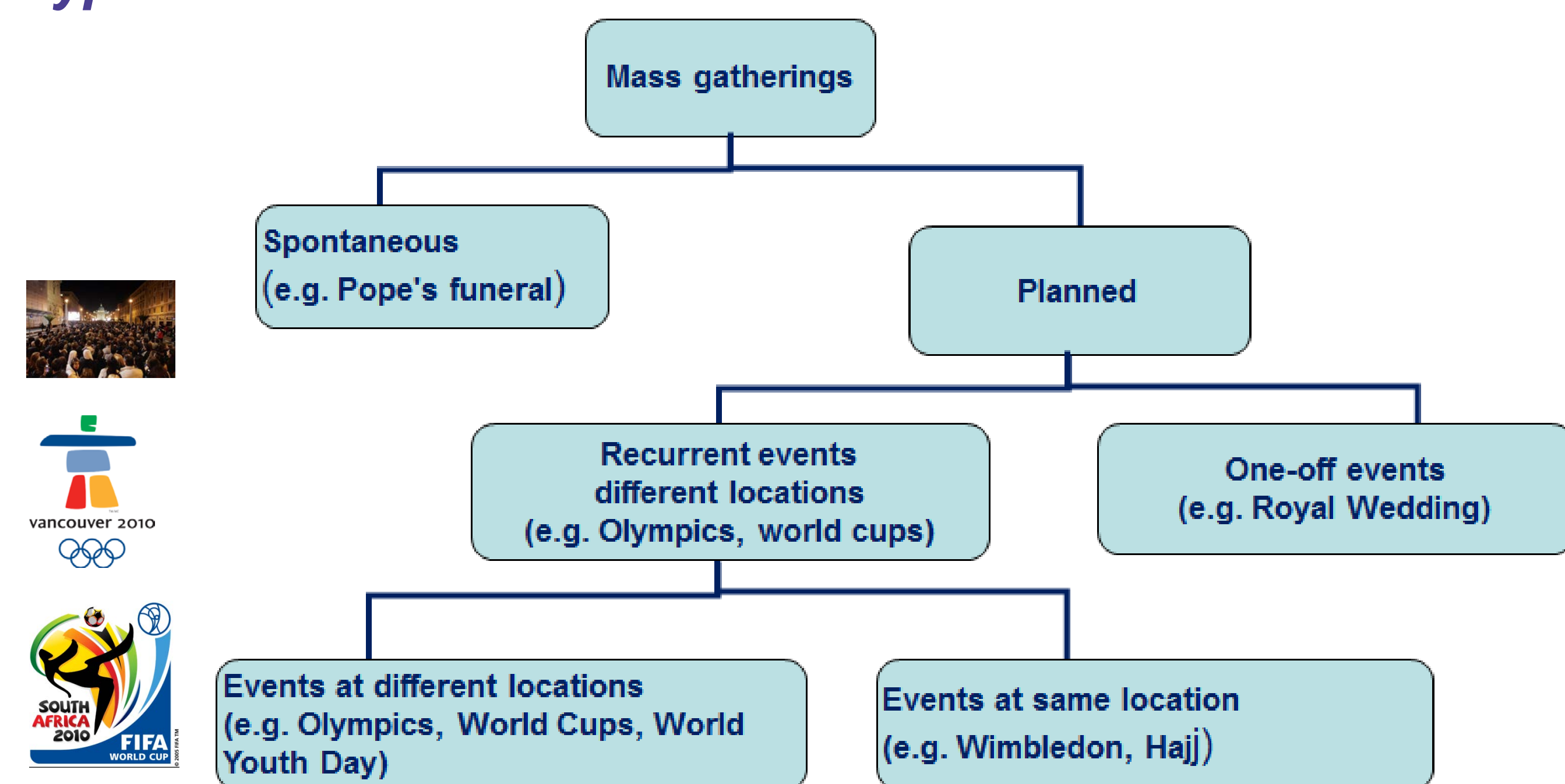


WHO Collaborating Center on Mass Gatherings Public Health

What is a Mass Gathering?

Mass gatherings are events attended by a sufficient number of people to strain the planning and response resources of a community, state, province, or nation. These can include small and medium events.

