



JOHNS HOPKINS
BLOOMBERG
SCHOOL *of* PUBLIC HEALTH

From Disasters to Development

Pierre Perrin, MD, MPH
Chief Medical Officer

International Committee of the Red Cross



JOHNS HOPKINS
BLOOMBERG
SCHOOL *of* PUBLIC HEALTH

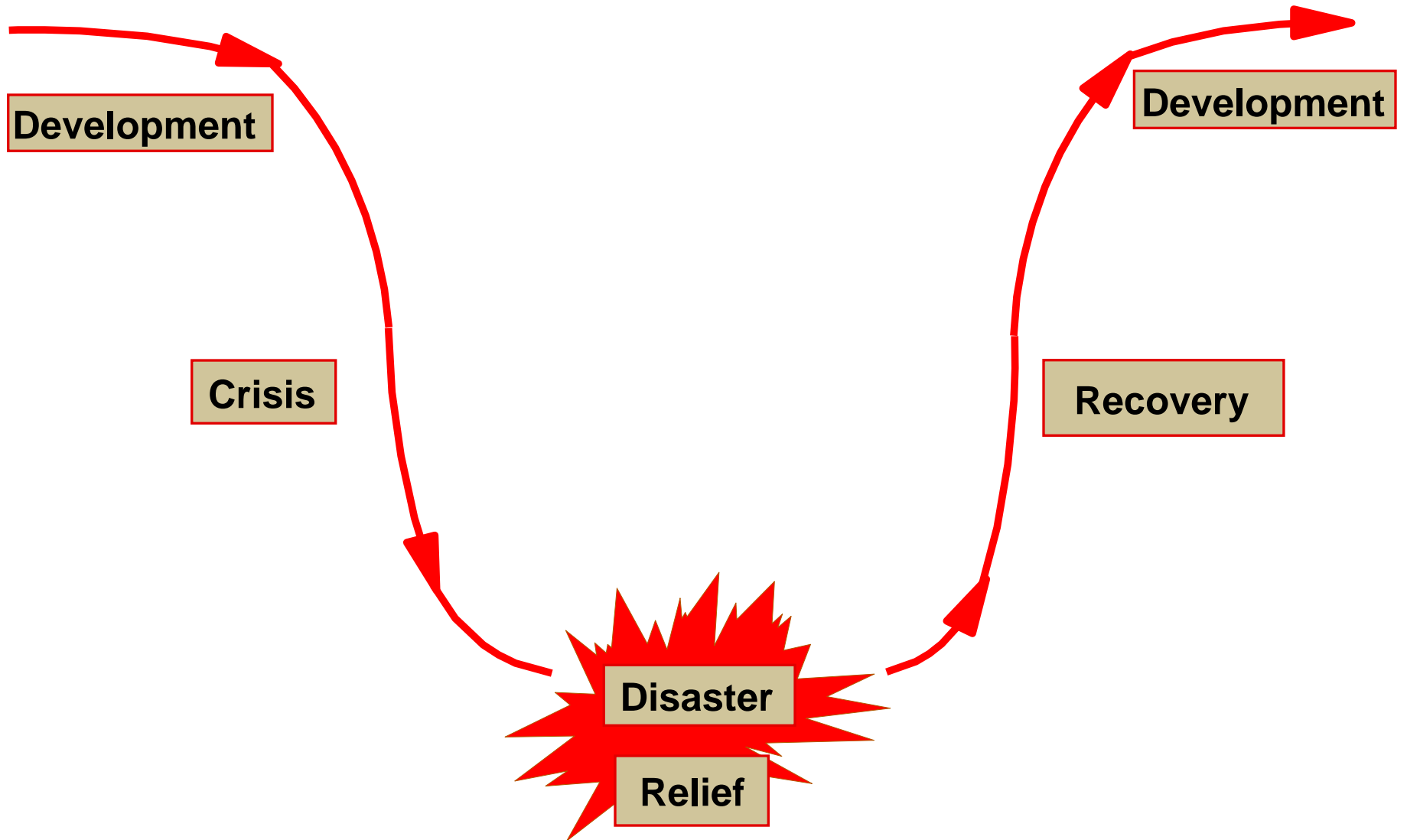
Section A

Disasters and Development

Disasters and Development

- ◆ Let us define two concepts
 1. What is a disaster?
 2. What is development?

Disaster

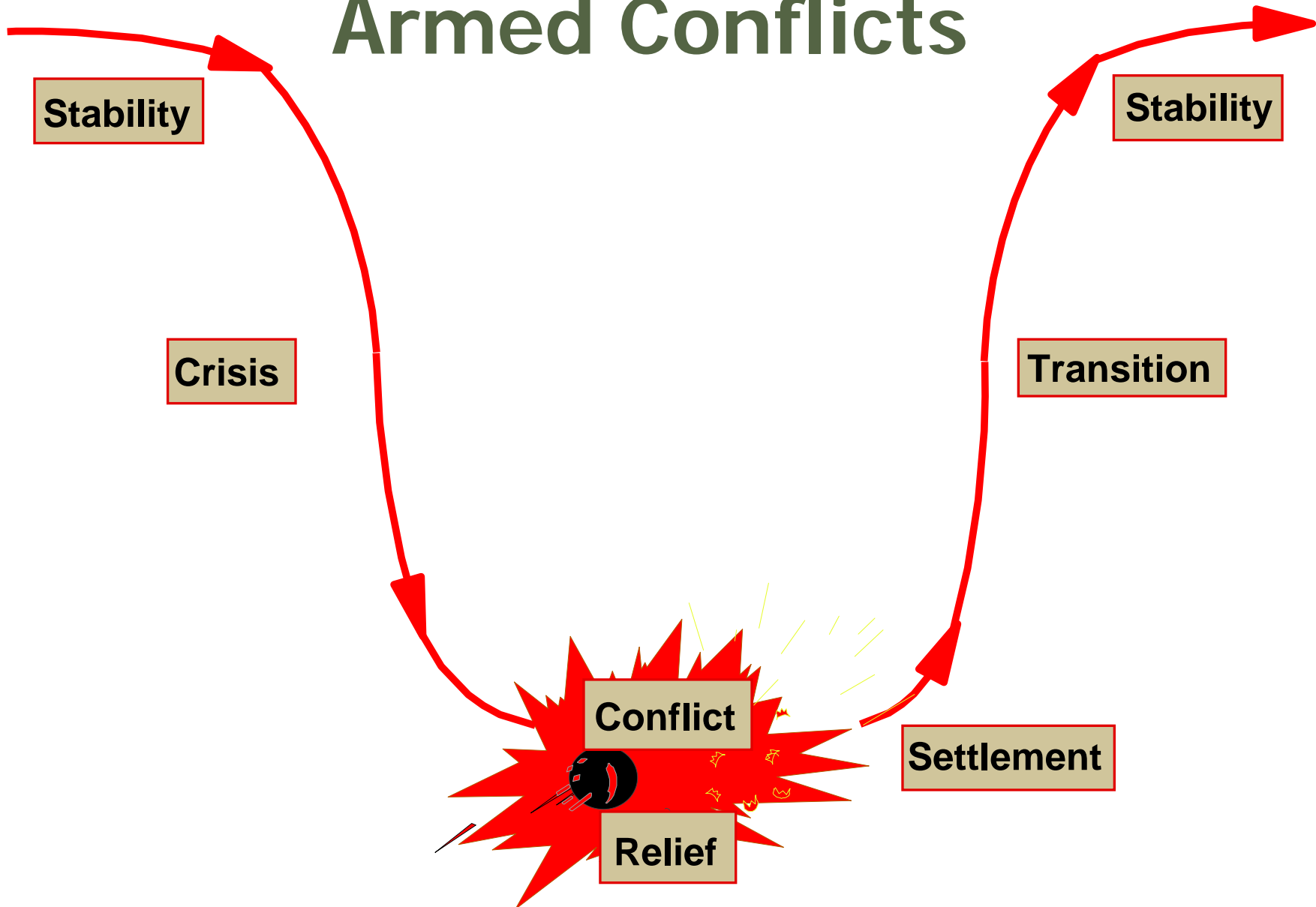


Continued

Disaster

- ◆ A *disaster* is a disruption in the normal pattern of life generating . . .
 - Suffering
 - Socioeconomic breakdown
 - Modification of the environment
 - To such an extent that there is a need for assistance (PAHO)

Armed Conflicts



Armed Conflicts Do Not Occur Unexpectedly

- ◆ Behind the immediate factors that trigger conflicts, analysis reveals deeper causes, such as . . .
 - Territorial demands
 - Socioeconomic inequalities
 - Economic interests
 - The defense of political ideologies

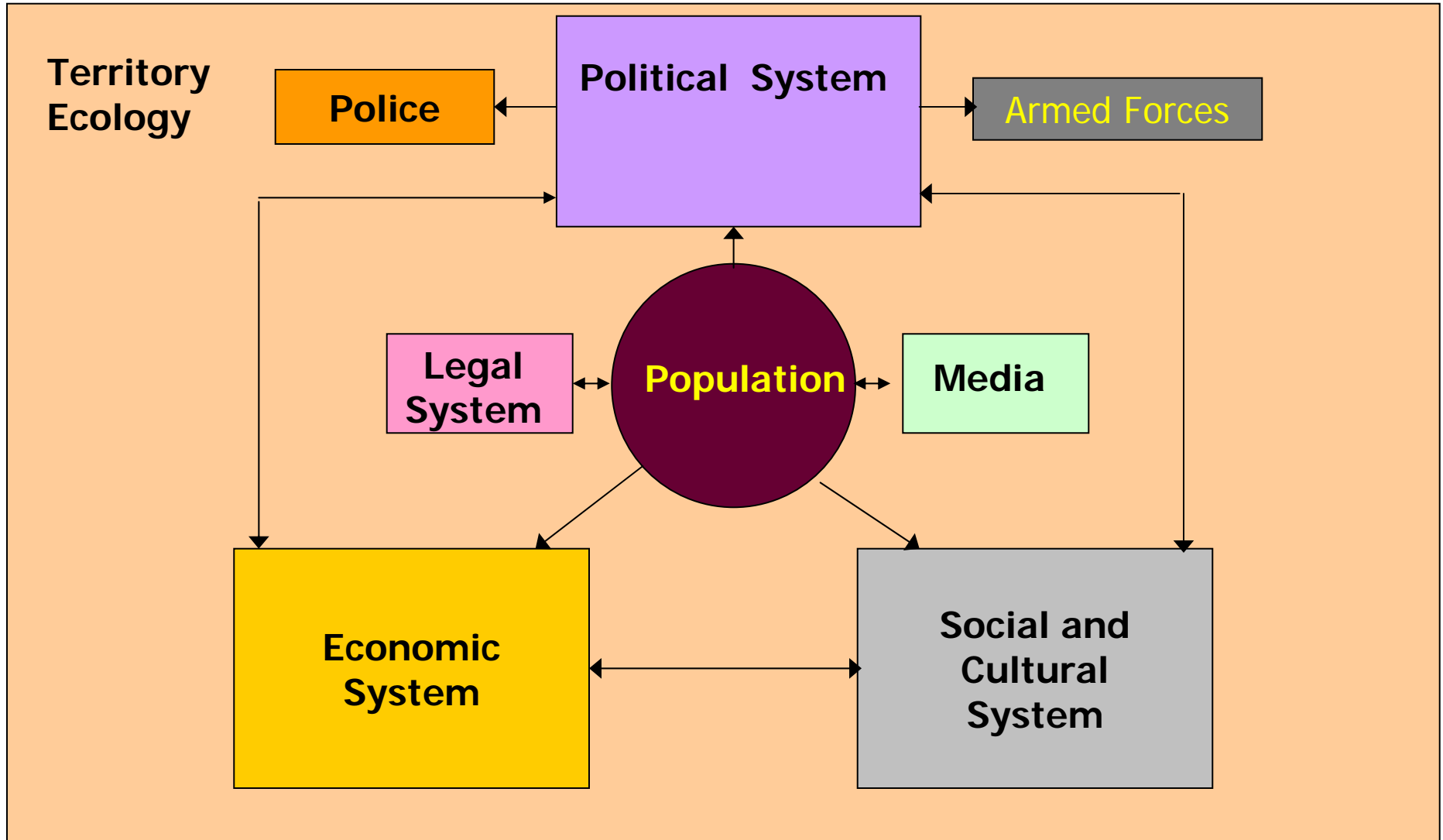
Armed Conflicts Do Not Occur Unexpectedly

