



LINKING RELIEF, REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT: UN-HABITAT GENDER-RESPONSIVE ENGAGEMENT IN POST-CONFLICT CONTEXTS

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With the collaboration of:



ACRONYMS

AGGI	Advisory Group on Gender Issues
AUPP	Afghanistan Urban Peacebuilding Programme
BBB	Build Back Better
CDCs	Community Development Councils
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DED	Deputy Executive Director
DEVAW	Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women
ECHA	Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs
EGM	Expert Group Meeting
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation
FARC	Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia—People's Army
GBV	Gender based Violence
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
GNWP	Global Network of Women Peacekeepers
Habitat III	The Third United Nations Conference on Human Settlements
HRBA	Human Rights-based Approach
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
ISIS	Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant
LRRD	Linking risk, rehabilitation and development
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
NUA	The New Urban Agenda
PsP	People's Process
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
VAW	Violence against women
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WGT	Working Group on Transitions
WIEGO	Women in Informal Employment: Globalising and Organising
WRC	Women's Refugee Commission

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BACKGROUND

The World Humanitarian Summit (23-24 May 2016) is a call-to-action by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to transform the approach to humanitarian crises. The Summit provides the platform to foster new partnerships and push for the necessary changes required to improve the lives of all people affected by conflict or disaster¹.

This call-to-action follows 25 years of debate emphasizing the importance of linking humanitarian and development aid, often referred to as linking risk, rehabilitation and development (LRRD). In fact, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) was established in June 1992 in response to General Assembly Resolutions 46/182² to serve as the primary mechanism for inter-agency coordination relating to humanitarian assistance. UN-Habitat is an operational member of IASC and uses this platform to advocate for the adoption of approaches to bridge humanitarian and development. It is engaged in the Shelter; Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH); and Early Recovery Clusters, the latter of which works to establish the foundations for longer-term recovery.

More recently, the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) –of which UN-Habitat is also a member–, established the UN Working Group on Transitions (WGT) and crisis/post-crisis transition as a Strategic Priority for the Group. The purpose of the WGT is to act as a collaborative forum between the UNDG and the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs (ECHA), with the objective to develop policy guidance on issues relating to transition contexts.

Evidently, there are notable differences between humanitarian and development action; but this observation does not eclipse the common ground between the two approaches: building resilience. On the one hand, humanitarian assistance is driven by humanitarian law in response and characterized by rapid life-saving assistance in onset crises and disasters. On the other hand, development work is defined by interventions aimed at sustainability, and systematizes responses to crises by embedding provisions in State rule of law and policy frameworks.

Post-conflict contexts are situations “in which open warfare has come to an end. Such situations remain tense for years or decades and can easily relapse into large-scale violence”³. A post-conflict context can further be characterized by negative or positive peace, the former of which is characterized by indirect and structural violence and not only direct violence. Positive peace entails restoration of relationships, the creation of social systems that serve the needs of the whole population and the constructive resolution of conflict.⁴ This can only be achieved through inclusion of all stakeholders.

Unfortunately, women and girls face multiple disadvantages in post-conflict contexts. Within this group, the layered identities of indigenous women, international undocumented migrants, and refugees, will render them particularly vulnerable. Violence stirred from conflict only contributes to exacerbating negative dynamics, leaving women at the margins in post-conflict contexts. Addressing the factors of marginalization becomes essential for supporting stabilization and reconstruction. Hence, it is vital to the processes of rehabilitation, resettlement and reconstruction, that women’s and girls’ different roles, capacities, vulnerabilities and needs are recognized in the planning and retrofitting of human settlements in post-conflict contexts. The UNSCR 1325 (2000) represents an important framework mandating the meaningful role of women in post-conflict

¹ General Assembly (A/70/709) (2016) One Humanity: Shared Responsibility Report of the Secretary-General for the World Humanitarian Summit

² <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/46/a46r182.htm>

³ Junne, G. & Verokren, W. (Ed). (2005) Post-conflict development: meeting new challenges

⁴ Johan Galtung, 1996

processes, and an important point of convergence in programming both humanitarian and development initiatives.

Moreover, across the developing world, cities are rapidly expanding and becoming the place where most people live. In turn, they are also the primary sites of conflict and post-conflict realities. It stands to reason that, UN-Habitat, the UN agency mandated with sustainable development of human settlements, has been actively involved in post-conflict situations.

UN-Habitat is well positioned to work in close collaboration with humanitarian agencies⁵. The Agency has undertaken engagement in post-conflict and employed the *Build Back Better approach*⁶ⁱ and the *People's Process (PsP) methodology*⁷ⁱⁱ in reconstruction, as well as, been guided by the *UN Principles on Housing and Property Restitution for Refugees and Displaced Persons (the Pinheiro Principles)*⁸ to address the plight of displaced persons and refugees. At present, UN-Habitat supports authorities in addressing post-conflict in countries such as Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq, Palestine, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Syria, among others. Here, urban areas have faced a massive influx of displaced people and relief actors; breakdown of services; weakened institutions; and destruction of infrastructure and buildings.

⁵ Humanitarian Affairs and the Role of UN-Habitat, Strategic Policy on Human Settlements in Crisis and Sustainable Relief and Reconstruction Framework (UN-Habitat 2008)

⁶ http://mirror.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/FA7_products.pdf; <http://www.wcdr.org/uploads/Reconstructing-after-disasters-Build-back-better.pdf>

⁷ http://www.fukuoka.unhabitat.org/docs/index_en.html;

⁸ Centre for Housing Rights and Evictions. The Pinheiro Principles: United Nations Principles on Housing and Property Restitution

ⁱ Building Back Better calls for the incorporation of disaster risk reduction measures into post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes and use of opportunities during the recovery phase to develop capacities that reduce disaster risk in the long term. One of the most significant lessons of the last few decades has been that simply rebuilding communities to pre-disaster standards will recreate the vulnerabilities that existed earlier and expose them to continuing devastation from future disasters. Over the years there has been an appreciation that reconstruction is an opportunity to build back better.

ⁱⁱ UN-Habitat's implementation of building back better is primarily through community-led development in which affected populations take charge of their recovery, rehabilitation and development. The Process is the collaboration of many households in a community to establish communal interests such as water, sanitation, infrastructure, etc., and to establish and manage the local institutional infrastructure through which they build, or manage the building of their homes. It is a generic model, developed to reflect and formalize traditional practice and to facilitate functional links between the traditional and the modern, the local and the global.

ALIGNMENT WITH INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS

INTER-AGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE (IASC) & UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT GROUP (UNDG)

UN-Habitat is a committed member of the IASC and UNDG. In 2016, the Working Group on Transitions (WGT) was established as a Strategy Priority for the Group.

CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW) (1979)

- Article 2: States Parties condemn discrimination against women in all its forms, agree to pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating discrimination against women and, to this end, undertake:
 - (a) To embody the principle of the equality of men and women in their national constitutions or other appropriate legislation if not yet incorporated therein and to ensure, through law and other appropriate means, the practical realization of this principle;
 - (b) To adopt appropriate legislative and other measures, including sanctions where appropriate, prohibiting all discrimination against women;
 - (c) To establish legal protection of the rights of women on an equal basis with men and to ensure through competent national tribunals and other public institutions the effective protection of women against any act of discrimination;
 - (d) To refrain from engaging in any act or practice of discrimination against women and to ensure that public authorities and institutions shall act in conformity with this obligation;
 - (e) To take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women by any person, organization or enterprise;
 - (f) To take all appropriate measures, including legislation, to modify or abolish existing laws, regulations, customs and practices which constitute discrimination against women;

DECLARATION ON THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (DEVAW) (1993)

- Article 2: Violence against women shall be understood to encompass, but not be limited to, the following:
 - a) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation;
 - b) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking in women and forced prostitution;
 - c) Physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by the State, wherever it occurs.
- Article 3: Women are entitled to the equal enjoyment and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field. These rights include, inter alia:
 - a) The right to life;
 - b) The right to equality;
 - c) The right to liberty and security of person;
 - d) The right to equal protection under the law;
 - e) The right to be free from all forms of discrimination;
 - f) The right to the highest standard attainable of physical and mental health;
 - g) The right to just and favourable conditions of work;
 - h) The right not to be subjected to torture, or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

BEIJING DECLARATION AND PLATFORM FOR ACTION & UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION (UNSCR) 1325 (2000)

Critical areas of concern relevant to this EGM in Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action include: Women and armed conflict

Relating to Resolution 1325 (2000) the following articles are most relevant to this EGM:

- Article 1: *Urges* Member States to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management, and resolution of conflict;
- Article 12: *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict to respect the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, and to take into account the particular needs of women and girls, including in their design, and recalls its resolutions 1208 (1998) of 19 November 1998 and 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000;
- Article 8 (a): *Calls on* all actors involved, when negotiating and implementing peace agreements, to adopt a gender perspective, including, inter alia: The special needs of women and girls during repatriation and resettlement and for rehabilitation, reintegration and post-conflict reconstruction.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (2015)

Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. In particular:

- 11.3: By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries.
- 11.7 By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities.
- 11.9: By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels.

Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. In particular:

- 5.1: End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.
- 5.2: Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.
- 5.7: Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws.

WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT (2016)

The Summit will mark a major step toward improved collaboration toward linking the divide between humanitarian and development work. Moreover, organizers of *The Global Alliance for Urban Crises* are planning to use this Summit and Habitat III Conference in October to bring together city leaders, urban professionals, the development community, and the private sector; as a means to significantly broaden the strategies that have long typified humanitarian response in urban areas in the aftermath of natural disasters and other crises.

THE THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (HABITAT III) & THE NEW URBAN AGENDA (2016)

This EGM aligns with the following issue areas:

- Social Cohesion and Equity – Livable Cities
- Spatial Development
- Urban Housing and Basic Services

Specifically, it also aligns to the Urban Resilience issue paper under thematic area Urban Ecology and Environment.

THE UN-HABITAT EXPERT GROUP MEETING

The EGM gathered 25 international and national experts working on issues of gender equality in post-conflict and refugee contexts worldwide (see Annex 1 for full list of experts and organisers).

