Facing our Future withReduced Risks

preparedness...collaboration...action

Regional Office for the Western Pacific
World Health Organization

Thematic Session:
Capacity Building
and Disaster Reduction
Hazards in the Region

Natural Hazards

1. **Sudden impact or acute onset:** earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, tsunami, tropical storms, cyclones, typhoons, floods, avalanches, cold weather, dzud, large-scale outbreaks (SARS), Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI)

2. **Slow or chronic onset:** drought, environmental degradation, chronic exposure to toxic substances

Hazards inducing Human-generated Disasters

1. **Industrial/technological:** explosions, fires, system failures/accidents, chemical/radiation, spillages, pollution, terrorism

2. **Transportation:** vehicular crash, plane crash, maritime accidents

3. **Deforestation**

Hazards inducing Complex Emergency

Wars and civil strife, armed aggression, insurgency, and other actions resulting in displaced persons and refugees
Regional Goal

To reduce avoidable loss of life, burden of disease, and disability in emergencies and post-crisis transitions.

Regional Objectives

- To strengthen national capacity building activities for emergency management
- To assist Member States to develop community-based risk reduction initiatives;
- To provide support to Member States in major emergencies;
- To promote collaboration with partner agencies
- To enhance WHO’s institutional capacity for emergency management
Activities in the Western Pacific Region

• Managing crisis situations
• Capacity building
• Development and dissemination of health knowledge
• Health emergency & humanitarian action projects
• Strengthening collaboration with national and international partner agencies
Public Health and Emergency Management in Asia and the Pacific (PHEMAP)

• Context
  – Globally there are numerous training courses
  – Many focused on complex emergencies and refugee health care
  – Gap for the need of a course for government policy makers

• Partner Agencies
  – WHO Western Pacific Regional Office
  – WHO South East Asia Regional Office
  – Asian Disaster Preparedness Center
  – Japan International Corporation for Welfare Services (JICWELS)
• Course Design
  – Series of integrated courses
  – Customised courses targeted to needs of different levels of health managers
    • National (policy & guidelines)
    • Provincial (programme management)
    • Local (implementation)
    • Directors of relevant institutions
      – Major hospitals
      – Academic institutions
• Training curriculum focuses on
  – Mass accidents, floods, storms, earthquakes
  – Long term post-disaster public health needs and the public health needs of displaced peoples
  – Policies & guidelines for mass casualty management and hospital planning
  – Pre-hospital knowledge and skills
Inter-Regional PHEMAP

- Senior public health managers, hospital managers
- Member states: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam, India, Myanmar, Timor Leste, Fiji, Vanuatu, China

National PHEMAP

- Philippines
- Viet Nam
- Papua New Guinea
Regional Plans

- Continue Inter-regional PHEMAP
  - once a year
- Explore other institutions within the region to offer course
- Regional Trainors Training Course
  - Regional pool of trainors
- Regional Training/Orientation on Rapid Health Emergency Operations Team
- Expand National PHEMAP Courses
  - CHN, CAM, Pacific Island Countries
- Utilize distance learning approach
  - Pacific Open Learning Health Network
Recommendations

- Inventory of existing training programmes on health emergency management
- Standardized regional curriculum
- Guidelines for training
  - eg, training manual for PHEMAP
- Assessment tool
- Database of experts for the Regional Health Emergency Operations Team
- Indicators for evaluation