

Shelter NFI Rapid Assessment

West Guji and Gedo

May 2019

1. Shelter Need Assessment Objective

This rapid need assessment took place from the 21 May to 24 May 2019 in werdas most impacted by the recent government return plan. The objective is to identify the current shelter needs, to recommend shelter solutions and identify potential areas of intervention according to the needs and the Operational Guideline and principles of the Cluster. The assessment was conducted jointly with the protection monitoring team to ensure that all protection concerns will be taken into consideration.

2. Methodology

The assessment was carried out by six teams composed of shelter cluster partners (GOAL, CARE, IOM, WV, PIN, CRS, ANE, UNHCR) and inter-agency protection monitors (UNHCR, OHCHR, UNFPA, UNICEF). The visit covered the six main woredas affected by conflict and return, Gedeb, Yergachefe, Kochere, Kercha, Bule Hora, Gelana and Hambela Wamena. The methodology used was:

- Interviews with key informants: IDPs, returnees, SMS focal points, kebele managers, woreda officials, and DRMO.
- Focus Group Discussions with IDPs and Returnees
- Direct observation of the living situation of the returning IDPs
- Secondary data from the latest protection monitoring reports

3. Overview

The shelter needs vary from kebele to kebele rendering to security, the level of damages of houses and other financial and social conditions. Few returnees have received support from the government and the items distributed were very limited, therefore the need for Shelter and NFI is very critical and time bound. In order to respond to these urgent needs, the shelter solutions will focus to respond in the following order of priorities:

1. Homesite return - totally damaged home, sheltering outside.
2. Homesite return- totally and partially damaged home, rebuilding substandard shelters
3. Homesite return - totally damaged home, sheltering in transit centers.
4. Homesite return - totally damaged home, sheltering with other families.
5. Collective site IDP, not at homesite
6. IDPs hosted in the host community
7. Return in home kebele, communal site
8. Return in home kebele, renting.
9. Homesite return - home not damaged.

3.1 Main Issues

Poor protection from the weather, lack of privacy, increased protection and security concerns, exposure to water and vector borne diseases, decreased family cohesion and loss of land and property document

According to protection monitoring report 71% of the returns claim they didn't carry any items during the return. In Kercha and Gedeb the IDPs returnees are temporary settled in transit centers such as churches and coffee markets. However, some kebeles like Guaracha Jaldy Badyia (Kercha) do not have any transit center neither werdas like Hambela, Banko Baya, Yirgachefe and Kochere where many affected populations have returned without any support.



Figure 1: Example of self constructed shelter (2) in Gelana by GOAL.

Those who have returned are **sheltering outside (1)** or constructed **substandard shelters (2)** with poor protection from the weather conditions. The werdas with high number of houses damaged are Kercha, Gedeb, Hambela, Abaya and Yirgachefe. Considering the number of previous returnees in this werdas, it's feasible to start shelter reconstruction programs as a first phase of the response.

Returnees **living in transit centers (3)** denoted that they are congested, for example in Egu Abay one tent is shared by 40-50H and similar situations have been reported in Bilida Saba Kebele and Ela Farda. These centers have very limited services (lack of water and latrines) and no NFIs. Sharing a small space will expose the vulnerable to SGBV and other protection risks.

Many **returnees are hosted by relatives (4)** because their houses are damaged and required shelter repair kits and NFIs, particularly school-aged children of these returnees have remained in the area of displacement to complete their academic year.



Figure 2 Example of damaged shelter in Eda Farfa (Kercha) by GOAL.

Moreover; half of the IDPs have remained 11% **in collective sites (5)** and 39% **in the host community (6)** due to security reasons and because their houses are either fully or partially damaged. These remaining sites are mainly in Hambela and are about to close in the coming days. In Dilla Town (Qera site) most IDPs are from East Guji, where the security situation is still unpredictable. There are three IDP sites in Chirico (Yirgachefe) that will remain as most IDPs are from kebeles where **the houses are completely damaged, these sites are considered as a returnee site (7).**

On the other hand, **there are returnees renting houses (8)** however, they claim that soon they won't be able to afford the rent since they haven't resumed their livelihoods. Finally, 23% of the **returns are back in their homes (9)**. There were many cases of secondary occupants in Kercha, and the authorities requested the secondary occupant to leave the houses and return to their land.

