
From Relief to Dignified Shelter Solutions



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Moderator:

- Amelia Rule, Global Lead Shelter NRC

Panelists:

- Cameroon Shelter Cluster Coordinator
- DRC Shelter Cluster Coordinator
- Ethiopia Shelter Cluster Coordinator
- NW Syria Shelter Cluster Coordinator

A photograph of a woman and a young child standing in a lush green field. The woman is wearing a colorful, patterned dress and looking off to the side. The child is standing next to her, also looking in the same direction. The background is filled with tall green plants and a cloudy sky.

THE WORLD'S
MOST **NEGLECTED**
DISPLACEMENT CRISES
2021

& Dignified Shelter

The list is based on three criteria:



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1. Lack of media attention



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The list is based on three criteria:

1. Lack of media attention

2. Lack of economic support



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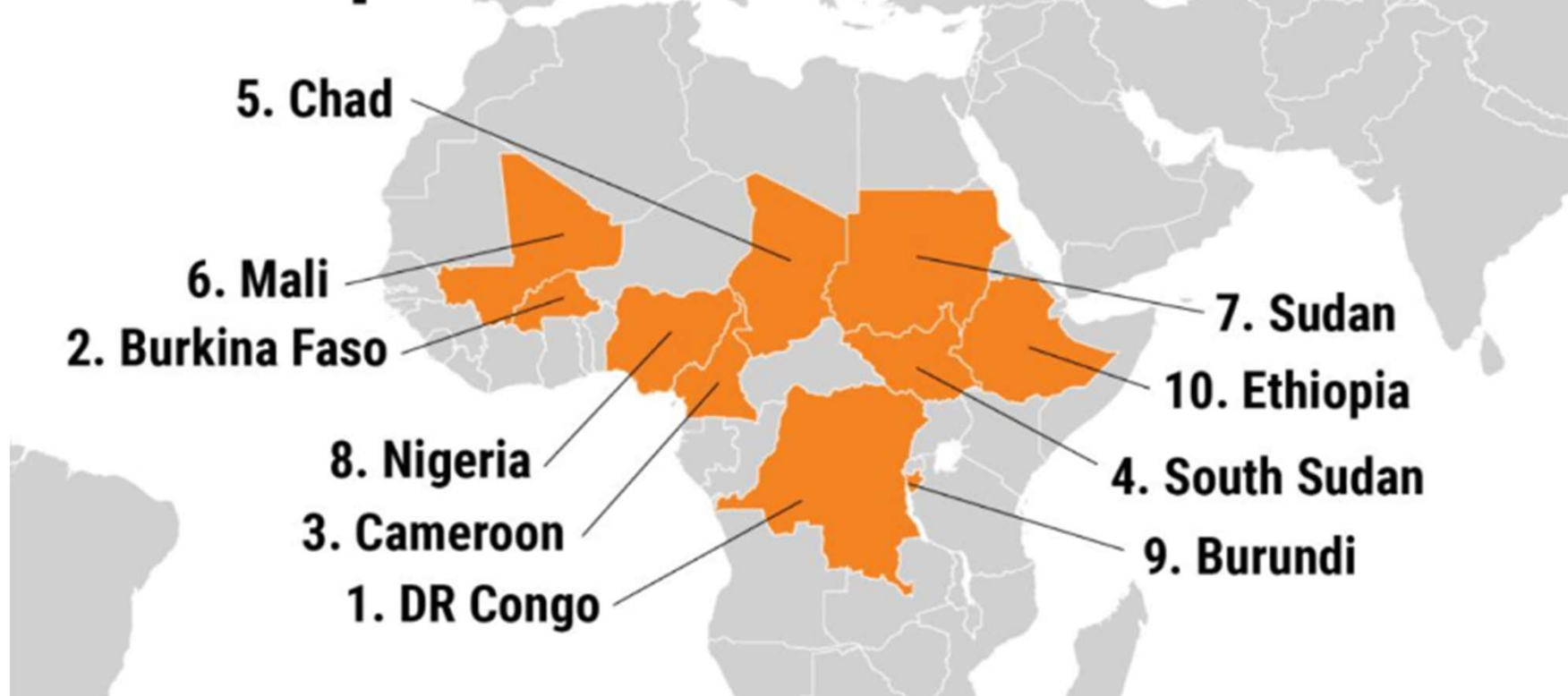
The list is based on three criteria:

- 1. Lack of media attention**
- 2. Lack of economic support**
- 3. Lack of political will**



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The world's most **neglected** displacement crises in 2021



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The Right to Adequate Housing

- **Security of tenure:** housing is not adequate if its occupants do not have a degree of tenure security
- **Availability:** of services, materials, facilities, and infrastructure
- **Affordability:** the cost does not threaten or compromises enjoyment of other human rights
- **Habitability:** guarantees physical safety and provides adequate space, as well as protection against weather and threats to health and structural hazards.
- **Accessibility:** addressing the specific needs of disadvantaged and marginalized groups
- **Location:** able to access employment opportunities, health-care services, schools, childcare centres and other social facilities, and considers environmental risks
- **Cultural adequacy:** housing is not adequate if it does not respect and take into account the expression of cultural identity.



