

## SHELTER/ NFI SECTOR MEETING

Thursday, 04 November 2010 at 15.00 hrs, UNHCR Conference Room

### ATTENDEES:

Name	Agency	Name	Agency
Laurent Raguin	UNHCR	Donald Sinclair	UNOPS
Reinout Pieneman	ZOA	Sanduni	Sarvodaya
Lorena Lando	IOM	M.R Chamla	Malteser International
Ashanthi	Sewa Lanka	Aldous Silas	ADRA
Priya Jeyseelan	ASB	James Stephenson	UMCOR
Divya Martyn	HFHSL	Rob Drouen	DRC
Rishana Haniffa	Care International	M. Balaramana	Save the children
Amenthi Jasinghe	World Vision	Michelle Berman	UNHCR

### 1. NFI Update

As of 28 October 2010, 62,375 NFI Kits were distributed among the returnees for the year of 2010, and a total of 99,925 NFI kits were distributed for the years of 2009 & 2010. RDF and SLF have been assisting UNHCR in NFI distribution. World vision has procured and begun distribution of these 3,000 NFI kits along side with UNHCR.

Further, DRC has procured an extra of 6,800 full NFI kits, which are planned to be distributed among returnees in the coming weeks. This contribution has reduced the gaps further below, and making the gap of 5,200 NFI Kits.

UNHCR informed their decision on revising the NFI kit due to the present and predicted financial constraints in 2011. Therefore it was decided not to procure kitchen sets and plastic GI buckets, as these items distributed during the emergency in 2009 is of durable quality to last a year or so. While the importance of procuring good high quality items was emphasized, it was mention that UNHCR will take action to continue to internationally procure impregnated mosquito nets for health reasons. But it was assured that this decision of UNHCR will not affect the NFI global package content details.

Further, it was urged from all agencies to advocate within their organizations and its donors in fulfilling this gap in the coming weeks.

### 2. Status on the Tin Sheets

As of mid August, a total of 3 Indian consignments of tin sheets arrived as a donation by the Government of India. Received the last consignment last week of 46 containers (168,000 numbers of tin sheets), and still awaiting confirmation on the fourth consignment (date of Arrival was not confirmed) to cover a requirement of 15,000 families.

Apart from the Indian donation, several other actors are now involved in procuring/donating tin sheets to IDPs in various activities. ZOA complimented on the distribution of tin sheets and their effective utilization. ZOA is currently implementing small scale projects in Kilinochchi and Mullaithivu of providing 1,000 lots of timber and providing support in using Tin sheets in constructing temporary shelters. ZOA also

informed that the Metallic frames (brought during the Tsunami period and are now at the Menik Farm) are been utilized in many return areas.

UNOPS informed that they had begun procuring 70,000 numbers of roofing sheets for 5,000 transitional shelters. These 5,000 shelters will be initially distributed among 4,500 persons and the balance 500 among the most vulnerable beneficiaries.

DRC also informed of the procurement of timber for 5,600 families.

An open invitation was put forward to the cluster partners on whether they could assist in procuring tin sheets in the coming weeks to comply with the monsoon preparedness.

### **3. Briefing on Menik Farm in Vavuniya (Cancellation of the need assessment of tents)**

As further to several discussions held in Vavuniya, it was informed that the needs assessment on tents and on how to rehabilitate these tents will not be conducted. The main reason as to why such assessment is due to the badly deteriorated condition of the tents and the inability of rehabilitating them. The importance of moving the IDPs from these tents and zones before the rainy season is stated wise to avoid an emergency during the coming monsoon period. It is best to dispose the deteriorating tents in zones 2 and 4. Also currently steps have been taken to decommission tents in an environmental friendly manner.

Currently a total of 22,724 individuals (6,834 families) are occupying Menik farm zones 0,1,2,3 & 4. Out of a total of 13,258 shelters in Menik farm, 6,966 are occupied shelters. A total of 408 individuals (137 families) have moved from Zones 2, 3 & 4 to Zone 0 and 1. Advocating continues by the GA offices of Kilinochchi and Mullaithivu to inform people of the upcoming monsoons and its probabilities of flooding the zones and its dangerous effects. A discussion too was held on these movements on striking a balance of action, as they should ensure that these movements are voluntary also ensuring their safety as these shelters may collapse and create a catastrophe.

The government has indicated that they will close down all zones except zones 0 and 1 before 31 December 2010. It was informed that IOM was requested by the government authorities to provide transportation for families moving within the zones of Menik Farm. But IOM has budgetary limitations in doing so and will continue only to assist in providing transportation to the returnees returning to their place of origin from Menik Farm.

