
Managing emergencies in the context of Universal Health Coverage

Ala Alwan

Regional Director

World Health Organization - Eastern Mediterranean Region

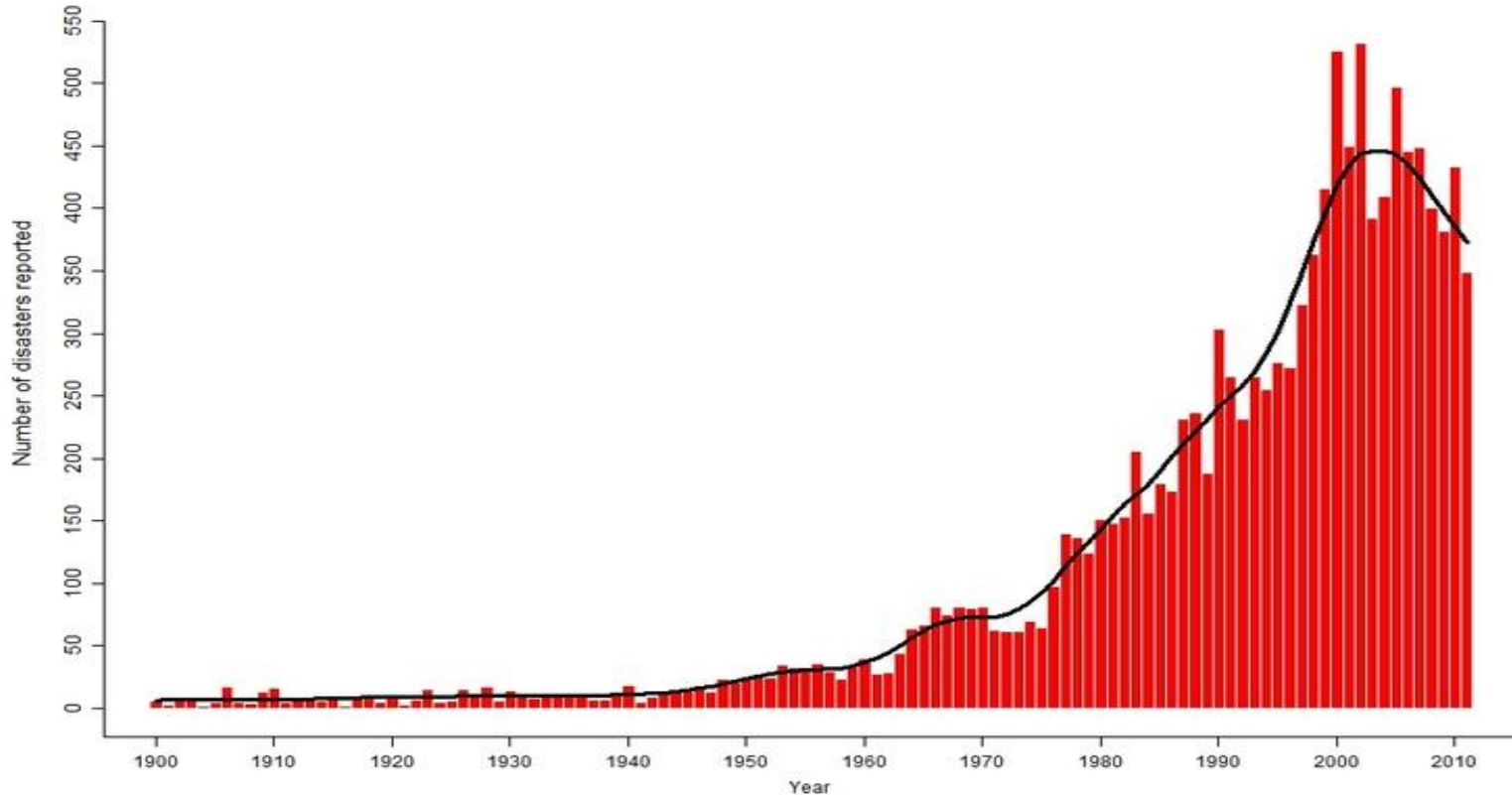
