



Emergency in Haiti: Where Medics, Missionaries and Militaries Collide

Seminar delivered by The Humanitarian & Conflict Response Institute (HCRI)
6pm to 8pm, 26 February 2010, University Place, The University of Manchester

In the days following the earthquake in Haiti, the lead stories on our television screens changed tone. From the original focus on mass destruction and human suffering, the narrative shifted to the "lootings" and civil violence, the undelivered supplies sitting at Port-au-Prince airport, and the problematic role of certain organizations such as the US military and church groups. Indeed, the story moved from a tale of vital needs to one of security and assistance malfunction.

With this in mind, this public seminar will bring together influential speakers who have been involved in coordination and rescue efforts both in Haiti and from abroad to consider whether the above shift in focus is warranted and to further explore the challenges of implementation of emergency assistance in Haiti.

Programme:



Chair - Professor Nina Glick-Schiller

A social anthropologist based at The University of Manchester, Professor Glick-Schiller has studied Haiti for 30 years. She is internationally known for her pioneering work on transnational migration. She is also an associate of the Max Planck Institute of Social Anthropology, Germany and an Emeritus Professor of Anthropology at University of New Hampshire, USA.



Prof Tony Redmond – HCRI Deputy Director

Building the Ship & Sailing It: Emergency Humanitarian Assistance when there is no Infrastructure

Professor of International Emergency Medicine at The University of Manchester, Prof Redmond has provided medical assistance for over 20 years, responding to natural disasters, conflicts and complex emergencies. He has recently returned from Haiti where he led a team of surgeons providing emergency medicine, and provided health needs assessment for a number of agencies to shape the ongoing relief effort.



Dr Eric Noji

The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse: Facebook, Twitter, YouTube & Google: Disaster Information Toolkits for the 21st Century

Recently returned from Haiti, Dr. Noji has 25 years experience working in global health, disaster relief, humanitarian assistance, reconstruction, emergency preparedness and crisis monitoring. He has worked at the Centre for Disease Control (CDC), Johns Hopkins University, with governments, and with international organizations such as USAID, WHO, UNICEF, and the World Bank.



Dr Rony Brauman – HCRI Director

Comparison with the Tsunami: The New Profile of Natural Disasters, The Growing Role of the Military, and Disasters Diplomacy

Initially serving as a field physician in developing countries with Médecins Sans Frontières (France), he became the President of the organisation from 1982 – 1994. He is currently Associate Director at L'Institut d'Études Politiques (Paris), Director of Research at the MSF Foundation, and Director of the HCRI

To reserve your place at this event please email rebecca.whitehead@manchester.ac.uk