

Pakistan floods 2011

Early Recovery

Strategic Operational Framework Shelter & NFI

12th March 2012



This strategy document takes the shelter response of the 2011 floods up to the rainy season of 2012. It calls for different types of support for woman, man, boys and girls according to whether they remain displaced (emergency relief) or are returning or rebuilding (early recovery support).

- Continued **emergency relief** distribution of covering materials and basic Non Food Items.
- Support for **shelter recovery** and repair including roofing kits accompanied by suitable training and support along with targeted one room shelter support
- Establishment of a system of training, outreach messaging, legal support and feedback.

The overall objective of the shelter cluster during the emergency phase is to complement the government of Pakistan's support to those whose homes have been destroyed by the monsoon and are not able to access adequate shelter.

Strategic Objective

To provide low cost shelter support to families in the notified districts in Sindh and Balochistan whose house has been become 'unlivable', in a way that is more resilient to future natural disasters before September 2012.

Outcome

'The most vulnerable communities in Sindh and Balochistan affected by the 2011 flooding have access to shelter / NFI assistance and protection, with an emphasis on reinforcing durable solutions

Shelter Recovery Illustrated Strategy - 8th Nov 2011

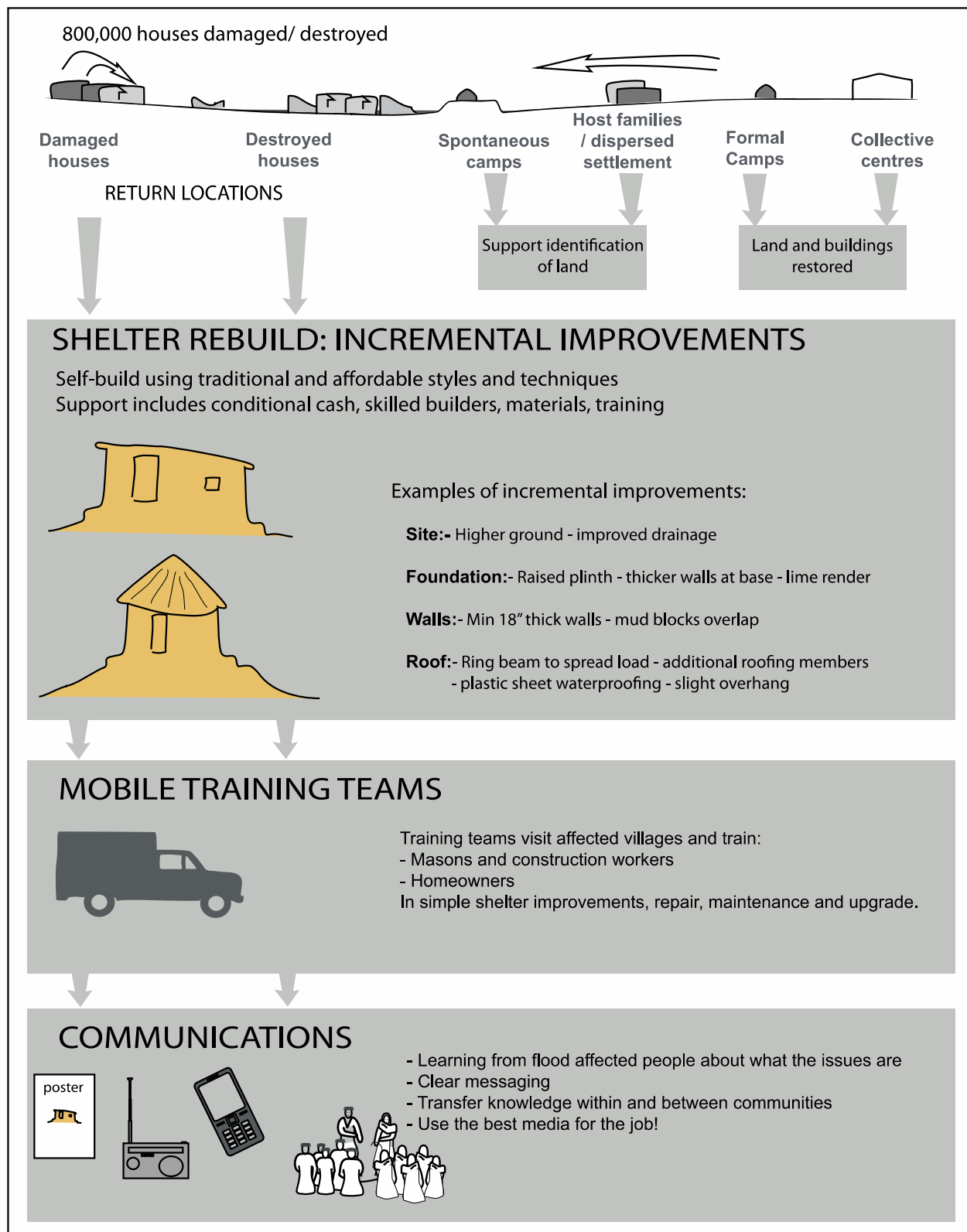


Illustration of the shelter strategy and inputs as people continue to return to their villages.

1.0 Introduction

- Following the 2011 floods and rains in Pakistan, 796,861 houses in Sindh were damaged (59%) or destroyed (41%). In Balochistan approximately 26,000 houses were reported damaged (65%) or destroyed (35%) (Source: Shelter Cluster Damage Comparison endorsed by NDMA). It is assumed that 40% of the total nr of affected households (equal to 94% of the households whose house has been totally destroyed) require ER Shelter Support to reconstruct or strengthen their homes. Based on the "Rapid Technical Assessment of Damage and Needs for Reconstruction in Housing Sector, October 2010, by UN HABITAT, 46% of the houses in Sindh are made of mud, 34% of adobe and 30% of bricks. In 2011 as much as 70% of the damaged or destroyed houses were made of mud which shows the vulnerability of the housing stock in Sindh.
- Although 90%¹ of the houses in Pakistan are built with the involvement of masons, many of the houses have not survived the disaster. DRR specific assessments have been conducted ², and the field observations have shown that DRR reinforced structures have survived considerably better than the ones without. However there remains a knowledge or motivation gap regarding what can be achieved in terms of improved housing construction at low cost.
