

Integrating Sexual and Reproductive Health into Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Systems:

Building Resilient Communities and Reproductive Health Systems



WOMEN'S
REFUGEE
COMMISSION

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Research. Rethink. Resolve.

Objectives

By the end of this session, participants should be able to...

- Understand importance of this topic
- List progress which has been made by WRC and interagency partners, to date
- Convey what learning has been gained on this topic
- Consider next steps, and potential for involvement

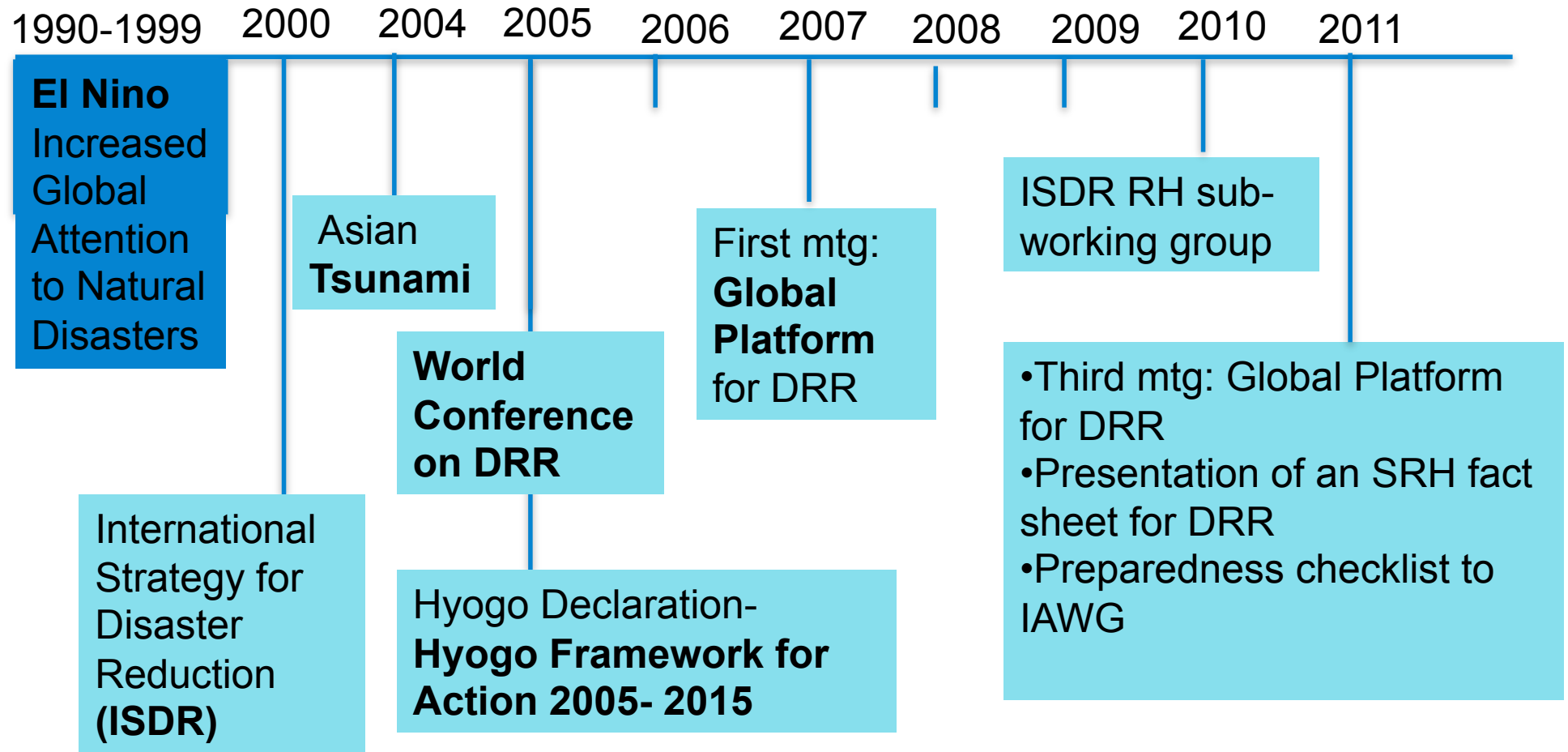


Why focus on this topic?

