



*Earthquake in Yogyakarta, Indonesia May 2006. Little girl building her own little shelter
(Phil Vine/International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies)*

Glossary

A

Term	Definition
Access	The proportion of the population that can use the service or facility.
Acute diarrhoea	Acute diarrhoea (passage of 3 or more loose stools in the past 24 hours) with or without dehydration.
Acute flaccid paralysis (suspected poliomyelitis)	Acute flaccid paralysis in a child aged <15 years, including Guillain–Barré syndrome, or any acute paralytic illness in a person of any age in whom poliomyelitis is suspected.
Acute haemorrhagic fever syndrome	3 weeks) and any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ haemorrhagic or purpuric rash, ▪ vomiting with blood, ▪ cough with blood, ▪ blood in stools, ▪ epistaxis, ▪ other haemorrhagic symptoms.
Acute jaundice syndrome	Illness with acute onset of jaundice and absence of any known precipitating factors and/or fever.
Acute lower respiratory tract infections/ pneumonia in children <5 years	cough or difficulty breathing and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Breathing 50 or more times per minute for infants aged 2 months to 1 year. ▪ Breathing 40 or more times per minute for children aged 1 to 5 years. <p>And No chest indrawing, no stridor, no general danger signs. <i>Note:</i> severe pneumonia = cough or difficulty breathing + one or more of the following (inability to drink or breast feed, severe vomiting, convulsions, lethargy or unconsciousness) or chest indrawing or stridor in a otherwise calm child.</p>
Acute malnutrition	Underweight and wasting are indicators of acute malnutrition. Among children, acute malnutrition is defined as weight-for-height of less than two standard deviations of the reference population median weight-for-height. Among adults, acute malnutrition is defined as a Body Mass Index of less than 18.5.
Accountability	The responsibility of demonstrating to stakeholders, including the beneficiaries, that humanitarian assistance meets with agreed standards.
Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)	A disease defined by a set of signs and symptoms characterised by the body's compromised immune response; caused by hiv and transmitted through body fluids (e.g., semen, blood).
Active child feeding	Occurs when the caregiver actively encourages her child to eat while remaining sensitive to the demands of the child.
Activity	An action within a project that is done to achieve an objective; actual

	tasks that are required to produce desired outputs; activities transform inputs to outputs.
Adherence	Refers to how closely instructions or recommendations are followed regarding appropriate health behaviour or treatment from a health care provider.
Adjustment	Changing the plan according to new information gathered through monitoring. The alteration may be minor or dramatic, depending on the unforeseen event or change of circumstance.
Age-specific rate	A rate in which the information in the numerator and denominator is limited to persons within a particular age group.
Alternative providers	Part of the health system and may include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Spiritual Healers, ▪ Community health volunteers, ▪ Traditional Healers, ▪ Traditional Birth Attendants, ▪ Elders
Anaemia	Defined by low haemoglobin concentration which reduces the transport of oxygen to the cells of the body. Severe anaemia is a haemoglobin concentration of < 7 g/dl or hematocrit of < 20 %.
Anxiety	Intense and prolonged fear or worry that can lead to mental distress or panic. A vague, unpleasant emotional state with qualities of apprehension, dread, distress and uneasiness. Frequently distinguished from <i>fear</i> that assumes a specific object, person or event, <i>anxiety</i> is often objectless.
Attack rate	The percentage of a well-defined population that develops an infectious disease over an outbreak period. Calculated by dividing the total number of people with the disease by the total population at risk at the start of the outbreak period.

B

Term	Definition
Barrel latrines	A barrel latrine is an option in places where the water table is high, the soil is too hard to dig, or the weather is cold (thus requiring indoor latrines). Typical designs incorporate a 200-litre barrel.
Basic MCI management	Basic mass casualty Incident management is composed of a series of steps that collectively meet the immediate health needs of disaster victims.
Beriberi	Caused by thiamine (vitamin B ₁) deficiency and has been observed in refugee populations consuming polished white rice as the staple cereal. Clinical signs of “dry” beriberi are neuritis and limb paralysis; the sign of “wet” beriberi is edema, which can lead to cardiac failure.
Bias	Any effect while collecting or interpreting data that leads to a systematic error in one direction, e.g. recall bias.
Blanket supplementary feeding	Supplementary feeding for subpopulations which are malnourished or are at high risk of becoming malnourished during a food emergency.

Bloody diarrhoea	Acute diarrhoea with visible blood in the stool. To confirm a case of epidemic bacillary dysentery: take a stool specimen for culture and blood for serology; isolation of <i>Shigella dysenteriae</i> type 1.
-------------------------	--

