

Transition between relief and development

- are subsidies an impediment to recovery?

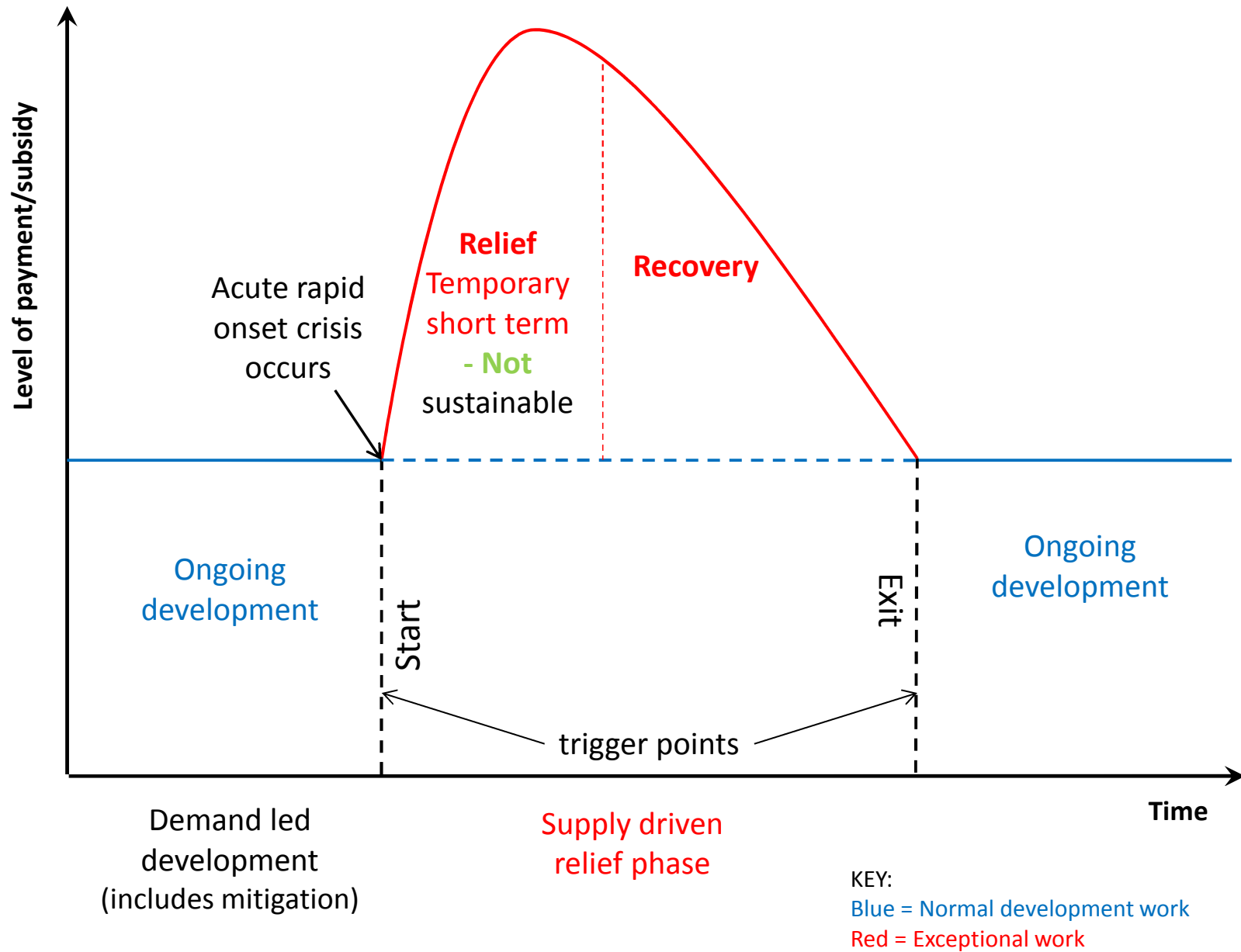
Dec 2008: State Gov of Bihar announces closure of Koshi relief camps so relief victims can return home and rebuild their lives; “relief will end so recovery can now begin in earnest”



Undertaking recovery - making transition

There are distinct characteristics of relief and development that need to be acknowledged and managed to understand where you are in the LRRD contiguum and manage what transition means in practice;

