



Gaza Reconstruction Workshop - 13th May 2015



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1. Acronyms

CMWU	Coastal Municipalities Water Utilities
GEDCO	Gaza Electricity Distribution Cooperation
HLP	Housing Land and Property
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organisation
NNGO	National Non-Governmental Organisation
MoSA	Ministry of Social Affairs
MoPWH	Ministry of Public Works and Housing
MoLG	Ministry of Local Government
MoCA	Ministry of Civil Affairs
NORG	National Office for the Reconstruction of Gaza
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
PENRA	Palestinian Energy and Natural Resources Authority
PLA	Palestinian Land Authority
PWA	Palestinian Water Authority
PHC	Palestinian Housing Council
PNGO	Palestinian Network of Non-Governmental Organisations
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures UNDP
UNDP	United National Development Programme
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlement Programme
UNMAS	United Nations Mine Action Service
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for Coordination and Humanitarian Affairs
UNSCO	United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle Peace Process
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency
UN-Women	United Nations for Women



2. Executive Summary



The Shelter Cluster facilitated a one day event in close collaboration with the National Office for the Reconstruction of Gaza (NORG), the Ministry of Public Works and Housing (MoPWH) and many other key stakeholders involved in the reconstruction effort of Gaza. The purpose of this event was to provide a platform to enable a stronger coordination, information sharing and eventually to allow for the operationalization of the response from humanitarian needs to the long term reconstruction.

I. Exhibition

The day was structured in two parts with an exhibition in the morning inviting most actors involved in the reconstruction of Gaza. They shared and show cased their experiences, plans and projects. These included various Ministries, services providers, private sector,

UN agencies, and national (NNGO) and international (INGO) organisations. This was the opportunity to bring together every actor involved in the construction effort; it gave them the opportunity to learn from past and current experiences and it revealed the extent of actors involved.

II. Round Table Discussions

The second part of the day was structured around 6 Round Table Discussions, which was closed by a Panel Discussion. This part of the event invited technical and operational experts to share their expertise to key decision makers (ref. Annex 1 for list of participants). Each round table was chaired by a government representative a UN agency, INGO or NNGO. They were tasked to discuss and identify key issues and key recommendations to bring to decision makers. Following the Round Table discussion, key decision makers were invited to respond to the issues and recommendation presented by the group. They concluded the day with clear action points required to advance the reconstruction process.

The following section presents the 6 Round tables and the prioritized issues and recommendations identified:

1. Housing, Land, and Property Rights (HLP) (Chair: Palestinian Land Authority, Co-Chair: NRC-ICLA)

Issues:

- Lack of proof of ownership documents.
- Urban planning is needed to correct previous land problems concerning survey, State, Waqf, and unregistered lands, and agricultural lands.

Recommendations:

- Introduce a new legal procedure for shelter and legal actors to support resolving HLP issues.
- Ensure that the reconstruction of Gaza will protect and advance women's and children's access to HLP.

2. Prioritization of Vulnerable groups (Chair: MoSA, Co- Chair: Protection Cluster)

Issues:

- Lack of agreed standards on Gaza-specific vulnerability criteria and ranking.
- Lack of central database held by one entity capturing all vulnerability information.

Recommendations:

- Establish a committee to develop vulnerability criteria and ranking system with a defined timeline using a participatory approach.
- Establish a unified database maintained by one entity with commitment by agencies to share available vulnerability information.

3. Urban Planning: Housing Infrastructure and Planning (Chair: MoLG, Co- Chair: UN-Habitat)

Issues:

- Challenge of planning and building back better sustainable functional neighbourhoods in coordination with service providers for the heavily affected neighbourhoods.
- Lack of agreement on the fees charged for building permits, depending on the type of land and on the municipality.



Recommendations:

- Accelerate the process of reconstruction of houses on the original land under proper planning, taking various aspects into consideration including Building Back Better, sustainable neighbourhoods, participatory planning, public spaces, green areas, etc.
- Municipalities are responsible for planning in cooperation with local committees.
- Building new residential projects nearby affected areas as a temporary solution and simultaneously rehabilitate affected areas.

4. Implementation Process (Chair: MoPWH, Co-Chair: UNRWA, UNDP)

Issues:

- Lack of construction materials.
- Lack of fund.

