

JOINT SHELTER/ NFI & PERMANENT HOUSING SECTORS MEETING
Thursday, 03 February 2011 at 15.00 hrs, UNHCR Conference Room

ATTENDEES:

Name	Agency	Name	Agency
Laurent Raguin	UNHCR	Donald Sinclair	UNOPS
Zoe Keller	UNDP	Maria Alraret Vstvri	UNOPS
Chaminda Perera	UMCOR	Sivadharshani	Save the Children
Patrick Van Den Bruaene	WB	Leslie Jesurajan	EU
Ralf Thill	ASB	Donald	Leeds
Fuslan	Muslim Aid	J Amuthan	Sewa Lanka
Babra Zilly	Welthungerhilfe	Rishani	Oxfam Ausrtalia
Reinout Pieneman	ZOA	David Evan	UNHABITAT
A C M Rzik	Ministry of Resettlement	Klaus Palkovits	IFRC
Edward Fernando	HFHSL	Andrea Adler	Malteser International
Mithsiri Dias	Caritas	Sarah Wimaladharma	UNHCR
Michelle Berman	UNHCR		

The meeting commenced with the welcoming of the representative of the Ministry of Resettlement, Mr. A C M Razik, Project director.

1. NFI & Shelter Grant Update

A total of 112,686 NFI kits have been distributed among the returnees from 2009 to the 31 January 2011, out of which 71,783 NFI Kits were distributed in 2010 and 3,344 NFI Kits were distributed in January 2011.

UNHCR informed that though all agencies have planned for a higher planning figure for procurement and distribution of NFI kits for 2011 in the JPA submission, in order to avoid surpluses agencies should link up when procurements are done. Therefore, it was requested that all agencies should contact Ms. Cecilia Dahlgren, Programme Officer of UNHCR when procuring.

As of end of January 2011, 79,462 return forms have been distributed in Vavuniya, Kilinochchi, Mullaithivu, Mannar & Jaffna. Though initially the planning figure for the distribution of the shelter grant was fixed for 90,000, it is said that it is predicted to be higher as there are issues pertaining to the accuracy of numbers of old and new IDPs in Host families.

2. Update on Menik Farm, North & East

As of end January 2011, 17,749 individuals (5,427 families) are in Menik Farm, zones 0 & 1 and 1,179 individuals (339 families) are in Ramavil Camp, Jaffna. It was raised that a total of 2,475 persons are currently in Transit locations and are awaiting return. Out of 9,220 shelters in Menik farm zones 0 & 1, 5,365 shelters are occupied by these remaining IDPs.

UNHCR continues to maintain drainage with the assistance of UNDP, where 5,100 meters of road drain were cleaned in Zone 0 and 8,720 Meters of road drain were cleaned in Zone 1 in the month of January.

ASB continues to maintain shelters in Menik Farm. Currently ASB has maintained 1651 Shelters in Menik Farm zones 0 & 1. (1145 in zone 1 & 506 in zone 0)

Jackson Selliah, UNHCR Shelter Engineer shared pictures of the Menik Farm sites which have been decommissioned and used for various purposes. The Relevant sites and purposes are as follows;

- **Dharmapuram** – Used for rehabilitation of surrendered ex-LTTE carder (not decommissioned fully)
- **Sumathipuram** – Site has been handed over to farmers for cultivation purposes
- **Veerapuram** – Part of the site is used as a permanent Military camp, while the remaining land is declared as state Land and had been handed over to civilians for cultivation purposes.
- **Zone 7** – not used for anything
- **Zone 8** – Site has been handed over to farmers for cultivation purposes
- **Zones 6 A & B** – The sites have been abandoned. Indicates needs of cleaning the site as there are left of plastics, therefore UNHCR will work with implementing partners to clean up the sites.
- **Zone 5** – The site has been abandoned and has formed a jungle.
- **Zone 4** – Is used as a military camp.
- **Zone 3** – Currently is been decommissioned.
- **Zone 2** – Zone is been used as a Sri Lankan Army Training Centre.

Open invitations to all agencies were put forward to assist in the shelter maintenance in Menik Farm.

Trincomalee

UNHCR Trincomalee distributed 600 Tarpaulin Kits with the assistance of ZOA in December 2010, and apart from this distributed assistance to 1,500 families (1 tarpaulin sheet plus 2 bed sheets per family) for the flood affected population in January 2011.