C

Term	Definition
Camp	A place where a group of displaced people temporarily lodge in tents, huts, or other makeshift shelters. A camp setting may vary as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tented cities relying wholly on external support; ▪ Small, open settlements where refugee communities are able to maintain a village atmosphere; ▪ Larger, more crowded settlements where its inhabitants are more dependent on external aid. Level of control exercised by national and international authorities.
Carrier	A person that carries a specific infectious agent—and can transmit it to others—but has no clinical signs of infection.
Case	An individual identified as having a particular characteristic, e.g. disease, behaviour, or condition.
Case definition	Standard criteria for deciding whether a person has a particular disease or health problem. Criteria can be clinical, laboratory, or epidemiological.
Case Fatality Rate (CFR)	The percentage of persons diagnosed with a specified disease that die as a result of that illness within a given period.
Case Management Protocol (CMP)	Protocols are designed to ensure a high and consistent level of care and should be followed by all agencies providing clinical health services. Most countries have established standardised case management protocols for treatment of common medical and surgical conditions.
Catchment area	The geographical area from which all the people attending a particular health facility come.
Census	The counting of all individuals in a particular population. Usually includes other details such as age, sex, occupation, ethnic group, marital status, housing and relationship to head of household.
Central level of clinical care	First contact of the community with the formal health care system. Not usually staffed by medical officers, rather, is run by medical assistants and other professional staff. Offers ambulatory care, limited in-patient care and reproductive care, community outreach services, and referral of emergent/complex conditions.
Chemoprophylaxis	The administration of drugs (usually antimicrobials) to prevent the development or progression of an infection to actual disease or to stop transmission and disease in others: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mass chemoprophylaxis — administering drugs to the entire population. ▪ Selective chemoprophylaxis — administering drugs to the highest risk group.
Clinical illness	Signs and symptoms that give evidence of an infection.

Cluster sampling	A sampling method in which each selected unit is composed of a group of persons rather than an individual, e.g. villages, households.
Communicable disease (Infectious disease)	An illness due to a specific infectious agent or its toxic products that arises through transmission of that agent or its products from an infected person, animal, or reservoir to a susceptible host, either directly or indirectly through an intermediate plant or animal host, vector, or object in the environment.
Community Health Workers (CHWs)	Also known as Health Information Teams (HITs), home visitors (HVs), or Village Health Volunteers, CHWs are members of the community who are trained to act as direct intermediaries between the beneficiary population and the health care system.
Community-based health care	When barriers to facility-based health care exist, community-based health care becomes very important. As discussed above, there are two ways of establishing community-based health care: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Setting up a community health worker programme; and ▪ Integrating alternate health providers.
Community therapeutic care	Treatment of severe acute malnutrition on an outpatient basis, appropriate for uncomplicated cases (children who have good appetites, do not require a nasogastric tube for feeding, and have no edema) on an outpatient basis.
Complex emergency	An internal crisis of the state in which the capacity to sustain livelihood and life is threatened by primarily political factors and in particular, high levels of violence.
Complex humanitarian emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A major man-made disaster that may be complicated by natural disaster(s), and loss of life. It often requires the support of a multinational military peace operation; ▪ A humanitarian crisis in a country or region where there is a total or considerable breakdown of authority resulting from internal and/or external conflict requiring an international response.
Conductivity	A measure that provides information on the chemical composition of water and affects taste, corrosion and encrustation.
Conflict analysis	Systematic study of the profile, causes, actors and dynamics of conflict; it helps aid workers to develop a better understanding of the context in which they work and their role in that context.
Conflict sensitivity	Awareness of historical, actual or potential conflict, the likelihood of further conflict and its severity; and the capacity to work with all parties to reduce conflict and/or minimize the risk of further conflict.
Contact	A person or animal that has had an opportunity to acquire the infection following association with an infected person or animal or contaminated environment.
Context	All socio-economic and political tensions, root causes and structural factors are relevant to conflict sensitivity because they have the potential to become violent.
Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR)	Percentage of women of reproductive age using a method of family planning. CPR can be narrowed down to married women only or women using a modern method only.
Convenience sampling	Selection of a sample that is nearby, easily reached, e.g. selecting people attending a clinic or those with shelters next to the road, etc. It is very biased.

Coordination	Harmonious and effective working together of people and organisations toward a common goal.
Cope	Behaviour that protects a person from internal or external stress. Examples of healthy coping behaviour: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reaching out to others for help; ▪ Actively working to find a solution; ▪ Resolving the source of stress; Examples of unhealthy coping behaviour: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Avoiding the source of the threat; ▪ Ignoring the threat; ▪ Denying the effect in order to function normally; ▪ Self-medication, such as heavy drinking, tobacco smoking or other unsafe behaviour.
Counselling	A generic term that is used to cover several guiding and advising processes with the purpose of assisting an individual or group to solve problems, plan for the future etc.
Coverage	The proportion of the target group that has received a service or is protected from a disease or health problem.
Crude birth rate (CBR)	Number of births in a population during a year or other limited time frame divided by the total midyear population or midpoint of the time frame selected.

