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ZUCKERBERG
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Hospital and Trauma Center

The Humanitarian Community: Past, Present and Future

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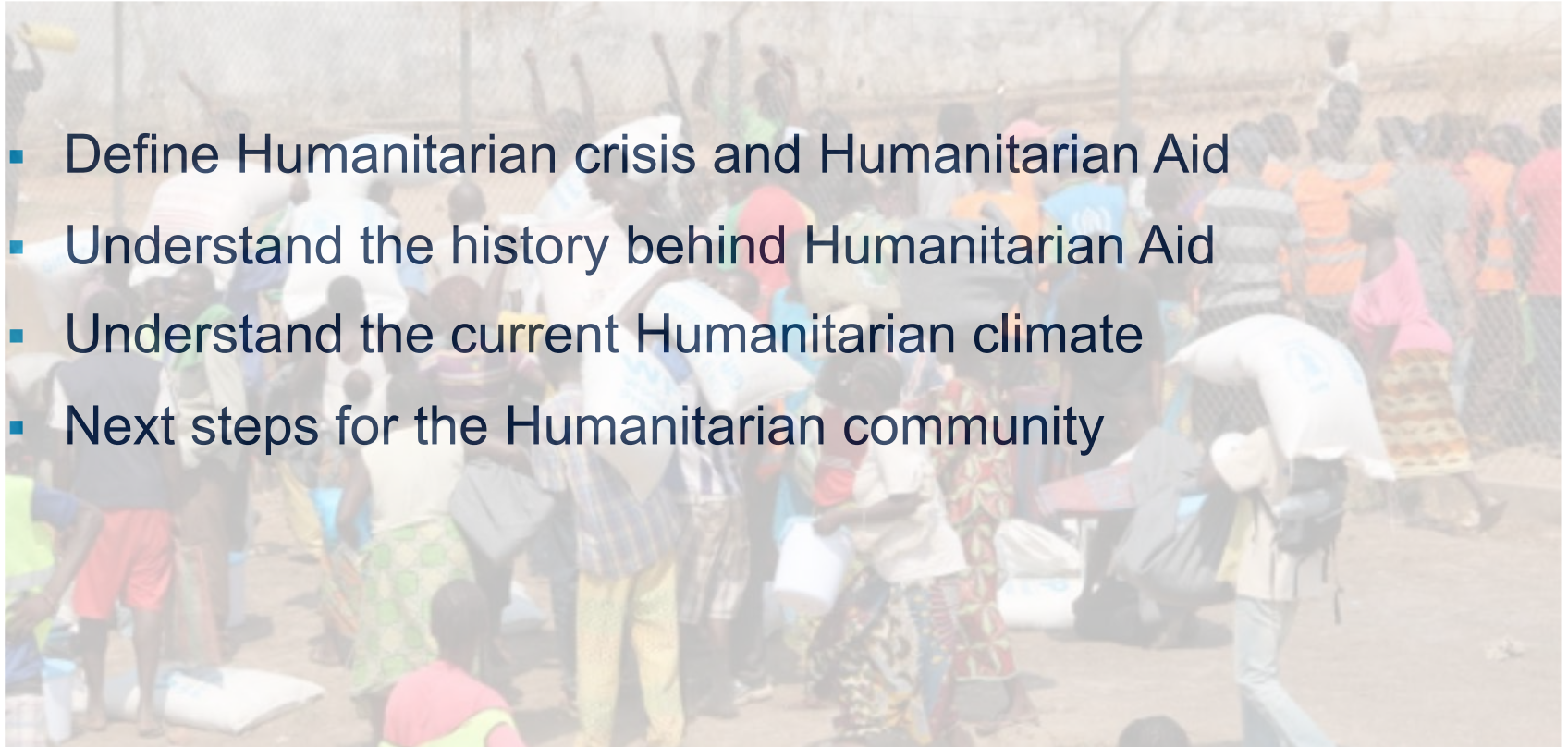
2/24/20