PURPOSE

The overarching objective of this Experts Group Meeting (EGM) was to showcase and analyse UN-Habitat's PsP methodology for the purposes of gender equality in post-conflict contexts.

ISSUE AREAS

Under this overarching goal, participants of the EGM also worked groups on three issue areas in relation to gender equality in post-context: *housing and livelihoods, safety and security, and spatial planning*:

1. **Housing & Livelihoods:** Unstable access to housing and livelihoods are vulnerable situations that women and girls disproportionately face. Gender inequality in the contexts of ownership, access and control of assets, such as land and property is acknowledged as a major contributing factor in hindering human development. Moreover, these two issue prove the most vulnerability-causing for urban refugees and are the underlying causes of gender-based violence (GBV) risk⁹.
2. **Safety & Security:** Post-conflict contexts present a prevalence of gender-based violence (GBV). The breakdown of rule of law and social safety nets during conflict, render women and girls vulnerable to specific forms of violence, namely sexual violence, human trafficking and child, early and forced marriage. Within this frame of vulnerability, access to basic service provision can play a critical role. It follows that design and/or management of basic services in post-conflict contexts can have a profound impact on the prevalence of violence.
3. **Spatial Planning:** Gender-responsive planning focuses on the distribution of space and time. The usability and functionality of a city, as well as, its usefulness for people who due to their individual life-phase spend, on average, more time in the immediate vicinity of their home. This latter point is informed by traditional gender-divisions in labour, specifically marked by gender differentiated participation in the care-economy.

OUTCOME

- ✓ Communiqué of key messages and recommendations for leveraging at the World Humanitarian Summit in Geneva, prior to Habitat III. See Annex 1.

⁹ Women's Refugee Commission (2016) Mean Streets: identifying and responding to urban refugees' risk of gender-based violence.

INTRODUCTION AND OPENNING SESSION

Laura Perez Castaño began by thanking all participants and welcoming everyone to the City of Barcelona.

She noted that it was an honour to be among those present. She inaugurated the meeting by making special mention to those affected by the earthquakes in Ecuador and Japan, and to those suffering as a result of European borders closing to those seeking opportunities. Within this vein, she went on to say it was paramount that this Meeting was to focus on the issues of post-conflict. She added that the Barcelona City Council is a forerunner in gender mainstreaming throughout its endeavours.

Next, she showcased that the City of Barcelona is focusing on gender mainstreaming across its public policies. Indeed, the city is currently preparing the city plan on gender justice focusing on urban policies, culture and different aspects of design, implementation and evaluation.

Perez Castaño went on to highlight the importance of sharing knowledge and solutions in linking humanitarian assistance and development work in relation to urban contexts. She stressed the importance of having empathy and comradery at the local-level, as opposed to distant State structures.

Later, she underscored that applying cross-cutting perspectives to reconstruction, is the difference between building justice or supporting the power structures that have led conflict. In fact, there is no possible reparation without taking into account all peoples responsible for extending support networks to live together. Therefore, there is no reparation without justice, and no justice without gender justice.

Perez Castaño advocated the need to continue developing instruments in order to put a focus on gender mainstreaming. However, she added that not everything depends on the development of guidelines and tools. She pointed to the fact that it has been 20 years since Beijing, and we are aware that such tools are not the only element required for ensuring gender equality. Indeed, if it was only a matter tool development, gender mainstreaming and gender equality would have been achieved from the seat of institutions.

In conclusion, she ended by noting that it is a challenge to remove the established hierarchical and power structures whence injustices derive. This is a challenge, specifically, a challenge at the local level. Finally, she reiterated her thanks to participants and the organisers for inviting the Barcelona City Hall to open the Meeting.

Joan Clos (via video message) began his message by thanking all the members of the Advisory Group on Gender Issues (AGGI); and in particular, the Chair of the Group, Aminata Dramane Traoré, for convening this meeting in his home city of Barcelona. In addition, he expressed his wish that the City of Barcelona be helpful in facilitating the Meeting discussions and work to provide the participants with an enjoyable stay in the City.

He went on to note that gender equality is essential to peacebuilding, adding that this has been demonstrated countless of times. Moreover, he stressed the importance that women have access to land and tenure security because women often play a disproportionate role in community development. Therefore, working with communities, implies working with women.

Clos concluded his message by reiterating the the need to increase the formalisation of women's contributions in the way of peacebuilding. He added that he looked forward to hearing the contributions and recommendations to come from this Expert Group Meeting.

Aisa Kirabo Kacyira thanked and welcomed all those gathered at the EGM. She noted that the two days would be intense, with presentations from various Experts and that the outcome would be a Communiqué outlining recommendations to be carried forth to international Summits and Conferences.

Namely, she drew participants' attention to the upcoming World Humanitarian Summit slated for 23-24 May 2016, in Istanbul, noting that it provides a platform to foster new partnerships and push for the necessary changes required to improve the lives of all people affected by conflict or disaster, in particular women and girls.

Next, she emphasised that poverty is one of the main consequences of conflict. In this reality, the feminization of poverty is exacerbated by conflict. Unfortunately, women and girls face multiple disadvantages in post-conflict contexts. Within this group, the intersecting identities of indigenous women, international undocumented migrants, and refugees, will render them particularly vulnerable to poverty and insecurity.

Finally, she concluded by stressing that UN-Habitat is uniquely positioned to work in close collaboration with humanitarian agencies. The Agency has engaged in post-conflict and employed the Build Back Better approach and the PsP methodology in reconstruction.

Aminata Dramane Traoré began her intervention by expressing shock at the wide-spread VAW, in particular with reference to sexual violence. She noted that currently the situation is worse than ever and not exclusive to the Global South; referring to the recent terrorist attacks in Paris and Brussels, and noted that terrorism affects everyone, everywhere; therefore, response must be international and equal.

Moreover, she stressed that women must be informed in terms of the processes and occurrence of violence in their own countries. Equality between states will be crucial in discussing GEWE internationally. She closed by noting that development should be to ensure that people have a good life in their own country and not to migrate or go to war.

Nesreen Barwari presented her personal transition from IDP, to UN-Habitat Settlements Officer, to university Professor, to Minister, to head of a local NGO helping IDPs in Kurdistan. She pointed out that for her the path away from violence was paved by education and that this led her to the UN system. She noted that people in her country (Iraq) continue to live in a country drawn on a map, in a secluded room in a far-away country. This history, has led to a country with a huge diversity of religions and cultures. Indeed, she noted that she is part of the largest group of people in the world without a country (Kurds).

She stressed that livelihood planning has to be sustainable and carried out in conjunction with the community. Indeed, Barwari noted that being a woman in a leadership position has given her the insight that engaging the whole community is paramount.

To close, she highlighted, that despite the conflict she has faced, she has been completely unprepared for the reality of ISIS, pointing out that women and children are disproportionately affected by this currently reality.

THEMATIC PANELS

PANEL ONE: GENDER-RESPONSIVE ACTION IN LINKING RISK, REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT & THE NEW URBAN AGENDA

OBJECTIVE

This panel elaborated on the activities of international actors in linking risk, rehabilitation and development (LRRD), with a particular focus on engagements undertaking gender-responsive methods in the field. These overviews preceded an interactive discussion on the methodologies employed by different international actors in post-conflict contexts, with a particular focus on the specific issue areas of the EGM: housing & livelihoods, safety & security and spatial planning.

KEY OUTCOME MESSAGES

- ✓ Reparations are key in transitional processes; in creating a platform for the Government and the people to repair relations;
- ✓ GEWE in territorial planning is key for sustainable link between rehabilitation and development;
- ✓ It is paramount to bring civil society organizations, women's groups on board, ensure that these organizations are properly funded;
- ✓ The displaced should not be treated as mere recipients, they are paramount in stopping recurrence of conflict; and
- ✓ Localization should influence the national, regional and international strategy for women's participation.

Mariko Sato enthusiastically welcomed all participants and noted that UN-Habitat has practices on the ground that must move to the policy level. She went on to suggest that the title of the EGM should be *gender-responsive action at the centre of linking risk, rehabilitation and development*. Finally, she welcomed the presenters Belén Sanz Duque and Mavic Cabrera-Balleza.

Belén Sanz Duque thanked all colleagues in Spain and all those bringing knowledge to the EGM. She began by outlining UN Women's activities relating to women, conflict and peace-building. She stressed that women peace and security is about preventing war, not about making it safer for women.

First, she noted that women's lives worsen in conflict: maternal mortality increases in conflict contexts, and in countries with conflict there is 9 per cent level of land tenure among women, compared to 19 percent in non-conflict countries.

Thereafter, she moved to the example of Colombia. She outlined that Colombia is a country wherein 8 million people have been victims of the conflict between the State and the FARC. Indeed, 50 per cent of the displaced are women: they have also faced property loss and sexual violence. Sanz Duque underscored that UN Women has noted that, in Colombia, there needs to be a serious consideration of the continuum of humanitarian assistance and development work.

Moreover, Sanz Duque added that reparations have proved vital in transitional justice in the post-conflict context in Colombia. The reparations programme demonstrates that reparations can recognise women's rights and can serve as a measure of justice. Indeed, reparations have proven a key policy in bringing together the Government and the People. Furthermore, women's groups have been advocating that there is a need to connect financial reparations with transformative reparations (social, economic and cultural rights). Therefore, this has been the primary focus of UN Women in Colombia. Development actors can play an important role in ensuring that victims receive reparations, by supporting governments to act accordingly, and helping government to design programmes.

She emphasised that State and Development actors must work together and ensure that civil society builds its capacity. Also another issue that has come up in the reparations process is the desire for collective reparations for women's groups; as well as the desire of women's groups to participate in rural and urban planning.

Sanz Duque concluded by highlighting that GEWE in territorial planning is key for establishing a sustainable link between rehabilitation and development. It is integral response to post-conflict contexts and requires women's rights.

