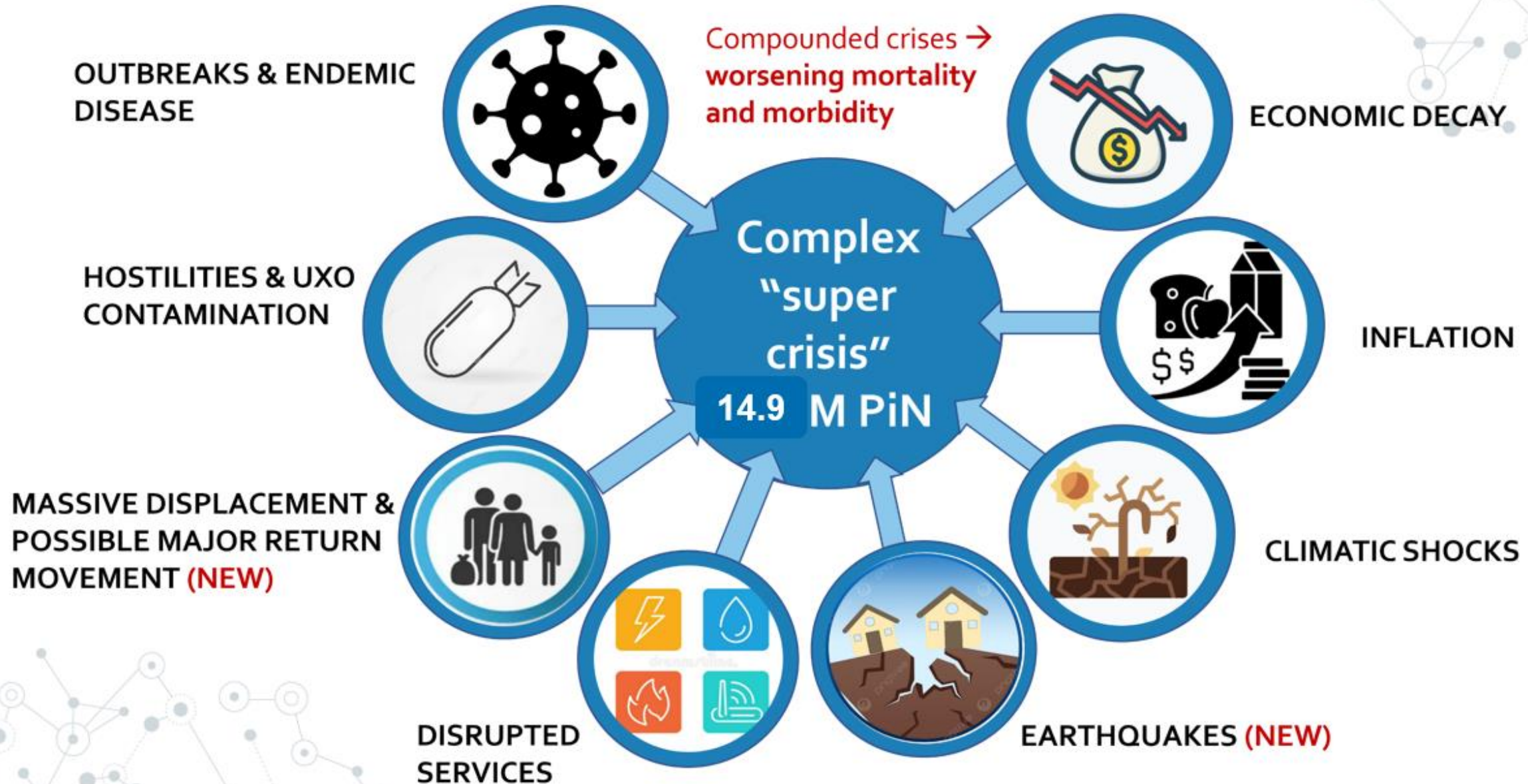


# STAR for Emergency planning - EMRO Experience of Whole of Syria Health Sector

**STAR Global Webinar**  
**October, 17 2024**

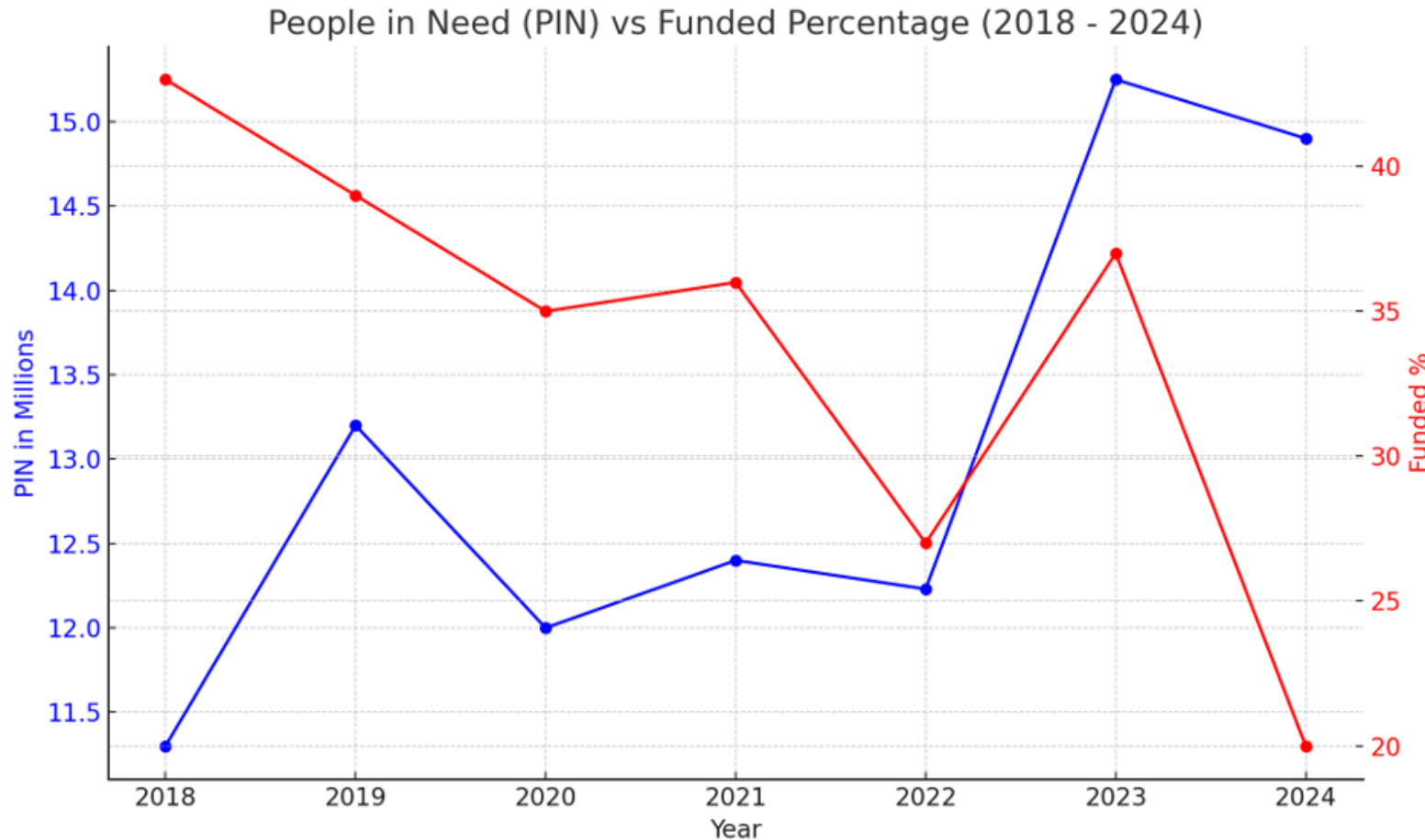
**By: WoS health Sector Coordinator**

# Syria 13 years on... the vulnerable become MORE vulnerable



# Major challenges – Effect of protracted crises, conflict and social unrest

- ❖ Increase Needs and severe under-funding against increasing needs and gaps to deliver basic health services delivery



