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“Announcements plenary”

I would like to share with you a few thoughts about how we can best help humanity to reach the sustainable development goals

Often, when we try to figure out what to do about DISASTERS or REFUGEE SITUATIONS, or other problems,

We do NOT include the people who are affected—the most vulnerable.

We only include government officials, the elite and rich, the powerful in meetings or planning.

What we need to do is to have nations, regions and international organizations **COMMIT** to doing the following AT EVERY LEVEL,

from beginning to end,

when they are planning and implementing their programs:

- At least 50% of the planners and implementers must be from the most vulnerable

And of the total people planning and implementing

- at least 50% must be women
- at least 10% must be youth

This is what we do in our work in Afghanistan:

- we **ask** and **listen** to the people who want services—whether it be education, health or training
- We **ask them to help and contribute what they can—and everybody can contribute ideas and possible solutions**
- The **beneficiaries are part of the planning and implementation from beginning to end....**

We are PARTNERS, **working together**

Together we keep each other and our programs SAFE

Together we CONTRIBUTE to the projects WE have agreed upon and that makes our projects FINANCIALLY successful. Usually our organization contributes MONEY but our partners contribute space, security and volunteers.

This gives them DIGNITY and shows that we RESPECT them

When we ask them to give their ideas as to how to solve problems, we ask them to think, and when they know that they have been a part of the solution, they then learn RESILIENCE—how to solve their own problems the next time.

As you can see, when you truly involve the beneficiaries,

then what you are trying to achieve in the World Humanitarian Summit document

flows directly from that process.