Mavic Cabrera-Balleza thanked UN-Habitat for organising the EGM and noted that meetings like these are important to breaking silos and getting the conversation started on bridging humanitarian assistance and development work. She added that in her work with GNWP the organization managed to localise UNSCR 1325 in 12 countries, this was a triumph in bringing international policy to the local level.

Cabrera-Balleza went on to outline the current conflict in the Philippines. She stressed that it is the second longest running conflict in the world and it is compounded by gang and clan violence. There has been a massive IDP issue in the country, since many people have fled as a result of the fighting between Islamic groups and the Government. Indeed, what the surge in gang violence has demonstrated is that violence is often more exciting than peace. This notion is one that needs to be carefully worked on and changed. At present, the issues that plague the Philippines are exclusion, under-development, resistance to government control and the exploitation of natural resources.

Moreover, she emphasised that natural disasters have only managed to further compound the conflict by keeping populations in a constant state of displacement. These intersectionalities make women vulnerable in patriarchal societies. Nonetheless, the Philippines has a very advanced legal framework in favour of GEWE, it has the Magna Carta of Women (local translation of CEDAW), yet there are gaps on the ground.

She noted that the case of the Philippines demonstrates that while a strong legal framework is important, this alone does not ensure the rights of women.

To conclude, she presented the Meeting with a list of recommendations:

1. It is paramount to bring civil society organizations, women's groups on board, therefore, ensure these organizations are properly funded;
2. The displaced should not be treated as mere recipients, they are important in stopping recurrence of conflict;
3. Monitoring is fundamental, especially by independent organizations;
4. Localization should influence the national, regional and international strategy for women's participation; and
5. Forget women as victims, we need to talk about women as offering solutions that work.

Respondent, Jan Peterson: began by thanking the presenters and noting that the meeting had gotten off to a positive start. She emphasised that the key point from the presenters was the importance of breaking silos, particularly with UN Women.

Peterson noted that the discussion of Building Back Better (BBB) resonated the most with her, because she felt that the presenters gave a vision of BBB with women included. Indeed, half the problems it that post-conflict contexts humanitarian and development practitioners come in preaching Human Rights, but do not discuss how to turn Human Rights into action. She commended the presenters for demonstrating exactly this: how to BBB with women's inclusion. She added that women are organised at the local level and it should be the objective of practitioners to help local women link-up at the international level.

She concluded that we have to go beyond words and move into actions. One way she suggested to move forward on this was by reflecting on the comments of Mavic Cabrera-Balleza about making peace exciting.

DISCUSSION

Margarita Carranco noted that while there is an emphasis on countries in conflict, host countries are often side-lined. She added that in the case of Ecuador, there are no joint policies on the displaced with Colombia, for example. At present, Ecuador is host to many Colombians fleeing the conflict. Therefore, there must be bilateral policies; if not, women will have difficulties in rebuilding their life projects.

María Teresa Rodríguez-Blandon underscored that in the case of Guatemala new institutions are necessary to defend the rights of women. Only one month ago the first case of sexual slavery was won in Guatemala; however, there is no specialised justice for women. Also, she noted that several CSOs have won cases relating to land loss during the conflict; paramount, since land implies community resilience. However, there must be more than land reform after conflict, there must be a focus on new institutions.

Aisa Kirabo Kacyira noted that she wanted to put into context the phenomenon of urbanisation. She emphasised that urbanisation is a tool to create peacebuilding, it is also an opportunity to free women from traditional constraints. Therefore, BBB approach and the PsP methodology are about building back people's dignity.

Belén Sanz Duque added that transitional institutions, territorial planning and urban planning are key. Therefore, international organizations need to support women's coalitions, because, as has been the case in Colombia, women are a key group to push forward processes of change.

Mariko Sato closed the panel by thanking the presenters, Belén Sanz Duque and Mavic Cabrera-Balleza; respondent, Jan Peterson, and participants in the discussion. She concluded by noting that urbanization is a recognised tool for bringing back dignity and identity lost.

PANEL TWO: PRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE'S PROCESS AND CASE STUDIES OF GENDER-RESPONSIVE ENGAGEMENT

OBJECTIVE

This panel offered an in depth view of the PsP and different gender-responsive engagements undertaken by UN-Habitat Somalia Programme. The presentations polished participants' understanding of the PsP, while at the same time demonstrating other methodologies employed by the Agency. The goal of the subsequent panel discussion was to analyse the PsP.

KEY OUTCOME MESSAGES

- ✓ The PsP needs to be taken to the next level in order to ensure large-scale effectiveness. The element of governance needs strengthening and the importance of finance should remain at the forefront;
 - ✓ Since there is always likely for be a disconnect between talking and action, specific budget lines for women's priorities must be instituted into projects; and
 - ✓ The PsP must begin up-scaling in order to influence normative and policy levels.
-

Inga Björk-Klevby opened the Panel by thanking the meeting organisers. She highlighted the importance of championing in making change and to link with those involved in global and national processes. She noted the importance of working closely with leadership and the people involved in peace and rehabilitation negotiations. She introduced the presenters, Matthew French and Teresa del Ministro.

Matthew French began by noting the importance of sharing information on *how to get things done* in challenging contexts. He stated that the PsP is not an extraordinary methodology, nor a complicated one; it is simply about keeping people at the centre of decision making, resources and power relations.

Next, he outlined that the PsP concentrates on organizing neighbourhoods and communities to create the foundations for dialogue and action plans. The methodology involves a sequence of steps to mobilize the community, raise awareness and hold democratic elections. At the local-level, Community Development Councils (CDCs) are formed and act as a representative body at the neighbourhood level.

He noted that the PsP is a powerful in restoring dignity, and is practical in challenging contexts and enabling delivery of results. It is relatively cheap to undertake and enables broad community participation, by encouraging local investment and ownership of the process. PsP works towards putting community resources into projects, allowing for ownership and willingness of people to become agents of change rather than mere beneficiaries. In addition, the PsP is not sector specific but crosses several sectors and can typically harness change for small-scale improvements in neighbourhoods including: cleaner safer environments, improved relationships and achieving physical change on the ground.

Nevertheless, French acknowledged that complexities and challenges exist in bringing achievements to scale with the PsP. He added, that current achievements are positive but are not enough. In fact, in Afghanistan, UN-Habitat is currently looking for ways to scale-up the PsP *from grassroots to governance*, which is loosely termed PsP+20. This stage requires working closely with institutions to strengthen capacities, develop policies and strengthen civil society.

He stressed that UN-Habitat has the first ever programme to focus on safety for women and girls in Afghanistan. The programme works to mobilize women to become leaders, reclaiming dignity and undertaking skills training. Similarly, at an institutional level UN-Habitat Afghanistan strives for gender parity within its staff. At present, the office has a 50/50 representation among international staff and a 30% representation of women among national staff.

Finally, he concluded by noting that UN-Habitat needs to phase out from being the direct implementer and Government needs to step up its role in the PsP. Indeed, this is the transition from humanitarian assistance to sustainable development work.

Teresa del Ministro began by giving a flavour of where UN-Habitat stands by way of the PsP and gender-responsive engagement in Somalia.

She noted that the PsP is very valuable in gender mainstreaming, and a good tool for implementing projects in Somalia. This is because the PsP is about putting people –target of relief, recovery and intervention– at the centre. She explained that the core element of the PsP is that primary groups are the engine for community contracts, action planning, monitoring and evaluation and so forth. In this sense, the PsP allows for the transformation of gender dynamics.

She outlined the context of Somalia: one of state-building in process – one portion of the country has claimed independence since 1992. At present, here is a large urban and a large IDP population. At the same time, Somalia has a combination of issues relating to cyclical conflict since the collapse of the regime. In all it is estimated that since the fall of the regime there have been 65 incidents of conflict, along with natural disasters such as drought and flooding. For example, el Niño displaced 440,000 people in 2006/7.

She emphasised that the shelter programme, operational in Somalia is similar in its approach to that of the PsP employed by colleagues in Asia. The programme relies on the ability of people to take the lead in decision-making. There are bodies similar to CDCs and skills training forms an integral part of the approach.

By way of the Governance, del Ministro explained that this programme is complex, dealing with institutional frameworks and community driven opportunities. It has a lot of scope for participation and gender leadership training is carried out with local councillors. Moreover, youth programmes in Somalia also allow an opportunity to work with women and girls. Half of the youth leaders UN-Habitat works with in Somalia are female.

Thereafter, she noted that the context is challenging in Somalia, since long-term displacement breaks down the necessary social capital and ties necessary for the PsP to function. The region suffers more from cycles of displacement, which makes rebuilding difficult. There have also been difficulties in using local contractors given relationships with warlords; in addition to, the restriction on movements on UN staff within the country.

She closed by mentioning that the Somalia Programme coordinates through the usual UN mechanisms; working closely with UNHCR via the protection cluster, and other UN agencies through means of joint programmes such as in the governance and service delivery, which brings together the ILO and UNICEF amongst others. Finally, the Programme works hard to overcome silos, for example informally coordinating with FAO on gender as we both have a mandate on land –divided along urban and rural lines.

*Respondent, **Carmen de la Cruz**: congratulated and thanked Matthew French and Teresa del Ministro for sharing the inspiring programmes in Afghanistan and Somalia, respectively. De la Cruz noted that both disaster and post-recovery offer a new opportunity to address women's lack of rights and power. It allows for empowerment and participation and enables voice in the process of development transformation. In this vein, all approaches should reduce the risk to return to conflict, and set a basis for transformation. There is a strong relationship between gender, post-conflict and long-term peace, and this is demonstrated by a number of studies.*

She observed that the PsP has strong components for fostering further development. UN-Habitat have advocated a methodology where people and resource distribution are at centre of the rehabilitation process – important from the gender perspective. The PsP is a community development methodology and recognizes both urban and rural development. It calls for a coherent response; and promotes social transformation in

organizing and empowering people to ensure security, while promoting dialogue, planning processes and accountability. All of these are fundamental to gender equality.