“Now I have to learn how to live in a small traditional hut, at the age of 84”, says Ibado Samatar, a farmer in Ethiopia.

Ethiopia



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Ethiopia



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Northern Cameroon



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DRC Community housing

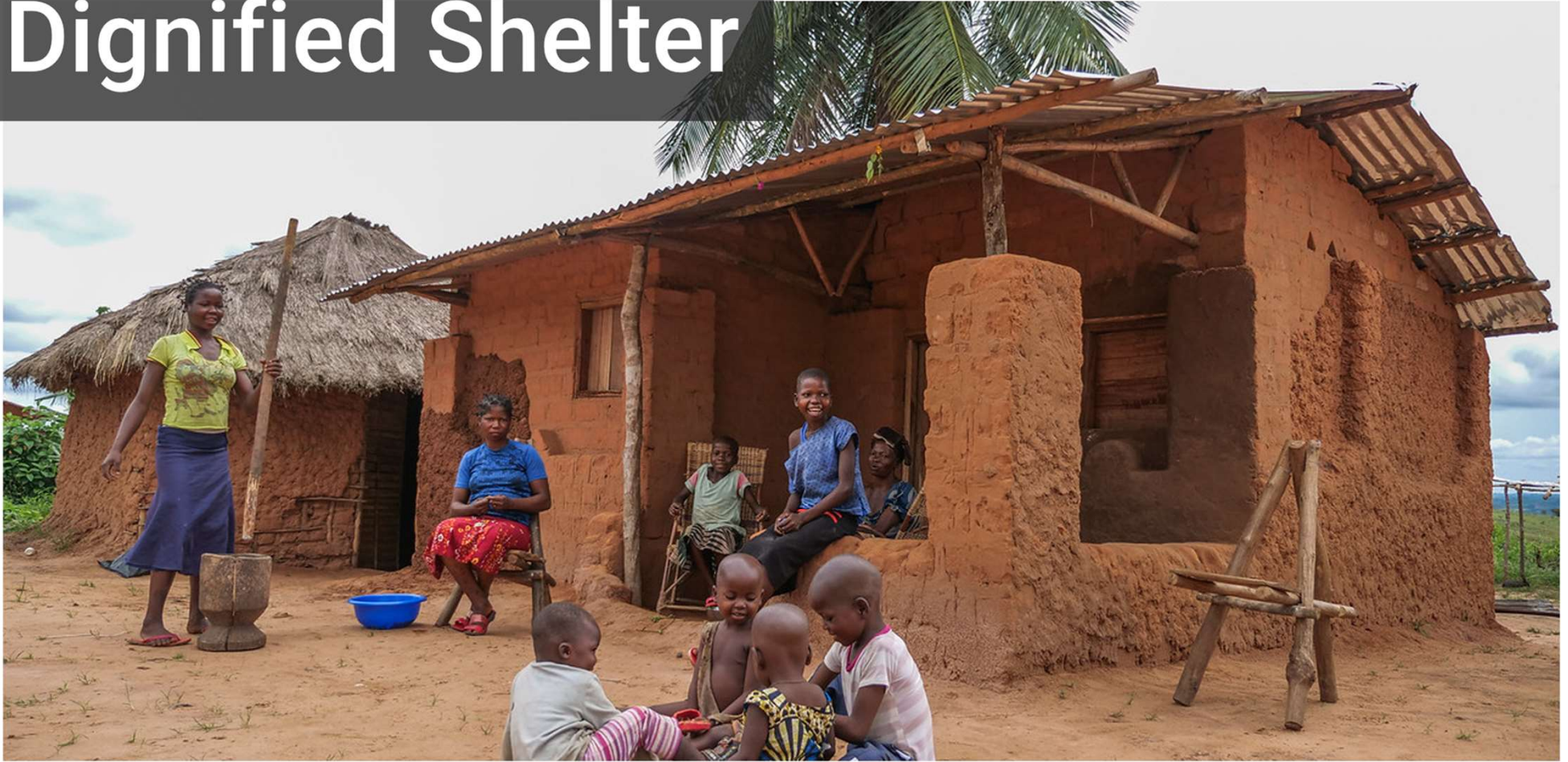


Displaced community members are seen at their NRC constructed shelter site, Bule, Djugu Territory, Ituri Province, Democratic Republic of Congo. May 1, 2022. Photo: Hugh Kinsella Cunningham/NRC



