



Millennium Development Goals:

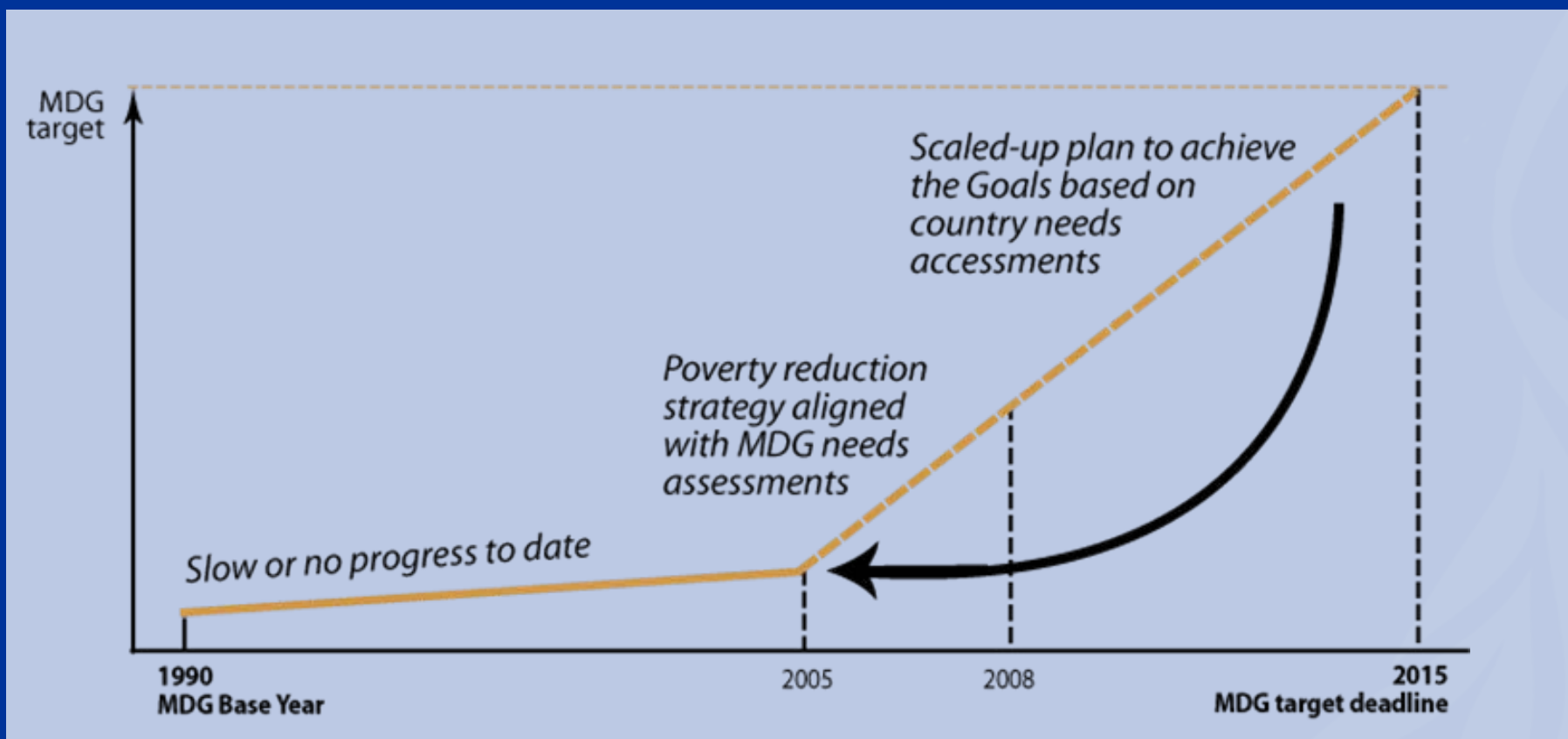
What are the threats posed to them by natural disasters?

