



Malawi Shelter Cluster Technical Working Group (TWG)
Sharing Experience with IEC materials
Notes of the meeting held on 20.01.2021 from 11h-13h via ZOOM

Participants:

	Name	Organization	Mail
1	Shadreck Bulukutu Chirwa	MLH&UD, Department of Housing	sbulukutu@yahoo.com
2	Emily Mzembe	MLH&UD, Department of Housing	mzembeemily@gmail.com
3	Roster Kufandiko	Malawi Red Cross	rkufandiko@redcross.mw
4	Cecilia Schmöelzer	IFRC / Global Shelter Cluster (GSC)	cecilia.schmoelzer@sheltercluster.org
5	Charles Parrack	CENDEP	cparrack@brookes.ac.uk
	Lameck Nkhoma	CARD	Lameck.nkhoma@cardmw.org
6	Salome Mhango	CARE Malawi	Salome.Mhango@care.org
7	Mandinda Zunguu	CADECOM	mandindaz@gmail.com
8	Dyna Khonde	CRS Malawi	dyna.khonde@crs.org
9	Julie Ideh	CRS Malawi	julie.ideh@crs.org
10	Juma Masumba	CRS Malawi	Juma.Masumba@crs.org
11	Madalitso Jere,	CRS	madalitsojere@gmail.com
12	Lorenza Esquinca	CRS	lorenza.esquinca@crs.org
13	Enrique Sevillano Gutiérrez	CRAtterre	e.sevillano.gutierrez@gmail.com
14	Donald Manda	HfH Malawi	dmanda@habitat.mw
15	Jacqueline Mpanyula	IOM	jmpanyula@iom.int
16	Emma Lovell	ODI	e.lovell@odi.org.uk
17	Sonia Molina	Independent Consultant	sonitri@gmail.com
18	Stern Kita,	UNHABITAT	stern.kita@un.org



Agenda:

- **welcome, introduction and short recap**
- **sharing experience with IEC materials for shelter & reconstruction projects:**
 - CARE
 - CRS
 - Habitat for Humanity
 - Malawi RC
- **Discussion on IEC material**
- **way forward:**
 - confirm date for next TWiG meeting to start IEC review: Thursday 28.01.2021; as introduction IOM presentation on methodology for IEC review
 - short presentation of planned Shelter Learning day by Julie Ideh, CRS

welcome, introduction and short recap	Action	who
<p>After allowing 10 mins for participants to join, Mr. Chirwa from Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development, chair of the Malawi Shelter Cluster, opened the meeting setting the scope, encouraged all participants to familiarize themselves with safer housing guidance to be informed for further discussion. After everybody introduced themselves, Roster and Cecilia gave a quick recap of the TWiGs purpose and main objective to promote safer building practices with a special focus on how to reach people that self-recover after disaster with technical assistance to build back safer.</p> <p>To find the best ways to disseminate technical guidance to different groups of stakeholders, the TWiG is following a step- by step protocol to identify context specific issues, analyse key stakeholders and different communications channels and review existing IEC materials and dissemination approaches.</p>	<p>Please familiarize yourself with the safer housing guidance developed by the MLHUD for next meeting</p>	<p>all</p>
presentation of experience with IEC materials in shelter projects; Q&A	Action	who
<p>The following organisation presented their experience with using IEC materials to support safe shelter & housing reconstruction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salome, CARE Malawi • Dyna Konde from CRS • Donald Manda, HfH • Roster Kufandiko, Malawi Red Cross 	<p>Please share the presentations and related IEC materials with Cecilia</p>	<p>Salome, Dyna, Donald, Roster</p>



A variety of IEC and communication was described also addressing different phases of intervention from DRR and preparedness to emergency shelter and house reconstruction (listed in order of the phase not be agency that presented)

- PASSA (Participatory Approach to Safe Shelter Awareness) as community-based approach to raise awareness and initiate DRR activities that address shelter & settlement related weaknesses.
- Leaflets and demonstrations to explain use of emergency shelter kits.
- Banners with live presentations by trained staff directed at beneficiaries of material voucher fairs, to explain key messages for safer house construction.
- various trainings (always including a theory part and practical exercises) for artisans as well as VCPC officers.
- monitoring check list for VCPC officers to check adherence to the promoted standards.
- Theatre/drama/mobile van (or other entertaining events) to disseminate key safer construction practices.
- Model houses developed with community, based on local knowledge with specific elements to make the house more resilient (such as deep foundations, protection of the wall base, etc.)
- Technical guidance booklets and brochures addressed to artisans/builders, based on the Ministry's safer housing guidance and developed with different kinds of participation and feedback mechanisms involving key stakeholders as the Public Works Officers, VCPCs, or the artisans themselves.
- Door to door visits by VCPCs to promote and explain technical guidance.

Key findings:

- Different materials and communications channels are needed to reach different stakeholders.
- Key stakeholders addressed in the presented projects were the affected community, artisans and builders, VCPCs, Traditional Authorities.
- To be effective IEC materials should be presented in the local language.
- Trainings for the artisans/builders (masons, carpenters, other?) are critical to attain adoption of safer construction practices and have long term impact.
- Providing certificates for completion of the safer construction trainings (ideally as community event) seems to increase acceptance and probability to actually put the safer techniques into practice.
- Model houses seem to have a high level of replication within the community.
- To ensure adoption of safer construction techniques there needs to be some longer term follow up (maybe repetition of awareness sessions and trainings, quality control or other incentives).
- The Safer housing guidelines have been used by most agencies as general guidance to develop IEC specifically addressed to need to the respective target groups.



Discussion	Action	who
<p>In the discussion following the presentations the following points and suggestions were raised for discussion and consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainstream dissemination of safer house construction practices, into general DRR awareness raising campaigns and not wait until after disasters. • Ensure that IEC materials addressed at communities are simple enough for non-technical and even illiterate people to understand. • Clearly trainings of artisans emerge as one common thread to further discuss. • Meet more regularly to discuss common interest to expand coordination and communication with National level authorities (Ministry of Land Housing and Urban development) as well as regional level authorities and other relevant stakeholders. • Use TWiG as opportunity to agree on joint approaches that include all best practices and experiences to reach standards and maximize the reach of resources. • Consider exploring market-based approaches, involving vendors (e.g. to promote better quality materials) as well as exploring feasible financing options for low cost housing. • Make sure environmental aspects of local material use are taken into consideration. Explore and promote environmentally friendly materials. 		
Final Q&A, feedback and next steps		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julie Ideh from CRS announced that CRS is planning a shelter learning day that will allow to continue and expand the discussion including representatives from communities and local authorities. 	Feedback and suggestions welcome	<i>all</i>
<p>➔ After Mr. Chirwas concluding remarks it was agreed to look at the IEC materials in more detail and continue the discussion in the next meeting: Thursday 28th at 11h Malawi time.</p> <p>Mr. Chirwa also suggested to include the government logo on the minutes, given that the MLHUD is chairing the Shelter Cluster which is the umbrella of this TWG.</p>	Include logo on the minutes	<i>Cecilia, done</i>