

Responding to Emergencies: *Preparedness and Response from MSF's perspective*

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Content



- MSF perspective - *Response; DRR vs Humanitarian Action*
- Common understanding – EWS: *10 + 4*,
Sendai: 7 + 4
- Lessons learned - *Haiyan and Ebola*
- A word on Health Innovation – *Ebola initiative*

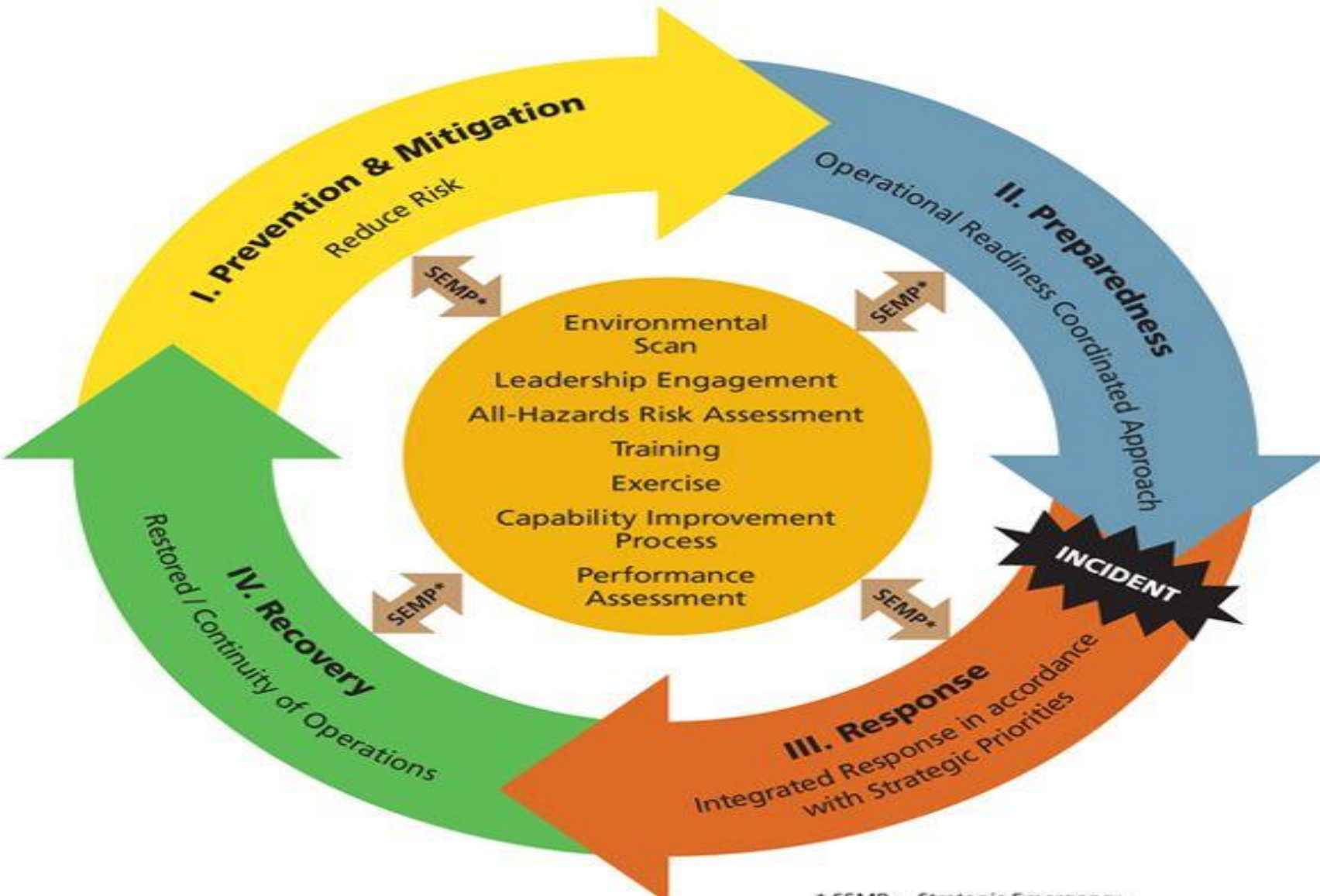
What is MSF?

Founded in **1971** during the Biafran war - MSF's Charter:

- Providing **medical, humanitarian** assistance
- Guided by **Medical ethics**
- **Impartiality** – assistance is given irrespective of race, religion, creed or political conviction
- Observes **neutrality**
- **Independence** from all political, economic and religious powers



Emergency Management Continuum



* SEMP = Strategic Emergency Management Plan

Humanitarian action

“ aimed at preserving life and alleviating suffering with a view to protect human dignity and restore people’s ability to make their own decisions. ”

NOT

Development, peace building, state-building, human rights work.



EWS and Risk Assessment



- Common understanding
- *4 key elements - risk analysis; monitoring and warning; dissemination and **communication**; and a **response** capability.*
- *10 principles – **political will**; essential 4; **clear roles and coordination**; adequate resources; information; appropriate messaging; widespread dissemination; adapted Eprep; training; feedback.*

Sendai FW – specific points



- *The need for **coordination***
- *The need to implement **IHR***
- *The need to ensure that the **health system** continues to function properly during and after a disaster (e.g. Ebola and Haiyan)*
- *The need to consider **vulnerable** populations*
- *The need to involve the academe and the **scientific community** in disaster management.*

Lessons Learned



- Military concerns
 - Lack of coordination and communication with non military actors as Armies tend to coordinate with their local counterparts
 - **Lack of understanding of role of humanitarian actors/action**
 - Often very valuable role but primary objectives remain **linked to Foreign Policy** from their own government
- Communities' role
 - Untapped in the early part of Ebola response
 - Stigma and suspicions (imp of good comms)
- R&D...health innovation

R&D - Ebola Initiative



- How can we better prepare for future outbreaks?
- Gaps –
 - The way research is being conducted, prioritized and shared (data and knowledge sharing issues)
 - Investments in field-adapted diagnostic and treatment tools
- Plan –
 - Invest in R&D – ensure equitable access/alternative research funds/contingency plans
 - Demonstrate that R&D can be done differently and be promoted with leadership from the “South”

***“To put out this fire, we must run into
the burning building.”***

Dr Joanne Liu, International President (MSF), during
urgent appeal to United Nations, Sept 2014



THANK YOU!