Response to Typhoon Haiyan Disaster

Placing Affected People at the Centre of Recovery

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

People’s Process of Recovery in Response to Typhoon Haiyan:

Through UN-Habitat’s mandate to provide adequate shelter for all, the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific Region has been actively engaged in recovery and reconstruction efforts following major disasters in the region. On every occasion of devastating disasters such as the Indian Ocean Tsunami in Indonesia, Maldives, Sri Lanka, earthquake and floods in Pakistan, and Cyclone Nargis and Giri in Myanmar, UN-Habitat has advocated a seamless transition from the emergency phase to recovery phase with an approach where the affected people are placed at the centre of their recovery process: the People’s Process.

In this process, the people are empowered to organize, make decisions, support each other and be responsible for the process of rebuilding their own homes and lives.

This process and method has been proven to be the most effective, efficient and able to achieve in a short period of time; we have seen people demonstrate their relentless abilities to improve their lives in the face of extreme circumstances. It is indeed a process of rebuilding their lives and their homes, whilst recovering their pride, dignity, and human security.
The ‘People’s Process’ is also strongly supported by the development partners and governments, where its principles and methodologies have been adopted by the governments at both national and municipal levels and have made innovations to the way they work with communities beyond post-disaster onto long term planning, policy formulation and implementation processes, with assistance from UN-Habitat.

UN-Habitat firmly believes that earliest and seamless transition from the emergency period to reconstruction and onwards to normalization will be most critical in meeting the needs of the affected people, assist the efforts made by national and local government of the Philippines, and maximize the support and good will of the international and donor community. UN-Habitat is ready to offer its experience and technical expertise in driving the ‘People’s Process’ to build safer settlements and rebuild homes, and facilitate resilient communities.

Contact:

Please contact Yoshi Fukasawa, Regional Director of UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, at yoshinobu.fukasawa@unhabitat.org, Srinivasa Popuri, Senior Human Settlements Officer, at srinivasa.popuri@unhabitat.org, or Christopher Rollo, Habitat Programme Manager for the Philippines at chris.rollo@undp.org, ROAP office Tel: +81-92-724-7121, Philippines Office Tel: +632 9010431