Natural disasters and violent conflicts

700 emergencies occurring globally every year 27 m people 130 000 deaths



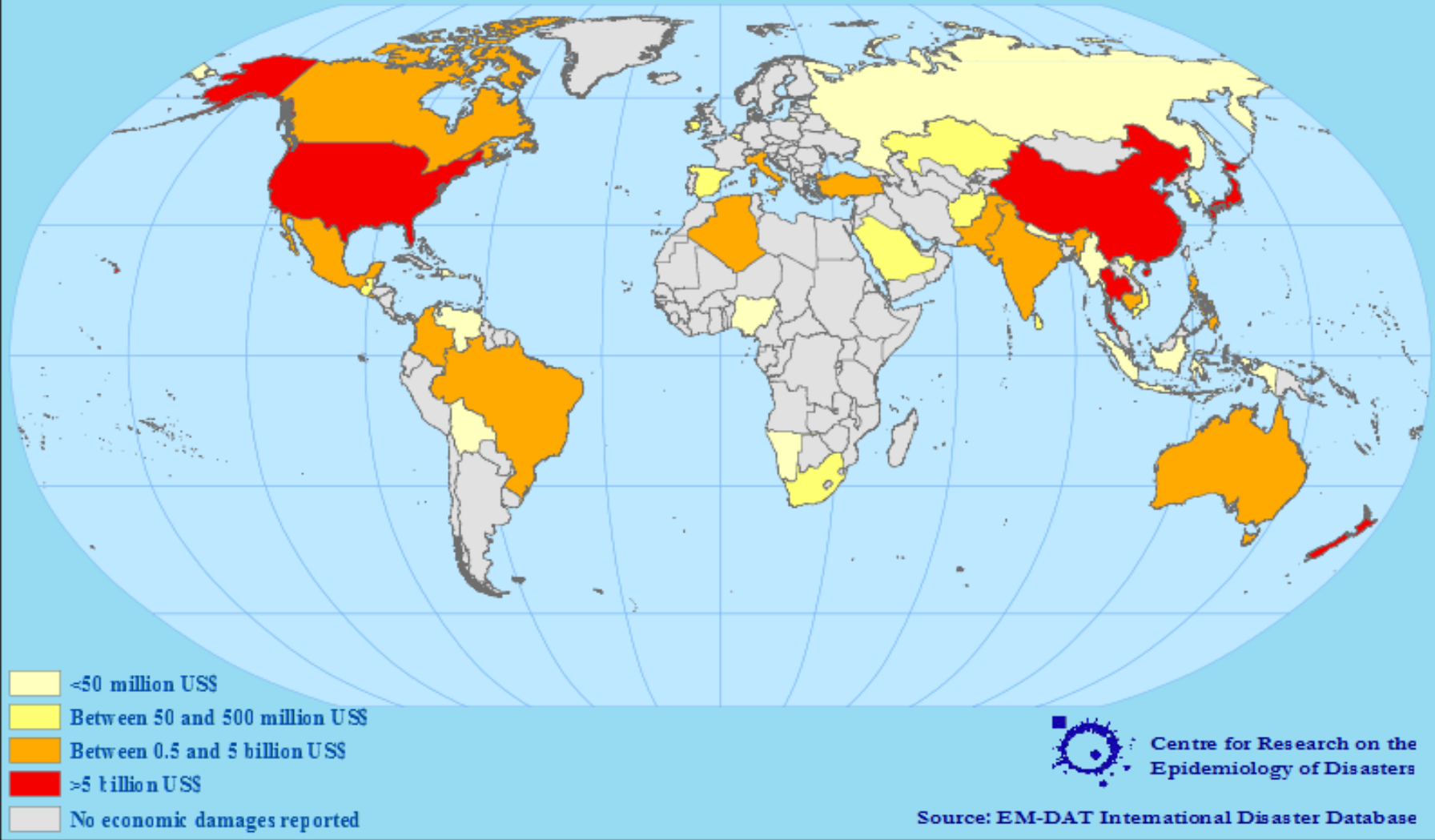
Natural disasters reported 1900 – 2011