- ◆ Behind the immediate factors that trigger conflicts, analysis reveals deeper causes, such as . . .
 - Burgeoning nationalism
 - The struggles of ethnic minorities
 - Racism and arms proliferation

Understanding Disasters

- ◆ We want to understand
 - What causes a disaster
 - What the impact will be
- ◆ To do this, we need to define a frame that shows the functioning of a society

Society



Development

- ◆ The interaction between the three systems can be called *development* when changes in any of them contribute to a better overall equilibrium

Development

- ◆ Development is a comprehensive economic, social, and political process . . .
 - That aims at the constant improvement of the well-being of the population and all individuals
 - On the basis of their active, free, and meaningful participation in development

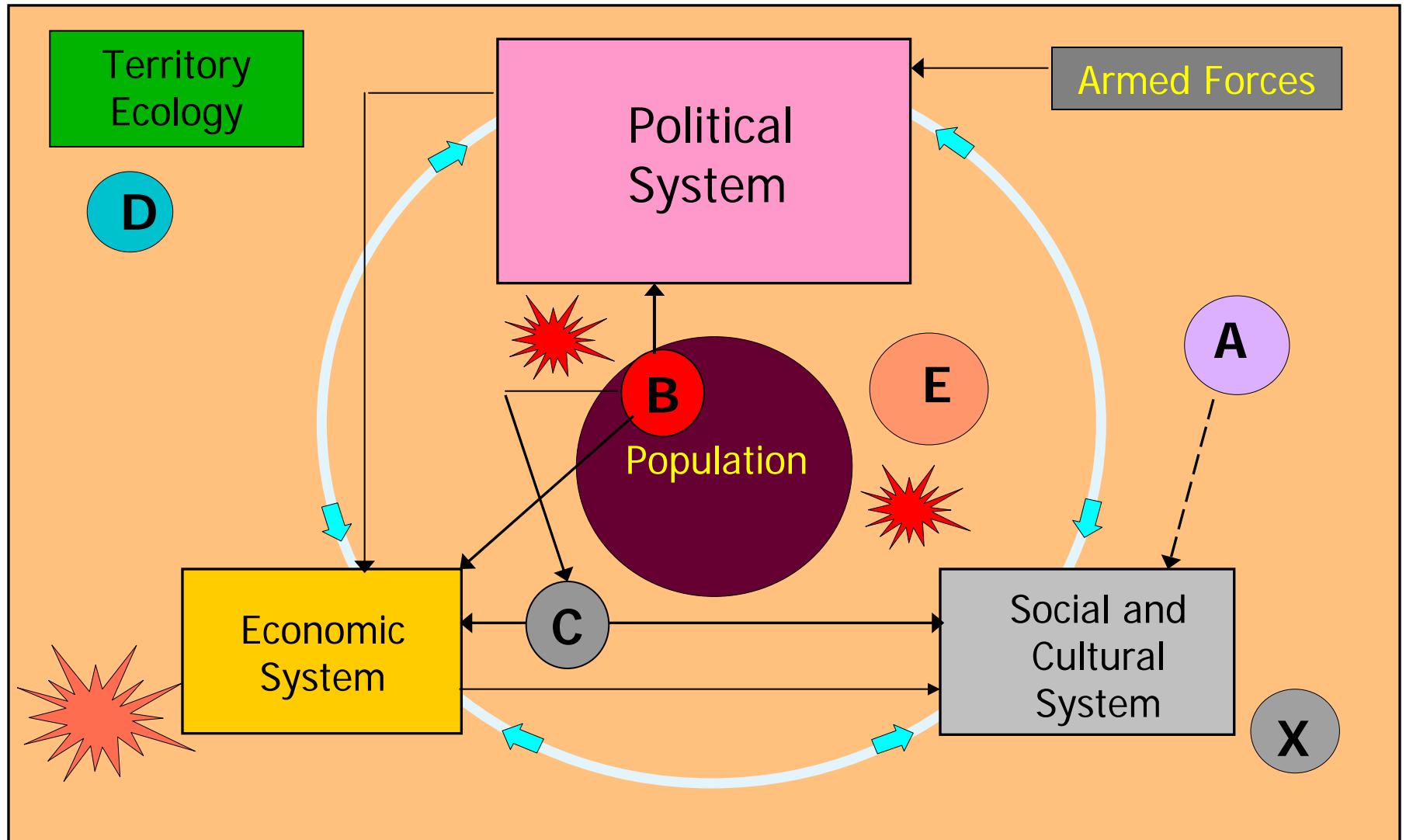
Development

- ◆ Development is a comprehensive economic, social, and political process . . .
 - And in the fair distribution of benefits resulting therefrom
 - (UN Gen. Assembly, The Right to Development, 1986)

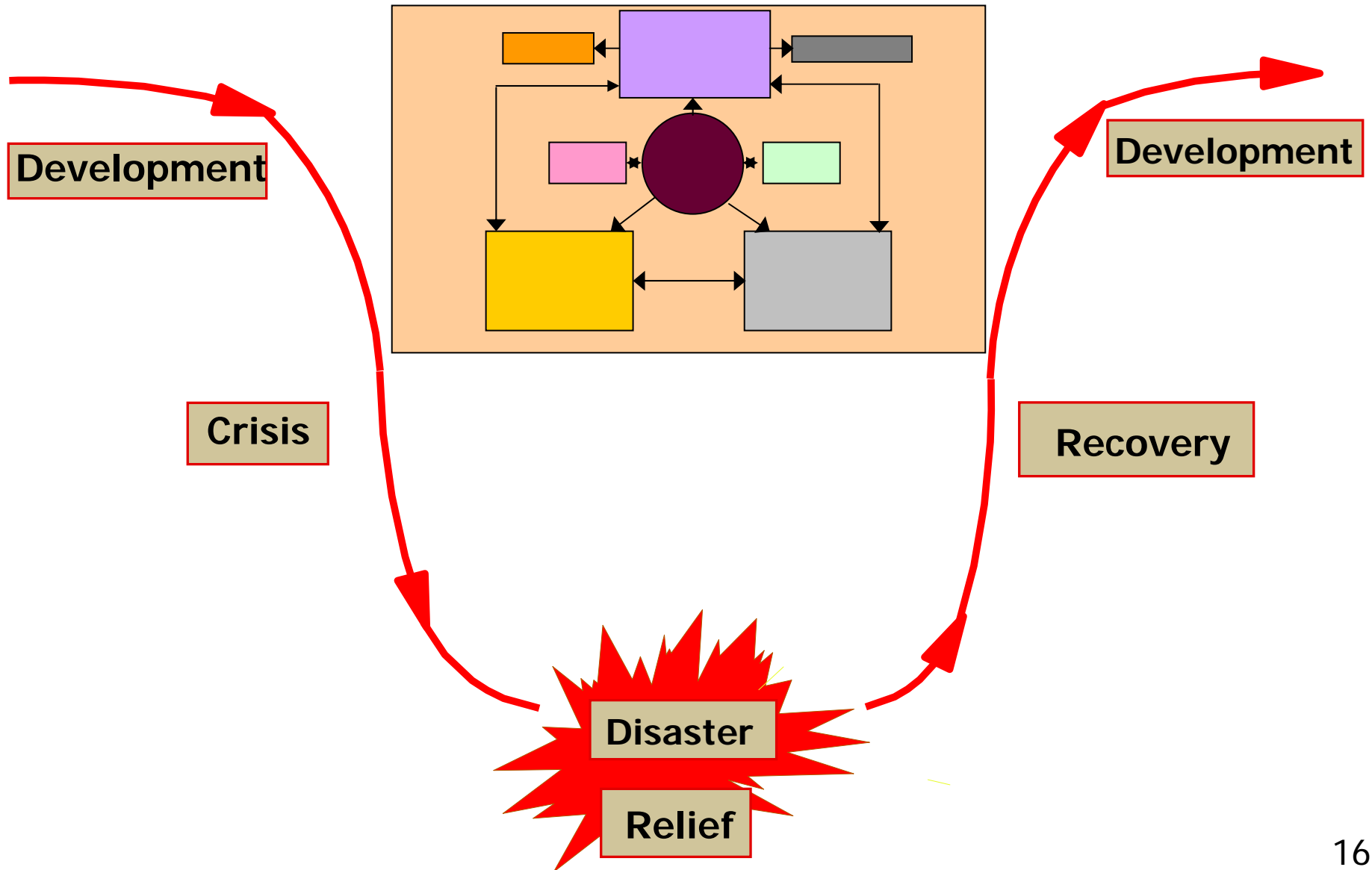
Reality of Development

- ◆ The reality is often far from the ideal view of a society
- ◆ Dysfunction of society leads to inequalities among the people

