

National Shelter Cluster Meeting – Kathmandu
1100hrs May 27, 2015 – DUDBC

Agenda:

- 1. Government Update**
 - 2. Latest Figures**
 - 3. General Update**
 - 4. Shelter Assessments**
 - 5. Technical Update**
 - 6. Information Management Update**
 - 7. Key Issues / Looking Ahead**
 - 8. AOB**
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Government Update – Rabi Shah, Deputy Director General, DUDBC

General Info

- Distribution efforts thus far have been pleasing. More coordination efforts between organizations are needed
- 2 temporary shelter designs have been approved. Soft copies have been provided to IFRC and others.
- Government has deployed 1 civil engineer in each of the 14 effected districts.
 - Civil engineers will lead district level shelter cluster with the cooperation of all district agencies.
- Training programs with the shelter cluster are available to affected people and volunteers for temporary home strategies and joint DUDBC/Shelter Cluster information materials about shelter construction will be developed and published in 1-2 weeks.
- For government questions and info SMS neoc1133.
 - Information also available at neoc.gov.np

Cash

- Government will provide 15,000nrp per family.
 - Government requests that shelter packages should be of the same value as the cash handout.
 - Communication about cash handouts is crucial to avoid duplication between government and agencies.
- All cash must be tracked. Government needs to be aware of the money flow.

Monsoon

- Vulnerable families need immediate assistance.
 - Standards for monsoon preparation must be created and shared immediately.

Issues

- If distributing to villages, agencies are encouraged by districts to have supplies for every family in the village.
 - Example: 20 tents to a community of 50 families. Delivery was denied and tents were reallocated to government schools.
- Each organization should send only one representative to weekly SC meetings to keep the meeting size manageable.

Latest Figures – Raul Ecay, Information Management

- Latest figures can be found on the following webpage:
http://sheltercluster.org/sites/default/files/docs/im_complete_report_2.pdf.

General Update – Victoria Bannon, Shelter Cluster Coordinator

- On the one month marker of the earthquake there was a press conference with the UN panel.
 - Key message was the emergency phase is not over.
 - Must front load money to get supplies out before monsoon season begins.
 - Only 26% of flash appeal was met.
- Flash appeal revision has been submitted. It will launch on the 29th.
 - Around 35 projects submitted but won't be able to accommodate all and inclusion is no guarantee of funding.
- PDNA recovery and reconstruction process is being led by the GoN National Planning Committee, World Bank, European Union and ADB. Some 23 groups established to steer the process in different sectors, will propose strategies for recovery and reconstruction.
- Proposed structure of the shelter cluster can be found on the SC meeting powerpoint (27 May 2015) and aims to better support district level coordination and information management.
 - SAG (Strategic Advisory Group) is comprised of government and a number of NGO, INGO and donor representatives. Most have been long term members of the SC. Future plans are to meet weekly to strategize and discuss key issues, and share with the larger group.
 - TAG (Technical Advisory Group) looks at technical issues and how to deliver on the strategic side.
 - TWG (Technical Working Group) deals with specific issues within a small group of experts.

Shelter Assessments – Rob Trigwell

- REACH currently leading shelter assessments. They will complete this task by the 1st of June.
- 8 of 14 districts have been completed.
- Final analysis report will be available online.

Technical Update – Siobhan Kennedy

- 6 technical working groups.
 - Capacity Building Training
 - Currently developing a common approach to review existing material and adjust to current concepts.
 - Key Messages
 - Communication support to villages. Working on messages to address with TAG. Links and resources will be shared on the SC website
 - Shelter Interventions
 - UN Habitat will take lead on coordinating discussion around permanent shelters.
 - The key issue for temporary sheltering is the monsoon and challenges of procurement and cash.
 - Cash Modalities
 - Cash coordination group is looking at shelter specific cash modalities that links to a broader OCHA cash working group.
 - Contingency Planning
 - Technical advisor responsible for this working group currently in Gorkha.
 - Winter preparedness also being considered.
 - Accountability for Beneficiaries.
 - International Alert is providing guidance in this domain.

Information Management Update – Raul Ecay and Richard Hinton, Information Management

- New email list will begin on the 29th of June.
 - Register at <http://www.sheltercluster.org/response/nepal-earthquake-2015>
- Spreadsheet version 3 is the new template for reporting shelter activities to the SC. Please submit all of your shelter data on this platform.
 - If you need help with the new version please contact at im1.nepal@sheltercluster.org
- Reports will be released every week on Wednesday.
- Interactive map is available on the shelter cluster website.

Key Issues – Victoria Bannon, Shelter Cluster Coordinator

- Working at a district level.
 - In each district the government coordination mechanism is managed differently.
 - The number of partners in some districts can place pressure on the CDOs and District Disaster Management Committees to tighten coordination mechanisms and place restriction on agencies.
 - Best way to mitigate is to ensure good coordination between partners and government (eg. sharing information and reporting activities through the SC reporting system) to avoid duplication and to ensure there is no major disparity between the packages being offered (eg. by following the recommendations in the SC strategy)

- SC will support coordination by identifying and training SC focal points from different agencies at district level to support those efforts, together with the Hub Coordinator and National Coordinator.
- If there are any difficulties implementing shelter strategy at a district level let the Hub or National Coordinator know. It may not be simple or quick but we are here to move things forward.
- Shelter packages
 - Government package is NPR15,000 cash. SC recommended an equivalent package which could be a combination of cash and CGI (or just cash ,or just CGI) but with the option to add tools, labour costs and other materials depending on need but with a total value not exceeding an additional NPR10,000 (or NPR250,000 total)
 - Not everyone will receive the same package, that is clear, but we must try to give packages of a similar value so as to not create tensions and inequality.
 - Data tracking will help to ensure proper distribution and will reduce duplication.
- Targeting
 - Not all agencies will have the same target. The important thing is to keep track of who has received support and by whom and to identify and address any key gaps in distribution, particularly vulnerable groups.
- Reporting
 - Our reporting at the VDC level needs to improve, the SC is starting to track it but partners are kindly requested to be as specific as possible about where distributions are taking place (ideally down to ward level)
- Customs Procedures
 - The procedures will be reverted to their pre-earthquake origin.
 - The procedures are available at the following link.
<http://www.logcluster.org/document/customs-procedure-nepal-bound-cargo-consignment-entering-india-25-may-2015>
 - There is a list of approved and tax exempt materials that are allowed to enter the country.
 - We are aware that some shelter cluster items are not on the list. The problem is being raised through various channels including by MOUD and DUDBC.
 - The list can be downloaded at this link.
<http://www.logcluster.org/document/government-approved-list-humanitarian-relief-items-nepal>
- Successes
 - The porter service is officially up and running!
 - This was an idea raised at a SC meeting and now is available in practice. Great success.
 - This service is available under the logistics cluster.

AOB

- IOM is supporting the SC pipeline thanks to the help of USAID and DFID.
 - They have begin moving towards new materials such as tarps, cgi, bamboo, ropes, ect...

- Details will be on our website when it is finalized.
- Bamboo is ready to deliver. If interested let them know.
- A \$2million order of CGI sheeting has been submitted.

Questions

Q: The structure currently proposed is for an emergency situation. How will we ensure coordination and support when we are no longer in an emergency model?

A: The focus of the SC working groups and structure will shift towards recovery and longer term shelter solutions. Coordination at both national and district will be crucial.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, June 3rd, 11am at DUDBC

- If your agency would like to present a successful practice at the next meeting please contact the SC at nepal@sheltercluster.org (we will try to invite 1-2 agencies to speak each week)

Please note Shelter Cluster meetings will be once weekly on Wednesdays at 11am.