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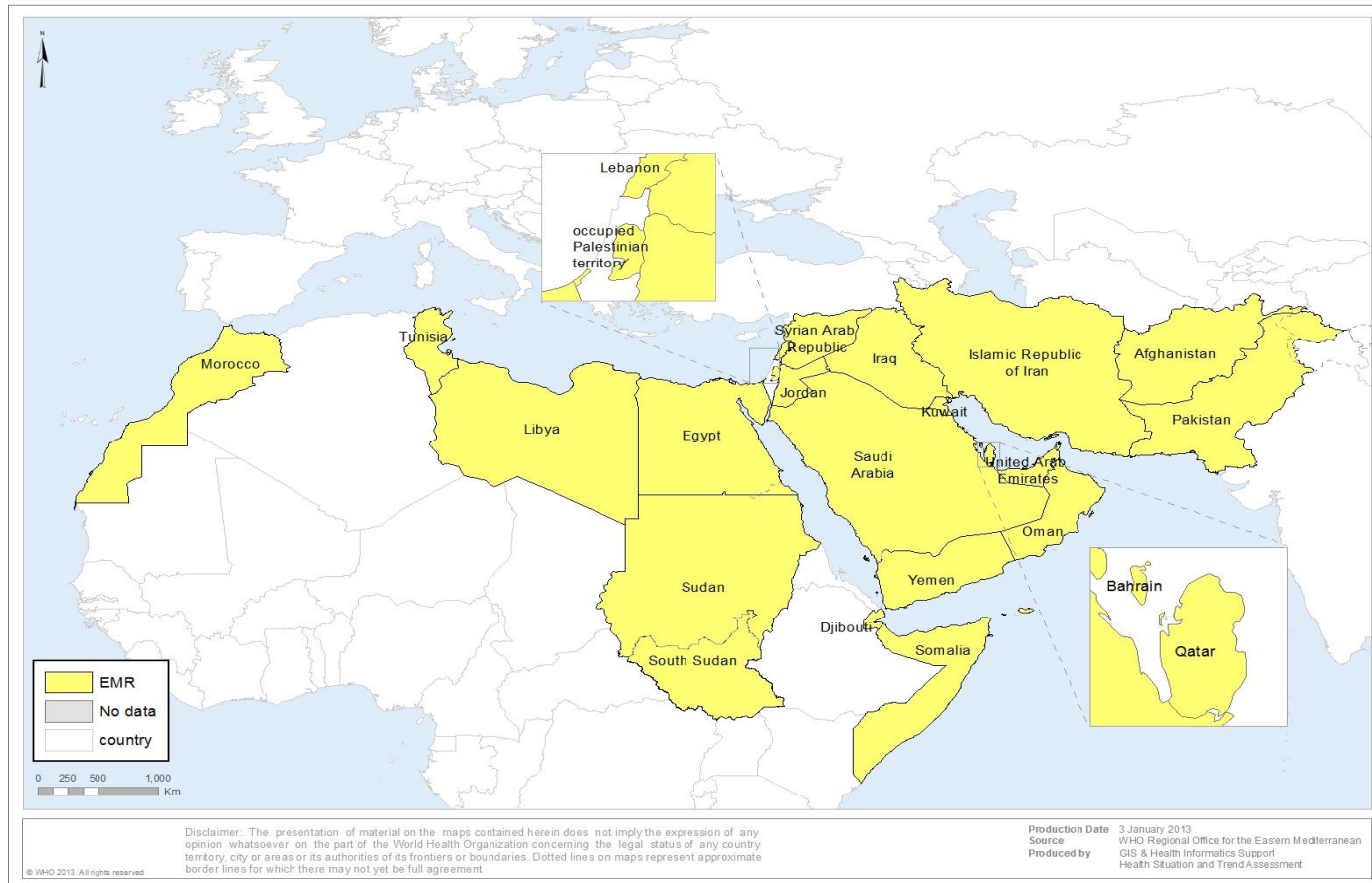
EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database - www.emdat.be - Université Catholique de Louvain, Brussels - Belgium

