

GSC Research Baseline and Next Steps



Roofing reconstruction, South Sudan 2018 © Eva Samalea

GSC Research Baseline and Next Steps

- 1. Why Research?**
- 2. Baseline Purpose and Scope.**
- 3. Key Baseline Questions.**
- 4. Understanding of Research.**
- 5. Barriers to Research**
- 6. Priority Themes.**
- 7. Expertise.**
- 8. Next steps.**
- 9. Priority Studies.**



GSC Research Baseline Findings : Why Research?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Research provides an essential evidence base to the work of the GSC

“There needs to be evidence to support quality”.

“thinking beyond the short term, the avoidance of repeated mistakes and adaptation to local context”.

Shelter and settlement interventions, however, remain **an under-researched aspect of humanitarian response** (Peacock, Dash and Zhang, 2007; Twigg, 2002; Maynard, Parker and Twigg 2017;).



Somali refugees, Ethiopia 2013 © Lizzie Babister

GSC Research Baseline Findings : Purpose

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Purpose:

To describe the research priorities of humanitarian practitioners engaged in coordination of humanitarian response.



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GSC Research Baseline Findings : Scope

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Scope of Geography and Participants:

42 Countries

20 Cluster Coordinators

24 Academic Partners

11 SAG members



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GSC Research Baseline Findings : Questions

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Key Questions:

How is Research **understood and used** by Shelter Clusters?

What are the **Research Priorities** of Shelter Clusters?

What are the **Research Capabilities** available to Shelter Clusters?



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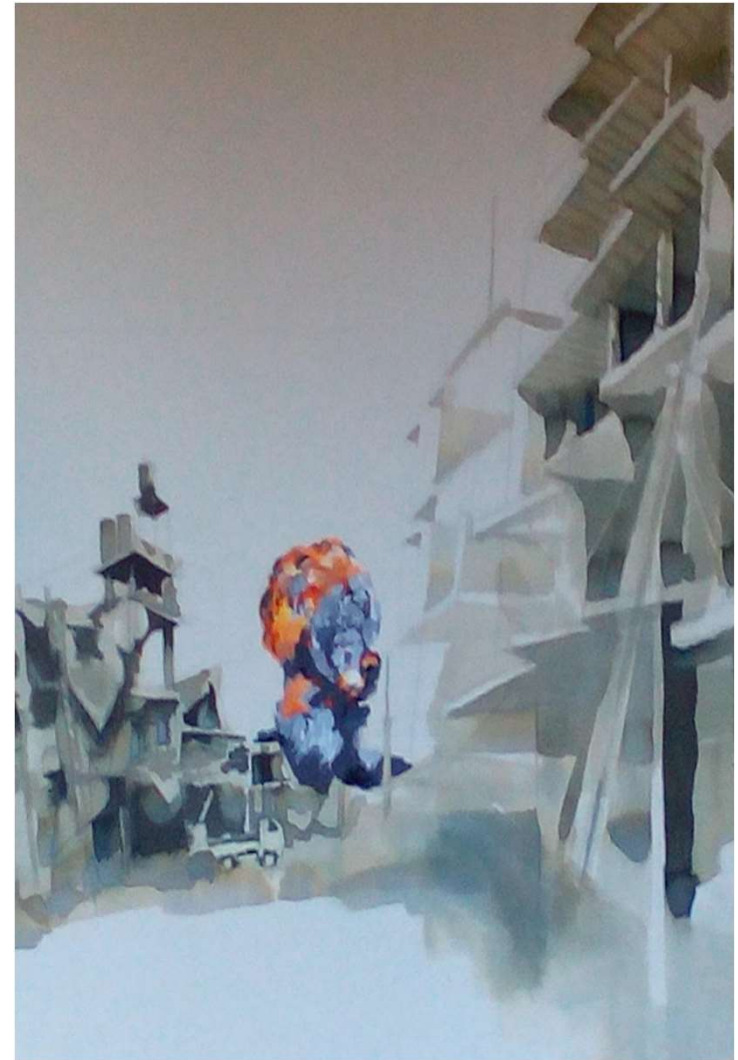
GSC Research Baseline Findings : Understanding

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Widespread appreciation of the link between **research, quality and accountability**.

Causal research questions and **comparative research** questions were mentioned as the most useful types of questions for **strategic planning and advocacy**.