- In the past 2 decades recorded disasters have doubled
- Populations are becoming more vulnerable to hazards
- Women are disproportionately affected by disaster
- 1 in 5 WRA will be pregnant in an emergency
- We know that morbidity and mortality will increase due to gaps in SRH services post-emergency
- Services supported before an emergency- are more likely to remain functional throughout an emergency
- Relief workers/ responders understand emergencies and priority areas; local governments, communities and development actors know capacities



What progress has been made?



Progress



- **Global Advocacy**
 - ISDR RH sub-working group
 - **Policy Brief & Preparedness and Planning Checklist**
- National Trainings (Sudan, Uganda, Haiti)
 - Partner with SPRINT to train country-teams in the MISP and DRR contingency planning
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 - Training of CBOs working with vulnerable populations on MISP and DRR



Preparedness & Planning Checklists

National level Activities

SRM prioritized within national and local DRR policy and plans	
<input type="checkbox"/>	SRM is integrated into the national health legislation, plans and policy for disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness and response (health emergency management-HEM strategies) as part of a comprehensive RMC system (see planning template below)
IF NO PLAN EXISTS:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Advocate to governments and partners to initiate HEM planning and incorporate SRM within these plans
IF A PLAN EXISTS:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review the national health emergency management plan
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check for key SRM components within the HEM plan (see suggested SRM components within template below)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Specify, within the plan, linkages between the Government and external actors (government, non-government organizations, the Red Cross or Red Crescent Society, the private sector, civil society groups)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Focus points are appointed for SRM, at all levels of the health system, to act in the multi-disciplinary health emergency management, coordination and operational structures with clear roles, responsibilities and reporting lines
<input type="checkbox"/>	Identify SRM focal points, at the national, sub-national, and community level, who will be responsible for coordinating risk reduction, emergency preparedness planning and response activities (see TOR template below)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Introduce and orient the focal point into the national, sub-national and community level planning and coordination mechanisms
<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop communications protocols within and between SRM focal points to ensure coordination and adequate use of early warning systems
<input type="checkbox"/>	SRM components are included and strengthened within key disaster preparedness and response operational structures, including emergency operation centers, transportation and communications
<input type="checkbox"/>	Link each SRM focal point to operation center activities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Link the national operations systems with the sub-national level of operational procedures (What is considered as national operational procedures?)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Necessary resources (human, financial, material) are allocated to national, sub-national and community levels for the implementation of SRM activities focused on risk reduction, emergency preparedness and response
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review recommended list of resources for each health facility, for SRM risk reduction and preparedness planning?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work with governments and partners to conduct a bottleneck analysis of any unavailable resources (human, financial, and material)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop a proposal to address funding challenges, or develop an action plan to address identified bottlenecks in human, financial or material resources. (see templates)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Specific policies are adopted at the national and sub-national levels for the inclusion of particularly vulnerable populations in emergency planning and response
<input type="checkbox"/>	Directly involve community representatives (community based organizations) in the development of emergency preparedness and response plans
<input type="checkbox"/>	Establish policies to guide the way community organizations or workers can maintain confidential lists of vulnerable groups/individuals

Risk assessment and early warning systems	
<input type="checkbox"/>	National risk assessment (including input from national, sub-national and the community) incorporates risks, vulnerabilities and capacities related to SRM

Sub-National Activities

SRM within national and local DRR policy and plans

SRM within national and local DRR policy and plans	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Elements from the national risk reduction, emergency preparedness and response integrated into sub-national plans
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrating risk reduction and emergency preparedness and response plan into key SRM components into sub-national plans
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sub-national plans and community activities to national health emergency management
<input type="checkbox"/>	With national and community focal points to review and link plans and activities with routine communication between sub-national SRM focal points and national focal points
<input type="checkbox"/>	Conduct national and sub-national disaster risk management meetings
<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop policies and procedures for requesting and receiving international or regional (and human, financial and material)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Update and review national sub-national preparedness and response plans with national focal points and community leaders

