

**CLUSTER WORKING GROUP ON  
EMERGENCY SHELTER**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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The Cluster Working Group (CWG) on Emergency Shelter was chaired by UNHCR with the following members: IOM, UNICEF, WFP, UNHCR, UNDP, OCHA, IDD, IFRC, and CRS representing ICVA/SCHR/InterAction. It has been proposed that further additions to the CWG will always be considered, with a view to:

- Demonstrated operational capacity;
- Community-based approach to emergency shelter;
- Adequate capacity to participate in the cluster;
- Long-term commitment to building internal capacity in particular area(s) of expertise related to the Cluster.

**Main Elements of the Report:**

The Emergency Shelter Cluster should cover all types of emergency settlements and emergency shelter interventions.

- The Cluster will cover emergency shelter interventions for natural disasters and IDPs and affected populations in conflict related man made disasters
- A gap analysis will be carried out, once a planning figure for humanitarian intervention has been established (in close collaboration with OCHA's analysis of the CAPs of the last 5 years)
- Following consultations with the Logistics CWG the Emergency Shelter CWG agreed that actors delivering emergency shelter should have their own logistics capacity. WFP as the proposed Lead of the Logistics Cluster would maintain a surge capacity in logistics that could service unforeseen needs of the emergency shelter cluster.
- The CWG recommended UNHCR as the lead agency in emergency shelter for IDPs and affected populations in conflict related displacement. The CWG could not confirm a lead agency for emergency shelter in natural disasters, which remains one of the most important outstanding issues of this CWG.
- Key Cluster Responsibilities: mapping and increase of response capacity, identification of standards and guidelines to maximize inter-operability. Participation in preparedness, planning, response, monitoring, evaluation, resource mobilization, advocacy and knowledge management at the global and national level.
- Key Lead Agency Responsibilities: Facilitation and coordination of the key activities as described under the cluster through a Technical Secretariat at the global level. The lead agency is accountable for coordinating emergency shelter in a humanitarian crisis and will ensure that actors with expertise can contribute with their existing capacity. The lead agency will be the first "port of call" for the Humanitarian Coordinator when dealing with emergency shelter and will also have the responsibility as a provider of last resort (subject to funding on the basis of additionality).
- In situations where the lead agency is not present in the country the lead agency, in consultation with the HC, should decide if it will be the lead in that particular country or if another partner with adequate experience and capacity on the ground should be assigned the principal role. If the latter is the case, the Cluster lead, with the cluster should still continue to advise on standard setting, training, monitoring, etc.
- It is recommended to establish a (permanent) Emergency Shelter CWG with a Secretariat to map the existing resources and analyse the global gap to increase the global response capacity in personnel, stockpiles and logistics.

The initial capacity assessment indicates that stockpiles for basic shelter (e.g. plastic sheeting, blankets) for some 500,000 beneficiaries are in place.