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National Shelter Cluster Meeting

July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – DUDBC

**Agenda**

- 1. National Planning Commission – Reconstruction Principals and Institutional Arrangements**
  - 2. Shelter Cluster Facts and Figures**
  - 3. Guidance for Agencies on Evacuations**
  - 4. Handicap International Presentation**
  - 5. Shelter Cluster Products**
  - 6. Information Management Update**
  - 7. AOB**
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**1. A. National Planning Commission – Reconstruction Principals and Institutional Arrangements**

- The relief, rescue, and search phase of the disaster is nearing a close.
- Life has returned to normal, and early-recovery activities has commenced.
- PDNA was completed on June 15 with reports circulated widely on June 25<sup>th</sup> at the national conference.
- In preparedness for recovery and reconstruction, the GoN is working on the following structure:
  - Government is appointing a CO and creating an organizational structure at national and local levels.
  - Final structure will likely consist of district offices, which will work with the local DDRCs.
  - The offices will coordinate all recovery and reconstruction works in the districts.
  - All implementing agencies will coordinate with their local DDRC.
  - The government will rely on national, international, and local groups for reconstruction assistance.
- Ministry of Finance has released mandatory guidelines for delivery of goods and services.
- These guidelines are in Nepali, and will need translation into English.

**B. Temporary Shelter**

- National Planning Commission has circulated two designs for temporary shelter.
- The designs include usage of salvaged materials. These are meant to last up to two years only.
- Temporary and permanent shelter needs to be separated; temporary shelters should not turn into permanent shelters.
- Reports indicate that some NGOs and INGOs have begun reconstruction in affected areas without the government permit. NPC is issuing directives to submit designs and seek approval from relevant authorities before implementation.
- The designs must follow the building code with build back safer concepts.

- Agencies have the right to produce and submit their own designs with the help of local engineers duly registered in the country.

### **C. Trainings**

- More than 30,000 laborers must be trained with an additional 1,000 engineers to meet demands for rebuilding.
- Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) and The Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTVT) will be working together to design and implement training programs.
- These trainings will be administered at the village level and coordinated at the district level.
- People from non-earthquake affected districts will need training so that they are able to work in affected areas.
- Celebrities in Nepal will be assisting with public awareness for the implementation of the Build Back Better messages.

### **D. Reconstruction**

- Reconstruction policy is work in progress, NPC for final approval.
- Government will take the lead for the reconstruction of government buildings.
- Agencies need to collaborate with Nepali counterparts to engage in affected districts.
- DUDBC designs are suggested and encouraged but the most important aspect are the proper construction techniques. The designs can be altered as needed as long as the techniques are used taking seismic considerations into account.
- There is a large range of costs for permanent home designs; they range from 200,000 – 3million NPR.
- There is a plan for households in urban settings to receive a 2.5million NPR loan at the rate of 2% interest rate and NPR 1.5 million at 2% interest rate for rural areas.
- For collective housing in urban areas, there is a possibility for a collective subsidy. This is being prepared in the recovery guidelines.
- The building permit process is on hold until July 17.
- Buildings up to 2 stories that have existing permits can start construction activity.
- A proposal for the construction of larger buildings is under consideration.
- There will be an exhibition held by the government in two weeks to raise more money for the reconstruction process. This will also help to generate awareness for the building codes, standards, and safe building techniques.

## **2. Shelter Cluster Facts and Figures**

- The Shelter Cluster bar charts are estimates based on reporting of total tarps and tents distributed by humanitarian agencies, not just what's included in flash appeal.
- Despite some targets being met, there is still a large gap compared to the total damage.

- There is a great need for more distributions and funding.
- There are also breakdowns of distributions in CGI and cash. Our entire database available on humanitarian data exchange.
- The bar chart includes pipeline data, not just already achieved deliveries.
- The actual timeframe of the pipeline delivery is still unclear but we are attempting to look at this data gap.
- Much of the pipeline data is out of date; consolidating the data and updating it is in progress.

### 3. Guidance for Agencies on Evacuations

- A government plan has been announced to evacuate 50,000 households within 15 days.
- Districts have been instructed to create an evacuation plan.
- At the district level, requests have been made to humanitarian agencies to support with the evacuation process.
- Operational guidance for agencies is being prepared so we can assist with the process
- The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) recommendation is that more information on this evacuation must be shared widely with the donors, the government, and other relevant bodies.

