



Image: UNICEF/UN047710/Rich

# Social Science in Humanitarian Action Platform

**SSHAP** | Social Science in  
Humanitarian Action Platform

SSHAP was established in 2016 to provide social and interdisciplinary science evidence and expertise to inform emergency and humanitarian preparedness and response. It was built on ground-breaking work during the West Africa Ebola epidemic which showed the key role of social sciences in health emergencies.

Image: UNICEF/UNI166988/Jallanzo





## SSHAP understands

Health emergency and humanitarian responses fail when social and cultural contexts are not taken into account

Today's crises are longer, more complex and socially and politically embedded

Social science and behavioural insights are vital to understand why people might not trust technological interventions

Committing to localisation in health emergencies means re-framing cooperation models and partnership approaches



Image: UNICEF/UNI231401

SSHAP provides vital help in

### HEALTH EMERGENCIES

including Mpox, Ebola, Marburg virus, COVID-19 & cholera crises

### NATURAL DISASTERS

such as cyclones, famines, forced migrations, floods & droughts

### CONFLICT-AFFECTED ZONES

e.g. Gaza, South Sudan, northern Nigeria & Sierra Leone



SSHAP has

Published **2,500+**  
briefs & other resources

Peer mentored **74**  
SSHAP Fellows

Established **2**  
Regional Hubs

The SSHAP  
community forum has

**300+** members,  
from **57** countries,  
**82%** of them from the Global South



“SSHAP is the leader in the global provision of social science intelligence of health threats. Their rapid response capacity sets them apart...”

Darryl Stellmach  
MSF

Image: UNICEF/UNI231401

“They’ve given us a model for how to present social science evidence to decision makers in a digestible way.”

Chris Whitty  
Chief Medical Officer  
England & Wales

Image: UNICEF/UNI177579/Richter



# Core partners



Institute of Development Studies (IDS)  
Brighton



London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)  
London



Anthrologica  
Oxford



West Africa  
Centre Régional de Recherche et de Formation (CRCF)  
Dakar, Senegal



Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre (SLURC)  
Freetown, Sierra Leone



University of Ibadan  
Ibadan, Nigeria



## Central and East Africa

University of Juba  
Juba, South Sudan



Gulu University  
Gulu City, Uganda



Le Groupe d'Etudes sur les Conflits et la Sécurité Humaine (GEC-SH)  
Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo





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**UNICEF / US Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance**

2018-2019

**Wellcome Trust**

2020-2024

**Wellcome Trust / UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office**



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