Descriptive questions which are useful in the **early stages of a response**.



Damaged buildings, Aleppo, Syria© Lizzie Babister

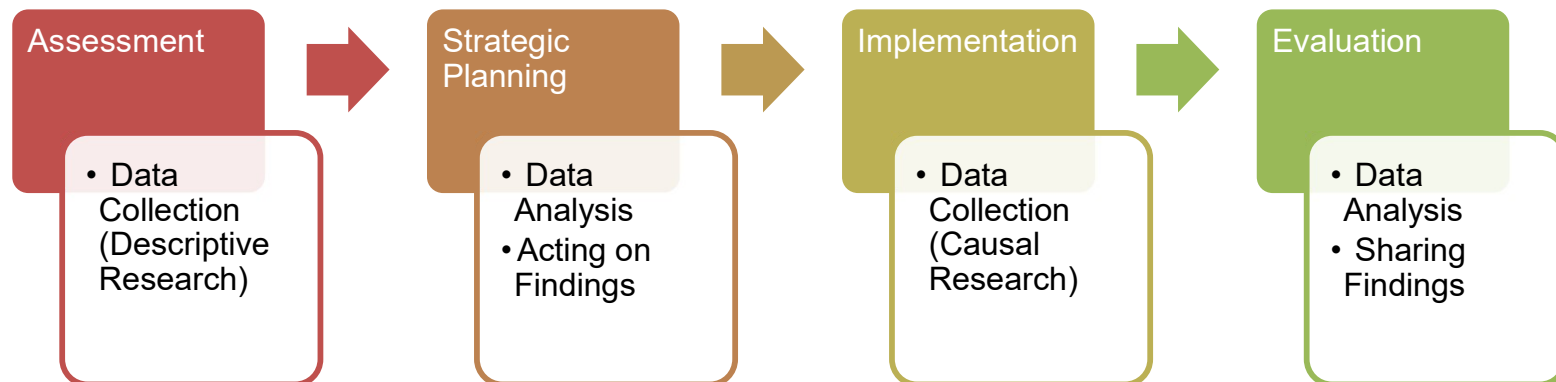


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GSC Research Baseline Findings : Understanding

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Research Activities Alongside Humanitarian Assistance

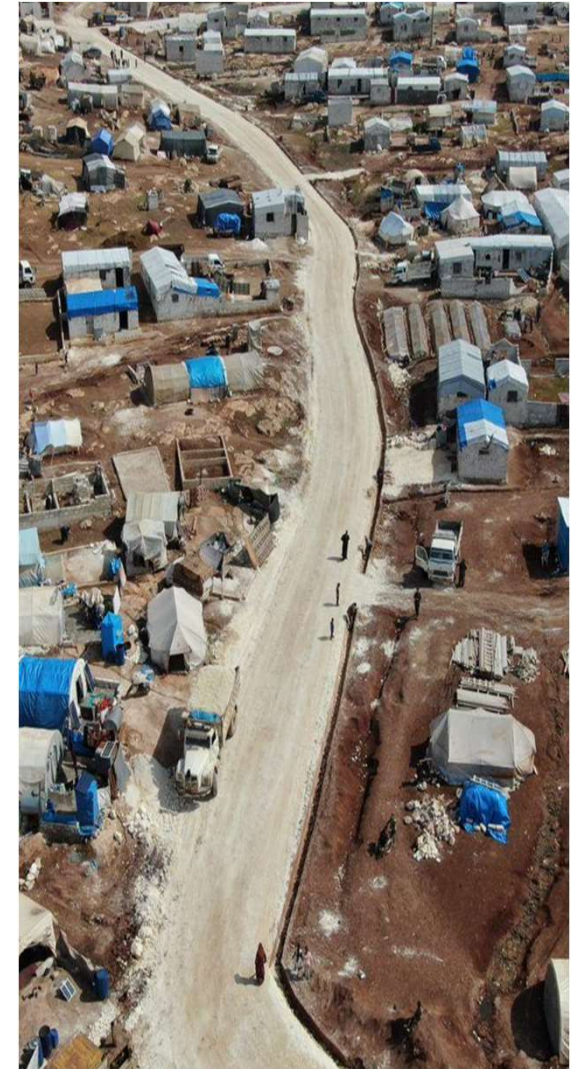


Systematic barriers:

Related to the **culture, values and expectations** regarding research within the humanitarian system.

