



# **GLOBAL SHELTER CLUSTER (GSC)**

Co-lead by the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the GSC is a platform of shelter and settlement partners. Its mission is to support crisis-affected people to live in safe, dignified and appropriate shelter and settlements. The GSC and country Shelter Clusters work collectively with national response actors to support people affected by disasters and conflict with timely, effective, and predictable shelter and settlement responses.

Since the Cluster Approach was rolled out in 2006, the GSC has worked with an ever-growing range of partners. There is increasing recognition that shelter and settlement responses not only provide physical dwellings but also stable foundations to rebuild lives and support a range of multi-sectoral outcomes.

Building on its commitment to partnership, the GSC is implementing its 2018-2022 strategy collaboratively with many other actors under the guidance of its Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) and the Global Shelter Cluster lead agencies.

During 2021, GSC partners supported 17,5 million people with shelter and NFI assistance. In the first half of 2022, 909 GSC partners supported 6,5 million people with shelter and NFI assistance.

# Global Shelter Cluster Strategy 2018 - 2022

**AIM** 

# STRENGTHENED SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS RESPONSES THAT BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

### MAINSTREAMED PROTECTION, GENDER, DISABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT



COORDINATION

Coordination contributes to a localised, predictable, effective and timely response





Increased recognition of shelter and settlement in humanitarian response and recovery





Shelter response informed by evidence, best practice and learning





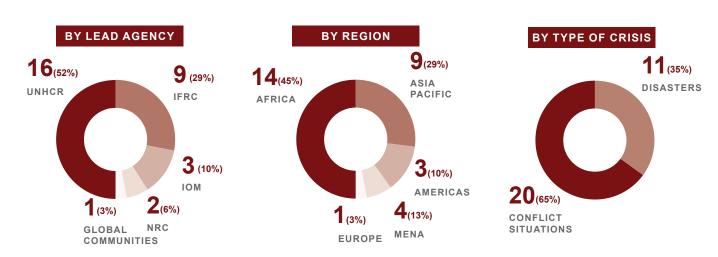
Shelter sector capacity to address ongoing and emerging challenges

### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Continued reviews (Evaluation of the Strategy, IM review, Research priorities, Website review)
- Cluster deployment and set-up of the shelter response in Ukraine to the escalated conflict during 2022
- Acceleration of "Greening the Response" activities
- Reinforced visibility through advocacy and communication
- Provided capacity building to the Humanitarian Shelter Coordination Training cohort in May and the updated online "More Than Just a Roof" training
- Stepped up the Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring since the beginning of 2022
- Developed a tip-sheet to support GBV risk reductions measures in shelter response



### **BREAKDOWN OF CLUSTERS**



### SYSTEM-WIDE SCALE-UP

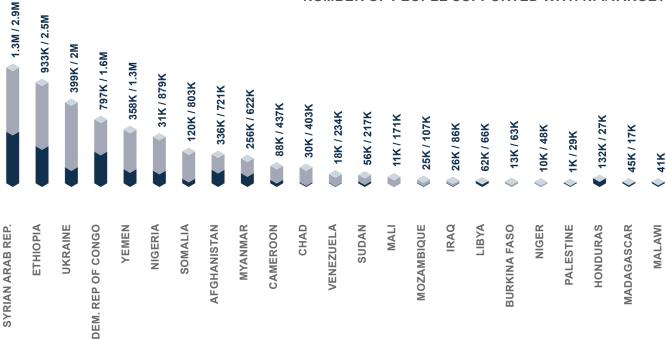


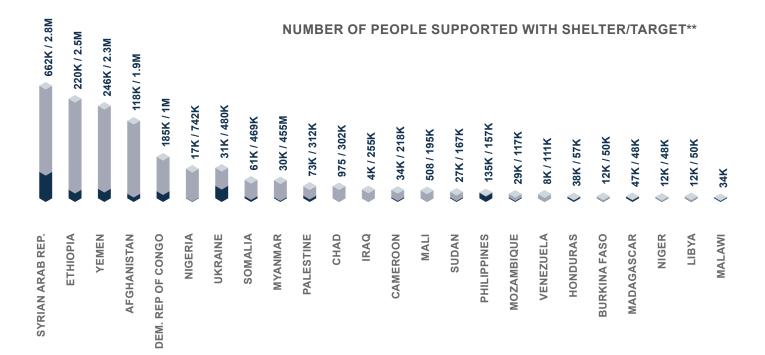
<sup>\*</sup> The data presented here has been made available to the Global Shelter Cluster through factsheets. Achievements are from all cluster partners (not just the lead agency). Any form of shelter and/or NFI assistance is counted (except for distribution of single items). To avoid overlap, this is based on the highest number of beneficiaries for either NFI or shelter per country (if no total figure has been provided for the number of people reached).

