Settlements and the Environment

Environment Community of Practice
Global Shelter Cluster

Nothing in this presentation necessarily represents the views of anyone
Charles Parrack
Settlement – after disaster – what is it?

• All the **stuff** which assures *adequate, habitable, safe, private, and secure* living conditions for disaster survivors.

• The stuff can be physical (earth) as less so (livelihoods systems).

• Building back better or safer or sustainable?
Settlements and the Environment
The Settlement and Natural Resource Issue

• Settlements need resources – where do they come from, how are they used, who benefits, who does not?

• The use of environmental resources defines how successful a settlement is.

• Settlement-resource issues are manageable, if you pay attention to them from the start.
GRRT
GRRT

Green Recovery & Reconstruction: Training Toolkit for Humanitarian Aid (GRRT)
GRRT key concepts

Addressing the environment has multiple benefits

Gender equity, DRR, cost savings, food security, energy efficiency
Shelter construction. The rush to construct houses after the tsunami resulted in some new homes being constructed in unsafe areas as shown in this photo. Flooded homes can lead to increased risk of water-bourne disease and unsafe living conditions. Note: a newly constructed sea wall in the background aggravates the problem because it prevents rainwater from flowing out to sea. (See Module 4, Green Guide to Strategic Site Selection and Development for ways to address this issue)
GRRT key concepts
Focused on communities and the natural resources on which they depend
GRRT key concepts

Multiple sectors must actively address environment

Shelter, livelihoods, WASH, recovery, DRR
GRRT key concepts
all people involved in disaster recovery and reconstruction have the opportunity and responsibility to incorporate environmental sustainability into their activities
Defining area based, neighbourhood, settlement approach
Humanitarian response to urban crises

A review of area-based approaches

Elizabeth Parker and Victoria Maynard
Mapping of environmental issues in settlement

![Diagram showing the relationship between Geographically targeted, Participatory, and Multi-sector approaches in settlement mapping.]

Source: authors' own
BUILDING MATERIAL SELECTION AND USE

An Environmental Guide

Prepared for WWF Environment and Disaster Management Green Recovery Connect

Wwf envirodm
The Global Shelter Cluster has created communities of practice to support country-level clusters and the global cluster with expertise in different areas.

Through these Communities of Practice, you will be able to seek advice, share experiences, request input, support and receive support from other country-level clusters and the GSC Support Team. You will also be able to contribute to global level discussions related to the themes of the community of practice.

They are a peer support group to help each other do our job better. Ultimately it is a tool to improve communication between us all.