

National Shelter Cluster Meeting | Kathmandu
1100hrs May 24, 2015 – DUDBC

Agenda:

1. Updates – Shelter Activities One Month On
2. Flash Appeal
3. Technical Update
4. Information Management Update
5. Looking Ahead: Shelter Cluster Coordination
6. Other Business

Introductions – Victoria Bannon is replacing Victoria Stoddard as Shelter Cluster lead. She can be reached at coord1.nepal@sheltercluster.org

Updates – Shelter Activities One Month On
Tarp Distribution and Damage Assessment

- Damage assessment: 499,508 homes destroyed and 268,186 damaged homes.
- Tarpaulins:
 - Shelter Cluster target is 700,000 (350,000 families) for 2 tarps/family.
 - Distributed:
 - 230,569 Government | 217,259 Shelter cluster partners | 447,828 Total to-date
- Other distributions:
 - 16,940 Tents | 1,084 Tool kits and fixings | 43,921 Household kits | 53,572 Blankets
- Many agencies are in a phase of scaling up distributions now that we are one month in and the pipeline is beginning to open a bit more.
- Visit the Shelter Cluster website to view an interactive map of the 14 high priority districts with up-to-date stats reported from agencies active.

Flash Appeal

- UN Flash Appeal is in the process of being revised -Shelter Cluster partners can amend existing projects and/or submit new proposals for consideration. The mere proposal for the Flash Appeal doesn't guarantee funding for a project
- Flash Appeal time frame has been extended to the end of September, projects need to be completed within that period.
- No overall budget increase for the Flash Appeal, but there may be realignment within and between sectors.
- Opportunity for Shelter Cluster partners to revise/submit proposals until May 26th. New projects are welcome but partners should keep expectations realistic given the funding constraints.

Key requirements for shelter projects

- Projects from organizations already conducting activities on the ground will be considered more favorably compared to those that are new and/or still setting up.

- Projects should link to Shelter Cluster Strategy and technical guidelines for emergency/self-recovery, shelter, capacity building, and key messaging through training.
- Projects should include clear targeting, eg. hard to reach/vulnerable groups, as well as gender markers and accountability to beneficiaries

How to submit a proposal for the Flash Appeal

- Information about the process and guidelines for project submissions is available here: <https://ops.unocha.org/Home.aspx>. Read Guidance Note on the website
- Complete/revise the Project template online. Upload the Project to the website by the deadline on May 29th.
- For preliminary feedback on your proposal, send to Shelter Cluster ASAP: coord1.nepal@sheltercluster.org

Technical Update

Technical and Intervention Modalities Guidance

- Currently in first draft and new versions will be released each week with updated versions and draft numbers.
- Broken down into the following parts:
 - Shorter term solutions (emergency/relief sheltering)
 - Supporting self-recovery (shelter interventions)
 - Shelter implementation framework (not populated, yet, but will be updated as the technical groups continue to work on development.
 - Technical advisory structure (not populated, yet, but will be updated as the groups meet).
- Starting technical working groups at the field level this week

Technical Working Groups

- 6 Technical Working Groups (Find up-to-date information on sheltercluster.org on the working documents from each group)
 - Capacity Building Training - Avoid training gaps and ensure that people are trained to the same level and amount of time
 - Key Messages
 - Shelter Interventions – UN Habitat will take on permanent role in these planning activities.
 - Cash Modalities
 - Contingency Planning (monsoon and winter)
 - Accountability to Beneficiaries
- Technical Advisory Groups will have one meeting per week at this time.

Shelter Assessment - REACH

- Personnel training and assessments are ongoing: 8 districts completed within next day, all 14 districts completed within the next 2-4 weeks.
- Thanks to British Red Cross for financially supporting the expansion of the assessment and to all the agencies who have supported with vehicles and enumerators.

Information Management Update

Distribution List

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- More than 400 email accounts registered during the response. Those who leave are in the mailing list so we need to begin cleaning up and refine the list to new and targeted parties that are in need of information.
- A new email distribution has been created and Shelter Cluster Information Management will begin sending to this list next Friday. Please go to the Shelter Cluster website to update contact information to receive updates from the Shelter Cluster. New list starting on Friday, May 29th. Visit <http://www.sheltercluster.org/response/nepal-earthquake-2015> to add or remove contact information. **Existing members must re-register before that time as well.**

New Reporting Template

- Visit <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3tcfgr8tqntzq0/AACgRrXqopO-2wiJ53Uw4Dla?dl=0> for up-to-date data files for your agency to use for data collection for the next reporting period. Don't forget to always use the template file from this location.
- Next submission (Monday, 5/25) any report in the old template will be transitioned to the new template, but going forward on **Thursday, 28th May**, all submissions must be in the new template to have your organizations data in the published reports and map.

Looking Ahead: Shelter Cluster Coordination

- Before emailing the Shelter Cluster team, please visit <https://www.sheltercluster.org/response/nepal-earthquake-2015> for any up-to-date information. If answers to your questions are not there, we'll be happy to assist you.
- Currently 65 partners are reporting information, and Shelter Cluster would like to increase that to all.
- Top priorities going forward:
 - Getting out to the Districts: We want to decentralise from Kathmandu and establish regional shelter coordination hubs in East (Chautara), West (Gorkha), and Central (Kathmandu) regions (similar to the UN system). Also want to have Shelter Cluster coordination leads at district level: will be looking for partners to help lead and support field shelter coordination groups in each hub, and have already begun establishing relationships for those offering to be coordinating partners.
 - Want to ensure that the Shelter Cluster strategy and guidelines technical guidelines are based on field realities and the experiences of partners -
 - Best place to access and input any technical advice and support is through the Technical Working Advisory Groups
 - Logistically, this entire process is difficult and we are going to do our best to set up (with our small team) the process and structure to be as smooth as possible.

Other Business and Feedback

Q: Attended three technical working group meetings and the meetings are too short. The meetings are good, but the discussion is superficial and there should instead be more time to get people experience and knowledge to dive deeper into the topics.

A: Making the meetings longer will need to be carefully weighed so we don't meet for excessive amounts of time. Need to refine topics for each meeting and ensure we have a clear output/objective after the meeting.

Attendee Comment: Shelter Cluster should be careful on suggestions of what a shelter kit should include since some kits still have not arrived and they're in the pipeline. Districts are varying on what they're asking and we shouldn't turn away organizations so fast since we're still in the emergency phase. Be cognizant that the pipeline is still backed-up.

Q: Comment: Will there be a hub in Dhading?

A: We're going to have one in Gorkha and this will provide support as a west hub, which includes Dhading.

Q: What does the Shelter Cluster know about the approved items that government has approved to import? Does it include tools for CGI?

A: We are aware of the list, and we'll provide guidance for what items should be imported for the Shelter cluster. Shelter Cluster coordinator will raise the issue to the wider operation.

Q: Will the national cluster cover relationships with the national ministry?

A: Whatever is discussed at the national Shelter Cluster meeting will be shared with the Nepal Government via Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC). Conversations at the District level will be different dependent on the district. There was a series of workshops pre-earthquake to establish how coordination will happen, this strategy will be revisited. DUDBC is the leader of the Shelter Cluster. Different organizations are co-leads with the government in each district and report to District Disaster Relief Committees (DDRC).

It was recommended that agencies continue to distribute tarps even if they have a plastic sheet because the plastic sheets will not last through the monsoon season.

If any of the agencies have problems coordinating the shelter cluster in the districts, please let the Nepal Red Cross know and they may be able to provide support and coordination help.

Shelter Cluster Meetings will now be weekly: Wednesdays at 11am

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 27th at 11am at DUDBC in Kathmandu.