

CMIC
MOBILISATION COMMUNAUTAIRE EN CRISE
COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION IN CRISIS
التنظيم المجتمعي في الأزمات

Pivoting the Conversation in Community Development: Co-creating Open Educational Resources in the Community Mobilization in Crisis Project

Emily Regan Wills, Nadia Abu-Zahra, Diana El Richani



What is the Community Mobilization in Crisis Project

- CMIC's framework is designed to provide refugees and host community members access to higher education through in-class, online, and experiential learning tools.
- The program aims to connect refugees and host community members while enhancing their community mobilization skills needed to develop interventions and initiatives in their respective communities.
- Partnerships with institutions and grassroots in Lebanon,
 Palestine, Iraq, and Brazil: Faculty of Health Sciences at the
 American University of Beirut, Chams Network, Dalia
 Association, Youth Speak, University of Brasilia



Why Community Mobilization?

- A tactic and a strategy to empower local communities
- Can be used to address immediate issues and structural issues
- Particularly useful for helping communities become more self-reliant, less dependent on aid, and more likely to make decisions through inclusive and democratic processes.



Decolonizing Community Mobilization Education

Localizing Curricula:

- Decentering the predominant N. American models of community mobilization and their literature,
- Developing pedagogical materials based on the experiences of community leaders with experiences in managing mobilizations and initiatives in a similar or relevant context, and inviting them to participate in the program's development and implementation
- Drawing from circle-learning pedagogical principles to create a dialogic learning environment—which moves away from the colonially-inherited, top-down educational models so prominent in the region

Co-creating open educational resources:

Developing pedagogical materials

Over 30 interviews conducted with community mobilizers in Canada, Lebanon, Palestine, and Iraqi Kurdistan

Semi-structured interviews conducted in order to allow space for the community mobilizers themselves to emphasize certain knowledge and experiences that they wish to share and highlight



Reaching out to different **types** of community mobilizations in the local region in order to:

- •Ensure that the curriculum encompasses the different means through which individuals and communities organize in theirs contexts and with respect to their local resources
- •Avoid a one-dimensional representation of CM in the region as the alternative to the N. American Model
- •Showcase examples of how to work with similar and relevant local resources, circumstances, and cultural contexts





Our role in the co-creation

Collection of the experiences of local community mobilizers from communities

Organization into an online open access digital curriculum:

Building the curriculum through an "inclusive" approach to dialogue between research and teaching

the divide between the academic community and those outside of it does not define who are "experts", who are "mobilizers", and who are "participants"

Highlighting and grouping key themes and findings from the different interviews into relevant and cohesive **Course Units**, in which expertise are packaged in ways to best disseminate knowledge

Integration of interviews with **transformational activities** in popular education and adult learning



Our Resources

Open Educational Resources: turning on camera and text interviews into interactive, remixable, open learning resources

Multiple audiences: Community Leaders from protracted refugee contexts,

NGO and Gov. workers, University students, Social Entrepreneurs

Digital: mobile and tablet friendly content, digitized curriculum

Accessible: free to use, low-bandwidth-friendly, able to be passed around

via USB or hard drive

Trilingual: Arabic, English, and French with the possibility of extending into

Kurdish, Turkish and other languages



Our Support

- Establishing "Incubator Hubs" with Chams Network, our grassroots partner, in North Lebanon in order to support community-led initiatives through offering distance-guidance and on-ground staff support for the community
- Pilot courses on Community Mobilization in different sites worldwide with follow-up support by the CMIC team and our partner
- redesigning the curriculum based on feedback and engagement with community - open and free dialogue



Get in touch with us!

cmic@uottawa.ca

cmic-mobilize.org

