

## JOINT PERMANENT HOUSING, SHELTER/ NFI SECTOR MEETING

Thursday, 24 May 2012 at 15.30 hrs, UNHCR Conference Room

### ATTENDEES:

Name	Agency	Name	Agency
Laurent Raguin: Co-Chair	UNHCR	David Evans : Co-Chair	UN-Habitat
Dr. Mahesh Gunasekara	IFRC	Keti Khurtsua	IFRC
Carrie Howard	UNOCHA	Martin Studer	SDC
Dr. Keethaponkam	Caritas	M. Faslan	Muslim Aid
Paul Greening	DRC	Lakmini Dissanayake	ASB
Aslam Saja	ECHO	Hartmut Thomas	FSD
Michelle Čičić	ECHO	Harshi Gunawardena	FSD
Adam Schmids	USAID	Ivan Rasiah	USAID
P. Bandaratileke	IADRA	Elilini Hoole	ZOA
A.C.M. Razik	Min of Resettlement	Erangi Fernando	UNHCR
Ruwani Hettiarachchi	UNHCR		

### Agenda points:

1. Presentation by FSD - surveys and assessments.
2. Update on the Shelter Survey.
3. Permanent Housing Update.
4. Update from Shelter Cluster co-leads on advocacy with Indian High Commission/PTF on beneficiary selection.
5. Shelter Update.
6. Vulnerability criteria and analysis of data/assessments.

Pictures on the current situation in the Vellamullivaikkal and Putumattalan Grama Niladhari divisions in Mullaithivu district visited by Jackson of UNHCR Vavuniya were shown (*see annexed ppt for pictures*).

#### **1. Presentation by FSD – surveys and assessments.**

FSD conducts their surveys through community liaison teams. Types of surveys include baseline surveys, development of information guides and referrals to collect information.

i. **Baseline Surveys of Households** collect information about the status of families, their displacement information, age groups of family members as well as their gender and economic conditions. These surveys also find out basic information about what their livelihood conditions were before and after the displacement. Information on education, food security, food resources, special groups (differently abled, orphans, elderly people), WASH (level of contamination of wells), shelter and infrastructure, mine hazards which are linked to livelihoods and types of assistance received is also gathered through these surveys.

**ii. Baseline survey of Village:**

Demographic data collected from GAs and information about housing, water, sanitation, infrastructure, education, CBOs, are reflected in village profiles. This information is disseminated among development agencies.

**iii. Development information guide:**

Rapid assessments are done on five categories of the level of damage to houses is done. FSD stated that they are ready to provide any information needed by organizations. Maps indicating the mine cleared areas are also prepared. Task profile questionnaire outlines the exact location of tasks and also some sort of history about the village, facilities and social resources available in detail. Technical survey abstracts and photos of livelihood activities are a part of these guides.

**iv. Referral Form:**

Used by FSD to reach the organizations working in the areas of their responsibility. FSD shares the baseline surveys and development guides with agencies. Referrals also carry information about various projects carried out by agencies.

The above surveys only represent data related to the areas of responsibility to FSD and therefore, does not reflect the situation in the whole of North. Should the requirement arise, comprehensive surveys can be done. These surveys are important to prioritize the needs on a bottom up approach. Questionnaires could be adjusted to include shelter related questions – number of meetings have been held with shelter partners in this regard. There are a number of cases where the data provided by the GNs are quite accurate.

It was pointed out that baseline surveys are conducted at least three months after the return.

Halo and FSD are using the same questionnaire and carry out similar surveys except for the development information guide. Discussions are underway with OCHA on how the information gathered can be used for comprehensive needs assessments.

In Mullaithivu, all GN divisions except for the newly opened ones have been covered by these surveys, while in Mannar and Vavuniya not even 50% has been covered.

**2. Update on the Shelter Survey.**

In coordination with other agencies, UNHCR prepared a concept paper on survey of permanent housing and shelter situation in the North, which was shared with the Secretary to the Ministry of Resettlement and with some donors. Ministry of Resettlement stated that they had a meeting with GAs and their feedback on the Shelter survey will be shared in the due course. ECHO stated that this is a much awaited initiative and raised their concern regarding the three month period.

