**SESSION 6: GROUP WORK – MENTOR NOTES**

Overall mentor guidance:

* Check if team identified all relevant issue to bring up with health cluster
  + DW threats to health (humans, animals)
  + DW threats to environment (soil, water)
  + DW opportunities is managed thoroughly (composting, improved WM systems, disaster preparedness, livelihood opportunities, etc)
* Check if team identified all relevant actors to liaise with for improved coordination and information exchange (local and international)
* Check if team identified resource gaps to address DWM needs, and provides a plan on how to address these

Resource persons provide further information so that teams get better understanding of the requested services, but let their questions derive the responses you give them.

1. **WASH Cluster Coordinator (most important contact for Team Alpha)**

Start with some overall comments, then provide the following information depending on the team's questions:

* Organic wastes and standing pools of water (caused by debris blocking flow path of the river) can become vector breeding grounds
* Provision of water and sanitation may become a problem, especially as many people are staying in temporary shelters. The informal camps being set up are also an issue, not sure how water and sanitation is managed there.
* Warns about the rotten food from power outages
* Not quite aware of how many bodies would still be buried under the debris, nor where these are located in terms of water bodies
* Points out that WASH cluster agencies, including Save the Children, Oxfam, UNICEF and WaterAid, have already deployed WASH experts, who are preparing to conduct technical assessments for water supply schemes in the short-and long-term, following the MIRA. The WASH cluster is coordinating these assessments.
* Note that the situation is changing rapidly, make reference to the Health Cluster and the need for surveillance of communicable disease cases (measles, meningitis and waterborne diseases such as cholera)
* Point out the need for a gender advisor as women's role in collecting water is significant in the country, also point out that this should be taken into consideration when designing facilities. The WASH cluster has no gender advisor at the moment.
* Point out that the existing infrastructure is quite poor, wondering how this will be looked at in the recovery phase.

1. **National Environmental Expert on Waste Management based at the Ministry of Environment (most important contact for Team Beta)**

Start with some overall comments, then provide the following information depending on the team's questions:

* Poor waste management exacerbates the disaster situation; Debris volume exceeds largely the disposal site capacities (7 times)
* Identified land reclamation as a waste management option together with local authorities, but wants advice on how to mitigate the potential for hazardous waste to be inadvertently included in land reclamation.
* Mention that the ministry has two pre-arranged contracts with companies to respond to disaster events. Mention that this is an important feature in facilitating effective clean-ups and avoiding price gouging, but that there may be need for further coordination with these companies and international support;
* Overall there is limited understanding of the impact of disaster waste management on community recovery. The ministry wants to the support of the international community to share best practices and sees an opportunity for capacity building of local governments, including development of management systems, budgeting and technical skills;
* Wonders if it would be possible to also request equipment and financial support for improving existing waste management structures and facilities.

1. **Senior Early Recovery Advisor attached to the RC office (most important contact for Team Charlie)**

Start with some overall comments, then provide the following information depending on the team's questions:

* Notes that debris removal is one of the key components of the early recovery at this stage in time, and is being co-led by UNDP and the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development
* At this point in time the removal of debris from roads is prioritized, and not sure how private home-owners or those located in heavily damaged areas, small villages or areas with narrow streets will cope
* Mentions that classification of buildings to be demolished should start, but not sure who is coordinating this within the Ministry or international community
* Hasn't had time to in detail yet coordinate with IOM, who apparently also is deploying some disaster waste support
* Wants to look into community programmes in which property owners participate fully in the hand deconstruction and resource recovery process of their property. In this way, property owners would be able to take control of their properties and would be able to “give life” to their damaged properties by donating, selling, or reusing the building materials.
* Needs guidance on health and safety protection for all those who handle the waste to be provided either through engineering practices or protective equipment.
* Mentions that emergency relief food is on its way, but that a solution is need for the relief food packaging

1. **Associate Environmental Expert in the UNDAC Team (most important contact for Team Delta)**

Start with some overall comments, then provide the following information depending on the team's questions:

* The expert has looked into hazardous chemical sites and is only now starting work on debris and disaster waste; would appreciate support and key figures to feed into the response, as this is a key area which the Government has requested additional advice on
* Primarily needs to understand which actors are doing what where, and what the overall needs and gaps are
* Has some information confirming the large volumes of debris:
  + Earthquake generates debris of the equivalent of 7 times the annual waste generation rates of the affected community
  + Road blockages (trees, rubble, etc) hindering the immediate response disaster - this is a priority for the Government
* Point out that UNDP and IOM are working on disaster waste, mention that an NGO from Europe recently arrived and claimed to be working on disaster waste in the western parts of Atma (no more info available)
* Mention that apparently some waste streams pose a potential health risk and need expert guidance:
  + Asbestos: this may be a time-consuming and challenging procedure to minimize exposure to asbestos whilst not slowing the clean-up.
  + Although arsenic treated woods were recently banned in Atma, they may still pose a health risk.
* Mention the potential reputational risk of certain aid organizations carelessly dumping large amounts of plastic wastes in the vicinity of their camps
* Needs an assessment of the stability of three 16 story buildings in Atma center with massive cracks, given the potential risk of aftershocks

1. **Director for Urban Technical Services, Ministry of Interior (relevant for all teams, most important for Team ECHO)**

Start with some overall comments, then provide the following information depending on the team's questions:

* Mention that there in some areas of the country, around 90% of the buildings are damaged, and that an inspection system urgently needs to be put in place
* They estimate at least 150,000 buildings to have been destroyed, with twice the number of buildings damaged
* There is not enough capacity in country to proceed with the damage inspections, and external support is urgently required
* Also mention the problem of debris management, where the government priorities options of decentralized recycling of waste. Mention the need for technical guidance on this.
* Advises that Atma has primarily brick houses, which is clearly visible in the disaster waste generated. Request an assessment how this could be best used for the reconstruction phase.
* Mention that World Bank is looking into the assessment of possible disaster waste management solutions
* Sees however little scope for recycling in the first response phase and wants to go ahead with open burning to remove immediate hazards. If rapid, may consider recommendations of an environment impacts assessment
* Need for further guidance on large amounts of health care waste that are not being picked up;