

Changing priorities in the management of early and late phase emergency response. Case studies from recent complex emergency managed by Red Cross".

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Phases of Emergency

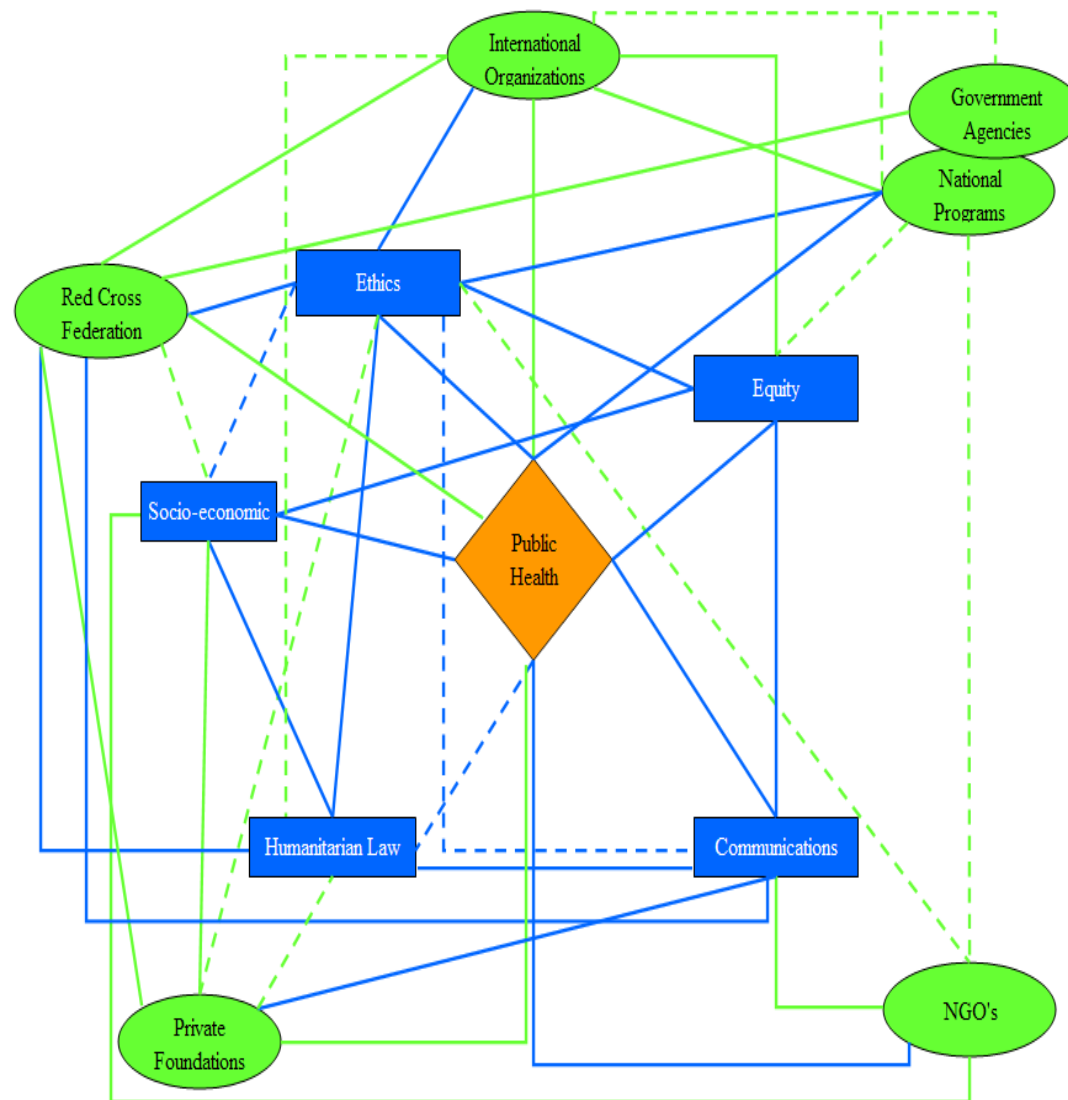
- F. M Burkle Jr (2001) : *‘Disaster - a series of catastrophic events that overwhelm the capacity of response of a community, which result in a threat to both public health and the environment’*

Phases of Emergency

- Sharing of information however is complicated not only in the first phase of a disaster but also in the post and late emergency phases
- Post and late emergency phases in particular require that specific attention is dedicated to the surveillance and early detection of communicable diseases
- Early identification and specific prevention are often the only tools available in order to avoid the development and spread of epidemics

Phases of Emergency

- Partnerships between the local authorities and international agencies are most needed in order to favour coordination, avoiding the overlaps and waste of resources that have been witnessed in the past
- Multi-sector approach to humanitarian requires the interaction of different professionals and among several organizations



Legend

- ◆ Primary Objective
- Problem Areas
- Major Subjects
- - - Links to implement

The collection of data

- The systematic collection of information concerning the relative frequency and impact of disasters might provide Governments and various institutions funding assistance with an indispensable instrument for managing it in an optimal manner. There is still, however, a lack of international consensus regarding the question which is the best method for collecting data during a disaster.