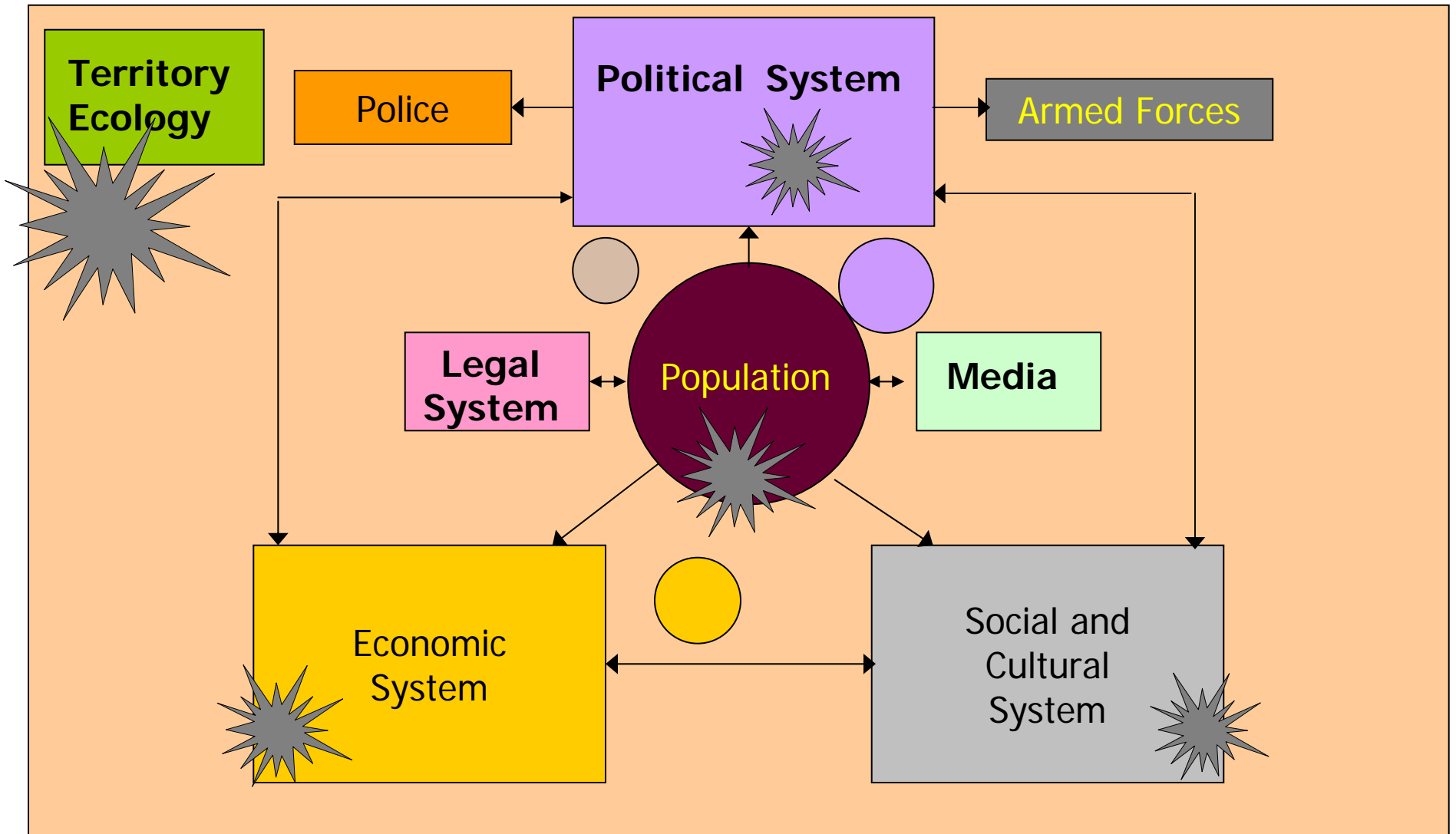
Complex Reality



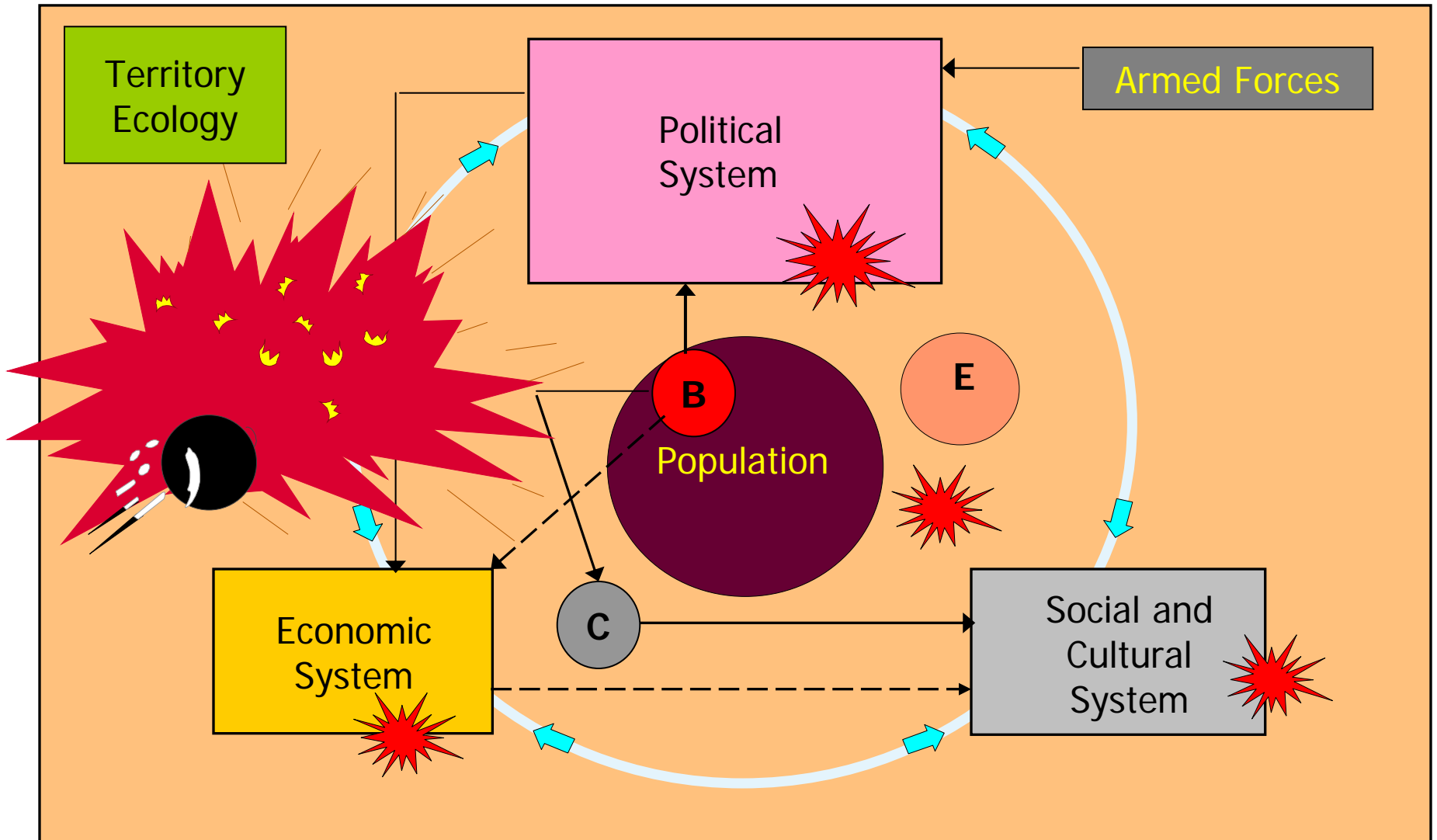
Model in a Disaster Cycle



Impact of Drought



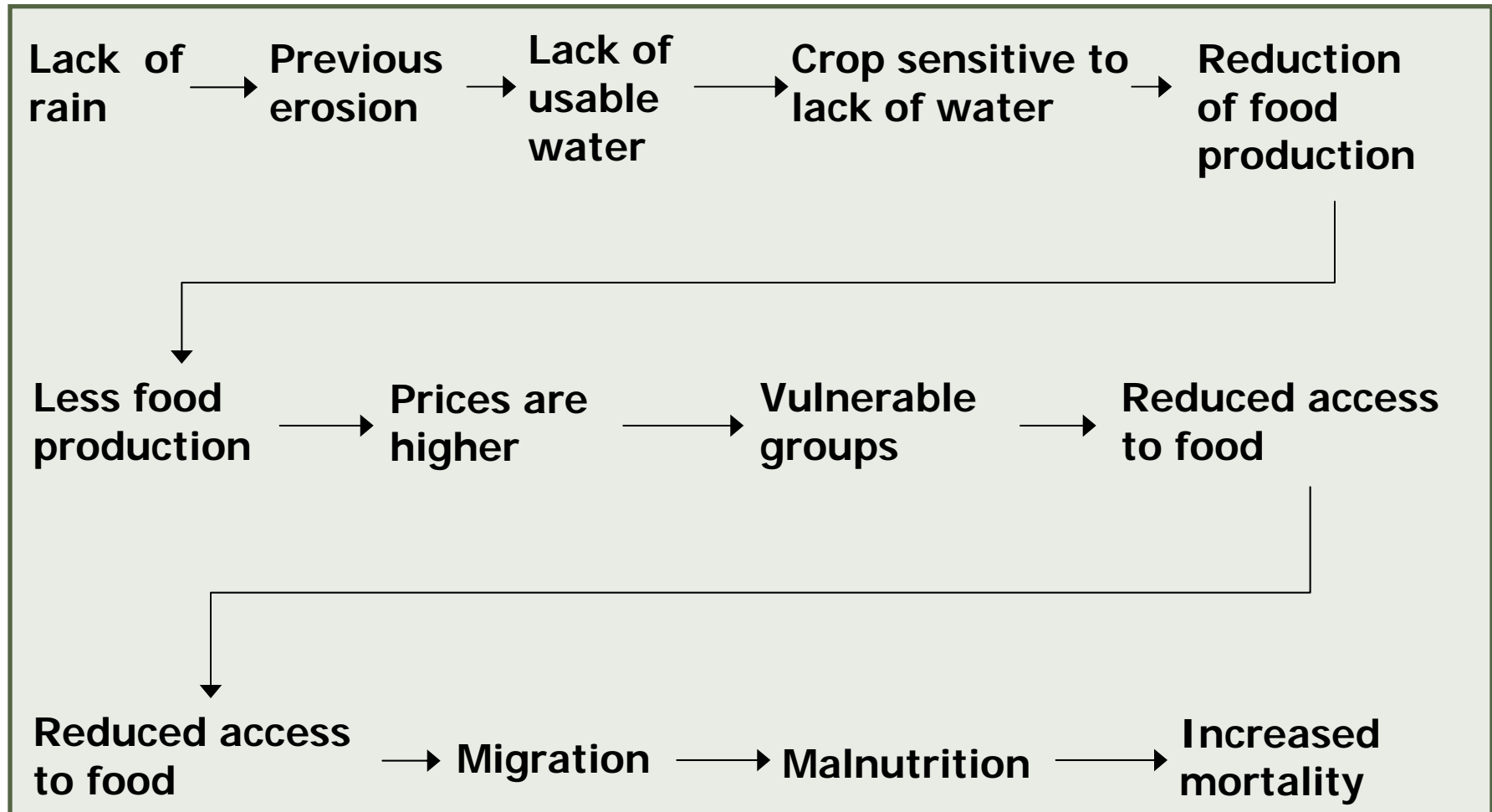
Impact of Armed Conflict



Vulnerabilities

- ◆ Vulnerabilities—the weak points of a society
- ◆ There are different levels
 - Ecological
 - Economic
 - Social
 - Human
 - Political

Vulnerabilities are Linked



Effect of Vulnerability

Aggressive Phenomenon \times **Vulnerability** \longrightarrow **Negative Impact**

Aim of Humanitarian Response

- ◆ For humanitarian organizations, the link between emergencies and development is clearly the reduction of vulnerabilities

Rural Populations Stricken by Drought

- ◆ Vulnerabilities
 - Economic
 - Environmental
 - Social

Environmental Vulnerabilities

- ◆ Environmental measures
 - Improve water storage system
 - Reduce erosion
 - Reforest

Economic Vulnerabilities

- ◆ Economic measures
 - Diversify the means of subsistence
 - Institute cooperatives
 - Improve methods of raising livestock
 - Encourage saving
 - Develop markets

Social Vulnerabilities

- ◆ Social measures
 - Develop local aid organizations
 - Respect traditional mechanisms of mutual aid

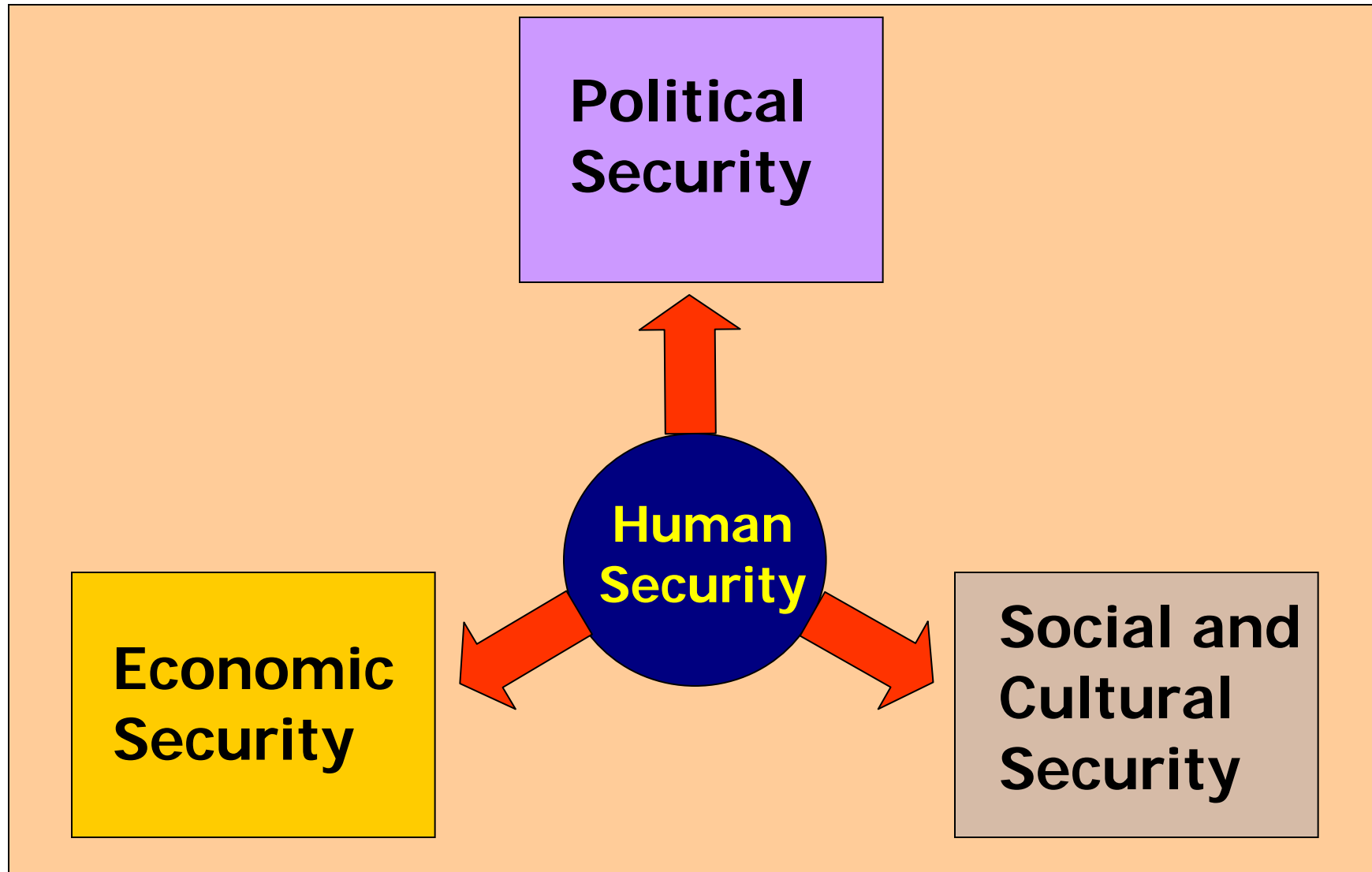
From Relief to Development

- ◆ It is essential to analyze vulnerabilities exposed by a disaster
- ◆ People have to define the systems (political, economic, socio-cultural) that they want to build after the disaster so that they will be less vulnerable to future disasters