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Dignified Settlements

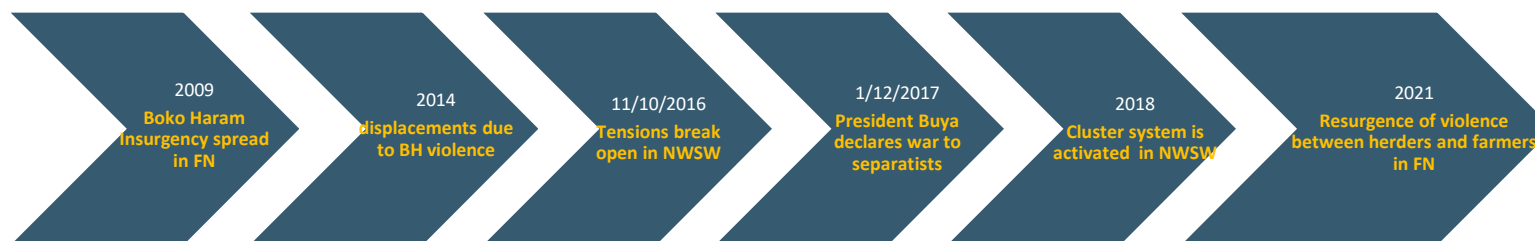


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Reality Check- Cameroon

How long has the crisis in your country of operation been going on for?

Anglophone crisis 6 Years



Inter-community tensions Every 10 Years

Boko Haram 8 Years



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Where do you think the response is?

- ❑ Since independence, first humanitarian large-scale crisis 6 years ago in NW-SW
- ❑ International actors from supporting the government's development agenda to simultaneously support humanitarian response and development programming
- ❑ Organizations and coordination systems are relatively new
- ❑ Development actors reflecting on the nature of their engagement and priorities
- ❑ Only three area of convergence (FN) for NEXUS as of today and framework validated June 2022



Where do you think the response is?



- ☐ Most of sectoral humanitarian assistance consists of household items (in-kind)
- ☐ No unified criteria set yet to determine to what extent a durable solution has been achieved by HND
- ☐ Nine planning frameworks (among those HRP 22) explicitly and none includes peace and security beyond programmatic responses focused on countering violent extremism in the North and Far North
- ☐ No robust evidence base, vulnerability-based targeting, and flexible ways of working
- ☐ Last talks (July 20) between the GoC and Ambazonian leaders failed to produce any results and fights continue



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What new approaches are you using in country to move people forward?"

Effective advocacy with HCT, NGO Forum, donors around peace, stabilization, safe/sustained access, human right access to housing

Active collaboration with NEXUS platform directing the group in setting baseline and clear criteria to define return/integration as a priority

Increase local/international partners capacities also around recovery/resilience/solution concepts

More evidence generated by needs based assessments

Promoting owner-driven approaches through monetization and market-based interventions

Start collecting evidence of violation of human right to housing

Promote ,when conditions are conducive, support to durable shelter solutions through area-based approach



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What else do you think could be done to achieve dignified solutions?

With the assumptions that :

- ❑ There should be a political will between Humanitarian – Development – Peace actors and the Government to set up a common vision
- ❑ The role of Sectors/Cluster alone is limited when we talk about the achievement of dignified solutions as this comes with a multisectoral approach and sustained access to basic services

Then the Sector/Cluster would additionally:

- ❑ Strengthen its engagements with central/local authorities/ development actors on the consolidation of HLP policies and urban planning



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Reality Check- Democratic Republic of the Congo

DR Congo Context



25 years complex crises

- Multiple internal conflicts (approx 100 armed groups), multiple natural hazards (volcano & cyclical floods)
- 5.5M IDPs, 1M Congolese refugees & 500K refugees in Congo, 27M Food insecure, Health crisis, Ebola....
- Worsening political and humanitarian context



