



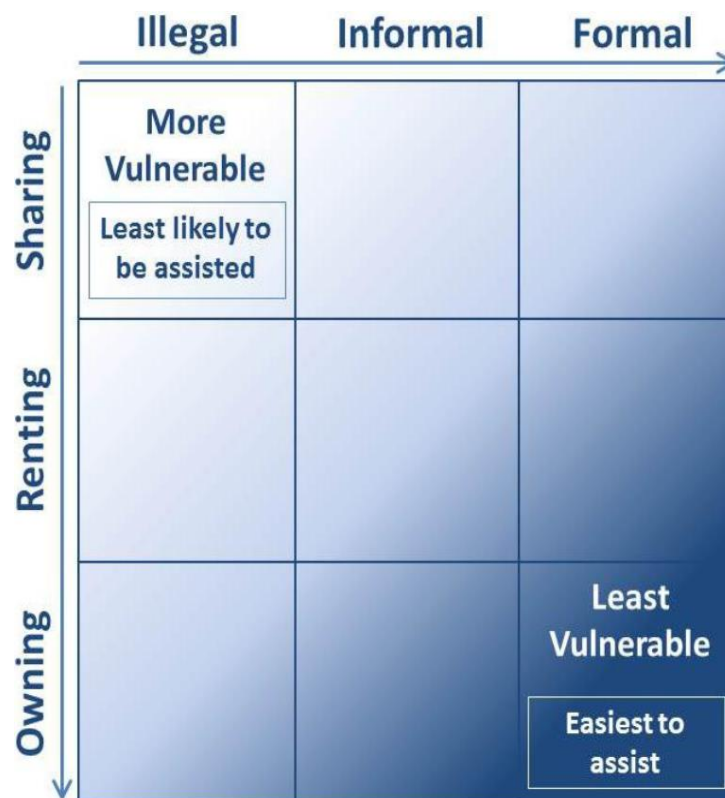
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# Rental Support Cash Grant Programs



# Objective

Rental Support Cash Grants ensure that families have adequate appropriate and safe shelter supporting them to transition to permanent durable housing, prioritizing the needs of the most vulnerable, ensuring participation, freedom of choice, and access to basic services to ensure a life of dignity





# Rental Support Cash Grants: The Haiti Experience



# Introduction

- Recall: A 7.0 magnitude earthquake that devastated Haiti January 12, 2010
- More than 1.5 million people displaced in some 1,500 camp sites
- Characteristics of the Haiti experience:
  - ✓ Internally displaced populations in urban centers
  - ✓ Poor levels of basic services even before the disaster
  - ✓ Unclear land tenure status
  - ✓ Delays in delivery of long-term reconstruction
  - ✓ Funding for camps running out even before displacement crisis is resolved

# Response

- Post-earthquake response was coordinated through a cluster approach
- Housing solutions broadly fall into (4) categories:
  - ✓ Transitional shelters (T-shelters)
  - ✓ Yellow house repairs
  - ✓ Permanent housing reconstruction
  - ✓ Rental support cash grants approach (RSCGA)
- First (3) solutions did not work because they were not ideally suited to target the entire population of a camp



# Rental Support Cash Grants

- First developed by Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in 2010 then later adapted by 6 other agencies in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of earthquake response
- Concept: Help families living in camps by offering them a chance to rent a safe property of their choice in the neighborhood of their choice
- Resulted in moving 14,000 families into safe housing
- Grant of up to \$500 per family covering (1) year of rent
- Options:
  - ✓ Enter into a formal rental agreement with the house owner
  - ✓ Move in with a host family (family or friend)
  - ✓ Move back to the provinces

# RSCGA Procedure

Step 1:  
Registration

Step 2:  
Protection &  
Assistance to  
the Vulnerable

Step 3:  
Beneficiary  
Communication

Step 4:  
Choosing a  
Housing  
Option

# RSCGA Procedure

Step 5:  
Choosing a  
Rental  
Support  
Cash Grant

Step 6:  
Cash  
Transfers

Step 7:  
Camp  
Closure

Step 8:  
Surprise  
Verification  
Visit

Step 9:  
Livelihood &  
Other  
Complementary  
Programming



# Key Findings

- Beneficiaries enjoyed a year's support of secure housing of their choice; any extra money was used to pay down debt, pay school fees and other household expenses
- After one year, no grantees returned to the camps and 100% autonomously found an accommodation solution
  - 40% of the beneficiaries remained in the same rental property for a 2<sup>nd</sup> year
  - The remainder exercised their free choice to leave and find rental solutions that reflected their financial means
  - Lack of sufficient evidence that the RSCGA contributed to the development of new informal settlements

# Key Findings

- The RSCGA does not attempt to solve all of a family's needs (e.g., livelihood, education, health, water & sanitation, etc.)
- Only aims to close the cycle of displacement and help families move back into living conditions comparable to pre-earthquake
- Beneficiaries still require additional programs that provide long-term development assistance to address housing deficit

# In Conclusion

- A measure to expedite camp closure to reduce vulnerability of displaced households affected by the disaster
- A temporary shelter solution while permanent/durable housing solutions are being resolved
- A catalyst to strengthen rental housing markets
- Needs to be implemented alongside livelihoods restoration and other needs