Recommendations:

- Access to materials and to financial resources should be parallel to assure proper reconstruction efforts.
- Self-help approach is the best solution for houses owned by the same family; contractor-driven is suitable for high rise buildings.

5. Coordination and Facilitation to Construction Materials (Chair: Ministry of Civil Affairs)

Issues:

- Availability of the necessary materials for development and construction projects.
- Restrictions on entry of materials and the GRM is not comprehensive.

Recommendations:

- Re-open more crossings.
- Un-block Gaza.

6. Post-Implementation Monitoring (Chair: NORG, Co-Chair: OCHA)

Issues:

- Lack of involvement of the population in the reconstruction of Gaza.
- Lack of sufficient and comprehensive planning and coordination in the post implementation monitoring process.

Recommendations:

- Developing a comprehensive monitoring plan for all actors and establishing a neutral body for monitoring.
- Setting up a mechanism for regular and accessible sharing of information with the public.

III. Panel Discussion

The panel discussion closed the event identifying key actions points to take forward. The panellists represented key decision makers in the reconstruction effort of Gaza. They included NORG, MoPWH, UNDP, UNRWA, UN-Habitat, UNOPS, OCHA, and UNSCO. In this session the outcomes of the round table were presented and discussed. The panellists concluded the workshop identifying 3 action points to take forward to respond to the issues and recommendations raised and bring forward the reconstruction effort of Gaza.

Action Points:

1. Overall leadership and coordination between government and international community will be assured by a high level committee overseeing all technical sub-committees. (Technical Sub-committees already partly exist through the 6 round tables).
2. The panel confirms the need for further transparency and for clear dissemination of information and will develop and design a dissemination plan to assure accountability to the population.
3. Community participation, feedback and complaint mechanism will be established.

Conclusions:

The aims of creating an overarching coordination structure was agreed: to enable an effective, accountable and efficient reconstruction process; to allow for the extent of actors involved to be informed and included in the process; to create one body to resolve unforeseeable events and eventually create one voice when needs for information sharing and advocacy purposed.



3. Agenda

9.00 – 11.00	<u>Exhibition</u> The purpose of the exhibition is to bring together all actors involved and share information on Gaza reconstruction effort. This is the opportunity for all actors to show case their projects and learn from other actors who have and will be involved in the reconstruction effort.	
9.30 -10.00	<u>Opening introductions</u>	1. NORG - Dr.Bashir Rayyes 2. MoPWH - Eng. Naji Sarhan 3. UNSCO - James Rawley 4. UNRWA - Melinda Young
11.00 - 13.00	<p><u>Round table discussions (RSVP)</u> The purpose of the Round Table Discussion will be to discuss and identify 2 key issues and 2 recommendations to bring to the decision makers (panelist) in the following session.</p> <p><u>6 Round Tables:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Housing land and property rights <i>(Chair: Palestinian Land Authority, Co-Chair: NRC-ICLA)</i> Prioritization of vulnerable groups <i>(Chair: MoSA, Co- Chair: Protection Cluster)</i> Urban Planning - housing and infrastructure and services <i>(Chair: MoLG, Co- Chair: UN-Habitat)</i> Implementation process (Self-Help and Contractor Driven approach) <i>(Chair: MoPWH, Co-Chair: UNRWA, UNDP)</i> Coordination and Facilitation in accessing Construction Materials <i>(Chair: Ministry of Civil Affairs)</i> Post implementation monitoring: Feedback mechanism, and dissemination to the affected population <i>(Chair: NORG, Co-Chair: OCHA)</i> 	<p><u>Separate meeting for Panelist</u> Chair: NORG - Dr Bashir Rayyes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> MoPWH Naji Sarhan UNOCHA Katleen Maes UNSCO James Rawley, John Clarke, David Hartstone UNRWA Melinda Young UNDP Narjess Saidane UNOPS Nicholas O'Regan Qatari Reconstruction Committee Islamic Development Bank Shelter Cluster Lead Vance Culbert
13.00 – 13.30	COFFEE BREAK	
13.30 -14.15	<p><u>Panel Discussion</u> This session will start with a short presentation of the 2 priority issues and 2 recommendations identified by each round tables.</p> <p>Each panelist will then be given the floor to respond to the issues and recommendations from the presentation, and identify potential action points. The floor will then be open for questions and comments.</p>	<p>Panelist Chair: Dr.Bashir Rayyes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> MoPWH UNSCO John Clarke UNRWA Melinda Young UNOPS Nicholas O'Regan UNDP Nicholas Hercules UN-Habitat Fiona Mc Cluney UNOCHA Katleen Maes
14.45 – 15.00	<u>Wrap-up and next steps</u>	NORG, MoPWH and Shelter Cluster
15.00 – 16.00	LUNCH	



