



## Shelter Working Group Meeting

### Syrian Refugee Response in Jordan

Meeting Location	UNHCR Small Conference Room	Meeting Date	3 July 2014
Chair Person	Ru'a Al Abweh	Meeting Time	12:00-13:30
Minutes Prepared by	Matthew Richard		
Purpose of Meeting	Shelter WG meeting		
Next Meeting	Thursday 24 July 2014 (tbc), UNHCR Khalda office (every 3 weeks)		

For further information and documents on the Shelter sector please visit the Shelter WG portal page, accessible here: [http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/working\\_group.php?Page=Country&LocationId=107&Id=10](http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/working_group.php?Page=Country&LocationId=107&Id=10)

#### 1.) Summary of action points

Item	Action point	Focal Point / Organization
1.)	Iman to share Government approved definitions on households and housing units, and Ru'a to raise this issue at the next taskforce meeting for the Shelter review.	Iman Zaki (UNHABITAT) & Ru'a Al Abweh (UNHCR)
2.)	Select 2 new gender focal points for the Shelter Working Group	Ru'a Al Abweh & Matthew Richard (UNHCR)
3.)	Follow up on ITS policies and latest updates	Ru'a Al-Abweh (UNHCR)
4.)	Share the ITS statistics and report with SWG.	Ru'a Al-Abweh (UNHCR)
5.)	Shelter sector survey results to be shared at next Shelter WG meeting	Matthew Richard (UNHCR)

#### 2.) Attendees of the meeting

Name	Organisation	Contact details
Emad Bakhit	Islamic Relief	<a href="mailto:emadeldin.bakhit@irworldwide.org">emadeldin.bakhit@irworldwide.org</a>
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Lucy Coley	ACTED	<a href="mailto:lucy.coley@acted.org">lucy.coley@acted.org</a>
Matthew Richard	UNHCR	<a href="mailto:richard@unhcr.org">richard@unhcr.org</a>
Joelle Petras	REACH	<a href="mailto:joelle.petras@reach-initiative.org">joelle.petras@reach-initiative.org</a>
Naomi Downs	Medair	<a href="mailto:shelterpm-jor@medair.org">shelterpm-jor@medair.org</a>
Nawara Hariri	JHAS	<a href="mailto:n.hariri@jhas-international.org">n.hariri@jhas-international.org</a>
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## 3.) Minutes

Item	Discussion
<b>Werner's end of mission</b>	<p>Paul Stromberg (UNHCR Deputy Representative) updated the Shelter WG on plans to replace Werner Schellenberg (Shelter Sector Chair) now that he has left Jordan to join the Shelter and Settlement unit in Geneva. There will be a gap until Werner's replacement arrives which will be filled with support from the co-chair Annika Hampson (NRC) and UNHCR (Ru'a Al-Abweh-Technical Unit, Nagendra Adhikari-Technical Unit, and Matthew Richard- Coordination Unit).</p>
<b>ITS evictions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During the night of Friday 30 June 1,276 individuals were transferred from informal tented settlements (ITS) in Quweismeh (SE Amman) to Raba Sarhan for registration. They were then transferred to Azraq camp. The first bus (199 individuals) arrived at 20:00.</li> <li>• The new arrivals were not processed for shelter allocation during the night, and settled in the waiting area until the morning. They were then allocated to T-Shelters Saturday morning.</li> <li>• Persons with specific needs were identified by IRC, IMC and HI, and were assisted as a priority (women at risk in the IMC area and persons with disabilities in the Handicap International Area).</li> <li>• NRC have sorted all personal belongings and are in the process of returning them to the owners.</li> <li>• All partners continue to provide services for refugees as normal in Azraq.</li> <li>• There have been a few points of tension during the process in Azraq, reflecting refugees' frustrations at having been evicted. These incidents have calmed down quickly.</li> <li>• Some refugees were accustomed to living in tents before arriving to Jordan while others were visiting friends or family over the weekend. These refugees are often from Bedouin tribes and do not want to be settled in camps. Also, many had entered Jordan legally and are therefore not legally bound to stay in refugee camps.</li> </ul> <p>The SWG raised concerns regarding the approach of the authorities in evicting refugees from the ITS. The ITS were on private land related to the adjacent factory where refugees were working. The refugees were paying rent and they had Ministry of Interior (Mol) identification/registration cards. Shelter partners stressed the need to be informed of any change in policy from the government regarding ITS as this affects their programming.</p> <p>Paul Stromberg informed that this was most likely a targeted eviction rather than a country wide and sustained effort to close ITS. The Mol sighted security concerns and specific concerns about certain members of the population for the recent eviction. However, there is a lack of a single coherent policy regarding ITS from the Government. The Government have announced there will be no further evictions during Ramadan.</p> <p>UNHCR has sent an official letter to the Mol making recommendations on how such a case can be better dealt with in the future (i.e.: a pre-notified transfer of ITS residents to camps with adequate warning and provisions for belongings.) UNHCR will continue to follow this issue closely and keep the SWG updated on the ITS-related news.</p>
<b>Definitions of households and housing unit</b>	<p>There is a need for the Shelter WG to further clarify definitions on households and housing units in order to harmonise reporting and allow for clear explanations in future Shelter guidelines and strategies. The definitions are also important for funding proposals and coordination between shelter partners.</p> <p>Ru'a presented definitions of household and housing units to the Shelter WG (which were agreed upon by the Shelter Strategy task force):</p> <p><b>Household:</b> house and its occupants regarded as a unit:</p> <p><b>Housing unit:</b> a living area for one family with access to a kitchen and bathroom.</p>



