



# Nursing: Disaster Response and Rehabilitation

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# Current context

- International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction
- News from nursing in tsunami hit countries
- Collective response

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# Role of nursing in disaster rehabilitation

- Key local resource for immediate response
- Presence throughout communities
- The front line

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# Short-term relief and rehabilitation

- Provide populations with essential and emergency health-care
- Assist in ensuring access to water, sanitation and shelter
- Monitor and report the evolution of disaster situations
- Give special attention to vulnerable groups, such as women and children

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# Nursing initiatives in South Asia

- Sri Lanka – shelter for vulnerable women & children
- Indonesia – equipping nurses
- Thailand – providing counselling services

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# Systemic Rehabilitation

- Counselling
- Resettlement assistance
- Health information providers
- Rebuilding health system

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# Conclusions

- Work to end inequality of access to health and disaster response
- Mindful of the millions victim to ongoing health disasters
- Investing in nursing and healthcare strengthens and protects populations

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