4. Exhibition



The Shelter Cluster facilitated a one day event in close collaboration with the National Office for the Reconstruction of Gaza (NORG), the Ministry of Public Works and Housing (MoPWH) and many other key stakeholders involved in the reconstruction effort of Gaza. The purpose of this event was to provide a platform to enable a stronger coordination, information sharing and eventually to allow for the operationalization of the response from humanitarian needs to the long term reconstruction.

The day was structured in two parts with an exhibition in the morning

inviting most actors involved in the reconstruction of Gaza. They shared and show cased their experiences, plans and projects. These included various Ministries, services providers, private sector, UN agencies, and national (NNGO) and international (INGO) organisations. This was the opportunity to bring together every actor involved in the construction effort; it gave them the opportunity to learn from past and current experiences and it revealed the extent of actors involved.

The Stall Exhibitors included (list to be verified)

1. Shelter Cluster
2. MoPWH
3. MoLG
4. MOSA
5. Municipalities (Gaza, Beit Hanoun, Khuzaa)
6. CMWA
7. PWA
8. PENRA / GEDCO
9. UNRWA current reconstruction plans
10. UN-Habitat shared design charrette plans
11. UNDP shared reconstruction plans
12. Education Cluster(UNICEF) shared building back better in schools
13. Palestinian Contractors Union
14. UNOCHA
15. NRC
16. Handicap International
17. PNGO
18. Palestinian Housing Council



5. Round Table Discussions

5.1 Introduction

The Round Table Discussions invited 75 individuals representing operational and technical experts involved in the reconstruction process of Gaza. Annex 1 lists the 38 organisations present.

The 6 discussion tables were designed to go through the different steps of the reconstruction: from housing land and property rights, to prioritization of vulnerable groups, urban planning, implementation processes, access to funds and construction materials, and monitoring. Below is the list of the 6 thematic table, each of which were chaired by a government representative, and a UN agency or an INGO.

The round table discussions provided the opportunity to discuss, debate and raise concerns about the challenges of the reconstruction process, focusing on the technical issues. Each round table identified issues and recommendations, whilst aiming at bringing consensus around key challenges and ways forward. Once each table had identified all key issues and recommendations, all participants were invited to rank and prioritize their top 2 issues and top 2 recommendations. The outcome of these are presented in further details below.

6 Round Tables:

1. Housing land and property rights
(Chair: Palestinian Land Authority, Co-Chair: NRC-ICLA)
2. Prioritization of vulnerable groups
(Chair: MoSA, Co-Chair: Protection Cluster)
3. Urban Planning - housing and infrastructure and services
(Chair: MoLG, Co-Chair: UN-Habitat)
4. Implementation process
(Self-Help and Contractor Driven approach)
(Chair: MoPWH, Co-Chair: UNRWA, UNDP)
5. Coordination and Facilitation in accessing Construction Materials
(Chair: Ministry of Civil Affairs)
6. Post implementation monitoring: Feedback mechanism, and dissemination to the affected population
(Chair: NORG, Co-Chair: OCHA)

5.2 Outcome of the round table discussions

5.2.1 Housing, Land, and Property Rights (Chair: Palestinian Land Authority, Co-Chair: NRC-ICLA)

Summary of the discussion.

The discussion at the *Housing, Land and Property (HLP) rights* table revolved around the need for practical long-term solutions for affected households to prove their land and property ownership to ensure long-term security of tenure. This is crucial to obtaining building permits and for accessing reconstruction grants. The key issues identified were the lack of proof of ownership documents and uncertainties about unregistered and un-surveyed land. In addition, the participants expressed concern about the risk of community and family disputes when the chain of ownership documents is incomplete. Participants agreed on the importance of preserving, protecting and securing HLP rights in light of long-term security of tenure. The table agreed on a strong focus on access to security of tenure for women. The importance of urban planning was highlighted, which must be done in cooperation with communities and individuals as not to affect HLP rights in the area. One participants said: "HLP rights must come hand in hand with urban planning," which sums up the need for sustainable and participatory approaches to urban planning. Participants also emphasised the need for long-term housing solutions for people living on state and waqf (religious endowment) land by ensuring that land is made available for new housing projects or that agreements are reached with residents who are currently living unlawfully on either state or waqf land. Finally, one of the participants stressed that HLP rights do not only apply to the shelter sector, but also to the agricultural sector.

