

# Global Shelter Cluster Strategy 2013 - 2017

#### GOAL

To more effectively meet the sheltering needs of populations affected by humanitarian crises, by strengthening the shelter response of humanitarian actors through leadership, coordination and accountability in the humanitarian shelter sector.

# STRATEGIC AIM 1

Responsive and flexible support to countrylevel shelter coordination mechanisms

- ► A harmonized surge capacity system for shelter coordination.
- ► A diverse pool of available technical expertise, reflecting the wide scope of disciplines involved in the shelter and settlements sector.
- ► An established mechanism to leverage the existing capacities of the private sector in support of the humanitarian shelter response.
- ► Provision of technical advice for shelter sector emergency preparedness and contingency planning.
- ► A coordinated approach to shelter assessments.
- ► A transparent and inclusive approach to facilitating access to pooled funds for shelter response.
- ► Available capacity to provide learning support for ongoing shelter responses, by reviewing and defining success, and capturing and sharing innovation and good practice in the field through interagency impact evaluations, reviews, and other learning support options.
- ► Increased capacity to engage in shelter early recovery activities and a consistent approach to cluster handover and exit strategies.
- ► Increased engagement with and participation of local and national actors, providing relevant and adaptive support to local needs and existing national coordination mechanisms.
- ► A clear and consistent approach to shelter cluster coordination, readily available and kept up-to-date.

## STRATEGIC AIM 2

An effective and well-functioning Global Shelter Cluster

- ► An inclusive and broad-based GSC, with increased participation of emerging humanitarian actors.
- ► Effective and accountable governance and management structures, open to the participation of all cluster partners.
- ► An innovation culture, harnessing new technologies and programming approaches for enhanced shelter response.
- ► Consistency in technical standards, specifications, reporting, indicators and policies.
- ► The prime global humanitarian shelter knowledge hub, providing the primary information portal for all actors engaged in humanitarian shelter response.
- ► Cohesive training and capacity building initiatives.
- ► A common understanding on global shelter response capacity, including material stockpiles and pre-positioning approach, suppliers, human resources, and overall capacity of humanitarian agencies.
- ► Active participation in IASC activities and inter-cluster initiatives.
- ► Enhanced partnerships among shelter actors allow for pooling resources and ensuring complementarity of efforts.
- ► A clear and predictable division of responsibilities with other clusters.

## STRATEGIC AIM 3

Increased recognition of the shelter and settlements sector as an essential component of the humanitarian response, through enhanced advocacy and communication.

- ► A raised profile and understanding of the humanitarian shelter sector, resulting in a reduced gap in funding coverage of stated shelter needs.
- ► A diverse, predictable, and consistent donor base for shelter coordination and response.
- ► Coherent, coordinated and targeted public communication and advocacy on humanitarian shelter issues, with governments and other humanitarian stakeholders.
- ► Consistent and accurate understanding and messaging of the shelter sector capacity and resource needs.
- ► Wider acceptance of a settlements approach in humanitarian response strategies.
- ► Increased integration of the humanitarian shelter response, through strengthened linkages with other sectors.
- ▶ Broader understanding among humanitarian stakeholders of the role and scope of the shelter sector in the coordination of NFIs.
- ► Enhanced articulation of the linkages between shelter risk reduction, preparedness, relief, recovery, and development, through a resilience approach, resulting in a seamless transition from emergency relief to recovery and reconstruction.
- ► Increased professionalization of the humanitarian shelter sector, through enhanced partnerships with the private sector, academic establishments and research institutions.