Financial Disclosures

- None

Objectives

- Define Humanitarian crisis and Humanitarian Aid
- Understand the history behind Humanitarian Aid
- Understand the current Humanitarian climate
- Next steps for the Humanitarian community



<https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/central-african-republic-un-releases-funds-humanitarian-aid-amid-ongoing-crisis>

A glimpse at the world today

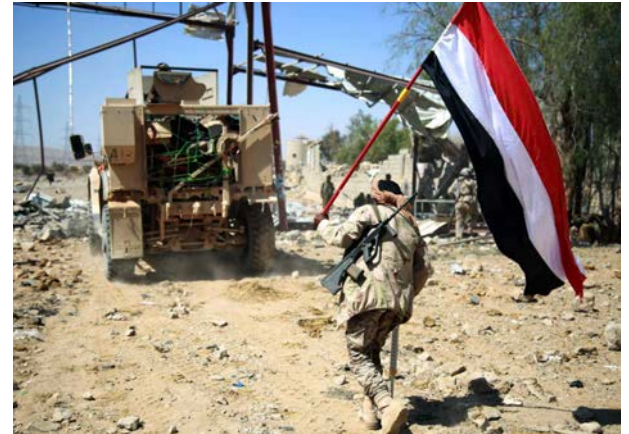


Yemen



Yemen

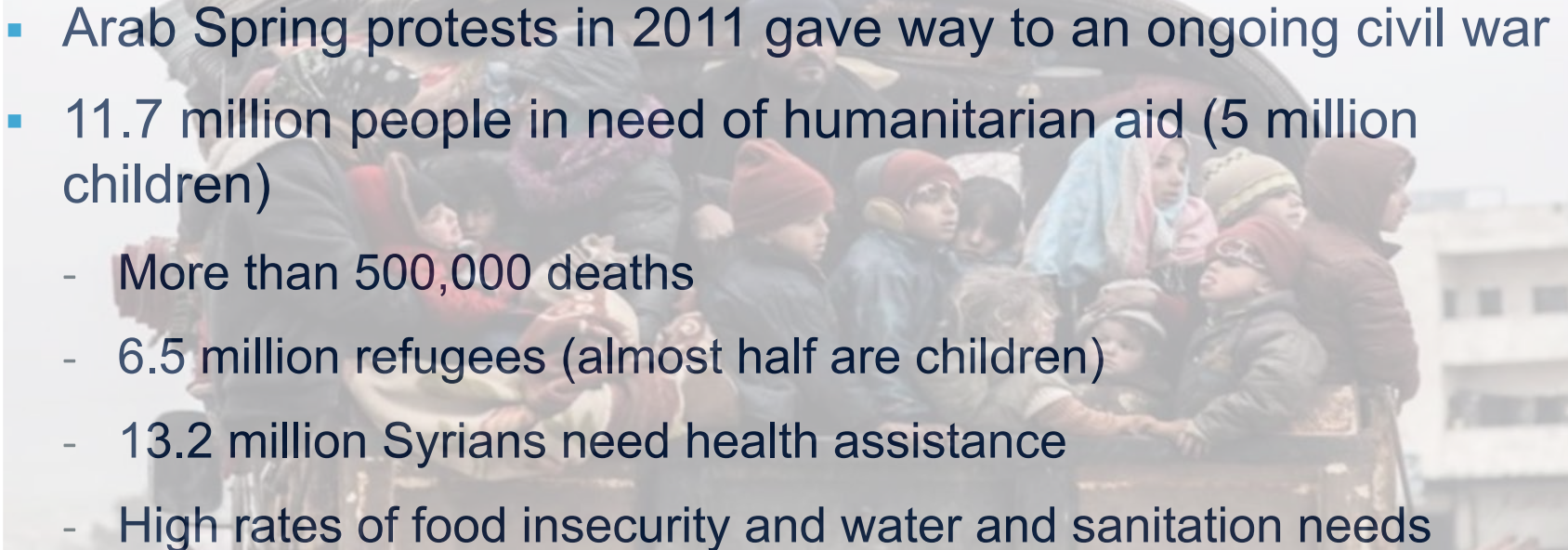
- Civil war began in 2015
- 24 million people in need of assistance and protection
 - 20 million people are food-insecure
 - 19.7 million are unable to get adequate healthcare
 - 17.8 million lack access to safe water
 - 3.3 million citizens are displaced



