



THE INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN INFRASTRUCTURE PLATFORM

Implementing a platform based network of qualified actors and resources for successful infrastructure project development in fragile context



CORE CHALLENGES

“A new working environment between NGOs and Engineering Firms has to be setup to address the change in the size of infrastructure to be designed and the need to develop in-country capacities”

“The main issue to be addressed is the lack of existing working reference for NGOs and Private Sector to work together.”

“This shift in procurement mechanism would transform a humanitarian cost into a development investment, turning off track project into successful asset.”

“One of the most important issues is construction contract management”

THE CONTACT POINT FOR DELIVERING SUCCESSFUL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT IN HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT

Post emergency situations keeps expending in 2019 because of regional resources and climate instability, creating displaced population in many countries. More often there is no “back to normal” solution available. New mechanism to address long term demand in local infrastructure drives the collaboration between international humanitarian and development actors.

The traditional humanitarian sector is not equipped to manage complex infrastructure projects and should benefit from the knowledge and experience of the private sector.

The IHIP initiative implements a platform based network of qualified actors and resources for successful infrastructure project development in fragile context and reduces the gap between humanitarian and development approach in managing infrastructure projects.

IHIP is addressing the need of humanitarian driven NGO to engage with the private sector in larger and complex infrastructure project designed to help those displaced population and the hosting communities . The primary focus is to harmonize private sector approaches to be applied in those countries subject to fragility, conflict and violence, mainly through forms of contract for construction.

Context

There are estimated to be 1.4 billion people living in countries affected by crises and fragility, half of whom are under the age of 20. Humanitarian crises evolve from either protracted situation, such as civil wars and famine, or sudden-onset disasters such as major terror attacks, earthquakes, tsunamis, and floods. The private sector is increasingly playing an important role in prevention and response in humanitarian crises. More than ever, coordination among donors and local and regional stakeholders, such as NGOs, humanitarian agencies, and the private sector, is needed.

Genesis

The ability of the humanitarian community to react in emergencies could be vastly improved by providing a platform that allows all partner organizations to share information and to host common forms of contracting and engineering systems. This shared platform will eliminate unnecessary bureaucracy and allow humanitarian organizations to focus more on beneficiaries.

The concept of creating a shared platform has been considered by an expert group of engineers as part of the 1st WES Regional Workshop organized by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), which took place in Limassol, Cyprus, from May 9-13, 2016.

Following discussions between the World Bank, the World Food Program (WFP), the SDC, the International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC) and the Global WASH cluster, a general need for common approach to contracting and engineering services was identified. Setting up this common approach will be of significant benefit to the delivery of construction projects by humanitarian organizations. A core team was formed with the objective of creating a common humanitarian engineering space under the International Humanitarian Infrastructure Platform (IHIP).

The Association IHIP was created on February 2018 in Geneva under Swiss law.

IHIP was presented in March 2018 at the Fragility Forum of the World Bank, Managing risks for peace and stability, in Washington on March 5, 2018.

Objectives

The main objective of IHIP is to deliver fit for purpose infrastructure through a supporting framework of contracts, tools and information that will be made available to the broader community involved in Humanitarian Construction related projects (NGOs and Consulting firms). This will provide greater efficiency in the overall delivery of the projects. The main outcome is a procurement framework, inter alia an harmonization construction contract, available through an online platform for NGOs to engage with the private sector and deliver fit for purpose infrastructure.

Outcome 1: NGOs are able to deliver fit for purpose infrastructure

Outcome 2: The construction private sector is a trusted partner of NGOs to deliver infrastructure project.



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