## Major Need Drivers

- ☐ Political, security/conflict (ongoing attacks, impact of regional conflict), Hostilities, sanctions, and red lines
- ☐ Fragmented Health Systems Governance leadership and coordination
- ☐ Socio-economic challenges – water crises, other climate shocks, fuel and power shortages, inflation
- ☐ Recurrent Disease Outbreaks
- ☐ Food insecurity , Malnutrition
- ☐ Protection issues including attacks on healthcare, GBV, SEA
- ☐ Natural Disasters – Drought, 2023 earthquakes – Huge loss and damage to the health sector
- ☐ Massive displacement – IDPs, returnees, etc

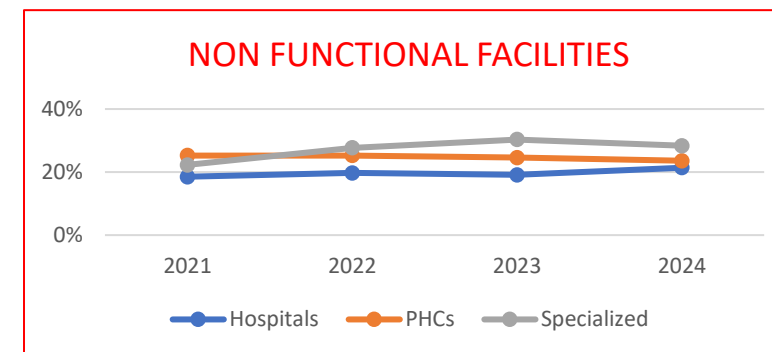
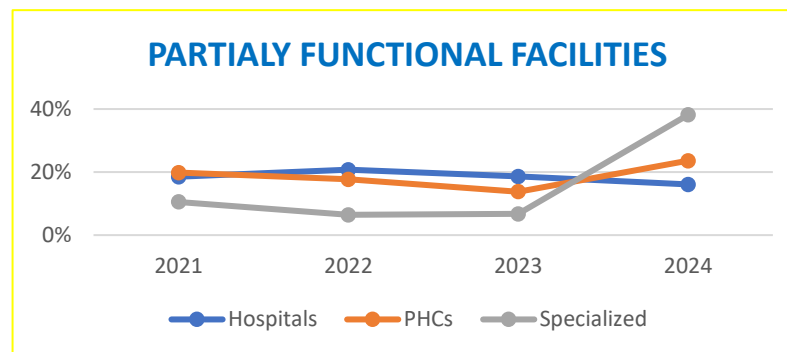
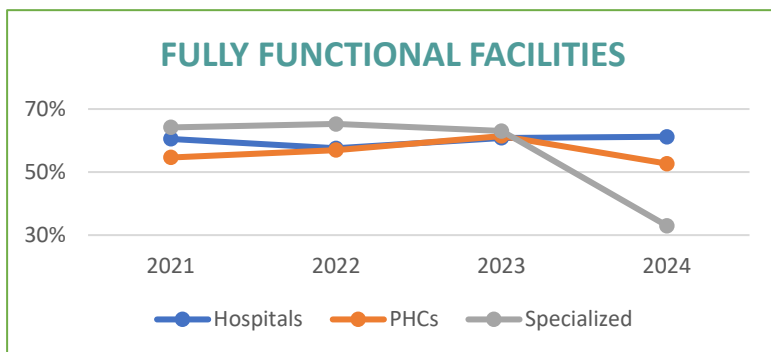
# HEALTH SECTOR RESPONSE ANALYSIS – Health system capacity

## WoS HeRAMS Q2 2024

HOSPITALS				
Year	Fully Functional	Partially Functional	Non Functional	Not Reported
2021	60.5%	18.5%	18.5%	2.5%
2022	57.5%	20.7%	19.7%	2.1%
2023	60.8%	18.6%	19.1%	1.5%
2024	61.2%	16.0%	21.4%	1.5%

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE FACILITIES				
Year	Fully Functional	Partially Functional	Non Functional	Not Reported
2021	54.6%	19.8%	25.3%	0.3%
2022	57.0%	17.7%	25.3%	0.1%
2023	61.5%	13.8%	24.6%	0.2%
2024	52.7%	23.6%	23.6%	0.2%

