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BUILDING CULTURES & RESILIENCE

Liberté • Égalité • Fraternité
RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

Ministère de l'Écologie, du développement durable, des Transports et du Logement

Culture Communication

Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
Third Session, Geneva Switzerland
8-13 May 2011

We value …

- Dust and mud
- Fragile and vulnerable material
- Traditions (as living process)
- And above all…
- People and knowledge

- These often come together and was still seen, in the recent time, as hopeless situation that can only be saved by external high-technology and international standards…

- However, the « conventional » approach is more and more criticised as it does not give sustainable solutions… for the vast majority !

- Often after reconstruction people are left with products that they cannot duplicate and afford, which rarely comply with their needs and capacities and most of the money spent run immediatly out of the affected communities!

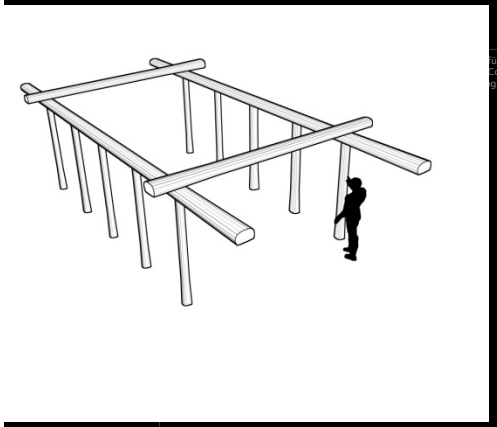
It is easy to criticise but what we can do ?

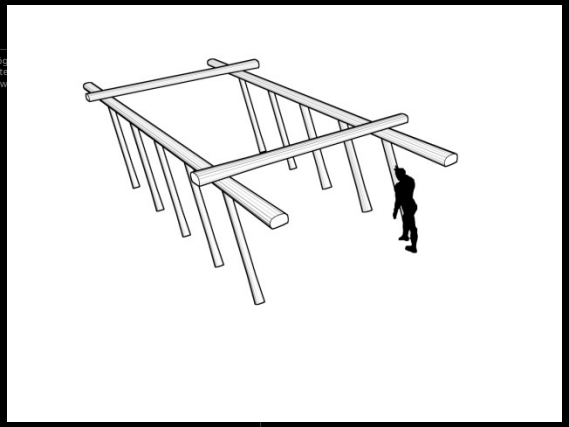
- It is true that people themselves see disasters, a part from its dramatic aspects, as a mean to reach the western world and mirage and very few would accept project that would somehow put them back into their past
- It is true that donors are putting very high pressure to NGO and government to deliver to show that they are efficient in their role
- It is true that trying to answer complex situation require time, knowledge and money as well as that can be inacceptable to emergency situation
- But it is also true that innovative projects have shown that it is possible to do the things differently and efficiently!
- Here are few representatives examples…

Kachmir, Pakistan

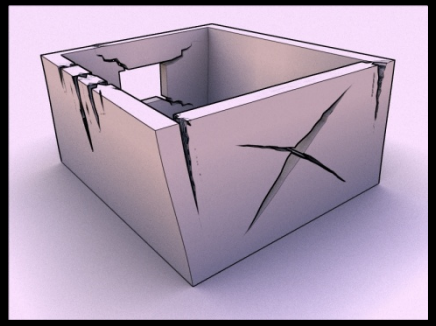
Examples of good practices and traditional knowledge

Modeling

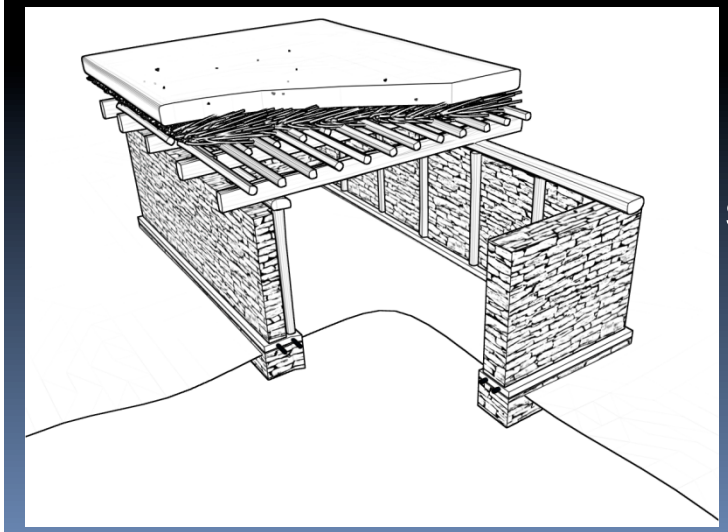




« ductility » of traditional wooden structure



Conventional wall behaviour



How the traditional structures work under sollicitation?