<sup>\*\*9</sup> cluster-like mechanisms (or sectoral working groups) are also active: Fiji, Malawi, Mongolia, Solomon Islands, Vietnam, Americas region, Haiti, Libya, and Niger.









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<sup>\*\*</sup>Does not include clusters in preparedness mode and active clusters for which data was not available.

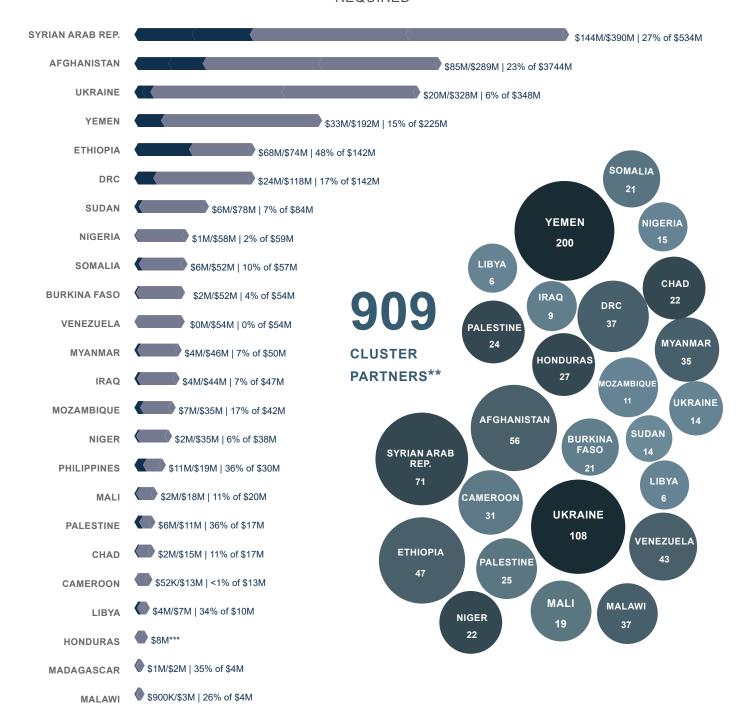
**FUNDING RECEIVED** 

**FUNDING REQUIRED** 

**FUNDING ACHIEVED** 

## **OVERVIEW OF FUNDING AT COUNTRY LEVEL\*\*:**

FUNDING RECEIVED/FUNDING GAP | % RECEIVED OUT OF FUNDING **REQUIRED\*** 



<sup>\*</sup> Based on factsheets submitted by clusters and OCHA's Financial Tracking Service, all amounts are in USD. Funding is received by cluster partners.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Does not include clusters in preparedness mode and active clusters for which data was not available.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Data on funding received during 2022 was not available.

495

DAYS REMOTE SUPPORT

123

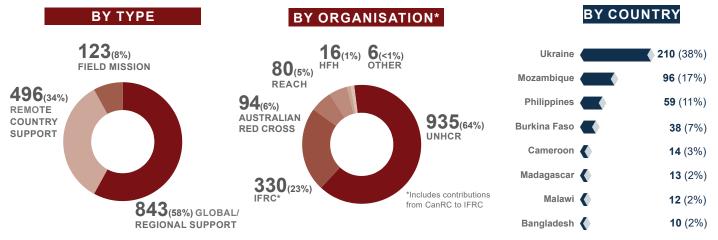
DAYS ON MISSION

843

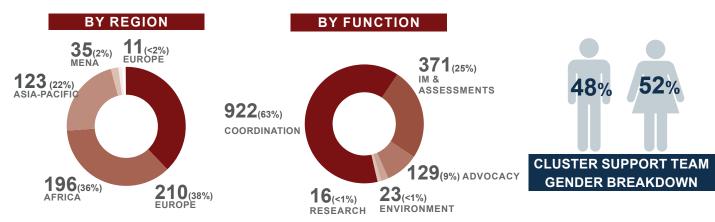
GLOBAL / REGIONAL SUPPORT 1461
TOTAL NUMBER OF DAYS OF SUPPORT

### **GLOBAL SUPPORT TEAM ACTIVITIES**

Data includes information received to date from members of the GSC Support Team, except for the Global Cluster Coordinators.



