



\*Photo Courtesy: [NRC Yemen](#)

This document outlines a summary of ongoing deliberations within the Emergency Shelter Implementing Partners in Yemen to support conflict-affected families, preserve life, health, safety and well-being, and to live in dignity. It has been produced with significant input from Shelter Technical Working Group.

## Overview

The present guidelines are aimed at providing a common operational framework to Shelter practitioners in Yemen who are committed to ensure the best standards of assistance to population in need of this basic lifesaving assistance.

A practical definition of emergency shelter is of: "any easily to assemble, mobile, climate-resistant small covered area that can provide immediate protection from climate inclemency and safety for affected people". It is provided as immediate assistance solution and can be later reinforced with additional shelter support if funds are available.

Shelters provide lifesaving protection to families in distress by safeguarding them from harsh climate conditions, from external aggressions related to conflict or natural disasters, protecting from diseases and providing minimum privacy and dignity in living spaces.

Shelter support should be also aligned with WASH and if possible, with early recovery interventions. In particular, the site designs, site selection, availability of water and toilets and the coordinated way to assist women, girls and people with special needs.

The significance of emergency shelters rests on its critical importance to determine the survival capacity in the initial phase of disasters or armed conflicts. Harsh climate conditions and the absence of shelter materials in the area are of the ultimate concern for relief practitioners as those elements would shape the emergency shelter assistance programs. These aspects should be always considered together with the *Non-food items (NFIs)*.

In this guideline we shall cover the Temporary/Emergency Shelters. The Emergency shelters, should provide shield from adverse climate, preserving health, dignity and protection while increasing the possibilities of people to recover from shocks. These interventions should be always linked with future transitional solutions aimed at self-sustainment and building resilience.

### Shelter Interventions in Yemen

S. N	Stage of displacement	Type of Intervention	Typologies	Life Span
1	First stage (Displacement).	Emergency shelter	Tents, TESK <sup>1</sup> and EESK <sup>2</sup>	Life span of the ESK ranges from 1-9months with minor repairs.
2	Second stage (Displacement/Durable Solutions).	Transitional shelters	Construction and Repair of TS	Life span of the ESK ranges from 1-3Years with minor repairs.
3	Third stage (Early Recovery).	Permanent shelters	Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Houses	Life span of the Durable Shelters are +15years with minor repairs.

<sup>1</sup> TESK (Tehama Emergency Shelter Kit)

<sup>2</sup> EESK (Enhanced Emergency Shelter Kit)

## YEMEN SHELTER TYPOLOGIES

The Shelter Technical Working group (TWiG) collected the different Shelter typologies implemented by the Shelter partners in Yemen. The information collected include the background, shelter description, bill of quantities, technical drawings, photos, challenges and lessons learnt. The aim of this exercise was to review and produce final draft for shelter options for the whole country putting into consideration the different contexts implemented. This production is harmonized to allow for quick reference, comparative analysis and contextual assessment.

Shelter practitioners and other stakeholders may now easily access information on shelter types to inform their work. Future revision will allow for the further inclusion of new designs and these options should be considered as a 'live' resource. Different Shelter typologies for shelter partners in Yemen can be found [herein](#).

## EMERGENCY SHELTER KIT (ESK)

These including tents, plastic sheets and basic emergency shelter items. Emergency materials distributed are to provide people with cover from the elements and to provide privacy and dignity. Depending quantity of materials and construction works the life span of the ESK ranges from 1- 9months with minor repairs.

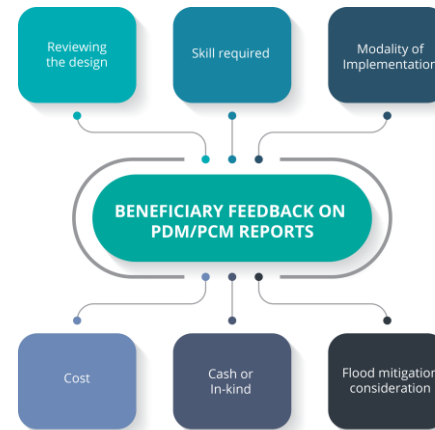
## TYPES OF EMERGENCY SHELTER KITS

- 1) **EESK (Enhanced Emergency Shelter Kit)** – The emergency shelter materials include: Plastic tarpaulin (4x5m), Saw, Hammer, ropes, nails and wooden pole timbers. for more details about the new EESK design and BOQ (for details see the [annex](#)).
- 2) **TENT** - The policy on tents distribution in Yemen can be found [here](#).
- 3) **TESK ( Enhanced Emergency Shelter Kit)** - The emergency shelter materials include: Plastic tarpaulin (4x5m), Saw, Hammer, ropes, nails , metal fender washer, Local material of AL KHAZAF and wooden pole timbers, etc. for more details about the new TESK design material (*can be found [herein](#)*).