Reported economic damages from natural disasters in 2011



WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region

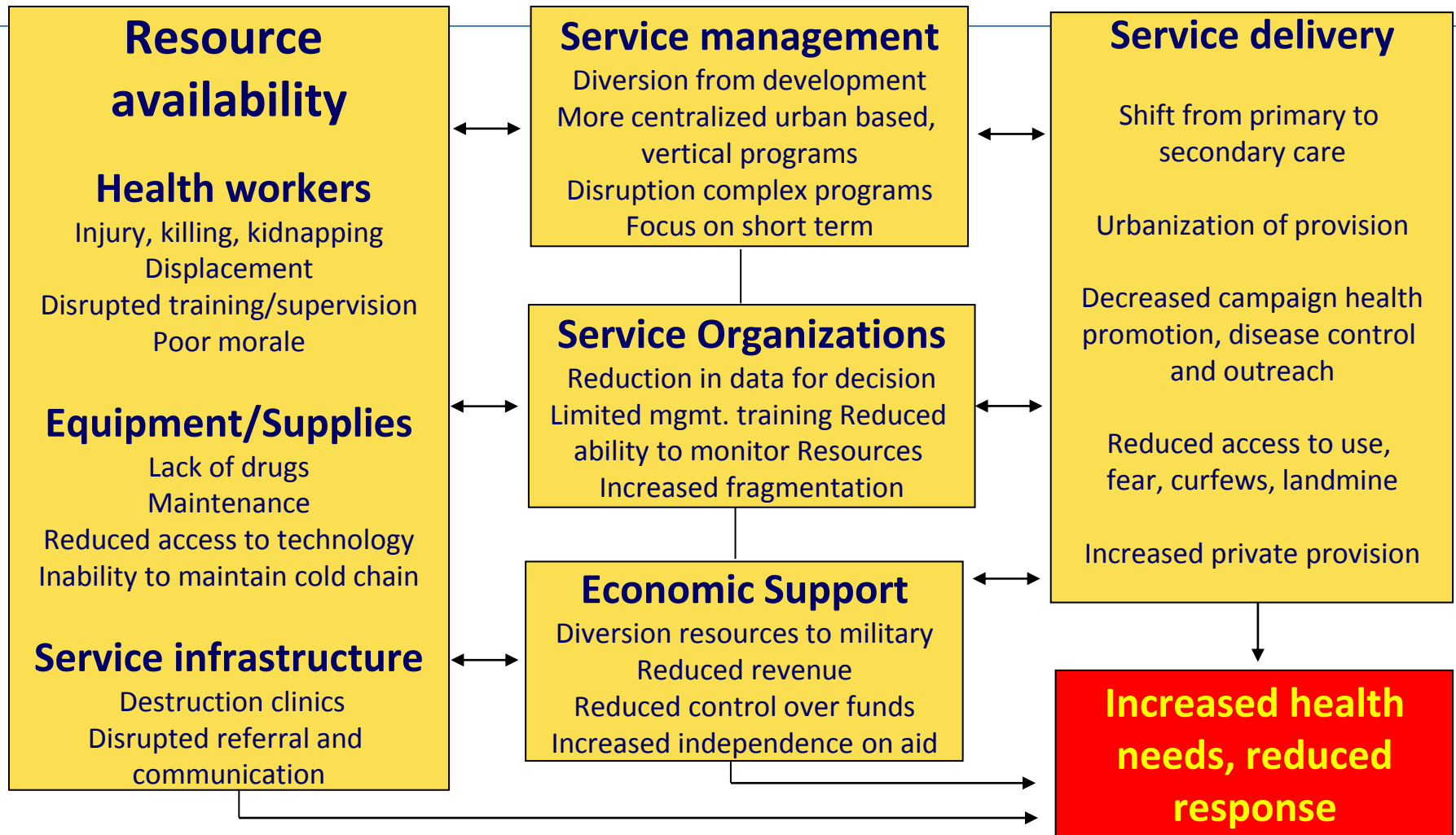
13 out of the 23 countries of the region are affected by humanitarian emergencies (affecting more than 40 million people)



