

Role of ICT in Disaster mitigation and preparedness

Health Sector(WHO)

Role of ICT in Public Health Emergencies

- The landscape of public health emergency response has changed thanks to Information and Communication Technologies.
- Amount of information received increased, and quality improved.
- ICT, and internet has improved significantly in the region, and its dependable in many countries.
- ICT has accelerated the detection of emergency event, hence accelerating response.

Public Health Emergency Operation Centers

- Tens of functioning PHEOCs
 - Both in WHO and in Ministries of
 - Many have good ICT implementation.
 - Some of which have multiple Sub PHEOCs in governorates and districts.
 - In Sudan for example we 1 central have 18 sub PHEOCs, they can all connect daily with clear video calls.

PHEOC continued.

- PHEOC software requirements meeting held last week, many of which depends on ICT.
 - Vulnerability matrix, risk profiling.
 - Capacity monitoring
 - Gathering data and rumors from news Media, Social media, personnel on sites etc.
 - Collection of all emergency focal points contacts
 - Supply chain management for emergency stocks.
 - Analysis of historical data of previous events
 - Receiving routine data from Health Facilities and sub PHEOC in districts.
 - Two way communication between central PHEOC and Sub PHEOC in terms of response activities. And rapid response teams
- Thanks to ICT we can activate an PHEOC within 2 hours of detecting an emergency event.

Current gap

- Developing countries in the region are burdened with multiple emergencies
- ICT infrastructure in these countries is not dependable. In Yemen for example no form of internet is reliable ,hence why we are forced to use satellite in WHO's PHEOC.
- A lot of web based solutions that are not applicable due to internet constraints.
- ICT training for staff.