From Relief to Development

- ◆ When planning relief activities, always define long term objectives aimed at restoring the systems as defined by the people

Restoring Human Security





JOHNS HOPKINS
BLOOMBERG
SCHOOL *of* PUBLIC HEALTH

Section B

*Health, Ethics, Law, and Policies
in Armed Conflicts*

Main Causes of Armed Conflicts

- ◆ Fight for territories
- ◆ Scarcity of resources
- ◆ Competition for natural resources
- ◆ Religious antagonism
- ◆ Ethnic discrimination
- ◆ Ideological struggle
- ◆ Bad governance
- ◆ Arms availability

Civilians in Armed Conflicts

- ◆ Civilians are victims of armed conflicts
- ◆ In some cases, the objective of the war is the elimination of populations
 - Ethnic cleansing, genocide
- ◆ In other situations, uncontrolled armed groups make their living by exploiting populations

Health Impact of Armed Conflicts



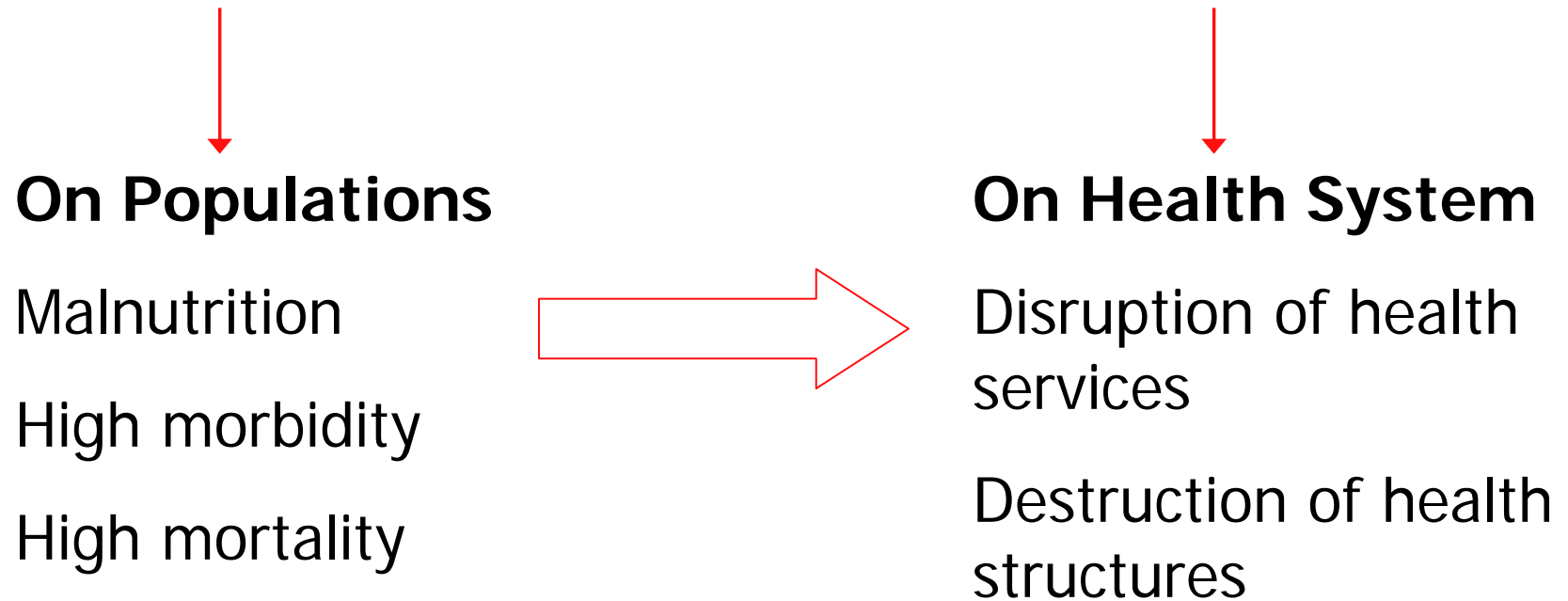
On Populations

Malnutrition

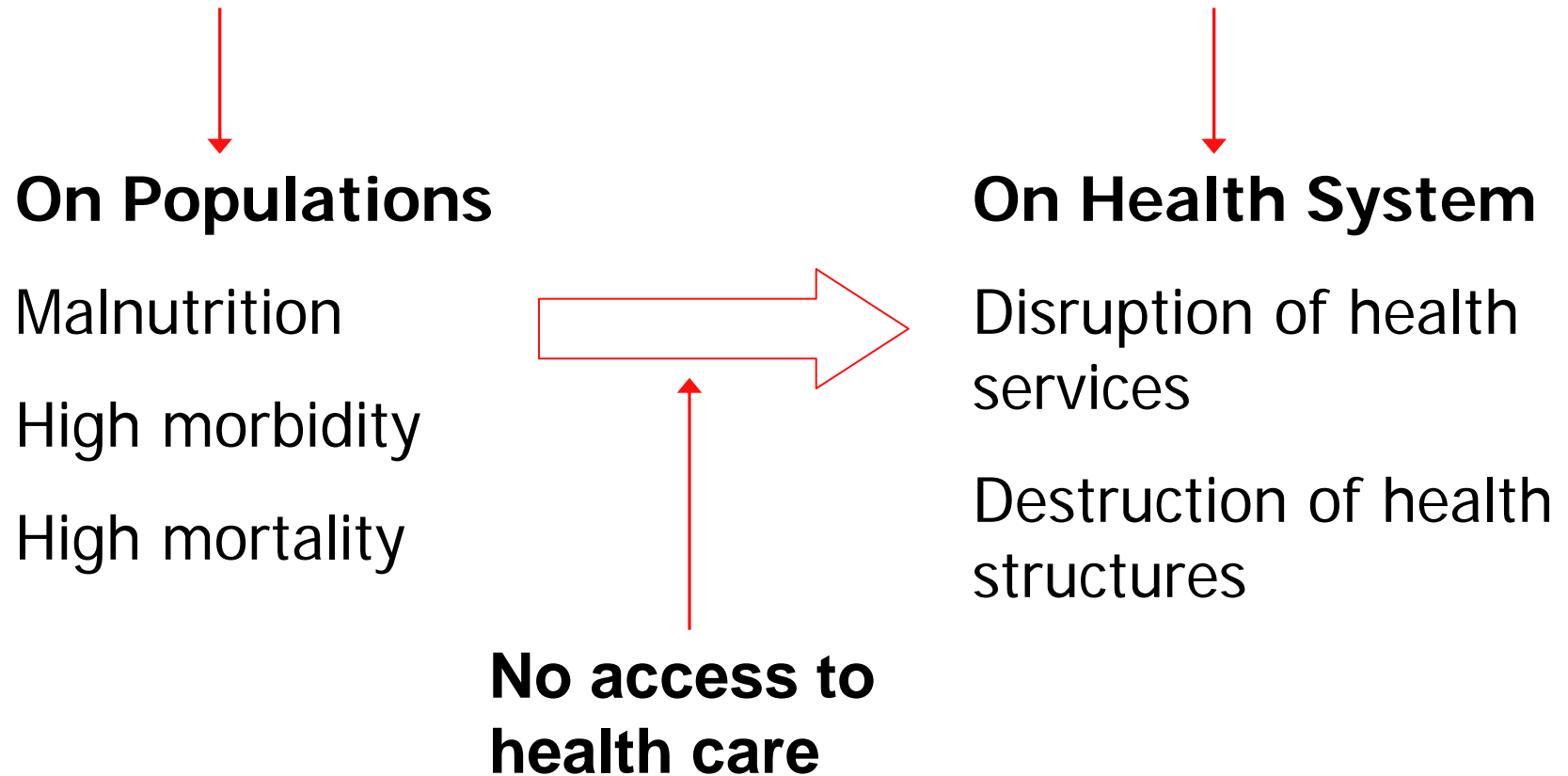
High morbidity

High mortality

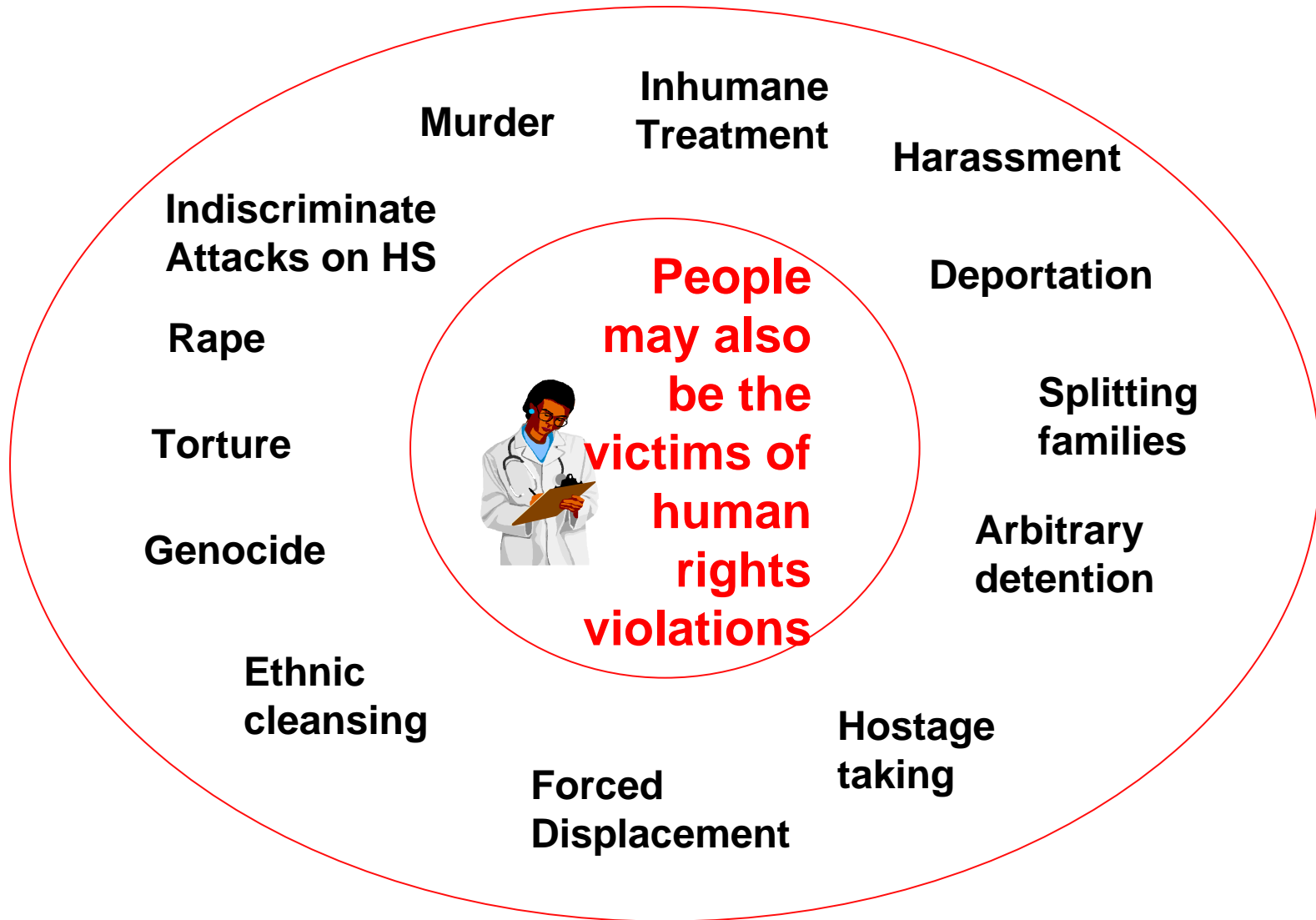
Health Impact of Armed Conflicts



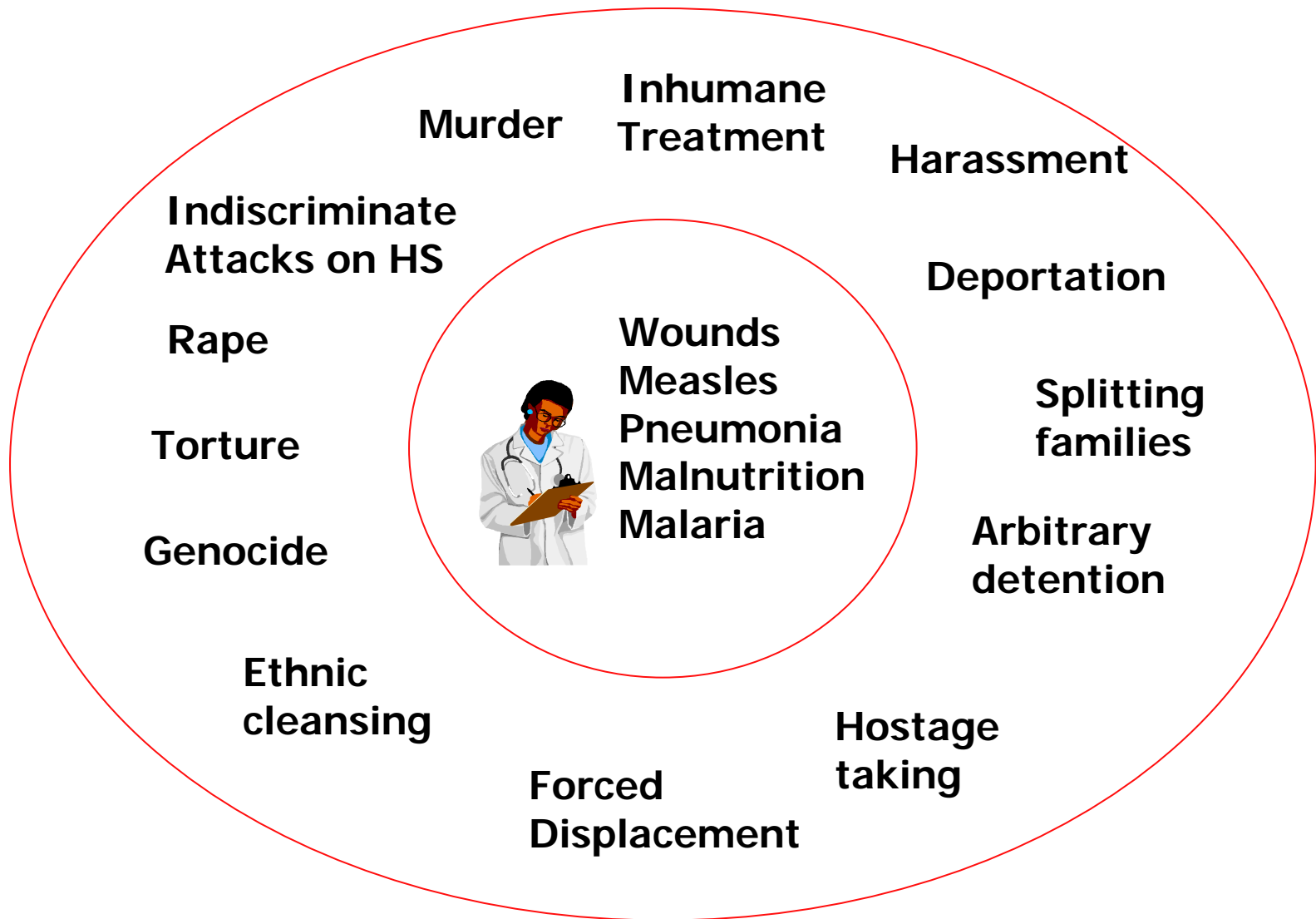
Health Impact of Armed Conflicts



Health and Human Rights

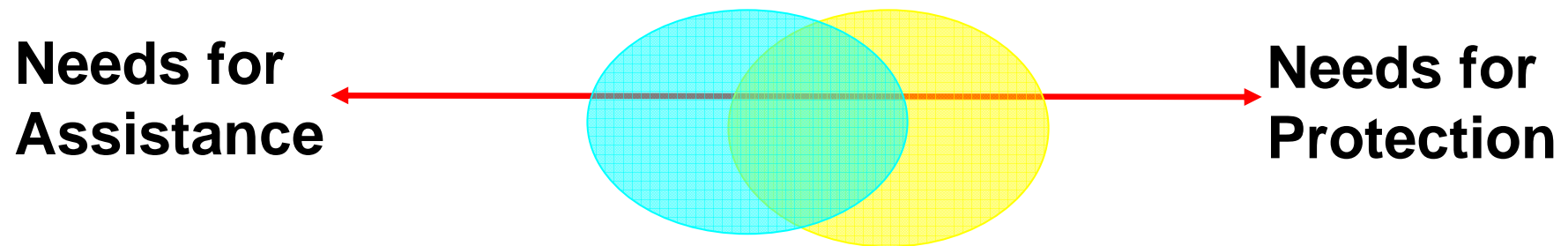


Health and Human Rights Are Linked



Assistance and Protection

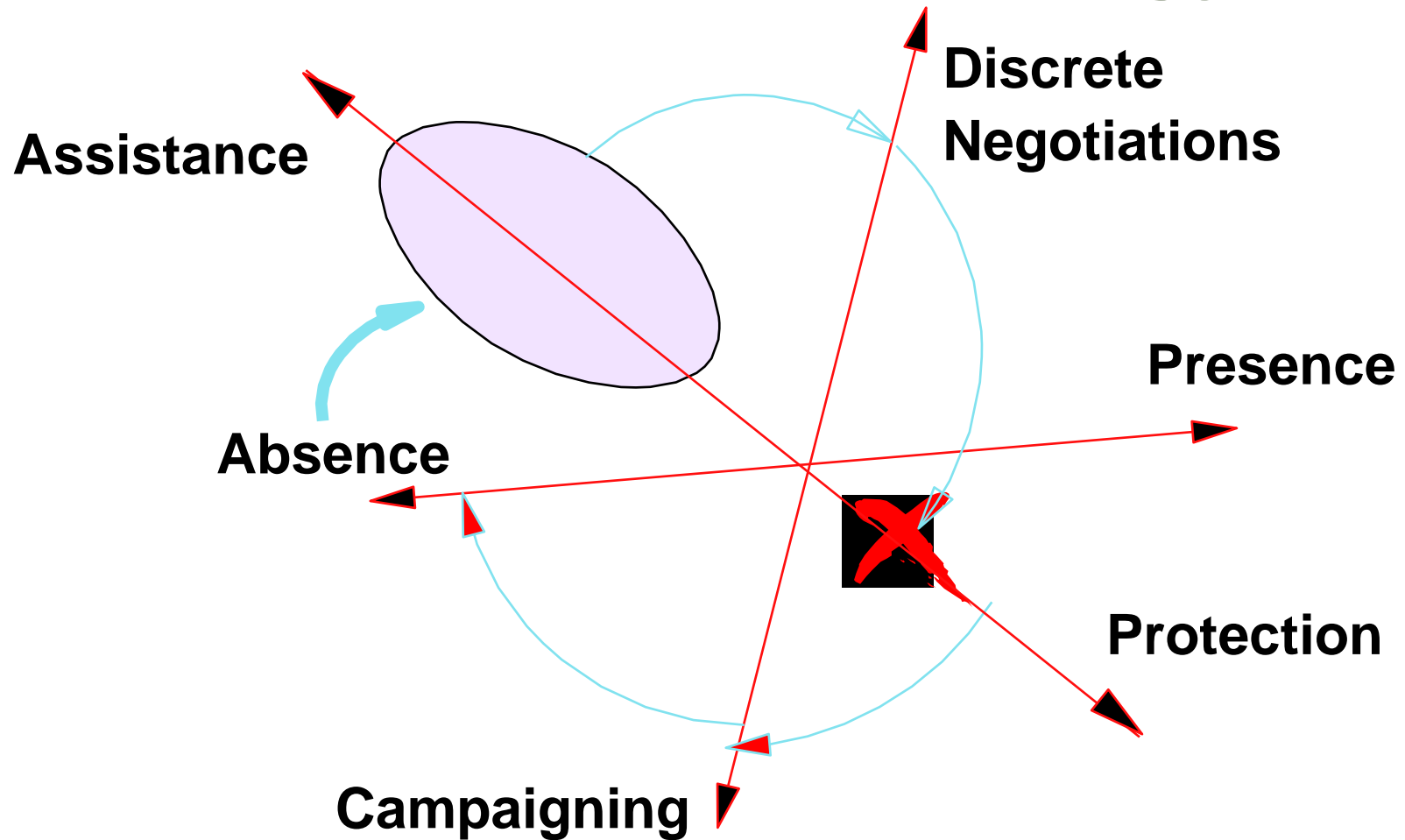
- ◆ In practice, assistance and protection of victims can not be dissociated



Assistance and Protection

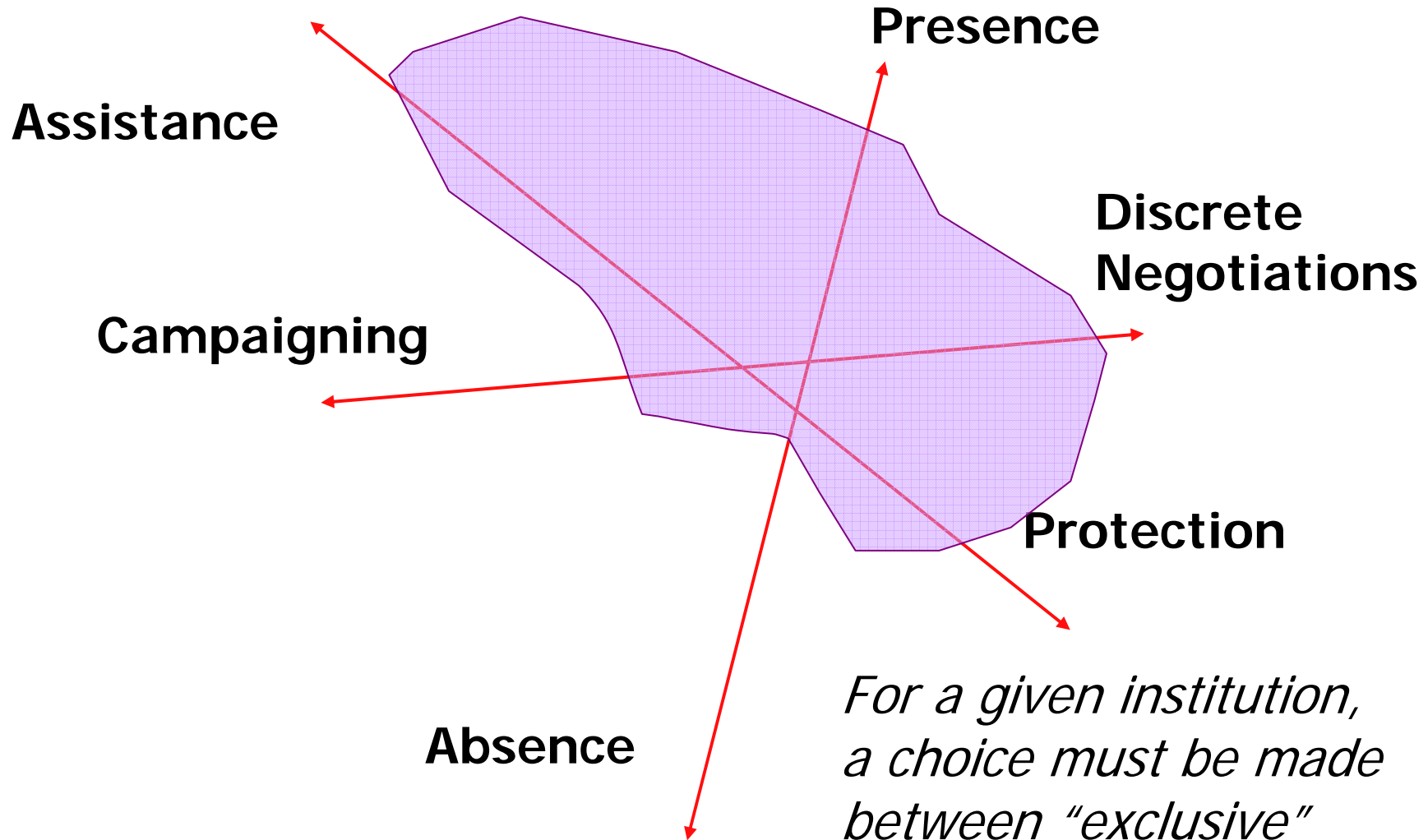
- ◆ At times, protection is assistance and vice versa
- ◆ The ICRC provides protection
- ◆ ICRC prison visits
 - Correct torture and mistreatment
 - Distribute goods and medical services