Health Info System in Situations of Complex Emergency

Epidemiology is the field of medical science that
*deals with the study of the causes, distribution, and
control of disease in populations*

Application of the Health Info System in Situations of Complex Emergency

- The important role of Epidemiology in a multi-sector approach to humanitarian aid
 - promoting accountability
 - basis for re-assessment and constant improvement of the activities carried out on the field

Phases of Emergency and Application of the Health Info System in Situations of Complex Emergency

technical advantages can provide in:

- improving and adjusting the humanitarian activities to the needs of the affected population

- increasing the overall accountability of the programs.

Case Study: Sri Lanka

- Partnership model developed among the Sri-Lankan health authorities, the Italian Red Cross and the University of Rome on the wake of the 2004 tsunami

What can be found?



Case Study: Sri Lanka

■ Setting:

- Post-emergency phase of the tsunami that hit south east Asia and the eastern coasts of Africa on the 26th of December 2004
- Sri Lanka was the second most severely hit country suffering from a partial or total destruction of all the buildings that lay within 2 km from the coast line in 13 of the 25 districts of the country

Sri Lanka and the Establishment of a System of Surveillance of Communicable Diseases

- *The Partnership Model* involves:
 - *Middle income countries* (Sri Lanka District health authorities)
 - *High income countries* (The Italian Red Cross - ItRC- in collaboration with the infectious disease physicians of the University of Rome “Sapienza”)
 - *Unilateral donor* (the ItRC).

Sri Lanka and the Establishment of a System of Surveillance of Communicable Diseases

- Setting:
 - Number of casualties amounted 31 141 with more than 23,000 wounded
 - Population of 547 727 IDPs
 - WHO: present risk for the spread of communicable disease for all examined categories (cholera, typhoid, shigellosis, hepatitis A and E, dengue fever, malaria, scrub typhus, leptospirosis, acute lower tract respiratory infections, measles, meningitis and tuberculosis)

Case Study: Sri Lanka

The policy innovation consisted in the introduction of a programme of systematic communicable diseases epidemiological surveillance within a health assistance project in the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka

- Background

politically unstable since 1983

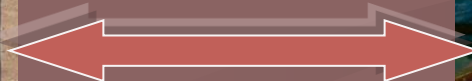
2004 tsunami



The Italian Red Cross



Oxfam GB



MoH Sri Lanka

ItCR and OXFAM GB: Public Health Course



Course participants during a role playing session.