- In Sindh it is common practice that houses are extended with the expansion of the family. Usually a dwelling starts with a one-room shelter which will be expanded when resources allow with a veranda and gradually more rooms. The average Sindh family, with 6,3 persons, lives in a 2 room house³ or a house with a veranda. The houses are often situated in a fenced compound and connected with houses of first line family members. Recently the government of Pakistan has expressed the ambition to support the affected population in the restoration of their houses and make them more resilient for the future disasters. The houses will adhere to common culture practices by for instance allowing the possibility to compartmentalize the shelter in 2 rooms and accommodate at least preparations for sanitation and cooking facilities. The typical building season in Sindh takes place between January and July, which is in line with the recovery period.
- An estimated 1,800,000 people were initially displaced from their homes by the floods. Many settled in informal and "temporary" settlements (TS) on elevated land and others in formal camps that were established by the government and NGO's ranging in size from individual families to 12,000 individuals. The multi-sector needs assessment completed at the end of October 2011 showed that the number of persons residing in the remaining 5,000 (estimated) settlements in Sindh, has been reduced to approximately 127,000 families. In Balochistan only a few temporary settlements had been reported. In Sindh 59% of the settlements were "spontaneous". According to the MSDNA the needs in the TS were significant. 93% of the households indicated that they required blankets, 66% of the TS reported diarrhea, 72% of the TS have no latrines and 75% of the TS have no official camp management structure. The return process is ongoing, in January 2012 it is estimated that there are still around 241 Temporary Settlements with around 10,379 / 55,953 Individuals in Sindh ⁴(Source: 5th TSSU assessment).
- 30% of the land in Sindh is owned by landlords and 22% by the state⁵.
- As waters recede, and the immediately support required for temporary settlements decreases, the urgency for the displaced people to find durable solutions increases. Almost 100% the families in the temporary settlement reported in January that their villages were not accessible⁴. A coordinated approach can facilitate this process, speeding up the rate of recovery and thereby saving resources.