Humanitarian Strategy



The choice between options is difficult

Institutional Strategy

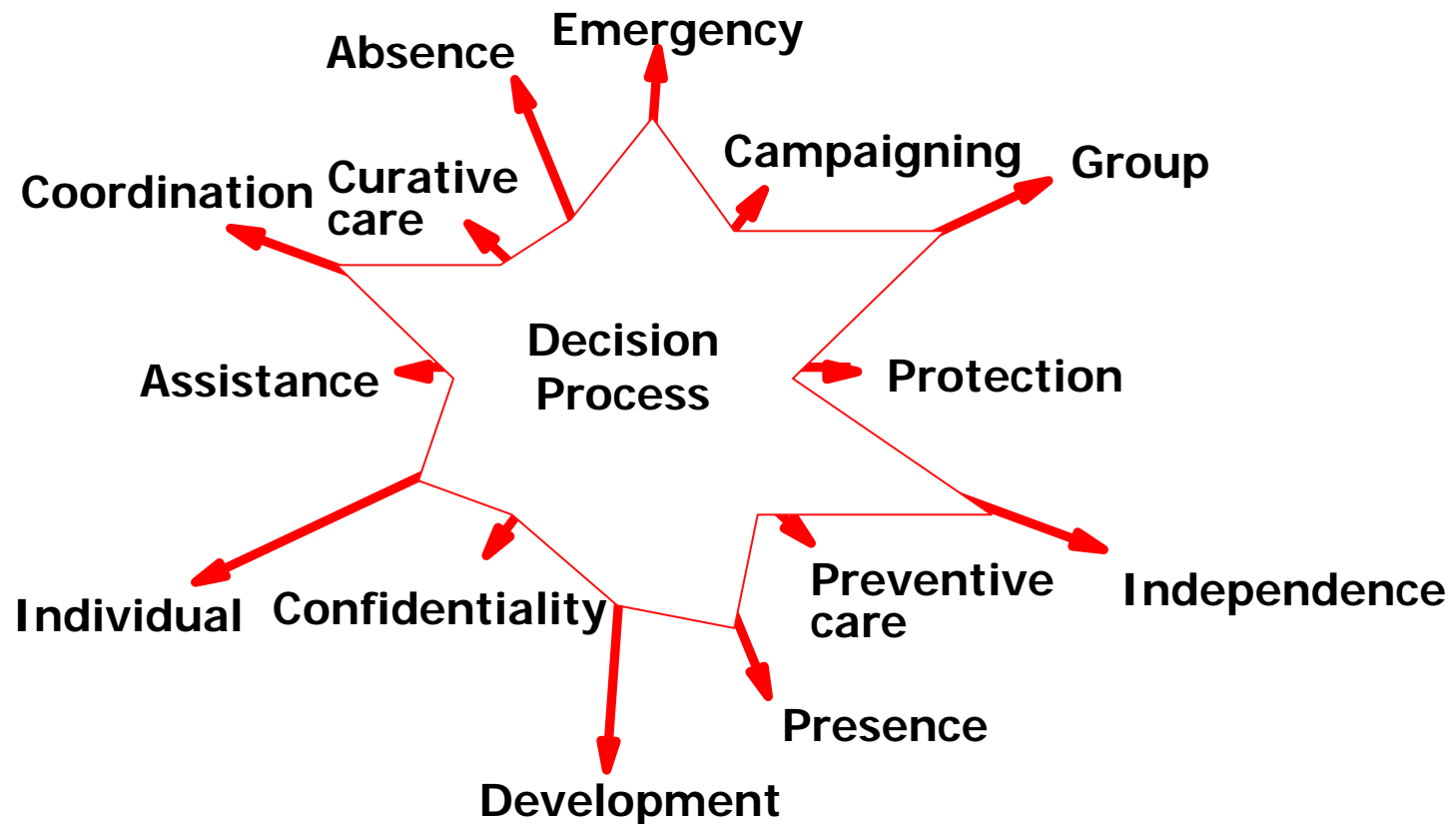


*For a given institution,
a choice must be made
between "exclusive"
strategies*

Continued

Institutional Strategy

- ◆ To set a strategy, an organization must look at all issues



Ethical Decisions

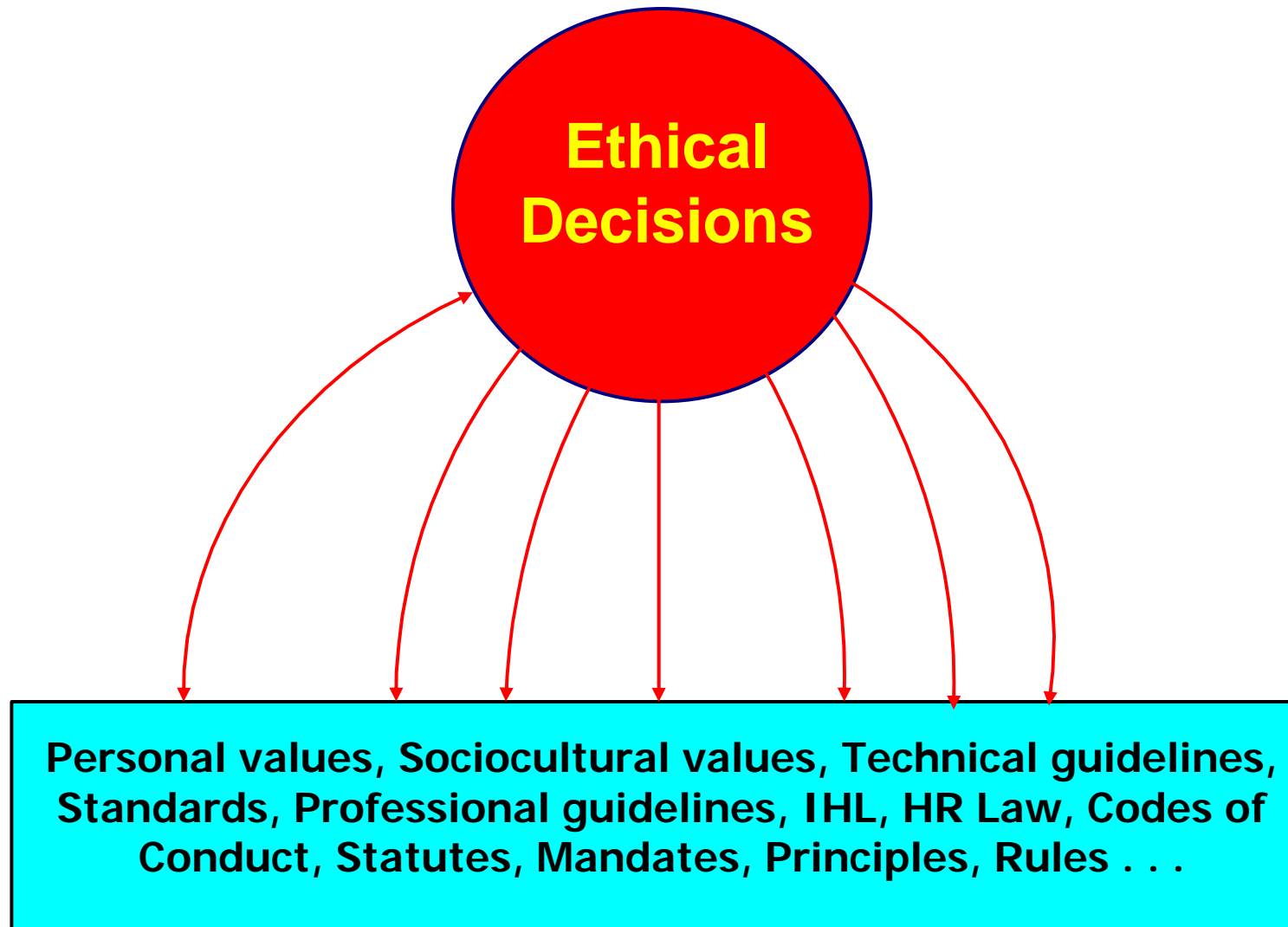
- ◆ Choices must be made on a strong ethical basis

Ethical Decisions

- ◆ A good ethical decision tends to . . .
 - Maximize all interests
 - Minimize negative side effects
 - Respect the values of victims, societies, and institutions

Source: P. Lesage-Jarjoura, Nouveaux défis professionnels pour le médecin des années 2000. Collège des médecins du Québec, 1998.

Ethical Framework



Ethical Framework

- ◆ Let us have a look at some issues involved in making a difficult decision in the field

Respect for the Values of Beneficiaries

- ◆ “Stripped of reality, the identity of these beneficiaries—being the ‘objects’ of humanitarian action—undergoes a culturalist levelling. At worst, the beliefs, practices, and values of these victims no longer have any importance.”

The International Humanitarian Law (IHL)

“The existence of a large body of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Law is an important part of the moral landscape in which relief agencies make their moral decisions.

These international legal instruments often spell out what is right and wrong under law. In their decision making, relief agencies should be increasingly familiar with this body of law and be able to refer to relevant sections of it appropriately and abide by, wherever possible.”

Source: Hugo Slim. Doing the Right Thing: Relief agencies, moral dilemmas, and moral responsibility in political emergencies and war report, no. 6.

Continued 48

The International Humanitarian Law (IHL)

- ◆ The main rules of the IHL are contained in the following:
 - The Geneva Convention of 1949
 - The Additional Protocols to the Geneva Convention of 1977
 - The Law of War

Some Examples of Applicability of the IHL to Protection of Victims and the Health System

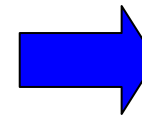
- ✓ CIII, Art.26: Food for the POW
- ✓ PI,Art.55: Protection of the natural environment
- ✓ PII,Art15: Protection of works and installations containing dangerous forces
- ✓ PI,Art.54: Protection of objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population
- ✓ CIII, Art.30: Medical attention for the POW
- ✓ CIV,Art.18: Protection of hospitals
- ✓ PII,Art.11: Protection of medical units and transport
- ✓ PII,Art10: General protection of medical duties



- ✓ PI,Art.71: Protection of personnel participating in relief actions
- ✓ CIV, Art.23: Consignment of medical supplies, food and clothing

Some Examples of Applicability of the IHL to Protection of Victims and the Health System

- ✓ **Art.3 common to the four Geneva Conventions**
- ✓ **PII,Art.13: Protection of the civilian population**
- ✓ **PII,Art.7: Protection and care for the wounded, sick and shipwrecked**
- ✓ **PI,Art.51: Protection of the civilian population**
- ✓ **PII,Art.4: Fundamental guarantees**
- ✓ **PII,Art.5: Protection of persons whose liberties have been restricted**



The Human Rights Law

- ◆ International instruments of the Human Rights Law
 - The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)
 - The International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (1966)

The Human Rights Law

- ◆ International instruments of the Human Rights Law
 - The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)
 - The Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951)

Codes in Armed Conflicts

- ◆ Examples of codes relevant in armed conflicts
 - The code of conduct for International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations in Disaster Relief

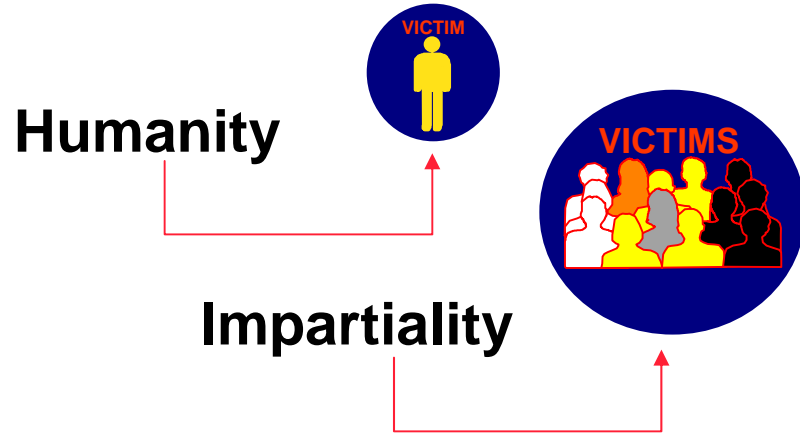
Codes in Armed Conflicts

- ◆ Examples of codes relevant in armed conflicts
 - People in Aid
 - Sphere project
 - RC/RC Principles

