Mr. Abhas K. Jha (lead author and task manager) is a housing and urban finance specialist. He is currently Lead Urban Specialist and Regional Coordinator, Disaster Risk Management for the World Bank’s East Asia and the Pacific Region. He is responsible for managing the Bank’s disaster risk management practice in the region. Mr. Jha has been with the World Bank since 2001, leading the Bank’s urban, housing, and disaster risk management work in Turkey, Mexico, Jamaica, and Peru, and serving as the Regional Coordinator, Disaster Risk Management, for the Europe and Central Asia region. He earlier served for 12 years in the Indian Administrative Service (the national senior civil service of India) in the government of India (in the Federal Ministry of Finance and earlier in the state of Bihar). Mr. Jha holds graduate degrees in finance from Johns Hopkins University and in economics from the University of Madras.

Principal Contributors

Dr. Jennifer E. Duyne Barenstein (anthropologist) is an expert in the socioeconomic and cultural dimensions of post-disaster reconstruction, rural infrastructure development, and water management, with extensive professional and research experience in Argentina, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka. She is the head of the World Habitat Research Centre of the University of Applied Science of Southern Switzerland in Lugano, Switzerland (http://www.worldhabitat.supsi.ch). She served as principal consultant for the handbook and contributed chapters on reconstruction approaches, cultural heritage, social issues, and resettlement.

Ms. Priscilla M. Phelps (project manager) is an expert in local development, affordable housing, and municipal finance who works for TCGI International (TCGI) in Silver Spring, Maryland. She served as chief technical editor for the handbook and contributed chapters on finance, governance, and infrastructure. Her experience with post-disaster housing includes lending for post-disaster housing reconstruction after Hurricane Mitch in Honduras and the 2001 earthquakes in El Salvador while at the Inter-American Development Bank, and working for the Low-Income Housing Fund in San Francisco after the Loma Prieta earthquake. TCGI advises governments and donors on affordable housing, municipal and infrastructure finance, and community and economic development internationally and domestically in the United States (http://www.tcgillc.com).

Mr. Daniel Pittet (housing design and technology specialist) is a civil engineer with a master’s degree in architecture and sustainable development from the Swiss Institute of Technology in Lausanne. Since 2005, he has worked as a researcher at the World Habitat Research Centre of the University of Applied Science of Southern Switzerland in Lugano, Switzerland (http://www.worldhabitat.supsi.ch). His areas of interest are sustainable architecture, housing environmental impact, and energy efficiency, issues that he has researched and applied in post-disaster reconstruction projects and in developing countries, including in Nepal and India, where he has worked extensively. He provides advice to municipalities on energy management and sustainability for the Swiss national program SwissEnergy. Mr. Pittet is a photographer with several photographic publications and exhibitions to his credit. In addition to serving as a member of the core team of consultants, he provided most of the photographs in the handbook.

Mr. Stephen Sena (information technology and Web site development) is an economic development consultant with TCGI International (TCGI) in Silver Spring, Maryland, with a focus on information technology and communications. As a member of the core team of consultants, he contributed the chapter on information and communications technology in post-disaster reconstruction, coordinated the development of the handbook Web site, and managed design and production issues. TCGI advises governments and donors on affordable housing, municipal and infrastructure finance, and community and economic development internationally and domestically in the United States (http://www.tcgillc.com).
Other Contributors

Mr. B. R. Balachandran (urban planner) heads Alchemy Urban Systems in Bangalore, India (www.alchemyurban.com). He is an architect and urban planner actively engaged in professional practice since 1990. Beginning with his work on post-earthquake reconstruction of Bhuj (Gujarat, India) in 2001, post-disaster reconstruction planning has become one of his principal areas of specialization, including his current involvement in reconstruction from the 2008 flood in the Kosi region, Bihar, India. He contributed the chapter on land use and physical planning and provided advice on other planning issues.

Dr. Bernard Baratz (safeguards specialist) holds a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Princeton University and has worked for 40 years addressing the environmental impacts of energy, industrial, and infrastructure projects. A World Bank staff member for almost 30 years, he was the first Europe and Central Asia Regional Safeguards Coordinator and one of the original authors of the World Bank policy for environmental assessment. Dr. Baratz has worked as an environmental specialist on disaster recovery and disaster management projects in China, Turkey, and Romania.

Dr. Camillo Boano (architect/urban planner) is an architect and urban planner who teaches, conducts research, and provides policy advice on topics of urban development, design and urban transformation, shelter and housing, reconstruction and recovery in conflicted areas and divided cities, architecture and planning in contested spaces, and linking emergency recovery and development. He is currently affiliated with the Development Planning Unit at the University College of London.

Mr. William Bohn (disaster risk reduction) is an engineer and GIS Specialist with Tetra Tech (http://www.tetratech.com/tetratech/). He has more than 10 years of experience in 19 countries providing disaster management services to the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation, the United States Agency for International Development, the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He has authored numerous technical papers and publications on risk assessment, hazard analysis, vulnerability, mitigation, climate change, computer modeling, and geographic information systems.

Mr. Roberto Carrion (monitoring and evaluation) is an Ecuadorian architect and urban planner. He worked for CHF International in Honduras after Hurricane Mitch in 1998, and managed post-disaster housing reconstruction processes for and for the United States Agency for International Development in El Salvador after the 1986 earthquake, in Colombia after the 1999 earthquake in Armenia, and in the Dominican Republic after Hurricane Georges in 2000. Mr. Carrion contributed to the chapter on monitoring and evaluation and provided case studies from Latin America.

