

Promoting safer Building Working Group Session:

Cecilia: Briefly Presenting the protocol: Informing Choice for safer building: A protocol for developing Shelter and Settlement information, education communication resources. This was followed by a discussion and Q&A session.

Questions raised include:

- Does the advice to get some messages out early risk the wrong messages being put out at the wrong time? Experiences in the Philippines showed that some IEC material gave mixed messages to families about what a house should look like, and it was very hard to undo the message.
- Is the protocol a tool just for the WG members? If it is for a wider audience then it needs to be disseminated so that everyone is aware of it.
- Is it just emergency shelter or the whole process of sheltering? The protocol is aimed at relief to recovery but it depends on the context. In some cyclone prone countries that transition is much quicker so you're immediately aiming for a durable house.
- In relation to the spiral – is it really this cyclical process? Do you think that there are different implications for people in frequently occurring processes – where would their first point be on the spiral?
- Isn't this trying to bring coherence to cluster activities? - this is more about the "how to" rather than coordination?
- There isn't a review of what resources there are – the potential use of human resources is missing and this is important bearing in mind the 6 percent coverage of technical assistance in Nepal. Steps of the protocol do include the need to see what human resources are available. Bill Flinn - The background came from the self-recovery approach based on countries where code compliance is not practiced or feasible. It is in the context of rapid self-build. We appreciate that there are contexts in which the use of a protocol will not be appropriate.
- Robbie Dodds – The issue of compliance is addressed in the protocol – the suggestion was that it is part of the technical coordinator's normal responsibility to come up with messages that are technically sound.
- Important as part of the cluster to have government involved and this does form part of the protocol. The coordination team will need to ensure there are resources for this. This protocol is particularly resource heavy particularly in terms of staffing. Many of the steps will be particularly time consuming. Spiral may need to be changed – feedback is that people don't quite know if it suits.
- Cecilia Braedt - There was interest from conflict related clusters – relating to communicating technical messages in certain ways.

Shelter response profiles – what to do next (Enrique Sevillano Gutierrez)

The purpose of the SRPs

- Capture what people are doing today
- Take into account where this information came from in the past. Learning from the past
- Trying to estimate where people will want to go – what will they do even if we are not there to support them

Enrique presents on the SRPs. His presentation is followed by a Q&A session moderated by Olivier.

Endorsement of the approach by SC partners

- Develop a standard form that would guide field partners and help compile info at global level (SR profile) – An A to Z checklist / short notice for field partners
- Help SC partners in getting good clear images that allow for an analysis, and not only pictures of what failed
- Develop tools that help non-technical persons to gather accurate technical info efficiently (quickly and as part of their usual / already planned activities)
- Combine with an analysis of other housing related threats (water borne diseases, smoke inhalation etc)
- Only safer (structurally speaking) or more than that?
- More advocacy on the fact that small improvements can have a big impact
- CRAterre staff to be deployed as clusters technical coordinators?
- Identify the specificities of conflict situations and how it influences the document and the global methodology
- Link with construction standards WG
- Better knowing what exists: disseminating the catalogue

Sustainability of the product

- It would be better to develop these documents and trainings as a preparedness activity. More specific funds and network to be approached for further collaboration?
- PDNA housing sector assessment methodology and the Disaster Recovery Framework may help to operationalize, institutionalize and make sustainable the approach.
- Buy-in from national authorities and clusters is necessary. The methodology has to be synchronized with their priorities.

The product and its life

- Timely information and not exhaustive. Make sure the needed info (and no more) gets to the partners at the right moment.
- Less tools and more info/emphasis on resource people and the mechanism to mobilize them.
- Roaster of (local) experts that could help.
- Rework on the target audience (too restrictive now? What about academia, government bodies, local professionals?) –Would it be worth a translation in local language?
- Add a glossary of building terms in local language?
- It should include a step by step path to recovery methodology or examples
- Should it distinguish response / preparedness and recovery recommended activities?
- Develop a process for local inputs and validation. On-going work.
- Regular small consultation group of local actors to decide what to include / add
- Is it a territory-specific document or an event-specific one?
- Who should keep the memory of it? Local partners, government bodies, online repositories, local universities

- Paul Oliver Vernacular Architecture library (Oxford), encyclopaedia of vernacular architecture, EERI housing encyclopaedia: Try to reach development resources / platforms not only clusters

Key Actions

The WG is holding a final two-day workshop in Grenoble on 25, 26 October. At this workshop the following action points will be on the agenda:

1. Completion of final deliverables:
 - a. Protocol
 - b. Communications scoping study
 - c. Suggest way forward for IEC materials library
 - d. Final report
2. Next steps and how do we fund them