Practical barriers:

Related to the steps involved in **finding evidence** or **implementing research**.



IDP Camp, Dana, Syria© UNHCR

GSC Research Baseline Findings: Themes

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The following areas were mentioned most often by participants:

The Longer Term, including Recovery – What are the barriers?

Cash and Markets Approaches – When are they appropriate?

The Wider Impact – How can we demonstrate this?

GSC Research Baseline Findings : Themes

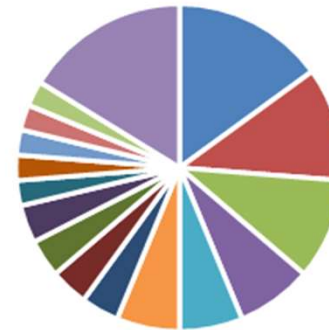
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SAG Research Priorities



- Wider Impacts
- Cash and Markets
- Conflict
- Space Standards
- Self-Recovery
- HLP
- Longer Term Impact and Recovery

Cluster Coordinator Research Priorities



- Longer Term
- Wider Impacts
- HLP
- Local Partners
- Local Materials
- Underfunding
- Non Camp Approaches
- Communicating with Households
- Cash and Markets
- GBV
- Climate Change
- Emergency Shelter
- Inclusion
- Winterisation
- Conflict
- Other