## OBJECTIVES FOR REVIEWING ESK

- Improving the current ESK design and incorporating flood mitigation measures.
- Review of the quantity of the ESK materials, and it the current market prices.
- Review of the modality of Implementation

**STRATEGY CRITERIA FOR REVIEWING ESK** →



**SUMMARY OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS**

**DESIGN MODIFICATIONS**

Roof slope: The ESK roof slope has been changed from 10cm to 40cm to provide better slope for the discharge of rainwater

Additional one vertical pole has been added in the current ESK design, on the left side of the shelter one pole is missing.

Flood Mitigation measure- Providing empty Sandbags to the beneficiaries, the sandbags will be placed around the shelter for Preventing flash flooding. we don't do blanket distribution for the Sandbags. Sandbag is compulsory in exposed area (strong wind/ flood prone), For Sandbag solution to be effective; It is recommended that the flooding level is not more than 20cm.

Detail guideline on the Sandbags solutions please see the annex [herein](#).

**RAPID MARKET ASSESMENT**

The Shelter TWiG did a rapid market assessment for the availability of the ESK materials in the local markets, the specifications of the available materials, and most importantly the cost of the material. Therefore, based on the outcome of the rapid assessment, looking at the quality of the available local materials, the team arrived at the below conclusion for the International and local market procurement lists.

The cost of the ESK went up slightly from 233\$ to 266\$. The main reason for the increase in the price is the additional item (The Sandbags), The cost of the Sandbags per shelter is 28\$, and the second reason of the slight increase in price is due to the economic depression of the country.

## PROCUREMENT

Plastic Sheet	Saw	Hammer	Pickaxe	Nylon Rope	Utility Knife
Nails Box	Wooden Plate	Wood(Timber)	Sisal Rope	Metal Pegs	Sandbags

 Local Procurement
  International Procurement

## INTERNATIONAL PROCUREMENT

### Plastic tarpaulin

Size - Dimensions: 4x5m Weight: approx. (3.5 - 4.5) kg

Material: made of woven high-density black polyethylene (HDPE) fibers, warp x weft: 12/14 x 12/14 per square inch, laminated on both sides with low density polyethylene (LDPE) coating, with reinforced rims by heat sealing on all sides, (or two sides heat sealing and two sides double stitching), and nylon ropes in hem. 1000 denier minimum.

Tensile strength: minimum 600 N both directions of warp and weft (BS 2576, 50 mm grab test, or equivalent).

Tear strength: minimum 100 N both directions (BS 4303 wing tear or equivalent).

UV Resistance: stabilized against ultraviolet rays and excess heat for long outdoor exposure. Maximum 5% loss on original tensile strength under ISO 1421 after 1500 hours UV under ASTM G53/94 (UVB 313 nm peak).

Flammability: flash point above 200 degrees C (CPAI 84-1995, section 6). Color: white on both sides, with printed agency logo on both sides for maximum visibility.

### LOCAL SOURCING

All other materials are available in the local market. See the details of the EESK material [here](#).

## CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL

Plastic Sheet	Nylon Rope	Nails Box	Wooden Plate
Metal Pegs	Sisal Rope	Wood (Timber)	Sandbags