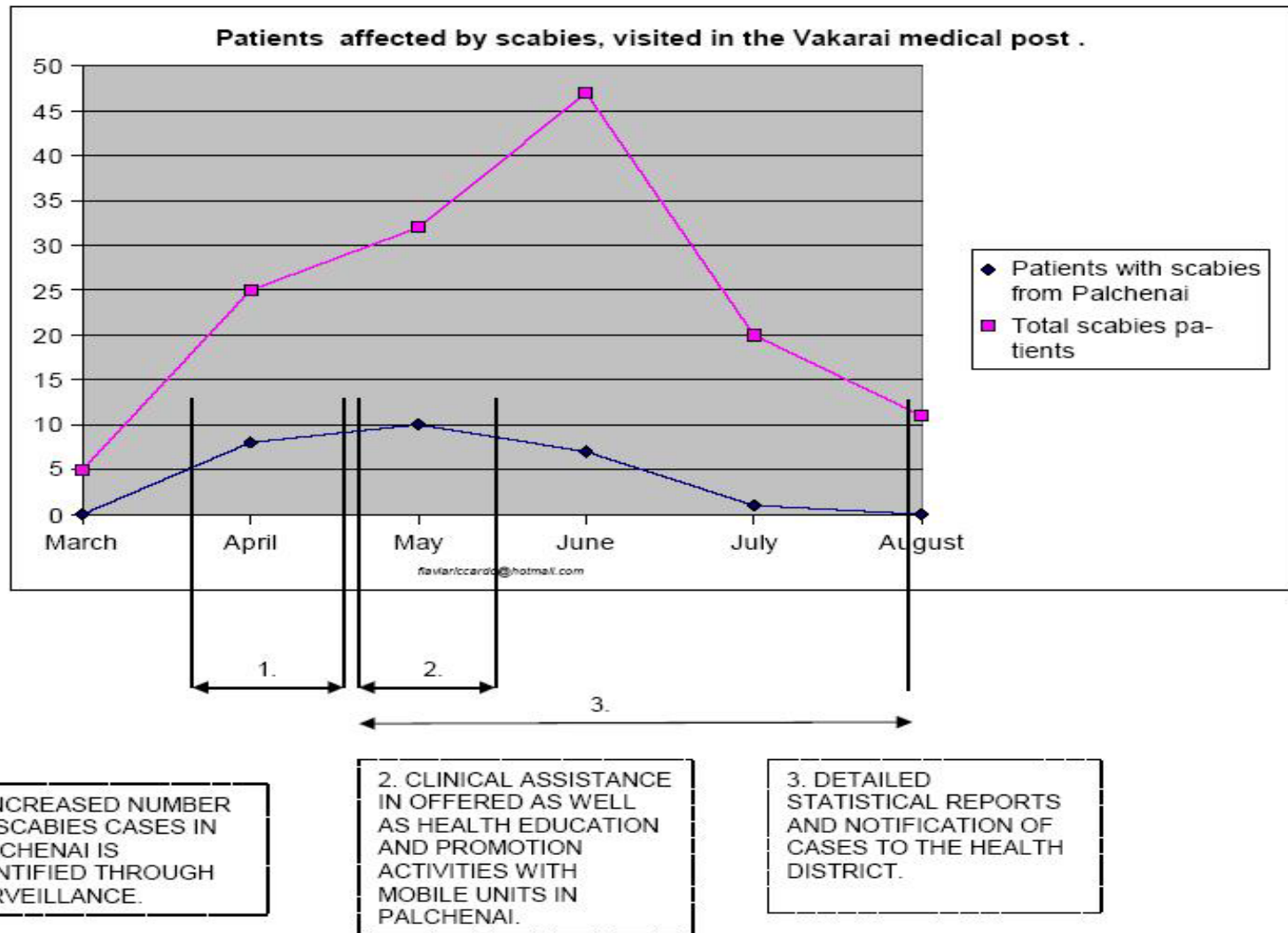
Sri Lanka Results

- Two clusters of scabies and acute hepatitis were identified and interventions were made on both local and district levels
 - ItRC medical teams were deployed in the affected IDP camps acting on treatment/isolation of cases and prevention campaigns
 - Cases were notified according to local laws
 - Coordination meetings were held at district level with health authorities and NGOs
 - “Community health” trainings were organized for local volunteers in IDP camps.

Sri Lanka Results

- No epidemics followed the containment interventions on the two clusters identified and data collected between August 2005 and March 2006 did not show further epidemic clusters
- Achievement of cooperation and coordination with all organizations present in the assigned area
- Value attribution to existing public health
- Capacity building in epidemiological surveillance applied to public health
 - Included potable water control at distribution points

Sri Lanka :Results



Sri Lanka: *Conclusions*

- Connection between clinical assistance and public health programmes allowed the implementation of rapid containment strategies avoiding the spread of communicable diseases in poor hygiene settings
- Coordination achieved with the divisional health authorities and NGOs increased accountability and strengthened the relationship with the host country.

Haiti and Early Warning

- Assessment in Port de Paix. The purpose of this assessment is to evaluate the possibility to deploy the ERU – BHC coordinated by Spanish and French Red Cross.

16 th Sept. 2008.

Haiti and Early Warning

- NGOs in Port de Paix
- From an informal source of information, the NGOs in Port de Paix are:
 - Caritas
 - CARE
 - Action contre la Faim.
- Action contre la Faim works in Community disaster preparedness: “GESTION DES RISQUES ».

Haiti and Early Warning

- After the hurricane 2000 people were evacuated from market area to suburbs.
- The region is very poor and there is not every livelihood activities. Since ten month ago in Port de Paix there is very often a lack of electricity. After the hurricane there is a shortage of fuel.

Haiti and Early Warning

- The all District population is 525.367 inhabitants and 250.000 in Port de Paix
- The health district is organised with one Public Hospital and dispensaries. The Public Hospital provides services in
 - Medicine
 - Surgery
 - Gynaecology
 - Paediatrics
 - Emergency





Haiti and Early Warning

- “There could be an increase of diarrhoeal cases due to the bad hygiene and water conditions. For this reason could be recommended a mid-long term project based on **Prevention and Health Promotion.**”

- The *Good Governance* for the reduction of disasters can exist only there where there is an adequate space for the participation of the various *stakeholders*, including the vulnerable community, the State, the civil society, volunteers, the volunteering organizations, and other partners in the sector of development

Health as a Bridge for Peace (WHO)

- “The project of HBP is based on the idea that the common concern regarding the fundamental sanitary questions shall stand in the focus of the process of negotiation “
- “Sanitary questions transcend political, economical, social and ethical divisions between people and provide a link for a dialog on multiple levels”

(Guerra de Macedo, 1994).

HEALTH AND PEACE

- During the 80's, the tie between health and peace has found expression through a series of different players.
- During the years of the war in El Salvador, the UNICEF has organized repeatedly temporary ceasefires to allow the vaccination of the children.

Où que tu sois, il y 'aura toujours...



...un connard