4. Type of Responses according to priorities

Emergency, life-saving shelter kits and bedding sets for those with totally damaged homes (1) sheltering outside are the critical humanitarian need.

People with fully damaged houses sheltering outside (1) require an immediate ESNFI response, consist of (two plastic sheets and rope) and a bedding set at a minimum¹. This is to provide immediate lifesaving protection from the weather, in line with Shelter and NFI Cluster Objective 1². Those sheltering in partially damaged homes (2, 3, 4), should be provided with a shelter repair kit to rebuild or repair their houses, the shelter repair kit comprises of CGI, nails, HLP support and cash to cover labor cost and some local materials. If repair kits are not available, distribution of ES/NFI kits is critical. Since the markets are functional (except in Hambela Wamena), Conditional Cash is recommended to purchase construction materials and ES/NFIs³. HLP support is necessary for most of the returnees have lost their land documents.



Figure 3 Shelters in Chirico (7) returnee site (Yergachefe) by Shelter

Those IDPs that are living in collective sites (5) or within the host community (6) required a more in depth need assessment to understand if they are willing to resettle and require support to pay rents, or if they need ES/NFIs to return to their land. Returnees in collective sites (7) in Chirico have receive assistance previously, but their living conditions are inadequate, cash for NFIs is advisable.

Those returnees in rental properties (8) would benefit from cash for rent response, particularly to support their sheltering until the school year is completes and security improves in the return location. Those renting, but without livelihoods, may also benefit from cash for rent until livelihood activities are resumed as they currently have limited resources for rental payments. People returned to their undamaged homes (9) are not a priority for ESNFI support.

Given the limited support and the lack of security and stability in the return area, the Cluster expect a secondary displacement.

Definitions:

- **Emergency shelter kit:** 2 x plastic sheets, 1 x rope
- **Bedding set:** 2-3 blankets, 2 x bed mat
- **Kitchen set:** 2-4 plates, 2-4 cups, 1 x kettle or jug, 1 x cooking pot, 1 x ladle
- **Hygiene kit:** 1 x washing basin, 2-3 x jerry cans, 10 x soap
- **Mosquito net set:** 2 x mosquito nets as specified by the Health Cluster
- **Shelter repair kit:** Roofing materials, tools and fixtures for door and windows, cash to cover some labor cost and local materials and HLP support.

¹ Shelter & NFI Cluster Ethiopia, *Standard Composition of the Emergency Shelter and Non-food items kit*, July 2017: https://www.sheltercluster.org/sites/default/files/docs/170713_esnfikits_definition.docx.pdf

² Ethiopia Humanitarian Response Plan, 2019

³ Shelter & NFI Cluster Ethiopia, *Rapid Market Need Assessment on Plastic Sheets*, May 2019.



The following table displays the shelter and NFI response for the different places where returnees are living. The number one priority returnees are those with totally damaged homes that are living outside.

5. Response Matrix for Shelter/NFI Support

	Totally and partially damaged home			Living with host family	Collective sites	Renting	Home not damaged
	Outside	Rebuilding substandard shelter	Transit site				
Priority	1	2	3	4	5	6	X – not a priority for ESNFI support
Emergency shelter kit	✓Critical	✓Critical	✓	X	Consider		
NFI: Bedding set	✓Critical	✓ as per needs assessment	✓ as per needs assessment	✓ as per needs assessment	✓ as per needs assessment	X	
NFI: Kitchen set	✓ Critical						
NFI: Hygiene kit	✓ Critical						
NFI: Mosquito net	✓ Critical						
Shelter repair kit	Consider after, or in parallel with ES response	Consider after, or in parallel with ES response	✓	✓	Consider if lack of tools & materials a barrier to return	Consider if lack of tools & materials a barrier to return	
Cash	Only if market accessible in lieu of in kind NFI or shelter building materials					Cash for rent	
HLP support	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
IEC and training	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	