“Disaster Resilient Hospitals” - an integral part of the “Making Cities Resilient” Campaign.

European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction

October 6th – 8th 2010,
WHO (?

WHO is the UN specialized agency for HEALTH - 193 Member States:

- 150 country offices
- 6 Regional Offices (Washington, Copenhagen, Cairo, New Delhi, Brazzaville, Manila)
- Headquarter in Geneva
WHO's Objective in “Crises”

To reduce the health consequences of emergencies, disasters, crises and conflicts and to mitigate their social and economic impact

Taking a “health systems approach”

WHO = “health cluster lead agency” – coordinating international humanitarian health response
The global trends are clear:

- Increasing numbers of health crises and disasters – at any moment 30 – 40 WHO member states are affected by a crisis

- During the past 20 years, disasters have killed at least three million people; adversely affecting 800 million more

- Infrastructural damage affecting health facilities
- Dysfunctional facilities through disrupted supply lines
- Health staff affected and unable to provide essential life saving services

- **Health** is a major concern
Priorities for health risk reduction in the regional context

- **Communicable diseases**
  - Influenza pandemic
  - SARS
  - TB and HIV/AIDS
  - Accidental or deliberate release of biological, chemical and radio nuclear agents

- **Natural & human made disasters**

- **Conflicts and complex emergencies** ("frozen conflicts")

- **Global changes** – climate change
# Health Crises affecting the WHO European Region (1990-2008)
(excluding conflicts & “complex emergencies”)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of event</th>
<th>Number of events</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Total affected</th>
<th>Economic damage (thousands of US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flood</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>3 912</td>
<td>12 137 319</td>
<td>84 072 159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extreme temperature</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>80 993</td>
<td>3 442 803</td>
<td>16 245 450</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drought</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15 875 965</td>
<td>15 082 309</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wild fire</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>1 293 432</td>
<td>10 653 811</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earthquake</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>21 943</td>
<td>5 903 433</td>
<td>37 859 949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accidents</td>
<td>695</td>
<td>18 848</td>
<td>154 410</td>
<td>12 431 777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass movement*</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>2 220</td>
<td>190 880</td>
<td>1 610 698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storm</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>1 680</td>
<td>8 360 716</td>
<td>68 486 129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1 828</td>
<td>129 927</td>
<td>47 358 958</td>
<td>246 442 273</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Mass movement includes: avalanche, landslide, rockfall and subsidence

One of the same kind…
each of them a challenge for health systems

Disaster

Pandemic

Emergency

Health – Crisis

all-hazards approach
“Safer Hospitals” – a global & regional priority

What we want to prevent:

- Dysfunctional health facilities
- Collapsing and failing in emergencies
- Unable to save lives and to protect affected communities
What we want to promote are "Safer Hospitals"

- All newly constructed hospitals designed and managed to function at the **optimum capacity** - during and in the aftermath of disasters and emergencies
  - Well trained staff - proficient in **emergency management**
  - Norms, guidelines and building codes for **new hospitals**
  - Retrofitting of **existing priority facilities** (low cost - high impact interventions)
Preparedness through capacity building

- "Health systems crisis management" – country capacity assessments
- Public health & emergency management training programmes (PHEM courses)
- Strengthening hospital structural and functional safety
  - Hospital Safety Index - disaster resilient health facilities
- Preparing hospitals and EMS systems for A H1N1 pandemic:
  - "Hospital checklist"
  - Hospital emergency & pandemic preparedness workshops
Rolling out assessments

- "Health crisis preparedness" assessment tool
- Country crisis management capacity assessments
- Hospital emergency preparedness and/or Hospital Safety Index collaboration:
  - Albania
  - Armenia
  - Azerbaijan
  - Austria
  - Croatia
  - Czech Republic
  - Georgia
  - Israel
  - Kyrgyzstan
  - Poland
  - Rep of Moldova
  - Tajikistan
  - TFYR of Macedonia
  - Slovakia
  - Turkey
  - Ukraine
  - Ukraine
The way forward to build resilient cities

- Interoperable “all hazards/whole health” emergency preparedness programmes
- Exercises and drills - to test plans
- Cross border collaboration – “crises don’t respect borders”
- Strengthened coordination – multi sector approach
- Capacity building - sharing expertise
Country Emergency Preparedness
Regional Office for Europe
World Health Organization

Globally known as Health Action in Crises