

# Thematic Session 4

## Responding to Natural Disasters in Fragile and Conflict Situations

10 May 2011  
Geneva, Switzerland

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**GFDRR**  
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery



**ISDR**  
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction



Global Platform  
for Disaster Risk Reduction

# Context



# Context

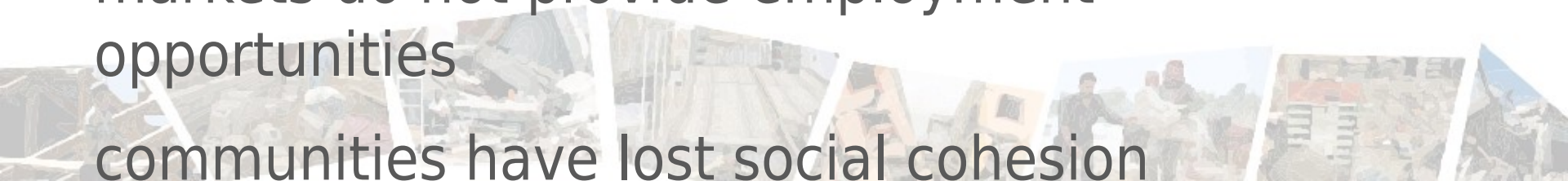
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Responding to a natural disaster is particularly daunting in situations where the state and societal institutions are weak governments do not provide protection

and access to justice

markets do not provide employment opportunities

communities have lost social cohesion





# Major Disasters in Fragile Settings

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# Major Disasters in Fragile Settings

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## Recent examples

Indonesia/Aceh, Sri Lanka: Indian Ocean tsunami (2004)

Pakistan: earthquake (2005) and floods (2010)

Myanmar: Cyclone Nargis (2008)

Haiti: hurricanes (2008) and earthquake (2010)



# Challenges in Fragile Settings





# Challenges in Fragile Settings

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Higher and different needs - weaker capacities

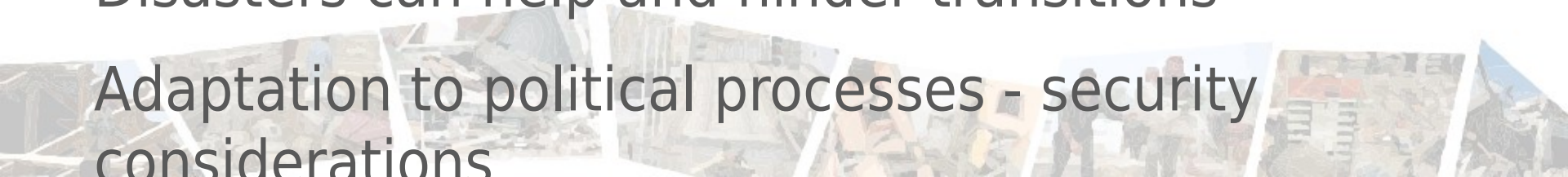
Aid coverage and risk of exclusion

Short-term reconstruction and longer-term transition from violence

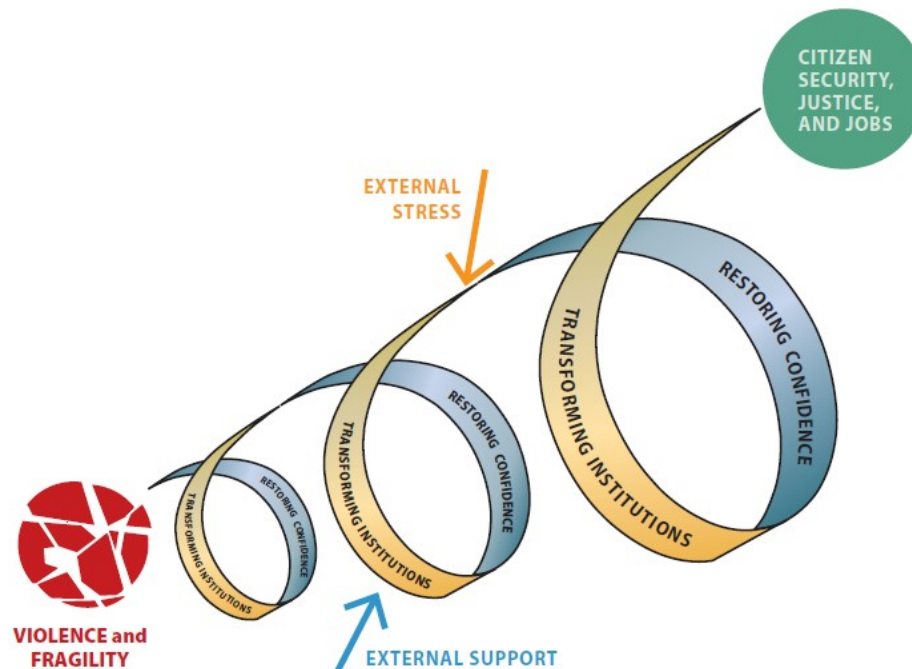
Contested leadership - low trust

Disasters can help and hinder transitions

Adaptation to political processes - security considerations



# Insights from Successful Transitions





# Inclusive Enough Coalitions

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# Inclusive Enough Coalitions

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State legitimacy at stake

Building coalitions takes time, yet time is of the essence

Engage stakeholders in post-disaster response

Address impact of disaster as much as underlying violence

Take advantage of opportunities as they emerge



# Early Results to Restore Confidence

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# Early Results to Restore Confidence

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Delivering results vs. strengthening institutions

Choose most appropriate execution model

Focus on local institutions and capacities

Support government to deliver results to build trust

Communicate and foster transparency



# Citizen Security, Justice, Jobs, Basic Services



# **Citizen Security, Justice, Jobs, Basic Services**

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Essential for building resilience from violence

Security of aid - aiding security

Social justice - access to relief and recovery

Increased access to justice

Sustainable jobs





# Best-fit Approaches



# Best-fit Approaches

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Quality matters, too

Avoid pre-conceived models and types of aid

Balance international with local expertise

Track money and impact at the national and local levels





# Multiple Transitions





# Multiple Transitions

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Transitions are not linear, and cannot be rushed

Reconstruction part of longer-term transition

Withstand set-backs

Seek out reform opportunities

Build institutional resilience to disaster and violence, at the same time



# Enhancing the Response



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Speed combined with context sensitivity

Address impacts of disasters with social awareness and conflict sensitivity

Political economy/conflict analysis

Combined programs

Managed risks—the dual accountability dilemma

Integrate disaster and conflict streams





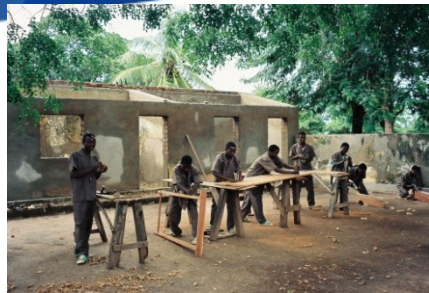
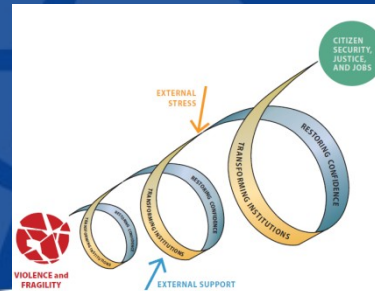
# Aceh Six Years On





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