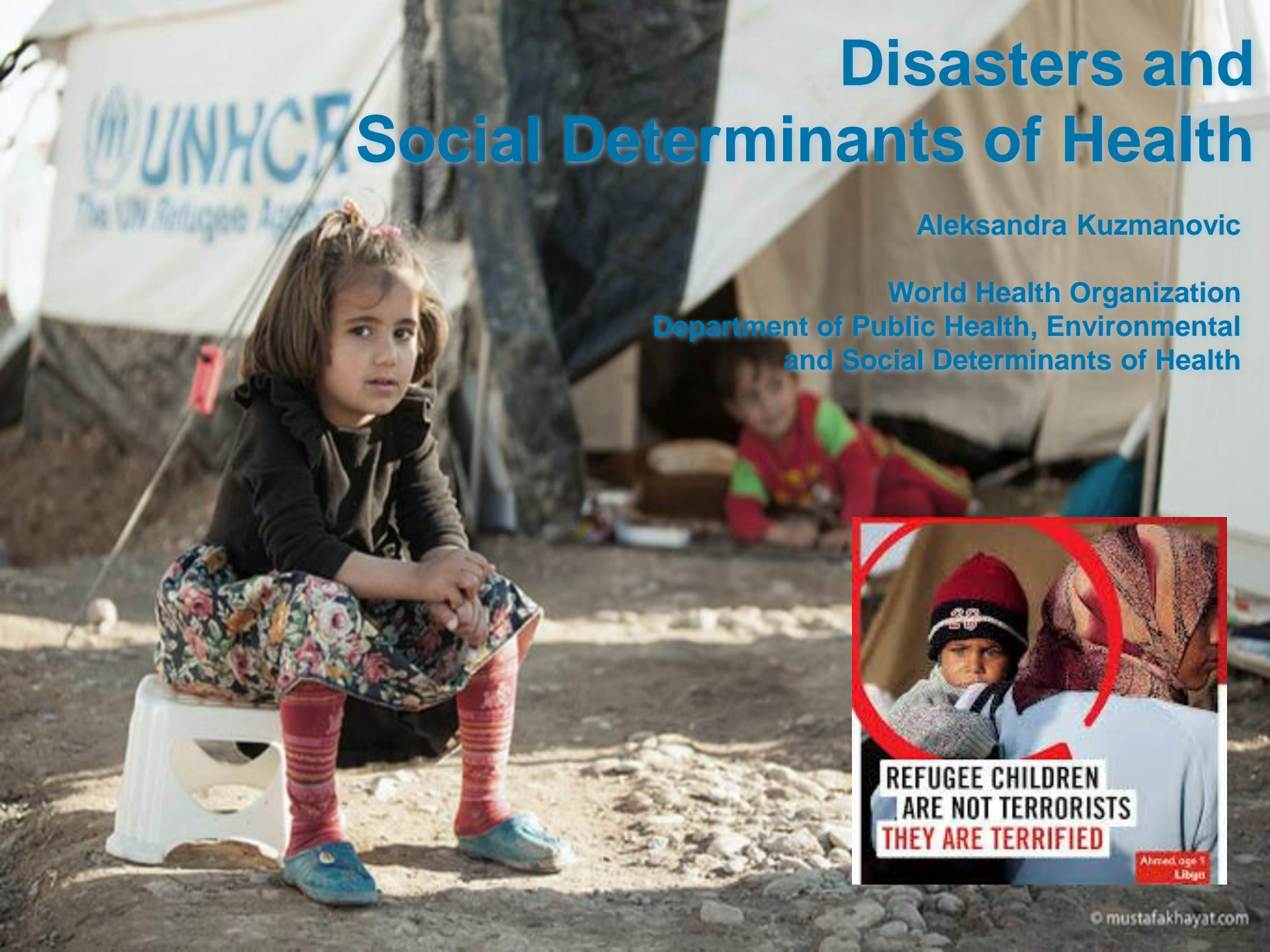# Disasters and Social Determinants of Health

Aleksandra Kuzmanovic

World Health Organization
Department of Public Health, Environmental and Social Determinants of Health

REFUGEE CHILDREN
ARE NOT TERRORISTS
THEY ARE TERRIFIED

The social determinants of health (SDH) are the conditions in which people are *born, grow, work, live, and age*, and the wider set of forces and systems shaping the conditions of daily life. These forces and systems include *economic policies and systems, development agendas, social norms, social policies and political systems*.

50% of inequalities in major NCDs *are accounted by social inequalities* in risk factors.

50 % of mortality reduction in child under-5 mortality between 1990 and 2010 *was attributed to non-health sector investments.*

Integrated social and medical services show up to 10-fold reductions in child mortality between treatment and control groups, as well as educational and employment co-benefits.

Health equity:
The absence of unfair and avoidable or remediable differences in health among groups defined socially, economically, demographically or geographically.

