



# **SESSION 1.4:**

## ***Host Family and Community Support***

**Presenters Include:**

- **CHF/Georgia**

# HOSTING IS "STEALTH" SHELTER; OFTEN OVERLOOKED

## Two Basic Forms

- *Socially defined*, based on family, friends, neighbors, etc., and
- *Economically defined*, often among strangers, i.e., market-based rent support.

# HOSTING: "STEALTH" SHELTER

## Rationales in Favor

- Socially defined, based on family, friends, neighbors, etc.
- Usually commences before humanitarians arrive on the scene
- Cost-effective, flexible means of sheltering
- Buys time for longer-term solutions to emerge, and
- Often transitions to permanent shelter.

# HOSTING: "STEALTH" SHELTER

## Rationales Against

- Economically defined, often among strangers, i.e., market-based
- Rent transactions often subject of abuse
- Evictions after payment common, generating more displacement
- Protection issues emerge more readily in non-family/friends settings
- Host country governments often claim that hosting support undermines "national social solidarity"; often a ruse direct support to structure-based assistance.

# HOSTING: HOW PROVIDED?

## Typically...

- Develop a notional package of needs-based assistance, based on cost of basic physical repairs, WASH upgrades, mattresses/bedding, kitchen pots and utensils, food, fuel, etc.
- Assign a cost to total package
- Apply package (and costs) on an as-needed basis, rather than one-size-fits-all, and
- For host communities, school, market, health post, water system repair/expansion.



**Repair &  
Upgrading  
of Extra  
Space**

# Converting Storage to Shelter

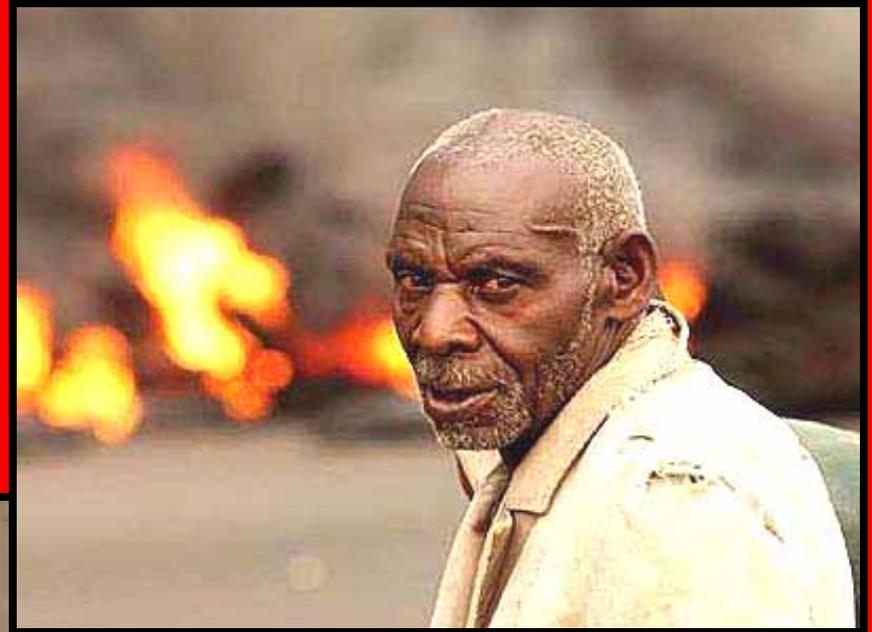




**Converting Sheds to Shelter**



**Destroying  
up to 15,000  
Houses**



# **But Where to Respond?**



- **Do Nothing?**
- **Move City to New Site?**
- **Move People Out of Region?**
- **Move People West?**
- **Move People into Camps?**
- **Opt for a "City-focus"?**



**“City-focus” to Promote  
Hosting and Livelihoods**

- Displaced didn't want to leave city, or live in camps
- 87% of city not covered
- Only area with services
- Shelter Density = 8 du/ac
- If all displaced sheltered in city, density = 10 du/ac
- 75% of Displaced Living with Host Families
- Would concentrate livelihoods

## **Other Reasons...**

- **Safety in Numbers; Better to be with Family and Friends in Face of Insecurity**
- **City Hall Officials Backed by Rwandans; Viewed as Occupying Force, Not Trusted, and Another Reason Why Affected Did Not Want to Leave Goma**

