Introduction to SOPs for Diaspora Engagement in Shelter Response & pathways for integration at the country level

Global Shelter Cluster Meeting

Thursday July 6th 2022
Why Diaspora Engagement in Shelter Response (DESR)

- Increased emphasis on the need for engagement and partnership with other non-institutional actors, such as affected communities and the diasporas* that seek to help them.

- The diaspora also plays a significant role in shelter response beyond remittances, including assistance in temporary or permanent return, utilizing transnational networks to mobilize in-kind donations and volunteer missions, supporting disaster-affected governments or local NGOs, the provision of technical skills and providing direct assistance through NGOs, and advancing advocacy efforts, among others.

- Their ability to provide this assistance may contribute to closing the gap of unmet need and insufficient resources, across different crises contexts.

* Diaspora here it is intended as Emigrants and their descendants, who live outside the country of their birth or ancestry, either on a temporary or permanent basis, yet still maintain affective and material ties to their countries of origin.
Why Diaspora Engagement in Shelter Response (DESR)

- With calls for **increased localization**, diaspora organizations are uniquely placed with the greatest understanding of their communities of origin.

- Diaspora commitments to their communities and countries of origin are life-long investments that extend beyond the lifecycles of any project or crisis.

- Diaspora offer **alternative interventions for shelter solutions** – with organizations providing direct shelter rebuilding in cooperation with institutional actors (e.g. PUSO and IOM), and Cash-Based Interventions such as microcredit shelter and retrofitting loans supported through the use of diaspora remittance funds.
Diaspora awareness raising and training on BBS and DRR

Maximizing diaspora role as multiplier of information (among diaspora and affected communities in countries of origin), sharing information on the importance of BBS and DRR, IEC material, and other solutions

Diaspora interventions to increase access to safer shelters through Diaspora Micro-Finance retrofitting loan and building safe shelters in communities of origin

Developing SoPs for GSC diaspora engagement

Solidifying partnerships with key focal points to strengthen diaspora and safe shelter interventions (e.g. local universities, religious institutions, money transfer organizations, private sector)
Under Global Shelter Cluster framework, a specific working group has been formed on strengthening diaspora engagement in shelter response (DESR WG).

This new forum has led to the definition of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), that were finalized in August 2021.

These key processes, as identified in the SOPs, aim to highlight the key actions that should constitute the core of a recommended framework for interagency coordination, communication and cooperation between diasporas and shelter actors.
Video on DESR SOPs
### DIASPORA ORGANISATION (DO)*

**Entry point:** Coordination & Technical Focal Points

* Apply to all DOs (individual, umbrella organisation, Global Confederation Humanitarian Hub)

1. **Define thematic, technical & geographic objectives** for Shelter & Settlements programming
2. **Map technical & response capacities**
3. **Disseminate Focal Points (FP) details & DO profile**

### INTERAGENCY SHELTER COORDINATION

**Entry point:** Interagency Coordination Team**

**GSC Global Support Team for global level, Shelter Coordination Team for Shelter Cluster or Working Group for in country/local level**

1. **Register DO FPs in relevant mailing lists**
2. **Support DO in navigating global and in country of interest coordination platforms**
3. **Invite DO FPs in relevant global and national networking & coordination events**

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* Key processes – 1. COORDINATION ENGAGEMENT
### Key processes – 2. PREPAREDNESS

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<th>DIASPORA ORGANISATION (DO)</th>
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#### Entry point: Coordination & Technical Focal Points

- **Entry point: Interagency Coordination Team**

1. Define thematic, technical & geographic objectives for Shelter & Settlements programming

1.2 Map technical & response capacities

1.3 Disseminate Focal Points (FP) details & DO profile

1.4 Register DO FPs in relevant mailing lists

1.5 Support DO in navigating global and in country of interest coordination platforms

1.6 Invite DO FPs in relevant global and national networking & coordination events

#### Entry point: Coordination & Technical Focal Points

1. Identify & strengthen Technical area of interest

2. Identify & develop Area for partnership

3. Identify & promote DO added value areas

4. Disseminate IEC material to DO partners and countries of interest communities

5. Implement safe shelter awareness activities

6. Build & maintain Shelter related Volunteers & Staff register

7. Setup & strengthen Response teams & their capacities

8. Create Hotline & network hub for information sharing

9. Identify Global and national humanitarian standards for DO to adhere to.

10. Identify Global and national Technical Working Groups (TWG) for DO to contribute to.

11. Identify technical guidelines & standards and IEC material for DO to use and disseminate, as for BBS capacity enhancement initiatives that DO could benefit from DO added value areas