All issues identified are presented below with the priority issues marked in bold.

1. Lack of building permits.
2. **Proof of ownership documentation.**
3. Unregistered challenges / Sate Waqf land / agricultural land.
4. **Urban planning is in need to correct previous land problem concerning survey, state Waqf, and unregistered lands and agricultural lands.**



5. Women's access to HLP as a real challenge – protection issue.
6. Lack of children protection who lost their parents during the conflict.
7. Family HLP dispute.
8. Tenancy rights – protection.

All recommendations identified are presented below with the priority recommendations marked in bold.

1. **Introduce a new legal procedure for shelter and legal actors to support resolving HLP issues.**
2. Legal referral system which should include an information sharing system for IDPs and free legal aid services using CDR mechanism.
3. Effective coordination amongst shelter cluster members and relevant agencies.
4. Protect children through provision of legal desk at MoSA.
5. Free legal aid service to IDPs Identify focal points amongst all relevant actors and share information with IDPs.
6. **Ensure that the reconstruction of Gaza will protect and advance women and children's access to HLP rights.**
7. Encourage IDPs to register their HLP by providing funding project to land authority.

5.2.2 Prioritization of Vulnerable groups (Chair: MoSA, Co-Chair: Protection Cluster)

Summary of the discussion.

The discussion at the *Prioritization of vulnerable groups* table revolved around the lack of Gaza specific agreed standards on vulnerability and ranking. Participants emphasized that there has been difficulty in defining vulnerability in light of the deteriorating socio-economic situation in the Gaza Strip, as a result of the blockade and the three rounds of hostilities in the last six years. The group explained that there has been vulnerable groups pre-conflict which became more vulnerable as a result of the crisis, and there are now new vulnerable groups post-conflict. The participants agreed that there is a need to establish a joint-committee with clear ToR, and timeline, dedicated to develop agreed vulnerability criteria and ranking system. The committee should use a participatory approach and consult community on the key vulnerability criteria. It should also be responsible for communicating those standards with the wider community and conduct advocacy to ensure donors and humanitarian actors take into account these agreed standards.

The lack of agreed standards has resulted in the absence of a centralised database with one entity capturing all vulnerability related information. Several pieces of information on vulnerability and protection are scattered amongst various actors including MoSA, MoPWH, UN agencies, INGOs and NNGOs. A centralised database hosted and maintained by one entity would be essential to design and inform responses, to avoid duplication and reach the most vulnerable, in light of the slow pace of the construction and the shortage of funds. Establishing a unified database maintained by one entity (possibly MoSA) with the aim of ensuring commitment of information sharing by organisations and humanitarian actors, and overcoming existing information gaps about vulnerability related information. SOPs will be developed to ensure that information sharing mechanism respect the principle of confidentiality of do-no-harm.

All issues identified are presented below with the priority issues marked in bold.

1. Difficulty in defining vulnerability (ie. pre-conflict vulnerabilities, post-conflict vulnerabilities and new vulnerable groups).
2. **Lack of agreed standards on Gaza-specific vulnerability criteria, ranking and scoring system.**
3. Information gap identifying vulnerability, due to a lack of systematic and agreed methodology on information collection by government and humanitarian actors.
4. Donor constraints (refugee versus non-refugee) or location specific committees.
5. Confidentiality and sharing of information. No agreed SOPs on confidentiality and sharing of information in relation to protection and vulnerability.
6. Lack of willingness of agencies to share information on vulnerability. Actors continues to retain information on vulnerability.
7. **Lack of central database held by one entity capturing all vulnerability information.**

All recommendations identified are presented below with the priority recommendations marked in bold.

