

## Shelter Technical Working Group (TWiG) Myitkyina

## July 7, 2016

## **UNHCR Office, Myitkyina**

## Agenda:

- 1. Challenges of current shelter design
- 2. Presentation of current shelter designs
- 3. Proposed amendments to Cluster shelter design
- 4. AoB

Agenda Items and discussion points	Action points
Challenges of current shelter design	
Current design in based on an average of five people per household, but on the ground there may be more than five.	
Need to also consider the protracted nature of the displacement including birth rate and newly married couples.	
Privacy within family units suggested to be considered as well as for each family. Cluster partners suggested	
considering how to include internal privacy partitions within the cluster design. KMSS and Shalom do not currently	
include partitions, but they are sometimes included by DRC and KBC. Curtain partitions were proposed so that it can be opened during the day and closed at night.	
Some kitchens have been built in front of shelters, which is challenging as it reduces the light available. UNHCR advises	
building it at the back of the shelter units. KMSS highlighted that 6 x 8.5 feet kitchen is too small.	
DRC sought guidance on what to do if there are more than five individuals per household. KMSS and Shalom advised	
that it is the role of the CMC to advice how many shelter units are need during the pre-construction assessment.	
UNHCR highlighted that it may not always be possible to meet the minimum standards though we should always keep trying to meet them.	



Both KMSS and Shalom often house two small families of 1 or 2 individuals in the same shelter unit due to lack of	
budget; the main challenge is sharing a kitchen. KBC noted the challenges for IDPs as they thought their displacement	
was short term earlier in the conflict, but are now seeing it as more protracted and need more privacy including 1	
shelter unit per family and landscape for expansions and additional kitchen are a challenge in meeting standards and	
improving the camps. CC highlighted the need to record the gaps in meeting minimum standards in the shelter gap	CC to update shelter gap
analysis to reflect the needs and advocate for funding.	analysis
Presentation of current shelter designs	
UNHCR Shelter presented the UNHCR design for a 5-unit timber/bamboo framed shelter barrack.	
Metta are using metal framed shelter and may be constructing single unit shelters in northern Shan. Plywood shelters	CC to confirm and follow up
are used to reduce heat inside the shelter but are more costly.	with Metta
DRC have designs for shelter units of one, two and six families using a timber and bamboo. Metal frames with plywood	
walling can be used for 2 unit shelters. In bamboo frames, plywood partitions are used. A maintenance checklist is used	
for assessment for the CMC and IDPs along with the Shelter Monitoring Assistant. CMCs are always included in the assessment.	
KMSS used UNHCR's design for two and five unit shelters, using both timber and metal frames. KMSS has not changed	
their implementation from the design because it would require approval from UNHCR Geneva. UNHCR explained that	
the approval is required in order to ensure minimum standards are followed for the safety of displaced persons and	
exceptions can be reviewed if necessary; the existing designs are based on those tested in the field and deemed safe.	
The Cluster can request support from UNHCR Geneva on a specific design in needed.	
KBC uses a shelter design that is $7 \times 11$ feet per unit, rather than the UNHCR design of $6 \times 11$ feet. Uses bamboo	
flooring with vertical joists, as they are easier to repair. KBC can include internal partitions if cost of locally available	
construction materials does not increase the average unit price.	
construction materials does not increase the average unit price.	



Both Shalom and KBC do not use diagonal wind bracings as suggested in the UNHCR design because it makes it hard to fix windows and doors, instead short corner braces are used.	
KMSS do not always include ceiling braces due to lack of budget in UNHCR agreement but normally aim to include them to make shelters stronger. UNHCR requested KMSS to inform the Programme unit of such issues, as they would be able to discuss adjusting the budget on a case-by-case basis with partners. KBC noted that customary shelter practices do not include diagonal ceiling bracing.	
Four key areas of variance were noted; kitchens, wind bracing joists and partitions.	
Proposed amendments to Cluster shelter design	
KBC proposed to replace diagonal wind bracing with short wind bracings in the corner so it takes less spaces and allows for central windows. KMSS advocated to keep diamond diagonal wind bracing to ensure strength and safety. Agreed to replace diagonal wind bracing with short corner bracing pending review by UNHCR Shelter Expert.	
Agreed to change kitchen size from 6 x 11 feet to 7 x 11 feet.	
Agreed to include privacy partitions when it can be done without changing the overall unit prices. Partners will negotiate their inclusion in tending processes and include it in the BOQ. CC will share guidance on privacy partitions if curtains need to be used rather than fixed partitions.	CC to draft and share guidance on curtain privacy partitions
KBC suggest changing roof wind bracing from diagonal to straight.	
No agreement on whether to use diagonal or short ceiling braces. UNHCR Shelter Expert to advise.	
Agreed to use horizontal floor joists.	
Agreed to use fix rain gutters and drainage pipe to wall with an 'L bend' for increased strength when within budget.  Agreed to look into additional storage space if possible. CC and UNHCR Shelter Expert to advise.	CC and UNHCR Shelter Expert to draft & update shelter
	design



Agreed to increase attached kitchen size to 8 x 9 feet from 6 x 8.5 feet.	
AOB	
UNHCR Shelter mission from Geneva presented the UNHCR Shelter Catalogue	CC to share electronic link