Only countries with more than 10 days of support are shown





## GLOBAL SHELTER CLUSTER DEPLOYMENTS

#### **UKRAINE RESPONSE**

The Global Shelter Cluster provided support to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine through the provision of dedicated coordination and IM capacity from the GSC roving team from the beginning of the conflict on 24 February 2022. During their deployment, the Coordinator and IMO set-up the coordination of the shelter response along with the Cluster Team already in Ukraine. Key achievements included:

- the strategic reorientation of the previous structure of the Shelter Cluster in Ukraine to adapt to the new conflict through engagement in inter-sector forums
- reinforcement of partnerships with the government, local, and international actors
- the development or revamping of basic IM tools and processes needed to coordinate the response. In addition
- five working groups were created or relaunched to ensure efficient coordination with relevant partners with the required technical expertise on specific components of the shelter response: light and medium repairs, winterization, assessments, collective centers, and rental support.



© Paul Hansen/Dagens Nyheter; Residential building destruction, Kyiv, April 2022.

### **BURKINA FASO INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SUPPORT**

To reinforce IM capacity, tools and processes of the Shelter Cluster in Burkina Faso, the GSC provided dedicated capacity through the deployment of the roving IMO. The deployment consisted in the development or improvement of core IM tools, including the 5W matrix, response planning and monitoring tool, reporting factsheets, and dashboards.

### **CLUSTER COORDINATION PERFORMANCE MONITORING (CCPM)**

During the first half of 2022, 10 (30%) country clusters were formally assessed by their partners or the GSC. Another 12 (44%) began the process. Findings from the survey used to monitor their performance served as a basis to agree in country on what concrete actions could be undertaken to improve their overall performance. The GSC considers the CCPM exercise as complete once country clusters publish their action plan.

## **GLOBAL SHELTER CLUSTER ACTIVITIES**

### **EVALUATION OF THE GSC 2018-2022 STRATEGY**

The GSC is currently in its last year of the 2018-2022 Strategy. During the first half of 2022, the GSC commissioned an evaluation "to assess the progress in its implementation, identify achievements and possible gap areas, make recommendations for the last year of implementation and inform the development of the next GSC Strategy" (GSC Strategy Evaluation). Through 40+ key informant interviews and the review of 300 documents, the evaluation looked at global and country level performance and results in the implementation of the GSC strategy since 2018. The relevant, efficiency, effectiveness and impact of the strategy were evaluated. These lead to a series of conclusions about achievements against the broad strategic areas of the 2018-2022 GSC strategy and recommendations for the development process of the next one:

Overall, the evaluation concluded that "the GSC 2018-2022 Strategy was the right one for the time and was an important step towards formalization of GSC ambitions. Partners, donors, and other stakeholders were able to see themselves somewhere in the Strategy, yet in trying to be all things to all people, the lack of prioritization and ambiguity of purpose reduced its utility. As such, it is too wide-ranging to be a powerful and focused advocacy tool, and not detailed or "field ready" enough as an operational tool to drive action on the ground. That said, overall, the Strategy has been a useful framework over the past 5 years, and it has remained remarkably relevant and salient against the needs of the GSC and shelter sector, even as the world has changed" (GSC Strategy Evaluation).

Thee evaluation recommended that, instead of engaging in a full re-development, to instead:

- "Undertake a light-touch review" around a few key areas in the very short term
- Fill the most crucial gaps over the next 1-3 years
- For the next strategy, lead transformation towards greater alignment of global cluster strategies, and adopt a "strategic framework" (GSC Strategy Evaluation)

The evaluation was conducted by independent consultants. Key findings are summarized in the <u>Executive summary</u> and detailed in the <u>Full report</u>. More information on the process is in the <u>Annexes</u>.

# GENDER BASED VIOLENCE RISK MITIGATION

2021 HNO & HRP analysis report for the GBV Risk Mitigation in Shelter was developed. The report included a desk review of the shelter chapters of 24 HNOs and 28 HRPs from 2021. Findings served as a baseline for the inclusion of GBV risk mitigations measures in all upcoming HNOs and HRPs. A tip sheet was developed and shared with the cluster coordinators as a guidance document.



