



World Health Organization

*“Our goal is to build a
better, healthier future for
people all over the world”*

Quick Facts

- Specialized agency of the United Nations (UN)
- Established on April 7th, 1948 in Geneva Switzerland
- Direct and coordinate international health
- Offices around the globe (150 countries), 7,000+ employees



World Health
Organization

LABORATORY

WHO headquarters
Geneva, Switzerland



WHO Priorities

- Communicable diseases (*diseases caused by an infection*):
HIV/AIDS, Ebola, malaria and tuberculosis
- Non-communicable disease (tend to be of long duration, result of genetic, physiological, environmental factors)
- Sexual & Reproductive health
- Development & Ageing
- Nutrition, Food Security & Healthy Eating
- Occupational Health
- Substance Abuse

WHO Health Emergencies Program

- **130 million** people worldwide in need of humanitarian assistance, disease outbreaks are constant global threat
- **Goal:** to provide flexible, rapid and effective responses to public health crises (caused by conflict, disease outbreak, natural disaster)
- **Focus** on prevention, preparedness, response & recovery
- **Collaborate** with health ministry's, partner organizations to identify where health needs are greatest

The programme is governed by the following principles:



The health and well-being of people are at the core of WHO's work for all emergencies.

SYRIA

WHO classified Syrian conflict as grade 3 emergency (highest level)



Syrian Civil War Overview

- 8 year long struggle
- 465,000 Syrians killed
- 12 million displaced from homes
- 5.5 million fled & registered as refugees
- Approximately 6.5 million internally displaced
- Largest refugee crisis in recent history

Health Impact of Crisis in Syria

- Two-thirds of population living in extreme poverty
- Half of country's healthcare facilities damaged or destroyed (by bombings, attacks), other hospitals poorly equipped
- Disease Outbreaks,
- Millions without access to basic healthcare services in hard to reach areas
- Many pregnancy women unable to access obstetric care
- Lack of safe water (risk of cholera, diarrhea), collapse of sanitation networks

WHO's efforts to support Syria

- Establishes health centers, provides mobile medical teams, medical supplies, medicines and equipment
- Training to local healthcare staff
- Health services for individuals in hard to reach areas, evacuation of critically ill patients
- Vaccination centers (polio, measles)
- Collaborates with NGO's to provide health assistance in refugee camps
- Mental Health services
- Meet with health partners to plan, implement and monitor health operations.

<http://www.who.int/emergencies/crises/syr/syria-who-annualreport2017.pdf?ua=1>