De la Cruz closed by noting that the PsP is a HRBA and for this reason it is a more integrated methodology, connecting approaches such gender and diversity and common principles. In fact, the three approaches promote three guiding principles for implementation: non-discrimination, participation and empowerment. In that sense, gender matters and women's rights must be included in the planning process, and not treated as a separate planning exercise.¹⁰

Respondent, **Teresa Boccia**: noted that conflict heightens the toll of natural disasters. Adding "We know and advocate that women have a central role in peace processes, but the question must be asked: why do women play a central role?" She answered this by emphasising that during conflict and post-conflict contexts, women lose the positions they held—within families, as well as, informal roles. In fact, many women may be left on their own as household heads or not understand the reasons of conflict, or their right to recourse as victims of violence.

Moreover, Boccia stressed that as a European national she wished to note that in Europe, a region that considers itself advanced in Human Rights, the rights of refugees are not being observed. European women's associations pay a lot of attention to domestic violence, but not to the violence burdening refugee women.

She emphasised that it is paramount to link emergency contexts with development opportunities in large urban areas. Within this frame, there is no such thing as neutral urban planning, the gender perspective has to be included in wider planning processes. Boccia reiterated the need to ensure the participation of women at all levels. For example, there must be a focus on economic situations which change very quickly; therefore, there is a need for reliable sex-disaggregated data.

She concluded by emphasising that planning processes, need to involve women as active participants; despite of socio-cultural realities that may render them as passive actors. For this reason, planning experts must take into account gender and be trained to do so. She noted that it is often that case, that when women are brought into the decision-making process their discussions are later interpreted by people who do not understand the gender mainstreaming.

DISCUSSION

Aminata Dramane Traoré responded by saying that it is important to acknowledging violence and exclusion as manifest in the economic architecture. Indeed, the limitations on women to participate financially and the exclusive nature of labour markets in some regions and cultures, hinders women's access.

She stressed that economics is a matter of resources—for example, UN peacekeeping forces entering into a fragile local economic system bring massive consequences for the local, already stretched economy. It follows that the consumption of food and water resources for thousands of soldiers in a region of limited supply, heightens tensions due to the contrast in economic status and the poverty gap. She added, that youth are disillusioned, then add peacekeeping forces taking advantage of local populations and the local youth are humiliated and angry. Indeed, the question is never asked: how do local populations feel about peacekeeping processes?

She ended by noting that the presentations from Afghanistan and Somalia, rose the question as to whether the PsP can really be used for social, political and economic change when there is a strong patriarchal context? Therefore, specialising the PsP is important so that beneficiaries include women, and in parallel assess improvements in women's empowerment.

¹⁰ As commented by Ms. De la Cruz

Aisa Kirabo Kacyira raised some points for the following day's discussions:

1. PsP can be a good tool. Are we in charge of PsP? Are we undertaking the process correctly and are we acknowledging to what extent that it can work? Can we scale it up to be transformative? Why is there resistance?
2. How do we institutionalize this? How do we get this to the champions of the PsP? Maybe we need to broaden our horizons of champions?

She ended by noting that it is important to move from the status of victim toward the status of agent. Moreover, she pointed to the importance of bringing the private sector on board and finding local companies to support women in private business.

Mariko Sato noted that the PsP is part of the genes for the Asia Pacific region. It attracts resources from various donors. She made the poignant observation that in Japanese and Chinese characters –describing crisis and disaster is *crisis and opportunities*. She noted that the PsP is a process established by UN-Habitat and communities participate in it; it is to say, through the PsP the Agency must find out how to influence the local processes for people's benefit.

Jan Peterson noted that terminology needed to be made clear the PsP is not a UN-Habitat exclusive process. It is a process employed by grassroots organisations as well.

Aisa Kirabo Kacyira emphasised that the advantage of the PsP is that it is about restoring people's dignity. As leaders we need to recognize people have a worth—we come in to support them, not to replace them. She asked "Why do we call this a 'process'?", recalling her personal experience, in rebuilding of Rwanda after the Genocide, there is a very important need to recognize the people that we work with, and separate conflict and disaster from people's capacities. Therefore, the Agency must think of a hand-over strategy and then link CDCs to institutions.

Inga Björk-Klevby concluded the panel by thanking presenters, Matthew French and Teresa del Ministro; respondent, Carmen de la Cruz and Teresa Boccia, and participants in the discussion.

PANEL THREE: PRESENTATION OF CASE STUDIES & METHODS FOR INCLUDING GRASSROOTS WOMEN IN POST-CONFLICT CONTEXTS

OBJECTIVE

This panel showcased specific case studies on the incorporation of grassroots women and CSOs in post-conflict contexts. The presentations provided participants with material to analyse whether the previously discussed PsP remains a viable methodology for the incorporation of these groups. At the same time, it pondered whether the PsP can be employed as a viable bridge between civil society and policy-makers.

KEY OUTCOME MESSAGES

- ✓ AUPP must be framed within the understanding that urban inclusion is better for everyone as opposed to simply a women's project;
 - ✓ Demonstrating gender equality amongst staff is essential for carrying out GEWE and gender mainstreaming projects on the ground;
 - ✓ Participatory methods have a more precise impact; and
 - ✓ Bridging academia and humanitarian and development actions is innovative and effective.
-

Alison Brown welcomed participants to panel three and noted that when groups get together they are more powerful; for example, in the case of WIEGO knowledge sharing is paramount. She emphasised that livelihoods are essential in post-conflict contexts; but not just in way of handicrafts and hairdressing. In this vein, it is important to identify the processes that are already happening on the ground, and how these are helping in the post-conflict context. Moreover, she stressed that grassroots organisation must be supported by a legal structure, because women at the grassroots level make a difference. With this in mind, she introduced the presenters Frozan Abdullah and Nesreen Barwari.

Frozan Abdullah thanked experts for their presence and in particular noted her contentment at presenting alongside Nesreen Barwari. She began by giving an overview of the situation of Afghan women, specifically stressing why the Afghanistan Office mostly focuses on women.

In Afghanistan, prolonged war has had an impact on all women in the way of hunger, feminisation of poverty and constrained access, compared to male counterparts. The focus in Afghanistan on women revolves around four issues in particular: security, health, poverty and education. At the local government level women's rights at the grassroots level are not prioritized. Within this reality, the PsP is very successful in Afghanistan, UN-Habitat is implementing many programmes, including a Safer Cities programme (AUPP–Afghanistan Urban Peacebuilding Programme). Moreover, the PsP has a number of strategies for including women. In fact, women participate across the CDCs and form a gender working group at the city-level.

Abdullah then moved on to present the particular case of Kabul. She noted that in Kabul security is rapidly deteriorating. Male-dominated families hinder the mobility and social activities of women. Therefore, cross-district learning has been set-up so that female leaders facing difficulties can learn from strong female organisers in other districts. She noted that within the AUPP women are now in leadership positions, there is equal participation and increased gender awareness.

She concluded by noting the lesson learned from the AUPP:

1. There needs to be a balance between discussion and action: there must be more action;
 2. AUPP must be tailored according to province context;
 3. AUPP must be framed in terms that urban inclusion is better for everyone as opposed to simply a women's project; and
 4. 54% of UN-Habitat staff are women; 50% of community level staff are women. If you want to mainstream gender in projects and programmes your team must be gender equal.
-

Nesreen Barwari also expressed her gratitude at sharing the panel with Frozan Abdullah.

She began by outlining a case study from Iraq in 1997. She asked the question “*why are women not excelling despite the number of available legal instruments in Iraq?*” She answered this question by referring back to her personal statement earlier in the meeting, saying women face a complex intersectional reality in Iraq, because Iraq’s borders were drawn in an office in another country, on the other side of the world. The result was a country containing a variety of religions and cultural groups. There are fourteen different cultural identities in Iraq today.

She noted that as Human Settlements Officer for UN-Habitat, in 1997, her role in the reconstruction in Kurdistan was to bring women on board. She stressed that she had to identify group that could lead the efforts for reconstruction and ensure that decisions were decided through consensus. As a means to establish this her and the team established consultation meetings with local women; she noted that the best manner to conduct these was to go to the sites where women live. At the family-level, she highlighted, women were able to be part of the reconstruction. Indeed, the most important aspect of the programme for reconstruction was that it was community based: as this proved acceptable for women to participate.

She then turned to the current IDP crisis caused by ISIS. At present, in Kurdistan, IDPs must register in public centre, which women may have cultural barriers going to, and stand in queue (which again may be culturally inappropriate). In order to access benefits from registering, this is the only method available for registration. Therefore, she noted that this was precisely the area for intervention.

Thereafter, she stressed that in her home town of Erbil, there are 800,000 natives and 600,000 IDPs. Therefore, she has devised a programme in which female university students go to talk to women in the camps, which has allowed her organisation to collect a lot of data to later disseminate. This is a two-way learning process and a method of connecting academia to grassroots women.

Next, she discussed the Institute of Inclusive Security. She noted that this Institute had developed a toolkit for action which is available online. The toolkit has the objective of giving specific skills to women in conflict contexts, by way of knowledge on peace negotiation and agreement, disarmament, transitional justice, legislation, government and the UNSCR 1325.

Finally, she concluded by emphasising that cultural analysis in all projects in conflict and post-conflict contexts is paramount and more research is needed in order to improve the condition of women in these contexts.

*Respondent, **Margarita Carranco**: thanked presenters and highlighted the importance of building ladders of knowledge and understanding between local and national governments. She reiterated that public policies must be informed by participatory processes, noting that as Frozan Abdullah and Nesreen Barwari pointed out women’s focus groups are key in informing gender mainstreaming at the higher levels. She noted that these approaches promote a holistic approach and the true recovery of dignity for women in post-conflict contexts. Finally, she concluded by saying that it is not people who must adapt to cities, but rather cities that must adapt to people.*

*Respondent, **Ruth Maria Abril Stoffels**: reflected on five specific issues:*

1. *The presence of women in grassroots and government is important; however, it is essential to have trained women at the project level. Women must be trained as leaders.*
2. *There is a need to engage men and make the agenda an inclusive one; this is not a war; this is progressive transition for the whole of society. She underscored that the arguments within veins of feminist dialogue can exclude men; however, it is essential to include activist men.*
3. *There must be spaces in the city for women to act, which was well highlighted by Frozan Abdullah and Nesreen Barwari in their presentations.*

4. *Intersectional approaches are essential to including all women.*
5. *Accountability and measurement of change is paramount in any work done with women in post-conflict contexts.*

DISCUSSION

María Teresa Rodríguez-Blandon noted that wartime economies affect post-conflict economies. She noted that in the case of Guatemala the arms trade surged after the end of the conflict.

