

## Shelter Cluster Coordination Meeting 03 February 2014

### MANILA, PHILIPPINES ILO MEETING ROOM

#### Shelter Cluster Coordination Team presenting:

James Shepherd-Barron (JSB) - Coordinator  
Victoria Stoddart (VS) - HLP Advisor  
Timo Lüge – Communications and Advocacy Advisor

#### Partners attending (26 ppl):

UNDP, OCHA, IOM, ADRA, DFID, Oxfam, IFRC, Peace Wings Japan, CBM, Wash Cluster, GIZ, Plan International, Spanish Development Corporation, Independent Architect, UNHABITAT, ICRC, Acted, Handicap International, HfH, MedAir, Relief International, ECHO

#### Points discussed during the meeting:

Timo Lüge updated Shelter Cluster partners on the latest numbers and operational developments (see presentation linked below). He also suggested that partners focus on underserved areas and contact the Cluster coordinators in the hubs to which municipalities are underserved.

Following the operational update, James Shepherd-Barron (JS-B) highlighted the current IM products, including the new dashboards. JS-B then presented the presentation he gave to the donors on 29 January 2014 to the partners.

#### **The presentation can be downloaded here:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/f14g8wun2ghoaj0/030214%20SC%20Partner%20Briefing%20%283%20Feb%202014%29.pptx>

#### Some key points from the presentation:

- Emergency shelter materials are still needed
- As a Cluster, we are looking at re-focusing on vulnerability
- We need clarity around temporary settlement (incl. no-build zones)
- We need to raise resilience awareness
- Transition planning is ongoing
- Main challenges for the Shelter Cluster are: Bunkhouse mitigation, temporary resettlement, supply and use of coco lumber, central procurement of building materials, cash, livelihoods as well as housing, land and property rights.

JS-B clarified that the Shelter Cluster will remain engaged in the Philippines in some form until November although the staffing footprint will likely reduce after April.

Dave Hodgkin (IOM) had just returned from Tacloban where he supported the Shelter Cluster's technical coordinators in developing eight additional "Information, Education and Communication materials" (IEC). These are one-page posters that promote key messages around "building back

safer”. These include among others: Site planning, roof shapes and roof pitches, foundations, tie downs, bracing, joint strengths, and roofing in general. Given the fact that many households don’t have access to the ideal means of building back safer, the posters will give a range of options for each topic, from weakest to strongest.

Dave Hodgkin took part in a radio show in Tacloban where he talked about how the affected people can build back safer. During the show, close to 500 SMS with shelter related questions came in. The question focused mainly on very concrete issues, such as bracing, roofing etc.

UN-Habitat announced that they will produce IEC materials on retrofitting.

The Shelter Cluster Team, together with Handicap International, is looking at developing a framework for targeting households based on vulnerability in addition to building damage.

Victoria Stoddart (VS) updated the shelter partners on housing, land and property rights. She emphasized that proof of ownership as criteria for eligibility for shelter assistance is an issue, particularly in areas where many families own land through ancestral domain without written documentation. VS asked Shelter Cluster partners to look at alternative ways to accept proof of (customary) rights as appropriate to the local context, if they require proof of ownership for their programmes. One Shelter Cluster partner suggested to direct agencies doing permanent or transitional shelter to areas where land titles are not as much of an issue.

Veronika Martin, the Inter Agency Response Coordinator for Accountability and Sexual Abuse presented her work and how she can help Shelter Cluster partners improve accountability mechanisms.

Open questions from the meeting:

- How can we appropriately react to the fact that local markets starting to recover. What is the strategy?
- Are NGOs interested in trying to mitigate bunkhouses, particularly given the reputation risks that are associated with the bunkhouses?
- Given that construction in NBZs is de facto happening, should we provide shelter assistance in NBZs? Since the government doesn’t have enough land, what should we do in the meantime? One suggestion was to be more proactive, and start pilot projects in NBZ. Agencies working on permanent houses should consider looking at multi-storey, mixed use buildings with commercial units at ground level and residential units on higher levels, thus providing some protection from low level storm surges.
- Should the Cluster advocate for long term initiatives such as trying to get the government to ban 0.2 mm CGI sheeting? Based on the expertise of the Cluster’s technical advisors, we know that these very thing CGI sheets are insufficient given the fact that the Philippines are faced with 20 typhoons per year. If we could get the government to ban unsafe building materials then this could have a significant, positive impact for all future responses.

Action points:

- SCT to develop operational guidance for Shelter Cluster partners based on workshops in the field
- SCT to share the draft ‘towards transition’ strategy



- SCT to discuss recommending a ban on unsafe building materials during the SAG
- Agencies to contact SCT whether they are interested in joint procurement
- Shelter Cluster to share and upload accountability tools via [www.sheltercluster.org](http://www.sheltercluster.org)
- “No-Build Zone” working group to be established
- SCT will start discussion with government on obtaining hazard maps for areas affected by Typhoon and where no-build zones are under discussion
- CBM to share information with SC on experience from Typhoon Bopha and the need of NGOs to remit taxes on housing
- At next SC meeting IOM will give 10 minute presentation of its programme