

## Reporting by Session Note-takers at the 2019 Annual Consultations with NGOs

<b>Date:</b>	<b>05.07.2019</b>
<b>Session Title:</b>	<b>Unlocking the Potential for Refugees &amp; Host Communities through Energy &amp; Infrastructure</b>
<b>Moderator:</b>	<b>Thomas Fohgrub (Thomas.FOHGRUB@unitar.org)</b>
<b>UNHCR focal point:</b>	<b>Richard Evans, Global Shelter &amp; Settlements Manager – NRC / richard.evans@nrc.no</b>
<b>NGO focal point:</b>	<b>Mina Weydahl – NORCAP / mina.weydahl@nrc.no</b>
<b>Major points arising from speakers and discussions</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does a market based approach work in a refugee context and to what extent? While providing refugee communities with buy in to help promote adequate responses from their end is a crucial aspect of sustainable programming, are refugees really able to prioritize something such as clean energy over other basic necessities?</li> <li>• How do we engage refugees into our planning and programming to ensure that we are providing them with the necessary assistance for a sustainable future? What do refugees in various contexts consider to be essential to their well-being and how do we promote this dialogue to extract this information in an efficient manner.</li> <li>• In order to provide relevant assistance for the large amount of displaced people across our planet, we have to focus on resilience and engage non-traditional partners, including taking care of host communities and refugees equitably. How do we leverage roles, when the humanitarian is usually at the centre of assistance? The role of government, business and technology all need to be pushed to the front- the right roles need to be played more effectively</li> </ul>	
<b>Recommendations/Conclusions/Decisions on the way forward</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNHCR should rethink how best to strategize our operations, some camps have been around for 20 years, so we need a longer budgeting and planning structure,</li> <li>• Directed to UNHCR: Energy and Infrastructure need to be sustainable. The assistance we provide for Refugees should not be an emergency response, as many refugees find themselves in protracted situations. We need to transform our programming to ensure that they take into account the protracted nature of many refugee contexts, whether that be reconsidering our budget/strategic planning</li> <li>• Directed to everyone: It is extremely important to engage nationals into all programming targeting infrastructure and energy relating to refugees as it will promote efficient integration. Additionally, many government would be interested in supporting such programs for their nationals as well, so it is essential to engage these partners, alone- we will not be able to cope with the millions of displaced human beings, we must bring the governments, the private sector to the front lines to help us in our initiative</li> </ul>	
<b>Top two quotes from the session:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>“The children now feel comfortable enough to invite their friends to play now”</i></li> <li>• <i>“Start thinking about home, and challenge the world shelter, build communities for those who are displaced and everyone will benefit and feel much more comfortable”</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Any general points regarding UNHCR-NGO partnerships</b>	