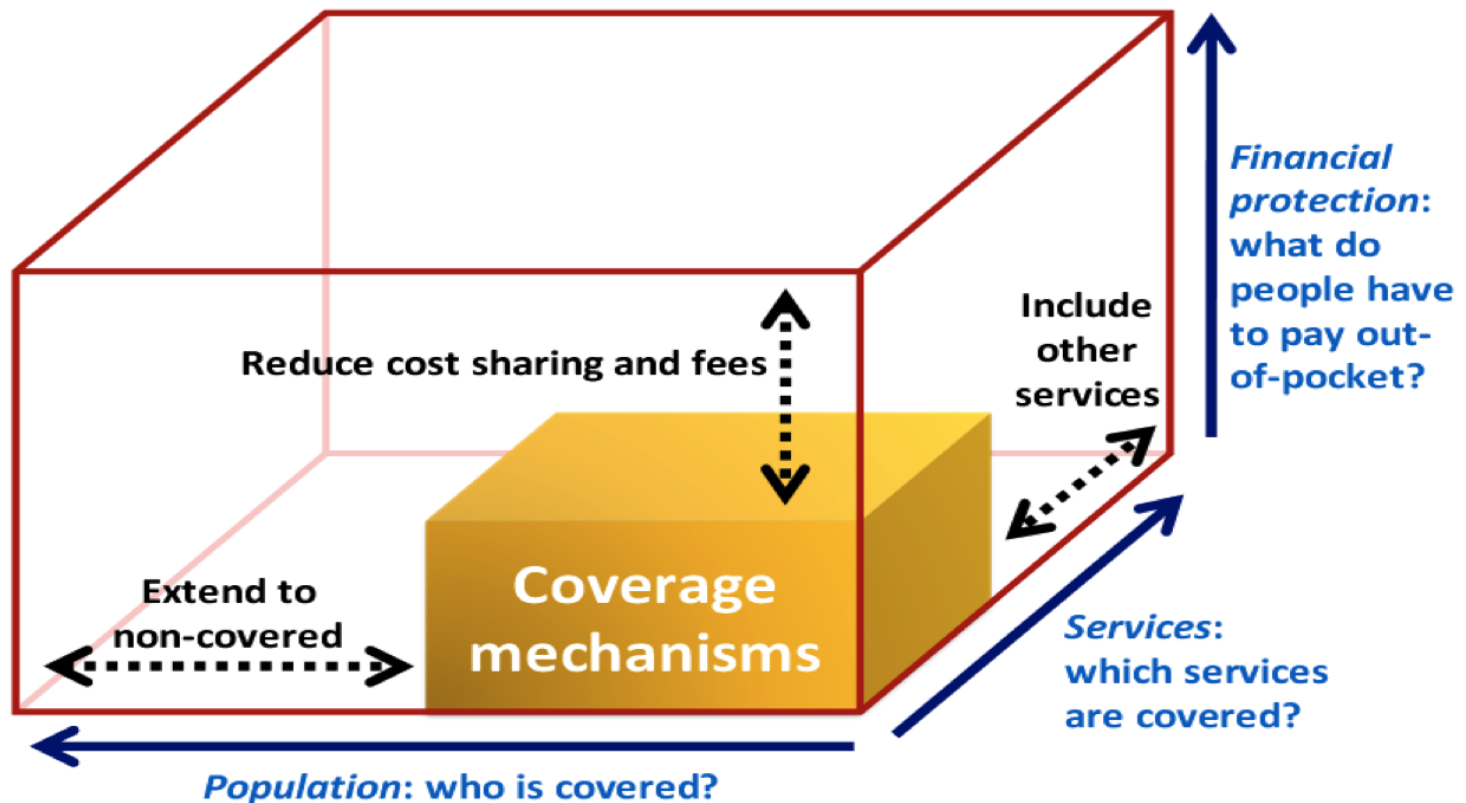
More than 50% of the world's refugees in 2012 originate in countries of the Eastern Mediterranean Region

Out of 7.6 m people who became refugees in 2012, more than 4 million are from this region

