The Global Health Initiative (GHI) at Mailman School of Public Health and The Columbia Global Policy Initiative

**RESPONDING TO HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES: NEW IMPERATIVES**

**Featured speaker:**

**FOUAD M. FOUAD, MD**

Assistant Research Professor
Faculty of Health Sciences
American University of Beirut

**Panelists:**

Wafaa El-Sadr, MD, MPH, MPA
ICAP & GHI
Moderator

Alastair Ager, PhD, Forced Migration and Health

Mark Fussell, MPA, ICAP at Columbia University

Therese McGinn, DrPH, RAISE Initiative
Definitions

Refugee
• Any person who owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of particular social group or political opinion is outside the country of his nationality.…
Refugee convention, 1951

Internally Displaced Person (IDP)
• Persons who flee their homes for similar reasons as refugees but who remain inside their own countries

Displaced Persons (DPs)
• Refugees and/or IDPs
Global human displacement

Spiralling global conflicts and worldwide instability have forced millions of people to leave their homes and seek refuge either abroad or in their own countries. The latest figures do not include the wars in Sri Lanka and Pakistan's Swat valley, which have displaced thousands more.

Who's who?
- **Refugee**
  - Recognized under the UN 1951 Convention on Refugees as having a well-founded fear of persecution, has been forced to flee their own country and is unable to return.
- **Asylum seeker**
  - Has left their own country and seeks protection in another. In the UK, a person who has made an official claim for asylum and is waiting for a decision on their claim.
- **Internally displaced person (IDP)**
  - Forced to leave their home because their life is in danger but, unlike a refugee, did not cross international borders.
- **Stateless person**
  - Someone who, under national laws, does not belong to any nationality – the legal bond between a state and an individual - with any country.

42m
People displaced around the world

Source: UNHCR, IDMC (INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT MONITORING CENTRE)
Refugees

• Total of 15.2 million refugees at the beginning of 2013
  • 10.4 million (UNHCR)
  • 4.8 million (UNRWA)

• Refugees of concerns to UNHCR:
  • Spread around the world with half in Asia and 28% in Africa
  • Living conditions varying from well-established camps and collective centers to makeshift shelter or living in the open
  • Half living in urban areas.

Source: www.unhcr.org
The Global Overview 2014:
People internally displaced by conflict and violence

Nigeria 3,300,000

Somalia 1,100,000

Syria At least 6,500,000

Afghanistan At least 831,000

Pakistan At least 746,700

India At least 526,000

Bangladesh Up to 280,000

Thailand At least 35,000

Philippines At least 115,800

Sri Lanka Up to 60,000

Timor-Leste At least 600

Indonesia At least 90,000

Iraq Up to 2,100,000

Lebanon At least 20,000

Yemen At least 307,000

Eritrea Up to 10,000

Niger Up to 11,000

Chad Up to 50,000

Senegal Up to 24,000

Mali At least 218,000

Liberia Up to 23,000

Côte d'Ivoire At least 70,000

CAR 935,000

Republic of the Congo Up to 7,800

DRC At least 2,963,700

Sudan At least 2,426,700

South Sudan At least 383,000

Burundi Up to 76,000

Uganda Up to 29,000

Kenya 316,000

Zimbabwe 35,000

Ethiopia 412,000

Somalia 1,100,000

Syria At least 6,500,000

Afghanistan At least 831,000

Pakistan At least 746,700

India At least 526,000

Bangladesh Up to 280,000

Thailand At least 35,000

Philippines At least 115,800

Sri Lanka Up to 60,000

Timor-Leste At least 600

Indonesia At least 90,000

Iraq Up to 2,100,000

Lebanon At least 20,000

Yemen At least 307,000

Eritrea Up to 10,000

Niger Up to 11,000

Chad Up to 50,000

Senegal Up to 24,000

Mali At least 218,000

Liberia Up to 23,000

Côte d'Ivoire At least 70,000

CAR 935,000

Republic of the Congo Up to 7,800

DRC At least 2,963,700

Sudan At least 2,426,700

South Sudan At least 383,000

Burundi Up to 76,000

Uganda Up to 29,000

Kenya 316,000

Zimbabwe 35,000

Ethiopia 412,000

NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL

IDMC

The boundaries and names shown and the designations
do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IDMC.
IDPs by conflict and violence

