



**Centre of Competence for Humanitarian Action**  
Status quo and objectives

## Content

<b>1. University in profile</b> -----	<b>3</b>
<b>2. The Centre of Competence for Humanitarian Action</b> -----	<b>5</b>
Humanitarian relief as a focus topic	5
Selection of international scientific publications	6
<b>3. Vision of the FH Münster Centre of Competence for Humanitarian Action</b> -----	<b>12</b>
<b>4. Support and sponsorship needed for target achievement</b> -----	<b>14</b>

## 1. University in profile

Since its foundation, FH Münster University of Applied Sciences has developed into one of the largest and most successful universities for applied sciences in Germany. Our university was founded in 1971 from the merger of public and private construction and engineering schools as well as institutions with vocational training. At that time, the number of students was about 2,300 - today there are almost 15,000 young people studying in 100 courses of study with an above-average proportion of master's courses for universities of applied sciences. Accompanied by an in-house doctoral college, around 120 cooperative doctoral students are currently also qualifying. The rising number of students and the consistent expansion of research activities also lead to an increasing importance of our university as an employer. At our locations in the westphalian city Münster and Steinfurt as well as at the study sites in Coesfeld and Ahlen/Beckum/Oelde, Münster University of Applied Sciences now has almost 1,200 employees, of which around 280 are professors.

Quality is the basis for all our fields of work. It is the benchmark for teaching with its diverse range of courses geared to the needs of the market. It is the foundation for research success with one of the highest ratios of third-party funds at universities of applied sciences in Germany. And it is the trademark of a finely tuned system of internal resource management. FH Münster was the first university of applied sciences in Germany to be system accredited in 2011. Our quality management and our exchange processes with practice have received several awards. All quality features together shape the image of our modern, high-performance and customer-oriented university.

FH Münster has made a name for itself in "Science with and for Business" both nationally and, in part, internationally. We are constantly optimising our strategies and measures. In the sense of the "Third Mission", our understanding of transfer also includes the cultural, social and political dimensions and includes many social groups. In many places, university members make valuable contributions to solving social challenges, demonstrate attitudes and transfer values such as tolerance. As a neutral catalyst of ideas, innovation partner and change manager, FH Münster wants to and can make important contributions to ensure the high level of services of general interest and quality of life in our region and to transfer the models developed to other regions.

In doing so, we consistently rely on our previous success factors: the triad of strategic, scientific-analytical and operative levels, the consideration of target group-specific requirements by integrating relevant actors along the vertical and horizontal value chains and, last but not least, our resilient partnerships. And we think and act consistently interdisciplinary. For this reason, our research is often bundled across departments in

research institutes and competence centres, such as the Centre of Competence for Humanitarian Action.

They are supported by the TAFH Münster GmbH, the Research Centre "Science Marketing" and other central service facilities. The TAFH is the central innovation promoting and project development company of FH Münster and owned 100% by the university. TAFH connects experts from science and practice to jointly push forward innovative projects - for example in research and development, life long learning/further development or start-ups. The Research Centre "Science Marketing" has developed with its concept of Science-to-Business Marketing the first strategic approach worldwide for a successful commercialisation of research competencies, capacities and results. The basis of this approach is the conviction that market mechanisms also work on the research market.



Impressions of the four campuses of FH Münster



## 2. The Centre of Competence for Humanitarian Action

### Humanitarian relief as a focus topic

The Centre of Competence for Humanitarian Action is embodiment and institutional materialization of the University's maxims since 2001. Here, all humanitarian activities in the fields of practical work, research or fundraising are focused and bundled. Examples of the manifold applied research projects of FH Münster in the humanitarian field are sub-surface dams in Ethiopia, epidemiology in Iran, disaster management in Germany, refugee health worldwide and in Germany, the humanitarian ethics and the responsibility to protect. The Centre of Competence for Humanitarian Action offers courses and research topics to all faculties of universities located in Münster, including the University School of Medicine and School of Law. Each semester, practical exercise courses are held in cooperation with the German Red Cross so to acquaint students and researchers with scientific issues and practical problems of humanitarian action. Intrigued and eligible participants then are counseled to continue their professional education and career and are connected to internationally active humanitarian organizations for further delegate training programs. Münster, being the historical arena of the European Peace of Westphalia in 1648 and accommodating numerous universities is a unique location for humanitarian research and activities.



