
Name of Event: [Roundtable] World Reconstruction Conference: Strengthening Local Recovery - The Key to Building Back Better

Date of Event: May 10, 2011

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Panellists:

- Mr. David Taylor, Executive Advisor, Collaboration & Innovation, World Vision International (Chair)
- Mr. Roger V. Morier, Advisor, Communications & Outreach, Sustainable Development, World Bank (Moderator)
- Ms. Zoubida Allaova, Director, Finance, Economics and Urban Development, World Bank
- Mr. Mario Flores, Director, Disaster Response Field Operations, Habitat for Humanity International
- Mr. Syamsul Maarif, Chief of National Agency for Disaster Management, Indonesia
- Mr. Shozo Azuma, Senior Vice Minister of Cabinet Office for Disaster Management, Japan
- Mr. David Taylor, Executive Advisor, Collaboration & Innovation, World Vision International
- Mr. Robert Glasser, Secretary General, Care International
- Mr. Abdul Shakoor Sindhu, Principal Coordinator, Rural Development Policy Institute, Pakistan
- Mr. Guiteau Jean-Pierre, Executive Director, Haitian National Red Cross Society
- Ms. Aimee Ansari, Humanitarian Policy Representative, Oxfam International
- Mr. Richard Rumsey, Director, Disaster Risk Reduction, World Vision International

1) Outline

This roundtable addressed some of the complex issues surrounding the coordination, planning, and quality implementation of post-disaster reconstruction and recovery interventions at the local level and balancing it with the national/global efforts. Discussions focused on how to establish a common recovery and reconstruction strategy, framework, and financing at higher levels (global, regional, and national) to

support local action.

- This challenge of recovery and reconstruction is no longer an exception given the frequency and magnitude of disasters happening around the world;
- With the higher profile and expanding roles of local governments, civil society, and the private sector in recovery, there is a need for internal-level change in civil society organizations to support strategic engagement;
- National and international organizations need to create an open and enabling environment – political mechanisms to provide a cohesive system early in the process in support of existing national procedures and processes, for a better partnership with community engagement.

2) Key messages, outcomes, recommendations

- The respective local community must be engaged from the initial phase including the identification and development of possible scenarios, the planning and implementation itself, as well as the monitoring and evaluation, supported by institutional support developing relevant standing operating procedures (SOPs), utilizing practical equipment for early warning systems, etc.
- The affected population's survival mechanism was already in existence and was in fact imparted and inherited from the previous generations as part of the local wisdom. The local wisdom that they possess has enabled them to understand more about their environment and natural hazards that they are facing.

3) Conclusions

- Inclusiveness is essential - the respective local community must be engaged from the initial phase
- Framework as a methodology and a tool that is concrete and specific in terms of what we might recommend. In a recovery process, there are four key elements to the framework:
 - The operational piece would need to be reviewed to ensure that the implementation process is being integrated in the actual and meaningful process of recovery.

- Ensuring key standards from local to global to reassure partners at the local levels who will contribute to the framework that results are forthcoming.
- Financial support is crucial in the recovery framework in terms of how we find a balance between global and local efforts.
- There is a need to find out how to best share knowledge and experience to make it a rule rather than an exception, and to scale it up.