Engaging humanitarian and non-humanitarian actors in urban response

Eddie Argenal
USAID/OFDA Shelter and Settlement Advisor
AGENDA

• Urban trends and challenges
• Our current limitations
• USAID/OFDA Urban Disaster Response Priorities
• Examples of our work
• Q&A
POVERTY, and the Urbanization of Poverty
Globally, many hazard-prone, unserviced & unplanned settlements
• The conditions depicted are experienced by nearly 1 of every 6 human beings
• By 2030, nearly 1 of every 4!!!
Limited capacity to respond to urban disasters
USAID/OFDA Urban Disaster Response Priorities

- Improve the capacity to work in urban settings
- Better define stakeholder’s roles and responsibilities
- Foster mutual understanding and collaboration between stakeholders
Improve Settlements-focused Activities

- **Macro-level**: Technical assistance to support urban decision-making
- **Macro-level**: When appropriate, engage in city-level “emergency urban planning”
- **Micro-level**: Support of Neighborhood-based projects
“Debris management planning is most effective when supported **BEFORE** disasters strike through the development and adoption of Debris Management Plans (DMPs).”
Maximize use of limited urban resources
Encourage the use of new technologies
Questions? Comments?