



Who can do  
What  
for safe hospitals



### **Communities**

- ◆ Support the health facilities in their implementation of emergency planning.
- ◆ Participate in the emergency planning and integrate it with the community emergency planning for health.
- ◆ Support initiatives politically and economically for strengthening health facilities.
- ◆ Advocate for better building of health facilities in your area.

### **Architects and engineers**

- ◆ Participate actively in the assessment of health facilities to ensure they are safe against various types of emergencies.
- ◆ Implement engineering and architectural interventions so that health facilities are strengthened.
- ◆ When designing and building new hospitals and health facilities, ensure that the element of safety is incorporated into the design. Advocate with stakeholders for the importance of ensuring hospitals are safe from disasters.





### **Health institutions and health workforce**

- ◆ Develop a health facility emergency risk management programme, for example by setting up safe health facilities committees to oversee implementation of such efforts.
- ◆ Promote safety and security of health workers in emergencies on an institutional and national level.
- ◆ Seek opportunities for training and conduct exercises to update and maintain skills and knowledge.
- ◆ Develop an emergency preparedness plan for your health facility and integrate it into local health emergency and community emergency plans.
- ◆ Test and update national, local and health facility emergency response plans.

### **International and regional agencies and NGOs**

- ◆ Identify your agency's or NGO's specialized niche as it relates to health facilities in emergencies and share your knowledge and expertise to make health facilities safe and prepared.
- ◆ Build on existing interagency mechanisms and strategic partnerships to strengthen health facility preparedness.

### **Governments**

Countries that have established a "Safe Hospitals" programme will have taken an important step towards protecting their health facilities and providing health care when it is most needed. Important actions are:

- ◆ Promote the need to make health facilities safe and functional in emergencies for health, social and economic reasons.
- ◆ Develop national multisectoral policies and programmes to make health facilities safe in emergencies.
- ◆ Invest in health facility projects that ensure safe siting, design, construction, provision of care and emergency preparedness.
- ◆ Integrate health facility safety and emergency preparedness into procedures for the licensing and accreditation of health facilities and professionals.
- ◆ Draft, pass and enforce legislation that protect hospitals including building codes.
- ◆ Carry out safety assessments of existing health facilities.





### **Financial institutions and donors**

- ◆ Integrate safety and emergency preparedness measures in all plans and proposals for health construction projects, including hazard and vulnerability assessments and safety assessments for retrofitting projects.
- ◆ Work with governments for the enforcement of land use planning and building codes.
- ◆ Promote research on the economics of making health facilities safe in emergencies.
- ◆ Consider integrating safe health facilities and emergency preparedness into disaster and development portfolios.

### **Universities, schools and professional bodies**

- ◆ Develop modules or courses to incorporate health facility safety and emergency preparedness into university and professional curricula.
- ◆ Where possible, integrate the knowledge and practice of safe health facilities in curricula of non-health courses (e.g. architectural and engineering courses).
- ◆ Encourage innovations and cutting-edge designs for the safety of health facilities through research and development programmes and funding.

