



**SOMALIA SHELTER & NFI CLUSTER  
EMERGENCY SHELTER TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP  
TERM OF REFERENCE**

**BACKGROUND:**

This technical working group is convened specifically to address Emergency Shelter appropriateness, design, targeting etc. following the meeting resolution to constitute the TWG. IOM was designated as lead for the Emergency Solution Shelter Working Group, and UNHCR to serve as co-lead. IOM will assign a designated focal Point to support the group's activities. The group will operate for a limited time until the goals outlined in the Terms of Reference are accomplished.

Given Somalia's ongoing and multifaceted crisis, which includes a complex protracted crisis, drought, famine, and flooding disasters. Imperative of the cluster is to address context and expert nuanced emergency shelter as an integral aspect of the shelter cluster response going forward.

**OBJECTIVES:**

The primary objective for the Emergency Shelter Technical Working Group (TWG) is to establish consulted, coordinated, consensus-driven, and impartial platform menu of appropriate and cost optimized solutions, that define and validate the cluster's technical designs, establish technical standards, and ensure that appropriate technical guidelines are formulated and tailored to address the needs of the affected populations.

The specific objective is to foster and enhance high-quality and time effective interventions for Emergency Shelter I responses in Somalia that is tailored to the needs. The TWG proceeding intervention shall therefore be timebound to one year from the date of endorsement by the SAG.

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES:**

The members of the Technical Working Group (TWG) will be guided by the fundamental principles of impartiality, neutrality, commitment, confidentiality, and independence. Any technical guidance or decisions formulated by the TWG must be submitted to the Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) for endorsement before being shared and implemented by cluster members.

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE WORKING GROUP**

The key responsibilities of the TWG are as below:

- 1) Promote centrality of Shelter and settlements developments towards protection solutions mainstreaming and advocacies for adoptions and use of internationally recognized shelter response standards and guidelines (Reference: Sphere Handbook and other relevant resources).
- 2) Incorporate market-based value chains in technical shelter designs, allowing for local materials resourcing, vernacular typologies, Cash in shelter assistances, market systems and marketplace accessibility and functionality, evaluate options for in-kind assistance, and develop emergency typology options responsive to micro-climates, scale and scope of emergency and aligned to funding constraints.
- 3) Incorporate environmental considerations in light of increasing deforestation and post action site pollutions in Somalia's IDP settlement sites.
- 4) Undertake design interpretations in alignment with the shelter cluster strategy in Somalia.
- 5) Incorporate and adopt area-based conceptual neighbourhoods and settlement design approaches-based anchorage to appropriateness, functionality, livelihoods, socio-cultural dynamics, tenure security, and in ensuring accessibility, disability inclusion and allowing for design participation and accountability for the Affected Population



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- 6) Ensure design articulation is coordinated with INGOs, and especially national NGOs, who can provide timely information from the field, as well as drawing upon expertise from regional hubs.
- 7) Incorporate engineering concepts allowing for shelter mobility to promote returns and durable and sustainable solutions.

### **OUTCOMES:**

- 1) Comprehensive desk review of the existing Somalia shelter and NFI Cluster guidelines for emergency shelter, defining the minimum criteria to be acceptable for emergency shelter solutions.
- 2) Review the existing emergency solution shelter design and Bill of Quantities (BoQ) and adapt or develop new alternatives if needed tailored to specific contexts (conflict, flood, drought, IDP, Refugee).
- 3) Development and accessibility of repository of existing and developed designs (BoQ, Detail Drawings etc.) typologies by the TWG.
- 4) Share methodologies, good practices and lessons learned in the context of Somalia with the shelter cluster.
- 5) When required, improved technical tools (IEC materials, monitoring tools, assessment tools, guidelines etc.) for the emergency shelter interventions in Somalia.
- 6) Strengthened design choices based on comprehensive analysis of strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement, drawing from the expertise of partners and feedback from beneficiaries.
- 7) Better defined financial and cost analysis of existing and potential projects, using a classification per technical solution, and summarizing findings.
- 8) Promotions of improved linkages to other sectorial interventions for a holistic approach, agreeing upon a minimum criterium for emergency shelter
- 9) Improved scenario analysis to facilitate realistic and achievable action plans for the Emergency Solution and assistance priority determination.
- 10) Promote and incorporate capacity strengthening for government authorities, national partners and where possible encourage design competitions with inclusions of technical institutions.

### **COMPOSITION AND MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP**

The convened TWG shall include UN agencies, international and national non-governmental organizations working on humanitarian, and development assistances across Somalia. TWG participants are expected to allocate time and effort in order to fulfill the TWG objectives within the planned timeline and shall commit to:

- 1) Constituted based on technical expert matter participation, relevant expertise and experience in shelter and settlements development and overall site and shelter assistance programming qualities.
- 2) The membership from the partner agency, shall nominate one regular technical representative that will attend the meetings. These representatives should be the focal points for the agency.
- 3) By participating in the TWG, each representative commits to work towards the realization of its objectives to make time and human resources available to carry out tasks agreed by the TWG.
- 4) The Emergency Shelter technical Working Group will be composed of technical personnel from the below technical coordinators and recovery experts from amongst shelter cluster members:
  - IOM
  - UNHCR
  - Shelter Box
  - Mercy Corps
  - NRC
  - DRC
  - HAPPEN



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- Juba Foundation
- SSWC

- 5) The TWG may at any point invite ad hoc participation of any entity or individual, as determined relevant, on specific issues or themes. It is the responsibility of the TWG leading agencies (IOM and UNHCR) to ensure that outputs from TWG meetings are brought to the attention of SAG, followed up, and endorsed by SAG.

### **PROCEDURE OF THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP**

The TWG will meet at least monthly, and on the request of the recommendations issued from the cluster meeting or based on the request of lead agencies or TWG members to address urgent ad hoc issues. The SAG will further deliberate on how to adopt common position if no consensus is possible. Positions/advice will be recorded in minutes. Meetings should be held according to 'Chatham House Rules' i.e., comments are incorporated but are not attributable to any particular organization.

Agendas, minutes, and action points of TWG meetings/teleconferences will be published on the cluster website and circulated through the cluster address.