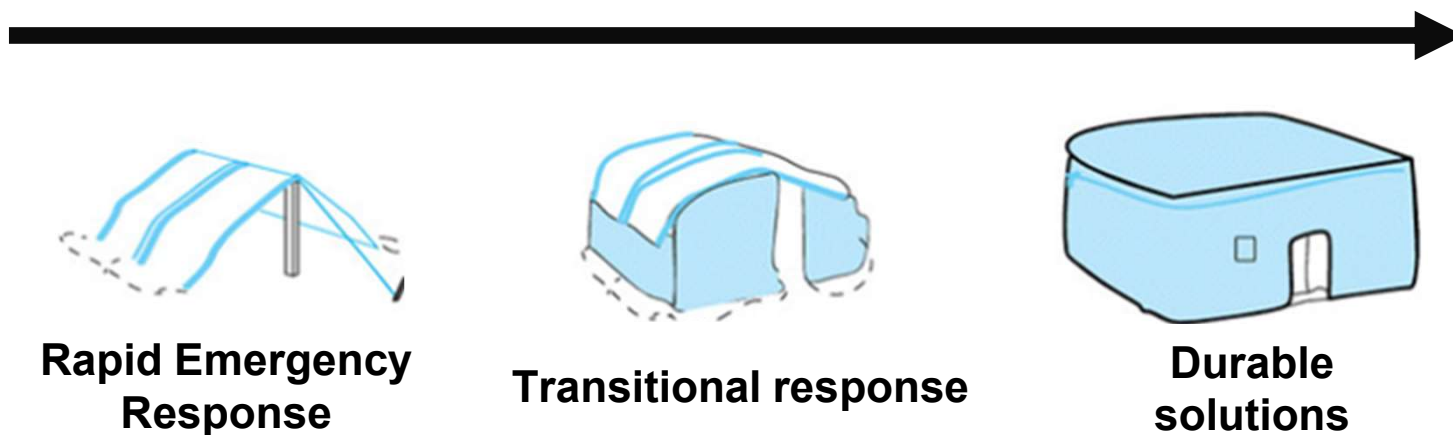
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Shelter Response

- Shelter Cluster activated in 2020 – former NFI Cluster led by UNICEF
- Small shelter response (28 shelter & NFI actors)
- Weak in terms of capacity, funding and reach
- Tension between the scale of the needs and the limited resources
- New crises every month mobilizing resources & media attention, at the detriment of recovery in other areas



From relief to recovery



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What are new approaches?

- Maintain a strategic position in emergency responses coordination at multi-sectoral level (NFI WG, Cash WG, links with FoodSec and Health Clusters)
- Advocacy to maintain visibility on recovery & durable making links to other sectors (GBV sub-cluster) using recovery and durable solutions as an investment to reduce emergency needs
- Request to the HCT
 - Funding analysis on the investment in Emergency vs Mid-term/transitional response
 - Research & analysis of emergency response as pool-factor for further displacement

Durable solutions & NEXUS



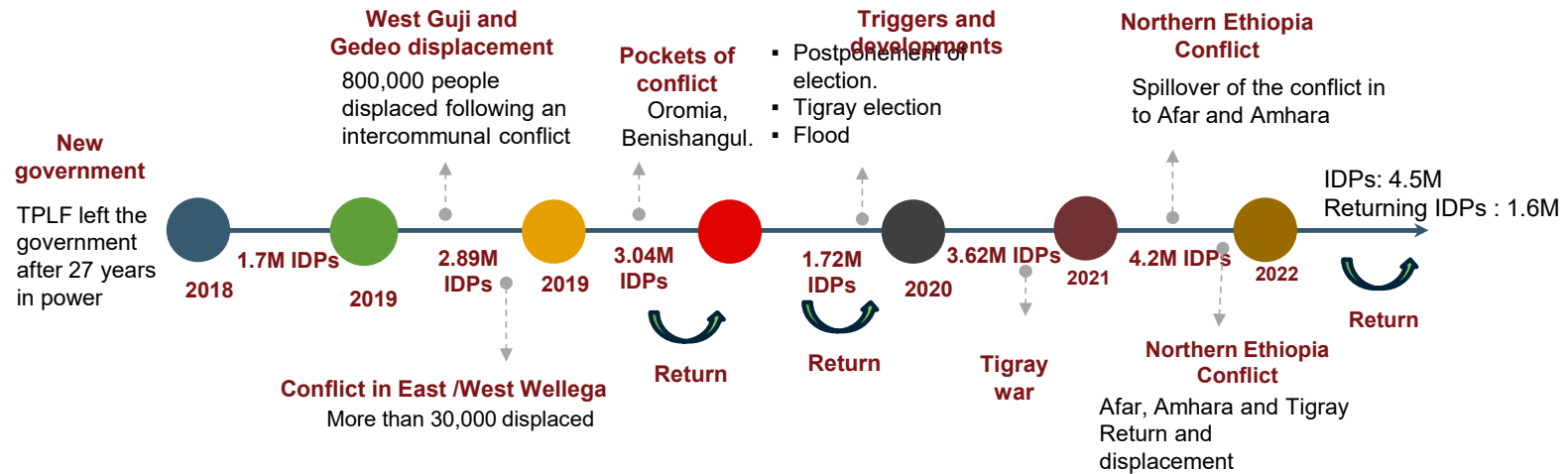
- NEXUS is not the end of the humanitarian mandate
- Better define Roles and responsibilities
- Who decides when, how, what we should invest in Durable Solutions?
- How to engage development actors, donors, when they are not present?