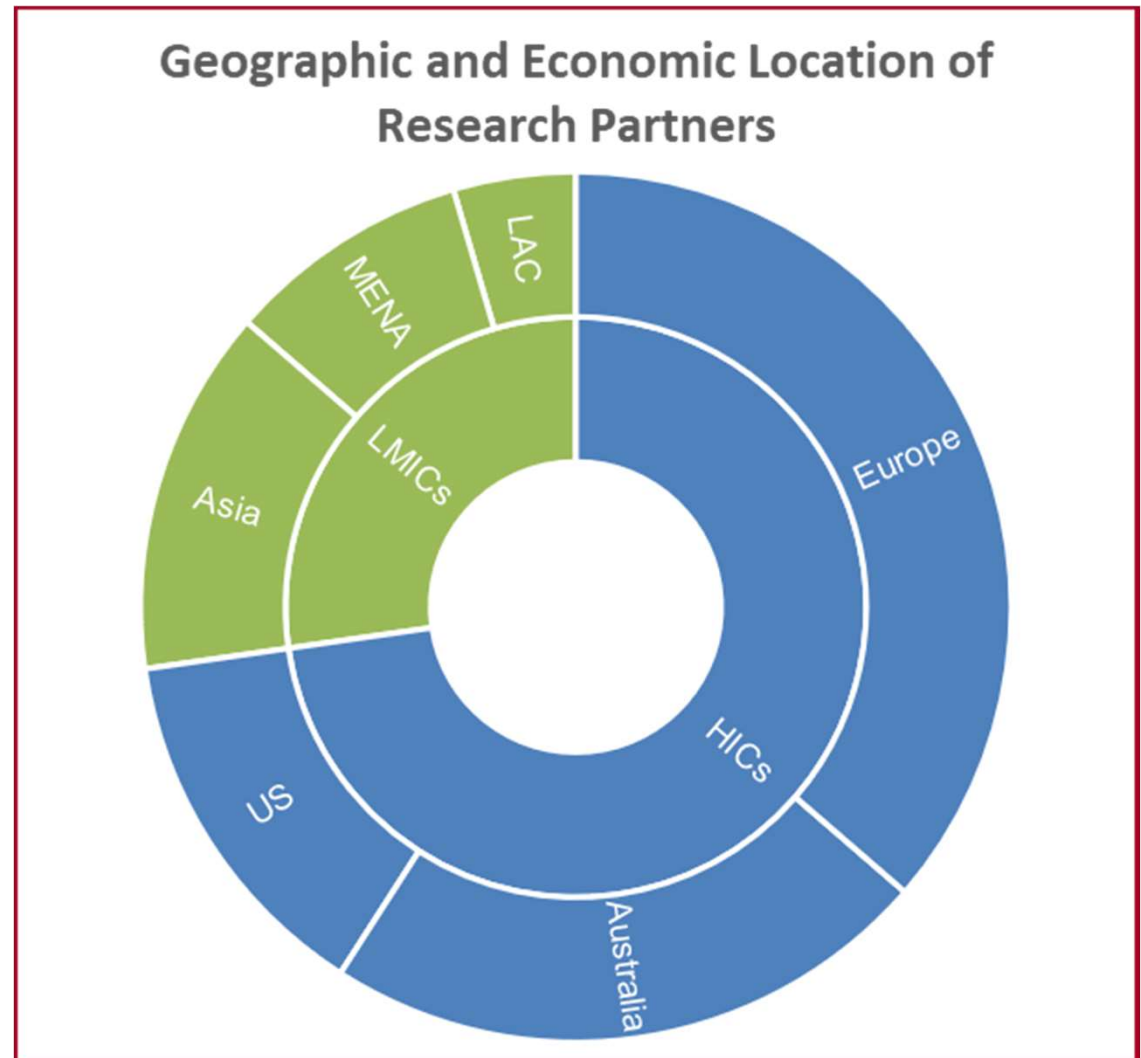


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GSC Research Baseline Findings : Expertise

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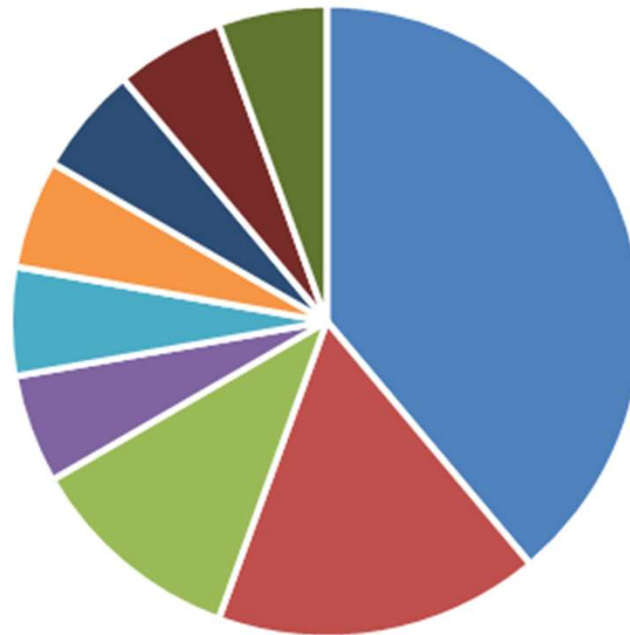
There exists a critical mass of potential research partners.



GSC Research Baseline Findings : Expertise

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Research Partner Disciplines



- Architecture 14
- Engineering 6
- Multidisciplinary 4
- Health 2
- Humanities 2
- International Development 2
- Planning 2
- Politics 2
- Urbanism 2



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There is a **significant amount of enthusiasm and activity** around research in the GSC Working Groups:

The Recovery Working Group – Contributed to and planning research.

Cash and Markets Working Group – Planning research.

The Shelter Projects Working Group – Planning research.

The Disability and Inclusion Working Group – Participated in research.

The Environment Working Groups - Contributed to research.

The Construction Working Group – Planning a research network.

GSC Research Baseline Findings : Next Steps

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Next Steps

1. Focus research work on **improving the evidence base** in the priority thematic areas of Longer-Term Recovery and Cash and Markets.
2. Ensure that the **value of research and evidence** and the harmonisation of response and research processes are supported by the new GSC strategy.
3. Review research priorities and research partners **on a regular basis** to ensure the continuing relevance of GSC research work.



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Priority Studies

- Taking place between now and early 2023.
- Collaborative research between academic organisations and humanitarian agencies.
- Aim to increase evidence-based programming.

Summary

- Taking place between now and early 2023.
- Collaborative research between academic organisations and humanitarian agencies.
- Aim to increase evidence-based programming.

Research Questions: Cash Approaches

What are the criteria for deciding when and where
Cash approaches are appropriate in support
of those who have lost their shelter and settlements
in humanitarian crises?

GSC Research Baseline Findings : Studies

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**Cash and Markets
Study Team**



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The research team will collect and analyse **practitioner experiences** of assisting households with cash based programming.

Reasons why cash was chosen or dismissed as an option will be identified.