ASB will assist in repairing of shelters in zones 0 and 1, and as of October 250 shelters have been repaired. Also ASB will construct 700 emergency shelters and 140 emergency toilets. ASB will not do any transitional shelters. ASB still continues providing a water bowser in Menik Farm. ASB will also assist in decommissioning 4,000 shelters when the IDPs are moved to zones 0 and 1.

DRC too will assist in repairs of shelters in Menik Farm as money has been committed for this purpose. UNOPS also indicated that they too have a limited budget (for around 3 months) for repairs of shelters in Menik Farm. It is said that CERF funding was released only for the ongoing activities in Menik farm.

Continuous drainage activities take place on daily basis in Menik Farm zones 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 and some blocks of other zones. The minimum drainage maintenance will ensure and acts as a back up plan if an emergency arises with the monsoons. UNHCR indicated that they have an additional stock of tents if an emergency arises.

#### 4. Return of IDPs to Ampara

It was informed that finally after the completion of de-mining in Thangavelayuthapuram, kanchikudiyaru, the last of the old IDPs would be resettled. The Government Agent has given the green light in resettling some six hundred families, who will be the last caseload of IDPs in Ampara. The cluster lead mentioned the importance of assisting this group of returnees and requested whether if any partner/s could facilitate any kind of assistance possible such as livelihood, community based projects, emergency supplies etc (not limiting to shelter assistance only) to this group of persons returning.

#### 5. Shelter Matrix - Vavuniya

A global matrix managed continuously by the Vavuniya Sector lead will be shared among all agencies for their inputs even at the field level. A summary of the matrix was shared as below;

<b>Summary of the shelter Matrix (31/10/10)</b>				
	<b>Current Population (families)</b>	<b>Transitional shelters</b>	<b>House repairing</b>	<b>Permanent housing</b>
<b>Vavuniya</b>				
Vavuniya North	3373	1114	551	3454
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>3373</b>	<b>1114</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>3454</b>
<b>Mullaitivu</b>				
Puthukuddirruppu	1319	-	-	928
Maritimepathu	6997	555	200	371
Odduchchuddan	4376	1539	98	698
Thunnukai	3610	634	381	180
Manthai East	2505	260	206	300
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>17488</b>	<b>2988</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>2477</b>
<b>Kilinochchi</b>				
Pachchilampalai	2151	-	-	245
Poonagary	5602	2639	97	605
Karachchai	20564	1240	300	2288
Kandawalai	6986	993	310	1589
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>35303</b>	<b>4872</b>	<b>707</b>	<b>4727</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>56164</b>	<b>8974</b>	<b>2143</b>	<b>10658</b>

This matrix includes shelter related activities (permanent housing/ Transitional shelters/ repairs) by village levels, which could be used as a useful mechanism/ tool of coordination of work to avoid repetition of assistance. This table does not cover Mannar and Jaffna.

Therefore, all agencies were kindly requested to give in their inputs regularly in order to update and share accurate information in the future.

## **6. AOB**

### ***Other Updates/ Discussed points***

- ECHO requested further information on the DMC stock exercise which took place in related to the rain contingency plan.
- UNHCR informed of plans on convening shelter meetings for the north in Kilinochchi in the future.
- 02 mine accidents were reported in October 2010.
- Further meetings and negotiations follow on the Joint Action Plan for 2011 with the Government of Sri Lanka.
- An official letter given to UNDP by the GA of Vavuniya on granting of permission for construction of Core houses were shared among the partners.
- It was informed by some agencies of not receiving approval from the PTF to move office or implement activities in Kilinochchi/ Mullaithivu. This indicates that GA approval is merely insufficient, thus the Cluster lead recommended that agencies should inform and get proper approval from relevant authorities prior moving office, planning activities in Kilinochchi/ Mullaithivu. It was also advice that proper registration and approval should be sought by these relevant governmental authorities prior implementation of activities.
- CARE informed of an initiative taken by the government to provide free electricity to the returnees, which concerns were raised on safety measures in related to the transitional shelter. Other than this the cluster appraised the initiative to be a good cause as in a protection element. Generally the transitional shelter is not compatible for electricity due to the cadjan used for construction. This risk could be minimized if one cement wall could be constructed resulting a revisit of the transitional shelter design at whole. Since the transitional shelter is a temporary means of shelter by nature one cement wall would raise the cost of a transitional shelter. Therefore a Suggestion for an alternative of a cement wall was brought forward, where a mud wall could be utilized to minimize the cost of transitional shelter.

**ACTION POINT** – Advise/ recommendation is sought from the Vavuniya Colleagues on the following issue. Further negotiations on this matter are to be convened by the Vavuniya/ Colombo Colleagues with the Electricity board.