© Denise Belo

# GSC'S "MORE THAN JUST A ROOF TRAINING" (ONLINE)

The GSC updated its online "More Than Just a Roof" training in January 2022 initially in English and Spanish (course is being translated into Arabic and French). This course describes the basics of why shelter programming is an important component of humanitarian response, outlines the shelter and settlements challenges that affected families often face in disasters and conflict crises, and illustrates the essential elements of how humanitarians can complement the shelter activities of affected families. It conveys the essential concepts and language used by shelter experts when describing approaches used to adequately shelter vulnerable families. This online learning opportunity is designed by the Global Shelter Cluster for anyone wanting to know more about effective shelter and settlements programming and coordination. It targets those working in humanitarian settings but will also be useful for others interested in this area. The course is available on both the IFRC Learning Platform and the UNHCR Learn and Connect.

### **HUMANITARIAN SHELTER COORDINATION TRAINING (HSCT)**

The Global Shelter Cluster delivered its first cohort of 2022 of the Humanitarian Shelter Coordination Training from 9 to 14 May 2022. Due to the course cancellations during Covid-19 in 2020 and 2021, this cohort was exclusively dedicated for participants that had already completed the online course but could not complete the face-to-face component. A total of 14 participants attended the course however four could not travel due to Covid-19 travel restrictions. Participants joined from numerous operations including Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Jordan, Mexico, Mozambique, Nepal, Rwanda and Venezuela. Other participants joined from UK, France and Hungary.



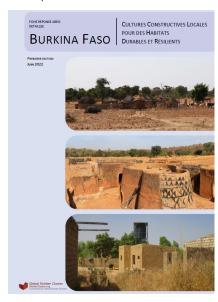
### **GREENING THE RESPONSE**

During the first half of 2022, the GSC continued the implementation of environment-related activities to achieve the objective to "strengthen the shelter response of humanitarian actors through environmentally sustainable global response and localized and innovative shelter programming at country-level clusters." With the objective of reducing the yearly CO2 footprint of shelter programming and reduce the amount of virgin plastic distributed per year in shelter responses, the environment focal points of the GSC collected procurement data on tarpaulins, blankets and tents of major humanitarian shelter providers. The estimated CO2 emission and amount of virgin plastic data will be used as a basis to project the hypothetical reduction of both for procurement in coming years.

In addition, the GSC environment focal points provided support to country clusters on a variety of "greener and climate smart" activities: Cash champion and localization activities, the development of country-specific shelter response profiles (SRP) and environment profiles (ECP). During the first half of 2022, consultations for the cash champion and localization activities were initiated, one SRP was finalized for Burkina Faso, two were ongoing, and a common framework for environment profiles was developed in partnership with expert consultants.

Finally, the GSC environment focal points, with the support of the Environment Community of Practice (ECoP) increased its support to country clusters on environment-related initiatives, including:

- Ukraine Environment considerations WWF Environmental Disaster Management <u>factsheet</u>
- Training for DRC cluster partners on the NEAT+ and SMAC tools
- Global surveys (<u>results available here</u>) on country-cluster environmental issues, followed by action-plans



### **ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATION**

**Media:** a joint press release with IFRC was issued in January 2022 about the shelter needs after Typhoon Rai/Odette, which was published in al Jazeera and dozens of Asian regional outlets.





**Advocacy:** 10 shelter clusters country teams developed advocacy plans to strengthen the work in their country of operation, resulting in more active outreach to donors and production of audiovisual outputs. The outcome of advocacy on dignified shelter conditions in North-West Syria was the adoption of a <u>full paragraph in the UNSG report on Syria of 16 June 2022</u> on the action plan for dignified shelter.

A briefing note on the IDP crisis in Yemen ahead of the donor pledging conference in March was developed with the Global Protection and CCCM Clusters. Based on the briefing note, a video was produced jointly with UNHCR.

Ahead of a donor pledging conference in Afghanistan a briefing note on the IDP situation in Afghanistan was drafted.



**Communications:** During the first half of 2022, three countries produced videos: Afghanistan on IDP shelter conditions, Venezuela on energy work, and Palestine on housing conditions in Gaza.







LinkedIn: the GSC LinkedIn received 973 new followers, and published 144 posts.

**Twitter:** The GSC twitter account received **395 new followers and published 162 posts**. The top tweet (3,774 impressions, 1 media view and 57 total engagements) was a retweet from UNHCR Yemen on building 30,000 transitional and more durable shelters to respond to the needs of displaced families in the country.

