

WhatsApp Group

Following the discussion in our last cluster meeting and positive feedback from meeting participants, we are moving forward with establishing the WhatsApp group at cluster level. Group rules are outlined below:

Purpose & Joining: This WhatsApp group is for Shelter and NFI Cluster partners operating in Sudan. The primary purpose of this group is to facilitate faster coordination during the current crisis and subsequent communications challenges. Any off-topic discussion should be avoided.

Please click this link to join the group, or share it with other relevant colleagues:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/CW1PwoFj7nZGLxBzai8iW9>

Introductions: Whenever a new member joins the group, we kindly request that they introduce themselves by sharing their name, organization, and their job title. This will help all group members to understand each other's roles and affiliations, fostering a more cohesive and cooperative environment.

Relevant Content Only: Only share content that is relevant to the purpose of the group. This includes:

- **Situation Updates:** Numbers of people affected and in need of shelter and NFI assistance, plans for needs/market assessments, reports of completed assessments, etc.
- **Operational Updates:** Number of people reached, activity type, modality, date/timeframe and location, including context and impact of your interventions, feedback from the affected populations, etc. Share both achievements and future plans.
- **Challenges:** Access challenges, looting of humanitarian supplies, logistical challenges, challenges with cash liquidity or availability of shelter and NFI items in the local markets, and so on.
- **Pictures:** Photographs that showcase completed shelter projects, NFI distributions, and logistical efforts, particularly those capturing affected communities actively engaging with and benefiting from the assistance provided, as well as photographs of affected communities, e.g., destruction of housing, villages, people sleeping outdoors or in overcrowded communal buildings, impact of flooding and heavy rains, and finally pictures of challenges e.g., destruction of offices and warehouses, looted supplies, damaged infrastructure, etc. Please ensure that any photographs shared respect the privacy and dignity of individuals depicted.
- **Guidance Documents and Opportunities:** Technical guidance on shelter and NFI interventions, lessons learned or good practice relevant to Sudan context, training opportunities, etc.

Avoid sharing any form of spam, advertisements, or irrelevant content.

Open Communication: We encourage all members to actively participate in the group discussions. If you have questions or need specific updates from other members or the Cluster Coordination team, don't hesitate to ask. This group exists to foster open and effective communication among all partners, so your engagement is both welcome and essential.

Confidentiality: Given the sensitive nature of our work, members are expected to maintain the confidentiality of the discussions in this group. Do not share any information from this group with non-members without the group's consent.

We welcome your thoughts and feedback on these group rules, so please don't hesitate to share them with us. I look forward to your active participation in the group and I hope this will be a productive platform for our cluster coordination efforts.