12. Identify relevant national Response Plans & Lessons Learned to DO for themes and/or country of interest

13. Support in identification of agencies for DO to partner with, at global and national levels

14. Introduce DO to key coordination and information management principles & systems
Key processes – 3. RESPONSE

**Diaspora Organisation (DO)**
- Define thematic, technical & geographic objectives for Shelter & Settlements programming
- Map technical & response capacities
- Disseminate Focal Points (FP) details & DO profile

**Interagency Shelter Coordination**
- Register DO FPs in relevant mailing lists
- Support DO in navigating global and in country of interest coordination platforms
- Invite DO FPs in relevant global and national networking & coordination events

**Entry point: Coordination & Technical Focal Points**
- Entry point: Interagency Coordination Team

**3. RESPONSE**
1. Engage relevant global & in country response coordination platform and communicate updated FP contact details.
2. Activate response teams, and disseminate Volunteers & Staff register for response & potential secondment to SC/WG & other shelter partners.
3. Contribute to (1) needs assessments, gaps & duplication analysis, (2) response strategy & standards definition, (3) response planning & monitoring, and (4) relevant Technical Working Groups.
4. Activate hotline & network hub to streamline Accountability to Affected Population & Advocacy initiatives and messaging.
5. Adapt DO planning to National Response Strategy.
6. Engage with pool funding mechanisms if relevant.
7. Engage with other Dos to maximise joined interest & contribution to the response.
8. Support DO in liaising with in country coordination response platform(s), especially when no active Shelter Cluster / Working Group is activated.
9. Explore possibilities to include DO seconded staff in coordination team.
10. Involve DO in all Shelter Coordination relevant issues to leverage its added value, especially regarding Logistic, Market analysis, Remittances, Accountability to Affected Population, communication & Advocacy.
11. Assess and leverage opportunities to include DO in Strategic Advisory Group & other decision making coordination forums.
12. Support DO to access pool funding mechanism and operational, thematic & geographic response partnerships.
HRA is member of the GSC DESR Working Group and has been closely involved in development of SOPs.

Actions have been taken in accordance to the SOPs for Haiti:

- Diaspora focal point at country level to engage Haiti Shelter/NFIs working group.
- DESR WG inputs to HDERU during initial weeks of the response
- DESR WG support in setting up ONEDIASPORAR Shelter Cluster

**ONEDIASPORAR Shelter Summit** on June 16 2022
Man Dodo Humanitarian Foundation
Diaspora Shelter Case Studies & Initiative in Haiti

OneDiaspora Shelter Sector Summit
Ed Lozama, Founding Member
June 16, 2022
Pathways for integration – PHILIPPINES

- University of the Philippines Alumni Association of San Francisco, (2) Filipino Americans in Science and Engineering, (3) PUSO (Filipino Youth Diaspora Organization) and (4) PSRC (Pilipino Senior Resource Center) are member of the GSC DESR Working Group and has been closely involved in development of SOPs.

- Case study on Diaspora Organizations actions in Philippines

- Shelter Conference on DESR SOPS integration in Manila with Philippines Shelter Cluster and Diaspora Organization stakeholders, August 2nd 2022 (TBC).
Resources on DESR SOPs

Contact Chelsea Cooper ccooper@iom.int and Abigail Maristela amaristela@iom.int
Discussion points

1. What are the **challenges and opportunities** for Diaspora Engagement in Shelter Response?

2. What would be the **potential countries for future pathway** for SOPs integration?

3. What would look like a **community of practice** around DESR?

Contact Chelsea Cooper ccooper@iom.int and Abigail Maristela amaristela@iom.int