Types of MGs



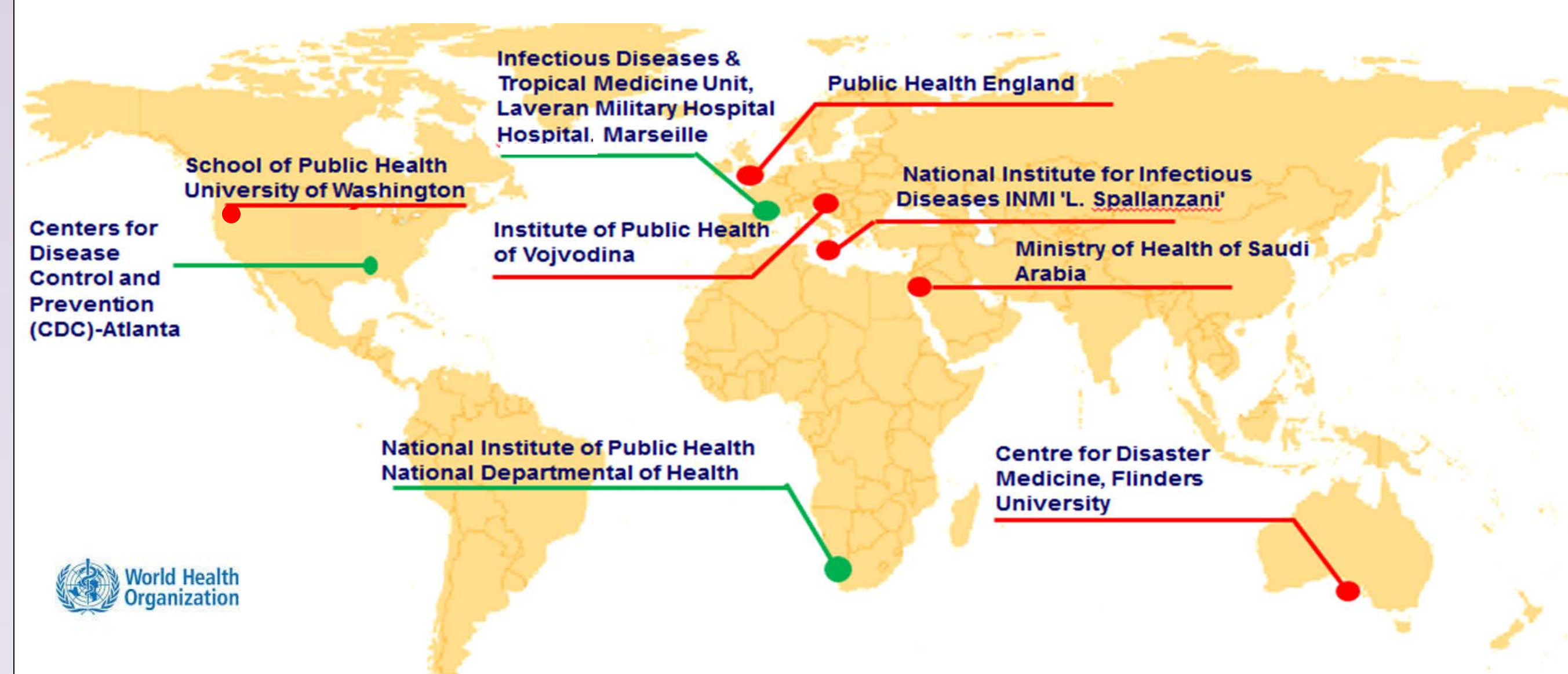
Primary Activities of the UW Collaborating Center

- Training, tools and resources for mass gatherings in low resource settings
- Planning for medical countermeasures (drugs, vaccines, mass dispensing) of mass gatherings
- Public health emergency communications
- Operational research guidance for small to medium sized mass gatherings
- Mass casualty events in low resource settings

WHO Network of Collaborating Centers on Mass Gatherings

- CCs work in collaboration with WHO HQ, Regional and Country Offices, and others to promote health as area of planning for MGs
- CCs act as repository for best practices and adapt tools where necessary to the local/regional context
- Each CC contributes to the development of tools for health preparedness within the network according to the area of focus.
- Maintain a roster of regional experts in the focus area that can provide assistance to or be deployed to any MG event

WHO Collaborating Centers



Health Challenges Posed by Mass Gatherings

Mass Gatherings put pressures on both acute care and public health systems

- Introduction of public health threats, both infectious and non-infectious
- Health systems are stretched to surge capacity including impact on acute care service levels
- Require inter-sectoral approaches to risk mitigation across disciplines/ministries
- Communication can be difficult in international settings with varying languages, cultures, geopolitical issues, etc.
- Often limited or no additional resources to deal with public health threat
- May include intense media scrutiny