Reality Check- Ethiopia



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Context and Humanitarian Situation Timeline



Cluster at a Glimpse

- 
 The Cluster is activated in 2010 and chaired by the government and co-coordinated by CRS.
- 
 Seven sub-national Cluster to coordinate the responses.
- 
 Supported by two INGOs in secondment of IMOs and Technical Advisors



Partners:
41
 2 UN agencies
 12 National NGO
 27 International INGOs



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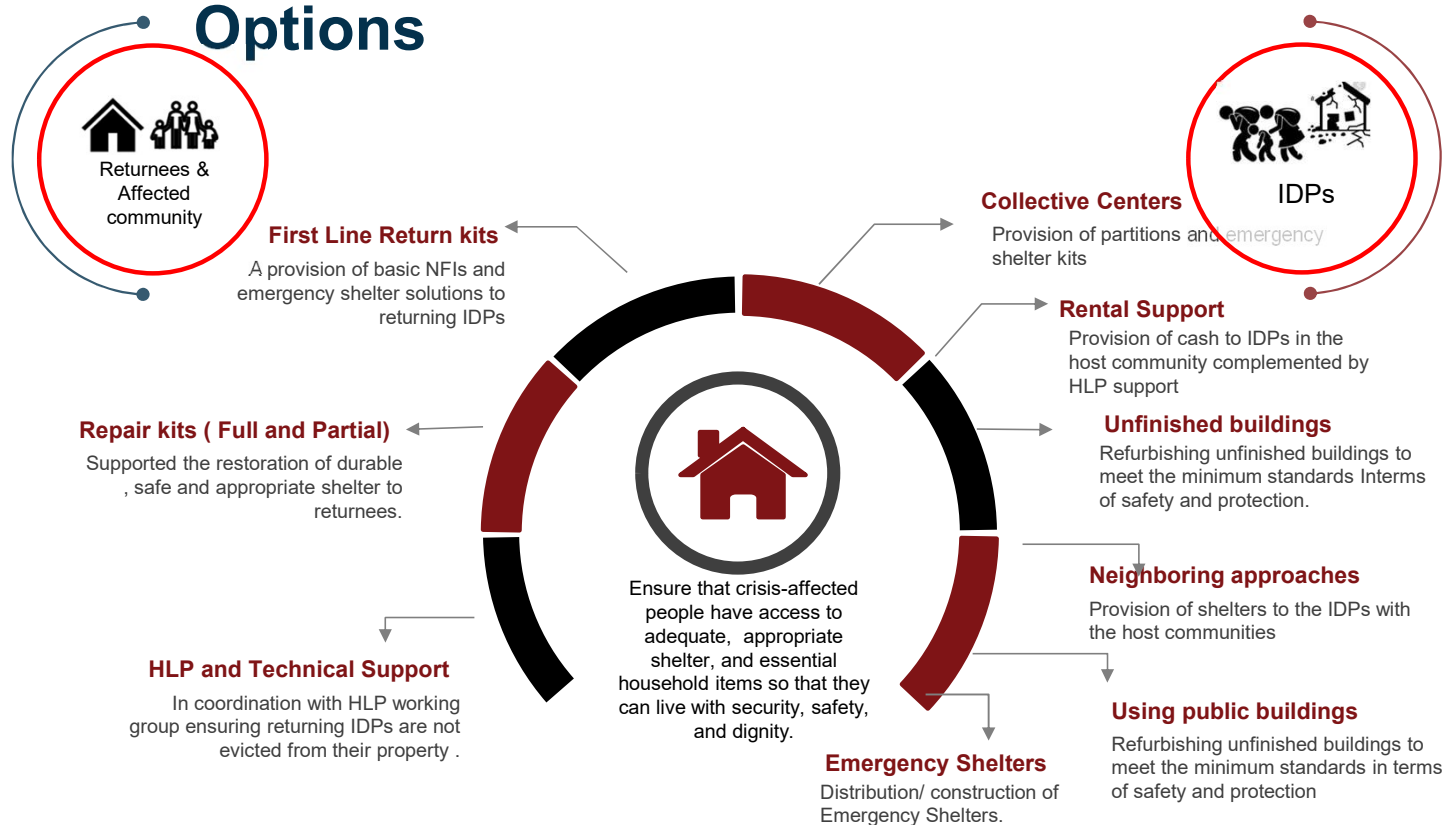