### 4. Protection Cluster

- Protection requires more than just cluster efforts. It is a collective approach with the government and participating agencies.
- Coordination between protection and shelter is essential to ensure that protection is secured.
- Guidance note has been put together based on guidance principals from 1998.
- The principals cover all areas of response and include operational guidance for evacuation procedure.
- “IASC Operational Guidelines” has information such as:
  - i. Primary responsibility is of the State.
  - ii. Support, if needed, is from international agencies and NGOs.
  - iii. Rights-based approach.
  - iv. Targeting directed to persons with specific needs
  - v. Information must be provided to affected persons regarding all aspects of response.

#### Evacuations

- All possible measures should be taken to enable people to remain in their homes.
  - a. If this is not possible, evacuation is carried out guided by protection principles.
  - b. This should always be voluntary unless *absolutely necessary* to protect life.
- In cases of severe and imminent threat, it is legal to force evacuation.
- In the evacuation process, rights should be fully respected.
- Information should always be provided to the affected persons.
- This information should include when the evacuation will occur, the expected duration, and where they will go.
- There should be safeguards against family separation.
- Evacuations should be a temporary measure.

### **Destination Site**

- Refer to this site an evacuation center / temporary shelter site.
- The site should be as close as safety will allow to the person's residence.
- Must be safe with adequate living conditions
- Protection against forced eviction should be in effect
- This should be a temporary shelter site
- More details on all of this will be available in the operation guidance that is being completed by the cluster
- CCCM cluster has been very active in the evacuation process as well.
- Final message from HCT: Agencies that are requested to assist with the relocation, please refrain until there is a request from the national government.
- The 15-day timeframe may be unrealistic for humanitarian assistance. This issue is being addressed in the guidance note that will be released shortly.
- Special consideration must be taken with regards to minorities in the evacuation process.

### **5. Handicap International Presentation**

- There is quite a lot of injury and rehabilitation necessary after the earthquake.
- Specific key information is available in the PowerPoint presentation.
- Information regarding elderly populations is also available.
- Handicap International has been targeting vulnerable households with their distributions.
- Inclusion of vulnerable peoples in an emergency is of the utmost importance,
- In Nepal there are a high number of pre-existing risk factors for vulnerability.
- The earthquake has created a massive impact based on the Shelter Cluster Assessment Preliminary Findings.
  - Exclusion factors are creating loss of privacy and reduced recovery capacity.
  - Less livelihood and labor opportunity.
- There is an opportunity to build back safer and more inclusive following the earthquake.
- Actions
  - Disability factors should be included in data collection.
  - Disaggregated data collection using proxy indicators.
- Technical toolkit for inclusion will be available on the Shelter Cluster website.
  - If any organization needs support for their inclusion or intervention please contact Handicap International for assistance.

### **6. Shelter Cluster Products**

- Some shelter products are ready for distribution.
  - Safe Locations IEC, Preparedness IEC, and CGI specifications.
- CGI specs are based on the Nepal standards.
  - These specifications are available on our website.
- IEC Materials are also available on the website.

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## 7. Information Management Update

- Mitch and Matt, the two new Information Managers, have arrived
  - They are here to support you!
- Bilateral communication lines are being set up to improve our datasets.
- Matt can be reached at [im1.nepal@sheltercluster.org](mailto:im1.nepal@sheltercluster.org)
- Mitch can be reached at [im2.nepal@sheltercluster.org](mailto:im2.nepal@sheltercluster.org)

## 8. AOB

- Shelter Cluster meetings will now occur every other week, alternating with the new Partner's Forum.
  - The first partner's forum will be next week, June 15<sup>th</sup>. The topic is "The Initial Response."
    - If you are interested in presenting your best practices, pitfalls, and lessons learned from the initial response please send a 15-minute presentation to [nepal@sheltercluster.org](mailto:nepal@sheltercluster.org).
- UNHCR has received funding from private donors and would like to fund shelters for 1,000 households and 500 temporary learning centers.
  - They would like to work with agencies active in Sindhupalchowk, Okhaldhunga, and Ramechhap.
    - Please contact UNHCR if you are interested.
- Kim Winiker is the new Central Hub Coordinator. If your agency is active in Kathmandu Valley, please email him at [coord3.nepal@sheltercluster.org](mailto:coord3.nepal@sheltercluster.org)