Risk assessment and early warning systems

Risk assessment and early warning systems	
<input type="checkbox"/>	All (local) risk assessment is completed, as part of the HEM, inclusive of SRM resources (see sample facility assessment)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Involve community members (including vulnerable groups) in the risk assessment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Identify hazards at each sub-national level
<input type="checkbox"/>	Conduct facility assessments in collaboration with hospital administration
<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop facility maps (based on hazards, capacities and vulnerabilities)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Identify ways of facilities, staffing, and resources available at sub-national level and support community based organizations (CBOs) to complete a participatory assessment within communities inclusive of SRM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop action plan to overcome vulnerabilities identified at the facility level
<input type="checkbox"/>	Regularly update the risk assessment based on national recommendations
<input type="checkbox"/>	All SRM risk assessment findings are incorporated into national risk assessments
<input type="checkbox"/>	National SRM emergency focal points to regularly discuss local risk assessment with National SRM focal points
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide data to National Disaster Management Authority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop assessment findings with health staff at each hospital and health center
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work with CBOs to disseminate risk assessment findings to communities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Early warning systems are utilized and accessed by the entire population
<input type="checkbox"/>	SRM service providers on early warning systems
<input type="checkbox"/>	Link communities on early warning systems with the health sector and disaster prevent authorities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Link plans for quick dissemination of emergency information from sub-national to community level for SRM services and persons with SRM vulnerabilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Involve communities (including members of vulnerable groups) in the development and implementation of early warning systems

SRM within national and local DRR policy and plans

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Community Activities

SRM within national and local DRR policy and plans

SRM within national and local DRR policy and plans	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Identified from within each community
<input type="checkbox"/>	SRM focal points from within the community to carry out specific tasks of (SRM) within DRR (see sample TOR below)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrate the focal points into the national, sub-national level planning and mechanisms
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrate emergency preparedness and response activities with community, sub-national SRM focal points
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community members (men and women in equal numbers) in the national development of emergency preparedness and response plans
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community leaders about national policies related to maintaining lists of vulnerable he will require additional support during emergencies
<input type="checkbox"/>	Establish lists of community members (community leaders, community health workers based organizations) for emergency preparedness and response at each region
<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop and sub-national risk reduction and preparedness plan and ensure the identified for community members (community leaders, community health workers) and community based organizations (CBOs)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Implementations are not part of current plan, review disaster risk reduction documents and advocacy messages for the involvement of communities in
<input type="checkbox"/>	Advocate (in others if needed) to advocate for the inclusion of community level involvement in the risk reduction planning process (through sub-national

Early warning systems

Early warning systems	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Participatory in conducting risk assessments within each region
<input type="checkbox"/>	National SRM focal points to advocate and receive training in participatory risk assessment (inclusive of SRM), by community representatives and community based (CBOs)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Conduct participatory risk assessments (including hazards, vulnerabilities and capacities) within communities or representative from groups serving vulnerable populations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop assessments with sub-national SRM focal points to be incorporated into
<input type="checkbox"/>	Involved in the development and implementation of early warning systems
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community members or representatives of CBOs in the development and of early warning systems (ensure inclusion of women, girls, and vulnerable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Early warning systems which are easily accessed by vulnerable members of each
<input type="checkbox"/>	Particular focus on systems which will reach vulnerable groups (pregnant women, female headed households, youth, lactating women, persons with disabilities, and others)



Progress



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Case example: Haiti

- Importance of involving vulnerable populations in the DRR preparedness and response activities (SRH vulnerabilities and capacities)
- Communities express both desire and demonstrate capacity to be involved in preparedness and response
- Local partners are eager to receive guidance on DRR to make communities safer
- Critical to link community actions with National efforts



What has been learned?

- Successful DRR planning requires integration across all levels (national, sub-national, community)
- MISP training alone is not sufficient for successful DRR preparation in SRH
- Plans must account for known realities of crises, as well as regional capacity constraints (high staff turn-over, evacuation, shifts in control between existing and new coordinating bodies, lack of infrastructure and resources)



Recommendations

- Conduct trainings in the MISP and DRR at the national, sub-national, and community level. Ensure that contingency planning and action plan activities are integrated across all three levels
- Develop a training curriculum for DRR and contingency planning to complement the MISP (for policy makers and community members)
- Assume high staff turn-over and international staff evacuation in disasters, as well as an exacerbation of capacity gaps (structural, material and staffing)
- Involve vulnerable populations in preparedness and planning activities



Where do we go from here?

- Participate in the review of draft checklists
- Consider whether a working group on DRR should be added to IAWG
- Assist in disseminating and piloting checklists and policy briefs
- Share scenarios you are involved with / familiar with in each of your settings so that they can be added to the developing knowledge base



Thank you!