D

Term	Definition
Defecation fields	Specific areas reserved for defecating that serve to keep people separate from their excreta, most appropriate in arid and semi-arid climates.
Demography	The study of populations, with reference to size, age, structure, density, fertility, mortality, growth and social and economic variables.
Denominator	The lower portion of a fraction. In calculating rate, this number is the total population at risk.
Depression	Generally, a mood state characterised by a sense of inadequacy, a feeling of despondency, a decrease in activity or reactivity, pessimism, sadness and related symptoms.
Determinant	An attribute, variable, or exposure that increases (risk factor) or decreases (protective factor) the occurrence of a specific event.
Disaster	Regardless of the cause, disasters have the following characteristics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A great or sudden misfortune; ▪ Beyond the normal capacity of the affected community to cope, unaided; ▪ The interface between vulnerable human conditions and a natural hazard.
Domestic violence/intimate partner violence	Physical, sexual and/or emotional violence against a woman that is committed by her husband or other intimate partner.
Drought	Any unusual, prolonged dry period that reduces soil moisture and

	water supplies below the minimum level necessary for sustaining plant, animal, and human life. Droughts occur because of low, sporadic, or late rainfall and as a result of human activities such as deforestation, overgrazing by livestock, erosion, lack of soil conservation, reliance on the cultivation of single cash crops, and traditional farming methods, such as slash and burn.
Drug resistance	The ability of an infectious agent to survive despite the administration of an antimicrobial in a dose equal to or higher than the usual recommended dose.

E

Term	Definition
Early warning indicators	Consists of simple, predictive benchmarks to alert authorities to impending interruptions in food supply and/or access to food.
Ectopic pregnancy	A pregnancy whereby the embryo implants outside the uterus, usually in the fallopian tube.
Effectiveness	The extent to which an organisation is doing the right thing to reach its objectives.
Efficacy	Extent to which a specific intervention, procedure, regimen or service produces a beneficial result to the individual or target population.
Efficiency	The degree to which results (desired outcomes) are achieved without wasting resources. How economically inputs are converted into outputs.
Emergency Contraception	Post-coital mechanisms to inhibit ovulation and implantation.
Emergency phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Begins when the Crude Mortality Rate (CMR) exceeds twice the baseline rate. Where the baseline CMR is not known the emergency phase begins when the CMR exceeds 1/10,000 people/day; ▪ When the baseline under five mortality rate is unknown, the threshold for the emergency phase in children is 2/10,000/day.
Emerging disease	Newly recognized or newly evolved disease or that has occurred previously but is showing expansion of the geographical, host, or vector range.
Empathy	Identifying with and understanding another person's situation, emotions and feelings.
Endemic	The continuous presence of a disease or infectious agent within a geographical area; the usual prevalence of a disease within such an area.
EPI	Expanded Program on Immunisation.
Epidemic	The occurrence of cases of an illness clearly in excess of what is normally expected. This depends on the specific illness, the season and location. Requires knowledge of previous incidence of the event in the same area.

Epidemic or outbreak	The occurrence of cases of an illness with a frequency that is clearly in excess of what is expected in a given region, therefore, demanding emergency control measures.
Epidemic threshold	The minimum number of cases indicating the beginning of an outbreak.
Epidemiology	The study of the distribution and causes of disease in populations as well as its application to the prevention and control of health problems and diseases.
Essential drug list	This list will contain a group of medications used for the common and serious conditions likely to be encountered in the emergency phase. The list of medications may need to be tailored to the specific geographic location and nature of public health emergency.
Evaluation	A process that attempts to determine in a systematic and definitive way the relevance, effectiveness and impact of activities in relation to their objectives. A periodic assessment of the relevance, effectiveness and impact of health interventions against the set objectives. Evaluation is a learning and action-oriented tool that requires the establishment of specific objectives, progress indicators and criteria.
Exposure	Meeting with an infectious agent in a way that may cause disease.

F

Term	Definition
Facility-based health care	Facility-based health care can be established by augmenting the local health care system, setting up a separate health care system or setting up mobile or satellite clinics.
Faecal coliforms	A category of bacteria that match the characteristics of bacteria found in the stool of warm-blooded mammals.
Faecal-oral disease transmission	Occurs when faeces, which contain disease causing pathogens, from one person enters the mouth and is ingested by another person. Factors related to faecal-oral transmission include drinking water contaminated with faecal material (such contamination can occur at the source, during transport or in the household), poor hygiene due to a lack of water and/or hygienic practices and poor food hygiene (e.g. contamination of food by dirty hands or flies).
Famine	Occurs in a population whose food consumption is reduced to the extent that the population becomes acutely malnourished associated with a rise in mortality.
Fistula	An injury in the birth canal that allows leakage from the bladder or rectum into the vagina, leaving a woman permanently incontinent often leading to isolation and exclusion from the family and community.
Food basket	Consists of food commodities in sufficient quantities to meet a family's basic nutritional requirements and to provide a buffer against shortages or spoilage.

G

Term	Definition
Gender-based violence (GBV)	An act of violence that is perpetrated against a person based on socially ascribed differences between females and males. It is commonly used to refer to violence that is directed specifically against a woman because she is a woman or violence which affects women disproportionately. GBV includes sexual violence, domestic violence, trafficking, forced or early marriages and other harmful traditional practices.
Gender roles	The socially constructed roles, behaviour, activities and attributes that a given society considers appropriate for men and women and which affect their opportunities and experiences.
General food ration (GFR)	Food commodities in sufficient quantities to meet a family's basic nutritional requirements and to provide a buffer against shortages or spoilage.
Goal	Ultimate results to which a project is contributing – the impact of a project.
Grief	An emotional reaction to the death of a loved one. It may be expressed in two ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Healthy grief: feelings of sadness which diminish over time; missing the loved one but being able to return to normal activities after a reasonable length of time; ▪ Unhealthy grief: feelings of extreme loneliness, overwhelmed by sadness; unable to resume normal activities even after a reasonable period of time.