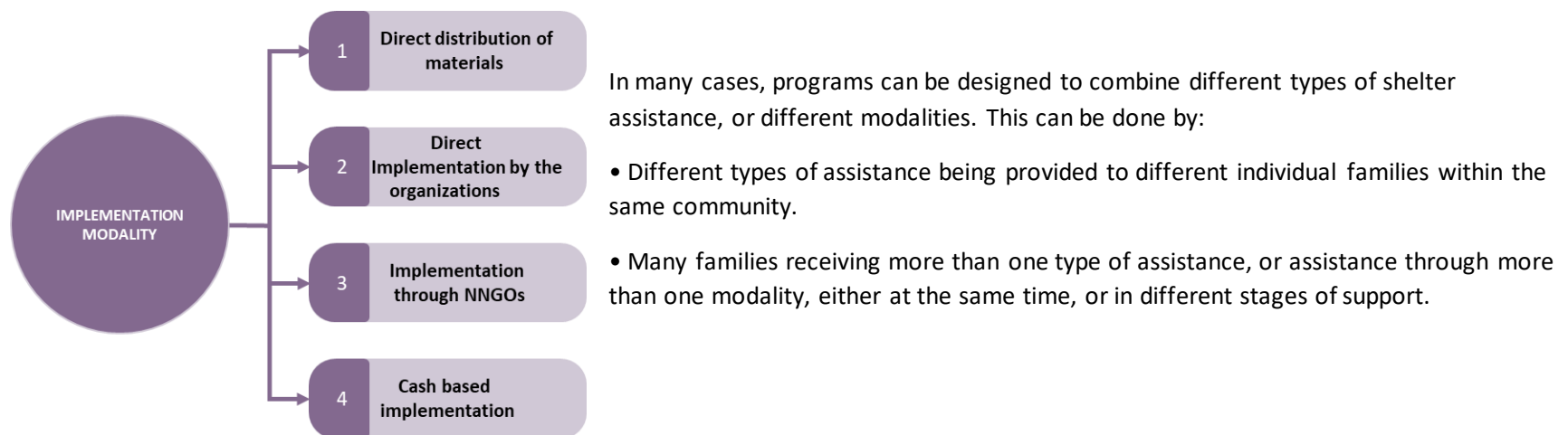
## POTENTIAL TOOL FOR CONSTRUCTION

Saw	Hammer	Pickaxe	Utility Knife
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The above tools will be distributed only when the beneficiaries are erecting their own shelters. Tool's will not be distributed if the aganecy is directly implementing or through contractor.

## IMPLEMENTATION MODALITY

Providing shelter assistance to an affected population can be done through a range of or combination of implementation modalities. Which methodology is best will vary depending on what type of assistance is being provided, our capacities and abilities along with those of the affected population. The following table provides an overview of four primary implementation methods used in Yemen:



### 1) Direct distribution of materials

Where enumerators and staff go into the field and directly assess and then distribute the materials, This approach assumes that a standard set of items are appropriate for all the beneficiaries, and it assumes that there are no safety and security concerns for either the distribution team or the beneficiaries then the beneficiaries erect their shelters. This modality is typically used in the first phase of displacement, when there is a need for rapid response. Organizations must take care to first ensure that the intended beneficiaries know how to properly use the material, It is also recommended that materials come with technical use information. Working with the community to empower and enable them to assist themselves and each other in recovery.

### 2) Direct Implementation by the organizations

When an independent contractor is hired to act on behalf of the organization to undertake a specific task on their behalf. This may include procurement, distribution, construction, and the shelter staff oversee the quality of the shelters.

### 3) Implementation through NNGOs

Implementation through or in partnership with a non-profit organization with similar goals and objectives.

UN agencies usually use this approach because the Implementing partner (IP) may bring on board specific skills or abilities that the primary implementing agency lacks, such as technical language or cultural knowledge, context, network or skills. The IP may also increase the capacity, speed and efficiency with which both agencies can assist.

### 4) Cash based implementation

Cash or 'market-based approaches' covers a number of approaches designed to give beneficiaries maximum choice and control over the design and implementation of their shelter. It also has the potential to provide stimulus to the local markets.

This modality has the greatest risk in terms of ensuring that the beneficiaries achieve the objectives of a shelter program – both in terms of using part or all of the cash for other emergency priorities (e.g. medicine, food or “Qat” costs), and in terms of the beneficiaries knowing how to purchase high-quality materials, and how to use construction material efficiently themselves.

shelter partners prefer to use modalities the below cash modality:

- **Conditional** – having the cash given to the beneficiaries in tranches or instalments, dependent upon the beneficiaries having already completed the prior phase of reconstruction.

Cash is becoming an increasingly popular method of implementation with emergency shelter programs. It has many advantages over the in-kind approach. cash-based modalities should be encouraged in situations where it would increase ESK outputs and allow beneficiaries to meet their needs.

## MARKET ASSESSMENT FOR ESKs

The TWiG lead presented the Shelter market assessment form, the members discussed it thoroughly and endorsed the template. The market assessment form ([annexed herein](#)).

## FIRE SAFETY

Agencies should develop Fire Safety awareness messages for which samples are available from CCCM, as well as training / awareness raising measures to accompany distributions of cookers/stoves and heaters. This should be undertaken in conjunction with any site management authorities, fire services, and CCCM where relevant to ensure that messages are consistent, reflect best practice and correspond with available firefighting and fire safety measures on site.

It is worth noting that the largest cause of fires in the IDP settlements in Yemen has been poor unsafe, environmentally unfriendly cooking modalities. Safe cooking habits should be promoted including Mud and lay stoves which provides better flow of air and hot gases. Likewise, site planning, distances between shelters and fire breaks should be integrated into an overall strategy for fire risk reduction.

Fire in settlements is the most deadly and destructive risk. Whilst they cannot stop smaller fires, firebreaks can prevent fires from spreading and becoming catastrophic, and can save lives.

Assess fire risks to inform the site planning of temporary communal settlements and the grouping of individual household shelters. Mitigating actions should include the provision of a 30-metre firebreak between every 300 meters of built-up area, and a minimum of 2 meters (but preferably twice the overall height of any structure) between individual buildings or shelters to prevent collapsing structures from touching adjacent shelter. Keep fire breaks clear of both encroaching structures, and of undergrowth, to stop fires spreading.



Image 1: Access for emergency vehicles can be achieved through simple grid system

## TWIG MEMBERS

Members: A list of members is available [herein](#).