

Why is this programme important?

## 1. What is possible

At the time of the disaster Pakistan **did not have**

- a disaster management authority,
- trained earthquake engineers,
- building standards for housing, or enforcement
- good local knowledge of concrete or steel
- good roads or communication in the affected area
- the majority of beneficiaries did not have bank accounts

# 2005 Pakistan Earthquake Housing Reconstruction



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This programme has a message for **other governments** and **other communities** who have experienced disaster:

It should inspire optimism and confidence that recovery and a safer future is possible even in the most difficult circumstances.

**Government leadership and enabling role**

**Affected people responsible for their own recovery with key support provided to all**

## 2. Our responsibility to learn

ERRA learned from and built upon the experience of **owner driven** housing in Gujarat

But they also learned lessons from the Indian Ocean Tsunami about **equity**, from many disasters about appropriate and inappropriate **technical solutions and affordability**

**The lessons and experience from Pakistan need to be learned by the assistance community and available to other governments and populations**



## **3. Common Purpose**      **greater than the sum of the parts**

The ERRA housing reconstruction plan was developed through consultation with 80 agencies, and implemented by over 30 agencies.

- **In time**
- **Clear and simple vision**
- **All partners welcome but all funds and all agencies adhering to uniform policies**
- **Equity and coordination fundamental to optimise all resources.**
- **Set out key guiding principles that allowed for local variation and flexibility in implementation**
- **Set out clear roles and terms of reference for Government, families, technical assistance agencies and NGOs**

## 4. The role of assistance partners

No agencies constructed houses for people as contractors. The role of UN/ NGOs was enabling and facilitating:

- **Development of technical capacity, guidance, training, demonstrations, on site advice.**
- **Development of social capacity, mobilisation, awareness**

**Many NGOs were not prepared for this role, and are still not preparing for this role.**

## The role of assistance partners

**Budget for housing reconstruction:**

**5% for all technical, social and administrative support**

**95% directly to families themselves**

**This is a very cost effective model and strategic use of capacity to reach the widest numbers.**

**Few donors are prepared to fund this role.**



## 5. Action Planning

Why is the world full of good small pilot projects?  
Most waiting for replication and scaling up later...

The Pakistan programme had no option to start with small and perfect pilots, the requirement from the outset was **urgency and scale**

Scale, speed, adoption, replication, were key criteria in all decisions, in all programme design

Processes of monitoring, feedback, review and revision to support an iterative approach

## 6. Scale and Speed

The challenge is not the technology

It is the adoption and replication of solutions at scale

This is about **people and systems**

**Understanding demand, motivation, preferences, priorities, incentives, concerns, aspirations**

**Understanding communication channels, media, messages**

These are critical lessons to address the challenges of housing and cities in non disaster situations also.

## 7. Build Safer and Build Better

This was not only a reconstruction programme, but a behaviour change programme, aiming to make sure houses and settlements built long after the programme are also safer.

The structures for technical support and awareness should be used to promote other housing and settlement issues including environmental sustainability at the same time, making communities more resilient and optimising resources.

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