SPECIALIZED FACILITIES				
Year	Fully Functional	Partially Functional	Non Functional	Not Reported
2021	64.2%	10.5%	22.2%	3.1%
2022	65.2%	6.4%	27.7%	0.7%
2023	63.0%	6.7%	30.3%	0.0%
2024	32.9%	38.2%	28.3%	0.6%



- Close to 40% of health facilities are either not functional or partially functional,
- % of non-functioning hospitals increased from 19.1% in 2023 to 21.4% in 2024
- % of partially functioning PHC, and specialized facilities increased from 13.8 – 6.7% to 23.6 – 38.2 % respectively



# Overview- Whole of Syria Health Sector coordination



A Whole of Syria (WoS) coordination approach was established in 2015 to

bring humanitarian actors working in Syria and in neighboring countries (cross-border operation) together to increase the overall effectiveness of the response.

It constitutes one comprehensive framework, a common response plan and a supporting coordination structure

Added value to date includes coordination between hubs with joint geographic presence to avoid duplication; ensure complementarity, enhanced collaboration between nutrition and food security; greater information sharing between hubs; flexible, responsive coordination; and joint planning.

## WHOLE OF SYRIA Health - AMM

**Established** 2015

**Team**  
Health Cluster Coordinator (HCC) – WHO  
NGO Co-coordinator, (IRC)- vacant  
1 Information Management Officer (IMO) (consultant) – WHO  
1 Public health officer (consultant) – WHO

## SYRIA HCT- DAMASCUS

<b>Activated</b>	2013
<b>Team</b>	HCC HC Support assistant 2 IMOs 1 GIS/HIS assistants
<b>Partners<sup>1</sup></b>	138 TOTAL
<b>Subnational Hubs</b>	(7)

## CROSS BORDER TURKEY - GZT

<b>Activated</b>	2015
<b>Team</b>	HCC HC Support officer 2 IMOs
<b>Partners<sup>1</sup></b>	141 TOTAL
<b>Subnational Hubs</b>	None (3 sub-national HCCs)

## NGO Response XB NORTHEAST SYRIA

<b>Activated</b>	2017 – NGO led
<b>Team</b>	HWG coordinator (RI) Public health officer Senior IMO Diseases outbreaks Emergency response co
<b>Partners<sup>1</sup></b>	36 TOTAL
<b>Subnational Hubs</b>	None

# WoS health Sector Risk Assessment – STAR



## Rationale

- Recurrent and complex disasters affecting health sector operations
- Lack of priority risks and hazards at WoS
  - PHSA, Event-specific risk assessments 2022
  - MOH Syria 2023 JEE and NAPHS
  - NWS Risk Profile 2023
  - Hazard-specific contingency and response plans
- Lack of pro-active response mechanisms
- Minimal preparedness and readiness capacities
- In effective use of limited available resources

## WoS Health Sector Action

Using WHO STAR, the WoS health sector, with EMRO IHP support, and in coordination with the Cluster Lead Agencies (CLA) and health sector coordinators across WoS response areas have agreed to conduct

Round 1:

WoS health sector Risk Assessment May – June 2022

Round 2:

WoS health sector All-Hazards Risk Assessment August 2023

# WoS health Sector Risk Assessment – STAR- Method

## Involvement

- Health cluster coordinators in the three response areas across Syria
- Health information Management officers at three hubs
- WHO technical team in WCO and GZT office
- EMRO WHE with IHP team facilitate the workshop
- NES forum team
- WoS sectors – Nutrition and WASH
- Few of WoS health sector partners at WoS (GBV/ UNFPA) were consulted.

