

TWG FCAS - Newsletter



Welcome to the first newsletter of the *Thematic Working Group on Health Systems in Fragile and Conflict Affected Settings*, in short TWG FCAS!

Dear TWG FCAS members,

Our [TWG FCAS](#) has been confirmed as one of those selected by HSG for the next four years (you can see the full list of TWGs [here](#)), and we have prepared a plan of action for this new phase. This plan very much aims at increasing the engagement of, and communication with *you all*, our members. While we will continue to communicate via the [LinkedIn group](#) and the [Google Group](#) (do join there if you have not yet done so!), we are also launching a **newsletter** to summarize the TWG FCAS main activities, including events, publications and opportunities. We would like this to be a way to make communication between members easier and encourage exchange. As we start this process, your ideas, contributions, and suggestions are very welcome. Do get in touch with us, at twgfcas@gmail.com

We hope you enjoy the reading!

Enock - TWG FCAS Communications Coordinator

Egbert, Maria, Barbara, Ali and Sharon - TWG FCAS Steering Committee

Main themes of TWG FCAS and past events and activities

The objectives of the TWG FCAS are to:

- connect and network with a broad range of actors on issues related to health systems in FCAS,
- share knowledge, information and resources on these issues and promote research uptake,
- promote advocacy for health systems and health systems research in FCAS,
- ensure capacity strengthening and skills-knowledge brokering.

We want to create opportunities and activities for all our members to achieve these objectives for example via blogs, webinars, resource guides and publications – the newsletter is part of the process to communicate and engage you on that. We have identified three main themes for 2021-2022, but other ideas are welcome and new themes will be proposed every one or two years.

TWG FCAS' themes and activities

- **Health systems governance in fragile settings**

A webinar on this theme was organized on September 27th, 2021. You can access the recording [here](#).

- **Short and long-term impact of COVID-19 in FCAS**

A webinar on “**Gender and COVID-19: Close-to-community providers in fragile settings and vulnerable communities during crisis**” was organized on September 30th, 2021. You can access the recording [here](#).

A second webinar is in preparation – see below for further information

- **The concept of ‘fragility’ revisited**

A discussion note and webinar will be organised later in the year.

Other recent events and activities

- Two webinars in collaboration with WHO, WHO AFRO & WHO EMRO, [AFRAFRA](#) and TWG FCAS on *Health financing in FCAS*. Further information and recordings are [here](#).
 - one in English “**Health financing in fragile and conflict-affected settings: when humanitarian concerns dominate**” (March 16th, 2022)
 - one in French “**Financier la CSU en dépit de l’instabilité**” (February 10th, 2022).
- Webinar in collaboration with TWG CHWs on “**The role of Community Health Workers in future proofing health systems in fragile and conflict-affected settings**” (July 9th, 2021). Recording is [here](#). Followed by an [HSG blog post](#) on “Community Health Workers in fragile and conflict-affected settings”.

*Do you have ideas? Want to follow up on any of these activities and themes, or propose new ones?
Get in touch with us (twgfcas@gmail.com)*

Upcoming events

TWG FCAS Webinar on “**Post-COVID health systems recovery: Working across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus**” - April 14th, 2022. The registration link will be shared soon via LinkedIn and Google Group.

The aim of this webinar is to discuss how the nexus approach can be adopted and applied to health systems recovery from COVID-19 in FCVAS, based on the build back better principle. This will include an exploration of the role and place of local actors in the nexus, given their increased importance as COVID-related restrictions have limited the ability of international actors’ ability to provide aid, and the fact that they are less likely to differentiate between humanitarian or development action and actors. The webinar will also examine the challenges and opportunities associated with implementing the nexus. Link to the webinar will be posted when available.

Health System Research Symposium 2022 in Bogota - <https://healthsystemsresearch.org/hsr2022/>

The TWG FCAS is also preparing an organized session and a “**business meeting**” as an opportunity to network during the HSR2022 in Bogota. An **online member meeting** will be organized prior to HSR2022.

Opportunities

- **World Bank Fragility Forum 2022** took place from 7-15 March. All the sessions can be viewed [here](#)
- Ongoing **webinar series at the Health in Humanitarian Crises Centre** - <https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/research/centres-projects-groups/recap#events>
- Royal Tropical Institute (KIT) - **Courses on Health Systems in Fragile and Conflict-affected Environments**. Find the course descriptions, scholarship options and Early Bird offers: <https://mailchi.mp/kit/courses-on-health-systems-in-fragile-and-conflict-affected-environments-1063595?e=c068f45f5b>
- HSG's Seventh Global Symposium on **Health Systems Research (HSR2022)** - <https://healthsystemsresearch.org/hsr2022/>

Registration will open soon & calls for Individual Abstract (deadline: April 15th), capacity strengthening sessions (deadline: April, 30th) or satellite sessions are open

- Don't forget our **ELDIS Collection on Health Systems in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Settings** <https://www.eldis.org/collection/health-systems-fragile-and-conflict-affected-settings>

Publications by TWG FCAS members and collaborating partners

- Omam, LA., Jarman, E., Ekokobe, W. et al. Mobile clinics in conflict-affected communities of North West and South West regions of Cameroon: an alternative option for differentiated delivery service for internally displaced persons during COVID-19. *Conflict & Health* 15, 90 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13031-021-00427-9>
- Alexi Gugushvili and Martin Mckee. The COVID-19 pandemic and war. *Scand J Public Health*. Vol. 50(1):16-18. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/1403494821993732>

*Remember to share your publications, events and opportunities
with us to be featured in the newsletter!*

Leadership, management, and coordination

The TWG FCAS is managed by a Steering Committee made up of 5 members and supported by an expert advisory group made up of 7 members and a volunteer Communications Coordinator. More details are found [here](#).

Contact details

Members are welcome to contribute to the TWG with ideas or supporting specific activities and tasks.

Contact the Steering Committee at twgfcas@gmail.com