

## Shelter / NFI / CCCM Cluster Meeting Minutes

**10:00 – 12:00, Wednesday, May 22, 2013**

### UNHCR YGN

**Attendees:** UNHCR, USAID, Merlin, SDC, TIKa, LWF, Care, ACTED, AusAID, Save the Children, IFRC, MRCS, IOM, & USAID

**Apologies sent for not attending the meeting:** DRC

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action / Actor / Date
Introductions / Update	<p>The Cluster Coordinator (CC) welcomed all the participants followed by brief introduction.</p> <p>David O'meara (DOm) was introduced to the participants. He is the Global Shelter Cluster Focal point for Shelter coordination, based at UNHCR's HQ in Geneva. Amongst other things the one month mission is focused on supporting the Cluster in strategy development, information management &amp; a performance monitoring tool. He also has plans to conduct field visits to Rakhine and Kachin.</p>	
Cyclone Mahasen Feedback	<p><b>Information Flows</b></p> <p>CC noted his recent one week mission visit to North Rakhine State (nRS) to support the preparedness activities for cyclone. It was mentioned that it was challenging for CC being deployed to field in such emergency, leaving a Cluster coordination gap at the Yangon level. Despite this the CC stated that all the Cluster updates were disseminated to all Cluster members at 48hr intervals. Generally the view of the Cluster was they liked this synthesized</p>	

	<p>information approach, reducing the number of emails they received during what was a frantic period. Partners also appreciated the efforts of CC for sharing the information from the field on regular basis. However, it was emphasized that there is need to have a communication protocol and clear guidelines to avoid duplication or triplication of information</p> <p><b>Contingency stocks &amp; operational/assessment capacity</b></p> <p>CC shared the cluster contingency stock sheet showing the available stock with partners. Such information was gathered from the field and consolidated in Yangon and then uploaded on Cluster website for wider dissemination.</p> <p>One notable challenge was that contingency stocks are mostly based in Yangon and may take time to dispatch and reach the field in case of any emergency. OFDA noted their stocks are in Dubai and can be brought here in case of an emergency. Equally AusAID noted stocks that they have and can be deployed but are also out of the country. In passing it was noted by OCHA that the Govt was also offering logistics/ transportation support.</p> <p>In terms of assessment capacity, only UNHCR and DRC provided the requested information regarding their staff availability in the field. Assessment capacity information was requested by OCHA to carry out any inter agency assessments</p>	<p>Need for the CC to have a communication protocol for information sharing during such emergencies.</p> <p>Need for the CC to ensure that there is a national and accurate consolidated list of all available emergency shelter and NFI stocks from all Cluster members.</p> <p>Need for the CC to ensure that there is a national and accurate consolidated list of all available staff from all Cluster members to</p>
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	<p>as required.</p> <p><b>YGN coordination &amp; operational coordination</b></p> <p>Much of this discussion focused on the issue of relocation plans and their feasibility.</p> <p>TIKA noted that there is a prevalence of cyclones at this time of year for states such as Rakhine and yet the challenge of relocating such a huge population is significant. Greater clarity on the feasibility of proposed Govt plans is required and this was stressed as an overall advocacy point/need. Care and OCHA also stressed the need for a better understanding of the viability of Government relocation plans.</p> <p>Following, a series of challenges in coordination were highlighted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Relocation plans shared by Govt., and in the case of nRS there were <i>three</i> possible plans, which added to the confusion. This seemed to be particularly prevalent for the Muslim caseload.</li> <li>2. Small number of partners involved in NRS.</li> <li>3. Overall capacity of humanitarian community versus the needs.</li> <li>4. Lack of clarity on how many people were actually moved.</li> </ol> <p><b>Public information &amp; communication</b></p> <p>It was emphasized that better communication systems are</p>	<p>support assessments as required.</p> <p>CARE stated that would seek to identify public buildings and have the capacity to undertake a mapping exercise and share it with the Cluster such that it can be used for relocation efforts in the future.</p>
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	<p>required so that people can get messages on time, enabling them to move in advance.</p> <p>The CC deferred to D0m to give some more background Shelter Cluster Global Focal Point for Advocacy and Communication (SHGFPAC) has been employed and will be on mission to MYN next month. Part of their remit is to help those involved in shelter offer a clear and consistent message on the shelter response, particularly when faced with heavy media presence/interest. Sample questions and answers (Q&amp;A) that Cluster members could be faced with were shared at the meeting. This was just a template and it was noted that for the week leading up to the cyclone the SHGFPAC simply fed into the overall OCHA media updates. D0m also noted that such Q&amp;A documents also be used for proactive advocacy with media.</p>	
Rakhine Update	<p><b>Shelter progress</b></p> <p>The current gap for providing temporary shelter in Rakhine stands at around 10,000 people. This gap more and more seems to centre on a cohort of displaced persons that the Govt does not view as eligible</p> <p>CARE asked if there were any signs that the Govt wanted to change the location of shelters following the cyclone? The CC said that he had not heard any information to this end but would check with colleagues in the field and revert to the Cluster as needed. The CC did note that it was encouraging</p>	<p>CC to check with Cluster colleagues in Rakhine and revert as needed.</p>