Belén Sanz Duque emphasised that transformation needs to be central for any transitional process, and that participation at all levels is paramount. In particular, there needs to be a serious mainstreaming of women's rights and the UN can serve as a bridge in this process. Moreover, it is important that women's organisations at the grassroots level engage with the security sector and are properly funded in order for their voices to be heard.

Mavic Cabrera-Balleza reflected on Belén Sanz Duque's comment on the security sector. She noted that on this issue there are schools of thought: (1) we should not engage with the military because then we are employing UNSCR 1325 to facilitate military actions; (2) we must engage with the security sector, not necessarily to see women in uniform, but to influence the framework of the security sector and make it more comprehensive.

Ana Falú emphasised that it is necessary to talk about legal frameworks and financial and technical resources. Specially, she reiterated Ruth Maria Abril Stoffels comment on training women; adding that it is erroneous to assume that because women are present in communities or meetings they can change reality: women need to be educated for the roles they take up. As a result, grassroots organisations do not always know how to influence the processes higher-up.

Alison Brown closed the panel by thanking presenters, Nesreen Barwari and Frozan Abdullah; respondent, Margarita Carranco and Ruth María Abril Stoffels, and participants in the discussion.

PANEL FOUR: ACADEMIC & RESEARCH PERSPECTIVE ON REFUGEES AND SAFETY & SECURITY IN URBAN SETTINGS

OBJECTIVE

This panel presented an overview of the current reality and plight of urban refugees and IDPs; as well as, issues of safety and security in urban post-conflict contexts and host-country urban contexts. This panel discussed how the urban realities of refugees and safety and security can be addressed in a gender-responsive manner. Discussions also considered how access to adequate housing and livelihoods and spatial planning can play a role in gender-responsive engagement in cities.

KEY OUTCOME MESSAGES

- ✓ Humanitarian actors need to work with local partners and service providers to address the issue of protection for refugees in urban areas;
- ✓ Need for tailored actions to reach at-risk refugee groups in urban areas;
- ✓ It is Important to spatially map the differences in violence against men and women;
- ✓ Gender interventions have to be systematic, not dependent on champions alone; and
- ✓ Youth need to be part of the solutions.

Siraj Sait welcomed participants to final panel of presentations, he summarised the previous panel by noting the importance of documenting, up-scaling and M&E in any intervention. He also highlighted the importance of aligning all work over the next 15 years with the SDGs and in particular ensuring that the NUA aligns with the SDGs in order to strengthen its reach. With that he introduced the presenters, Jennifer Rosenberg, Ana Falú and Amir F. Ben Ameer.

Jennifer Rosenberg highlighted that the core principles of WRC are “research, rethink, resolve”. She began by noting that 59 per cent of the world’s refugees currently live in cities (as compared to camps). This reality implies different needs in the way of protection for different kinds of refugees. She presented the recent publication from WRC, *Mean Streets*, which describe research conducted in four cities: Beirut, Quito, Kampala and Delhi. Surveys were conducted with refugee sub-populations facing unique risks: women and girls, sex workers, women with disabilities, male survivors and LGBTI persons.

She noted that the overwhelming issue for all kinds of refugees was the issue of safety in cities. Risks included discrimination, prejudice (e.g. tension in host community), shelter (GBV risks, life in slums), livelihoods (informal jobs, and bad quality jobs), urban isolation, fear of the police and sexual coercion. Rosenberg stressed that women suffer GBV in multiple places: at home, public spaces and at work. While the key risk locations for children were at home and at school.

Thereafter, she noted that the overwhelming practical challenges for refugee integration into the host country were: language, bias and limited cost-sharing of organizations engaged in the field. In light of these, there are opportunities for new non-humanitarian partners (municipal officials, international development actors in urban planning projects) to act.

Next, she outlined the recommendations of the study:

1. Systemize, broaden engagement of local actors (such as service providers);
2. Proactive targeted strategies for addressing GBV risks, prioritizing and earmarking resources for tailored programs for at risk groups (women with disabilities, etc.) as compared to mainstream efforts; and
3. Proactively work to eliminate discrimination.

She concluded by pointing the question to participants of *how GBV could be addressed by PsP and the NUA?*

Ana Falú focused on the safety context in Latin American cities, she noted that there are multiple angles to violence, and that invisible forms of violence such as psychological, structural and cultural, reinforce visible forms of violence. In Latin America threats to safety take the form of armed conflict, gang violence and drug trafficking, and these come together to form urban violence. Latin America is home to some of the largest

metropolises in the world, and the region is often characterised by its urban criminality. She noted that violence is cross-cutting and that it affects every strata of society.

Next, she pointed out that women need to be empowered and perception of safety is key in this regard. Safety is a common good; therefore, if citizens live in fear, fear defines spaces in the city and mobility across it. In this sense, governments play an essential role in the way of legislation and law enforcement.

Finally, she noted that research has shown that women make short and multiple trips in the city and therefore, perceptions of safety affect the mobility of women. She concluded that youth have to be prioritised in addressing issues of violence, as the majority of gang related violence disproportionately affect this demographic.

Amir F. Ben Ameur shared his personal experience as a youth in Tunisia during the Arab Spring of 2011. He noted that there existed a mass frustration within society, and that the explosion was brought forward by a rebellion of civil society against the Government. In this sense, he emphasised that all projects have to incorporate various demographics, in particular the largest marginalised demographics of youth and women.

He then turned to the acceptance of Libyan refugees in Tunisia as compared to that of Syrian refugees in Egypt. In Tunisia, he noted that Libyan refugees arrived with financial resources but struggled to access opportunities, as a result this demographic has fallen into poverty. However, in the case of Egypt, Syrian refugees have managed to establish small businesses and access other employment opportunities. He reiterated Margarita Carranco's and Teresa Boccia's previous observation that action planning in host-countries is vital.

Finally, he closed by stating that the average age of the current refugee is 17, for this reason there must be a focus on Youth action planning. If not, lack of livelihood opportunities can mean that many youths will turn to other economies offered by gangs, extremists or trafficking. In order to involve youth, decentralisation of power is paramount; indeed, there need to exist participatory processes that involves youth.

Respondent, Tarek Osseiran: outlined the current situation in Lebanon, which is facing its largest refugee crisis. Currently, one third of the population in Lebanon are refugees from either Syria or Palestine. The majority of refugees are urban, with only 17 per cent living in camps. Therefore, the relationship between humanitarian actors and local authorities is essential in this context. While priority needs to be given to provide basic assistance, many humanitarian actors believe that there is no time to engage with local authorities. In this sense UN-Habitat bridges a gap, in that the agency provides shelter and has established relationships with local authorities.

Siraj Sait closed the panel by thanking presenters, Jennifer Rosenberg, Ana Falú and Amir F. Ben Ameur; respondent, Tarek Osseiran, and regretted that due to time constraints the Discussion would be cut short. He welcomed Alison Brown to give the summary of the day's presentations and discussions.

CLOSING OF DAY ONE

Alison Brown summed up the day's presentations by noting that the role of UN-Habitat is as a delivery Agency, with a portfolio of work across the humanitarian assistance, development work continuum. She emphasised the importance of encouraging collaboration, and encouraged the work of PsP as an honest and culturally sensitive approach. She added that Nesreen Barwari's invitation for student involvement was innovative and should stand as an example for new ways of engagement.

With reference to the issue of urban refugees, she noted the invitation of Jennifer Rosenberg to research, rethink and resolve, especially in branching into working in host-countries as suggested by Margarita Carranco, Teresa Boccia, Amir F. Ben Ameur and Tarek Ossieran. Also, she advocated for the use of social

media and other ICT tools as essential to providing connectivity and knowledge sharing in post-conflict contexts. She also drew attention to the call for Governments to link with grassroots organisations.

In addition, she put forward four questions for participants to consider during the next day's working groups:

1. How do we wake up the world on the issue of women in post conflict contexts?
2. How to transform from humanitarian aid to transformative development?
3. How do we empower women to drive the process instead of being seen as victims/beneficiaries?
4. How do we resolve tensions between host and incoming communities?

Finally, she suggested to participants that they consider a *wish* list for Habitat III. What should the main priorities be for Habitat III on the issue of gender-responsive engagement in post-conflict contexts?

WORKING GROUP SESSIONS

OBJECTIVE

During the second day of the EGM participants divided into working groups to focus on three issue areas relating to gender equality in post-contexts: *housing and livelihoods, safety and security, and spatial planning*. Experts prepared key general messages from the two-day discussions and specific key messages on the issues areas of the EGM for the Communiqué.