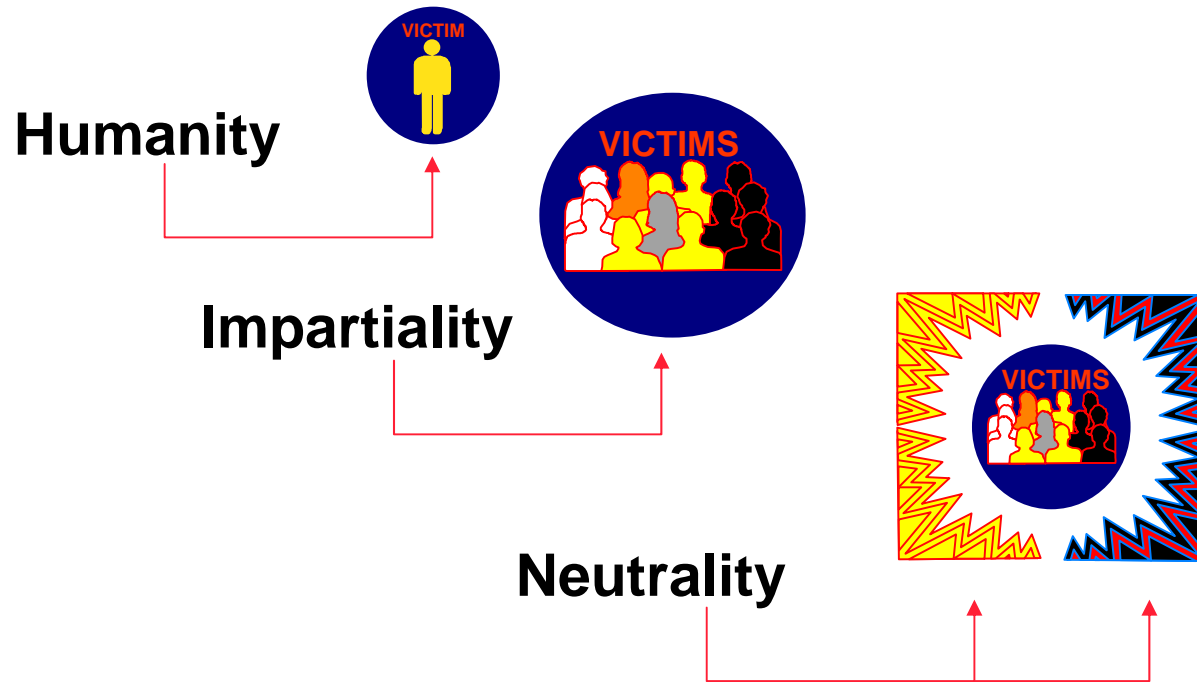
The Red Cross and Red Crescent Principles



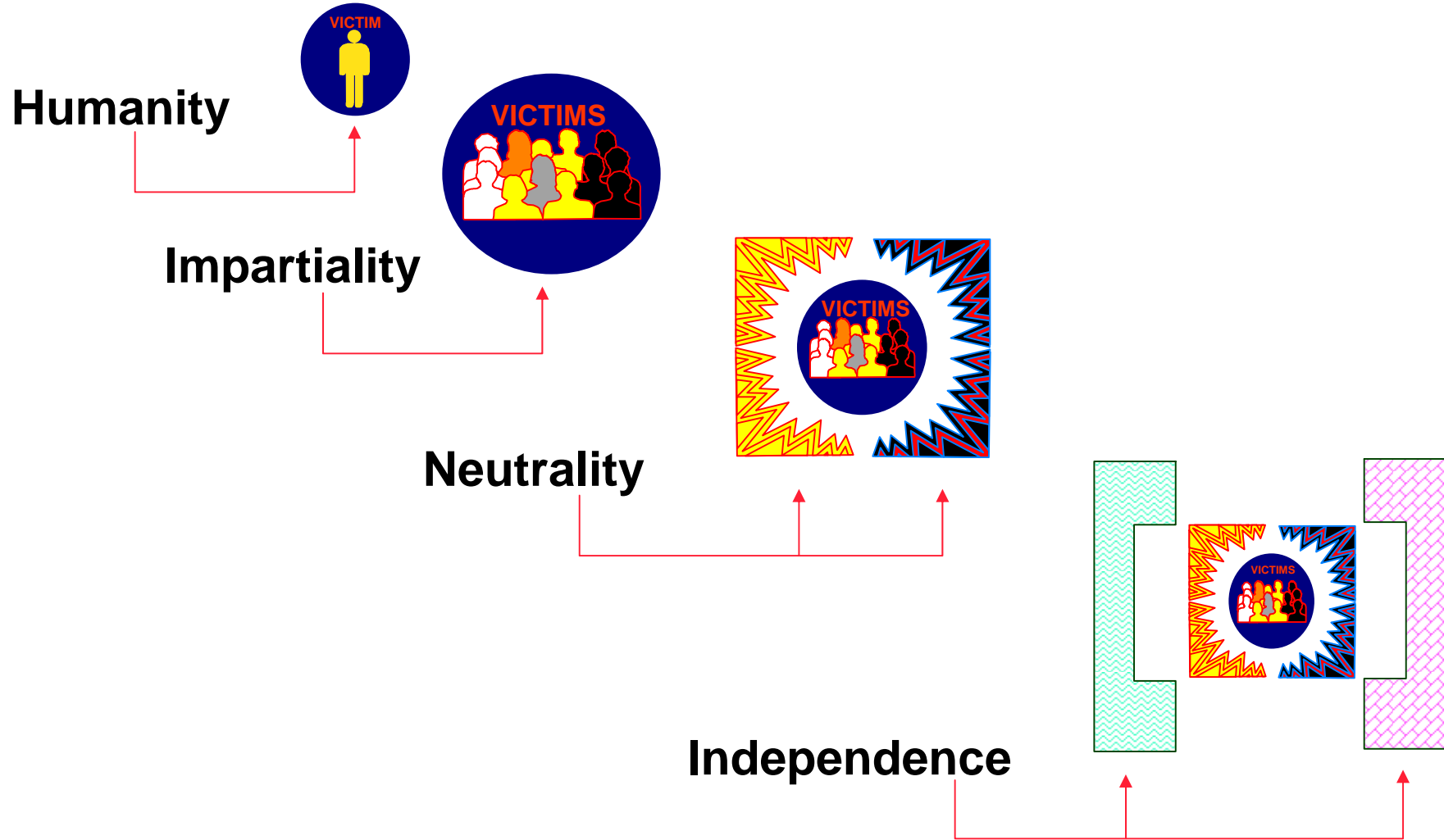
The Red Cross and Red Crescent Principles



The Red Cross and Red Crescent Principles



The Red Cross and Red Crescent Principles



Professional Codes and Resolutions

- ◆ The Declarations of the World Medical Association
 - The Helsinki Declaration (1964) related to bioethics and biomedical research
 - The Statement on medical ethics in the event of disasters (Stockholm, 1994)
- ◆ The Resolutions of the International Council of Nurses

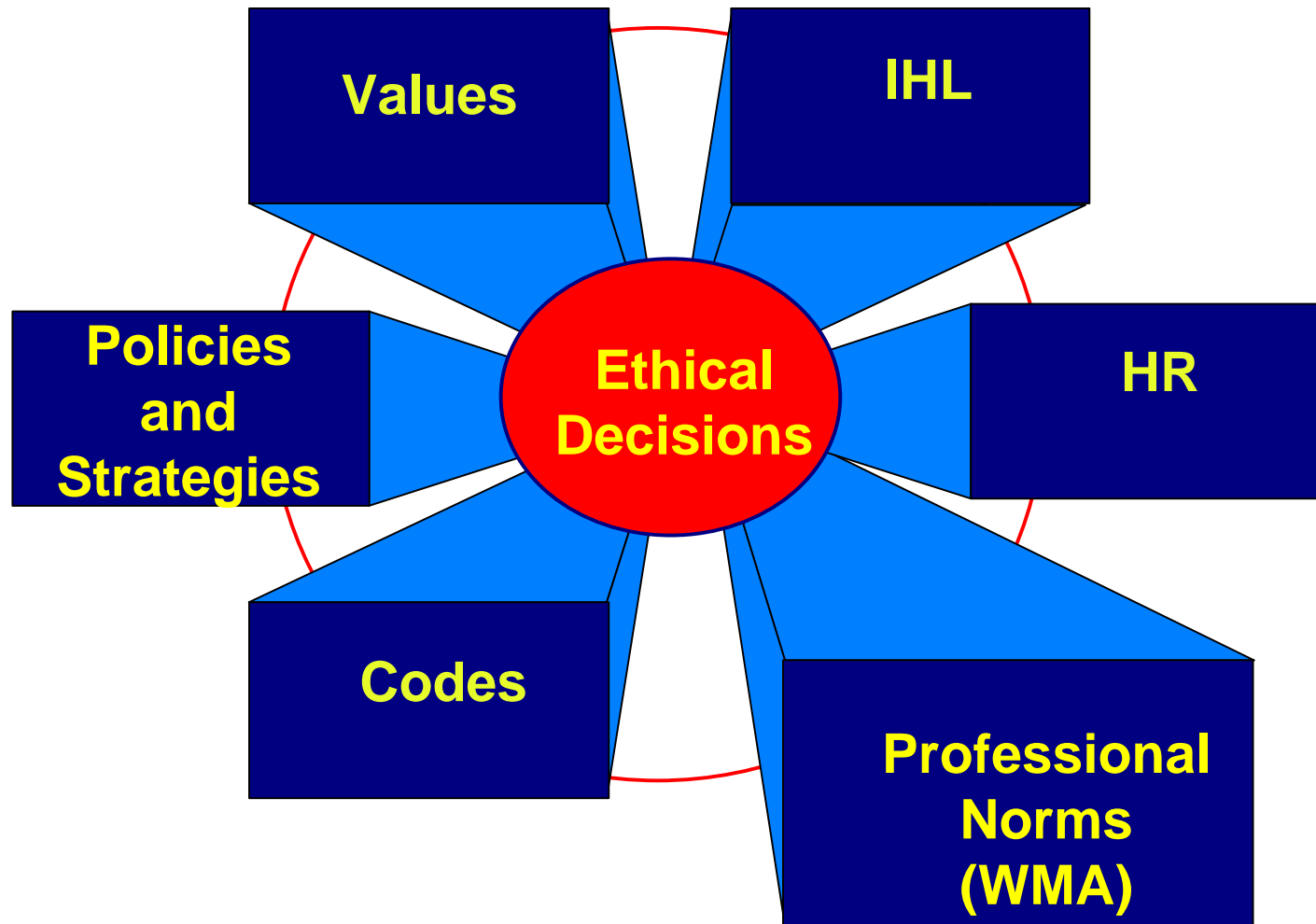
Mandate and Statutes of Humanitarian Organizations

- ◆ Know the mandate and strategies of action of different humanitarian organizations to understand their complementarity

Mandate and Statutes of Humanitarian Organizations

- ◆ For example, the principle of *confidentiality* espoused by the ICRC should not be placed in opposition to the principles of denunciation adopted by other human rights agencies
- ◆ The two approaches are complementary, and both are necessary

Decision Making



Decision Making

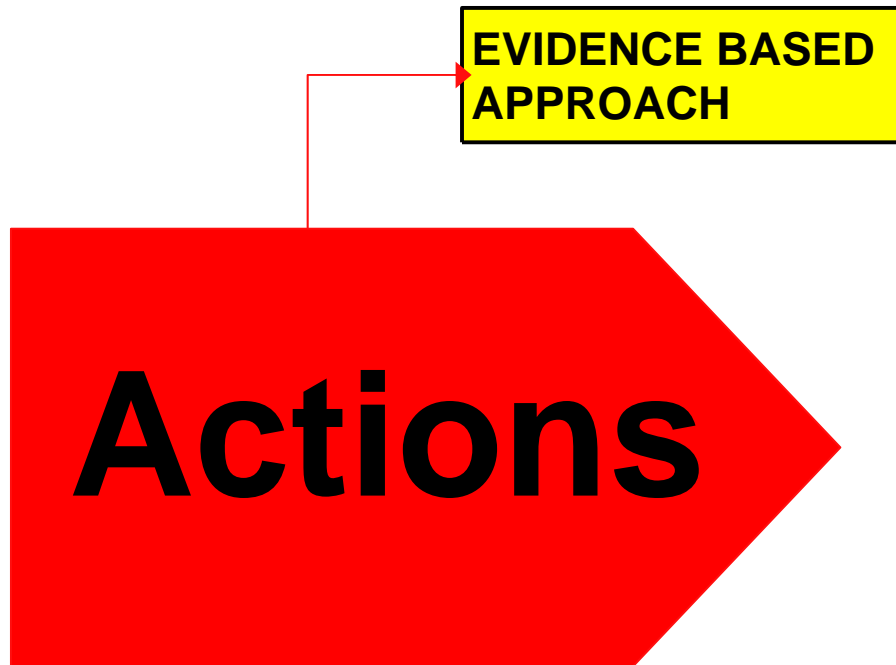
- ◆ *Quality assurance* is a tool for improving the quality of the decision-making process
 - Therefore, to prepare health care workers to make ethical decisions

