

Technical Guidance for minimizing the risk of fire spread between shelters provided by Kindling Safety <https://www.kindlingsafety.org/>



Fire Safety Guidance

Socio-technical context

- Environment and sustainability
- Settlement types
- Social infrastructure
- Culture, incl. social norms, religion, holidays
- Relationship with fire (positive and negative)
- Gender, disability & inclusion
- Daily living

Fire safety education

- Humanitarian sector
- Community

Prevention

- Means of cooking
- Means of heating
- Means of lighting
- Electricity
- Individual habits and practices

Fire detection and alarm

Evacuation

- Evacuation routes
- Human behavior
- Evacuation management

Minimize fire spread (shelter/building scale)

- Materials of construction
- Shelter contents
- Compartmentation
- Localized fire response systems

Minimize fire spread (settlement scale)

- Materials of construction
- Separation distances between structures
- Fire resistance of separating elements
- Fire breaks

Firefighting, search and rescue

- Incident command system
- Emergency communications
- Emergency vehicle access
- Water access
- Firefighting resources & training
- First aid & ambulatory service

Post-fire

- Fire investigation
- Fire incident reporting
- Healthcare: physical health
- Healthcare: mental health
- Building back safer

Türkiye Earthquake 2023 Shelter Sector Technical Working Group Meeting



Minimize fire spread between shelters (settlement scale)

- 1) Promote the use of non-combustible materials for internal lining / insulation (e.g., through winterization programming)
- 2) Maximize space between shelters
 - Sphere Handbook: *provide at least 2-metre spaces between buildings (ideally double the building height)*
 - Research from South African informal settlements suggests 3-metres is needed to prevent fire spread between shelters built with timber framing and corrugated steel sheets
- 3) Fire resisting elements may be needed between shelters and buildings in highly dense settlements
- 4) Provide regular fire breaks between clusters of shelters
 - Sphere Handbook: *provide 30-metre firebreaks every 300-metres in built-up areas in camp settings*

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