

Disaster Management

Presenter:

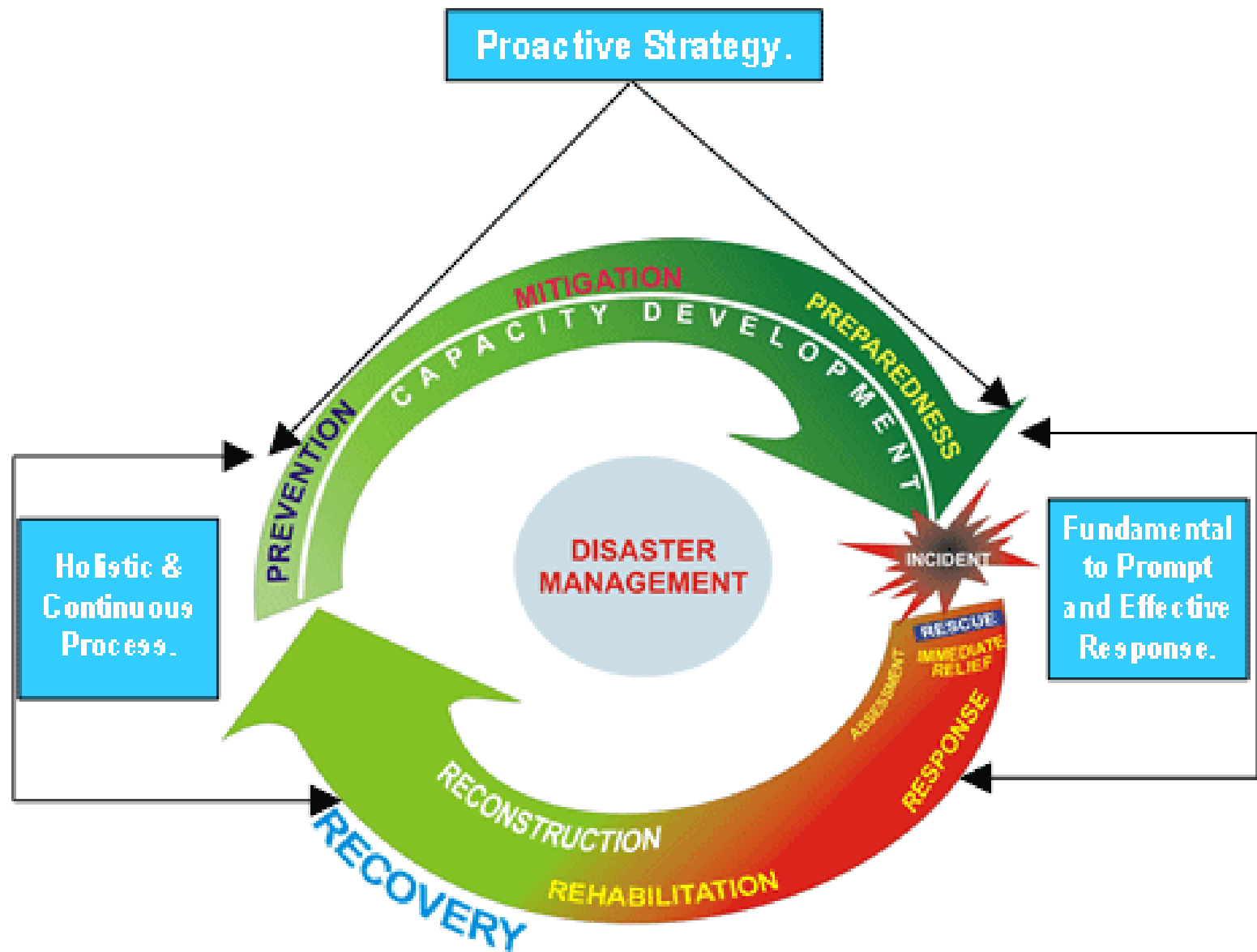
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Disaster Management