KEY MESSAGES

1. UN-Habitat occupies a specific and important space in both humanitarian assistance and development work. In this regard, the Agency is well placed to be an essential bridge between relief and rehabilitation efforts and urban development. As the human settlements Agency, UN-Habitat interacts with the contexts of conflict, peacebuilding and resilience, all of which are becoming more salient in the urban context. To ensure success, there is a need to work together with other international and UN partners—in particular on gender issues with UN Women—to ensure that all interventions to Build Back Better (BBB), such as the People's Process (PsP) address both the issue of rebuilding the physical urban infrastructure, as well as, rebuilding the urban social fabric and restoring human dignity. In fact, there are opportunities in the PsP to act as vehicle for gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) in the urban context. In sum, transforming crisis into opportunity requires the formal recognition of women in peacebuilding through appropriate policy review, stronger participation in the planning and management of the post-conflict rehabilitation.
 - ✓ *Therefore, we put it to the Summit, the Geneva Review Conference and Habitat III, to remain attentive during the proceedings of the emerging landscape of humanitarian action in urban contexts, and the complexities of international, national and local safety and security dynamics which manifest new and specific challenges for women and girls.*
2. Civil society organizations and groups which facilitate an organized voice from women and girls in particular are a cornerstone of empowerment in conflict and post-conflict contexts. The facilitation of such groups and organizations through reliable and creative funding mechanisms has proven in practice to be an important part of transforming challenges into opportunities for women and girls in post-conflict contexts.
 - ✓ *Therefore, we ask the Summit, the Geneva Review Conference and Habitat III, in both dialogue and outcomes to appreciate the importance of this knowledge from practice, and maintain that humanitarian response needs to be embedded at all levels to rebuild dignity and facilitate civilians to own and participate in BBB and PsP.*
3. It has long been understood by both UN-Habitat and its partners that women and girls experience disproportionate risk in negotiating access to adequate housing and livelihoods. Such challenges are compounded in conflict and post-conflict contexts where the care-economy other informal economies are also destabilized.
 - ✓ *Therefore, we ask the Summit, the Geneva Review Conference and Habitat III, to keep the unique nature of women's work and women led economies and the intricate relationship of such to adequate housing at the forefront of humanitarian interventions.*
4. Addressing issues of urban safety and gender based violence (GBV) in conflict and post-conflict contexts requires an understanding that there are new and manifesting forms of violence to address. The prevention of violence against women (VAW) in urban settings draws upon a co-ownership of safety to include a broad

spectrum of actors at all levels. Translating this to conflict and post-conflict contexts is a challenge which demands strong co-ordination and collaboration among grassroots, civil society, municipality, national and international actors, alongside accountable policing and protection.

✓ *Therefore, we urge the Summit, the Geneva Review Conference and Habitat III, to provide space for the consideration of city and urban environments as social entities, beyond their built and infrastructural form. The restoration of dignity, formation of citizenship values, behaviours and norms which urban safety and crime prevention depends on, take place in the socialized spheres of the city.*

5. It was agreed that for continuity of these discussions, it is necessary to establish a platform of knowledge-sharing: focused on successful policies, tools and practices. The Platform could take the form of a Working Group comprised of the EGM Experts and others to share information electronically, and to convene bi-annually to reflect on and arrange site visits to projects and programmes with positive results to showcase.

✓ *Therefore, we invite the actors, leaders and practitioners of the Summit, the Geneva Review Conference and Habitat III, to join us in coordinating effectively, sharing knowledge and progressing practices for a united response to the complexities of LRRD.*

HOUSING & LIVELIHOODS

Alison Brown presented on the issue area of housing & livelihoods. The working group consider that unstable access to adequate housing and livelihoods are vulnerable situations that women and girls disproportionately face. Gender inequality in the contexts of ownership, access and control of assets, such as land and property is acknowledged as a major contributing factor in hindering human development. Moreover, these two issue prove the most vulnerability-causing for urban refugees and are the underlying causes of gender-based violence (GBV) risk¹¹.

Key messages

1. *Recognize* that unstable access to adequate housing and livelihoods in post-conflict settings are vulnerable situations that women and girls disproportionately face;
2. *Acknowledge* that gender inequality in the contexts of ownership, access and control of assets, such as land and property is a major contributing factor in hindering human development and women's rights; and
3. *Recognize* that adequate housing represents an important site for women's livelihoods because women tend to predominate in the care-economy (low paid or unpaid) and informal economy and many activities of for these economies are carried out in the household.

Recommandations

1. *Advise* comprehensive collaboration and coordination between UN agencies, other development and humanitarian actors and stakeholders to ensure transition from emergency relief to long-term development, and to recognize women's role in the recovery process;
2. *Recommend* the establishment of a program with the proposed title *Transforming Cities in Crisis: from shelter to adequate housing*; to demonstrate UN-Habitat's extensive engagement across the humanitarian assistance to development spectrum;
3. *Urges* that UN-Habitat post-conflict projects incorporate women's saving groups and cash-transfer schemes to ensure economic empowerment of women; along with women's community centers where women can plan, build organizations, start businesses and undertake care economy obligations;
4. *Advise* that the construction of housing bring women on board and be flexible and take into account the nature and importance of social capital, the care-economy and the informal economy;
5. *Call for* peer-to-peer learning through grassroots academies and exchange of good practices; with an emphasis on the importance of women organizing; and
6. *Recommend* scaling up the engendered People's Process from the neighborhood to the city-level in order to address the link between housing and livelihoods and Build Communities Back Better (BCBB).

COMMENTS

Ana Falú noted that it was important to take into account the gendered-division of labour as this has a strong implication on the livelihood of women. In addition, she asked the question pertaining to the definition of conflict and post-conflict, indeed does this definition include low-intensity fighting as is that case in Latin America?

¹¹ Women's Refugee Commission (2016) Mean Streets: identifying and responding to urban refugees' risk of gender-based violence.

In turn, **Alison Brown** and **Mariko Sato** suggested the use of the term crisis. **Aminata Dramane Traoré** added that crisis is related to the failure of policies, and that currently we are in a situation of systemic crisis.

Belén Sanz Duque advocated the application of CEDAW General Recommendation No. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations, under Scope of General Recommendation (emphasized added):

The general recommendation covers the application of the Convention to conflict prevention, international and non-international armed conflicts, situations of foreign occupation, as well as other forms of occupation and the post-conflict phase. In addition, the recommendation covers other situations of concern, such as internal disturbances, protracted and low-intensity civil strife, political strife, ethnic and communal violence, states of emergency and suppression of mass uprisings, war against terrorism and organized crime, that may not necessarily be classified as armed conflict under international humanitarian law and which result in serious violations of women's rights and are of particular concern to the Committee. For the purpose of this general recommendation, the phases of conflict and post-conflict have at times been divided as they can encompass different challenges and opportunities for addressing the human rights of women and girls. However, the Committee notes that the transition from conflict to post-conflict is often not linear and can involve cessations of conflict and then slippages back into conflict – a cycle that can continue for long periods of time.

SAFETY & SECURITY

Hilary Murphy and **Amir F. Ben Ameer** present on safety & security. The Working group considered that post-conflict contexts present a prevalence of gender-based violence (GBV). The breakdown of rule of law and social safety nets during conflict, render women and girls vulnerable to specific forms of violence, namely sexual violence, human trafficking and child, early and forced marriage. Within this frame of vulnerability, access to basic service provision can play a critical role. It follows that design and/or management of basic services in post-conflict contexts can have a profound impact on the prevalence of violence.

Key Messages

1. *Recognize* that there are new challenges for women and girls in the conflict and post-conflict urban contexts. Therefore, it is important to recognize emerging types of violence and work to transform challenges into opportunities for women and girls in urban areas;
2. *Acknowledge* that humanitarian and development action needs to maintain a Human Rights based Approach (HRBA) and participatory approach to the prevention of violence and protection of women and girls, building resilience, empowerment and people-centered results; and
3. *Recognize* that achieving urban safety and security for women and girls requires an approach to violence prevention that involves all actors and stakeholders and adopts a co-ownership of safety and security to include grass roots, civil society, municipality, national actors and international actors – as well as policing.

Recommendations

1. *Call for* partnership working between local authorities, local leaders and other development actors to improve safety and empower women in post-conflict recovery;
2. *Advocate* improved mechanisms for sharing new technologies, data and interventions to ensure evidence based data driven gender focused interventions;
3. *Call for* predictable and flexible funding and support for women's civil society organizations;
4. *Advise* training and developing capacities for those responsible for the security and safety of woman and girls, to include accountability mechanisms, protocols and monitoring; and
5. *Call for* developing programs and policies that promote behavioral and attitudinal changes around the safety of women and girls, engaging men and boys in the process, as potential change-makers.

SPATIAL PLANNING

Siraj Sait presented on spatial planning. The working group considered that gender-responsive planning focuses on the distribution of space and time. The usability and functionality of a city, as well as, its usefulness for people who due to their individual life-phase spend, on average, more time in the immediate

vicinity of their home. This latter point is informed by traditional gender-divisions in labour, specifically marked by gender differentiated participation in the care-economy.

Key messages

1. *Recognize that* gender responsive spatial planning requires national policy frameworks, in addition to proactive and measurable steps to inform and monitor gender-responsive spatial planning at the national- and local-level, in order to meet the targets of SDG 5 and SDG 11;
2. *Recognize that* spatial planning should support sustainable urban mobility for efficient use of time and resources and well-being through connected and mixed social spaces, basic services and facilities, including green spaces; and
3. *Acknowledge that* gendered spatial planning should recognize the multiple risks faced by women to ensure their safety through integrated, functional, accessible public transport, to aid in the autonomy and empowerment of women.

Recommendations

1. *Advise* that spatial planning should be a participatory process which engages women in urban design so as to facilitate resilience and inclusion;
 2. *Urges* spatial planning to support women's resilience through innovative and flexible measures; differentiating between temporary emergency measures and longer term reconstruction efforts by ensuring Building Back Better (BBB), mainstreaming women's resilience needs and choices;
 3. *Advise* that spatial planning has a critical role in rebuilding cities, and restoring cadastral and property ownership, e.g. through experience of the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN);
 4. *Advocate* people-centered, participatory spatial planning at all levels – building on partnerships with all relevant stakeholders. Spatial planning is understood and executed as a dynamic and cyclic process to continuously adapt and enhance existing planning practice and capacities; and
 5. *Call for* planning to adequately utilize innovation, such as ICT or shared-economy to further contribute to urban prosperity.
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COMMENTS

Ana Falú noted that gendered-urban planning needs to be more fine-tuned. She added that it was essential to link the outcome of this EGM and the NUA with SDGs 5 and 11 and the Paris Agreement. Indeed, these Agendas must complement each other.

María Teresa Rodríguez-Blandon noted that public space must be seen as an essential drive to gender equality in cities. Indeed, public space is the *how* concerning the accessibility of a city to women and girls.