IDPs in Different Parts of Ethiopia

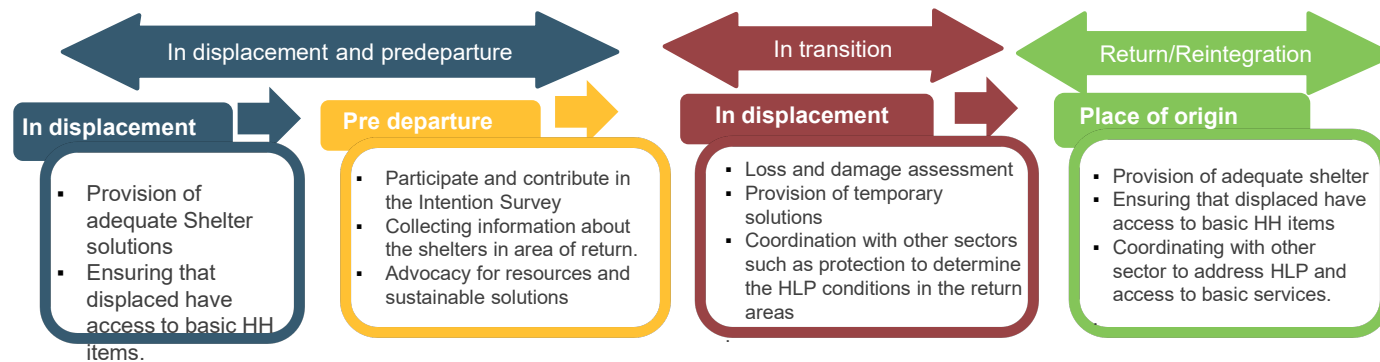




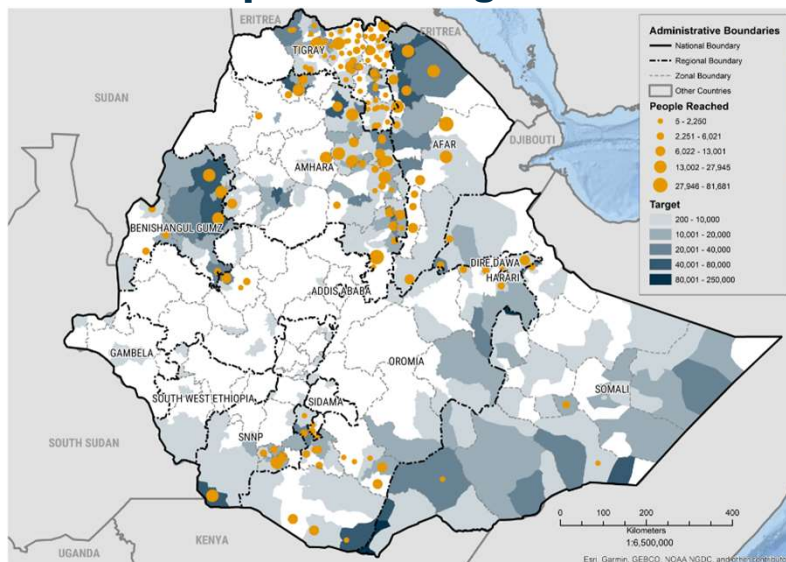
Ethiopia ES/NFI Cluster Response Options



Workflow- Towards Durable Solutions



Response Progress



Challenges

- People are facing multiple displacements and continuous movement of conflict lines.
- Large-scale displacements and donors fatigue impacting the responses.
- Uncoordinated return by the government.
- Limited attention to peace building and community engagements in areas prone to intercommunal conflicts
- Lack of disaster mitigation activities in areas prone to flood and drought.
- Donors' diversion or reallocation of resources to the Northern Ethiopia responses, which is pushing the others displacement affected populations to protection and health risks.

