LONG TERM IMPACTS OF SHELTER PROGRAMMES

Workshop 14 March Oxford  Brookes University
WHY ARE THEY NEEDED?

Encourage institutional learning
Need to see long term consequences
Ownership, how do people take over?
Safety, how is this enhanced or damaged over time?
Public education
Institutionalise some form of follow up
Prevention
Sustainability
Resilience
Cost efficiency
WHY ARE THEY NEEDED?

Underfunding is the biggest challenge for shelter agencies.

If we can justify the long term effects of shelter programmes it may encourage shelter funding.
WHY ARE LONG TERM STUDIES NOT ROUTINE?
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Agency staff turnover
Fear of making failures public
No funding route
Lack of accountability.
WHO IS THE AUDIENCE FOR LONGITUDINAL STUDIES?
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Funders showing that money is well spent, agencies lessons learned, government lessons learnt, future humanitarians education and university courses, populations at risk information, commercial sector for product development
WHAT DO WE MEASURE?
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Defensible space, beauty, sphere standards, right to adequate housing, peaceful resolution, health, sector principles, community integration, privacy, strategic objectives, thermal comfort, improved resilience, enabling environment, livelihoods, timeliness, resourcefulness, happiness, safe shelters and safe settlement, protection, assets retained, equity, uninterrupted sleep, user satisfaction, enabling informed decisions, empowerment, maintainability, value for money, innovation, saving lives, reducing suffering, sense of ownership, replication, adaptability, privacy
WHAT DO WE MEASURE?

- safe shelter and settlements
- user satisfaction
- enabling informed decisions
- adaptability
- saving lives
- value for money
- security of tenure
RESEARCH PROCESS
Unit of analysis can be person, shelter, household or community.

Most important for methodology is to be able to compare, so work with the same method.

Time is the best test of viability effectiveness and sustainability. 3-4 years after is a good time to go back. Need to be able to see the process.

Perhaps it is residents who document their own recovery. Causal comparative design proposed as a method. Social media study is now possible.

Participation has to continue to institutionalise the process of learning.
HYPOTHESIS
The best value for money incorporates life-saving measures and long-term resilience

HYPOTHESIS

Projects are best continued or maintained until the desired behavioural change has been achieved sustainably
NEXT STEPS
NEXT STEPS

Format for long term case study for Shelter Projects

Use the data we have already for example IOM and UNHCR data sets

Pilot to demonstrate the link between shelter projects and long-term impact

Funding sought to source existing long term impact knowledge and commission further studies.
Evaluations are at the boundaries of our sector. Where is the development funding which follows after a handover? There is no credible capacity to take this on amongst government actors or other civil society groups and the affected population are unaware that humanitarian intervention is all that is going to be provided