CLOSING

Aisa Kirabo Kacyira concluded the Meeting by thanking all presenters and participations for a very rich discussion.

She focused on to particular points. The first, on the need and ability to incorporate gender before crises begin. Secondly, she noted the importance of alliances, at the international and at the local level; especially, at the local level to empower grassroots organisations.

Finally, she turned to AGGI Chair, **Aminata Drama Traoré**, to note that she hoped the Chair would not leave the Meeting disappointed with the discussion and that outcome. She noted it that for the purposes of this group it has been essential to be strategic and pragmatic. This did not, however, mean that the voices on the ground were not heard; rather that we must be strategic in addressing and giving these voices a space to be heard on the international level. Indeed, there are women and girls who have a life, because of of the work that has been done, and our objective has been to stream-line to strengthen it. She noted that alliances will be essential and that rolling out programmatically on the ground, as suggested by Alison Brown, we hope to strengthen these voices form the ground. These voices must not only be desperate, but we must also demand that they are hear.

Finally, she reiterated by thanks to everyone, and in particular to the Meeting organisers.

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: COMMUNIQUÉ



COMMUNIQUÉ ON LINKING RELIEF, REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT: UN-HABITAT GENDER-RESPONSIVE ENGAGEMENT IN POST-CONFLICT CONTEXTS

20-21 April 2016 Barcelona

BACKGROUND

On 20 and 21 April, 25 international experts participated in *The Expert Group Meeting (EGM), Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development (LRRD): UN-Habitat Gender-Responsive Engagement in Post-Conflict Contexts*. The Meeting focused on the refinement of methodologies employed by UN-Habitat in three issue areas: housing & livelihoods, safety & security and spatial planning, in relation to gender equality in urban post-conflict contexts.

In addition, Meeting Experts acknowledge the international agreements and resolutions (see Annex) as being paramount, in the way of binding policy, in the journey forward toward promoting GEWE in post-conflict contexts in the New Urban Agenda.

KEY MESSAGES

The Experts recognize that issues of relief, rehabilitation and development (LRRD) are transcending the boundaries of traditionally state level responses and coordination; while becoming more salient in the urban contexts. The consequences of rapid urbanization are fueling a set of new, specific challenges for LRRD. We recognize that the urban context holds gender-specific challenges, which UN-Habitat has long been working to address. Therefore, Experts note a new landscape of relief, rehabilitation and development in the urban context; as such many emerging and evolving challenges to the protection, empowerment and equality of women and girls. Therefore, our key messages to the World Humanitarian Summit, Geneva Review Conference on Safety in World Cities and the Habitat III process are:

6. UN-Habitat occupies a specific and important space in both humanitarian assistance and development work. In this regard, the Agency is well placed to be an essential bridge between relief and rehabilitation efforts and urban development. As the human settlements Agency, UN-Habitat interacts with the contexts of conflict, peacebuilding and resilience, all of which are becoming more salient in the urban context. To ensure success, there is a need to work together with other international and UN partners—in particular on gender issues with UN Women—to ensure that all interventions to Build Back Better (BBB), such as the People’s Process (PsP) address both the issue of rebuilding the physical urban infrastructure, as well as, rebuilding the urban social fabric and restoring human dignity. In fact, there are opportunities in the PsP to act as vehicle for gender equality and women’s empowerment (GEWE) in the urban context. In sum, transforming crisis into opportunity requires the formal recognition of women in peacebuilding through appropriate policy review, stronger participation in the planning and management of the post-conflict rehabilitation.

Therefore, we put it to the Summit, the Geneva Review Conference and Habitat III, to remain attentive during the proceedings of the emerging landscape of humanitarian action in urban contexts, and the complexities of international, national and local safety and security dynamics which manifest new and specific challenges for women and girls.

7. Civil society organizations and groups which facilitate an organized voice from women and girls in particular are a cornerstone of empowerment in conflict and post-conflict contexts. The facilitation of such groups and organizations through reliable and creative funding mechanisms has proven in practice to be an important part of transforming challenges into opportunities for women and girls in post-conflict contexts.

Therefore, we ask the Summit, the Geneva Review Conference and Habitat III, in both dialogue and outcomes to appreciate the importance of this knowledge from practice, and maintain that humanitarian response needs to be embedded at all levels to rebuild dignity and facilitate civilians to own and participate in BBB and PsP.

8. It has long been understood by both UN-Habitat and its partners that women and girls experience disproportionate risk in negotiating access to adequate housing and livelihoods. Such challenges are compounded in conflict and post-conflict contexts where the care-economy other informal economies are also destabilized.

Therefore, we ask the Summit, the Geneva Review Conference and Habitat III, to keep the unique nature of women's work and women led economies and the intricate relationship of such to adequate housing at the forefront of humanitarian interventions.

9. Addressing issues of urban safety and gender based violence (GBV) in conflict and post-conflict contexts requires an understanding that there are new and manifesting forms of violence to address. The prevention of violence against women (VAW) in urban settings draws upon a co-ownership of safety to include a broad spectrum of actors at all levels. Translating this to conflict and post-conflict contexts is a challenge which demands strong co-ordination and collaboration among grassroots, civil society, municipality, national and international actors, alongside accountable policing and protection.

Therefore, we urge the Summit, the Geneva Review Conference and Habitat III, to provide space for the consideration of city and urban environments as social entities, beyond their built and infrastructural form. The restoration of dignity, formation of citizenship values, behaviours and norms which urban safety and crime prevention depends on, take place in the socialized spheres of the city.

10. It was agreed that for continuity of these discussions, it is necessary to establish a platform of knowledge-sharing: focused on successful policies, tools and practices. The Platform could take the form of a Working Group comprised of the EGM Experts and others to share information electronically, and to convene bi-annually to reflect on and arrange site visits to projects and programmes with positive results to showcase.

Therefore, we invite the actors, leaders and practitioners of the Summit, the Geneva Review Conference and Habitat III, to join us in coordinating effectively, sharing knowledge and progressing practices for a united response to the complexities of LRRD.

KEY MESSAGES FOR ISSUE AREAS

HOUSING & LIVELIHOODS

Key messages

4. *Recognize* that unstable access to adequate housing and livelihoods in post-conflict settings are vulnerable situations that women and girls disproportionately face;
5. *Acknowledge* that gender inequality in the contexts of ownership, access and control of assets, such as land and property is a major contributing factor in hindering human development and women's rights; and
6. *Recognize* that adequate housing represents an important site for women's livelihoods because women tend to predominate in the care-economy (low paid or unpaid) and informal economy and many activities of for these economies are carried out in the household.

Recommandations

7. *Advise* comprehensive collaboration and coordination between UN agencies, other development and humanitarian actors and stakeholders to ensure transition from emergency relief to long-term development, and to recognize women's role in the recovery process;
8. *Recommend* the establishment of a program with the proposed title *Transforming Cities in Crisis: from shelter to adequate housing*; to demonstrate UN-Habitat's extensive engagement across the humanitarian assistance to development spectrum;
9. *Urges* that UN-Habitat post-conflict projects incorporate women's saving groups and cash-transfer schemes to ensure economic empowerment of women; along with women's community centers where women can plan, build organizations, start businesses and undertake care economy obligations;
10. *Advise* that the construction of housing bring women on board and be flexible and take into account the nature and importance of social capital, the care-economy and the informal economy;
11. *Call for* peer-to-peer learning through grassroots academies and exchange of good practices; with an emphasis on the importance of women organizing; and
12. *Recommend* scaling up the engendered People's Process from the neighborhood to the city-level in order to address the link between housing and livelihoods and Build Communities Back Better (BCBB).

SAFETY & SECURITY

Key Messages

4. *Recognize* that there are new challenges for women and girls in the conflict and post-conflict urban contexts. Therefore, it is important to recognize emerging types of violence and work to transform challenges into opportunities for women and girls in urban areas;
5. *Acknowledge* that humanitarian and development action needs to maintain a Human Rights based Approach (HRBA)—in line with 2003 United Nations Common Understanding on the Human Rights-Based Approach to Development—and participatory approach to the prevention of violence and protection of women and girls, building resilience, empowerment and people-centered results; and
6. *Recognize* that achieving urban safety and security for women and girls requires an approach to violence prevention that involves all actors and stakeholders and adopts a co-ownership of safety and security to include grass roots, civil society, municipality, national actors and international actors – as well as policing.

Recommandations

- *Call for* partnership working between local authorities, local leaders and other development actors to improve safety and empower women in post-conflict recovery;
- *Advocate* improved mechanisms for sharing new technologies, data and interventions to ensure evidence based data driven gender focused interventions;
- *Call for* predictable and flexible funding and support for women's civil society organizations;
- *Advise* training and developing capacities for those responsible for the security and safety of woman and girls, to include accountability mechanisms, protocols and monitoring; and

- *Call for* developing programs and policies that promote behavioral and attitudinal changes around the safety of women and girls, engaging men and boys in the process, as potential change-makers.

SPATIAL PLANNING

Key messages

4. *Recognize that* gender responsive spatial planning requires national policy frameworks, in addition to proactive and measurable steps to inform and monitor gender-responsive spatial planning at the national- and local-level, in order to meet the targets of SDG 5 and SDG 11;
5. *Recognize that* spatial planning should support sustainable urban mobility for efficient use of time and resources and well-being through connected and mixed social spaces, basic services and facilities, including green spaces; and
6. *Acknowledge that* gendered spatial planning should recognize the multiple risks faced by women to ensure their safety through integrated, functional, accessible public transport, to aid in the autonomy and empowerment of women.

Recommandations

6. *Advise* that spatial planning should be a participatory process which engages women in urban design so as to facilitate resilience and inclusion;
7. *Urges* spatial planning to support women's resilience through innovative and flexible measures; differentiating between temporary emergency measures and longer term reconstruction efforts by ensuring Building Back Better (BBB), mainstreaming women's resilience needs and choices;
8. *Advise* that spatial planning has a critical role in rebuilding cities, and restoring cadastral and property ownership, e.g. through experience of the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN);
9. *Advocate* people-centered, participatory spatial planning at all levels – building on partnerships with all relevant stakeholders. Spatial planning is understood and executed as a dynamic and cyclic process to continuously adapt and enhance existing planning practice and capacities; and
10. *Call for* planning to adequately utilize innovation, such as ICT or shared-economy to further contribute to urban prosperity.