1. Define vulnerability in the context of Gaza.
2. **Establish a committee to develop vulnerability criteria and ranking system with a defined timeline using a participatory approach.**



3. Develop agreed methodology on information collection.
4. Donors should give consideration to agreed vulnerability standards developed by communities.
5. Ensure commitment in sharing information and databases, and agreeing on principles of confidentiality.
6. Ensure community participation in defining vulnerability.
7. **Establish a unified database maintained by one entity with commitment by agencies to share available vulnerability information to overcome information gap.**

5.2.3 Urban Planning: Housing Infrastructure and Planning (Chair: MoLG, Co-Chair: UN-Habitat)

Summary of the discussion

The discussion at the *Urban planning, housing infrastructure and planning* table revolved around how to design and rebuild sustainable and functional neighbourhoods, and how to coordinate the implementation of projects in areas of the Gaza Strip heavily affected by the recent escalation. Initial discussion focused on how to accommodate for those who have had their home totally destroyed and are displaced. The suggestions was to build new residential buildings near the affected areas to accommodate the displaced families as a temporary measure whilst the planning, rubble removal, design and construction of the heavily affected neighbourhood can take place. This would also contribute to increasing the housing stock in Gaza which has resulted in problems of overcrowding. It was agreed that all construction should be based on sustainable urban planning, with participatory spatial planning exercise including representatives from the affected population, focus group discussions with women and youth. Service providers should also be consulted to design functional neighbourhoods and prioritize investment programmes. This table also discussed that the investment program needs to be implemented by key service delivery organisations, and support household self-help driven reconstruction through planning and reconstruction support packages, with neighbourhood technical support centres, and mobile technical teams.

All issues identified are presented below with the priority issues marked in bold

- **Challenge of planning and building back better sustainable functional neighbourhoods in coordination with service providers for the heavily affected neighbourhoods.**
- **Lack of agreement on the fees charged for building permits, depending on the type of land and on the municipality.**
- Slow clearance of rubble removal although funding is available.
- Challenge of adapting buildings for disabled access.
- Fear that temporary solutions may become permanent.
- Security of tenure for temporary and permanent reconstruction effort.
- If government land required for BBB (schools, green areas) compensation must be given to land owners.

All recommendations identified are presented below with the priority recommendations marked in bold.

1. **Build new residential buildings near the affected areas to accommodate the displaced families as a temporary measure whilst the planning, rubble removal, design and construction of the heavily affected neighbourhood can take place.**
2. **Accelerate the process of reconstruction of houses on the original land under proper planning, taking various aspects into consideration including Building Back Better, sustainable neighbourhoods, participatory planning, public spaces, green areas, etc.**
3. Rebuild in same location, remove the rubble, prepare and develop plans for infrastructure, support the building back better approach whilst including the needs of men, women, boys and girls.
4. Land is scarce, therefore there is a need to identify new land for housing and residential development.
5. **Municipality are responsible for planning in cooperation with local communities.**
6. Use of technology to improve energy networks (ie. solar energy).
7. Accelerate to process of reconstruction which has already started.

5.2.4 Implementation Process (Chair: MoPWH, Co-Chair: UNRWA, UNDP)

Summary of the discussion

The discussion at the *Implementation process* table was centred on the external factors that contribute directly to impediment of the implementation process which is linked to free access of materials and the financial



support to the reconstruction. As for the internal factors many of participants had raised the issue of clarity of different processes, sharing information to the local community and other relevant stakeholders. The affected population is overwhelmed with the different processes they have to go through to obtain building permit. It was agreed that the population need support in going through this process, and more clarity procedures need to be developed.

The exercise has also driven other factors that can be considered as a lessons learned to assure propels to implementation are in place. The poor engagement of local community in decision making throughout the different stages on the early recovery intervention have raised frustration and anger among people translated into long queues of people seeking answers to questions related to their damage cases. The situation was intensified with the delay of funds needed for alleviating the harsh conditions the people are surviving worsened by the severe weather condition. Finally, the imbalance of support between shelter, housing and private sector was raised in order to maintain the reconstruction efforts. All these issues could be mitigated through coordination committee where any issue can be solved within strategies planned and shared with the public. Self-help approach was found to be the best solution for reconstruction especially for houses owned by the same family. Contractor-driven approach may be better adapted for high rise buildings and multi storey residential buildings. To maintain quality in implementation, duty bearers need to be empowered by mobile technical teams supervised by them to avoid any situation of corruption and at the same time assure the proper quality is conserved.

