



Minutes of meeting

May 6, 2021

Attendees

First Name	Last Name	Email	Organization	Job Title
Dave	Ray	daveray@shelterbox.org	Shelterbox	
Andres	Cruz	Acruz@gmail.com	Habitat for Humanity International	DR3 Caribbean program manager
Himshem	Him	himh@un.org	OCHA	Asociada de Programas
Kolamae	Pedican	kpedican@lilliereneefoundation.com	The Lillie Renee Foundation	Administrator/Social Outreach Coordinator
Jose Nelson	Chavez Rosales	jose_chavez@wvi.org	World Vision LAC	Asesor Subregional de Asuntos Humanitarios y Emergencias
Brenda	Eriksen	eriksenb@un.org	OCHA	Information Management Officer
Santiago	Luengo	santiago.luengo@ifrc.org	IFRC	Ops Manager
Denisse	Solis	denisse.solis@ifrc.org	IFRC	
Javier	Parra	javier.parra@nrc.no	NRC	Shelter and WASH Specialist
Luz	Tantaruna	ltantaruna@iom.int	IOM	
Andy	Stofleth	astofleth@sbpusa.org	SBP	Executive Director
Pablo	Medina	pablo.medina@ifrc.org	IFRC	Deputy Global Shelter Cluster Coordinator
Lilia	Blades Martinez	Coord.americas@sheltercluster.org	IFRC	Americas Regional shelter cluster focal point



Agenda

Time	Topic	Responsible
10:00	Opening	Lilia
10:05	Brief round of introductions	Everyone
10: 10	Hurricane preparedness – Main activities (as discussed last year) - Shelter capacity needs assessment - Shelter capacity building - Vendors database - <i>Other suggestions?</i>	Lilia and everyone’s participation is welcome
10:30	Regional Shelter Forum	Lilia
10:40	<i>Partners’ initiatives</i>	Everyone
10:50	Regional updates - SVG Volcano emergency response - Central American 2020 hurricane response - <i>Other regional updates</i>	Everyone
10:55	Action points	Lilia
11:00	End of the meeting	

Session recording

https://canadianredcross.zoom.us/rec/share/D_hk3MNRDmpbU2Sj0lnlzZ7U4u4LKZ4blhLqwJWTr8_x3By8jgUxQxHCnGV1ff-.SBQXlPsfGzjtBsW

Passcode: 3mhk2#B*

Highlights

- The Global Shelter Cluster will be receiving funding from ECHO to support green emergency responses. It will fund the development of environmental profiles at country level, highlighting key environmental issues in relation to shelter and settlements in specific countries. We will launch a call for expressions of interest, but if you know of a country interested in having this service, they can apply. More information in the Global Shelter cluster [website](#).
- Another tool is the development of shelter response profiles, like the ones shared here: <https://www.sheltercluster.org/promoting-safer-building-working-group/library/shelter-response-profiles>
- Better support is needed to link the national and regional level preparedness efforts.
- In the hurricane preparedness workplan, we need to include market-based rental support. NRC and IFRC have already developed guidance for market based rental support and there is a great opportunity to strengthen the capacities of shelter actors in this area.
- Please register for the HFHI Housing Forum at <https://www.forumlac.com> where will hold a preparatory session for the Regional Shelter Forum. This session, which will take place on Thursday 20 of May at 2pm (Central American time) will discuss the most relevant shelter issues



in the region and agree on the priorities to be addressed during the Regional Shelter Forum, to be organized the second half of the year.

- Important to build the capacity of the national emergency response agencies in the region, to raise awareness on protection and vulnerability issues that can be aggravated by the sudden close of collective shelters. Important to advocate for better communication and to be more inclusive.
- The Global shelter Cluster meeting is going to take place online from 7-17 June. It is a series of online events, such as plenaries, thematic discussion, etc. There will also be open sessions for anyone to present on a specific topic. Please register at: <https://www.sheltercluster.org/meeting2021>
- Please update your country focal points for this Working Group at <https://forms.gle/GFLwGrUJLqi7Sri2A>
- This working group will meet once a month.

Meeting notes

Brenda: OCHA is implementing 345W tool in St. Vincent & the Grenadines. At this stage, standardization of common terms.

Jose Nelson: In coordination with the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) we began with preparedness activities for the rainy season that starts in May 15th. It is very important for us better link with the regional level and we would appreciate an orientation for this.

Brenda and Lilia: REDLAC, which is the regional multi-sector coordination group is the forum where country-based clusters can link up with the regional level. Each sector should be represented there.

Javier: We need support to improve our shelter coordination at country level. E.g. In Colombia it is important to propose shelter activities to support the needs of the migrant population. As a shelter/CCCM cluster, this has been challenging but NRC hopes this can be achieved this year.

Luz: IOM has deployed two people to SVG, who are supporting NEMO with collective shelter management and needs assessment. Please note that in the Caribbean “Shelter” is the name for CCCM, so the working group covers both shelter and CCCM. There is no information about the number of people moving out of collective shelters, nor the number of families staying with host families.

Pablo: In terms of international response, what mechanisms have been put in place in SVG? If different humanitarian systems are been used, can you explain what those are?

Lilia: A CERF has been approved and the UN coordination groups has developed a UN appeal.

Luz: OCHA would be the best one to explain, but the Humanitarian network did notice that UNETT (United Nations Emergency Task Team) in Barbados, who oversee the UN response in SVG, did not follow all the due processes to develop the appeal.

Brenda: Understands that the SVG UN appeal went beyond the strictly humanitarian, as it included the environmental situation, which is why it did not follow the humanitarian architecture.



REDLAC – Shelter

Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter
Coordinando alojamiento de emergencia



Luz: In Honduras, the government started closing collective shelters, without the families having any way to address their long-term shelter needs. Understands that the communication was poorly managed.

Lilia: Indeed, the CCCM cluster is leading a multi-sectoral strategy to orient the government in the closing of collective shelters.

Pablo: It has been three months since the official activation of the shelter cluster in Honduras. Has the evaluation process started?

Lilia: Yes, the review process has started, and all clusters have provided their inputs.

Attached documents

- Meeting minutes
- Invitation to the session on humanitarian shelter and recovery session at the HFHI Housing forum.

Relevant links

Shelter response profiles:

<https://www.sheltercluster.org/promoting-safer-building-working-group/library/shelter-response-profiles>

Guidance on rental markets:

<https://www.sheltercluster.org/resources/library/rental-market-interventions>

UN Global Appeal and other information on response in SVG

<https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/saint-vincent-and-grenadines>

To register to the GSC Meeting (7th to 17th of June), click here:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=gXnD5WRmNEGKDGVD0q-AvvetY6rAG9tCpFpAWQaKE_VUNU00UIJPNEM0UDhGMzJRTEkTkdEMjWNS4u

2021 GSC Meeting page:

<https://www.sheltercluster.org/meeting2021>

Contact

REDLAC-Shelter convener: Lilia Blades Martinez – Americas Regional Shelter cluster focal point

Email: coord.americas@sheltercluster.org

Website of this group (temporarily): <https://www.sheltercluster.org/working-group/americas-covid-19-working-group>