H

Term	Definition
Haemorrhage	Severe (often difficult to control) bleeding from within the body.
Hazard	Extreme event (natural or man-made) that may disrupt the lives of people, the vulnerable in particular, exposing them to loss of property or livelihood, injury or death.
Health Information System (HIS)	In emergencies, HIS is a set of data collection platforms implemented by a coordinated group of humanitarian actors generating information to support strategic decisions, monitor changes, prioritise action and allocate resources, manage programmes, scaling up or down operations, advocate and formulate concerns in relation to an emergency context. ³¹
Health services	Includes services provided by the host government, NGOs, mission hospitals, private practitioners, traditional birth attendants and traditional healers.
Host	A person or other living animal that accommodates an infectious agent under normal conditions. The parasite may undergo various developmental stages in the host who may not have symptoms.

Household	All members eating from the same pot or sleeping under one shelter.
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)	The virus that causes AIDS; it causes a defect in the body's immune system by invading and then multiplying within white blood cells.
Hygiene	In chapter 8, hygiene considers practices related to water hygiene (e.g. keeping water supplies safe), personal hygiene (e.g. washing hands), domestic hygiene (e.g. food hygiene) and environmental hygiene (e.g. keeping household environments free of excreta and solid waste).
Hypothesis	A reasonable statement that is set up to be verified or proved.

|

Term	Definition
Implementation	Transforming inputs through a set of systems and procedures to produce specified program outputs.
Incidence	The number of new cases, events (illness, death, malnutrition, injury) or attendance that are diagnosed or reported, divided by the total number of persons in a population during a defined period usually one year but shorter for outbreaks. Commonly used for acute, communicable diseases.
Incident Command System (ICS)	A hierarchical structure created to command, control and coordinate an effective emergency response among the various agencies and organisations involved in a disaster. It is designed to organise people and resources and to allocate necessary services to the population in need ⁶ . It is composed of five major components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Incident command; ▪ Operations; ▪ Planning; ▪ Logistics; and ▪ Finance.
Incidence rate	The number of new cases diagnosed or reported with a certain disease during a defined time period (usually 1 year) divided by the total population in which the cases occurred.
Incubation period	The interval from the time of infection to the time clinical signs of illness appears.
Index case	A person who acquires a disease through exposure and brings it into a population.
Indicator	A measure that reflects or indicates the state of a defined population, e.g. infant mortality rate. A "signal" that shows whether a standard has been reached. It is used to measure and communicate the result of programs as well as the process or methods used. Indicators can be quantitative or qualitative.
Indoor residual spraying (IRS)	Involves spraying long lasting insecticide on the walls and ceiling of dwellings to kill adult mosquitoes that land and rest on these surfaces. At least 85 percent of dwellings must be sprayed for this method to give mass protection across the community.
Infectious agent	Bacteria, viruses, fungi or parasites or their products that can cause disease.

Informed consent	Agreement given freely a person or responsible proxy (e.g. parent) for participation in a study, treatment regimen or vaccination after being notified about the purpose, method, benefit, risks and where relevant, the uncertainty of study outcomes.
Inputs	Resources (staff, supplies, equipment, money, information) needed to carry out project activities in a given time.
Intermediate event	Intermediate events causing temporary displacement include events such as flooding and hurricanes and even armed conflict. In these events, people expect to return to their homes and lives within several weeks to several months.
Internally Displaced Person (IDP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Persons forced to flee their homes suddenly or unexpectedly in large numbers, as a result of armed conflict, internal strife, systematic violations of human rights, natural or man-made disasters and who are within their own country's territory (UN Secretary General 1992). ▪ Persons or groups of persons forced or obliged to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of, or in order to avoid the effects of, armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights, or natural human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border (Inter-Agency Standing Committee Guiding Principles 1998).
Isolation	Keeping infected persons or animals in separate places or under certain conditions for as long as they can transmit disease. This prevents or limits the direct or indirect transmission of the infectious agent to those who are susceptible to infection.

K

Term	Definition
Kwashiorkor	Severe acute malnutrition indicated by the presence of edema of both feet.

L

Term	Definition
Leader	Someone who inspires people to face challenges in order to achieve the desired results.
Logistics cycle	The logistics cycle of drug management includes the selection, procurement, distribution, and use of drugs.
Low birth weight	Birth weight under 2.5 kg, an indicator of maternal underweight before and during pregnancy and increased risk of infant mortality.

