‘URBAN HUB’ - Private Sector Network

Technical support to the Humanitarian Sector in Disaster Response

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‘URBAN HUB’ Concept

- why we are doing this.
- what issues we face and how we overcome them.
- Collaboration framework
- Humanitarian sector engagement

and others ...
RECENT BACKGROUND


High level framework for co-operation but not yet resulted in a reliable, scaleable resource.
The 2014 DfID Workshops on Humanitarian Response to Urban Crisis (DfID, 2014) also recommended greater engagement with the private sector in order to:

- Access specialist technical expertise, networks and data;
- Provide surge capacity or remote technical support and mentoring;
- Implement infrastructure or market-based approaches.
RECENT BACKGROUND

RedR UK (Ready to Respond, 2014) workshop exploring the practical issues of deployment in order to facilitate more effective private sector involvement.

Need for a collaborative and structured ‘framework’ operating between key actors.
WHAT ARE THE KEY ISSUES IN PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT?

Coordination:

No common platform of engagement

Scale of response not suited to individuals or CSR budgets

Difficult to define the problem leading to requesting people that may not be appropriate.

Commercial:

Release of high level staff does not fit in with commercial commitments.

‘Pro-bono’ investment is not sustainable or contracted.

Formal contract for scope, liability, health insurance, security.

Procurement:

Limited experience dealing with each other to develop relationship.

Lack of clarity over the contracting entity leading to delays.

Liability of engineering services need contractual definition.

Resource Management and deployment:

Limited bench from commitments.

Small firm / Limited staff - not applicable / excluded through PQQ

Roster leads to individual approach not deep resource.

Resource needs active pre-event management

Maintain safety and duty of care on deployment
WHERE ‘THE URBAN HUB’ FITS IN

Preparedness and DRR

Rapid Recovery

Reconstruction and Development

Immediate Response

Disaster
HOW WE OVERCOME ISSUES & WHERE ‘THE URBAN HUB’ FITS IN

Supply
- Firm 1
- Firm 2
- Firm 3
- Firm 4

Consultancy Hub

Demand
- DfID
- Red R
- UNOPS
- START
- DEC
- Others

Collective Initiatives / Operational Agencies

Humanitarian Agencies

Disaster
Each firm has single point contact to Hub

Hub steering group manned 24/7
Hub keeps contact data base of tech capabilities

Established contract relationship

Technical needs defined through consultation to deploy the correct people

Key Humanitarian Players of ‘client entity’ contact Urban Hub

Demand

Collective Initiatives / Operational Agencies

Humanitarian Agencies

Others

DEC

START

UNOPS

Red R

DfID

Others
WHERE ARE WE NOW?

• MOU signed
• Steering group established
• Network begun
• Firm skills data gathered
• Training standards in development
• The engagement work continues
• Member of the GAUC

Aecom  
Arup  
Atkins  
Buro Happold  
BWB Consulting  
Elliott Wood  
Ramboll  
Laing O’Rourke  
WSP  
RedR  
RWA  
Mott MacDonald  
MWH
THANKS FOR LISTENING ANY QUESTIONS?