

# Housing Challenges

RWG 27 May 2020

UN-Habitat Iraq



324 low-cost multi-story housing units for Iraqi families who have lost their homes, Mosul, 2020  
Funded by Japan

# UN-Habitat Iraq – Key Facts

## UN agency specialized in urban planning and housing

- **Active in Iraq for 24 years since 1996**, technically leading on housing and reconstruction under the 'Oil for Food Programme'
- Work on both **humanitarian and development programmes**
- "Custodian" of **SDG 11** "Sustainable Cities and Communities" and the [New Urban Agenda](#)
- Focus on four Domains of Change under the [UN Habitat Global Strategic Plan 2020-2023](#)

# Housing Sector Challenges

## ***Pre-ISIL***

Support the government to shift from 'provider' to assume the role of enabler in housing production and management

1. Policy and Legal reform (linked to policies)
2. Evidence based data-driven decision making
3. Land administration
4. Housing production
5. Housing finance (build and buy)
6. Housing infrastructure and basic services
7. Housing management and maintenance
8. Building materials



## ***Post-ISIL***

1. Compensation law
2. Reformed housing finance mechanisms
3. Housing Land and Property Rights (HLP)

# Housing Options

***Outside reconstruction, what are the options for affordable housing to meet various needs***

Need to remove obstacles and create an enabling environment for efficient housing production and management, not just focus on building new houses.

## Plans and Policies:

- Housing Policy (2010)
- Housing Policy Modification (2017) - approved by the Council of Ministers
- National Development Plan (2018-2022)
- Strategy for Reduction of Poverty in Iraq (2018-2022)
- Housing Reconstruction Strategy (2019)

## Laws

- Informal Settlements Law

# New law on Informal Settlements

**History:** For the last 5 years, UN-Habitat has been working with the Ministry of Construction, Housing, Municipalities and Public Works, Ministry of Justice, and the Ministry of Planning to reform the legal framework for informal settlements

There is a need to:

- Define clear criteria and process that will guide the integration of informal settlements in future expansion plans
- Acknowledge the scale of private sector individual investments in informal settlements
- Acknowledge not all informal dwellers are poor, disinformed or poorly-organized
- Update master plans to include land adjustment, mixed infill development and upgrading of informal areas

# What is UN-Habitat doing?

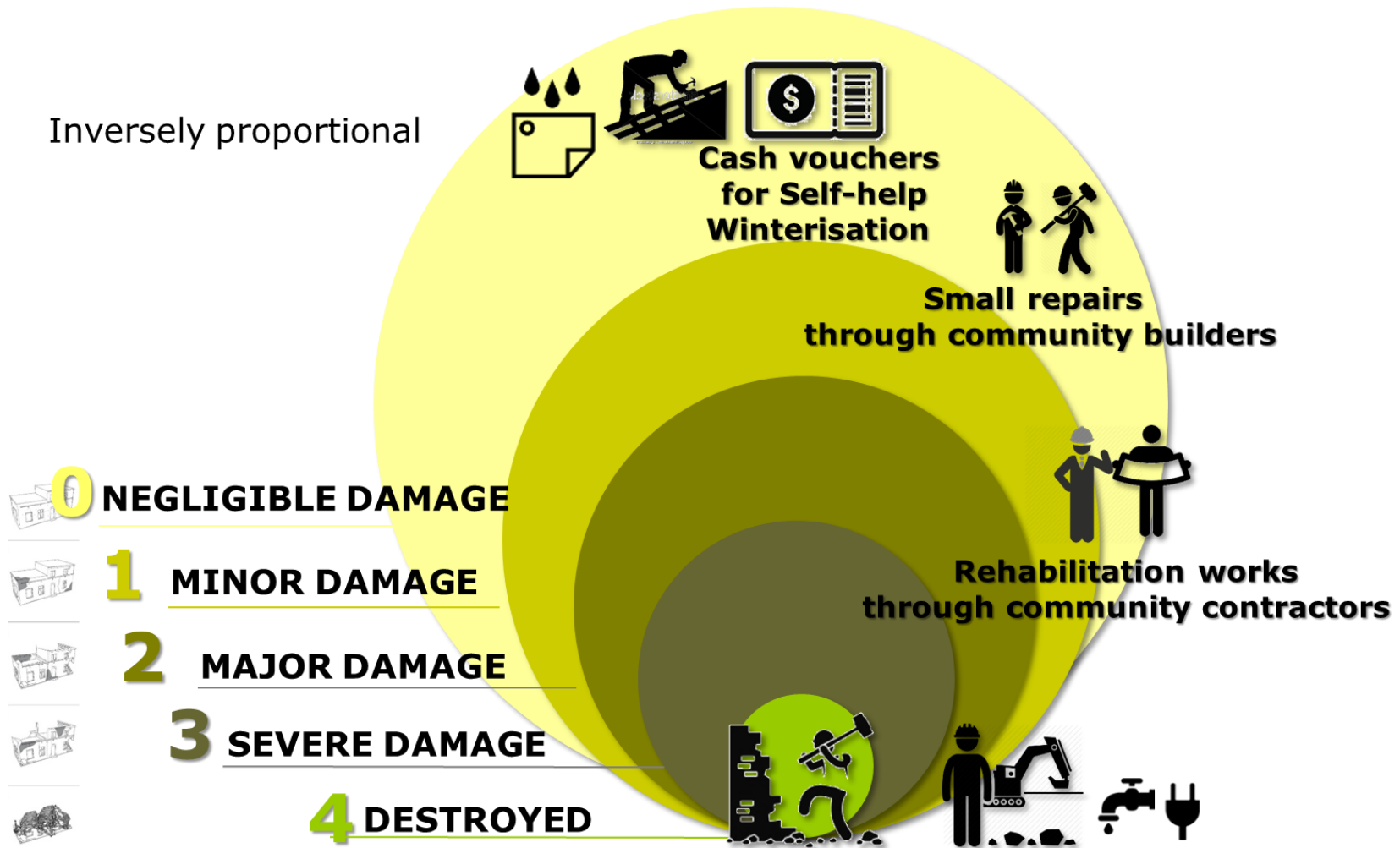
## Operational

1. Emergency shelter (transitional) response
  - o Cash for shelter grants
  - o Sealing off kit purchase vouchers
  - o Rental subsidy relief
2. Housing rehabilitation and construction
  - o Damaged housing rehabilitation (category 2 &3)
  - o Low cost/transitional housing construction
  - o Vocational training and job creation (housing and civil works)
  - o Integrated urban planning perspective (land use, open spaces and services)

## Normative

1. Compensation law (note: presentation last RWG meeting)
2. National Housing Policy 2010 and National Housing Policy Modification 2017; and Housing Reconstruction Strategy 2019
3. New Law on Informal Settlements

# War Damaged Shelter: options



# Thank you

Questions?

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