

## TECHNICAL SESSION

### Inclusive Post-conflict Urban Reconstruction

May 13th or 14th, 2019/ time /LOCATION

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| Context                         | <p>Urban areas are frequently at the center of modern conflicts and therefore face a unique set of challenges in post-conflict settings. Urban reconstruction in post-conflict settings needs to be spatially coherent, inclusive of the different social groups and vulnerable populations, and attentive to cultural heritage. Collaborative post- conflict urban planning tools can ensure that reconstruction efforts are people-centered and accessible to all. Workshops, Q&amp;A meetings and charettes allow for community participation in the process of planning cities and level the playing field among stakeholders, but how does this process translate in a post-conflict setting?</p> <p>The proposed session will focus on practical tools to support engagement in post-conflict urban reconstruction: i) the Area-Based Approach (ABA) which addresses needs spanning multiple sectors in geographically circumscribed areas within cities (case study: Yemen Integrated Urban Services Emergency Project); ii) the CURE framework which places culture at the core of reconstruction and recovery processes by embedding cultural heritage and creativity at the foundation and intersection of place-based and people-centered policies (case study: Cultural Heritage and Urban Development Project); and iii) the Urban Recovery Framework which encompasses the strengthening of institutional arrangements, the enabling policy environment, urban reconstruction financing, and implementation arrangements (case study: Urban Recovery Framework in Syria). Building on the presentation of the tools and their operationalization in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, the session will also discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the different tools.</p> |
| Key elements for the discussion | <p><b><u>The Yemen Integrated Urban Services Emergency Project</u></b></p> <p>The Yemen Integrated Urban Services Emergency Project (YIUSEP) was started in Yemen in November 2017, with the objective of restoring access of Yemeni citizens to critical urban services in selected cities. The project is targeting services including water and sanitation, roads, off-grid electricity for critical services (e.g health), rubble and municipal waste removal, and public parks. The project undertakes an area based approach to identify and implement services in an integrated manner such that the whole is greater than sum of its parts. For example, large hospitals are targeted for solar based electricity solutions, at the same time, rehabilitation of water services in the area are being restored for hospitals to have access to water.</p>  |

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|  | <p>The project is being implemented through UNOPS, along with three local partners Public Works Project (PWP), Roads Maintenance Fund (RMF) and Urban Water Project Management Unit (UW-PMU) in order to sustain capacity of local institutions and benefit from their expertise.</p> <p>The presentation will focus on the implementation arrangements for the YIUSEP, its integrated approach to urban recovery during an ongoing conflict, engagement with local institutions, citizen engagement, results achieved so far, challenges faced by the Project and opportunities it offers. The presentation would discuss the applicability of this model in other similar situations.</p> <p><b><u>CURE integration in inclusive post-conflict urban reconstruction:</u></b></p> <p>Recently developed in partnership with UNESCO, the CURE Framework places culture at the core of reconstruction and recovery processes by embedding cultural heritage and creativity at the foundation and intersection of place-based and people-centered policies. While place-based strategies prioritize the reconstruction of physical assets, people-centered strategies can strengthen community ownership and social inclusion, improve livability of the built environment, and accelerate the socioeconomic recovery of cities. The intersection of both policies ensures that community needs, priorities, aspirations, and traditions are central to the reconstruction and recovery processes, and enhances the outcomes from both the perspectives of community ownership and from the alignment of the resulting infrastructure, assets, intangible and tangible cultural heritage restoration with community values and traditions.</p> <p>Since 2003, the World Bank Group, in partnership with the Government of Lebanon, the Government of Italy, and the Agence Française de Développement have been jointly supporting an ambitious project, the Cultural Heritage and Urban Development (CHUD) Project, focused on the regeneration of five historic cities. With their densely populated neighborhoods, the cities of Tripoli, Byblos, Baalbek, Saida, and Tyre are dotted with historic, world-class heritage assets. Parts of these legendary cities have been successfully regenerated and rehabilitated building more inclusive communities. The presentation will focus on how the project created a space for residents to live and enjoy, linking public space, cultural heritage, and private business. The specific case of Tyre will be showcased as an example of how the revitalization of historic assets can be leveraged to provide larger societal benefits, fully exploring the potential of cultural heritage as a force for social inclusion and cohesion and economic development in local communities.</p> |
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