¹ Rapid Technical Assessment of Damage and Needs for Reconstruction in Housing Sector, October 2010, by UN HABITAT

² IOM, DRR assessment of One Room Shelter built in 2010 response, report expected beginning of December 2011.

³ Rapid Technical Assessment of Damage and Needs for Reconstruction in Housing Sector, October 2010, by UN HABITAT

⁴ (Source: 5th TSSU assessment, January 2012)

⁵ Rapid Technical Assessment of Damage and Needs for Reconstruction in Housing Sector, October 2010, by UN HABITAT

1.1 Shelter Cluster Approach

- Focus on targeted distribution to meet emergency relief needs
- Focus on early recovery self recovery through basic shelter support and a network or district level training and outreach centres to encourage.

1.2 Principles

- Establish need for emergency and Early Recovery shelter solutions based on level of damage, vulnerability, community resilience, hazard risk, and number of households affected
- Recommended Shelter support packages and NFI assistance packages (e.g, 'household kits, rubble removal kits) or early recovery shelter standard should be adhered to by the implementing agencies
- Maximise coverage
- Promote incremental upgrade over redesign, maximizing the use of salvaged building materials. Materials distributed in the emergency will have maximum utility during recovery.
- Support market-led/owner-driven recovery initiatives through self-help support at community level
- Targeting the most vulnerable woman, men, boys and girls, independent of gender, ethnicity and political allegiance and location. Prioritize hard to reach areas and families in temporary settlements.
- Work with Gov't and local authorities to inform households consistently and coherently through mass media including, for example:
 - Technical advice (e.g practical and affordable DRR construction techniques)
 - Land and property rights
 - Housing Safety
 - Pakistan Card Compensation
 - Environment

2 Strategy and proposed activities

The cluster strategy was initially divided into 1) **emergency relief** (2.1) and 2) **early recovery** (2.2). Although this document focuses on the Early Recovery phase, It recognises that these needs and responses are interconnected and both started when the monsoon arrived. It also recognises that major **coordination and capacity building** activities (2.3) will be required to ensure the effectiveness of response and that skills and knowledge can be used for future years.

2.1 Emergency Relief

- The emergency strategy was based on assisting all of those whose homes have been destroyed to access emergency shelter. In January 2012 approximately 510,000 families received emergency shelter which covers almost 90% of the targeted households (70% of the 823,000 damaged and destroyed houses identified in the multi sector damage and needs assessment). For a complete overview see Annex A.
- Shelter sector assessments (including self recovery, best practices, identification of 2010 versus 2011 damage of shelter for DRR and funding purposes, available capacity, market analysis) will be continued or are in the final stages.
- The following Shelter NFI packages (see shelter cluster technical guidance at www.sheltercluster.org in the annex) are proposed and have been agreed and provided by the shelter cluster.

Location type	On site		Displaced			
	Destroyed houses	Partially damaged houses	Host families / dispersed settlement	Spontaneous camps (such as roadsides)	Collective centres**	Planned (tent) camps*
Support *	Tarpaulins and poles / fixings / Tents***, Tool kits, Household kits	Tarpaulins and poles/ fixings, Tool kits, Household kits	Tents Tarpaulins and fixings, Tool kits, Household kits	Tents, Tarpaulins and poles / fixings, Tool kits, Household kits	Tarpaulins and poles / fixings, Tool kits, Household kits	Tents Tarpaulins and poles / fixings, Tool kits, Household kits
	Effective Communications					

* These packages are based on international standards applied during the Floods 2010, though have been slightly reduced to enable the required coverage to be achieved. Poles (in combination with tarpaulins) have also been added to improve the applicability and user friendliness of this costs effective emergency shelter solution and foster protection of the environment.

** It is acknowledged that planned camps and collective centres are options of last resort only, when all other options are exhausted.

*** On account of their cost and limited lifetime during the reconstruction process, tents will no longer be prioritised.

Coordination with WASH and Health clusters indicated that hygiene kits, jerry cans and mosquito nets are not being provided or actively monitored by the shelter cluster.

