



## National Shelter WG Meeting of minutes

<b>Meeting Location</b>	MOSA, 7 <sup>th</sup> floor	<b>Meeting Date</b>	13 June 2017
<b>Lead</b>	Mazen Riachi ( MOSA)	<b>Meeting Time</b>	10:00 A.M
<b>Co-lead</b>	Abdulrahman Abdelghani ( UNHCR) Nicolas Hartz (UN-Habitat)		
<b>Minutes by</b>	Malak Rahal	<b>Meeting Duration</b>	1.15 Hrs.
<b>Attendance</b>	(17) : MOSA, UNHCR, UN-Habitat, ACTED, PU-AMI, PCPM, NRC and Solidarité Int.		

### Agenda

1. IM: Shelter activities reported on A.I in April and May
2. Update from the field offices
3. Update from the Temporary Technical Committee (TTC)
4. Information from the Shelter Core Group: Planned revision of the Shelter Sector Strategy
5. Presentation by NRC ICLA
6. AOB

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The following are brief notes of discussion and action points.

- Presentation/Discussion
- Action Point

#### **1. IM: Shelter activities reported on A.I in April and May**

- Clementine Brown [brownc@unhcr.org](mailto:brownc@unhcr.org) is the new focal point for IM since beginning of June 2017.
  - The overview on A.I. is incomplete as some agencies have not reported their May activities on A.I. yet.
  - Until now: % of 2017 target reached for 1.1.2. Weatherproofing (WP) in informal settlements: 14%; for WP/maintenance of non-residential buildings: 15 %. Fire Risk Prevention + Preparedness (FPPR): 11 %; Upgrading of SSB: continuous activity, but only 9% of target reached; Upgrading Common Areas: not started yet.
  - Fire prevention activities haven't been updated since February 2017.
  - 28 partners have requested to be active part of the shelter WG: attending the meetings and reporting on A.I. Out of the 28, only 14 partners are doing so.
- A plea to partners to report on Activity Info in time (until 7<sup>th</sup> of each month) on all their activities.
- If no achievement to be reported in a certain month: report "0".
- Please inform [brownc@unhcr.org](mailto:brownc@unhcr.org) and the Shelter Area coordinators if activities are delayed, postponed, stopped.
- Partners to review the cost-efficiency of their activities in view of the funding situation.
- Next Month there shall be a presentation of the consolidated achievements of all partners (midyear report).

#### **2. Update from the field offices**

##### **Bekaa: Status of the Riyak eviction**

- The Area Shelter coordinator shared the following information about the status of eviction in Riyak:
- 908 tents in 190 sites have been confirmed to have moved from the eviction areas around Riyak.
- Movement from the eviction areas has slowed down during Ramadan period;
- Bekaa shelter partners are encouraged to apply for LHF standard allocation to support shelter response to eviction.



## **North**

- Recently the shelter sector worked on the new eligibility criteria for shelter assistance in informal settlements (IS) that was decided on the National Level.
- Concern Worldwide and DRC conducted a first pilot technical assessment to check the condition of the shelter material. Based on this, a formula was elaborated and will be applied to all the IS in the North to reduce the assistance since the funds and assistance for IS decreased.
- UNHCR supports implementing partners that are covering the North according to geographical split: PU-AMI and Solidarité International.
- Procurement of kits will take place based on the number of makeshift shelters every partner has to cover.
- UNHCR informs the families through mass communication campaign about the reduction of shelter kits; HHs will be informed by SMS or during the assessment.
- Blanket assistance to IS will be stopped this year.
- Fire prevention trainings will start by the end of the year.
- North Shelter Coordinator to share with the coordinators the formula elaborated to shelter assessment in IS.

## **B/ML**

No substantial updates from BML. Just a small update on ongoing activities:

- UNHCR partners: PU-AMI and INTERSOS started the implementation of their 2017 Shelter activities: Rehabilitation of SSBs, Common areas, Fire Kits distribution, and assistance with SOKs in ISs, tailored to the needs following the criteria set by the TTC on "Weatherproofing in IS".
- SCI initiated "Minor Repair" pilot project in BML: yet in assessment phase, start implementation soon.
- CARE and ACTED are finalizing their 2016 activities. Both are awaiting new funding for shelter activities in neighborhoods mainly in Beirut Southern Suburbs areas, where access till date is difficult.
- Cash for Rent projects in BML: PCPM has started its activity; IOM is yet initiating this.
- As shelter partners in BML primarily target HHs including elderly and persons with disabilities, a working group has been specifically dedicated to optimize the assistance to PwSN: The feasibility of propositions in available guidelines for accessibility for PwSN were discussed, given the actual shelter conditions in BML. This working group targets to generate a checklist for accessibility and a typical BoQ, to be used by partners while implementing shelter enhancement activities for elderly and PwSN.

## **South**

- Tyre office noticed a trend to evictions that will be documented in a report raised to the Head of Office.

### **3. Update from the Temporary Technical Committee (TTC)**

#### **TTC4 "Upgrading of common building areas"**

- Led by Solidarité, with MoSA, UNHCR, UN-Habitat, INTERSOS, ACTED, Habitat for Humanity.
- Elaborated a draft guideline for this new shelter activity, which will serve as a basis for first projects.
- The draft was shared with the Shelter Core Group, who gave some comments.
- The TTC will now discuss the comments and review the draft.
- Once finalized it will be presented to the National WG and shall be endorsed by Ministry.

