The Refugee Housing Unit (RHU) aka ‘The IKEA Shelter’
• What is it?
• How has it developed?
• Why has it developed?
• UNHCR’s engagement?
• Pre-Packaged Solutions?
What is it?:
• Pre-Packaged temporary shelter unit
• Designed specifically for the humanitarian shelter sector
• High Spec’, Rigidly Tested, Lightweight, Palletized, Dry Storable
• Solar light
• Lockable Door
• Mosquito Screen
• Internal Partition
• Ground Sheet
• Slope Adjustable
Logistics:

Weigh and Volume
Gross Weight: 160kg +/-5%
Pack Volume: 1,075cbm +/-5%
# boxes: 2
Weight box: 80kg

Logistics
Container 40’HQ: 48 Units
Container 40’: 36 Units
How has it developed?:

2010 – Ongoing R&D, Modular Shelter Solutions

- Alternatives to tents
- Covered frames + local materials
- National and regional research
How has it developed?:

2010 – UNHCR and SVID engage in joint shelter related research
- IKEA Foundation supports with funding
- Additional capacity from 2 Swedish Universities
- Starting point - Regionally developed framing solutions
- Locally Sourced vs Locally Available

What if we liberate ourselves & re-visit the problem?
2011
No base product
Not an iteration
No pre existing supply base or production facility/process
How has it developed?:

• Global supply base – *if it exists it can be considered*
• Best available technology – *all of industry*
• New and innovative approaches – *fresh brains*

2012 (Jan) – What about the covering? Rigid? Insulated?
2012 (Dec) – First Prototype
2013
- Field Testing in Ethiopia & Iraq
- Results analysis and further development
- SVID becomes a Social Enterprise

2014
- Prototype 2 developed & further tested
- Design Finalisation & Laboratory testing
- Frame agreement with UNHCR

2015
- Production commences and mobilisation to field operations
Why has it developed?:

• UNHCR purchased 182k FT 2013/14
• Tent for tent replacement
• Local supply capacity - Shocks
• Challenges of scale - coverage
• Adequacy across response phases

• Extensive development
• Safety
• Quality Assurance
UNHCR’s engagement?:

- Project escalation – *Frame to Shelter to Test to Production*
- Resourced R&D
- Assessed need – Market Survey 2012
- Expert technical Input & guidance – Design Brief
- Specification development, testing & compliance

- Conditional commitment
- IP sharing in 2017
Pre- Packaged Solutions?:

- Extensive development
- Durable supply chain
- Volume & rapid coverage
- Broad palette of materials
- Quality control
- Known solution

- Unfamiliar technology
- Does not support local economy – how do we prioritise this?
- Extended logistics ???