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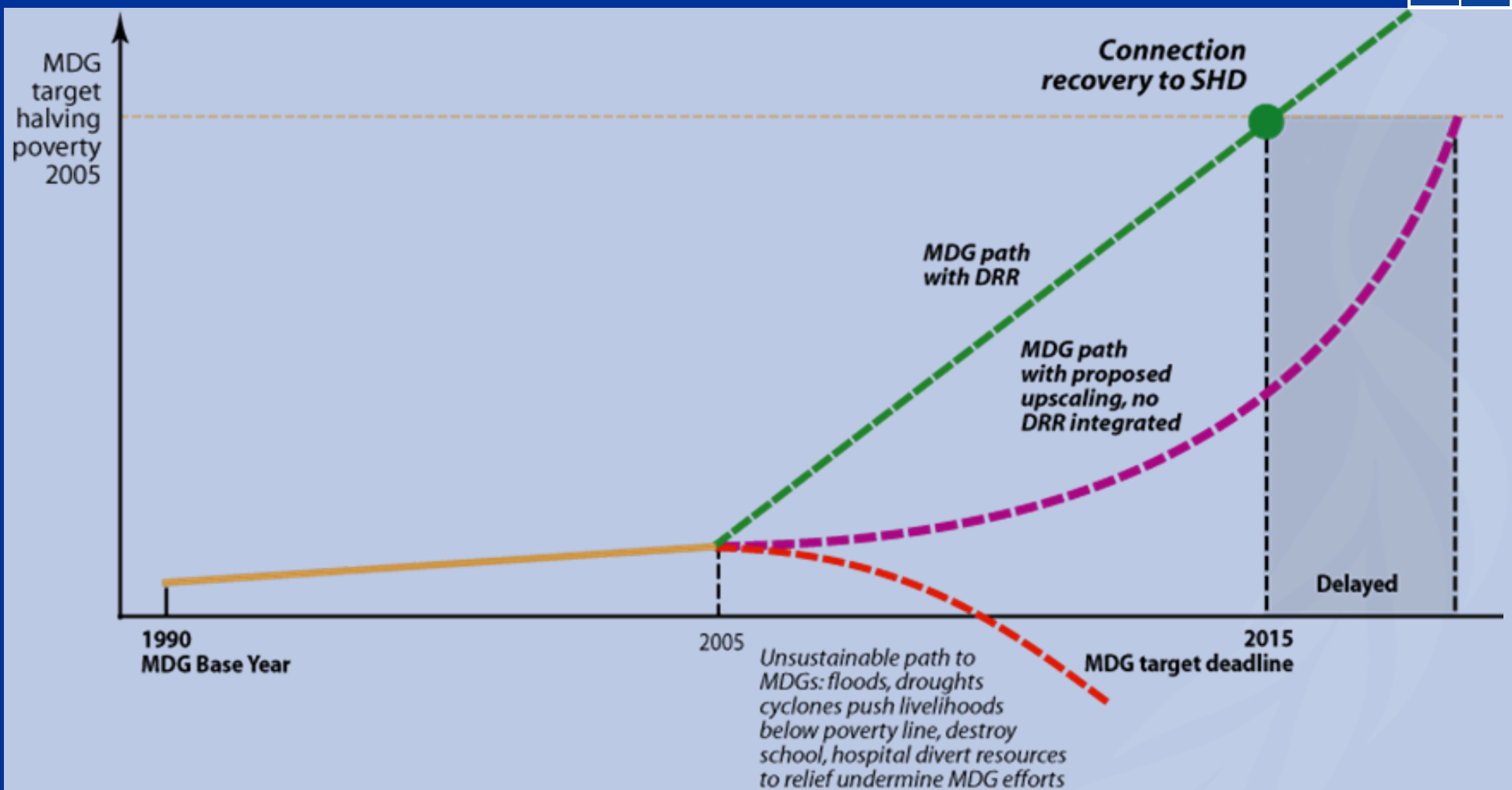
ITU/ESCAP Regional Workshop On “Disaster Communications”
Bangkok, Thailand

MDG-Based poverty reduction strategies



Source: UN Millennium Project 2005, *Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals*, New York, Figure 4.1 An MDG-based poverty reduction strategy, page 57

Paths to attending MDGs: with/without DRR



Source: *International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR)*



Example of disaster impacts on effort to meet the MDGs



1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

- Direct impacts
 - Damage to housing, service infrastructure, saving, productive assets and human losses reduce livelihood sustainability.
- Indirect impacts
 - Negative macroeconomic impacts including severe short-term fiscal impacts and wider, longer-term impacts on growth, development and poverty reduction.
 - Forced sale of productive assets by vulnerable households pushes many into long-term poverty and increases inequality.

2. Achieve universal primary education



- Direct impacts
 - Damage to education infrastructure.
 - Population displacement interrupts schooling.
- Indirect impacts
 - Increased need for child labour for household work, especially for girls.
 - Reduced household assets make schooling less affordable, girls probably affected most.

3. Promote gender equality and empower women



- Direct impacts
 - As men migrate to seek alternative work, women/girl bear an increased burden of care.
 - Women often bear the brunt of distress ‘coping’ strategies e.g. by reducing food intake.
- Indirect impacts
 - Emergency programmes may reinforce power structure which marginalise women.
 - Domestic and sexual violence may rise in the wake of a disaster.

4. Reduce child mortality

- Direct impacts
 - Children are often most risk, e.g. of drowning in floods.
 - Damage to health and water and sanitation infrastructure.
 - Injury and illness from disaster weakness children's immune systems.
- Indirect impacts
 - Increased number of orphan, abandoned and homeless children.
 - Household asset depletion makes clean water, flood and medicine less affordable.

5. Improve maternal health

- Direct impacts
 - Pregnant women are often at high risk from death/injury in disasters.
 - Damages to health infrastructure.
 - Injury and illness from disaster can weaken women's health.
- Indirect impacts
 - Increased responsibilities and workloads create stress for surviving mothers.
 - Household asset depletion makes clean water, food and medicine less affordable.

6. Combat HIV and AIDS, malaria and other diseases



- Direct impacts
 - Poor health and nutrition following disasters weakens immunity.
 - Damages to health infrastructure. Increased respiratory diseases associated with damp, dust and air pollution linked to disaster.
- Indirect impacts
 - Increased risk from communicable and vector borne diseases, e.g. malaria and diarrhoeal diseases following floods.
 - Impoverishment and displacement following disaster can increase exposure to disease, including HIV and AIDS, and disrupt health care.

7. Ensure environment sustainability



- Direct impacts
 - Damage to key environment resources and exacerbation of soil erosion or deforestation. Damage to water management and other urban infrastructure.
 - Slum dwellers/people in temporary settlements often heavily affected.
- Indirect impacts
 - Disaster-induced migration to urban areas and damage to urban infrastructure increase the number of slum dwellers without access to basic services and exacerbate poverty.

8. Develop a global partnership for development.



- Direct impacts
 - Impacts on programmes for small island developing states from tropical storms, Tsunami etc.
 - Impacts on commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction – nationally and internationally.

All MDGs



- Indirect impacts
 - Reallocation of resources – including Official Development Assistance (ODA) – from development to relief and recovery.



What does risk reduction look like?

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- Sustainable institutional structures and good governance.
- Risk identification, monitoring, early warning and public awareness.
- Technical and physical risk mitigation
- Building resilience, promotion of innovation, knowledge and education.
- Risk sharing and risk transfer.
- Preparedness, effective response and sustainable recovery.



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