**Statements:** 3 messages were published on social media by WWF Environment and disaster Management on June 5 for World Environment Day. Links: <u>statement 1</u>; <u>statement 2</u>; <u>statement 3</u>







### INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- Time for a coffee break! In February 2023, the GSC launched the "IM Coffee Breaks," a series of informal online gatherings for IM practitioners or anyone else interested in IM topics, to candidly exchange on best-practices and challenges, show-case their work, and share their ideas. The Coffee Breaks are embedded in the broader GSC Information Management Community of Practice. Coffee breaks sessions focused on various IM initiatives such as the IM COP itself, the IMAS toolkit, the website, global processes, and the IM review. To receive information on the coffee breaks or join the IM Community of practice, you can "follow this group" through the GSC IM COP page.
- From information management to creating a data culture: The IM review process launched in November 2021 continued during the first months of 2022. In 2021, coordinators, IMOs and members of the GSC support team were consulted through focus group discussions and bilateral interviews. For the second phase of the review, consultations broadened to IM experts and stakeholders from outside of the Shelter Cluster, for their take on the IM landscape in the humanitarian sector, and ideas or vision for the future of IM in the sector. Recommendations from the review covered both short-term suggestions to improve existing tools and processes, and ambitious long-term ones in alignment with the vision to create a better data culture within the sector. These included having an IM landscape which is professionalized, localized as much as possible, up-to-speed on latest analytical processes and technologies, and embedded in broader improved knowledge management processes of the Shelter Cluster. The full report details findings and recommendations.
- Revamping the GSC website: The vision for the website is to reinforce its ability to be a platform for knowledge management of the Shelter Cluster, to support coordination and be a rich resource for cluster partners and beyond. This vision, coupled with technical requirements, initiated a series of changes to the website. In March 2022, the process of migration from Drupal 7 to Drupal 9 was finalized, thanks to funding and input from multiple sources and agencies (UNHCR, IFRC, IOM, CRC, BHA, IMPACT Initiatives). Improvements were made on both visible (for example: automatic translation and more communication tools) and invisible features (for example: bug fixes). The process to continuously improve user experience on the website will continue throughout the rest of the year.

### RESEARCH

- Research Priorities Baseline: HFHI, as host of the GSC Research function, worked with Oxford Brookes University to produce a Baseline of Research Priorities to ensure that the research work of the GSC is evidence based. Findings are based on the analysis of data collected from 20 coordinators and 24 academic partner organizations in 42 countries. It also incorporates an earlier GSC study based on a consultation with 11 member organizations of the GSC SAG. Findings in the baseline include the priority thematic areas of Longer-Term Recovery, Cash and Markets and the Wider Impacts of Shelter and Settlements, and better access to data. Cluster Members and Coordinators share a widespread appreciation of the link between research, quality and accountability. Coordinators expressed the need for enabling an environment which upholds the value of research and evidence-based programming and advocacy. There exists a critical mass of potential research partners to support access to and generation of research relevant to those who have lost their shelter and settlements, plus a significant amount of enthusiasm and activity around research in the GSC Working Groups.
- **New Research Collaborations:** Two studies were launched based on the current GSC top research priorities: a study into the cash programming with the Cash and Markets CoP, and one into connecting relief and recovery with the Recovery CoP and the University of Sydney.
- Support to Country Clusters and other Cluster Functions: The Global Focal Point (GFP) for Research
  provided support to several country clusters. For NW Syria, evidence was identified to back up longer term shelter
  and settlements programming, the local use of concrete and the role of shelter and settlements in education for
  use in collaboration with the GFP for Advocacy. For Somalia, a research design was produced in collaboration
  with UNHCR and IOM focused on exploring the links between shelter and settlements and GBV mitigation. The
  GFP for Research also supported the Green Team with advice on data gathering methods.
- Support to Academic Partners: The GFP for Research also mentored various research fellows at five universities interested in aligning their research with concerns of the GSC. These include the BHA HFHI Fellows at the University of Copenhagen and University of California, and further researchers concerned with shelter and settlements at Oxford Brookes, the University of Cambridge and Georgia Tech.

# THE WORK OF THE GLOBAL SHELTER CLUSTER IS POSSIBLE WITH THE VALUABLE SUPPORT OF OUR DONORS

# STRENGTHENING THE SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS RESPONSES THROUGH SURGE CAPACITY, LEARNING AND ADVOCACY



The Global Shelter Cluster is implementing its 2018-2022 strategy through <u>funding received from the Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance (BHA).</u>

The funding covers the period from October 2020 to September 2022 and contributions help to ensure that shelter and settlements responses can more effectively meet the emergency and transitional humanitarian shelter and settlements needs of the people affected by humanitarian crises. The contribution of BHA is also supporting the GSC's activities in promoting localization, capacity building, preparedness and outreach initiatives to create spaces for the engagement of a wide diversity of humanitarian stakeholders. In addition, learning activities include lessons on the engagement of new and non-traditional actors, to further promote the participation of the private sector, civil society organizations, local authorities, national governments, local and national NGOs, academia and all those interested to contribute to the humanitarian shelter and settlements response.