## STAR Exercise/ Discussion

Because it was difficult to have one Physical STAR workshop, therefore

- All necessary and relevant documents both within and outside the health sector were collected and compiled into an online shared folder
- 6 online sessions between September and December 2023.
- Facilitation from the EMRO team

## Review Process and validation

- Follow up calls with EMRO team and response areas
- A first draft of the health risk profile report was prepared and shared with all contributors/ CLA for feedback.
- A follow-up in-person meeting was held on February 2024, in order to review the results, regroup some identified hazards, and validation.
- Also to agree key priority areas to focus on and to prepare specific contingency plans.“
- Clearance from the WCO and GZT office

## Usefulness of STAR in WoS context

### At WoS:

- To inform the development of the WoS health sector Multi-hazards Preparedness Plan (V2 is being drafted)
- With WoS sectors of Nutrition, WASH, and Food security engaged

### At response Area:

- The STAR results were used for the diseases prioritization exercise at response area
- Plan to inform the development of specific hazards Readiness and response plan

# WoS health Sector Risk Assessment – findings



## WoS Risk Profile 2022

- Key findings: according to the updated profile:
  - To identify the potential hazards of the health sector at WoS.
  - 21 risks were identified as potential hazards that could require Health sector partners intervention.
  - Based on the risk ranking classification, the identified hazards risks were distributed as follows:

Very High risk	3
High risk	8
Moderate risks	7
Low Risks	3

## WoS Risk Profile 2023

- Key findings: according to the updated profile:
  - review and update Whole of Syria (WoS) 2022 risk profile exercise
  - 27 potential hazards were identified with varying consequences on the health sector ranging from moderate to very high impact.
  - Based on the risk ranking classification, the identified hazards risks were distributed as follows:

Very High risk	7
High risk	12
Moderate risks	8



# WoS health Sector Risk Assessment – findings

## WoS Health Sector Risk Profile 2022

### Risk matrix (WOS)

June 2022

	Critical	Severe	Moderate	Minor	Negligible
Very unlikely					
Unlikely			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Viral Hemorrhagic Fever (VHF).</li> <li>- Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever (CCHF)</li> </ul>		
Likely		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Drought</li> <li>- Faeco-oral diseases<sup>1</sup></li> <li>- Power outage /clean water supply disruption)</li> <li>- Explosions/fire &amp; wildfire</li> <li>- Impact of boarder closures including non-renewal of UN cross border resolutions/security council resolution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Flood</li> <li>- Storm (Sand/dust/snow)-</li> <li>- Zoonosis<sup>4</sup></li> <li>-Industrial hazards</li> <li>-Transportation/accidents</li> <li>- Emerging disease<sup>5</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extreme temp (Heat waves).</li> <li>- Civil Unrest.</li> </ul>	
Very likely		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pandemics<sup>2</sup>.</li> <li>- Financial Crisis</li> </ul>			
Almost certain		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Armed Conflict- IDP, refugees, and migrants.</li> <li>- Vaccine preventable diseases<sup>3</sup>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vector-borne diseases (Leishmaniasis (endemic).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parasitic infestation</li> </ul>	

## WoS health sector AllOHazards Risk Profile 2023

Risk Rating Key →

Very low	Low	Moderate	High	Very high
1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VPD (Pertussis, Mumps, varicella)</li> <li>• Terrorism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hepatitis B</li> <li>• Emerging diseases</li> <li>• Flood</li> <li>• Gastroenteritis/Food borne diseases</li> <li>• VPD (Poliomyelitis, Rubella, Tetanus)</li> <li>• Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever</li> <li>• Dust/Sandstorm</li> <li>• Mass Gatherings</li> <li>• Malaria</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil unrest</li> <li>• Road closure / Airport disruption</li> <li>• UXOs-Explosions</li> <li>• Food Insecurity/ Malnutrition</li> <li>• Leishmaniasis</li> <li>• Heat wave</li> <li>• Cholera/ Acute Watery Diarrhea</li> <li>• Respiratory pathogens with pandemic potential</li> <li>• Earthquake</li> <li>• Scabies</li> <li>• VPD (Meningitis, Diphtheria, measles, TB)</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Transportation accidents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water supply failure</li> <li>• Financial crisis</li> <li>• Conflicts</li> <li>• Power outage/ or blackout</li> <li>• Cold wave/Severe winter</li> <li>• Impact of border closure</li> <li>• Displacement (IDPs)</li> </ul>

# Thanks!