#### **TTC3 "Upgrading of substandard building and rehabilitation "**

- Lead by ACTED
- The TTC targets to finalize the draft guideline at its next meeting on Thursday 22 June 2017.



- Then the draft shall also be discussed in the Shelter Core Group, and then at the NtShWG.

#### **TTC 2 “Weatherproofing in IS”**

- A first draft was shared with the TTC members.
- Comments are now being incorporated in the draft that shall be sent to the core group by end June.

#### **TTC5 “Fire prevention”**

- Lead by SCI and progress is noticed.

#### **4. Information from the Shelter Core Group: Planned revision of the Shelter Sector Strategy**

Below the paragraph of the minutes of the Shelter Corer Group meeting, when this was discussed on 06.06.

- The guidelines now under preparation by the 5 TTCs shall be compiled in a Shelter Manual.
- It would be useful to also include a revised shelter strategy.
- A revised Shelter Strategy would also inform the sector’s strategy in the upcoming LCRP revision.
- The Shelter Core Group agrees that the Shelter Strategy 2015 has to be revised.
- Starting points: the shelter situation and gaps (VASyR 2017); the 2017 LCRP log-frame; to look at the ongoing activities; identify lessons learnt; further visions and discuss how to move forward.
- MoSA: the Ministry is in the process of sampling all guidelines and make them available “in one place” for anybody when referring to Government guidelines.
- There is a need for a Shelter Sector Strategy, as the 2015 one is outdated and new inclinations are being adopted (not yet been part of the 2015 strategy).
- The 2015 Shelter Strategy shall serve as base document.
- However, the 2017 Shelter Strategy will have to analyze the actual context (e.g. funding) and elaborate on actual strategic steps how to incorporate experience and how to meet the challenges.
- The 2017 Shelter Strategy shall inform the 2018 LCRP Strategy and might serve as base for a 4 year strategy.
- The 2017 Shelter Strategy shall be elaborated in an inclusive process. The strategy will be influenced by 3 points:
  - Donors perspective
  - Preliminary results of VASYR– facts on the ground
  - Lessons learnt – from field offices and technical committees
- This Strategy shall serve a base to streamline the different shelter activities and upcoming issues.
- Planned: One day workshop (early July) to launch the strategy review.
- Besides of all Shelter partners, donors and coordinators from Shelter related sectors will also be invited.
- Core Group develops a first outline and identifies topics to be finalized by the core group before workshop.
- The outcomes of these discussions shall be integrated into the strategy and shared with all partners.
- The development of the strategy includes a review of existing activities from different points of views.
- Points to be considered: shelter needs and gaps; examine funding, expectations from donors, inputs from the government, options on what and how the shelter sector should focus its assistance.
- This information is well received. An intended time-line shall be indicated.
- Partners request that the main questions shall be shared before the workshop to allow preparation.

#### **5. Presentation by NRC (ICLA)**

Link to the presentation: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=13617>

- The following information is related to the discussion in the TTC3 “Upgrading of substandard shelters”.
- NRC’s ICLA colleagues volunteered to present information about “Lease agreements under Lebanese Law”.
- The “de-jure” validity of any lease agreement (even if agreed for a shorter period) is three years.



- Death of the landlord or change of the owner of the premises does not de-validate the Lease Agreement.
- Non-payment of rent terminates a Lease Agreement; the landlord has to request eviction by court.
- The burden of proof is always on the landlord.
- Verbal lease agreements: exist when tenants are allowed to use premises in exchange regular payments.
- Rent reduction agreement and rent freeze are lease agreements under the Lebanese Law.
- But: Occupancy free of charge (OFC) isn't a lease agreement (no payment).
- The agreement between the agency and the landlord is a cooperation agreement.
- As OFC is not a Lease Agreement, security of tenure is limited to the cooperation agreement (normally 1 year).
- Lease Agreements with reduction of freeze of rent also support tenure security.
- NRC ICLA distributes information bulletins on OFC and Lease Agreements.

## 6. AOB

### LHF

- OCHA calls for proposals for the LHF Standard allocation. The LHF strategy is available at OCHA.
- The projects are scored by OCHA and a technical sector committee (Shelter: UNHCRP, UN-Habitat, NRC).
- for each sector that will score each project
- But OCHA first assesses the capacity and checks if the agencies have contacted the sector coordinators.
- Agencies intending to submit project proposals are advised to contact the shelter coordinators:  
Nico Hartz on [nico.hartz@sha.admin.ch](mailto:nico.hartz@sha.admin.ch) Abdulrahman Abdelghani on [ABDELGAB@unhcr.org](mailto:ABDELGAB@unhcr.org)

### Evictions

- MoSA will officially communicate in the next interagency meeting regarding the evictions and Aarsal events.

### Log-Frame

- A temporary inter-sector team is reviewing the log-frame of the LCRP and its indicators.
- Together with the shelter coordinators, a revised log-frame was drafted, to be discussed with Core Group.

### Next Meeting

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month: next: Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 10 – 12, at MoSA (to be confirmed).