

Sub-National Shelter Cluster Northern Donetsk

Shelter Coordination Meeting | Sloviansk

6th August 2015
14:30-15:30
City Administration Sloviansk

6 августа 2г.
14:30-15:30
Администрация г. Славянск

Minutes of the meeting

Present: Subnational Shelter Cluster, ADRA, CF Plich o Plich, CF "Slavanskoye serdtse", CF "Chervonie Mak", ICRC, IDP's Help Center, PIN, R2P, Save the Children, Slavyansk city council, SOS Kramatorsk, UNHCR, House of city mayor, Tvoya Peremoga, Krayina vilnyh ludey,

Agenda:

1. Roundtable introduction
2. Review of previous meeting action points
3. Update from the national Shelter Cluster
4. 4W data and non-duplication
5. Winterization planning
6. Update from participants
7. AOB

ITEM	ACTION / DECISION	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
1.	Information on Kiev Collective Centre utility rate reduction process to be researched	Sub-N Cluster	27 th August
2.	All to fill out winterisation planning matrix	All partners	20 th August
3.	Permanent Shelter concerns to be fed up to national Permanent Shelter TWiG	Sub-N Cluster	13 th August
4.	Information on cash grants requested to be available to local organisations	Sub-N Cluster	27 th August
5.	Meeting on heavily damaged shelter to be held with key partners when more information available	Specific partners	Ongoing

1. Roundtable introduction

2. Review of previous meeting action points

- Sub-national Cluster to ensure all Sub-national partners receive national mailouts of reports, maps
- Specific winterization meeting was held, update to be given
- All partners reminded to feed into reporting tools
- Heavily damaged housing to be discussed again

3. Update from the national Shelter Cluster

- Permanent Shelter Technical Working Group
 - Meeting has been postponed, so no update can be given
 - Partners instead requested for key talking points for the Sub-national Cluster to feed into the meeting
 - Heavily damaged and completely destroyed housing remains a key issue
 - Partners would appreciate update on initiatives in Kiev (UN/INGO and government)
 - Housing for displaced families not wishing to return and exhausting savings remains a concern. Currently few supported housing solutions for them.
- Cash for rent
 - Shelter Cluster has been working with key partners to develop recommendations for cash for rent assistance, for programs that will be starting in the coming months
 - Sub-national Cluster Coordinator briefly presented the harmonization recommendations
 - Partners requested information on program location, whether referrals are possible, when available

4. 4W data and non-duplication

- Improved 4W data presented
- Partners reminded of 10th August reporting deadline for new 4W update

5. Winterization planning

- Winterisation planning process
 - Two meetings have been held with organisations planning large-scale assistance. Harmonization of winterization assistance will be made where possible, along with targeting geographically and of the most vulnerable.
- Collective Centre utility prices issue raised

- Collective Centres which pay commercial utility rates are struggling already to pay
- It is apparently possible to get a rate reduction if the status of the building is changed. Little or no progress was made on this in Sloviansk last year.
- In Troshkovka, managed to reduce utility bills, by signing contract for rental with local government
- Deputy Governor: this issue was raised in the meeting earlier today; Deputy Governor will speak with the Governor about utility prices
- Some Kiev Collective Centres have managed to get a rate reduction. → Sub-national Cluster Coordinator will follow up to find out how.
- Identified Winterisation priorities
 - Repair of damaged houses
 - Provision of coal and wood for heating
 - Need to have funding for people in Collective Centres, as well as those renting apartments
 - Noted that hosting families will likely need support if using own resources to pay extra utility bills etc
- Mapping of planned assistance
 - Several local organisations confirmed they will likely undertake winterization assistance, but quantity will depend on supply
 - → A table will be circulated to input information on assistance that might take place
- *Question on Shelter Cluster / UNHCR strategy / Collective Centres*
 - Question on the main goals of the Cluster
 - Sub-National Coordinator: Coordination, ensuring good planning of humanitarian assistance, advocacy on the key issues at local level back to Kiev organisations and donors. Doesn't implement any assistance.
 - Question on what is the strategy of the Shelter Cluster and UN with regards to Collective Centres
 - UNHCR: the strategy of the sector is guided by the global guidelines for shelter – where the last option is collective centres or camps. Sometimes there are transit centres, that then people can't afford or aren't able to leave. Cash grants are often a good option to help people leave, for example for renting accommodation
 - Issue raised on how to help people leave CC
 - Suggestion to limit time people can spend in CC, and to help people to leave
 - UNHCR: if people can only stay a certain amount of time for free this must be clearly communicated to people before they move in

- Deputy Governor: this issue has been discussed for while, many CC have large debts
- *Question on what assistance available for those with heavily damaged houses*
 - Sub-N Cluster: most humanitarian assistance focuses on emergency help, and is guided partly by how many people can be helped with a limited amount of money – and lifesaving help is always prioritized
 - ADRA:
 - Working on pilot project for heavily damaged housing. So far not funded.
 - Need to discuss with local authorities the way they can help, and how much assistance ADRA as an NGO gives
 - UNHCR
 - UNHCR thinking about housing reconstruction, and has also spoken with City Authorities in Sloviansk about this previously
 - Vice-Governor: reconstruction should emphasize local production, to boost labour
 - → a separate meeting can be held on this, once there are more updates

6. Update from participants

As updates were given throughout the meeting on priorities, it was decided not to repeat in a specific agenda point.

7. AOB

- Cash grants
 - Is it possible for a family who has a large amount of debt from banks for paying for repair of houses?
 - Sub-N Cluster: will depend on eligibility criteria of individual agencies. Families with large debts who don't have an income, for example, might be eligible for a cash grant, but it would be intended for current expenditures not to pay off debt
 - Concern raised about cash grants, and beneficiaries not spending on intended items
 - Sub-national Cluster Coordinator: This is always a possibility for such assistance, a risk which should be minimized with careful beneficiary selection, and referral to other assistance where this is available
 - More information on INGOs' cash grants programs was requested
 - Do organisations have referrals available?
 - Do organisations help with filling in documents?
 - How are beneficiaries selected?