M

Term	Definition
Malaria	<p>Person with onset of fever or history of fever within the past 48 hours (with or without other symptoms such as nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea, headache, back pain, chills, muscle pain) with positive laboratory test for malaria parasites (blood film (thick or thin smear) or rapid diagnostic test).</p> <p>In children - Uncomplicated malaria - Fever AND no general danger signs such as lethargy or unconsciousness, convulsions, or inability to eat or drink. Where possible, confirm malaria with laboratory test in children aged >5 years.</p> <p>Severe malaria - Fever AND general danger signs (lethargy or unconsciousness, convulsions, or inability to eat or drink).</p>
Management	Searching for the best use of resources in pursuit of objectives subject to change (Keeling). ⁴
Maramus	Severe acute malnutrition indicated by severe wasting.
Mass Casualty Incident (MCI)	Any event in which the needs of a large number of victims disrupt the normal capabilities of the local health service.
Mass displacement	An emergency such as refugees fleeing from a neighbouring country or internally displaced persons such as those in Northern Uganda, with potentially longer term needs for a select population.
Mass event	An emergency that may have long-term or immediate health effects on the health system. Mass events with long-term implication include disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis. Mass events with immediate implications may be caused by a bus or train or plane crash, biological warfare, fire or explosive incident, or a localised natural disaster.
Maternal mortality	The death of a woman while pregnant or within forty-two days of termination of pregnancy (by birth, abortion or miscarriage) due to complications from the pregnancy, delivery or management of either, or due to existing medical conditions that were aggravated by the pregnancy or delivery. ¹
Maternal mortality rate	The number of maternal deaths per 100,000 women of reproductive age.
Maternal mortality ratio	The number of maternal deaths per 100,000 births.
Mean	Commonly called the average. Calculated by adding the individual values in a group of measurements and dividing the total by the number of values.
Means of verification	Information or data required to assess progress against set indicators and their sources.
Measles	<p>Fever and maculopapular rash (i.e. non-vesicular) and cough, coryza (i.e. runny nose) or conjunctivitis (i.e. red eyes).</p> <p>or Any person in whom a clinical health worker suspects measles infection. To confirm a case of measles: Presence of measles-specific IgM antibodies.</p>

Median	The central value in a range of measurements that divides the data set into two equal parts.
Meningitis	<p>Suspected case - Sudden onset of fever (>38.5 °C) with stiff neck. In patients aged <12 months, a suspected case of meningitis occurs when fever is accompanied by a bulging fontanel.</p> <p>Probable case of bacterial meningitis - Suspected case of acute meningitis, as defined above, with turbid cerebrospinal fluid.</p> <p>Probable case of meningococcal meningitis - Suspected case of meningitis, as defined above and gram stain showing gram-negative diplococcus or ongoing epidemic or petechial or purpurial rash. To confirm a case of meningococcal meningitis Suspected or probable case, as defined above, with either positive-CSF antigen detection for <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> or positive CSF culture or blood with identification of <i>N. meningitidis</i>.</p>
Methods	Sequence of tasks or activities for achieving objectives.
Mid-Upper-Arm Circumference (MUAC)	A measure of fat and muscle in the mid-upper arm, which can be used for rapid assessments and screening.
Midwife	A skilled birth attendant who has received sufficient training to diagnose and manage complications during childbirth as well as to assist normal deliveries. Generally, midwives are able to handle basic obstetric problems but will refer more serious complications to a physician.
Minimum standard	The minimum acceptable level (of service) to be attained in humanitarian assistance.
Mode	The most frequently occurring value in a set of observations.
Monitoring	An ongoing process of checking the progress of activities against the plan to ensure that all processes are going on as intended.
Morbidity	<p>An incidence rate used to include all persons in the population under consideration (e.g. specific gender or age group) who become clinically ill during the stated time period.</p> <p>Any departure from the state of physiological or psychological well-being; synonymous with sickness or illness. Measured in terms of all persons within a given population who become ill during a specific time period, by types of illnesses.</p>
Mortality (death rate)	The number of deaths occurring in a population in a stated period usually a year divided by the number of persons at risk of dying during that period. Crude mortality rate: covers deaths from all causes; death-specific mortality rate: covers death due to only one disease.

N

Term	Definition
NGO	Non-governmental organisation; may also be referred to as private voluntary agency, civil society organisation or non-profit organisation.
Normalcy	The state or fact of being normal.

Normality	The state or condition that is collectively acknowledged by a society as the status quo.
Notifiable disease	Disease for which regular, frequent, and timely information on individual cases is considered necessary for the prevention and control of the disease.
Numerator	The upper portion of a fraction. In the rate, all people included in the numerator should be included in the denominator. This is not true for the numerator in a ratio.
Nutrition emergency	Exists when there is the risk of or an actual rise in mortality due to acute malnutrition.

O

Term	Definition
Objective	The intended, measurable results (outcomes) of a program; the specific targets or positions that are to be reached in order to achieve the overall goal.
Outputs	The intended results of project activities – used as milestones to assess what has been accomplished at various stages during the life of the project.

