the conflict becoming more prolonged, how can “The dichotomy of ‘humanitarian’ and ‘development’ assistance be overcome? How can an approach that is composed of ‘developmental relief’ and ‘emergency development’ be nurtured?

10:30 am – 10:45 am

COFFEE BREAK

10:45 am – 11:30 am

Session 9: Final Recommendations Report

Moderators: Zaher Sahloul, Haitham Rajjoleh & Ghanem Tayara

Session objectives:

X Review of reports from the working groups

X Approval of action plan

11:30 am – 1:30 pm

LUNCH BREAK

1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Session 10: Training Workshop - Healthcare Systems through Conflict and Recovery

Moderator: Pavignani Enrico

A training program designed to help health care and development practitioners to affect national and international management and policy decisions.

Selected Faculty and Experts

AULA ABBARA

Clinical Research Fellow in Infectious Diseases Imperial College London & Syria Public Health Network

SULTAN BARAKAT

Director of research at the Brookings Doha Center and a senior fellow in the Center for Middle East Policy at Brookings. He is the founding Director of the Post-war Reconstruction and Development Unit (PRDU), which was established at the University of York in 1993. Under his directorship, the PRDU has become an international centre of excellence for the study of war-torn societies and their recovery.

Professor Barakat has published internationally in the areas of: conflict analysis and management; third-party intervention; humanitarian assistance; institutional development; peace-building strategies; and social and economic rebuilding of war-torn societies. He is also a Fellow of the London-based Institute for Civil Defence and Disaster Studies (ICDDS) and a Senior Advisor to the Regional Human Security Centre, based in Amman.

Alongside graduate teaching and research, Professor Barakat has played vital international roles in evaluating the recovery of war-torn and fragile societies, and advocating best practice through his writings and his practical engagement with various professional bodies. He has acted as an advisor on policy and strategy, provided technical assistance and delivered training workshops for the governments of Afghanistan, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States, Sri Lanka as well as for the United Nations, the European Commission, the World Bank, the Overseas Development Institute, and numerous non-governmental organizations.

MARK BARTOLINI

Director of Goal USA and past director of Office of Foreign Disaster Affairs (OFDA), USAID

RICK BRENNAN

Director of WHO's Department of Emergency Risk Management and Humanitarian Response
Education: Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health

Previous experience: JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc, International Rescue Committee, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

GILBERT BURNHAM

Professor of International Health and former director, Center for Refugee and Disaster Response.

Professor Burnham has extensive experience in conflict-related and post-conflict health reconstruction, most recently in Afghanistan and Iraq, including policy development, health information systems, and program planning. Professor Burnham also has experience on impacts of conflict on human resources for health

DR. TAREK CHEEMA

Director of World Assembly of Muslim Philanthropy

ABDALLAH DARDARI

Deputy Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

studied economics at International Richmond University in London and received a bachelor's degree. Then he obtained a master's degree in international relations from Southern California University. He also holds a postgraduate research degree from the London School of Economics.

PROFESSOR DR. FOUAD M. FOUAD

Vice Chair- Board of Director, EMR representative
Framework Convention Alliance
Assistant Research Professor
American University of Beirut · Faculty of Health Sciences
Public Health, Epidemiology
Lebanon · Beirut

General surgeon graduated from Aleppo University, Syria. Director of Primary Health Care department in Aleppo; HIV/AIDS, communicable and non-communicable diseases, health policy and management, tobacco control program.

Researcher and coordinator at the Syrian Center for Tobacco Studies since late 2012. Based in Beirut, Lebanon.

NANCY GLASS

Professor of Nursing and Associate Dean for Research and associate director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health.