# MOBILISING COLLECTIVE EFFORTS TOWARDS A GREENER AND CLIMATE SMART HUMANITARIAN SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS RESPONSE



Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection

The GSC has counted on valuable support of DG ECHO since 2013 through several grants, which have progressively strengthened the coordination and technical support functions of the cluster. The most recent grant will cover the period from July 2021 to July 2023 and has the objective to strengthen the shelter response of humanitarian actors through more environmentally sustainable global response and localized and innovative country-level shelter clusters.

The GSC through this ECHO grant will support country-level shelter clusters to plan and implement operations that are as climate smart as possible. Localized and effective coordination teams, supported by surge capacity and global helpdesks, will promote the use of sustainable local solutions and materials that can help reduce international procurement, find options for reducing, repurposing, reusing, and recycling these solutions, promote an informed use of cash, and increased participation of the affected population.



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# **Strategy** Indicators table

	✓ Target achieved	Target not a	achieved yet	Target not achieved
STRATEGIC AREAS AND RESULTS	INDICATORS	RESULT 2022	TARGET 2022	MEANS OF VERIFICATION
COORDINATION  Coordination contributes to an effective and accountable response	% of stakeholders who are satisfied with the performance of the Shelter Cluster (aggregated country and global level)	NA*	90%	Annual survey completed by stakeholders
<ul><li>1.1 Predictable, timely, effective support and services for Shelter Clusters</li><li>1.2 Strengthening area-based coordination and promoting settlement approaches</li></ul>	Average time (hours) in which a trained and experienced coordinator is deployed to newly activated country-level clusters		<72 HRS	Deployment / mission reports, requests from country-level clusters for support
<ul><li>1.3 Facilitating transition to recovery cordination</li><li>1.4 Effective inter-cluster coordination and joint response planning</li></ul>	% of country-level clusters that undertake a cluster performance review with partners and implement the action plan recommendations at least once per year	30%	80%	SAG meeting minutes, GSC website, country Action Plans
ADVOCACY Increased recognition of shelter and settlement in humanitarian response and recovery 2.1 Strengthened understanding of shelter and settlements's critical multi-	% of the total humanitarian funding received that is allocated to the Shelter Sector, disaggregated by region and crisis type	1,6%	5.7%	FTS
sectoral impact 2.2 Increased donor and agency engagement and support for shelter and settlements sector	# of advocacy statements/positions established and regularly updated	₹ 7	10	GSC website
<ul><li>2.3 Critical funding and response gaps are monitored, communicated and supported</li><li>2.4 Engaging others: appropriate urban assistance, cash and markets-based programming, area-based approaches</li></ul>	% of people assisted vs people targetted, disaggregated by region and crisis type	24%	70%	GSC website
EVIDENCE-BASED RESPONSE Shelter response informed by evidence, best practice and learning 3.1 Evidence available and used to	% of cluster partners reporting that response strategies are "appropriate" based upon the existing evidence	NA*	75%	Annual survey completed by stakeholders
inform planning, coordination and decision-making 3.2 Key shelter and settlement evidence gaps filled	Summary of shelter lessons learned is regularly collected and disseminated	℃0	5	Global publications
3.3 Knowledge Management systems in place to capitalise on lessons learned as well as best practice in order to bring about change in sector policy and practice	% of shelter cluster coordinators and partners reporting that they have access and use evidence, learning and best practice	NA*	>90%	Annual survey completed by stakeholders
CAPACITY Shelter sector capacity to address ongoing and emerging challenges	% of cluster coordination team members who feel prepared/have access to tools to address ongoing and emerging challenges	NA*	80%	Annual survey completed by stakeholders
<ul><li>4.1 Increased and localised shelter response capacity</li><li>4.2 Country workshops and HLP</li></ul>	# of people trained in key cluster coordination roles during the reporting period	14	80	Participants lists
4.3 Shelter responders apply cash and markets modalities appropriately 4.4 Analysis of sector future response needs & capacity	# of people trained in coordination trainings who are deployed in deputy/junior coordination roles to country-level clusters during the reporting period	<b>₽</b>	10	Mission/deployment reports



### **CLUSTER LEAD AGENCIES**





#### **2020 SAG MEMBERS**













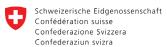






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