2.2 Early Recovery shelter support

Principles

Recovery support will run concurrently with emergency support. Support for recovery shelter will support those whose homes have been damaged or destroyed in the floods or rains and meet agreed vulnerability criteria.

The Shelter cluster approach consists out of direct shelter reconstruction / rehabilitation support. In addition to that training and outreach will be provided to the direct beneficiaries and the ones that do not require direct shelter support or are self recovering.

Objective: To provide low cost shelter support to families in the notified districts in Sindh and Balochistan whose house has been become 'unlivable', in a way that is more resilient to future natural disasters before 18th September 2012 and monitor the needs and support related to the provision of durable solutions for displaced people.

Outcomes	Indicator	Activities
Equal low cost shelter support provided to at least 40% of the Female and Male headed households whose house has become unlivable (damaged or destroyed), through a coordinated and targeted shelter response, based on strengthened self recovery capacity and raised awareness on safe construction techniques, DRR elements, and reduction of environmental impact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90% of the programs have applied the targeting criteria (damage + vulnerability) 50% of the shelters (re)constructed include 3 or more SC specified DRR elements (for instance raised flooring, strengthened walls, strong roof etc.) 100% of funded organizations start ER programs before end 2011 (where water has receded) and finish their activities by mid September 2012 90% of the supported households are more aware of safe and sustainable construction techniques / materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of Basic Shelter support to vulnerable beneficiaries through provision of conditional cash, material and / or technical advise / training. Improve technical skills and knowledge about DRR of masons and beneficiaries through sector coordinated uniform practical 'on site' training and training materials. The content and the locations of the trainings will be actively coordinated at district level Cost effective outreach messaging.
Frequent monitoring of 50% of the remaining displaced population, especially in the 300 prioritized settlements, up to the stage where they have found durable solutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 50% of the settlements are monitored monthly 	<p>By collecting and disseminating quality information about the population in the temporary settlements and area's of return:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the development of a returns strategy Accelerate the provision of durable solutions by the involved sectors

Low Cost shelter support

- Contrary to the 2010 One Room Shelter strategy the 2011 strategy is aimed at the provision of “low cost shelter” support
- The low cost shelter approach foresees construction of a basic shelter with possible ‘early development’ provisions like future extensions, compartmentalization (2 rooms) or sanitation facilities. The houses will be reconstructed through self- recovery. The low cost shelters will have to meet the following standards:
 - Size of the shelter meeting SPHERE standards (200 – 250 sq ft, depending on family size).
 - The shelters should be safe and include a minimum number of specified DRR elements like strengthened roof and wall structures, safe construction techniques and elevated flooring in the shelter.
 - For families with completely destroyed houses: material support of maximum of \$375⁶ per shelter, provided in material or cash support. (During the 2010 response it has been proven that the 300\$ material support is the minimum amount to catalyze a self-recovery process)⁷. Beneficiaries contribute through no cost (mud) or salvaged materials, labour and a limited amount of cash. Special vulnerable people can be provided additional support through cash for work / food for work interventions.
 - Families with partially damaged houses: material support of a maximum of \$200. Beneficiaries contribute through no cost (mud) or salvaged materials, labour and a limited amount of cash. Special vulnerable people can be provided additional support through cash for work / food for work interventions. Most likely interventions would repair existing damaged walls, add DRR elements and strengthen / replace roofs by the provision of, for instance roofing kits.
- In addition to the shelter standards the shelter cluster agencies should include the following in their interventions:
 - Linking the emergency and the early recovery phase by maximizing the use of materials distributed in the emergency phase. For instance bamboo and plastic sheeting can be used in the roof constructions or flooring.
 - The shelter should allow the communities to adapt their house to their immediate or future needs like extensions, compartmentalization (2 rooms), addition of sanitation facilities, kitchens etc.
 - The shelters should be culturally acceptable (compartmentalization).
 - Vernacular construction techniques are recommended and are considered an important contribution to the DRR approach, where traditional houses are reconstructed and maintained by communities that are familiar with those techniques and have access to the materials.
- NB: A number of organizations and donors might consider the provision of transitional or T-shelters. Transitional shelters usually aim to bridge the gap between the emergency and permanent sheltering or in situation where portability of the houses is required. This can be the case when people cannot return to their places of origin for a longer period or when there is a considerable risk that families have to relocate due to pending land tenancy issues. In all other situation the low cost shelter concept is considered preferable while it can be constructed at the same or lower costs, provides better protection against the elements and more dignity and ownership through the self-recovery process.
- Some people may have lost land and so rebuilding their house may not be possible. Specific support will be required to find durable shelter solutions for the landless / newly landless. Efforts will be coordinated with the ‘Land and property rights’ protection working group.
- Recommended materials, designs, approaches and experiences of the 2010 and 2011 response will be shared among the cluster partners and on the Shelterpakistan.org website.