	<p>that the regular Friday Shelter Cluster meeting in Sittwe with the Govt did still occur once it was realized that the cyclone would not materialize.</p> <p>Care stressed the fact that they had funding from AusAID and were interested in building temporary shelters. The CC suggested it was best that they meet off the back of this meeting to discuss the particulars. The key need that the CC identified were some 85 temporary 10-unit shelters that need to be replaced with 107 8-unit shelters and 21 kitchens.</p> <p>The CC also highlighted the issue on nRS related to shelter and advocated to the donors present: USAID, AUSAID, TIKa and SD on the following issue. 412 Muslim families (272 destroyed houses) in nRS will now be provided with tents, since the violence they have received nothing. Following, there is a need for UNHCR and the Maungdaw authorities to conduct a joint verification of Muslim IDPs.</p>	<p>Care and CC to meet following the meeting.</p> <p>The CC stressed this need to the donors as a point of advocacy and asked they that support these efforts. This will become more pressing with the completion of permanent shelters for Rakhine IDPs in Manugdaw by mid-June.</p>
Kachin Update	<p>CC stated that a CCCM Cluster Coordinator has been recruited and will be based in Myitkyina.</p> <p>There is the potentiality for CCCM training in Kachin although at this juncture the priority is Rakhine.</p> <p>The CC stressed the priorities are: 1. camp maintenance; 2. camp focal points; 3. shelter (1,000 units) and NFIs (10,000 core kits and 20,000 sanitary kits).</p> <p>ACTED noted that they are distributing 448 Shelter Box tents</p>	

	and accompanying items – distribution remains ongoing.	
AOB	<p><b>Donor participation</b></p> <p>The CC noted the fact that USAID and AusAID had been present at the first part of the meeting and how did Cluster members feel about them being present for all of the meetings since when this was first raised some had voiced concerns? The participation of donors in meetings was now encouraged and it was agreed that specific issues if needing to be discussed without donors could happen as necessary.</p> <p><b>Protection issues for CCCM/shelter/NFI Cluster</b></p> <p>CC stressed the need for <i>this</i> Cluster and the protection sector to work closely together, not least the CC said that it could easily be argued that the provision of shelter was a protection activity, a way to “operationalize principles”.</p> <p><b>Cluster member feedback form</b></p> <p>This was something that the CC also wanted to roll out within the next couple of months, namely an anonymous questionnaire that would allow members to feedback on the Cluster thus far. DOn did note that it required answering 100+ questions but they were simply <i>yes</i> or <i>no</i> questions so it should not take long.</p> <p><b>Strategies</b></p> <p>Strategies for the Cluster need to be active till end of this year, and are required in Shelter and CCCM</p>	<p>CC to invite AusAID, USAID and DFID to next and all subsequent meetings, plus ensure they were placed on the national Cluster member list.</p>

	<p>for Rakhine and Kachin, plus an overall national strategy. This would at some point have to factor in matters around an “exit strategy”.</p> <p><b>MRCS</b></p> <p>MRCS noted their interest in CCCM, plus they have 25,000 hygiene kits and 2000 family kits, which will be prepositioned in Sittwe for monsoon and rainy season.</p> <p><b>Strategic Advisory Group (SAG)</b></p> <p>The CC stressed that he hoped by the next meeting this group would have met and necessary updates could be given.</p>	<p>DRC to organize SAG meeting within next two weeks.</p>
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Next YGN meeting likely to be June 5<sup>th</sup> 10.00, UNHCR YGN Office and members were also encouraged to check the [http://themimu.info/Meeting\\_Schedule/index.php](http://themimu.info/Meeting_Schedule/index.php) for confirmation. Also nearer the time the CC would send an email confirmation.

**Documents shared in hard copy with the participants at the meeting included:**

Shelter Cluster 3W Temporary Shelter Matrix - Rakhine State 21.5.'13

Shelter-NFI-CCCM Cluster Lead Contact Details, Kachin & Rakhine, 10th May '13 – these would be uploaded to the website.

Shelter-NFI-CCCM YGN Cluster Meeting Minutes, 8.5.'13; these minutes were cleared and would be uploaded to the website.