P

Term	Definition
Parallel health system	Two or more separate systems for providing health services. In the case of emergencies, relief programmes may find it necessary to set up temporary parallel health systems outside of the local health system. However, it is recommended to strengthen the local health system when possible.
Participatory approaches	Program approaches that give community members the opportunity to build and strengthen problem-solving skills and empowers them to take action.
Pellagra	Caused by niacin (vitamin B ₃) deficiency and occurs among populations that consume maize (corn) as the staple cereal. Clinical signs are dementia, diarrhoea, and dermatosis of exposed skin.
Peripheral level of clinical care	Health facilities such as a dispensary or health post where community trained health workers offer a limited range of ambulatory care including treatment of minor injuries/ailments, immunisation, and referral of more complex cases.
Pit latrines	The most commonly selected sanitation option for displaced populations is the pit latrine. A pit latrine is a wide hole in the ground covered by a platform with a squat hole to defecate through.
Planning	A continued process of anticipating the resources and services required to achieve objectives determined according to an order of priorities that permits the selection of the optimal solution or solutions

	<p>from among several alternatives; these choices take account of the context of internal and external constraints, whether already known or foreseeable in the future. (Pineault)</p> <p>The core of planning consists of analysing alternative means of moving toward identified goals in the light of priorities and existing constraints¹⁵.</p>
Population	The total number of inhabitants or particular groups in a defined area or country. In sampling, population refers to the units from which a sample is drawn.
Population pyramid	A graphical presentation of the age and sex composition of a population. A typical pyramid for developing countries has a broad base, sloping sides and a narrow apex that is due to high fertility rate and high mortality at younger ages.
Post-emergency phase	Begins when the Crude Mortality Rate (CMR) drops below and may last one to six months or longer. Characterized by improvement and expansion of relief activities.
Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	A disorder that emerges following a psychologically distressing traumatic event such as a natural disaster, a bad accident, exposure to war or rape; the syndrome includes re-experiencing the trauma in dreams, recurrent thoughts and images, numbness and hyper-vigilance and an exaggerated startle response. After six months the disorder is said to be chronic.
Pot chlorination	Pot chlorination involves filling a vessel (usually a 1-liter plastic bottle with a few holes punched in it) with a chlorine powder and gravel mixture. This is then placed in a larger vessel (such as a 4-liter milk jug or a clay pot) which also has a few holes punched in it. The chlorine disperses from the double-layered pot slowly. The number and size of holes determines the dose of chlorine released into the well. The pot chlorination method protects against a continuous source of contamination in the groundwater.
Pour flush latrines	A pour flush toilet is a basin with a water trap at the bottom and a pipe to carry sewage to a soak-away pit or sewer. Such designs are not generally used in emergencies because they use large amounts of water and require a sewage collection system that is expensive and time consuming to build.
Prevalence	The total number of persons sick or showing a certain condition in a stated population at a particular time regardless of when it began, divided by the population at risk. Point prevalence measures the proportion at a particular point in time; period prevalence measures the proportion within a defined period of time.
Prevention	<p>Acts aimed at eradicating, eliminating or minimizing the impact of disease and disability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Primary prevention: aims to reduce incidence by preventing transmission. ▪ Secondary prevention: aims to reduce prevalence by shortening duration. ▪ Tertiary prevention: aims to reduce the number and/or impact of disease complications.
Primary or index case	A person who acquires a disease through exposure and brings it into a population.
Primary prevention	The ultimate goal of preventive health care. It prevents the <i>transmission</i> of disease to populations that are generally healthy.

Probability sampling	Uses the probability theory to select a specified number of persons for study so that every member in the target population has the same known and non-zero chance of being included. Provides a demonstrable degree of reliability.
Process	The steps or tasks for carrying out activities (diagnosing, counselling, referral, etc.).
Programme	An organised set of projects or services seeking to attain specific (usually similar/related) objectives. A proposed plan with a medium to long-term horizon (possibly without a defined end) and often having strategic objectives, multiple projects and activities.
Project	A planned scheme aimed at achieving specific objectives within a given time/budget. A set of time-bound activities typically contributing to a larger programmatic objective, which are planned, implemented, monitored and evaluated in relation to the issue(s) that they seek to address.
Proportion	A ratio where the numerator (x) is part of the denominator (y). Expressed as x/y.
Protective factors	Qualities in people or the world around them that shield them from the full force of a stressor.
Psychosis	Losing touch with reality. It can range in severity from mild distortions of reality to hearing or seeing things that are not there.
Purpose	The change that occurs if project outputs are achieved – the effect of a project.

R

Term	Definition
Random sample	A selected subset of the population derived by random selection of sample units. Each individual unit (village, household or person) should have an equal chance of being included in the sample.
Rape	Generally refers to sexual intercourse with another person (male or female) without that person's consent. Legal definitions of rape will vary and depend on the nature of the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim, the act perpetrated and other factors.
Rate	The likelihood that a particular event will occur in a specified period. Expressed as x/y x factor (e.g., 1000).
Ratio	The relationship between two quantities, represented by x and y. Expressed as x/ y or x:y (x need not be part of y).
Reconstruction (rehabilitation) Phase	After the relief phase, reconstruction begins. This should lead to the restoration of pre-disaster conditions (repaired facilities, functioning services, self-reliance etc).
Recovery phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recovery phase indicates the period during which normal activities are resumed; ▪ This may be divided into categories such as economic recovery, psychological recovery, recovery of livelihood, and recovery of physical losses.