33.3 million people displaced by conflict and violence at the end of 2013

8.2 million newly displaced in 2013

The 12 countries with the highest new displacement:
- Syria 3.5 million
- DRC 1 million
- CAR 835,000
- Nigeria 470,500
- Sudan 470,000
- South Sudan 383,000
- Philippines 327,000
- Ethiopia 170,000
- Colombia 157,000
- Pakistan 140,000
- Afghanistan 124,000
- Mali 123,000

63% of all IDPs: Syria, Colombia, Nigeria, DRC, Sudan
43% of IDPs are from Syria alone
Internal Displacement by Region

- Sub Saharan Africa: 12.5 million
- Middle East and North Africa: 9.1 million
- The Americas: 6 million
- Europe, Caucasus, Central Asia: 2.2 million
- South and South East Asia: 3.2 million
Causes of Mortality and Morbidity:

60–80% of all deaths among displaced groups due to measles, diarrheal diseases, acute respiratory infections, malaria and malnutrition

85% of refugees originate from, and remain within, countries with high burdens of tuberculosis

25 million, adults and children living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa, the region currently experiencing the highest concentration of global emergencies

> 90% of cases of neglected tropical and vector borne diseases are in conflict settings

75-80% those living in conflict and insecurity are women and adolescent girls who need reproductive health

33 of 50 countries affected by conflict rank lowest in mother and children's indicators (i.e. health, contraceptive use, infant mortality)
Percent of Total Deaths Attributed to NCDs

- High-Income Countries: 87% in 2008, 89% in 2030
- Europe & Central Asia: 85% in 2008, 89% in 2030
- East Asia & Pacific: 76% in 2008, 85% in 2030
- Latin America & Caribbean: 72% in 2008, 81% in 2030
- Middle & North Africa: 69% in 2008, 78% in 2030
- South Asia: 51% in 2008, 72% in 2030
- Sub-Saharan Africa: 28% in 2008, 46% in 2030
Causes of Mortality and Morbidity:

60–80% of all deaths among displaced groups due to measles, diarrheal diseases, acute respiratory infections, malaria and malnutrition

85% of refugees originate from, and remain within, countries with high burdens of tuberculosis

25 million, adults and children living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa, the region currently experiencing the highest concentration of global emergencies

> 90% of cases of neglected tropical and vector borne diseases are in conflict settings

75-80% those living in conflict and insecurity are women and adolescent girls who need reproductive health

33 of 50 countries affected by conflict rank lowest in mother and children's indicators (i.e. health, contraceptive use, infant mortality)

From 10% to 20%, common mental health disorders double in emergencies

80% of NCD-related deaths occur in developing countries, which face the greatest burden from global and regional conflict as well as increased vulnerability to the effects of climate change and natural disasters
Humanitarian Emergencies: New Imperatives

• Refugees in non-traditional settings
• Burden on host countries and their health systems
• Broad needs of displaced people
  • Acute communicable diseases
  • Maternal and child health
  • Nutrition
  • Chronic conditions:
    • Communicable: HIV, Tuberculosis
    • Non-communicable: e.g. diabetes, heart disease, mental illness
  • Sexual and reproductive health
  • Others
• Needs of workers engaged in humanitarian assistance
Writing is pain.

And the blood that drips down the screen pollutes the atmosphere staining the couch with what looks like dried coffee, which we touch with trembling fingers so we don't get infected.

We manage with broken backs as if going to hell seeing dark red - no, brown as well - which deposits a residue like rust in the soul.

We stroke their old heads then turn aside to lick away the tears.

Those who crawl from street to screen leave green traces on the asphalt that spring into bushes of basil; they toss us a flower and die in haste to spare our shame.

Now you've entered the sacred valley, take off your shoes and walk on broken glass.