**3. Permanent Housing Update** *(see attachment)*.

Total damage is 162,000, out of which 58,000 for Jaffna is still a complex number. Generally we use about 60% of that figure for Jaffna (34,400). The overall housing numbers are felt to be accurate to approx +/- 10%. It is assumed that approximately 30% of families will 'self-recover' or not return. As such the total comes down to 100,000. It seems that the Government uses a similar number for those in need in the north and this has previously been confirmed by the Ministry of Resettlement at these meetings. So far approximately 35,000 houses have been committed by various agencies, AUSAID, EU, Red Cross and SDC , while a range of other organisations are making more modest but important contributions to the sector... The government programmes are now quite small and mainly consist of part-loan/part-grant schemes and take up is low. Additionally, there are perhaps 6,000 houses in

pipeline projects expected to begin later in 2012 (including the EU who announced at the meeting a commitment to a further 4,000 houses). And with the large 40,000 Indian Housing project, total actual needs gap comes down to a range of approx. 10,000 – 20,000. This however, does not include landless people or new family formations. The current assessment is on a ‘house for house’ basis.

There remains a need in the East to address conflict damaged housing and this could be in the range of 30,000 houses. The representative from the Ministry of Resettlement mentioned that the Government is looking at a 4 year plan for the East.

#### **4. Update from Shelter Cluster co-leads on advocacy with Indian High Commission/PTF on beneficiary selection criteria.**

UNHCR Representative had raised the issue with the Indian High Commissioner who was aware of the concern. The criteria had been agreed with the Government. When the assessment is done by the implementing agencies, it will be done based on a scoring system to determine the vulnerability. UNHCR Representative will also take this matter to the Head of PTF.

There had been new letter sent out recently from the PTF which does not refer to A and B lists and which gives clear instructions based on the scoring system. Even though the Government Officials have already submitted the A and B lists, the Government has now requested to assess the vulnerability of each and every family.

UN-Habitat suggested that information would become much clearer in the coming month and they expected that by the time of the next meeting the beneficiary selection process concerns would be answered.

ECHO noted that this is good forum for Agencies to share their funding plans in order to avoid duplication of projects. DRC highlighted on the distribution of Shelter Assistance Kits which is implemented in collaboration with UNHCR. Mullaithivu GA has made a request to DRC to assist in meeting the urgent needs of resettling families in PTK and Maritimepattu DS Divisions. Needs range from WATSAN, transitional shelters, livelihoods, mine clearance etc. Shelter and Protection proposal will be put together by DRC with ZOA. It is also important to share this kind of info among the district level clusters.

UNHCR requested that such discussions should first take place at the District level, as it was agreed since the creation of this Sector. This district-base consultation mechanism will avoid duplication. The outcome of the district-based consultations will be compiled at Colombo level for submission to donors.

#### **5. Shelter Update (*matrix attached*)**

1836 left in Zone 0 & 1 of Menik Farm. 151 barracks in Zone 0, 240 in Zone 1. Shelter maintenance is done by ASB, UNHCR and UNOPS.

At the meeting with the Secretary to Defence last week, there was a commitment that most IDPs in Menik Farm will be resettled by the end of June. The above request by the Mullaithivu GA reflects this plan and it is important that the Agencies get together and look at an assistant plan.

#### **6. Vulnerability criteria and analysis of data/assessments**

##### **i. IOM (*table enclosed*)**

IOM briefed on the vulnerability criteria adopted during the beneficiary selection process of their Transitional Shelter project implemented in Mullaithivu and PTK Divisions. (*please see table attached*)

## **ii. UNOPS**

Baseline study was done on selected GNs in 4 Divisions of Karachchi, Kandawalai, Maritimepattu and PTK. The summary of the profile of 300 families is as follows;

26% households/families were headed by females. Out of the above female headed households; 62% were widows, 20% separated from their husbands, 1% had disabled spouses, and balance 17% were either single members or unmarried. Again, out of the female headed households, the females were; 31% above their age of 65, 23% are between 65 and 55, the rest is 46%.

Out of the male headed households; 6% are widowers, 1% separated from their wives, 3% have disabled spouses and the balance 90% live with their spouses or single members. Among the same male headed households the men were; 12% above 65, 26% are between 65 and 55 and the rest is 67%.

When comparing the disability among the family members; 32% of the sample had at least one of its' member disabled (23% families had a single member, 8.5% had two and 0.5% had three members disabled in the same families). Only 68% of the sample had none of their family member being disabled.

When compared to the family income, 91% of the sample families reported their monthly income to be less than Rs.10, 000. 32% of the sample were noted to have more than two school going children in the same family. When compared to the shelter conditions; 48% of the sample families were recorded to be living in tarpaulin roofed improvised shelters, prior to receiving the UNOPS transitional shelters.

### **Compilation of Assessments - Follow up from last meeting:**

OCHA will be requesting each agency for more data on the various assessments conducted, and will compile some baseline information for the survey teams.