Referral level of clinical care	Health facilities, such as a district hospital, with the capacity to manage first referral cases but for limited medical disciplines including emergency surgical and obstetric care, follow up, inpatient, and rehabilitative care. Facilities include laboratory, blood bank, and x-ray services.
Refugee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any person who, owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it (UNHCR 1951); ▪ every person who, owing to external aggression, occupation, foreign domination, or events seriously disturbing public order in either part of or the whole of his country of origin or nationality, is compelled to leave his place of habitual residence in order to seek refuge in another place outside his country of origin or nationality (OAU).
Relapse	Reappearance of clinical symptoms and infection separated by an interval greater than that related to normal periodicity.
Relief	Assistance given to people in need after a disaster. The initial assistance in an emergency is usually the provision of food, clean water, shelter and protection.
Repatriation	Returning to the country of birth or citizenship. It may be forced or voluntary.
Representative sample	A selected subset of a population that resembles the original or reference population in every way.
Reservoir	Any person, animal, arthropod, plant soil, etc. in which the infectious agent normally lives and reproduces itself in such a manner that it can be transmitted to a susceptible host.
Resistance	Ability of a parasite or organism to multiply or survive in presence of drug concentrations that are normally lethal and destroy or prevent multiplication of most organisms of the same species.
Results	<p>Outcomes of processes and necessary inputs for the target population as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outputs — Direct results (products or services) a program delivers to a target population to produce the expected impacts. ▪ Effects — Changes in knowledge, attitudes, behaviour/practice, coverage resulting from the output. ▪ Impacts — Changes in health status (morbidity, mortality, disability, fertility) resulting from the output.

S

Term	Definition
Sampling	Selection of a specified number of persons in a population for study with the hope that they are representative of the entire population.
Sanitation	In this chapter, sanitation considers excreta disposal, vector control, solid and medical waste management and drainage.
Scurvy	Caused by vitamin C deficiency. Clinical signs are poor wound healing, bleeding gums, fatigue, leg pain, and a rash on the legs.
Secondary case	A person infected by the primary case.
Secondary prevention	The early identification and treatment of a diseased person to prevent the infection from progressing to a more serious complication or death.
Sensitivity	The proportion of true positives correctly identified by a screening test.
Severe acute malnutrition	Marasmus or kwashiorkor.
Sexual abuse	Actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.
Sexual exploitation	Actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power or trust for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.
Sexually Transmitted Disease/Infection (STI/STI)	Any disease that is communicated primarily or exclusively through intimate sexual contact; can cause infertility through miscarriage, prenatal deaths, and damage to male and female reproductive systems.
Sexual violence	Covers all forms of sexual threat, assault, interference and exploitation including statutory rape and molestation without physical harm or penetration.
Shock chlorination	Shock chlorination is conducted by adding 5-10 mg/l of chlorine solution to water in a well and allowing it to sit unused for a number of hours. The first water drawn from the well after the disinfection period is discarded. Normal use of the well can then be resumed.
Social support	All forms of support provided by other individuals and groups that help others to cope. A network of people that one trusts and seeks help from including family and extended family, neighbours, friends, religious leaders, teachers etc.
Somatisation	An emotional state that affects how a person feels physically. Anxiety or depression might appear as fatigue, gastrointestinal complaints, headache, cardiac symptoms, diffuse aches and pains, muscular and joint problems, or sexual dysfunction.
Specificity	The proportion of true negatives correctly identified by a screening test.

Staffing	Planning for the types and number of personnel that will be required.
Standard deviation	A measure of the dispersion or variation of a set of quantitative measurements on either side of the mean.
Standard case management	Standard case management procedures must be established to prevent unnecessary treatment or investigations and wastage of limited resources (drugs, staff time, etc.). These procedures include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Standard diagnostic protocols and case definitions; ▪ Standard investigative procedure; ▪ Standard treatment protocols; ▪ Standard admission criteria; and ▪ Standard referral criteria.
Standard health cards	Health cards or exercise books for each patient that are introduced and kept either at the registration office or by each family. These will help following-up patients as well as in monitoring the quality of health care.
Strategy	The order of pursuing priorities and objectives based on relative effectiveness and consideration of constraints.
Stressor	A factor that adds to people's stress, e.g. loss of family or home, lack of food etc
Supervision	Promoting efficient, effective and equitable health care by meeting staff needs for management support, logistics, training and continuing education.
Surveillance	Ongoing, systematic collection, analysis and interpretation of health data for managers of public health programmes combined with feedback to all. Systematic collection, collation, and analysis of data and dissemination of resulting information so that action can result.
Survey	Periodic, focused assessments that collect health data from a population.
Survivor/victim	In this chapter, used interchangeably to refer to a person who has experienced gender-based violence.
Susceptible host	Person or animal not possessing sufficient resistance against a particular infectious agent to prevent contracting infection or disease when exposed to it.
Suspected cholera	In an area where cholera is not known to be present: a person aged >5 years with severe dehydration or death from acute watery diarrhoea with or without vomiting. In an area where there is a cholera outbreak: a person aged >5 years with acute watery diarrhoea with or without vomiting. To confirm a case of cholera: Isolation of <i>Vibrio cholera</i> O1 or O139 from a diarrhoeal stool sample.
Sustainability	Continuity of a program beyond termination of donor support due to increased local capacity. Different donors may define it differently, but all consider sustainability vital and push for it.
Systematic sampling	A sampling method that uses a list to select after randomly picking the first unit additional units at regular intervals.

