Building and Social Housing Foundation

- Established in 1976 as an independently-funded housing research organisation

- Guiding principles
  - Innovative and forward looking
  - Identifying solutions rather than problems
  - All research to have practical relevance
  - People centred – building people as well as houses
  - Sustainable development – looking to the long-term

- Sixteen members of staff and annual expenditure of $1,300,000

- Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council
Main areas of activity

- Identifying innovative housing solutions

- Fostering exchange of knowledge and information
  - International study visits, Power House Europe
  - Web-based directory of housing projects, including World Habitat Award winners and finalists
  - Written reports, CDs, information service

- Influencing UK housing policy

- Collaborative research programme
  - Building a more sustainable future
  - Sharing and transferring good housing practice in North and South
  - Innovative housing policy and practice in Europe

- Acting locally

- Annual internships
International Programme
World Habitat Awards

- Established in 1985 – contribution to the United Nations International Year of Shelter for the Homeless
- Two awards: global South and North
- Presented at the annual UN global celebration of World Habitat Day
- Prize: £10,000 / trophy / recognition
- Criteria
  - Innovation
  - Sustainability
  - Transfer
World Habitat Awards

- WHA Entries Distribution Map 2009
- Winners 2010
- Study Visit 2011
International study visits

- Carried out each year to the two World Habitat Award winning projects (2011: Sweden and Egypt)
- In-depth understanding of technical, social and financial aspects of each award-winning programme
- Opportunity to interact with residents and exchange experiences
- Transfer of knowledge and experience to different countries / contexts
Collaborative research

- **Fundación Guillermo Toriello – Guatemala**
  - Assessing the Impact of the Housing Solutions for Peace Programme

- **Development Alternatives – India**
  - Participatory Rural Habitat Processes
  - Framework for a Rural Habitat Policy for India

- **Fundação Bento Rubião – Brazil**
  - Land and Housing Rights (Vol. I and II)

- **Development Planning Unit, UCL – UK**
  - How people face evictions

- **Development Workshop - France**
  - Developing Local Capacity to Reduce Vulnerability and Poverty in Central Viet Nam

- **In-house research** – participatory governance, analysis of WHA winners and finalists, climate change adaptation
Good practice transfer

- International Study Visits: follow-up
- Basin-SA Knowledge Sharing Platform
- Workshops: Post-tsunami reconstruction with Panchayati Raj Institutions, India
- Power House Europe: exchange of good housing practice in Europe
- Community exchange / good practice transfer: Colombia (Medellin, Neiva)
- Regional programme for the transfer of good practice in Latin America
- Sharing experiences and strategies on facing forced evictions at grassroots level
Past World Habitat Awards Winners

- La Paz Post-earthquake Reconstruction Programme, El Salvador, 2004
- Preventing Typhoon Damage to Housing, Central Vietnam, 2008
Other previous WHA winners and finalists in the field of reconstruction and mitigation

- Sustainable Village – Post-earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation in Da Ping Village, Sichuan, China, 2011
- Post-tsunami Reconstruction and Rehabilitation in Sri Lanka, 2008
- Appropriate Housing Technologies in Orissa, India, 2007
- Integrated People-Driven Reconstruction, Indonesia, 2007
- Building and Construction Improvement Programme, Pakistan, 2006
- Gandhi Nu Nam, India, 2004
- Clay Houses that have Resisted Earthquakes, Salama, Baja Verapaz, Guatemala, 2002
- Capacity Building of Construction Workers in Cost-effective and Disaster-Resistant Technologies, India, 2002
- The Grameen Bank Housing Programme, Bangladesh, 1998
- Insitu Rehabilitation of Earthquake Victims in Latur District, India, 1997
- The Core Shelter Housing Project, The Philippines, 1991
- Reconstruction of Hiroshima City and the Danbara Redevelopment Project, Japan, 1990
- Sonatala Milan Sangha, West Bengal, India, 1986
• The BSHF is planning to revisit and assess past winners and finalists in the field of reconstruction and disaster mitigation, to better understand the longer-term impact of those projects.
• The outputs of that would include: a book in hard copy and accessible as pdf on our web site, with case study chapters given as pdf to partners, for their own dissemination; and a policy/position paper. Funds permitting, we may consider additional outputs.
• We would like to hear from this audience what you would like to learn from such a review, and what kinds of dissemination products would be most useful to you: email theo@bshf.org within two weeks.
• We would also like to hear from you if you would like to be part of such a study, or perhaps know of other good projects that could be added to such it
• In the mean time, the BSHF will go back to its winners and finalists to get them on board as partners, and ask them what they would like to learn from it.
• We would like to bring a final proposal for this study to the Shelter Meeting in Geneva on April 25-26, to discuss it with an international audience.
• Start in May
For further information

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