

Technical Note on damage assessment

Data collection on the field is influenced by many factors such as access, time, key informants, sampling or systematic factors etc. Even within the shelter sector, general conclusions about the state of a home after damage without providing specific details necessary for repairs created more confusion. Therefore, this technical note aims to clarify the process and particularly the screening from raw data linked to damaged buildings into relatable information needed to meet the humanitarian needs.

The Cluster's assessment of damages begins with a **raw total of damaged buildings, which is included in the red circle.**

Acting as a baseline, the addresses serve as an initial entry point prior to screening the information from multiple local and humanitarian sources. It is used for all references, reconciliation for addresses that are reported as damaged and reported repairs and also in the future, for information concerning compensation.

The dashed blue line circle **represents houses with an occupancy** –tenant or owners. Important for determining number of affected people, this information fluctuates over time. It is a crucial indicator of displacement and of returns.

In Yellow, the circle represents the **# of the buildings still in need of repairs**. After more than 30 months, wherever and whenever is possible, the population of concern was implementing a significant level of self-repairs in parallel of the humanitarian lead shelter assistance. This parameter is fluctuating from place to place.

The blue solid line circle represents the **population who is occupying** his or her dwelling but also **is qualifying to receive humanitarian assistance** according to multiple criteria varying between organizations and projects.

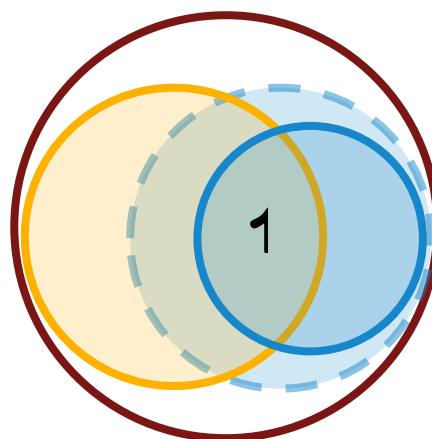


Figure 1 Scheme representing main screening layers.

In red, the total # of buildings damaged indistinctly to other factors.

In yellow, damaged buildings still in need of repair.

In blue dashed line, house occupied by owner or tenant.

Blue plain line, house occupied with beneficiaries who qualify for humanitarian assistance.

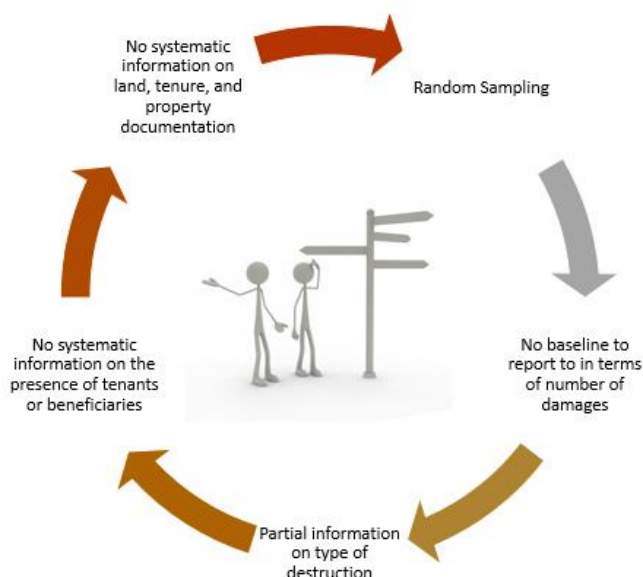
Point 1, the intersection of these 4 points represents the potential area for humanitarian intervention.

At last in terms of methodology, the triangulation of several sources implies the importance of taking account of several critical factors:

- Random Sampling versus Systematization of Sampling (clarified below)
- Time lag between data collection exercises (Date when data collected and available for use)
- Exact type of information collected (total damage, total repair remaining or net remaining repairs for intervention).

When a dwelling/household is enrolled within a humanitarian program

Rapid assessments non-sectorial targeting of information in the shelter sector only provides an overview situation in terms of number of buildings affected. At this stage, it is hard to determine a strategic direction in terms of humanitarian response, operational and bilateral coordination, and metrics for involvement with local authorities. Moreover, processing data from such assessments can take some time. When such data becomes available to shelter practitioners, data may only enable conclusions at a lower confidence level.



Based on best practices for a humanitarian response in the Shelter sector, a needs assessment and specifically a [damage assessment](#) should be conducted by all credible partners through the cluster system. In order to avoid unnecessary competition, partners may bilaterally coordinate and agree on coverage of assessment and repairs, marking off the home where they wish to work when the conditions below are satisfied:

Detailed assessment	Beneficiaries considered as enrolled in a project when
Systematic, per address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assessment systematic per address for the entire village.
Addresses reported acting as baseline	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Financial visibility of the NGO/INGO secured for the scope of work
Category of damaged systematically used	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reported by a total number of damaged buildings within the community. This indicator can be employed when trying to cover several villages located fairly close to one another in a concentrated territory
Remaining repairs not able to be covered are reported	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Remaining repairs systematically detailed and quantified with a Bill of Quantity
Stable return identified, with ideally go and see visit documented	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficiaries selected based on the permanency of their presence, intentions, vulnerability, and other criteria. Enrollment of local communities recommended as witnessing the process through signing of trilateral agreements between authorities, agency, and beneficiary.
Nature of the tenure of the building identified (OSBB, private, communal)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If at village level, uncovered needs are still remaining, referral done through the cluster to another organization.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HLP documentation collected and archived
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beneficiaries informed on their enrollment including a tentative work on their asset starting within the next 3 months

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