All issues identified are presented below with the priority issues marked in bold

1. Lack of urban planning
2. Lack of clear procedure and criteria among different stakeholders
3. Poor sharing information with local community
- 4. Lack of construction materials**
- 5. Lack of fund**
6. Poor engagement of local community in decision making and different stages such as analysis, planning and implementation
7. Imbalance in progress of reconstruction efforts and fund raising among the housing sector and other different sectors

All recommendations identified are presented below with the priority recommendations marked in bold.

1. Establish a coordination committee to facilitate the process of obtaining construction permits
2. Construction large scale housing projects meeting the community needs
3. Community engagement in decision making on strategies for reconstruction
- 4. Access to construction material and financial resources should be in parallel assure proper reconstruction efforts.**
5. Providing technical support and follow up during the implementation through technical teams within duty bearers
- 6. Self-help approach is the best solution for houses owned by the same family; contractor-driven is suitable for high rise buildings.**

5.2.5 Coordination and Facilitation in accessing construction materials (Chair: Ministry of Civil Affairs)

Summary of the discussion

The discussion at the *Coordination and facilitation in accessing construction materials* table was centred on the challenges of accessing construction materials through the Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism (GRM). Participants expressed their concern on the lack of information on the GRM; how vendors become approved to engage in the GRM; how beneficiaries are notified to purchase materials; what are the reasons for some of the material restriction; is there a clear timeframe for this temporary mechanism. Participants also debated whether all construction and reconstruction projects are and should be monitored. The overall transparency around the different parts of the GRM system was raised as a major concern. Some participants discussed potential alternatives to the GRM. Finally the issue of industrial damaged buildings was presented as another aspect of the reconstruction which also needs to be addressed.

All issues identified are presented below with the priority issues marked in bold

- 1. Availability of the necessary construction material for the development and construction projects.**



2. Lack of clarity on the mechanism for vendors to submit new applications.
3. GRM should allow for the development and building of new houses for non-affected families.
4. Lack of information sharing on construction material entry.
5. Allow materials entry with no monitoring.
6. Lack of information on the timeframe (expiry date) of this mechanism.
7. Establish an alternative mechanism to substitute GRM.
8. **Restriction on entry of materials and the GRM is not comprehensive. The current GRM mechanism is incomplete: it does not allow some construction project such as contracting projects, infrastructure projects, repairing and re/building industrial premises, allowing damaged factory owners to import materials to be paid by them (or on their account).**

All recommendations identified are presented below with the priority recommendations marked in bold.

1. Info feedback mechanism.
2. **Re-open more crossings.**
3. Ease of materials entry.
4. PCIU has an alternative plan.
5. Batch plants and contractors should not go by GRMS.
6. **Un-block Gaza.**

5.2.6 Post-Implementation Monitoring (Chair: NORG, Co-Chair: OCHA)

Summary of the discussion

The discussion at table 6 was centred on post-implementation monitoring. The diverse pool of participants including various ministry representative, INGOs, NNGOs, community representatives, UN agencies and the private sector generated a very constructive debate and reactions.

Participants raised the issue of lack of information sharing with communities, besides the absences of any mutual, comprehensive planning and coordination for an integrated response system. Participants also discussed the lack of quality assurance for the materials and for the process as a whole. Some key concerns were raised regarding the lack of participation of vulnerable groups, such as people with disabilities, and the lack of gender awareness throughout the implementation and monitoring process. It was recommended that vulnerable people and women should be further involved.

Participants also suggested the idea of having one integrate independent body, or committee, which would be responsible for coordinating with communities.

Finally participants discussed the need for a clear mechanism for accountability and quality insurance during - post-implementation monitoring. Participants have stressed the fact that without a complete removal of Israeli restriction on the movement of people and goods to and from Gaza, reconstruction process will continue to be significantly challenged.

All issues identified are presented below with the priority issues marked in bold

1. Lack of quality assurance as an integral process.
2. No mutual comprehensive planning and coordination for the reconstruction process or post-implementation monitoring.
3. The lack of an agreed post-implementation monitoring process.
4. **Lack of involvement of the affected population in the reconstruction and monitoring process, including the disable and the women.**
5. **Lack of sufficient and comprehensive planning and coordination in post implementation monitoring processes.**

All recommendations identified are presented below with the priority recommendations marked in bold.

