

Shelter Cluster Vanuatu – Meeting Notes

Meeting:	Shelter Cluster Vanuatu - Cluster Meeting – Earthquake response		
Date:	12 March 2025	Time:	1600-1700
Meeting Facilitator:	Shelter Cluster Coordinator	Location:	NDMO

Agenda

Attendance: Jerry Talesa (IOM), Mansen Ahelmalahlah (IOM), Marianne Pecnik (IFRC), Terry Lancashire (UNDP), Julien Lamberti (NDMO), Guillaine Karegai (Save The Children), Elisabeth Araujo (IOM)

Agenda

Last meeting's action items:

- Updates from Shelter Cluster partners
- Technical working group update
- Technical updates
- AoB

Action	Owner	Result or status
Efate EQ Recovery plan	DUAP	Efate Earthquake Recovery and Resilience Plan
Efate EQ Housing Sector Recovery Plan (update)	DUAP	https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/sCRT29cumea5hnapwdkuf/20022025-Efate-Earthquake-Housing-Sector-Recovery-Plan-Update.pdf?rlkey=kgtrrhawdj9v600giy0eqv8po&dl=0

Agenda item 1: SC minutes No comments were raised on the previous meeting minutes.

Agenda item 2: Partners updates:

The IOM Displacement Monitoring and Data Overview highlights that there is currently a displaced population of 21 individuals, with one active evacuation center. Among the displaced, six households are residing in evacuation centers, while no households are being hosted by families.

The Vanuatu Red Cross Society (VRCS) has provided 16 shelter kits to IOM and has requested additional shelter kits. There is an urgent need for clean water and sanitation, particularly in Melamat. Some affected families are temporarily staying in churches. There are growing concerns about health and hygiene conditions in displacement areas and regions affected by the earthquake.

VRCS is planning cash assistance for shelter in collaboration with IOM and other Shelter Cluster partners. The selection criteria and transfer value are yet to be finalized, with an expected start date within the next few weeks.

Agenda item 3: Technical working groups

TwIG 1: The HBDA is in its final review stage by UNDP before being shared with DUAP/NRC and other partners. This assessment provides a more technical and accurate verification of housing damage compared to previous assessments. It identifies five types of housing structures to better categorize damage levels. The HBDA results will help guide the allocation of financial support, ensuring that households receive appropriate assistance based on verified damage levels.

TwIG 2: IEC shelter material: The Shelter Cluster, with support from IOM, is collaborating with BildBeta to develop IEC materials under the *Building SMART Houses* initiative. A Technical Working Group met on 3 March 2025 to discuss key aspects, including shelter guidelines, housing typology, format, language, and alignment with government regulations. The IEC materials will focus on resilience, supporting owner-driven construction and vocational training. A 16-week timeline has been set, with tasks assigned for drafting, review, and printing.

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Agenda item 4: Technical inputs

Debris Management: A significant amount of debris needs to be removed at the community level, with estimates reaching hundreds of truckloads. No immediate solutions or service providers have been identified for large-scale debris clearance. Coordination with relevant authorities is necessary to ensure the safe demolition of unstable buildings outside the CBD.

Fault Line & Hazard Mapping: Further assessment is needed to evaluate ground cracks and geophysical hazards at the community level. This is essential for determining safe reconstruction zones and providing guidance to displaced communities.

Targeted Technical Assistance: Strengthening collaboration with the Vanuatu Skills Partnership should begin immediately to support safe rebuilding efforts, aligning with the long-term recovery strategy.

Agenda item 5: The draft of the 'Shelter Cluster Concept Paper on Earthquake Recovery and Shelter Assistance Program' will be shared with Shelter Cluster partners upon completion. The concept paper focuses on key areas, including cash assistance, IEC materials on resilient shelter, skills development and training, as well as debris management.

AOB: The UNDRR Global Head visited Vanuatu. A roundtable discussion, '*Working Together for a Resilient Recovery in Vanuatu*,' was held on Monday, 17 March 2025.

Early-Recovery / Recovery activities by partners: Partners are encouraged to provide current shelter activities using this link: <https://forms.gle/4vPK8pzuavDhCAVF7>

Reporting (5Ws) and information management: Partners are encouraged to report shelter assistance activities using the 5Ws. NDMO Information Management (IM) team will ensure the data remains up to date.

Partners to update VRCS on stock levels and fill in the **Stockholm** register.

Earthquake awareness documents: we would like to draw your attention to the following earthquake related information materials that were prepared previously. We hope these will be informative and useful, until we develop Vanuatu specific materials in relation to earthquake resilient building techniques.

- [Earthquake resistant guide to timber design](#) - a good document with good and simple drawings although some constructions are a little sophisticated.
- [Promoting earthquake resistant housing](#) – good and easy guide.
- [Earthquakes don't kill people, non-engineered buildings do](#) – good example of one page document on what to do in an earthquake.

Useful links:

- [Shelter Cluster Common Operating Picture](#)
- [Global Shelter Cluster earthquake compendium of earthquake related documents.](#)
- [Shelter Cluster Vanuatu Earthquake](#) page (established for this Earthquake shelter response coordination)
- [Shelter Cluster Vanuatu page](#) (standing Shelter Cluster in Vanuatu web page).

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter Cluster Vanuatu technical guidance. This document is drafted in three parts to show (A) the recommendations for responses of the Shelter Cluster to natural hazards in Vanuatu, (B) recommended shelter and non-food items (NFI) technical specifications and (C) case studies and key references. • 5Ws consolidated data (Live) • 5Ws Dashboard • Meeting calendar for all clusters • Damage assessment dashboard • DECM Dashboard (new) • DECM PowerBI • All Clusters Coordinators Contact List • Choice for better shelter 			

Action Items

Action	Owner	Due Date
1. TWiG Market assessment – Shelter building materials	SCV	12.03.2025
2. Coordination meeting IEC material	SCV/IOM	14.03.2025
3. Roundtable Dialogue: To Coordinate and Mobilize Support for a Resilient Recovery for Vanuatu Post 7.4 Magnitude Earthquake	UNDRR	17.03.2025
4.		
5.		

Next Meeting

Date:	26 th March 2025	Time:	1600 hrs	Location:	NDMO
Comment:	Department of Energy - Conference Room				