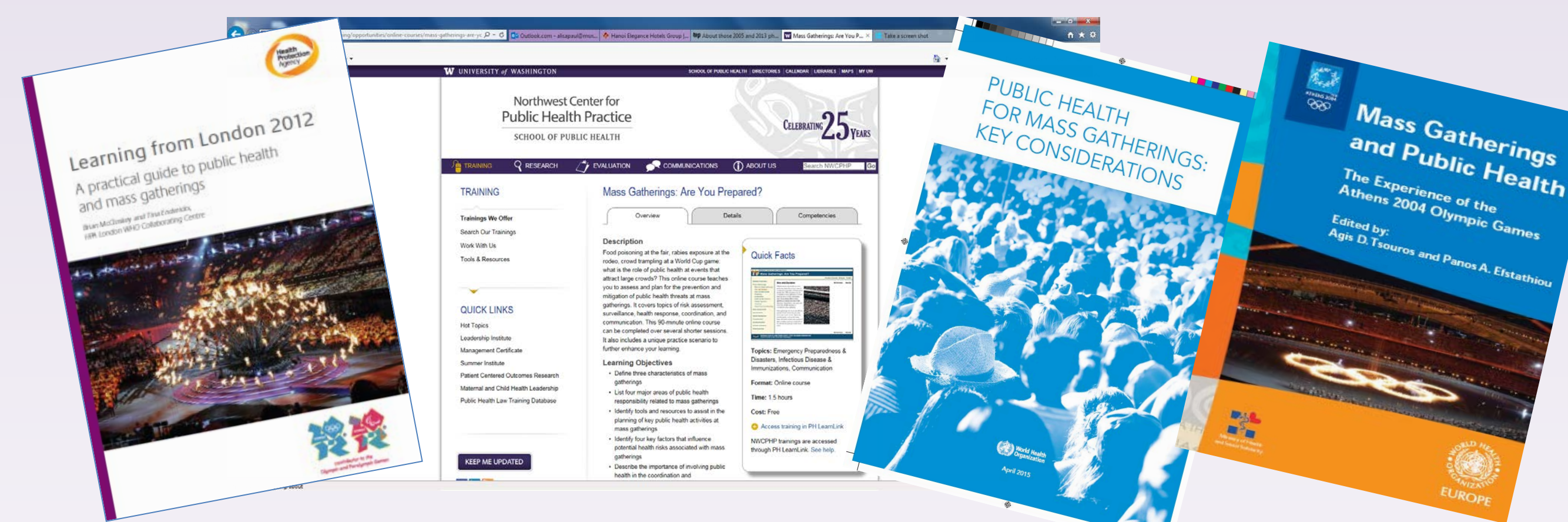
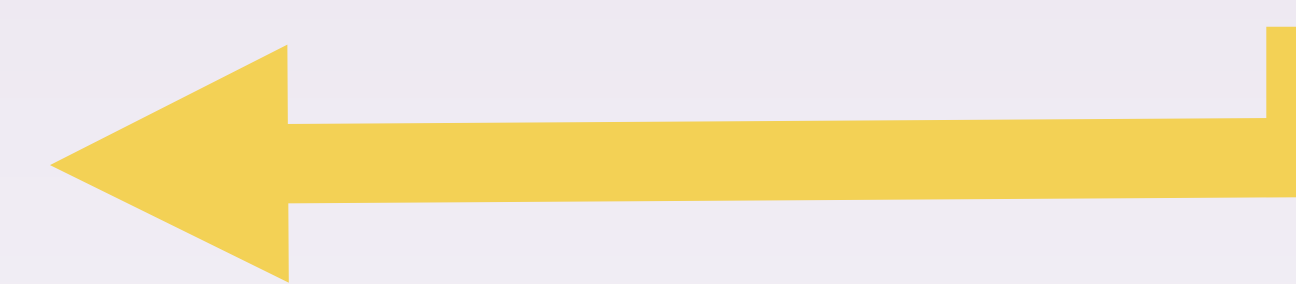
Examples of Assistance and Resources Available for Mass Gatherings

Guidelines:

- Public Health for Mass Gatherings: Key Considerations (2015)
- Communicable Disease Alert and Response for Mass Gatherings: Key Considerations (2008)

Tailored support:

- Resource material and risk assessments
- Training programs
- Training module: "Mass Gatherings: Are You Prepared?"



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