T

Term	Definition
Target group	A family, specific population group, or a community in a defined area of a country.
Targeted supplementary feeding	Supplementary feeding to prevent severe acute malnutrition among the moderately malnourished and limit the need for therapeutic feeding.
Tetanus	<p>Adult tetanus: Either of the following signs 3–21 days following an injury or wound:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ trismus of the facial muscles or risus sardonicus ▪ painful muscular contractions. <p>Neonatal tetanus: Any neonate with normal ability to suck and cry during the first 2 days of life who, between day 3 and day 28, cannot suck normally, or any neonate who becomes stiff or has spasms or both.</p>
Tertiary prevention	Aims to reduce permanent damage from disease such as a patient offered rehabilitative services to lessen the effects of paralysis due to polio or land mine injuries).
Traditional birth attendant (TBA)	A community-based birth attendant who, with limited formal training, provides basic prenatal, delivery and postnatal care. Although not trained to manage complications of pregnancy and childbirth, traditional birth attendants provide important referral services for problem cases.
Training	Transferring specific skills and competencies to individuals about to do a particular job.
Transmission	Any mechanism by which an infectious agent is spread from a source or reservoir to a person: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Direct transmission — immediate transfer of infectious agents to a suitable portal of entry through which infection of a human or animal may take place (direct contact or projection). ▪ Indirect transmission — transfer of infectious agents through intermediate means: e.g., vehicle-borne (contaminated materials), vector-borne (arthropods).
Trauma	From the Greek word for <i>wound</i> , a term used freely to describe either physical or psychological injury caused by some extreme emotional event.
Trench latrine	A communal type of latrine often used when sanitation facilities are needed quickly and defecation fields are not appropriate. This latrine is simply a trench measuring about 0.5 to 1m in depth and width, and of varying length.
Trend	A long-term change in frequency, either upward or downward. A downward trend in a disease implies it is becoming less frequent.
Triage	In a disaster medical response, triage adopts the method of sorting and prioritising victims for medical attention according to the degree of injury or illness and expectations for survival. Triage is carried out to reduce the burden on health facilities.
Turbidity	A measure of water clarity.

U

Term	Definition
Unexplained cluster of health events	An aggregation of cases with similar symptoms and signs of unknown cause that are closely grouped in time and/or place.
Unexplained fever	Fever (body temperature >38.5 °C) for >48 hours and without other known aetiology.
Universal precautions	Simple, standard procedures to be used during the care of patients at all times to minimize the risk of transmission of blood-borne viruses, including HIV. They consist of hand washing, use of protective clothing such as gloves; safe handling of sharp instruments; safe disposal of medical waste include sharps; and decontamination of instruments and equipment.
Unmet need for contraception	A measure based on the number of women of reproductive age and in a sexual union who report that they want to postpone or avoid childbearing and also report that they and their partner are not using contraception.
Utilisation rates	Utilisation rates are given in terms of visits to a health facility per person per year: $\frac{\text{Total number of visits in one week}}{\text{Total population} \times 52 \text{ weeks}} = \text{visits/person/year}$ These rates are not constant and may vary based on phase of the emergency, population demographics, season, etc. Utilisation rates generally increase among displaced populations and populations affected by other public health emergencies.

V

Term	Definition
Validity	The degree to which a measurement actually measures what it is supposed to.
Variable	Any characteristic that can be measured (e.g., age, weight) or categorised (e.g., sex, marital status).
Vector	Any animal capable of transmitting disease pathogens from one host to another by its bite or bodily functions. Pathogens can be transmitted either mechanically (e.g., trachoma which is transmitted by non-biting flies) or after biological transformation (e.g., malaria parasites by mosquitoes).
Vector control	Any measures directed against a vector of disease and intended to limit its ability to transmit disease.
Vector-related diseases	Occur when vectors carrying disease pathogens from an animal, human, etc. (reservoir) to another.
Vertical programme	A term used very widely and loosely to indicate independent programs for either specific health issues or directed by staff who barely communicate or know one another.

Virulence	The ability of an infectious agent to invade and damage tissues of the host and/or cause death.
Vulnerable groups	Those individuals at greatest risk of disease or injury.
Vulnerability	The degree of defencelessness, insecurity and exposure to risks, shock, stress and having difficulty coping with them. Living on an 'edge' such that if something goes wrong or if part of the situation changes, then the ability to sustain life is endangered. The potential is that when something destructive happens, people will not be able to handle the consequences by themselves.

W

Term	Definition
Weight-for-height z – score	The weight and height of the child compared to the median and standard deviation of the reference weight for the child's height; used to analyse and report nutrition survey rates.
Women of reproductive age	Women between the ages of fifteen to forty-four or fifteen to forty-nine depending on the childbearing trends of the population in question for the purposes of demographic statistics. It is often used as the denominator in reproductive health demographic measures.

X

Term	Definition
Weight-for-Xerophthalmia	Caused by vitamin A deficiency. Clinical signs are night blindness, corneal lesions, and nutritional blindness and increased childhood morbidity and mortality, particularly from measles and diarrhoea. Young children and pregnant women are especially vulnerable.

Z

Term	Definition
Zoonotic diseases	Those diseases and infections that are naturally transmitted between nonhuman vertebrate animals and humans.