ANNEX: Alignment with International Agendas

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (2015)

Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. In particular:

- 11.3: By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries.
- 11.7 By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities.
- 11.9: By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels.

Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. In particular:

- 5.1: End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.
- 5.2: Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.
- 5.7: Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws.

SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 (2000)

- **Article 1:** *Urges* Member States to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management, and resolution of conflict;

- **Article 12:** *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict to respect the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, and to take into account the particular needs of women and girls, including in their design, and recalls its resolutions 1208 (1998) of 19 November 1998 and 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000;
- **Article 8 (a):** *Calls on* all actors involved, when negotiating and implementing peace agreements, to adopt a gender perspective, including, inter alia: The special needs of women and girls during repatriation and resettlement and for rehabilitation, reintegration and post-conflict reconstruction.

DECLARATION ON THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (1993)

- **Article 2:** Violence against women shall be understood to encompass, but not be limited to, the following:
 - d) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation;
 - e) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking in women and forced prostitution;
 - f) Physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by the State, wherever it occurs.
- **Article 3:** Women are entitled to the equal enjoyment and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field. These rights include, inter alia:
 - i) The right to life;
 - j) The right to equality;
 - k) The right to liberty and security of person;
 - l) The right to equal protection under the law;
 - m) The right to be free from all forms of discrimination;
 - n) The right to the highest standard attainable of physical and mental health;
 - o) The right to just and favourable conditions of work;
 - p) The right not to be subjected to torture, or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (1979)

- **Article 2:** States Parties condemn discrimination against women in all its forms, agree to pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating discrimination against women and, to this end, undertake:
 - (g) To embody the principle of the equality of men and women in their national constitutions or other appropriate legislation if not yet incorporated therein and to ensure, through law and other appropriate means, the practical realization of this principle;
 - (h) To adopt appropriate legislative and other measures, including sanctions where appropriate, prohibiting all discrimination against women;
 - (i) To establish legal protection of the rights of women on an equal basis with men and to ensure through competent national tribunals and other public institutions the effective protection of women against any act of discrimination;
 - (j) To refrain from engaging in any act or practice of discrimination against women and to ensure that public authorities and institutions shall act in conformity with this obligation;
 - (k) To take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women by any person, organization or enterprise;
 - (l) To take all appropriate measures, including legislation, to modify or abolish existing laws, regulations, customs and practices which constitute discrimination against women;
 - (m) To repeal all national penal provisions which constitute discrimination against women.

ANNEX 2: PARTICIPANTS LIST

1. **Aisa Kirabo Kacyira**, UN-Habitat (Kenya)
2. **Alison Brown**, Cardiff University (UK)
3. **Aminata Dramane Traoré**, AGGI (Mali)
4. **Amir F. Ben Ameer**, The American University of Cairo (Egypt)
5. **Ana Falú**, AGGI & National University of Cordoba (Argentina)
6. **Angela Mwai**, UN-Habitat, GEU (Kenya)
7. **Belén Sanz Duque**, UN Women (Colombia)
8. **Carmen de la Cruz**, Senior International Consultant (Spain)
9. **Carmen Sanchez-Miranda Gallego**, UN-Habitat Office in Spain (Spain)
10. **Douglas Ragan**, UN-Habitat (Kenya)
11. **Frozan Abdullah**, UN-Habitat Afganistan (Afganistan)
12. **Hilary Murphy**, UN-Habitat, Safer Cities Programme (Kenya)
13. **Inga Björk-Klevby**, Former Assistant Secretary-General United Nations and Deputy Executive Director for UN-Habitat (Sweden)
14. **Israel Barroso**, UN-Habitat Office in Spain (Spain)
15. **Janice Peterson**, AGGI & Huairou Commission (USA)
16. **Jennifer Rosenberg**, Women's Refugee Commission (USA)
17. **Jo Tore Berg**, UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States (Egypt)
18. **Laura Perez Castaño**, Barcelona City Council (Spain)
19. **Manuel Vega-Cuberos**, UN-Habitat Office in Spain (Spain)
20. **Margarita Carranco**, AGGI & Metropolitan District Plans Secretariat (Ecuador)
21. **María Teresa Rodríguez Blandon**, Women and Peace Network in Guatemala (Guatemala)
22. **María Victoria (Mavic) Cabrera-Balleza**, Global Network of Women Peacekeepers (GNWP) (Philippines)
23. **Mariko Sato**, UN-Habitat Bangkok (Thailand)
24. **Matthew French**, UN-Habitat Afghanistan (Afghanistan)
25. **Nesreen Barwari**, Dohuk University & Country Director of FWE (Iraq)
26. **Pamela Murage**, UN-Habitat, GEU (Kenya)
27. **Rocío Armillas-Tiseyra**, UN-Habitat, GEU (Kenya)
28. **Ruth María Abril Stoffels**, Universidad Cardenal Herrera CEU (Spain)
29. **Siraj Sait**, AGGI & University of East London (UK)
30. **Stefanie Holzwarth**, UN-Habitat, UBS (Kenya)
31. **Tarek Osseiran**, UN-Habitat Lebanon (Lebanon)
32. **Teresa Boccia**, AGGI & Federico II University of Naples (Italy)
33. **Teresa Del Ministro**, UN-Habitat Somalia (Somalia)

ANNEX 3: EGM PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 20th April 2016

8:30-8:45	Registration
9:15-10:30	<p>Welcoming and introduction remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Pérez Castañó, Councillor of Life Cycle, Feminism and LGBTI at the City Council of Barcelona • Aisa Kirabo Kacyira, “UN-Habitat and gender equality in post-conflict”. Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) <i>Video message by D. Joan Clos. Executive Director of UN-Habitat and Under Secretary General of the United Nations</i> • Aminata Dramane Traoré, “Inception of the EGM” Chair of Advisory Group on Gender Issues (AGGI) to the Executive Director of UN-Habitat. • Nesreen Barwari, “Personal Testimony”. Lecturer & Advisor on Planning and Good Governance, Dohuk University & Country Director of FWE <p><i>Participants’ introduction round</i> <i>Group photograph</i></p>
10:35-11:15	<p>PANEL 1: Gender-responsive action in linking risk, rehabilitation and Development and the New Urban Agenda</p> <p>Moderator: Mariko Sato, UN-Habitat Bangkok (Thailand)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belén Sanz Duque, Colombia Country Representative, UN Women • María Victoria (Mavic) Cabrera-Balleza, Founder and International Coordinator, GNWP <p>Respondent: Janice Peterson, AGGI & Chair Huairou Commission</p>
11:15-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30-13:00	<p>PANEL 2: Presentation of People’s Process and case studies of gender-responsive engagement</p> <p>Moderator: Inga Björk-Klevby, Former Assistant Secretary General of United Nations and Deputy Executive Director of UN-Habitat</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matthew French, Country Representative (a.i.). UN-Habitat Afghanistan. <i>The UN-Habitat People’s Process</i> • Teresa Del Ministro, UN-Habitat Somalia. <i>Case Studies from Somalia</i> <p>Respondents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carmen de la Cruz, Senior International Consultant • Teresa Boccia, AGGI & Federico II University of Naples
13:00-15:00	Lunch Break
15:00-16:15	<p>PANEL 3: Presentation of case studies & methods for including Grassroots women in post-conflict contexts</p> <p>Moderator: Alison Brown, Cardiff University & WIEGO Member</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frozan Abdullah, Programme Officer, UN-Habitat. <i>Grassroots processes in Afghanistan</i> • Nesreen Barwari, Lecturer & Advisor on Planning and Good Governance, Dohuk University & Country Director of FWE <p>Respondents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margarita Carranco, AGGI & Metropolitan District Plans Secretariat of Ecuador. • Ruth María Abril Stoffels, Cardenal Herrera University

16:15-17:30	<p>PANEL 4: Academic & Research perspective on refugees and security & safety in urban settings</p> <p>Moderator: Siraj Sait, AGGI & University of East London</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jennifer Rosenberg, Senior Programme Officer of Gender-based Violence (GBV), Women's Refugee Commission (WRC) • Ana Falú, Vice-Chair of AGGI & National University of Cordoba • Amir F. Ben Ameer, Youth advocate and blogger <p>Respondent: Tarek Osseiran, UN Habitat Lebanon</p>
17:30-17.45	<p>Recap of Day 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alison Brown, Professor, Cardiff University & WIEGO member
20:00	Welcome cocktail. Terrace at the Hotel Catalonia Ramblas

Thursday, 21st April 2016

9:00 – 9:15	<p>Overview of day's activities, goals and working group guidance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angela Mwai, "Issue areas and Expectations". Lead, Gender Equality Unit, UN-Habitat. <p><i>Organization of Working Groups</i></p>			
9:15 – 10:45	<p>Working Groups: Issue areas to engender UN-Habitat' People's Process</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td><i>Working group: Housing & livelihoods</i></td> <td><i>Working group: Safety & Security</i></td> <td><i>Working group: Spatial Planning</i></td> </tr> </table>	<i>Working group: Housing & livelihoods</i>	<i>Working group: Safety & Security</i>	<i>Working group: Spatial Planning</i>
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13:00-14:30	Lunch Break			
14:30-16:00	<p>Plenary: Issue areas to engender UN-Habitat's People Process</p> <p>Moderator: Mariko Sato, UN-Habitat Bangkok (Thailand)</p> <p>Working Groups Presentations</p>			
16:00-16:30	<p>Conclusions and Way forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aisa Kirabo Kacyira, Deputy Executive Director of UN-Habitat • Angela Mwai, Leader of Gender Equality Unit, UN-Habitat • Aminata Dramane Traoré, Chair of Advisory Group on Gender Issues (AGGI) to the Executive Director of UN-Habitat 			

UN HABITAT

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