Return and Reintegration

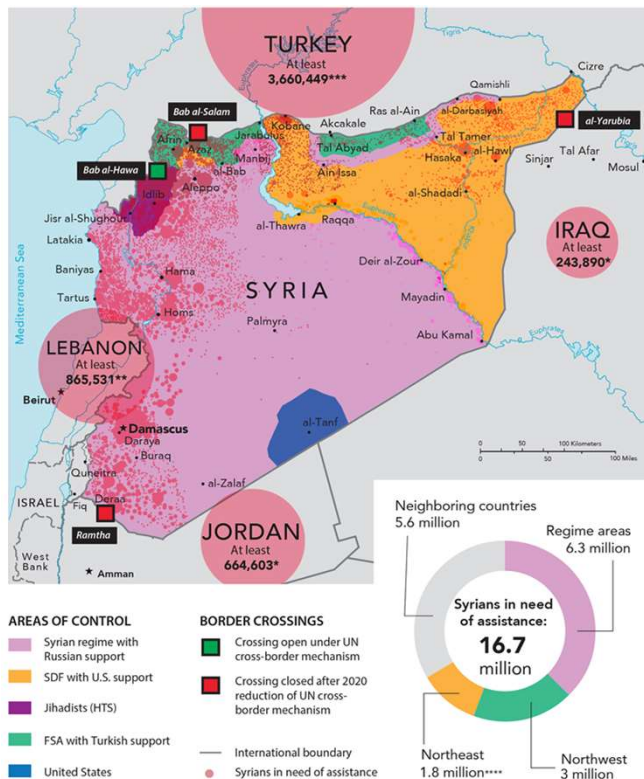


Reality Check- XB Turkey



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Seige-Like Conditions in NW Syria



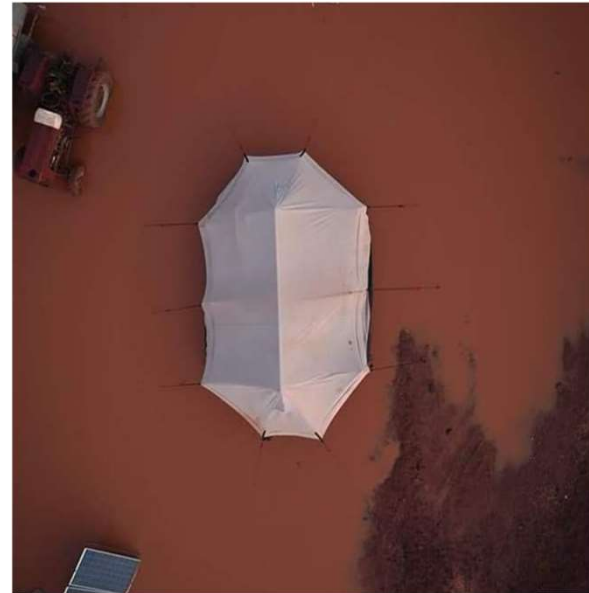
- 11th year of conflict.
- Small enclave in NW Syria caught between frontlines & a border wall.
- 4.4 million people in NW Syria.
- UNSC Council Resolution authorizes cross-border operations.
- Highly politicised response
- Focus has been on short-term shelter interventions despite more than a decade of conflict.

Unplanned, informal, self settled sites



2.2 million people in need of emergency shelter
1,400 IDP sites
1.7 million people living in the IDP sites
750,000 people living in old tents