- A planned and systematic approach towards understanding and solving problems in the wake of disasters.
- Disaster planning cannot prevent disasters but its effect could be minimized by appropriate plans and preparedness.
- The key issues in disaster management are communication, coordination and control.
- Important issues in pre-disaster management are prediction, prevention, planning and preparedness.
- The critical issues when disaster event occurs are the immediate response, rescue, relief and rehabilitation.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT CONTINUUM



Disaster Impact and Response

- Greatest need for emergency care occurs in first few hours.
- **Search, rescue and first-aid:**
 - Most immediate help come from uninjured survivors.
- **Field care:**
 - Convergence on health facilities, irrespective of its operating status.
 - Bed availability; and medical & surgical services
 - Response to enquires.

Triage

- Quantity & severity of injuries >> Operating capacity of health facilities.
- At the site of disaster
- Rapidly classify the injured on basis of
 - Severity of their injuries, and
 - Likelihood of their survival with prompt treatment
- Four colour code system:

High priority treatment or transfer
Medium priority
Ambulatory patients
Dead or moribund patients

- **Tagging:**
 - name, age, place of origin, triage category, diagnosis & initial treatment
- **Care of the dead:**
 - Removal of the dead from the disaster scene
 - Shifting to the mortuary
 - Identification
 - Reception of bereaved relatives

Relief Phase

- Assistance from outside starts to reach disaster area.
- Type & quantity of relief supplies depends upon:
 - Type of disaster
 - Type and quantity of supplies available locally.
- Rapid damage assessment

Epidemiological surveillance and Disease control

Principals of preventing and controlling communicable diseases after a disaster are to:

1. Implement as soon as possible all public health measures to reduce the risk of disease transmission
2. Organize a reliable disease reporting system to identify outbreaks and to promptly initiate control measures
3. Investigate all reports of disease outbreaks rapidly.

Vaccination

- Vaccination against Typhoid, Cholera, Tetanus
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NO

- Compliance, Sterilization, Human workforce
- False sense of security
- Vaccinations are recommended for Health Workers.
- Cold-chain should be maintained.

Nutrition

- Infants, children, pregnant & lactating women, sick persons.
- Steps to ensure food relief:
 - Assessing the food supplies after the disaster
 - Gauging the nutritional needs of the affected population.
 - Calculating the daily food rations and need for large population groups.
 - Monitoring the nutritional status of the affected population.

Rehabilitation

- Restoration of the pre-disaster conditions.
- Priorities shift from health care needs towards environmental measures.

Water supply:

- Survey of water sources and distribution system
 - Physical integrity, remaining capacities, bacteriological & chemical quality.
- Chlorination.
- Ensure adequate excreta disposal at a safe distance from water source.
- Restrict access to people and animals; and prohibit bathing, washing.

Food safety:

- Kitchen sanitation
- Personal hygiene of individuals involved in food preparation.

Basic sanitation and personal hygiene:

- Washing, cleaning and bathing facility
- Emergency latrines

Vector control:

- Intensified vector control programmes.

Reintegrate disaster survivors into the society.

Disaster mitigation

- Measures designed:
 - To reduce hazards from causing disaster
 - To lessen the likely effects of disaster.
- Include:
 - Flood mitigation works
 - Appropriate land use planning
 - Improved building codes
 - Reduction/protection of vulnerable population and structure.
 - Safety of health facilities and public health services.

Disaster Preparedness

- A programme of long term development activities
 - to strengthen the overall capability and capacity of a country to manage efficiently all types of emergencies.
- **Objectives:**
- To ensure that appropriate systems, procedures and resources are in place to provide prompt effective assistance to disaster victims, thus facilitating relief measures and rehabilitation of services.

Intersectoral coordination to carry out:

1. Evaluate the risk of the country or particular region to the disaster
2. Adopt standards and regulations
3. Organize communication, information and warning systems
4. Ensure coordination and response mechanisms
5. Adopt measure to ensure that financial and other resources are available for increased readiness and can be mobilized in disaster situation
6. Develop public education programmes
7. Coordinate information session with news media
8. Organize disaster simulation exercises that test response mechanisms.

THANKS !