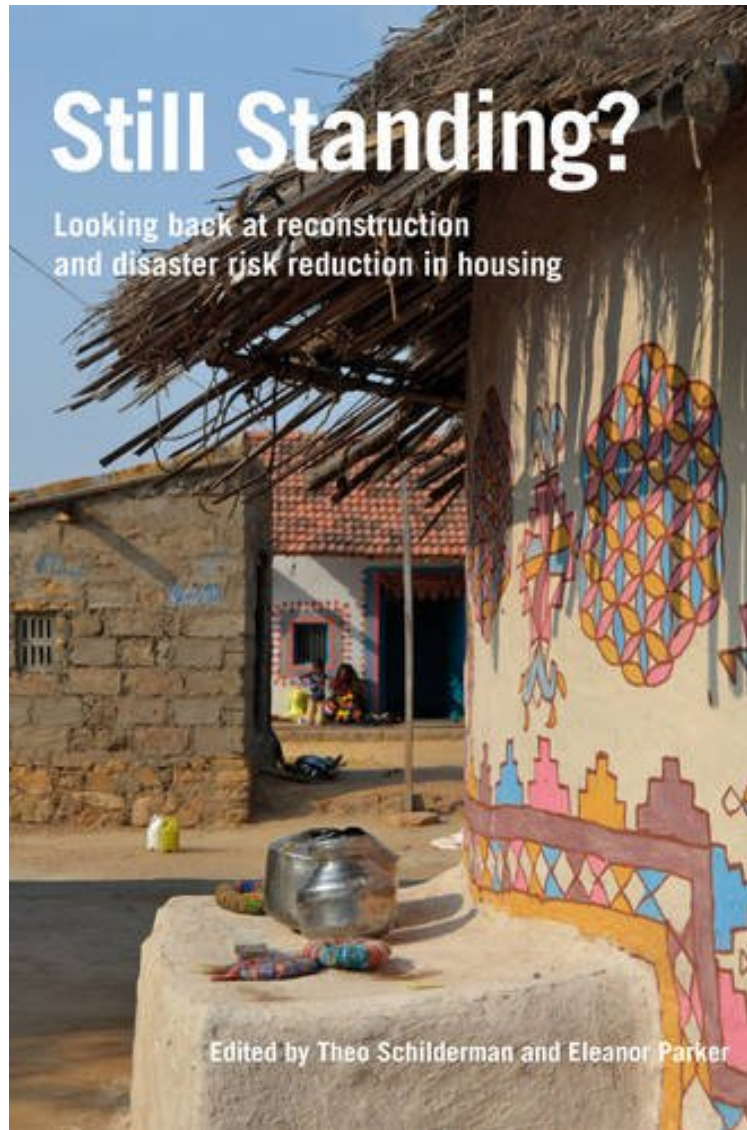


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Huge levels of aid are spent on reconstructing housing after disasters. Have these houses withstood the test of time and hazard? Just as important from the point of view of their owners, has the reconstruction process played a part in restoring their livelihoods and social networks? Unfortunately, aid agencies rarely go back to assess the impact of reconstruction in the longer term. The research upon which *Still Standing?* is based has done just that. Agencies that undertook projects 335 years ago in countries throughout Asia and Latin America have gone back to record changes and to interview beneficiaries, builders, authorities and other agencies in their project areas. This book describes the stories of the project beneficiaries and how their houses have changed, within contexts that have kept changing too. *Still Standing?* is essential reading for architects and engineers involved in humanitarian fieldwork as well as students and researchers concerned with disaster risk reduction.

"Which post-disaster reconstruction and recovery programmes have been truly successful? What are the critical elements that turn humanitarian shelter assistance into sustainable homes and communities? This much-needed publication provides the missing longer term analysis of what works and what does not, valuably informing the response to future disasters." (Graham Saunders, Head, Shelter and Settlements, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies)"In the complex world of post-disaster housing reconstruction, this excellent book addresses an important and often-overlooked gap: how we learn from past projects to inform future actions." (David Sanderson, Professor, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim)"*Still Standing?* fills a major gap in the literature on housing reconstruction following disasters. The text examines five critical issues that surround the subject: 'user satisfaction', 'beneficiary targeting', 'replication by users', 'technical performance' and 'livelihood generation'. Thus it is essential reading for all involved in holistic recovery policy and practice, since it is crammed full of practical advice and rich case studies from international leaders in the field." (Ian Davis, Visiting Professor in Disaster Risk Management in Copenhagen, Kyoto, Lund and Oxford Brookes Universities)About the AuthorTheo Schilderman is Head, Access to Infrastructure Services Programme, Practical Action.