⁶ It is recognised that some organisations will wish to build one room shelters at the estimated cost of US \$800 to 1200 or more. Due to limited resources available, and potential inequities arising, this strategy does not actively promote such shelters.

⁷ In 2011 the additional \$75 material support (compared to 2010) is justified by an **increased focus on DRR elements**, ongoing price inflation, a new brick tax, and **additional cooking and sanitation elements**. It is acknowledged that some of these elements require early involvement of development funding arrangements. The cluster will facilitate this process pro-actively.

Training

- In the addition to material support, the shelter cluster agencies will provide shelter construction training to the beneficiaries and masons to improve the safety of the shelter. The trainings will be practical and 'on site'
- The trainings will be coordinated on a district level and where feasible district training centers are considered.
- All trainings (location and content) will be coordinated by the shelter cluster. The technical trainings will have a standardized curriculum in local languages.
- Traditionally woman are involved in plastering the walls of their homes and will be actively involved in the training.
- Agencies should consider reaching out by providing training to families or communities that do not receive direct shelter support or are self recovering.

Targeting

- According to the Early Recovery Framework the shelter cluster will during the 9 months recovery phase till 18th September 2012 support the restoration / reconstruction of approximately 306,827 shelters (this equals 40% of the families whose house has been partially damaged or destroyed).
- The Shelter Cluster will be targeting the most vulnerable women, girls, boys and men whose house has been damaged or destroyed by following a participatory, community based approach. Such an approach will secure targeting independent of ethnicity or political allegiance or location.
- The cluster will prioritize the families: (targeting criteria defined by NDMA and the Protection Cluster
 - Whose house has been damaged or destroyed
 - Who have no salvaged materials and no means to provide construction materials and/or labour.
 - Who may not return to their place of origin and face extended displacement for at least another 6 months,
 - Whose lives are endangered by weather conditions.

Combined with at least one of the following criteria:

- Female headed households,
- Child headed households,
- Older person headed households,
- Households headed by person with disabilities (physical, intellectual, sensory),
- Households headed by persons with a chronic disease
- Pakistani Nationals without Identity Card.
- The cluster will encourage equal representation of women and men on committees involved in the different components of project activities - targeting criteria identification, beneficiary selection, activity planning, etc.
- The training and outreach components of the shelter cluster intervention will be targeting all shelter agencies, masons / skilled construction workers and beneficiaries.

Messaging and outreach

- To provide a minimum and cost effective support to the ones that do not receive direct support otherwise, and to strengthen the capacity of the ones involved in the self-recovery process, the shelter Cluster will work with the Government to spread key messages consistently and coherently through formal and informal communication channels.
- These messages include:
 - Technical shelter construction advice (e.g. practical and affordable DRR construction techniques),
 - Basic land and property rights
 - Pakistan Card Compensation,
 - Environment impact and sustainability
 - "Aid is free" messages.

Where possible messages from other sectors like health and wash will be disseminated through the same channels in an integrated approach.

- Different communication methodologies will be selected dependent upon the type of message and the most effective means of dissemination. Methods include:
 - radio,
 - Newspaper,
 - Posters,
 - Flyers,
 - Booklets and other print media.

Information materials will be developed based on target users' involvement and feedback with strong emphasis of visual communication.