Flooding



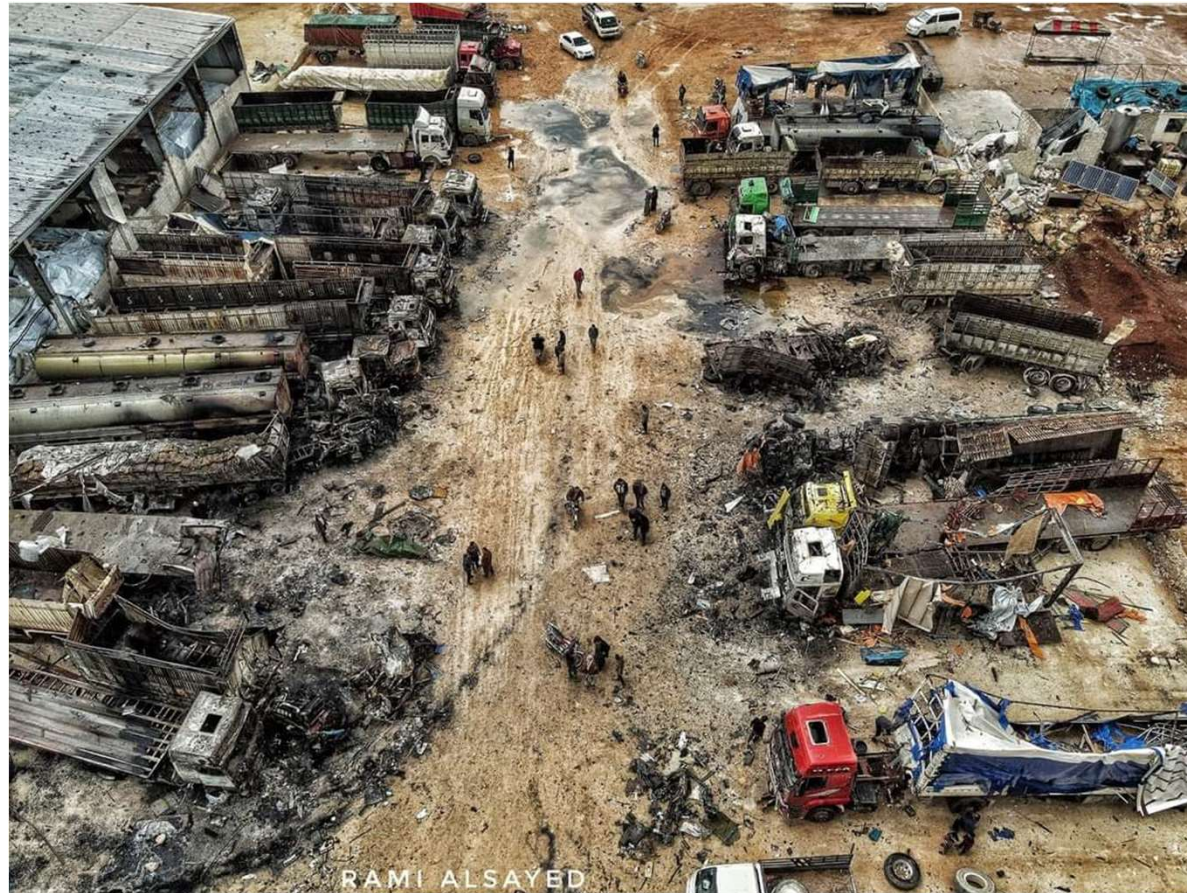
Harsh Weather Conditions

58% of people in IDP sites are children



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Conflict



"Humanitarian shelter for situations of protracted displacement"

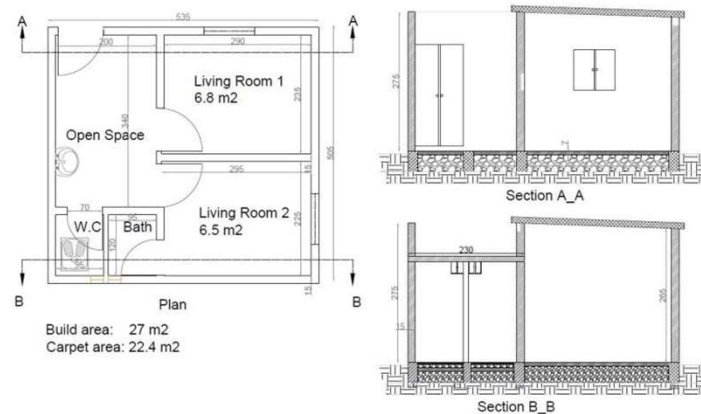
- **Dignity:** Tents no longer provide adequate shelter after 11+ years of displacement.
- **Protection:** Dignified Shelter (+ infrastructure and site planning) provide safer and more secure living conditions for vulnerable people.
- **Value for Money:** Dignified Shelter shelter is cheaper in the medium term.
- **Unplanned settlements:** Addressing problems caused by ad hoc humanitarian response over ten years.
- **Multi-sector programming:** links with CCCM, WASH, Protection, Early Recovery.
- **Innovation:** engaging partners to explore a range of shelter options.
 - **What we are doing:** dignified, temporary, robust, longer lasting, demountable.
 - **What we are not doing:** housing, permanent, durable, settlements, solutions, concrete.

Dignified Living Conditions



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Dignified Shelter: Some Examples



Dignity



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Report Recommendations



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Recommendations to humanitarian organisations

- Provide evidence-based analysis to donors to help shape annual humanitarian aid allocations based on the severity of needs.
- Press for strong humanitarian leadership in-country that can engage with national and international stakeholders on behalf of the humanitarian community
- Improve coordination between aid organisations on the ground. Optimise the use of resources and avoid unnecessary competition for the limited resources available. Use collective action.
- Invest in advocacy. Often countries that receive the least funding cannot afford advocacy and communication resources, making it difficult to draw attention to these crises at an international level.
- Link up with foreign policy think tanks, research institutions and other organisations that can help approach neglected crises from different perspectives, to collectively press for humanitarian issues to be included in broader policy debates or decisions.

Recommendations to donor governments

- Provide humanitarian assistance according to the needs of people affected by crises, and not according to geopolitical interests or media attention.
- Seek to overcome fatigue around particularly complex or protracted crises through organising high-level pledging events or senior officials' meetings, which address underlying political causes and identify measurable commitments.
- Increase flexible and longer-term predictable funding so that the humanitarian response can better address overlapping factors (displacement, conflict, climate)
- Support the ability of humanitarians to work in complex contexts by simplifying due diligence procedures
- Advocate to governments for an increase in humanitarian spending, and externally with international financial institutions
- Commit to increasing refugee resettlement quotas to the global north and ensure safe and legal pathways for those fleeing all **crises**.