Damage to health systems



Universal Health Coverage



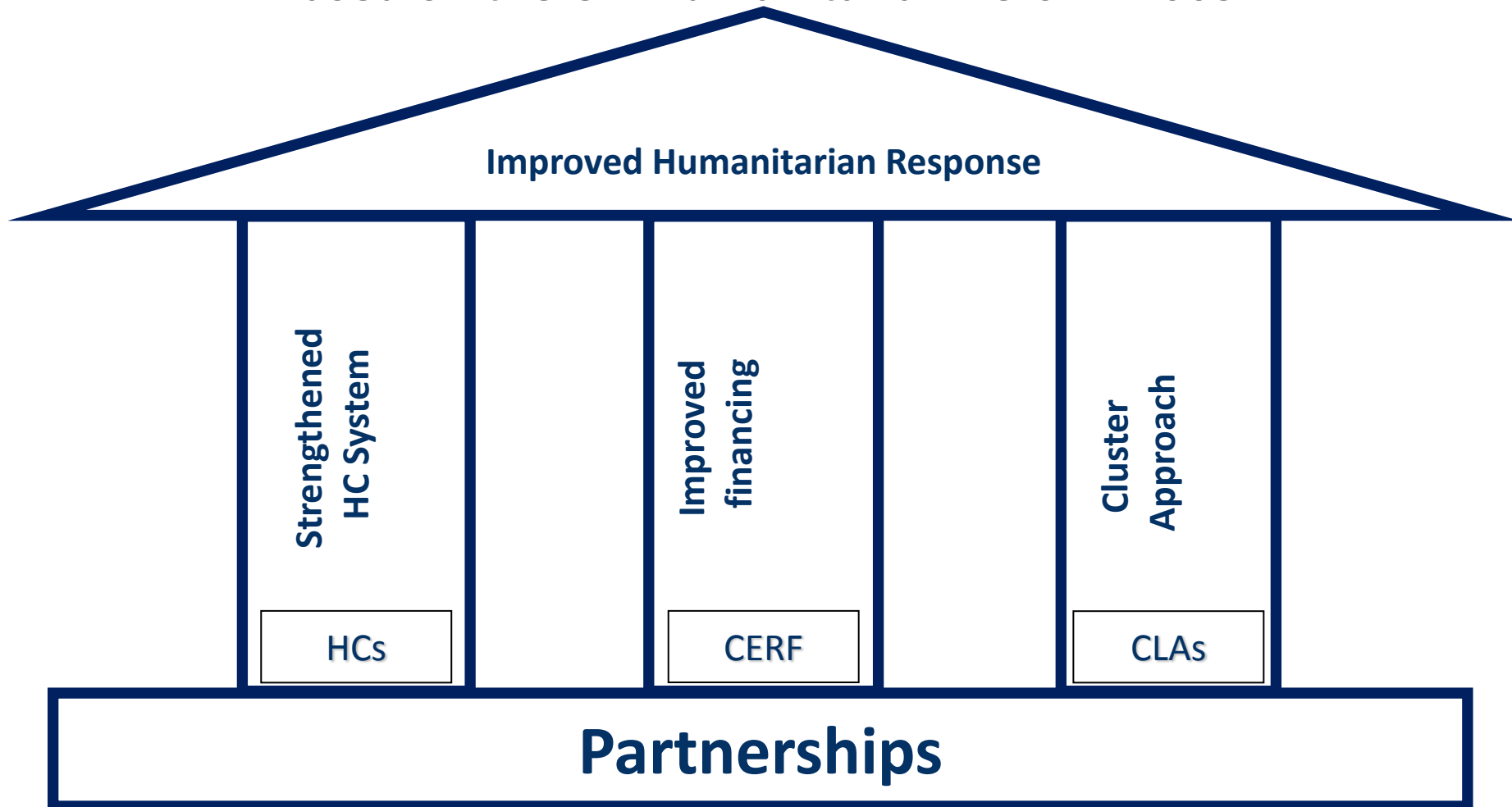
Humanitarian reform

UHC is rooted in humanitarian principles

- Intersectoral action
- Neutrality
- Solidarity
- Equity and social justice
- Participation
- Accountability and reliability
- The fundamental right to health for all