- Organizations will include a feedback component in their interventions, so that messaging can be adapted to meet evolving needs and to develop and adapt messages in response to field issues and frequently asked questions.

Monitoring

- All activities of the collective shelter cluster response, will be monitored independently to ensure adherence of the humanitarian principles and guiding principles of Internal displacement.

2.3 Coordination and capacity building

Objective: To support and increase the capacity of the GOP in the effective and adequate shelter /NFI coordination during the relief and recovery phase parallel to strengthening the shelter response capacity of the GOP, NGO's and civil society involved in the response in the notified areas.

Improve the rights based protection of those living in temporary settlements and effectiveness of the response by monitoring the displacement, needs and support in the settlements

Outcomes	Indicator	Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective shelter / NFI coordination, which secures minimum gaps and overlaps • Strengthened shelter / NFI relief and recovery programming capacity with the involved Pakistani Authorities and national humanitarian sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly TSSU / area's of return monitoring reports • 80% of (male and female) participants of shelter training evaluated those as positive • Nr of national organizations that received appeal funding in the revised appeal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of training on shelter technical capacity including DRR, Gender, land and property rights, project management, administration and reporting to National Partners and professionals • Information management (including sex and age disaggregation) services. • Development and provision of training / outreach material for flood beneficiaries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary settlement coordination mechanisms are supported with regular information collection and dissemination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the existence of Temporary Settlement, an monthly update of the population, needs and support in the 300 prioritized settlements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate partnerships between the humanitarian partners and TSSU coordination mechanisms supporting the government of Pakistan. • Set-up and maintain assessments, monitoring and information management systems. • Camp Management guidance / documentation is provided through shelterpakistan.org • Development and try out of a practical camp management training

Coordination

- Coordination of the shelter cluster activities at national, provincial and district level till at least 18th of September 2012. See TOR of Shelter Cluster Coordination in Annex 3.
- Inclusion of coordination of the 2010 Floods caseload, at least in Balochistan and Sindh is considered upon request of the Government of Pakistan.
- Lead the shelter and CCCM contingency planning process for 2012 / 2013 emergencies.

TSSU Temporary Settlement Support Unit

- During the emergency phase the TSSU has monitored the humanitarian situation in the Temporary Settlements through assessments on a monthly basis.
- In Early Recovery recovery phase the TSSU team will gradually migrate towards a broader Shelter Cluster assessment / monitoring team. Providing services to the cluster like:
 - Independent monitoring of progress of the agencies
 - Specific surveys like the use and availability of bamboo in construction
 - Beneficiary satisfaction surveys
 - The level in which DRR guidance is put in practice etc.

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Capacity Building

- Camp Coordination and Camp Management was not considered of enough importance to activate the CCCM cluster, while at the peak there were between 4,000 and 5,000 camps in Sindh alone. Only 5% of these settlements were managed by a camp Managers
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Annex A

Pakistan Flood Shelter Cluster

Emergency Shelter and NFIs Coverage and Gap by Provinces

d.d. 16-01-2012

Provinces	Houses Destroyed or Damaged*	Emergency Shelter Distributed				Emergency Shelter Pipeline				Remaining Need
		Tents	Tarpaulins	Shelters Provided (One tent or two Tarpaulins)	Coverage (Shelters Provided / Need)	Tents	Tarpaulins	Shelters (One tent or two Tarpaulins)	Projected Coverage (Shelters Provided / Need)	
Balochistan	26.000	1.335	-	1.335	5%	-	-	-	5%	24.665
Sindh	796.862	348.964	313.743	505.836	63%	12.210	36.960	30.690	67%	260.337
TOTALS	796.862	350.299	313.743	507.171	64%	12.210	36.960	30.690	67%	285.002

Provinces	Houses Destroyed or Damaged	Kitchen Set (1 per HH)					Tool Kits (1 per 5HH)				
		Need	Distributed	Pipeline	TOTAL	Projected Coverage	Need	Distributed	Pipeline	TOTAL	Projected Coverage
Balochistan	26.000	26.000	600	-	600	2%	5.200	0	-	-	0%
Sindh	796.862	796.862	101.608	6.663	108.271	14%	159.372	17.939	-	17.939	11%
TOTAL	822.862	822.862	102.208	6.663	108.871	13%	164.572	17.939	-	17.939	11%

