

**Shelter Cluster Meeting**  
**Tuesday, 14 June 2011, 10.30-12.00, DM Centre**  
**Nepal Red cross Society**  
**Kalimati, Kathmandu**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Participants:**

Mr. Dharma Raj Pandey, Deputy Director, NRCS (chair)  
Ms. Victoria Bannon, Country Representative, IFRC  
Mr. Prafulla MS Pradhan, Chair Person, Lumanthi Support Group for Shelter  
Mr. Rajesh Manandhar, Engineer, UNHABITAT  
Ms. Sarita Maskey, Senior Divisional Engineer, DUDBC  
Mr. Dhurba Devkota, Programme Coordinator, Save the Children  
Mr. Gopal Dahal, ERDRM Manager, LWF  
Mr. Komal Upadhyaya, Program Unit, IOM  
Mr. Bhesh Raj Parajuli, Training Officer, DP Net-Nepal  
Mr. Ramesh Ghimire, Technical Officer/Shelter Focal Point, NRCS

**Agenda**

1. Welcome and Introduction of Participants
2. Review from the previous meeting
3. Finalizing the emergency shelter contingency plan with timeline matrix
4. Shelter NFRI stock mapping
5. Sharing the participation and achievement from shelter RDRT training
6. Recovery: update on Koshi activities
7. Upcoming events
8. AOB
9. Next meeting/ close

**Materials distributed**

- April 1 meeting minutes
- June 14 meeting agendas
- An article on Nepal: strong hopes for straw houses

**Minutes**

**1. Welcome and introduction of participants**

The meeting was started with the warm welcome from NRCS and brief introductions of participants.

**2. Review actions points from previous meeting**

The last meeting was held at DUDBC on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2011 whereas the agenda for the contingency planning workshop was finalized. In the same meeting, the participants

suggested further detail on the layout and sketch of shelter models which are prepared for inclusion in the updated contingency plan.

Emergency shelter kit, NFIs kit and emergency shelter models were finalized during the contingency planning workshop which was held at Hotel Himalaya, Kathmandu on 7 to 8 April, 2011.

### **3. Finalizing the emergency shelter contingency plan with timeline matrix**

Victoria from IFRC shared the draft of updated contingency plan that was already shared with all shelter cluster members for their inputs and comments. Similarly, Ramesh from NRCS mentioned about the annexes which include updated information and new except shelter models and shelter kit.

Regarding the model shelters, Prafulla (representing Lumanthi Support Group for Shelter) advised the Shelter Cluster to engage with the private sector or builders on the issue of low cost shelter, including pre fabricated light weight panel/materials as an alternative. It was noted that World Habitat Day would be a suitable time to invite and erect different shelters both from shelter cluster agencies, builders and private sectors.



Questions were raised about the distribution of raw cloth as part of the NFI kits, and some agencies are suggested to use ready-made clothing. However, others noted this could result in many challenges including incorrect sizes, as was faced during the Koshi flood operation. The use of lunghis vs dotis was also discussed, with the decision that these specifications could depend on the specific area for distribution within Nepal.

Regarding the shelter kits, LWF shared the field experiences of bamboo procurement in refugee camps and advised to not mention 'matured' bamboo in the specifications because this was not widely available. It was also suggested to remove the Federation standard kit annex to avoid confusion with the Nepal standard, and to replace it with a list of useful shelter reference materials.

- ✓ The final date would be 20 June to send inputs on the contingency plan and annexes
- ✓ Private sector will be invited to an upcoming shelter meeting for discussions on other shelter models and techniques.

### **4. Shelter NFRI stock mapping**

NRCS shared that its current stock of NFIs is around 6,000 sets nationally, and it is facing challenges in securing funds to preposition NFIs ahead of the upcoming monsoon. Save the Children shared that they have 5,000 NFIs kits and 1,000 shelter kits in the Kathmandu Valley. DUDBC noted it did not have NFIs or a standard budget for procurement. The meeting has agreed to prepare a recommendation to the government for a regular provision for NFI and shelter procurement in the national / ministerial budgets.

- ✓ IFRC/NRCS to prepare a draft set of recommendations on behalf of the shelter cluster for the consideration of the government on annual budget allocations for NFIs and shelter.
- ✓ A template would be sent to all shelter cluster members very soon to assess the capacity and current stock of NFIs.

#### **5. Sharing the participation and achievement from shelter RDRT training**

Ramesh from NRCS shared his learning and reflections from his participation on Shelter RDRT training which was organized from IFRC and held in Australia from 22 to 27 May, 2011. The training was focused on RC/RC response mechanism, sheltering process and more focused on field exercise and experiences sharing. One of the achievements from this training is the multiple uses of shelter kits for activities such as repairing damaged houses and construction of new emergency/temporary shelters, which can be done using locally available materials and universal shelter toolkits.

#### **6. Presentation on Recovery program of Koshi**

Rajesh Manandhar from UNHABITAT shared about the repairing and retrofitting of damaged houses from recent storm. Now, these homes have been repaired and most are fully occupied. He also noted the improved sense of ownership that has grown within the community.

Prafulla also suggested the shelter cluster engage further with Rotary sub-committee chairs for disaster preparedness, particularly for activities concerning community participation.

#### **7. Upcoming events**

It was also noted that in December 2010, a shelter technical training was conducted with the technical support of IFRC. Due to short time and busy schedule, only limited agencies only could participate however there is need for additional shelter technical trainings to cover more organisations including at district level. For this, a donor is needed, and IFRC can again provide the necessary facilitation.

- ✓ It was suggested a shelter training could be held close to / prior to World Habitat Day (3 October)

#### **8. AOB**

#### **9. Close and next meeting**

Next meeting has purposed in DUDBC and date, time and agendas will be shared later.