

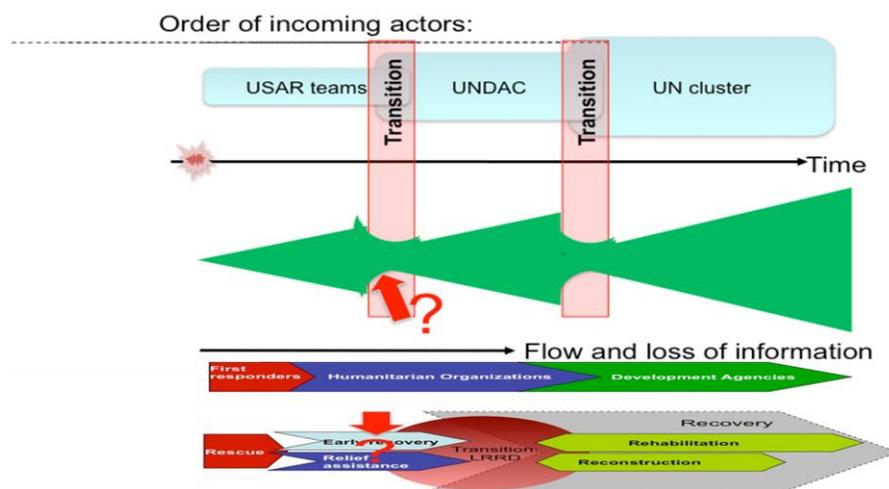
Beyond the Rubble

1. Background

The “Beyond the Rubble” approach intends to optimize the assistance to victims **after an earthquake**. The USAR teams are part of the first responders. They are often the first on site to support the local authorities by carrying out USAR activities.

As an earthquake response demands many more assistance activities than USAR, there is a need for further support activities to the victims after the USAR phase.

In this following transition from USAR- to early recovery/relief phase, USAR teams onsite can support with their existing capabilities, expertise and state of awareness of the situation, to smoothen the handover/takeover (transition) and to guarantee a consistent and coherent support to the victims.



Definition

“Beyond the Rubble” includes activities offered/conducted by USAR teams deployed after an earthquake to overcome the transitional phase between the USAR- and the following early recovery/relief phase.

These tasks must be needs driven, requested and coordinated by LEMA or a respective agency, and include from beginning on a clearly defined exit strategy.

Prior to an international deployment, the USAR team has to pre-declare its “Beyond the Rubble” capabilities on the VOSOCC and the Portfolio of Evidence (PoE),

“Beyond the Rubble” activities are voluntary and must be within the existing capabilities and capacities of the deployed USAR team. “Beyond the Rubble” must not determine in any case the structure of an USAR team, nor create duplication with already existing capabilities and must not be a part of the IEC/R process.

Following capabilities of USAR teams could be of benefit:

- Management-, coordination- and communication-support to LEMA and/or UN coordination mechanism
- Assessment
- Logistical support
- Technical support including structural engineering

- Health- and medical-support including WASH

2. Analysis

Strengths	Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capabilities are already on site • Multiple use of existing capabilities • Existing network is onsite and known • Based on INSARAG Methodology • First-hand information are available • Large scale of assessment results obtained can be shared • Different background of USAR team structure (multidimensional flexibility) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficient response to needs • Cost effectiveness • Facilitate the set-up of incoming humanitarian actors
Weaknesses/Limitations	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USAR Mandate • Limited resources • Limited timeframe (not sustainable) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perception of our intentions by other humanitarian actors (competition?) • Additional allocation of resources • Deliver a false justification to deploy USAR teams more frequently and/or longer • Possible divergence from mandate • Create duplications in the humanitarian global response (investment – result relationship is out of balance)

3. Possible Discussion Points

1. What is your understanding of “Beyond the Rubble”?
2. When does an engagement “Beyond the Rubble” make sense?
3. What are possible limitations for this engagement?

4. Way forward

If the ISG 17 agrees to further follow up the option of “Beyond the Rubble” as presented, then the Transitional GRG should qualify, cluster, record and process the questions arising for the next INSARAG Guidelines Review 2018-2020.