	Houses Destroyed or Damaged	Blankets (2 per HH)					Bedding & Mats (2 per HH)				
		Need	Distributed	Pipeline	TOTAL	Projected Coverage (see note 6)	Need (two per Destroyed or Damaged Household)	Distributed	Pipeline	TOTAL	Projected Coverage
Balochistan	26.000	52.000	1.950	-	1.950	4%	52.000	1.350	-	1.350	3%
Sindh	796.862	1.593.724	531.098	36.998	568.096	36%	1.593.724	136.203	6.663	142.866	9%
TOTAL	822.862	1.645.724	533.048	36.998	570.046	35%	1.645.724	137.553	6.663	144.216	9%

* Affected districts, Damage houses figures from NDMA and PDMA and pipeline as reported from cluster members

Annex B

DRR in shelters (Key messages for discussion, not yet approved by TWIG)

Foundations / plinth

- In new construction, the walls should rest on firm soil; if the soil is loose, the mud layers should be tamped to ensure a firm footing for the walls.
- The base of existing walls requires special care. Through the placement of extra plinth in the form of a toe, will help keep the flood water away from the base of the wall, and also help avoid disintegration. As long as these precautions are taken, there is no requirement of foundations.

Floors

- rehabilitated shelters: all floors should be at least 6" above the ground level.
- new shelters, the floor level should be raised to 1'6" above the adjacent ground level.

Reed structures

- Since the damage is found largely at the base, it is therefore important that the floor and the base of the reed structure is raised by at least 1'6" above the adjacent ground level.

Mud Walls

- Mud walls should be at least 18" thick.
- Old and damaged walls can be rehabilitated through the use of bamboo lattice over cracks etc. and then finished with mud plaster.
- The use of lime makes walls weather resistant. A mixture of lime, mud and bhoosa (straw) well mixed and fermented for 24 hours will provide a layer that will make the internal mud fabric of the wall safe from rains and flooding.

Reed walls

The following precautions in construction will prolong the life of such structures:

- The damage to the reed rope that encircles the vertical reed structure shows that the fastening arrangement has to be much stronger. Studies need to be carried out in fastening methods for the reed rope with the vertical reeds structure.
- The disintegration of the outer mud plaster cover results in damage to the main reed wall structure. The use of a lime-mud mix for plaster will provide the necessary protection to the inner reed structure.

Roof

- Levelling the top of the wall with water level.
- Introduction of a bamboo reinforced lime concrete beam at the top of the wall.
- Proper jointing of joists with purlins.
- Use a layer of tarpaulin sheeting.

Rehabilitation of damaged mud houses

For rehabilitating damaged houses and making them flood resistant, the following methodology can be adopted:

Crack Repairing in Walls

- Repair all cracks with filler of the same material as the wall. Place a bamboo lattice to cover the entire crack on both internally and externally. Re-plaster the entire wall with mud plaster.

Disintegration of Wall at the Base

- Most walls have been constructed without any foundations. As a result the lower parts have suffered grievously during flooding. The suggested technique is to strengthen the base of the wall by constructing a toe or extension at the base of the wall. This would help to keep the water away from the base of the wall and retain its strength.

Introduction of Ring Beam

- One of the causes of the roof collapse appear to be uneven wall surface and lack of a continuous ring beam to receive heavy girders or logs. Accordingly, the top of all walls need to be levelled by the use of a water level and introduction of a ring beam composed of lime concrete with bamboo reinforcement.

Introduction of Lintels

- In many cases the log or wood plank used for making openings appeared to be too weak. Accordingly, bamboo lintels have been introduced.

Raising Floor Level

- In almost all cases the floor levels of the houses are found to be lower than the adjacent ground floor. All houses being rehabilitated are advised to raise the floor level to be atleast 6" above the adjacent ground. All new construction is required to be at least 1'6" above the adjacent ground level.