<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/fighting-escalates-yemen-houthi-mosque-attack>



Syria

- 
- Arab Spring protests in 2011 gave way to an ongoing civil war
 - 11.7 million people in need of humanitarian aid (5 million children)
 - More than 500,000 deaths
 - 6.5 million refugees (almost half are children)
 - 13.2 million Syrians need health assistance
 - High rates of food insecurity and water and sanitation needs



**Democratic Republic
of the Congo**

Democratic Republic of Congo



- Ongoing ethnic conflict and political instability since first Congo War (1997), Second Congo War (1998-2003)
- Currently has the second deadliest Ebola Outbreak
- 12.8 million in need of humanitarian assistance (5.6 million children)
 - 3.9 million people internally displaced
 - 622,000 refugees
 - 7.7 million people with food insecurity



**Sudan
and
South
Sudan**



South Sudan

- Political conflict since gaining independence in 2011
- Economic instability
- 7.2 million South Sudanese in need of humanitarian assistance (4.4 million children)
 - Over 63% of country's population faces food insecurity
 - 1.8 million internally displaced people
 - 2.3 million refugees



What do all these current situations have in common?

Humanitarian Crisis

- A singular event or a series of events that are threatening in terms of health, safety or well being of a community or large group of people.
- It may be an internal or external conflict and usually occurs throughout a large land area.



Humanitarian Crisis



Darfur 2007

- Systematic Human Rights Abuses:
 - Genocide, mass rape



New Orleans 2005

- Overwhelming Natural Disasters:
 - Earthquakes, floods

Humanitarian Crisis



Syrian Refugee Crisis



Liberian Civil War, 1998

- Mass population displacement:
 - Refugee Crisis
- Political unrest affecting vulnerable populations

Natural Disasters:

What are we preparing for?

	Earthquakes	Hurricanes	Tsunamis	Floods	Landslides	Volcanoes
Deaths	+++	+	+++	+	+++	+++
Complex injuries	+++	++	+	+	+	+
Infectious diseases	<i>Always a risk: increases with overcrowding, poor sanitation</i>					
Damage to health facilities	+++	+++	+++ (local)	+++ (equipment)	+++ (local)	+++
Damage to water systems	+++	+	+++	+	+++ (local)	+++
Food shortage	+	+	+++	+++	+	+
Mass displacement	Rare (heavily damaged cities)			Common (generally limited)		

DISASTER

x

VULNERABILITY

- Drought
- Earthquake
- Hurricane
- Flood
- Mudslides
- Tsunami
- War & Conflict

- Poverty
- Poor Health
- Political Upheaval
- Isolation
- Women, children, elderly
- Poor infrastructure
- Low Resources

= IMPACT

Death, disease, political collapse, loss of livelihood, broken society

Humanitarian Aid:

Providing for basic human needs in large-scale public health crises



Humanitarian Aid

- Rights based provision of basic human needs per international standards
- Reality is most aid agencies do not measure the actual needs of populations
- Humanitarian response is challenging due to:
 - Language, cultural issues
 - Mass displacement
 - Conflict
 - Poor accessibility
 - Fewer resources
 - Coordination difficulties



Humanitarian Aid: Past

Origins- private led relief

- Florence Nightingale (1854)
- Henri Dunant (1859)
 - International Committee of the Red Cross (1863)
 - Geneva Conventions (1864, 1907, 1929, 1949)
- Timothy Richard (1876)

Private to Public Relief

- Not until the 1980's did global news coverage and celebrity endorsement lead to relief in response to disasters around the world
- Both pros and cons of larger scale relief efforts

