

CURRENT SITUATION

UNLESS FUNDING FOR SHELTER INCREASES, EARTHQUAKE AFFECTED POPULATIONS WILL REMAIN AT-RISK. The shelter response remains severely under-funded: of the US\$98.2m of the required funding for shelter in the UN Flash Appeal, only US\$24.2m has been received to date. Families will become increasingly vulnerable to the flooding and landslides expected during the monsoon and will also be in need of additional non-food items and shelter support for the coming winter.

Funding for Shelter in the UN Flash Appeal	TARGET USD millions	RECEIVED USD millions	GAP USD millions
	98.2	24.2	74

ENCOURAGING GENDER AND DIVERSITY AWARENESS IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE. Shelter is more than just the provision of materials or the construction of a physical structure; it is also a process essential to the creation of an environment where people can begin rebuild their lives in safety and dignity. As such the integration of gender and diversity analysis into all phases of the reconstruction is key. One of the gaps we are beginning to address is that of gender reporting in the 14 priority districts, of which 19% of households are female-headed.

HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF FAMILIES ARE STILL LIVING BENEATH TARPS, RUDIMENTARY SHELTERS OR IN UNSAFE DAMAGED BUILDINGS. Shelter Cluster is targeting support to 350,000 households with emergency shelter (tents and tarpaulins). Shelter Cluster partners have reported that 229,255 households have been supported to date. A further 49,898 tarpaulins are in the process of being distributed and 147,000 are in the pipeline.

BASIC EMERGENCY SHELTER HAS NOT REACHED EVERYONE YET. Even if all planned tarpaulins are delivered, the shelter cluster target will not be fully reached. Some households have only received initial distributions of one tarpaulin, rather than the recommended two. Other households in very hard to reach locations are yet to be accessed.

	TARGET # Households	REACHED # Households	GAP # Households
Emergency shelter	250,000	230,453	19,547
Non-Food Items	100,000	90,370	9,630

SELF-RECOVERY SUPPORT REMAINS INADEQUATE, ONLY 6% ACHIEVED. The Shelter Cluster also aims to reach 125,000 affected and most vulnerable households with shelter solutions that progressively contribute and promote appropriate long-term self-recovery. Only six per cent of this target has been reached. Unfortunately, limitations of funding and availability of CGI in-country and the application of custom duties has made this a major challenge. Training, information and outreach support is also needed to ensure these structures are safe and resilient.

	TARGET	REACHED	GAP
	# Households	# Households	# Households
Self-recovery (NPR 15,000 / CGI)	125,000	11,600	113,400

IMMEDIATE PRIORITIES

SCALING UP FUNDING AND DISTRIBUTIONS OF EMERGENCY SHELTER, CASH AND CGI

The Shelter Cluster is working with Government, donors and relief agencies to scale up the distribution of shelter support ahead of the monsoon and to ensure appropriate targeting of limited resources. Priority is given to hard-to-reach locations where access may be cut off in a matter of days or weeks. Together with Logistics and other clusters, efforts are underway to identify areas for helicopter operations and track available stock in-country. Additionally, targeting/prioritisation tool has also been developed to support agencies address the needs of the most vulnerable households.

MONSOON AND WINTER PREPAREDNESS

Much of the shelter support which has been provided so far is emergency by nature, using items which are not expected to last through multiple monsoons and winters, and shelters made from these materials will need to be repaired or replaced. At the same time, opportunities are present, to give shelter support which addresses both monsoon and winter needs at the same time, whilst also supporting families on an incremental approach to eventual reconstruction.

Monsoon season puts much of Nepal at increased risk for floods, landslides, avalanches, and public health emergencies. Potential scenarios include diminished road access, destroyed or damaged temporary shelters and homes, population displacement, damaged infrastructure, loss of access to water systems and disease outbreak. Adequate preparation involves inter-cluster coordination, ensuring that all preparedness needs are met.

With monsoon already beginning in some districts and just around the corner in others, the Shelter Cluster is developing preparedness plans in high-risk districts to map hazardous locations, support stockpiling of shelter items, and identify agencies in a position to scale up

their current response to meet additional shelter needs. Currently the Shelter Cluster estimates that current emergency shelter stocks are inadequate for the coming monsoon.

Much like monsoon season, winter in Nepal can be very treacherous and requires additional preparedness planning. Many earthquake affected villages are located in hilly or mountainous regions which experience very cold temperatures dropping 6° C per every 1,000 meter increase in altitude. The Shelter Cluster will soon commence risk assessments and coordination with Government and partners to meet the needs for winterized shelter and NFIs.

STRENGTHENING DISTRICT LEVEL COORDINATION

A key challenge for Shelter Cluster coordination is the decentralized nature of the response operation. With some 39 districts affected across the country and 14 priority districts, each with their own district level coordination mechanisms led by the Chief District Officer and District Disaster Relief Committee, the flow of information between local and national levels is complex. The Shelter Cluster is in process to identify Shelter Cluster Focal Points from partner agencies for all 14 priority districts, supported by three roaming hub coordinators for the east, west and central regions. Information Management support is also being scaled up enable better tracking of shelter needs, distributions and gaps at District, Village and Ward levels to facilitate response planning.

RECOVERY AND RECONSTRUCTION

The Government of Nepal has released their Post Disaster Needs Assessment which outlines the long term multi-year settlement and housing recovery needs and plans.

The Shelter Cluster is establishing a Recovery Working Group to support the development of a strategy for engagement in that process and support coordination with the some 30 partner agencies that have expressed interest in assisting early recovery efforts with their disaster and reconstruction expertise. This group will also support the development of a transition/exit strategy for the Shelter Cluster in the longer term.

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