Ms. Natalia Cieslik (communications) has worked in communications and journalism for the last 19 years, focusing on conflict and development issues in sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. She has worked as a communications specialist for several nongovernmental organizations and is currently part of the World Bank team preparing the World Development Report 2011. Ms. Cieslik holds a BA in social and business communication from the University of Arts in Berlin and a master's in security studies from Georgetown University.

Dr. Tom Corsellis (partnerships and humanitarian assistance) is Co-Director of Shelter Centre, a nongovernmental organization (NGO) supporting the humanitarian community of practice by developing policy and technical guidance, training, and resources for and with the humanitarian shelter and reconstruction sector; informed by ongoing operational collaborations worldwide with donors, the United Nations (UN), international organizations, and NGO partners. Shelter Centre guidance developed with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs includes “Shelter after Disaster: Transitional Settlement and Reconstruction.” Shelter Centre sector resources include a one-stop library of 2,000 publications from 200 agencies (http://www.shelterlibrary.org).

Mr. Ian Davis (shelter) has specialized in post-disaster shelter and reconstruction since 1972. He authored numerous publications on post-disaster housing; edited the first United Nations (UN) Guidelines on Shelter after Disaster; and provided consultancy advice to governments, UN agencies, and nongovernmental organizations in 38 countries. Mr. Davis has a special interest in disaster risk reduction and recovery at the community level.
Ms. Kirti Devi (infrastructure and services delivery) is an architect and urban planner who works as an infrastructure finance specialist with TCG International (TCGI) in Silver Spring, Maryland. She contributed to the chapter on infrastructure and services delivery and organized the field reviews of the draft handbook. In 2001, she provided technical assistance to the state government for post-earthquake infrastructure reconstruction in 14 towns, under the Asian Development Bank-funded Gujarat Earthquake Rehabilitation Project in Gujarat, India. TCGI advises governments and donors on affordable housing, municipal and infrastructure finance, and community and economic development internationally and domestically in the United States (http://www.tcgllc.com).

Mr. Jeff Feldmesser (editor) has been a writer/editor and publications specialist for more than 25 years. For the last 15 years, he has specialized in the production of publications in the field of international development.

Mr. Earl Kessler (community-based development) is an urban development expert who has developed shelter and urban programs since being a Peace Corps volunteer in Colombia in 1965. His post-disaster work with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) includes the 1977 Guatemala earthquake reconstruction program; the Solanda, Ecuador housing project; and the assessment of USAID’s role in Nevada de Ruíz after the explosion that buried Armero, Colombia. He directed USAID’s Regional Urban Development Offices in Thailand from 1988 to 1993 and in India from 1993 to 1998. He also served as Deputy Executive Director of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center. Currently, he is preparing a community-based disaster risk management guide for tsunami-affected communities in Thailand and is one of the authors of the World Bank “Climate Resilient Cities Primer for East Asia.”

Mr. Richard Martin (monitoring and evaluation specialist) has specialized in housing in Africa for more than 30 years and has undertaken evaluations of a wide range of internationally funded projects. He has advised on housing in emergencies in Madagascar and South Africa, and has a special interest in the creative and effective involvement of communities. He contributed to the chapter on monitoring and evaluation.

Ms. Gretchen Maxwell (art director) is creative principal of GLM Design in Falls Church, Virginia. She designed and produced the handbook and was the contributing art director for the accompanying Web site. She has run her design studio for 15 years, focusing on publication design, including annual reports, research guides, and books.

Ms. Savitha Ram Mohan (research assistant) is an architect and urban planner with more than five years of experience in urban land development, environmental management, post-disaster reconstruction planning, and architecture. She contributed to India’s first-ever climate change status report and also worked as a short-term consultant to the World Bank’s South Asia Environment and Social Unit.

Ms. Brigitte Marti Rojas Rivas (research assistant) studied social anthropology in Switzerland and Ecuador, and has a degree in applied anthropology from the Universidad Politécnica Salesiana in Quito. She is working on various projects for the World Habitat Research Centre of the University of Applied Science of Southern Switzerland in Lugano, Switzerland (http://www.worldhabitat.supsi.ch), including researching the viability of resettlement as a hazard mitigation strategy in the City of Santa Fe, Argentina.

Dr.-Eng. Norbert E. Wilhelm (training) is a civil engineer with a Ph.D. in European standards for structural steelworks. Since 1982, he has worked in design, supervision, and training for development projects in the buildings and civil works sector in Africa, Asia, and Europe. He has worked on reconstruction projects for public buildings, education buildings, health facilities, roads, bridges, and housing. He has published papers on traditional building, appropriate technology, climatic appropriate design, and rehabilitation. As senior advisor for Grontmij-BGS Consultants (http://www.bgs-ing.de/), he has worked on reconstruction projects in India, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan with German financing through KfW that have provided a total of more than 20,000 units of housing.
Mr. Rajib Shaw (environmental management) is an Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies of Kyoto University, Japan. He works principally in Asia with the local communities, nongovernmental organizations, governments, and international organizations, including the United Nations, and conducts research on such topics as community-based disaster risk management, climate change adaptation, urban risk management, and disaster and environmental education. He has written books on disaster risk management, indigenous knowledge, and river basin management.

Mr. Fred Zobrist (disaster risk reduction) is an expert in international development and a professional engineer who has worked on projects in more than 100 countries on risk management related to housing and infrastructure and on hurricane and flood damage rehabilitation. He has served as a damage evaluation expert for hurricanes, floods, and tornados for the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency; has developed floodplain maps; and served as risk management expert on disasters related to floods, tsunamis, earthquakes, high winds, high seas, and volcanoes for the U.S. Corps of Engineers.