

**WHO/EHA**

**EMERGENCY HEALTH TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR AFRICA**

## **1. Overview**

### **1.7. Readiness**

Panafrican Emergency Training Centre, Addis Ababa, July 1998

**1.7. Readiness  
Overhead Transparencies**

- 1.7.1. Readiness in Emergency Management
- 1.7.2. Readiness, Definitions
- 1.7.3. Readiness, Synonyms
- 1.7.4. Readiness, Analysing the synonyms
- 1.7.5. Readiness, Oxford Pocket Dictionary
- 1.7.6. Readiness, WHO Definition 1997

## 1.7. Readiness Trainers' Guide

Objective:

*To familiarise participants with the term and meaning of Readiness. (Attitudes)*

Key-message:

*If you don't cultivate readiness, preparedness is useless. E.g. if you don't keep the key of the store in your pocket, you will not be able to open the store when you need it for an emergency; if you are prepared for an exam and you didn't put the alarm clock to wake up in time. (Introducing the ideas of drill exercises and testing the plans).*

### 1.7.1. Readiness in Emergency Management

Present. *The figure shows where Readiness stands in the DDC, on the line between preparedness and response. Give and ask for examples.*

### 1.7.2. Readiness, Definitions

Present. *Two definitions. The first definition introduces the concept: the keyword is 'LINKS'. The second, which is a WHO definition of 1994, highlights that it is by its Readiness an agency will be evaluated. Be ready to clarify the difference between 'Capacity' (institutional) and 'Capability' (human).*

### 1.7.3. Readiness, Synonyms

Present and ask for contributions from the audience.

### 1.7.4. Readiness, Analysing the synonyms

Discuss. *Some synonyms speak of attitudes, e.g. alacrity, alertness. Others speak of skills, e.g. know-how, proficiency. Others speak of knowledge: know-how, mastery. Readiness implies Knowledge, Skills and Attitudes. Taken from the dictionary, to understand better the concept.*

### 1.7.5. Readiness, Oxford Pocket Dictionary

Discuss. *Three Concepts: STATE as the result of a process of preparation, WILLINGNESS as an attitude, PROMPTNESS as a capacity for immediate action.*

### 1.7.6. Readiness, WHO Definition 1997

Present. *Final definition resulting from combining all the above. Keywords: Preparedness, Willingness, Promptness for Action (underline Action). The concept implies material resources, procedures, human skill and good will.*

Complementary to Preparedness and Planning (2.2.).

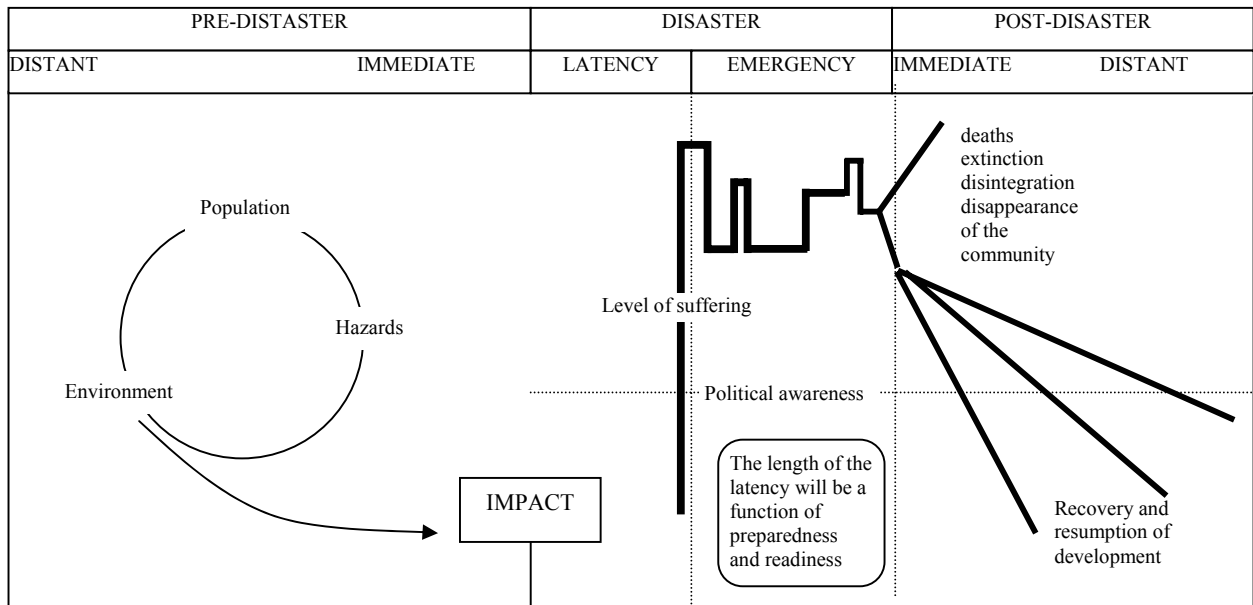
Essential Reading:

- African Disaster Handbook, M. S. Zaman, WHO/PTC, 1990
- UN-DMTP, Training Modules, UN-DMTP, 1990
- EPR Training Handbook for Africa, WHO/PTC, 1992

1.7.1. Readiness in Emergency Management

# READINESS IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

PRE-PATHOGENIC PERIOD	PATHOGENIC PERIOD
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VERNABILITY REDUCTION	ALERT	READINESS	RELIEF	REHABILITATION	RECONSTRUCTION
PREVENTION	PREPAREDNESS		RESPONSE		RECOVERY
EMERGENCY			MANAGEMENT		
PREVENTION & MITIGATION			RESPONSE & RECOVERY		
DISASTER MANAGEMENT					

(Health promotion and ) PRIMARY PREVENTION	SECONDARY PREVENTION	TERTIARY PREVENTION
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H E A L T H      C A R E

## **READINESS**

**The state which links effective  
Preparedness to efficient Relief**

A statement of the current capacity and capability  
of a relief agency or service.

1.7.3. Readiness, Synonyms

**READINESS**

PROMPTNESS

TENDENCY

ALERTNESS

WILLINGNESS/EAGERNESS

QUICKNESS

DEXTEROUSNESS

PREPAREDNESS

## **READINESS**

- **PROMPTNESS:** immediacy, alacrity, swiftness, expeditiousness
- **TENDENCY:** aptitude, aptness, disposition
- **ALERTNESS:** wakefulness, agility, nimbleness
- **WILLINGNESS/EAGERNESS:** alacrity, good will, keenness, spirit
- **QUICKNESS:** spryness, sharpness
- **DEXTEROUSNESS:** adroitness, competence, proficiency, know-how, mastery, command
- **PREPAREDNESS:** fitness, competence, ability, suitedness

1.7.5. Readiness, Oxford Pocket Dictionary

## **READINESS**

Ready or prepared state

Willingness

Promptness in action

## **READINESS:**

the state which links  
effective  
preparedness  
to efficient relief,  
resulting from  
preparation,  
capacity for prompt action  
and  
an attitude of willingness.