

HNPW 26 Extreme Heat Session Results

Background

The Shelter, Land and Site Coordination (SLSC) Cluster Extreme Heat Working Group (EHWG) met on 12 March during HNPW 2026 meeting to:

1. Share knowledge on shelter-based options to address extreme heat.
 2. Identify key action points for the Working Group through the next 12 months.
- The presentations related to point 1, on passive cooling and high heat index cooling, have been posted to the HNPW Session page and the [EHWG web page](#).

This document provides a summary of the results of three working groups (two in-person, focusing on advocacy and technical support, respectively, and one remote session focusing on both topics) focused on point 2.

In view of the Humanitarian Reset and the creation of the Shelter, Land and Site Coordination Cluster¹, the working groups looked more broadly at how the Extreme Heat Working Group should better address the needs of a greater range of interests than shelter alone.

Further Actions Identified

The actions identified by the working groups broadly fall into three groups:

1. Improving awareness of the risks from extreme heat by at-risk populations and humanitarian staff.
2. Improving access to information and learning opportunities to manage extreme heat.
3. Developing technical options and approaches for use in shelter, land and site coordination operations at risk of extreme heat.

Specific actions identified by the three working groups included:

- Focus on disaster survivors and IDPs.
- Develop an advocacy plan covering Cluster partners, donors and UN humanitarian coordinating apparatus.
- Better understand the economic and health consequences of extreme heat and use this evidence to argue for addressing extreme heat impacts.
- Build links to complementary programs (e.g., Anticipatory Action, climate change, Sphere revision) and to Clusters which also need to manage extreme heat (e.g., Education, Heat, WASH).
- Better define and explain different types of extreme heat events.
- Provide guidance for humanitarian operations facing extreme heat, but more broadly than just shelter and sites.
- Optimize local knowledge and capacities to address extreme heat.
- Develop a cadre of Extreme Heat Advisors.
- Develop case studies covering shelter designs, site plans and other aspects of extreme heat in humanitarian operations.
- For shelter:
 - Integrate information on addressing extreme heat into current guidance on shelter and household support.
 - Develop and disseminate options for hot weather, e.g.,

¹ Combining the Shelter and NFI and Camp Coordination and Camp Management clusters and the Housing, Land and Property Area of Responsibility.

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- guidance and designs for Cooling Kits.²
 - Develop and test heat-adapted shelter designs.
 - Consider competitions on designing shelters adapted to extreme heat.
- For sites:
 - Develop extreme-heat-appropriate site designs and options.
 - Assess and disseminate information on site-based cooling options.
 - For Housing Land and Property:
 - Reconsider current site design criteria to address site-level cooling requirements.
 - Integrate information on addressing extreme heat into current guidance on site design and management.
 - Improve knowledge on the links between HLP and extreme heat in the humanitarian context.

² Shade is both a shelter and site-specific topic.