Jaffna

- Number of Muslim returnees registered in Jaffna continues to increase
- Refugee returns continue
- Three GN divisions in the Tellipalai DS division were awaiting hand-over to the authorities for resettlement after de-mining activities.
- In addition the Regional Mine Action Office also announced that another 12 GN divisions in the HSZ, also in Tellipalai DS division were going to be released soon. The GA has announced the release of these 12 GN divisions and has

indicated that she would be convening a joint UN/NGO meeting to discuss shelter and related issues with regard to the resettlement in the newly opened areas.

Mannar

The GNs and local authorities have finally registered a total of 1726 Northern Muslim families as spontaneous returns to Mannar District.

3. Update on the Returns – as of end of December 2010

IDP returns continue and as of 27 January 2011 a total of 262,979 individuals (84,239 families) have returned to their places of origin.

Apart from the IDP returns, the voluntary Refugee returns also have increased during the last year and this year. We have received refugee returnees mostly from India, and some from Malaysia, Hong Kong and St. Lucia islands. As of end December 2010, a total of 2,291 individuals have returned.

Puttalam IDPs who had initially registered with the Puttalam authorities must de-register before registering with Jaffna or Mannar. UNHCR will provide them with the standard NFI kit, where as travelling from Puttalam to their locations would be supported by the local authorities.

4. Review of latest Data – Permanent Housing Sector

UNHABITAT calculated an estimate of damaged houses with the assistance of relevant local authorities. These latest data are from May 2009 to date. They have estimated around 166,618 houses as damaged houses of which only 30,045 are committed to repaired. Currently around 12,460 are in progress. 50% of these commitments are covered by NERHP. Since the break down Jaffna remains questionable, there is a tendency that the overall damaged houses could be lower. This data does not include the Indian contribution.

Update on the Indian contribution – Around three weeks ago, a new team of senior NGO teams visited the areas and have proposed a new approach in contrast to the initial proposals submitted by the Indian Building companies. This team proposed a Home owner driven approach. The allocation 50,000 houses will be among the northern and eastern provinces. Currently 1,000 houses pilot project is ongoing for mainly landless families and the construction will be dealt by a tendered Indian Company. It is said that the Private sector has shown interest to help; therefore a separate meeting had been organized. Further information on the Indian contribution will be shared later.

It was discussed that proper clarifications should be obtained by the relevant agencies confirming whether or not on the needs of transitional shelters.

5. Latest message from the PTF

It is said that some NGO's were advised by the PTF to not to provide houses to families of two persons, but to families of three persons or more. It was discussed that this could create problems among the agencies and the beneficiaries. Therefore, UNHABITAT will be discussing and advocating with the PTF on this matter.

Also a discussion on the beneficiary list suggested that though generally expected way is to use the beneficiary list provided by the Government Agent, different agencies have the list from different authorities. Therefore the representative of the Ministry of Resettlement offered assistance to advocate this issue further with the Minister of Resettlement and get back to the sector meeting.

6. Update on any new donor initiatives – Permanent Housing sector

It was shared that new donor commitments have been received from Aus Aid for 5,000 permanent Housing.

7. Joint Plan for Assistance for the Northern Province – JPA 2011

The final concept document was compiled and signed by both parties (The government & the UN) and was shared. It was later identified that there were few typos to which the sector leads has informed OCHA of. Also the sector lead approved all partner projects on the OCHA system. It was shared that all partners should login to the system (link - [http://ochadms.unog.ch/quickplace/cap/main.nsf/h_Index/2011_SriLanka_JPfANP/\\$FILE/2011_SriLanka_JPfANP_Projects_SCREEN.pdf?openElement](http://ochadms.unog.ch/quickplace/cap/main.nsf/h_Index/2011_SriLanka_JPfANP/$FILE/2011_SriLanka_JPfANP_Projects_SCREEN.pdf?openElement)) and check relevant project sheets.

8. AOB - Transitional Shelter provided by ZOA

Few photos were shown of some transitional shelters which were upgraded by the owners with the assistance of ZOA.

UNHCR further reminded that they have provided brick moulds to villages, which could be utilized when upgrading such shelters.