



Shelter types



Shelter Cluster Somalia
ShelterCluster.org
Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter



Table of content

Table of content.....	2
Contribution	2
1. Definitions.....	3
Emergency Shelter / Hoy degdeg ah.....	3
Transitional Shelter / Hoy Kumeel gaar ah	3
Durable Shelter / Hoy waara.....	4
2. Emergency Shelters	5
Somali traditional house / Caqal Hori	5
Tent / Teendho.....	5
Buul / Buush.....	5
Emergency Shelter Kits / Hoyga waxaa lagu dhisay iyadoo la isticmaalayo xirmada hoyga.....	6
Timber and plastic sheet with CGI roof / Alwaax iyo xaashi caag ah oo leh saqafka CGI	6
3. Transitional Shelters	7
Somali traditional house / Mundul	7
Timber and mud with CGI roof / Baraako	7
Plywood wall with CGI roof / Darbiga plywood oo leh saqafka CGI	8
Refugee Housing Unit / Darbiga plywood oo leh saqafka CGI	8
CGI sheet wall and roof / CGI sheet iyo saqafka.	8
4. Permanent Shelters	9
Stone/brick wall with CGI roof: Type 1.....	9
Derbiga Stone / bulukeeti saqafka CGI: Nooca 1.....	9
Stone/brick wall with CGI roof: Type 2.....	9
Derbiga Stone / bulukeeti saqafka CGI: Nooca 2.....	9
Mud block shelter/Guri dhoobo iyo dhagax laga samayay	9

Contribution

Shelter/NFI Cluster

Global Shelter Cluster

ACTED

AVORD

DRC

NRC

UNHCR

1. Definitions

Emergency Shelter / Hoy degdeg ah

Emergency shelters are intended to provide short term shelter solution in order to help disaster, conflict or displacement affected people who are temporarily without shelter. Emergency shelter assistance should be provided in the a few days or weeks following a shock, depending on weather conditions.

UNHCR defines emergency shelter as a habitable covered living space providing a secure and healthy environment with privacy and dignity. Individual family shelters are always preferred to communal accommodation as they provide the necessary privacy and psychological comfort. They also provide safety and security for people and possessions and help to preserve or rebuild family unity. Emergency shelter needs are best met by using materials and designs that persons of concern or the local population would normally use. Wherever possible, displaced populations should be empowered to build their own shelter, with the necessary organizational, material and / or cash assistance support. This will help ensure that the shelter meets their particular needs, promote a sense of ownership and self-reliance, and reduce costs and construction time considerably. It is important to keep in mind that the initial shelter design as well as the site selection and planning will determine the long term sustainability of the site, therefore it is important to develop a shelter response focused beyond the emergency phase and linked to more durable solutions.¹

Transitional Shelter / Hoy Kumeel gaar ah

The term transitional shelter is used to define a range of shelter options that help populations affected by a humanitarian crises progress from an initial emergency arrangement to a more suitable shelter solution, better adapted to their needs in terms of habitability. Transitional shelter addresses short to medium term shelter needs. It is sometimes misunderstood as being a one-off product, rather than a process whereby people upgrade their own house overtime, often through the reuse of some or all of its parts. Transitional shelters and their materials can aid with recovery, be resold to generate income, or recycled for reconstruction of a new shelter¹.

It involves the provision of inputs, construction assistance, technical advice, and oversight needed to create shelters consistent with internationally recognised guidelines.

Transitional shelter is an incremental process rather than a multi-phased approach, whereby the shelter is built using whenever possible, local materials and/or salvaged materials.

In theory, transitional shelters can be:

- Upgraded into part of a permanent house;
- Reused for another purpose;
- Relocated from a temporary site to a permanent location;
- resold, to generate income to aid with recovery;
- recycled for reconstruction.

¹ Source : [Shelter and Sustainability, A technical and environmental comparative overview of common shelter typologies found in settlements across UNHCR operations](#), UNHCR, April 2021

In the local context, transitional shelters should be built on a safe land that cannot be affected by floods and close basic services. Affected populations who want to remain in the same location should have land ownership to avoid risk of eviction.

It is important to keep in mind that the layout of settlements and the characteristics of plots and shelters allocated in the initial phases of a crises are critical determinants of all the subsequent development stages and the long term sustainability of the response.

Durable Shelter / Hoy waara

While it may be difficult during an emergency to look beyond the provision of life saving shelter support, it is imperative to keep in mind that people affected by humanitarian crises should be supported to reach durable shelter solutions. Within, but particularly beyond the emergency and transitional phase, shelters should be adapted and contextualized according to the following elements: climate, cultural practice and habits, local availability of skills, access to adequate construction materials and geographical context. Furthermore, standards for durable shelter solutions should be defined based on humanitarian standards and in collaboration with the future shelter users, the shelter partners and in close coordination with government authorities and development partners². It is recommended to build a few shelters for a pilot before engaging a large scale project.

² Source : [Shelter and Sustainability, A technical and environmental comparative overview of common shelter typologies found in settlements across UNHCR operations](#), UNHCR, April 2021

2. Emergency Shelters

Somali traditional house / Caqal Hori



Made with local materials

Buul / Buush



Made with local materials and recycled materials

Tent / Teendho



Cost : USD 450-500

Emergency Shelter Kits / Hoyga waxaa lagu dhisay iyadoo la isticmaalayo xirmada hoyga



Cost : USD 145-213

Timber and plastic sheet with CGI roof / Alwaax iyo xaashi caag ah oo leh saqafka CGI



Cost: USD 400-500

3. Transitional Shelters

Somali traditional house / Mundul



Cost: USD 300-400 depending on the location

Timber and mud with CGI roof / Baraako



Cost : USD 500-700

Plywood wall with CGI roof / Darbiga plywood oo leh saqafka CGI



Cost :USD 1000-1200

CGI sheet wall and roof / CGI sheet iyo saqafka.



Cost: USD 800-1000

Refugee Housing Unit / Darbiga plywood oo leh saqafka CGI



Cost: USD1000- 1300



Cost:USD400- 500

4. Permanent Shelters

Stone/brick wall with CGI roof: Type 1
Derbiga Stone / bulukeeti saqafka CGI: Nooca 1



Cost : USD 2200-2500

Stone/brick wall with CGI roof: Type 2
Derbiga Stone / bulukeeti saqafka CGI: Nooca 2



Cost : USD 1500-2000

Mud block shelter
Guri dhoobo iyo dhagax laga samayay



Cost : USD 900-1000