FH Muenster Centre of Competence for Humanitarian Action practical course June, 2019

The Centre of Competence for Humanitarian Action is offering courses, trainings and scientific projects to students of all departments of FH Münster and numerous partner universities in Muenster and beyond. Very close working contacts and cooperations in the fields of science and academic education exist with the following institutions:

- NOHA International Universities Network
- Aktion Deutschland hilft (German Humanitarian Network)
- German Red Cross
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany
- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
- University of Bochum, Germany
- University of Groningen, The Netherlands
- University of Duesseldorf, Germany
- University of Bonn, Germany
- University of Mekelle, Ethiopia
- University of Bielefeld, Germany

## **Selection of international scientific publications**

Feldmann C, Boos J, Gardemann J (2020) Additive manufacturing in the humanitarian supply chain: a process perspective. *Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management* (in print)

Makurat J, Becker N, Wieringa F, Chhoun C & Krawinkel M (2019) Impact of lunch provision on anthropometry, hemoglobin, and micronutrient status of female Cambodian garment workers: exploratory randomized controlled trial. *BMC Nutrition*, 5(36)

von Streit F, Bartels C, Kuczius T, Cassier C, Gardemann J, Schaumburg F (2019) Prevalence of latent tuberculosis in homeless persons: A single-centre cross-sectional study, Germany. *PLoS ONE*. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0214556>

Makurat J, Kretz E, Wieringa F, Chhoun C & Krawinkel M (2018) Dietary diversity in Cambodian garment workers: the role of free lunch provision. *Nutrients*, 10(8)

Makurat J, Pillai A, Wieringa F, Chhoun C & Krawinkel M (2017) Estimated nutritive value of low-price model lunch sets provided to garment workers in Cambodia. *Nutrients*, 9(7)

Makurat J, Friedrich H, Khov K, Wieringa F, Chhoun C & Krawinkel M (2016) Nutritional and micronutrient status of female workers in a garment factory in Cambodia. *Nutrients*, 8(11)

Gardemann J, Wilp T (2016) The Humanitarian Charter and minimum standards in humanitarian response are applicable in German refugee facilities. *Bundesgesundheitsblatt* 2016 · 59:556–560

Skau J, Touch B, Chhoun C, Chea M, Unni U, Makurat J, Filteau S, Wieringa F, Dijkhuizen M, Ritz C, Wells J, Berger J, Friis H, Michaelsen K and Roos N (2015) Effects of animal source food and micronutrient fortification in complementary food products on body composition, iron status and linear growth: a randomized trial in Cambodia. *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, 101(4)

Gardemann J, Jäger J, Schmidt H (2013): International Humanitarian Assistance of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and the Use of Simulation Exercises for Humanitarian Organisations as well as for Logistics Service Providers. In: Hellingrath B, Link D, Widera A. *Managing Humanitarian Supply Chains; Strategies, Practices and Research*. Hamburg : DVV Media Group 2013, S. 152-161

Gardemann J, Jakobi FJ, Spinnen B (Hrsg.) (2012): *Humanitarian Assistance and State Sovereignty. Humanitäre Hilfe und staatliche Souveränität. Münsterscher Kongress zur humanitären Hilfe 2011*. Münster: Aschendorff, 269 S., ISBN 978-3-402-12998-2

Mohn R, Gardemann J et al. (2012): Subsurface Micro-Reservoirs for Rural Water Supply in the Ethiopian Highland: Tigray and Afar Water Initiative, Ethiopia. - In: *Landscape and Sustainable Development*: 85-100

Gardemann J, Ohnheiser F (2011): Centre of Competence for Humanitarian Relief of the University of Applied Sciences in Muenster, Germany. - In: Polak G (ed).: *medicine & health; career & education guide 2012*. Wien: Polak: 40-41

Krieg CM, Gardemann J (2009) A record of morbidity and medical request profiles in international humanitarian aid, taking the earthquake in BAM in Iran in 2003 as an example. *Nederlands Militair Ge-neeskundig Tijdschrift* (62): 180-187

Krieg CM, Gardemann J (2009) A record of morbidity and medical request profiles in international humanitarian aid, taking the earthquake in BAM in Iran in 2003 as an example. *Journal of Public Health* (17): 97-106

Gardemann J (2008) Refugees and Internally Displaced People. In: Kirch W (Hrsg.) *Encyclopedia of Public Health*, 1238-1240. Springer, New York



J. Maltzahn: FH Muenster nutritional assessment in Uganda 2018

## Full time staff of the FH Münster Centre of Competence for Humanitarian Action

**Prof. Joachim Gardemann, MD, PhD, MPH**



Joachim Gardemann is medical doctor, consultant in paediatrics, consultant in public health medicine and master of public health. He joined the University of Applied Sciences in Muenster, Germany as a full professor in 1997 in the fields of medicine, public health and humanitarian assistance. From 1999 to 2001 he was Director of the German States' Academy of Public Health in Duesseldorf. Since 1994 he is medical officer in the Emergency Response Units (ERU) of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

His Red Cross working experience is covering medical and public health emergency missions in Tanzania (Ruanda genocide 1995 and Congolese war 1998), Macedonia (Kosovo war 1999), Iran (Bam earthquake 2003), Sudan (Darfur crisis 2004), Sri Lanka (Tsunami 2005), the Peoples Republic of China (Sichuan earthquake 2008), Haiti (Port au Prince earthquake 2010), Jordan (Syrian war 2014) and Sierra Leone (Ebola epidemic 2014). Additionally he has teaching and research experiences in Serbia (2002), Macedonia (2003), Mongolia (2002) and Ethiopia (2007).

Joachim Gardemann was awarded the German Red Cross Medal of Honour (2015) and the Federal Republic of Germany Cross of Merit 1<sup>st</sup> class (2016).