Pillars of humanitarian health relief

Based on the UN Humanitarian Reform 2005

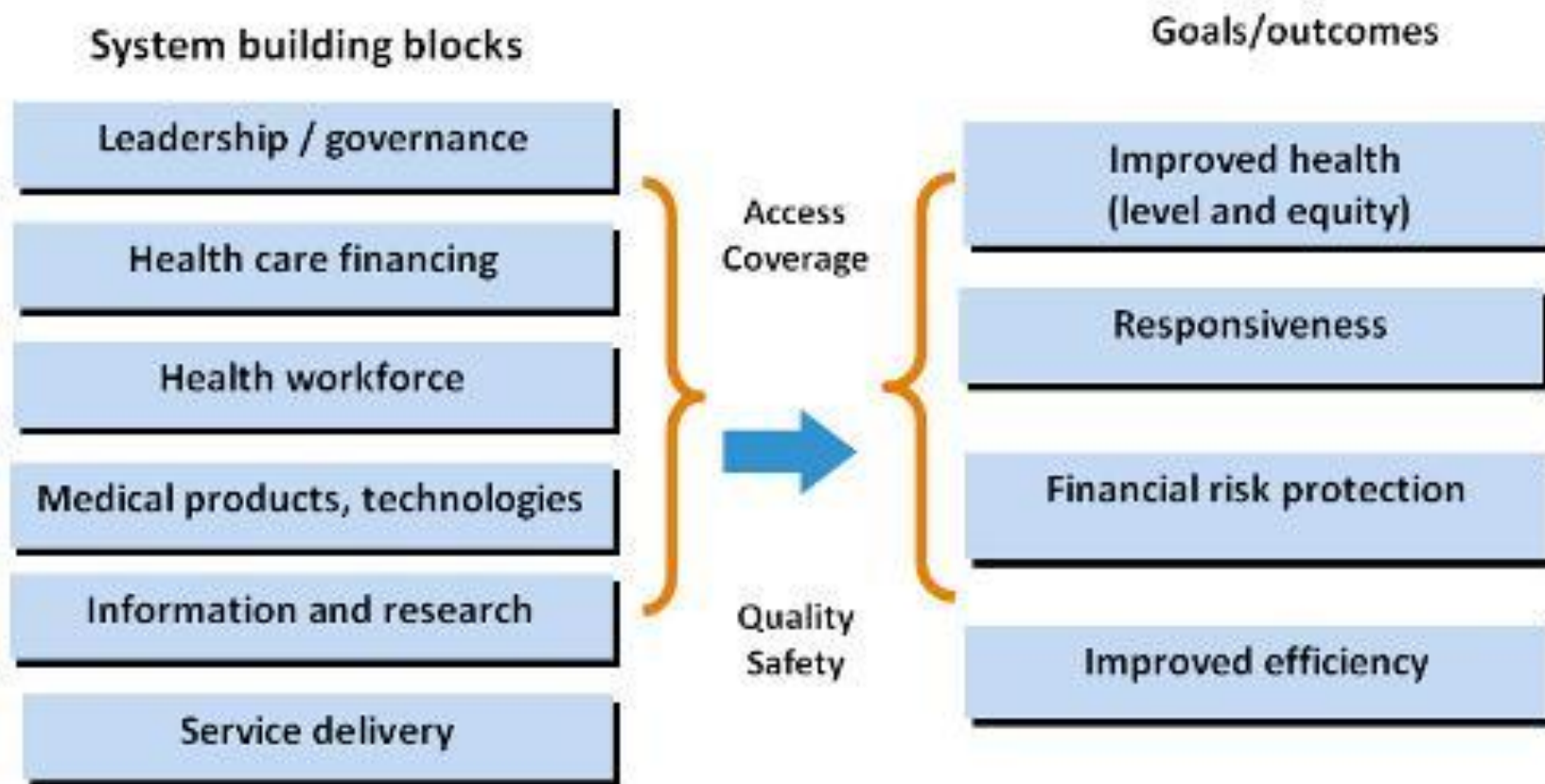


Access to public health services and financial risk protection

- Strong surveillance and early warning systems
- Immunization
- Safe water and sanitation
- Access to primary health care supported by effective referral systems to secondary and tertiary facilities.



Health systems building blocks and emergency management



Impediments to universal coverage in emergency response

- 1. Lack of risk assessment and preparedness**
- 2. Insecurity**
- 3. Lack of Access**
- 4. Inadequate Funding**
- 5. Shortage of Supplies**
- 6. Lack of attention to common conditions**

Conclusions

- UHC and emergency management in health are based on the same principles
- UHC can be achieved during emergencies if the humanitarian principles are adhered to
- Countries need to invest in preparedness and strengthen resilience of their health systems
- Countries need to learn from experience and address the gaps in their response
- International community need to learn from experience and invest in stronger coordination systems

WHO's Strategic vision

- Support countries in developing clear policies and legislation based on an all-hazard, 'whole health' approach;
- Focus on strengthening and safeguarding health facilities and the health workforce;
- Train a cadre of response experts;
- Maintain regional emergency stockpiles;
- Establish efficient inter-country solidarity mechanisms; and
- Strengthen evidence base through lessons learnt, best practices and economic assessments.

