Conflicts, Natural Disasters and Human Displacement

- **Conflict, persecution & disasters (natural & man-made) result in significant population displacement**
  - 16.4 million refugees
  - 33.3 million internally displaced by armed conflict, generalized violence, and human rights abuses
  - 32.4 million internally displaced by sudden-onset natural hazards (primarily weather-related)

- **New trends in displacement: camp settings no longer the norm**
  - Most refugees and IDPs live outside of traditional refugee camps
  - Most refugees and IDPs live in urban areas

- **Non-camp, urban character of displacement today requires new approaches to environmental recovery**
Conflicts, Natural Disasters and Human Displacement

- **Environmental destruction resulting from conflicts and disasters creates protection risks and undermines the ability of displaced people to recover**

- Refugees and IDPs often lack sufficient access to essential environmental services that support their immediate means of survival, health and wellbeing (e.g., food, clean water, fuel for cooking, and sanitation).

- Lack of access to natural resources can impede the ability of displaced people to earn a livelihood, recover, and become self-sufficient following a crisis.

- Also affects their decisions regarding return and resettlement.

- **In post-crisis settings, important to consider not only how degraded environments create unique protection risks for displaced populations, but also how environmental recovery can contribute to durable solutions to displacement.**
Environmental Damage & Unique Protection Risks to Displaced People

- Risk of gender-based violence (GBV)

- Loss of natural resource-dependent livelihoods

- Risk of tension or conflict among displaced populations or with communities hosting them

- Risk of recurrent displacement for those living in degraded and hazard-prone areas
Environmental Recovery as a Strategy for Enhancing Protection and Achieving Durable Solutions for Displaced Populations

*Environmental Conditions in and around Displacement Camps*

  
  - Enables refugees to meet energy needs in a safe and sustainable way
  
  - Includes provision of lighting, expanded use of renewable energy, and reforestation projects for fuel provision and environmental protection
Integrating Environmental Restoration into Early Recovery, Livelihoods and Disaster Risk Reduction Programming

- Challenges:
  - Lack of funding
  - Lack of coordination between humanitarian and development actors

- Opportunities:
  - Self-reliance approach
  - New focus on resilience
  - New approaches to humanitarian response in urban areas
Tacloban City Recovery & Rehabilitation Plan

**Strategy Components**
- Economic Revitalization
- Physical Asset Optimization
- Human Resource Mobilization
- Governance Initiatives

**“Safe” Zones**
Planned Urban Expansion

**Danger & High Risk Zones**
Controlled, low-density growth

**Plan Elements**
- Land Use & Disaster Resiliency
- Shelter and Livelihood
- Social Services and Institutional Facilities
- Infrastructure and Utilities
- Commerce and Industry
- Natural Environment
Thank you!