Population health interventions:
Aim to change the social context that influences health (Rose in Frohlich, 2014)

HEALTH IN THE SDG ERA

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
MOBILIZING PARTNERS TO MONITOR AND ATTAIN THE HEALTH-RELATED SDGs

1 NO POVERTY
PRIORITIZING THE HEALTH NEEDS OF THE POOR

16 PEACE AND JUSTICE
EMPOWERING STRONG LOCAL INSTITUTIONS TO DEVELOP, IMPLEMENT, MONITOR AND ACCOUNT FOR AMBITIOUS NATIONAL SDG RESPONSES

2 ZERO HUNGER
ADDRESSING THE CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF ALL FORMS OF MALNUTRITION

15 LIFE ON LAND
PROMOTING HEALTH AND PREVENTING DISEASE THROUGH HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS

4 QUALITY EDUCATION
SUPPORTING HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL TO IMPROVE HEALTH AND HEALTH EQUITY

14 LIFE BELOW WATER
SUPPORTING THE RESTORATION OF FISH STOCKS TO IMPROVE SAFE AND DIVERSIFIED HEALTHY DIETS

5 GENDER EQUALITY
FIGHTING GENDER INEQUITIES, INCLUDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

13 CLIMATE ACTION
PROTECTING HEALTH FROM CLIMATE RISKS, AND PROMOTING HEALTH THROUGH LOW-CARBON DEVELOPMENT

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
PREVENTING DISEASE THROUGH SAFE WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

ENSURE HEALTHY LIVES AND PROMOTE WELL-BEING FOR ALL AT ALL AGES

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FOR HEALTHY HOMES AND LIVES

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION OF MEDICINES TO COMBAT ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
PROMOTING HEALTH EMPLOYMENT AS A DRIVER OF INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
FOSTERING HEALTHIER CITIES THROUGH URBAN PLANNING FOR CLEANER AIR AND SAFER AND MORE ACTIVE LIVING

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
ENSURING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES THROUGH UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE BASED ON STRONGER PRIMARY CARE

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
PROMOTING NATIONAL R&D CAPACITY AND MANUFACTURING OF AFFORDABLE ESSENTIAL MEDICAL PRODUCTS

World Health Organization
WWW.WHO.INT/SDGS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Conflicts

- The number of conflicts is decreasing but conflicts are getting more violent, affecting more people and lasting longer periods.

➢ *63 active conflicts in 2008 / 40 in 2014*

➢ *56 000 fatalities in 2008 / 180 000 in 2014*

(International Institute for Strategic Studies)

- Global impacts of conflicts in a globalized World : Migration and Global insecurity.

The impact of conflict on social determinants of health

CONFLICT AND HEALTH

CONFLICT AND HEALTH

REVIEW   **Open Access**

CrossMark

Child health in Syria: recognising the lasting effects of warfare on health

Delan Devakumar[1*], Marion Birch[1], Leonard S. Rubenstein[2], David Osrin[1], Egbert Sondorp[3] and Jonathan C. K. Wells[4]

RESEARCH   **Open Access**

Interface of culture, insecurity and HIV and AIDS: Lessons from displaced communities in Pader District, Northern Uganda

Joseph Rujumba[1*], Japheth Kwiringira[2]

Examples of interventions

© Sarah Gillam

The Palestinian Medical Relief Society:
•A comprehensive program to tackle malnutrition and anemia combined with job creation activities.
•Provide individuals with sheep and goats as source of milk and cheese for household and assist women to enter the job market.
Source : Social determinants of health in countries in conflict
A perspective from the Eastern Mediterranean Region – 2008

Unconditional cash transfers
•Studies in conflict countries have demonstrated that school fees and other indirect costs such as books and uniforms are a key expenditure priority when households receive income support.
•Increase in girls schooling by 40%.

Source: The Role of Social Protection Programmes in Supporting Education in Conflict-Affected Situations- Rebecca Holmes 2010 UNESCO.

Suggestions for addressing the SDH in conflicts – the way forward

Prevention

•Strengthen the health sector leadership in working with other sectors to tackle the social determinants of health and promote equity and social justice.

During conflicts

•Strengthen international legislation to protect schools and medical structures to be targeted during conflicts.

•Identify violations of international humanitarian law.

•Implement equity analysis and reporting to better identify the key underlying factors which can reduce the impact of conflicts to the most vulnerable.

•Promote intersectoral action between humanitarian agencies.

•Enhance community engagement.

Post conflict

•Promote an inclusive policy making process: post conflict as an opportunity to establish a more participatory model of governance.

•Reorient the health sector towards SDH and towards addressing health inequities.

Conflicts in the context of the SDGs

Game Changer

- Focusing on broad development and building fair communities and societies.

- Strengthening the rule of law and promoting human rights through the achievement of The SDG 16.

Integration - Indivisibility

- The achievement of Goal 16 requires progress in all the SDGs.

- Achieving the targets of Goal 16 is crucial to the advancement of the other goals.

Social Determinants of Health in Gaza

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9NGxZ-7Ic7w

Thank you! Merci! Gracias!

kuzmanovica@who.int