



80TH FIP WORLD CONGRESS OF PHARMACY

AND PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

FIP COMMITS TO

Humanitarian support in crises and disasters

The occurrence of crises and disasters, whether natural or man-made, is both unpredictable and unexpected. We have always lived with disasters, wars, economic or social conflicts across the globe. These disasters have a direct impact on regular daily life for whole populations and healthcare is affected and compromised during these times. Management of such situations from the perspective of pharmacy, is essential to guarantee people can continue their treatment regimens and have access to basic healthcare services, including prevention and education. The access to medicines and services is a key area of work for FIP as highlighted by [FIP Development Goal 18](#).

Pharmacists working in a humanitarian arena undertake various tasks and responsibilities based on the broad scope of practice pharmacists have. Current training opportunities for pharmacists working in a humanitarian arena are limited and are often only accessed once pharmacists have been hired by an organisation. This limits the number of pharmacists who have received such training and leads to an inconsistent skill set throughout the profession and across organisations. In this area, FIP developed a [global humanitarian competency framework](#) to support the global overview of the needed competencies.

A critical role pharmacists and their teams can have in these situations is the management of supply chain for medicines and vaccines. These are important tools to ensure responsible use of medicines and a strategy for prevention in the uncertainty provided by these situations. A further important point is the impact pharmacists can have in preventing antimicrobial resistance.

To achieve the best possible outcomes for populations in disaster situations and crises, pharmacists work together with other healthcare professionals and other members of the community to establish trust and provide the best available care to those communities. Following the recent pandemic and the increasing natural disasters we have seen in recent years, and recent and ongoing wars and conflicts, FIP is setting out the following commitments.

In response to different crises and disaster situations, FIP commits to:

1. Support pharmacy associations with an overview of the skills that pharmacists might need when working in disaster preparedness or emergency situations.
2. Liaise with national ministries of health and other relevant stakeholders to increase the impact and outcomes for pharmacists working in these settings.
3. Create visibility for the specific role pharmacists can also have to encourage colleagues around the world to engage in humanitarian activities.
4. Share among FIP member organizations any opportunities for engagement and success stories in these areas, promoting cross-collaboration.
5. Continue to engage our stakeholders and empower our regional and national leaders and members to strengthen humanitarian work.
6. Promote interprofessional collaborative work in humanitarian settings.