Prototype phase





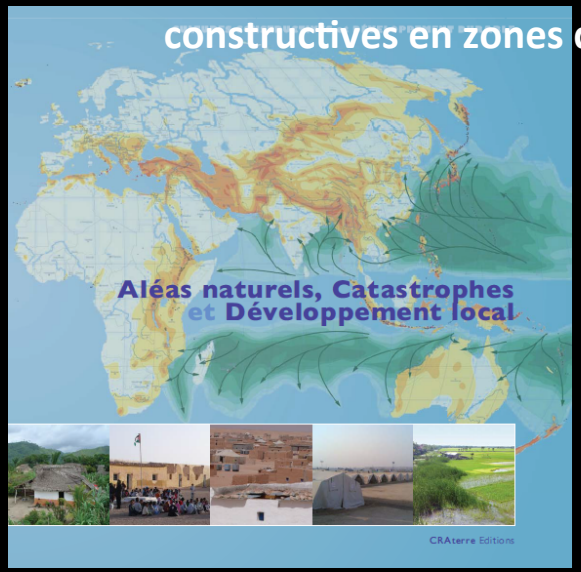

Rebuilding after the disaster: an earth building prototype in Bam (Iran)

The architectural choice is based on a modular housing of 100m² using adobe and inspired by the traditional typology with the free posibility to develop the proposal without cutting any trees on the plot, palme trees being the main source of revenue for people. Cost and techniques are adapted to local situation to facilitate the replication of the building by local artisans and maximising the socio-economic impact of the Aid.

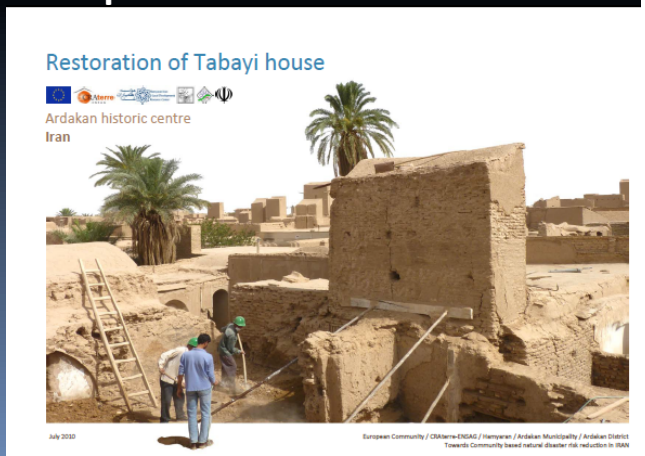
From Bam to Ardekan: from reconstruction community-based disaster risk reduction

Informer documenter les cultures constructives en zones d'aléas

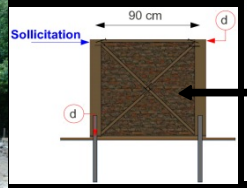
omprendre les raisons d'une elle catastrophe

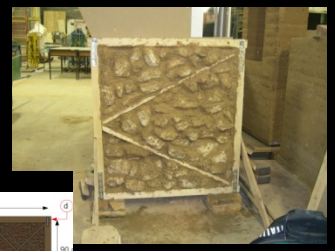


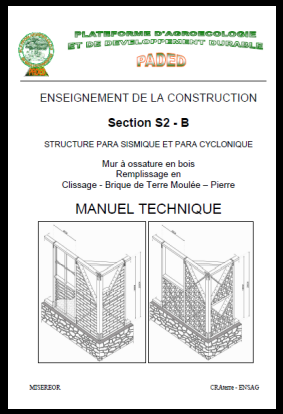
Travailler à la réduction de la vulnérabilité du patrimoine vernaculaire grâce à l'implication des communautés et

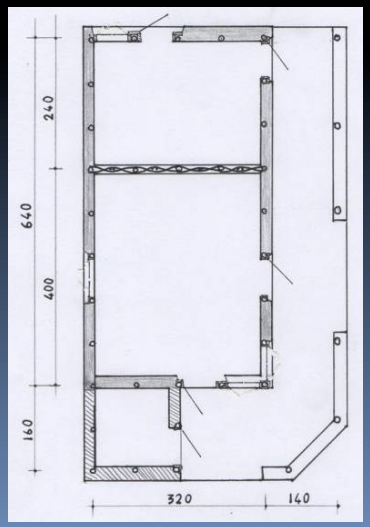


Port-au-Prince, Haiti









Conclusions and lessons learnt

- Cultural heritage and traditional knowledge are important assets
- Open your eyes and your mind to see not only the vulnerabilities but also the assets of each territory (natural resources and human ones)
- Be demonstrative and professional to show good examples and to make sure that ownership is obtained at local level
- Count on mutual knowledge availability and development
- Be flexible and open in project development to abandon first glance good ideas and incorporate new ideas coming from field experiences

Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture

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THANK YOU

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