**Jan Makurat, PhD**



Jan Makurat joined the centre as a junior professor in the field of humanitarian action and international nutrition in January 2020. He obtained his PhD (Nutrition and Home Economics) at the Justus-Liebig-University (JLU) Giessen, based on an intervention study on lunch provision among disadvantaged Cambodian garment workers.

He worked for five years as a research fellow at the Institute of Nutritional Sciences (workgroup on international nutrition) at the JLU Giessen and spent almost three years abroad during research stays and project implementation (Cambodia, Vietnam and Thailand). Beside his PhD, he obtained a BSc in Physical Geography (University Bremen) and an MSc in Agricultural Development (University of Copenhagen).

His research interests especially includes actions on international food and nutrition security. His junior professorship has been established in close cooperation with the German Red Cross (Regional Branch Westphalia-Lippe), where he supports ongoing projects within the field of humanitarian action, nutrition and health, in addition to his work at the University of Applied Sciences in Muenster.

**Petra Seyfferth, higher diplomas in education and social work**



Petra Seyfferth worked in a responsible position in an adult education college for many years. From 2001 to 2017 she worked in the institute for vocational education and training (FH Münster) as research associate and as general manager. Since 2009 she is a representative of the City Council of Münster in different committees (Social Affairs, School, Further Education, Integration of Migrants and Refugees and Gender Equality).

Since 2017, Petra Seyfferth is research associate and general manager of the FH Münster Centre of Competence for Humanitarian Action and is preparing a doctoral thesis on the topic of female refugees in further education.

### **3. Vision of the FH Münster Centre of Competence for Humanitarian Action**

We want to establish a scientific reference centre for world nutrition, malnutrition, refeeding, hygiene and infectious diseases in humanitarian action at the University of Applied Sciences in Münster in close cooperation with non-governmental organisations. Together with the department of food · nutrition · facilities of the University of Applied Sciences, we want to strengthen and focus research and trainings.

The University of Bochum (Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict) and 'Aktion Deutschland hilft' (a cooperation of many help-organisations) and our Competence Centre work on the inauguration of an Academy for Humanitarian Action (AHA).

We successfully apply for and implement international research projects on the subjects of nutrition, malnutrition, medicine and hygiene.

In an interdisciplinary approach, we want to provide knowledge and expertise of the various departments of our university (such as civil engineering, architecture, health and design) to NGOs that work in the field of humanitarian action. Humanitarian action will be included as a regular part of the study course 'Food, Sustainability and Management'.

We also want to strengthen the local and international affiliate network on humanitarian action in Münster, being the historical arena of the European Peace of Westphalia in 1648, representing a unique location for humanitarian research and activities.



Münster academic network on humanitarian relief in historic hall of peace, 2013

#### **4. Support and sponsorship needed for target achievement**

In the previous chapter we have presented our professional vision for a further development of the Centre of Competence for Humanitarian Action. We are deeply convinced that we can make a significant scientific and practical contribution to the management of humanitarian crises. However, we cannot quickly build up the necessary structures from our own financial resources. We would therefore be very pleased if we could win the very renowned and globally active Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as an active partner and sponsor of our Centre of Competence for Humanitarian Action.

We see the following building blocks as structural elements of a further developed centre: academic assistant for networking and international contacts, grants for academic exploring expeditions to partner organizations in countries of the global south, laboratory equipment for health and nutritional assessment and a back-up of our food lab for technological development of convenience products for alleviating protein-energy or micronutrient malnutrition in the areas of our studies and worldwide.

The central component would be an endowed professorship in the field of applied humanitarian action and humanitarian innovation. Endowed professorships are a profile-building element in the German university landscape; they promote the exchange between business and science and offer companies a contact point for scientific advice and for approaching young talents. There are currently around 800 privately funded chairs at universities of applied sciences and universities. The duration is usually five years. In many cases, the endowed professorships are subsequently included in the university budget. The University of Applied Sciences Muenster has experience with nine endowed professorships.

The five-year funding of an endowed professorship can range between a "minimum solution" with only one professorship and a very small number of staff, and a "maximum solution" of a larger institute with several cooperating professorships and staff. Our initial wish would be a professorship plus a (divisible) staff position plus student or administrative assistants. A professorship alone will be too strongly tied to teaching, especially in the start-up phase. In order to achieve adequate support by an academic mid-level faculty, third-party funds from research projects should later on cover additional personnel costs. The auxiliary staff will also supplement the work of the team and take over operational tasks. This concept would mean around 150,000 euros per year for personnel costs. A joint agreement would still have to be reached on the basic equipment, as well as on other material and overhead costs.

We would be very grateful if we could first present our strategic concept to you in detail. Should this meet your interest, we will offer you a very open and transparent presentation of the structural considerations and costs.



N. Aweimer, F. Kalach and J. Wienert: FH Muenster University of Applied Sciences culturally appropriate catering for refugees from Syria, 2015

<https://www.fh-muenster.de/humanitaere-hilfe/>