Quality Assurance

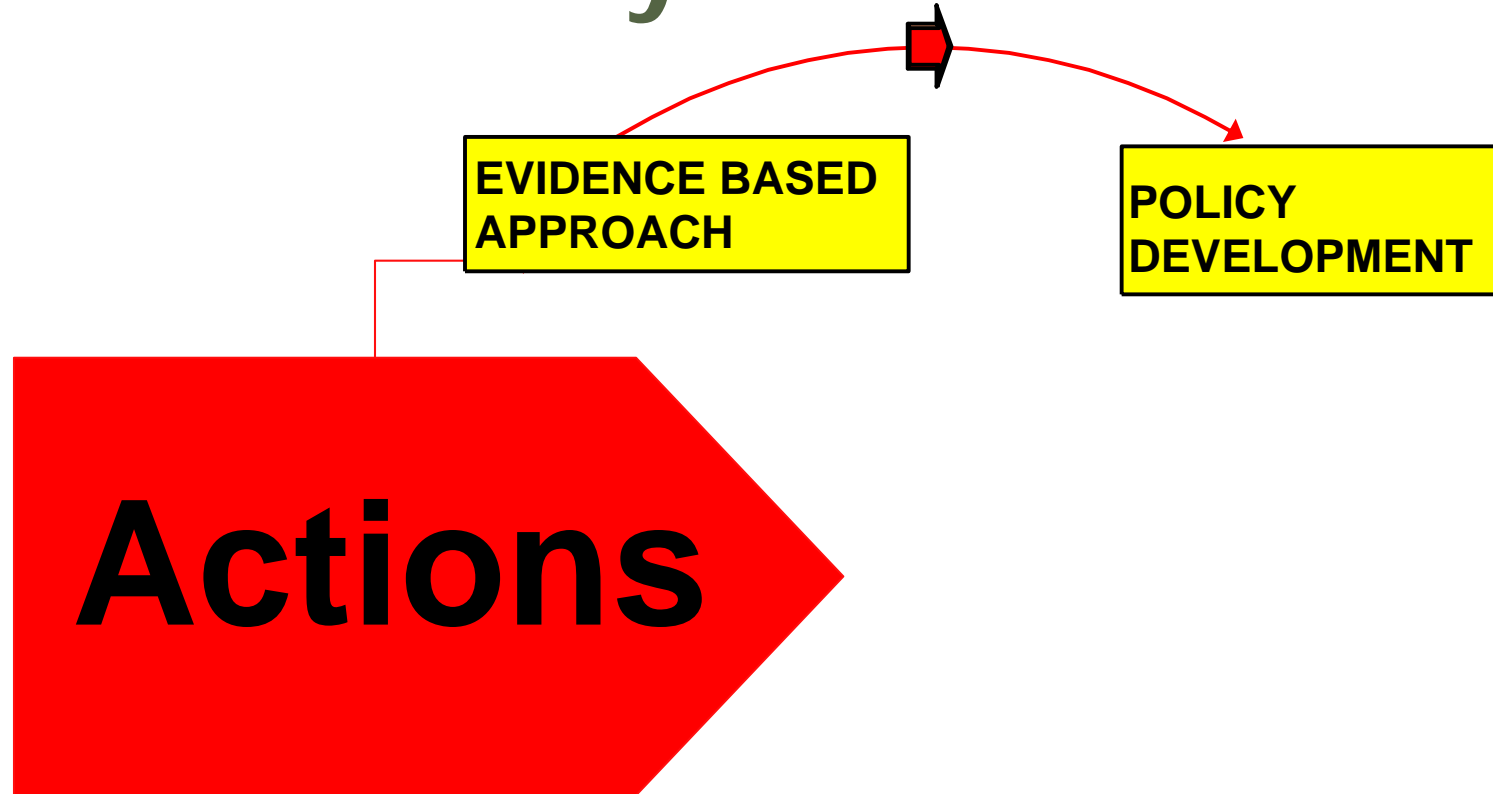


Actions

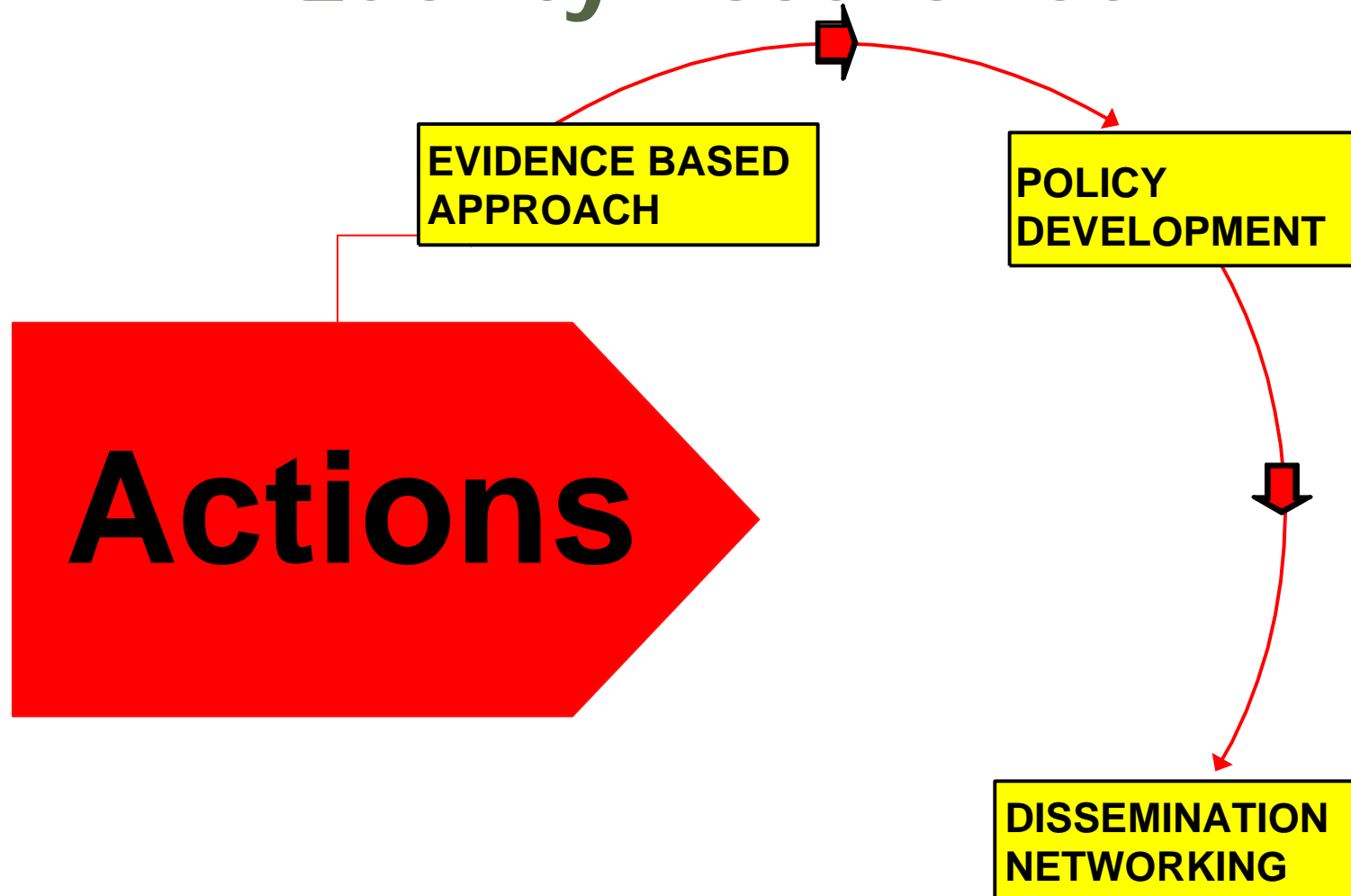
Quality Assurance



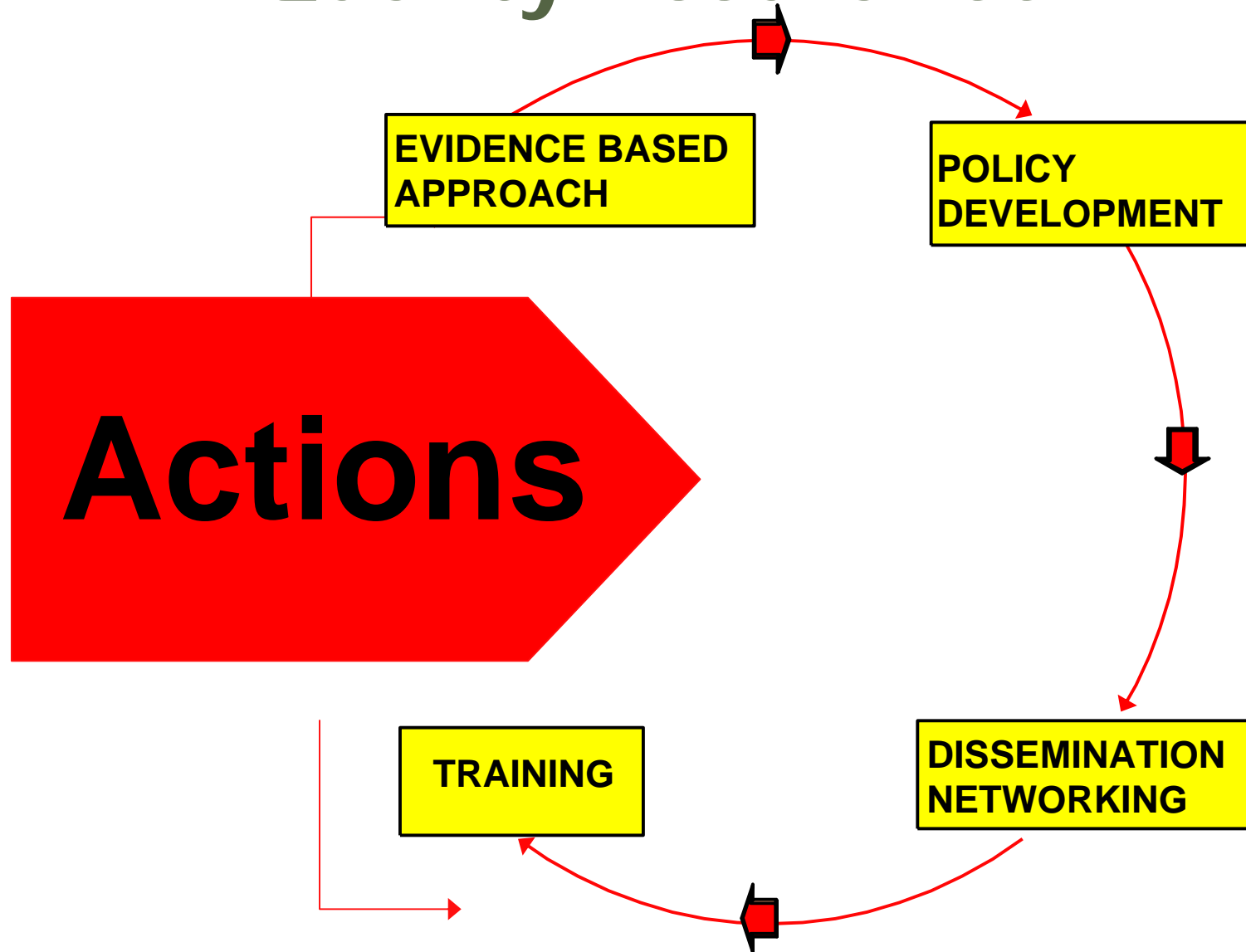
Quality Assurance



Quality Assurance



Quality Assurance



Ethics and Research in an Emergency

- ◆ An *Evidence-Based Approach* (EBA) may lead to research

Ethics and Research in an Emergency

- ◆ Ethical considerations
 - Risk-benefit
 - Informed consent
 - Confidentiality

Source: Adapted from J. Ovretveit. Evaluating Health Treatments Services and Policies. The Nordic School of Public Health, Goteborg.

Summary

- ◆ The bases for ethical decisions are as follows:
 - Learning from experiences
 - Respecting the values of people
 - Adhering to fundamental principles of action
 - Looking critically at codes, norms, etc.
 - Looking at choices systematically
 - Justifying options rationally