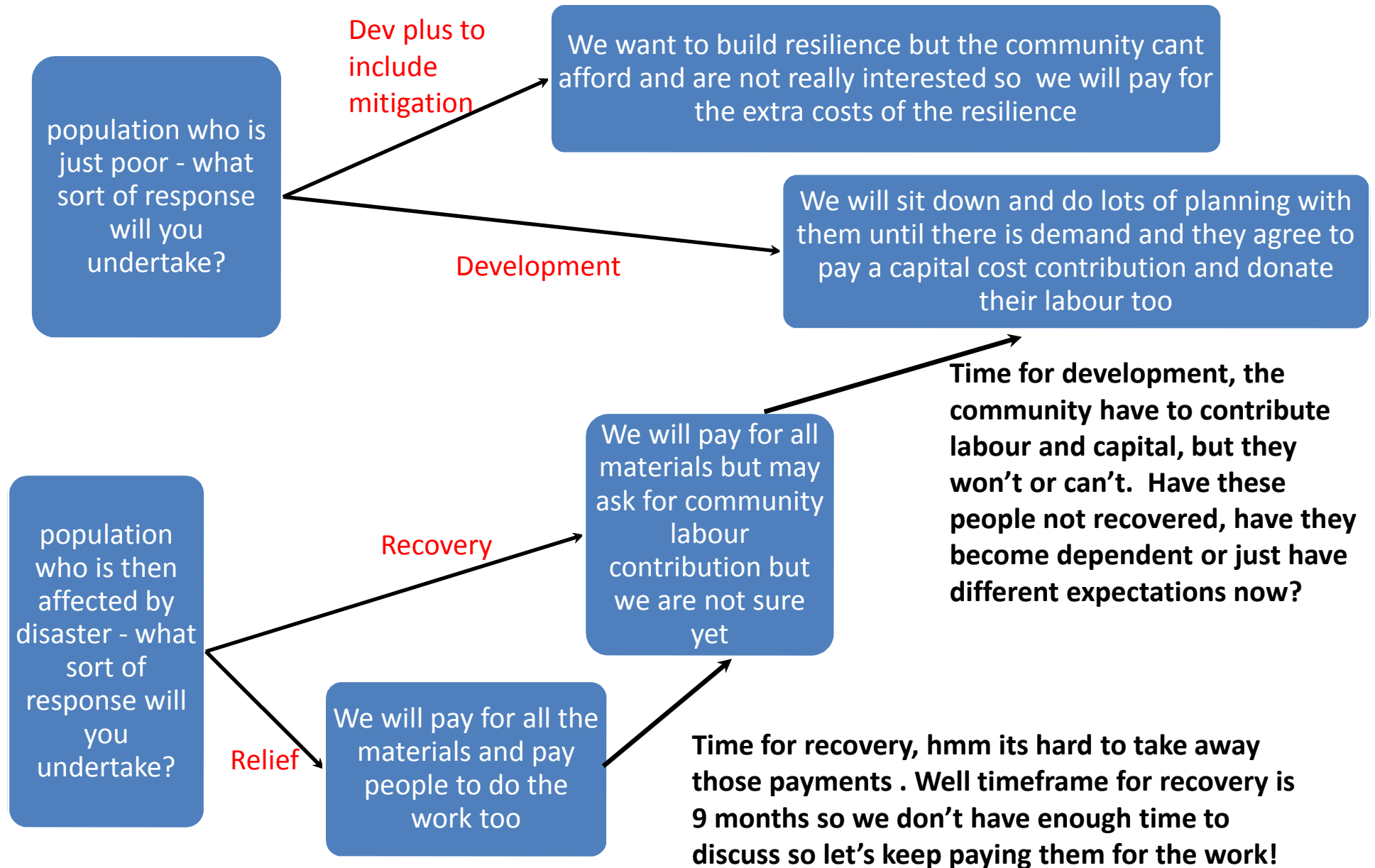
<u>Relief</u>		<u>Development</u>
Supply	v	demand
Rapid pace	v	measured
Non sustainable (temp)	v	sustainable (permanent)
<i>Full subsidy</i>	v	<i>shared contribution</i>
Welfare	v	self determination
Reactive	v	participatory planning
Life saving	v	livelihood, etc



Key questions

1. How and when do agencies **move from 100% payments/subsidy** for relief to reduced levels in recovery and then further reductions in development?
2. Do high levels of payments/subsidy for relief create **irreversible expectations** for full subsidy in development situations?
3. How might withdrawal of subsidies post relief phase **affect ownership, operation/maintenance costs and sustainability**?
4. **Is consistency of payments/subsidy required** between agencies at a given place and time?

For a given population in an area sometimes affected by disasters, but sometimes just poor, what should they pay for?



Recommendations

1. **Full transparency** is required whereby communities are told and understand what levels of payments/subsidies are being set, when these will change, and why.
2. Levels of payments/subsidies should **be set on a sliding scale within broad ranges**, corresponding to and decreasing in the phases of relief, recovery, mitigation, and development.
3. Ensure the majority of actors operating programmes in any phase of the relief development contiguum seek to **maximize consistency in their approach to subsidy and the triggers** that determine when one phase stops and another starts.

Recommendations (con)

1. Relief should be phased out as soon as possible based upon recognized needs assessment, which, along with some external factors, such as government calling an end to relief, should provide clear triggers about when to stop relief and when to start recovery and then in turn development.
2. As far as possible relief and development activities should not be run in close proximity to each other as they are contradictory.
3. Establish the extent to which additional measures which provide disaster mitigation/ resilience warrant an increased level of subsidy within development including mitigation or build back better recovery programmes.

Forum questions

What are activities that kick start recovery?

- Clear communication about shifts away from relief
- Consistency in policy around reductions of subsidy

What do we leave behind?

- Relief can leave behind dependency
- Mitigation measures – build back better - if policy and practice are designed well

**Subsidy/payments in development,
mitigation, relief, and recovery: a
critical but neglected aspect of practice**

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