Overview of Contingency Planning (CP)

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Time spent in contingency planning equals time saved when a disaster occurs.
Contingency planning ensures that we know what to do when disaster strikes, and have the systems and tools to respond fast. It means anticipating the types of disasters we might face and knowing practically how to manage disasters when they do strike.
Contingency planning involves anticipating a specific hazard based on specific events or known risks at local, national, regional or even global levels (e.g., earthquakes, floods or disease outbreaks), and establishing operational procedures for response, based on expected resource requirements and capacity.
Contingency Plan

key element of Emergency Response Framework (ERF)

Key component of WHO readiness framework and checklist

IHR, JEE, UN Humanitarian Response
A typical CP should answer:

- What could happen
- What should the health sector do to reduce the risks
- What should be done to be ready to address all the needs
- How will WHO fulfil its responsibilities
- How will it update itself
- How will it be assessed
Key principles

• practical
• simple and easy to do
• realistic and feasible
• needs based and efficient, ensuring fair use of resources
• process driven for effective operationalization
• regularly tested through exercises
• monitored and updated
Thank you!