Humanitarian Aid: Present

Organization and Coordination of Relief

- Sphere Project (1994)
- UN Cluster System (2005)
- World Humanitarian Summit (2016)

Sphere Project



Sphere Project

- Developed in response to the Great Lakes Refugee Crisis where ~12,000 Rwandan refugees died of Cholera in Goma in 1994
- High mortality due to lack of coordinated approach to refugee crisis as well as lack of preparedness and contingency planning amongst NGOs
- Basic standards and public health approach were not correctly implemented for various reasons

Sphere Project

- Develop a humanitarian charter and associated set of minimum standards to both disseminate widely within the international humanitarian system as well as to encourage their formal adoption and practice by relief agencies and their donors
 - Humanitarian Charter
 - Protection Principles
 - Core Humanitarian Standard
 - Minimum humanitarian standards

UN Cluster Approach



UN Cluster System

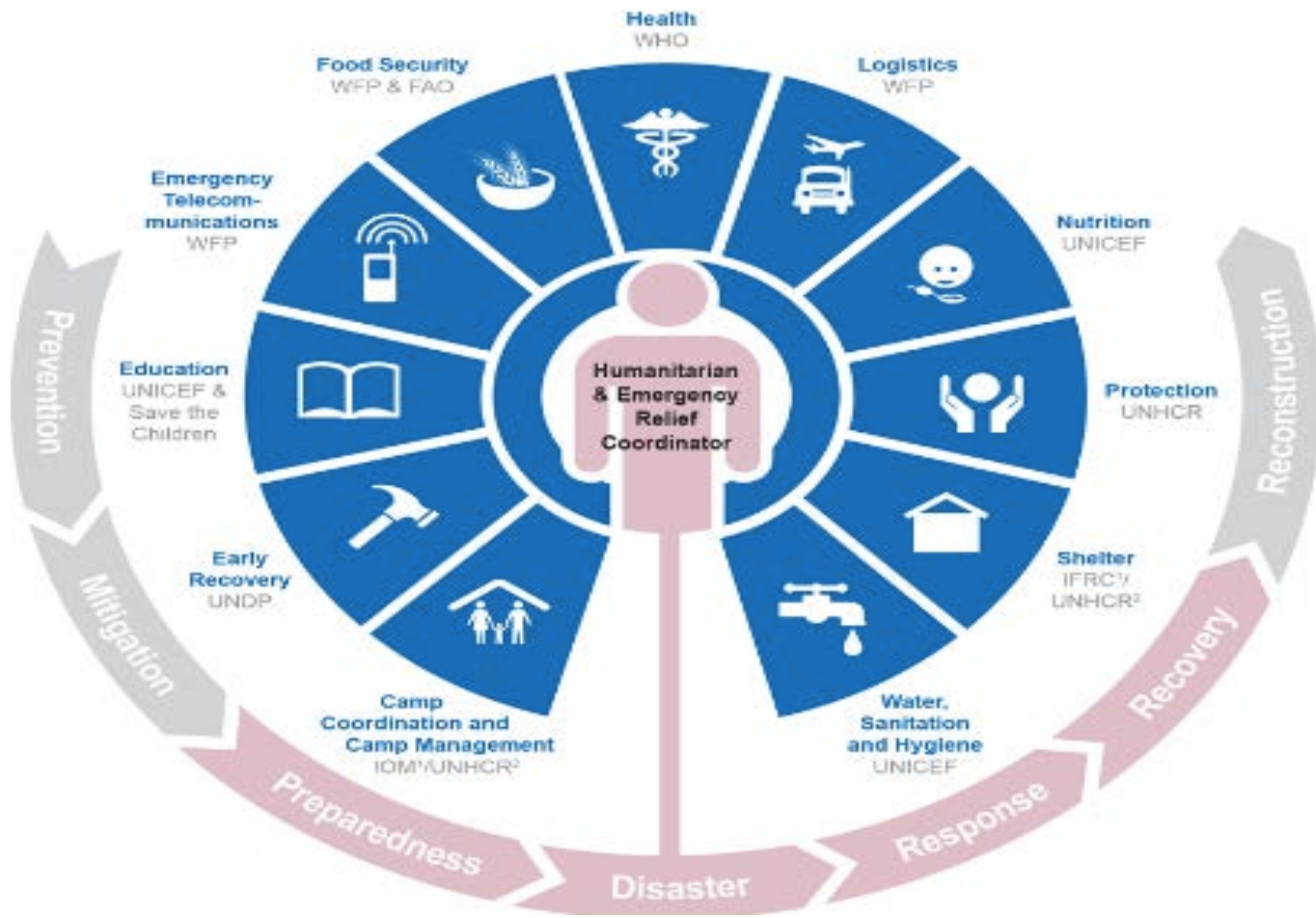
- 2005 “Humanitarian Reform Agenda”
- Clusters are groups of humanitarian organizations, both UN and non-UN
- Can only be activated by UN Emergency Relief Coordinator (country must ask for help)
- First application in 2005 for earthquake in Pakistan