	<p>Iman Zaki (UNHABITAT) shared the Jordanian Government approved definitions. According to the Department of Statistics the definitions are:</p> <p><b>Housing Unit:</b> it is a building or part of it, virtuous for residence of one or more households regardless of its occupancy at time of census or survey. Housing unit may consist of one room or more with subsidiaries. A housing unit has independent entrance leads directly (or through a road, passage or stairs) to a public road without passing through other housing units.</p> <p><b>Household:</b> one person or more living in a separated housing unit or part of it. Here are two kinds of households, namely, the private household and collective household. A definition of each is as follows:</p> <p><b>Private Household:</b> it is a household with a head; the members of household participate in expenditures from the income of head of household or some of household members. Some of household members may not be related to each other, although it is commonly known that there is a relationship between them. It is commonly known also that the members share meals or some of these meals. The household comprises all persons who were absent temporarily from the household outside Jordan for study, morbidity, tourism, military and diplomacy missions irrespective of their absence.</p> <p><b>Collective Household:</b> the collective household has no head, and consists of 6 persons or more not necessarily related to each other, such as a collective labour housing unit, nurses and teachers’ hostels, hotels lodgers, prisons, old age house, orphanages, mental asylums. It is noted that there are private households within some collective housing units such as the hotel managers and their families who are living in a private suite, or a hospital director with his family or prison director and his family.</p> <p>There was a discussion on these definitions with different viewpoints and experiences. It was agreed that it is useful to align definitions with the Government, but with an understanding that the Syrian refugee context is unique and the Government definitions need modification for use within the Shelter WG. It was suggested to meet separately to continue this discussion, ideally at the next Shelter strategy review meeting.</p>
<p><b>Shelter sector survey</b></p>	<p>The Shelter Sector Survey was closed on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014 for the second time after reopening it to allow for more Shelter WG members to participate. Results will be shared at the next Shelter WG meeting.</p>
<p><b>Cash-for-rent taskforce update</b></p>	<p>The Shelter established a taskforce to develop guidelines for agencies involved with the provision of cash-for-rent assistance. Agencies presented their activities at the first taskforce meeting and discussed best practices, challenges and achievements of this intervention. During the second meeting a draft was developed and is now waiting for recommendations and approval from the chair of the Cash working group.</p>
<p><b>Shelter Strategy review update</b></p>	<p>The Shelter WG is in the process of reviewing and updating the objectives and principles of Jordan’s Shelter Sector Strategy with consideration of activities under RRP6. Inputs on assistance to ITS is still a pending issue. The review taskforce is also waiting for feedback from Azraq and Zaatari camps. The camp Shelter and Site Planning teams need to incorporate the long-term camp management vision and transformation process which was not reflected in the old version of the draft.</p>
<p><b>RRP6 mid-year review update</b></p>	<p>The RRP6 mid-year review was launched today which outlines changes to the outputs and objectives for the rest of 2014. The review process made significant budget cuts in line with</p>



	agency funding targets achieved and updates on projected refugee populations in Jordan.
<b>WASH-Shelter update</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The WASH and Education sectors have established a joint sub-working group in order to identify areas of mutual collaboration, notably activities involving WASH in schools.</li> <li>• A household water supply network will replace water trucking by the end of 2014 in Zaatari camp. ACTED have demarked areas for the new network reservoirs in districts, 4, 10 and 11 and will launch the tender for installation in July. A presentation of the design is available on the WASH WG portal page.</li> <li>• The Azraq WASH working group have established a taskforce to start developing ideas and plans for the proposed water network in Azraq camp.</li> </ul>
<b>AOB</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A series of photos were presented to the group showing a community based art project run by CARE which involves children in painting colourful murals on T-shelters in Azraq.</li> <li>• There is an Activity Info training workshop on 7 July, 10:30 at UNHCR Khalda. If interested please confirm your attendance with Angeliki Panagoulia (UNHCR Associate Co-ordination Officer), panagoul@unhcr.org .</li> <li>• Heather Patterson (LWF), SWG Gender Focal Point, has finished her assignment in Jordan . William Mc Cready (ACTED), who was the second gender focal point, has also left. The Shelter WG needs two new gender focal points. No volunteers during the meeting. Please send any nominations to Ru'a and Annika.</li> </ul>