Bessy from Zimbabwe, accessing money on her mobile © Mira Gratier

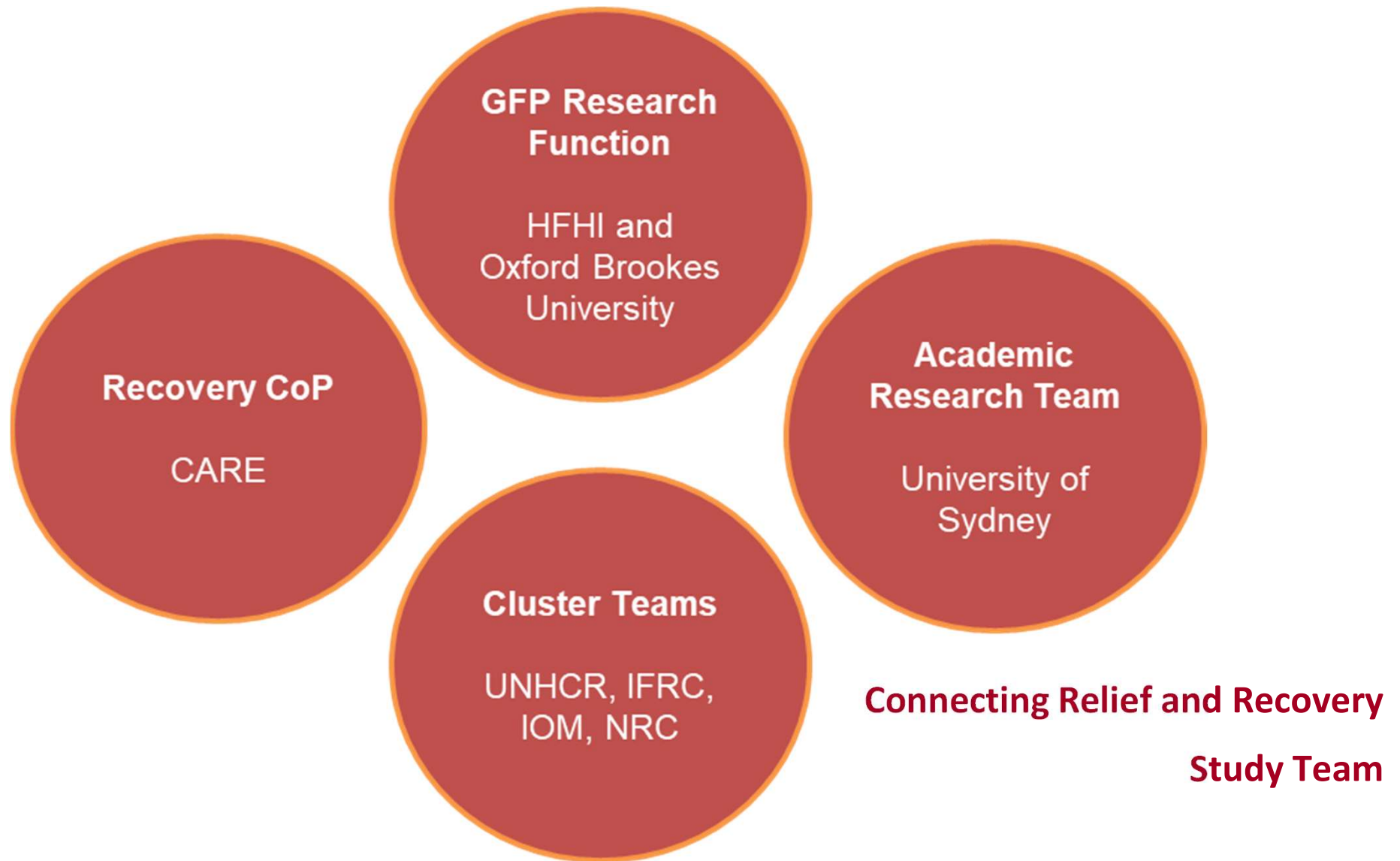
Research Question: Connecting Relief to Recovery

Why are there barriers to connecting the relief and recovery for those who have lost their shelter and settlements in humanitarian crises?



GSC Research Baseline Findings : Studies

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The research team will collect and analyse **practitioner experiences** of assisting households to move beyond crisis response.

Barriers to moving beyond crisis response and **strategies** for supporting households will be identified.



Reconstruction following Typhoon Goni, 2020 © Jomari Guillermo CRS

Thank you

lizzie.babister@sheltercluster.org



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