Professor Glass is a leading expert on gender-based violence and on global health

ENRICO PAVIGNONI

Public Health Consultant and Lecturer at the School of Population Health, University of Queensland
Advisor on Post Conflict Countries, WHO
Faculty, 2016 course on 'Health systems through conflict and recovery

Publications and presentations

Hill, P., Michael, M., Pavignani, E. and Oliver, G. (2013). Governance for health by the state, with the state, for the state, beyond the fragile state: the case of Haiti. In: Abstracts of the 8th European Congress on Tropical Medicine and International Health and 5th Conference of the Scandinavian-Baltic Society for Parasitology. 8th European Congress on Tropical Medicine and International Health and 5th Conference of the Scandinavian-Baltic Society for Parasitology, Copenhagen, Denmark, (34-34). 01-13 September 2013. doi:10.1111/tmi.12161

Durham, J., Michael, M., Hill, P. S. and Pavignani, E. (2013). Haiti and the health marketplace: the results are perishable. In: Abstracts of the 8th European Congress on Tropical Medicine and International Health and 5th Conference of the Scandinavian-Baltic Society for Parasitology. 8th European Congress on Tropical Medicine and International Health and 5th Conference of the Scandinavian-Baltic Society for Parasitology, Copenhagen, Denmark, (89-89). 01-13 September 2013. doi:10.1111/tmi.12162

KRISHNA RAO

Assistant Professor of International Health.

Professor Rao specialized in health system in low and middle-income countries, including ways to improve health access in resource poor areas, expertise includes human resource planning, including in Afghanistan

LEONARD S. RUBENSTEIN

Director, Program on Human Rights, Health and Conflict
Center for Public Health and Human Rights
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

*Continued on next page

*Continued

Leonard Rubenstein is a lawyer who has spent his career in human rights, and now focuses particularly on health and human rights, especially the protection of health in armed conflict, and the roles of health professionals in human rights. At Johns Hopkins he is core faculty of the Center for Public Health and Human Rights and the Berman Institute of Bioethics. Prior to coming to Johns Hopkins he served as Executive Director and then President of Physicians for Human Rights, as a Jennings Randolph Senior Fellow at the United States Institute of Peace, and as Executive Director of the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law.

Mr. Rubenstein's current work includes advancing protection of health facilities, patients, and health workers in situations of conflict, developing a screening tool to identify survivors of sexual and gender-based violence in refugee settings, and exploring ethical responsibilities of health professionals to advance human rights. Mr. Rubenstein founded and chairs the Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition

TAHA A. KASS-HOUT

Chief Health Informatics Officer

Director of the Office of Health Informatics

A leader in the fields of health informatics and analytics for two decades. He holds a Doctor of Medicine and a Master of Science (Biostatistics) from the University of Texas. He is an advocate for innovation and is the creator of openFDA which is an open-source Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) built upon Elastic Search and Elastic Computing. Dr. Kass-Hout also serves as the chair of the Scientific and Research Domain Steering Committee across the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)



CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE:

DR. ZAHER SAHLOUL - CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN - SAMS

DR. AHMAD AJAJ- CO-CHAIR – SEMA

DR. MAHER AZZOUZ – CONFERENCE SCIENTIFIC CHAIRMAN – SAMS

DR. KHALED DIAB - DIRECTOR OF RELIEF AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT - QRCS

DR. GHANEM TAYYARA –UOSSM

DR. MOHAMMAD MUNAJJED – CONFERENCE COORDINATOR – SEMA

DR. YASER MOUHAMMAD TABBAA– SEMA

DR. RIM ALBEZEM –SAMS

DR. TAWKIF SHAMAA - UOSSM

DR. AMJAD RASS – SAMS

CONFERENCE COORDINATORS:

LUCINE SALEH, M.B.A, M.P.H. – DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS - SAMS

KHADIYA ALONY – QRCS AND QRC

CONFERENCE LOCATION

SHARQ VILLAGE & SPA

RAS ABU ABBUD STREET, PO BOX 26662

DOHA, 26662 QATAR

PHONE +97444256666

QATAR CONFERENCE 2016

Transitioning from Medical Relief to
Development & Reconstruction In the Syrian Crisis