Use of Lime in Renders

- In view of the testing of lime renders which has been carried out by Heritage Foundation over the last 5 years in northern areas of Pakistan, it is clear that lime renders on the roof and walls provides adequate protection from rains (also snow) with sufficient weather resistance.

ANNEX 3 Terms or Reference Shelter Cluster Coordinaton

Coordination of programme implementation:

- Ensure the coordination in distribution of shelter and NFI distribution to households by reducing duplication and filling gaps;
- Ensure appropriate coordination with all humanitarian partners and encourage participants to work collectively, ensuring the complementarities of the various stakeholders' actions;
- Ensure the establishment/maintenance of appropriate sector coordination mechanisms, including working groups at the national, provincial and district level if necessary;
- Act as focal point for inquiries on shelter and NFI distribution response plans and operations;
- Represent shelter needs in discussions with the Humanitarian Coordinator and Government at national, provincial and district level on prioritization, resource mobilization and advocacy;
- Promote emergency response actions while at the same time considering the need for early recovery planning as well as prevention and risk reduction concerns;
- Encourage effective links with clusters working in other sectors or thematic areas;
- Promote integration of the IASC's agreed priority cross-cutting issues, namely human rights, HIV/AIDS, age, gender and environment, utilizing participatory and community based approaches.

Planning and strategy development: Promote predictable action for the following:

- Hold Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) meeting on issues relevant to the Shelter Cluster members;
- Developing agreed response strategies and action plans ensuring that these are adequately reflected in overall emergency response, transitional and early recovery shelter strategies;
- Ensure as far as possible that emergency shelter and NFI response strategy is guided by relevant policy guidelines, technical standards and relevant commitments with the Pakistan Government at national, provincial and district level;
- Enact environment protection and mitigation of negative impact on ecological habitats
- Develop a Shelter Early recovery strategy for the coordination of the Shelter Cluster after the relief phase
- Drawing lessons learned from activities and members feedback to revise strategies and action plans accordingly;

Technical Assistance

- Coordinate Technical Working Groups (TWG) on technical issues relevant to the Shelter Cluster members.
- Promote a range of regional appropriate technical guidelines for providing safe, dignified shelter and share these amongst SC members, Pakistan government and other clusters.

Information Management

- Develop information management strategy for effective integration and sharing of data for planning, monitoring and reporting;
- Provide and maintain a information coordination platform for members of the SC;
- Effectively communicate cluster activities through regular production of Situation Reports, maps, bulletins, and other relevant information to partners and stakeholders;
- Through IM activities, identification of gaps in coverage and changing trends in those gaps.

Application of standards

- Ensure that SC members are aware of relevant policy guidelines and technical standards;
- Ensure as far as possible that shelter responses are in line with existing (IASC) policy guidelines, Sphere technical standards, and relevant Government human rights legal obligations.

Monitoring and reporting

- Ensure monitoring mechanisms are in place to review impact of the SC and progress against implementation plans;
- Ensure adequate reporting and effective information sharing, with the Pakistan government and OCHA.

Advocacy and resource mobilization

- Represent the interests of the SC in discussions with the humanitarian community on prioritization, resource mobilization and advocacy;
- Identify core advocacy concerns, including resource requirements, and contribute key messages to broader advocacy initiatives of the humanitarian community and other actors;
- Advocate for donors to fund Shelter Cluster members to carry out priority activities in the sector concerned, while at the same time encouraging participants to mobilize resources for their activities through their usual channels;
- Identify common strategies for communicating with public, media, and policy makers, including for the marketing and advocacy of appeals to donors;
- Enhance the timeliness and efficiency of shelter and NFI provision to the most vulnerable of the affected population.

Identification of key partners

- Identify key humanitarian partners for shelter and NFI response, respecting their respective mandates and program priorities;
- Identify other key partners including private sector and environmental agencies.

Ensuring effective coordination shelter activities with National, Provincial and district Authorities and Civil society groups

- Promote and support training of humanitarian personnel and capacity building of humanitarian partners at national, provincial and district level;
- Support efforts to strengthen the capacity of the national authorities and civil society.