Goals of the Cluster Approach

1. Ensure sufficient global capacity
2. Ensure predictable leadership
3. Promote the concept of partnerships (cluster)
4. Strengthen accountability
5. Improve field level coordination & prioritization





Cluster Responsibilities

1. Identify key partners in the sector
2. Drive consensus on needs and priorities
3. Ensure capacity for response
4. Prepare prioritized response plan
5. Apply standards and monitor performance
6. Report
7. Link with other clusters





**Humanitarian Response Players:
UN, Governmental Agencies, NGO,
Military**

United Nations (UN)



- Office for the coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (1991)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- United Nations Children's Fund
- World Health Organization
- World Food Programme
- International Organization for Migration

Government Agencies



- OFDA- Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance
- DFID- Department for International Development
- JICA- Japan International Cooperation Agency
- CIDA- Canadian International Development Agency

Non-Governmental Organizations

GOALS are design and implementation of projects

- Field based, advocacy, relief, development, etc
- WASH, Food, Public Health, Medical, Housing, Security, Logistics, Human Rights



Non-Governmental Organizations

- International Rescue Committee (IRC)
- Doctors Without Borders (MSF)
- Red Cross (ICRC)
- Oxfam
- Save the Children
- International Medical Corps
- International Rescue Committee
- Concern
- Many many more...

Military

- Local
- International
 - Department of Defense: funds from USAID and State Department.
 - US Armed Forces





WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT

ISTANBUL
23-24 May 2016



Convening a World Humanitarian Summit to help share knowledge and establish common best practices among the wide spectrum of organizations involved in humanitarian action.

Ban Ki-moon

Secretary-General of the United Nations

World Humanitarian Summit Criticism

- Did not address weaknesses in humanitarian action and emergency response in conflict and epidemic situations
- Did not reinforce the obligation states have to uphold humanitarian and refugee laws.
- Adapting humanitarian action to the differing needs of gender, age and disability was not given high priority.
- Controversy over structure and distribution of power within the humanitarian system.

Humanitarian Aid: Future

Next steps

- Continuation of efforts to better coordination humanitarian assistance
- Address criticisms of the World Humanitarian Summit
- Continual learning from current Humanitarian Crisis'
- Respect for international Humanitarian Law and Refugee Law

Current Issues with Humanitarian Coordination

- Coordination is voluntary
- Language
- ‘flag-planting’
- Insufficient NGO capacity
- Lack of professionalism and training
- Friction between NGOs and military
- Variable quality of cluster leads
- Weak local governments
- Poor representation of beneficiaries
- Little regulation of aid groups
- Data formats not standardized
- Weak monitoring and Evaluation
- Lack of experience in certain areas

What can you do if responding to a Humanitarian Crisis?

- Get trained
- Know what you are walking into
- Balance accountability
- Join a professional organization
- Ask questions????





Questions?