1. Create a safety net for transparency.
2. Create a simple and organized mechanism to communicate with the affected community.
3. Quality insurance mechanisms.
4. **Developing a comprehensive monitoring plan for all actors and establishing a neutral body for monitoring.**
5. **Setting up a mechanism for regular and accessible sharing of information with the public.**



6. Panel Discussions

Simultaneously to the Round Table Discussion a separate room was provided for the panellists to prepare their discussion and respond to some of the pre-identified issues and recommendations from the Round Table chairs. This meeting included Dr Bashir Rayyes as chair from NORG, Eng.Naji Sarhan from MoPWH, Katleen Maes from UNOCHA, James Rawley, John Clarke from UNSCO, Melinda Young from UNRWA, Narjess Saidane and Nicholas Hercules from UNDP, Nicholas O'Regan from UNOPS, a representative of the Qatari Reconstruction Committee, Vance Culbert as Shelter Cluster Lead, NRC.

This meeting allowed for key decision makers in the reconstruction process to discuss and agree on some of the key challenges and ways forwards, which were later discussed and presented in the Panel Discussion.

The panel discussion started with a presentation of the key issues and recommendation identified by the round table. For the presentation refer to p.4-5 Executive Summary, Round Table Discussion.

The panellist concluded with the following action points:

1. Overall leadership and coordination will be assured by a high level committee overseeing all technical sub-committees (as already partly recommended by all 6 roundtables)
2. The panel confirms the need for transparency and for clear dissemination of information and will develop and design a dissemination plan to assure accountability to the population
3. Community participation, feedback and complaint mechanism will be established

7. Conclusions

The conclusion of this report tries to map out some of the initiatives which have taken place since the workshop. Many of the issues and recommendations have already been taken forward by various actors. The need to embrace this energy to promote and enable a safe, appropriate and adequate reconstruction of Gaza is essential.

Since the workshop, the Residential Stream of the GRM has been approved, which will hopefully enable to start the reconstruction of the neighbourhoods most affected and the totally damaged houses, whilst taking into consideration the concerns highlighted above such as transparency, accountability and coordination.

Shelter Cluster with its membership including MoSA and MoPWH has started to pursue discussions around prioritisation of vulnerable groups. This issue came out from the Round Table 1 as one of the key recommendations, and the Shelter Cluster hope to clarify through this process clearer vulnerability, scoring and selection criteria.

Recognising that the reconstruction of the most affected neighbourhoods might take several year, some agencies have embraced the idea of breaking down the reconstruction into 8 steps, which are inspired by the 6 round table discussion. These include:

1. Assessing the damage and the needs
2. Resolving Housing Land and Property rights
3. Rubble removal
4. Urban planning, including infrastructure and services
5. Prioritisation of vulnerable groups and community participation
6. Implementation process
7. Access to funds and construction materials
8. Monitoring and Evaluation and Dissemination

The Shelter Cluster as well as the participants of this workshop would like to see the action points implemented. Accountability of decision makers, stronger consensus and transparency in the implementation of the reconstruction is needed for a safer recovery of Gaza. The overarching committee would enable stronger coordination between the different actors and allow for a safe, adequate and appropriate rebuilding process.



8. Annexe 1 - List of organisations participating to the Round Table Discussions

1. Banking Sector
2. Coastal Municipalities Water Utilities (CMWU)
3. Chamber of Commerce
4. Community Representative
5. Contractors Union
6. Education Cluster
7. Food Security Sector
8. Gaza Electricity Distribution Cooperation (GEDCO)
9. Handicap International
10. Islamic Relief
11. Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA)
12. Ministry of Public Works and Housing (MoPWH)
13. Ministry of Local Government (MoLG)
14. Ministry of Civil Affairs (MoCA)
15. Ministry of Education (MoE)
16. Municipality of Biet Lahia
17. Municipality of Gaza
18. Municipality of Jabalia
19. Municipality Khuzaa
20. National Office for the Reconstruction of Gaza (NORG)
21. Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
22. Palestinian Energy and Natural Resources Authority (PENRA)
23. Palestinian Land Authority
24. Palestinian Water Authority (PWA)
25. Palestinian Housing Council (PHC)
26. Palestinian Non-Governmental Organisations (PNGO)
27. Protection Cluster
28. Secours Islamique France (SIF)
29. Union of Construction Industries
30. University of Azhar
31. UNDP
32. UN-Habitat
33. UNMAS
34. UNOPS
35. UNOCHA
36. UNRWA
37. UN-Women
38. Wash Cluster