



Global Shelter Cluster
ShelterCluster.org
Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter



2017 ACHIEVEMENTS REPORT

www.sheltercluster.org



Adrienne Surprenant / NRC / Somalia (2017)

THE GLOBAL SHELTER CLUSTER (GSC)

Co-led by IFRC and UNHCR, the GSC is a coordination mechanism of global partners working together to support people affected by natural disasters and internally displaced people affected by conflict with the means to live in safe, dignified and appropriate shelter. The GSC complements and supports existing local coordination mechanisms and liaises with all shelter actors, including governments, so that people in need of shelter assistance receive the right kind of support as quickly as possible.

All activities of the GSC are undertaken within the framework of the [Global Shelter Cluster Strategy 2013-2017](#), which was developed and agreed upon by partners to strengthen the response of humanitarian actors through leadership, coordination and accountability

in the humanitarian shelter sector. The strategy aims to develop a responsive and flexible support to country-level shelter coordination mechanisms, an effective and well-functioning GSC, and enhanced advocacy and communications to increase the recognition of the shelter and settlements sector.

It is estimated that the GSC partners supported approximately 10.8 million beneficiaries in 2017¹. All of these efforts were possible thanks to the continued financial support of ACTED, DG ECHO², IFRC, Impact Initiatives/REACH, IOM, NRC, SDC, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, USAID/OFDA and other shelter partners whose valuable contributions have made GSC activities more sustainable.

¹ Based on [factsheets](#) submitted to the GSC.
² Additional information on the DG ECHO contribution to the GSC can be found [here](#).

The Global Shelter Cluster is supported by:

	 International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	 UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency	
			
			
			
Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection	 NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL		 International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
			
			



Shabia Mantoo / UNHCR / Yemen (2017)

GLOBAL SHELTER CLUSTER STRATEGY 2013-2017

Developed as an output of the 2012 GSC Meeting, the 2013-2017 Global Shelter Cluster Strategy was approved by the Strategic Advisory Group in early 2013. It has the goal to more effectively meet the sheltering needs of populations

affected by humanitarian crises, by strengthening the shelter response of humanitarian actors through leadership, coordination and accountability in the humanitarian shelter sector. The strategy has **three strategic aims**:

- 1** Responsive and flexible support to country-level shelter coordination mechanisms.
- 2** An effective and well-functioning Global Shelter Cluster.
- 3** Increased recognition of the shelter and settlements sector as an essential component of the humanitarian response, through enhanced advocacy and communication.

28

ACTIVE CLUSTERS

580

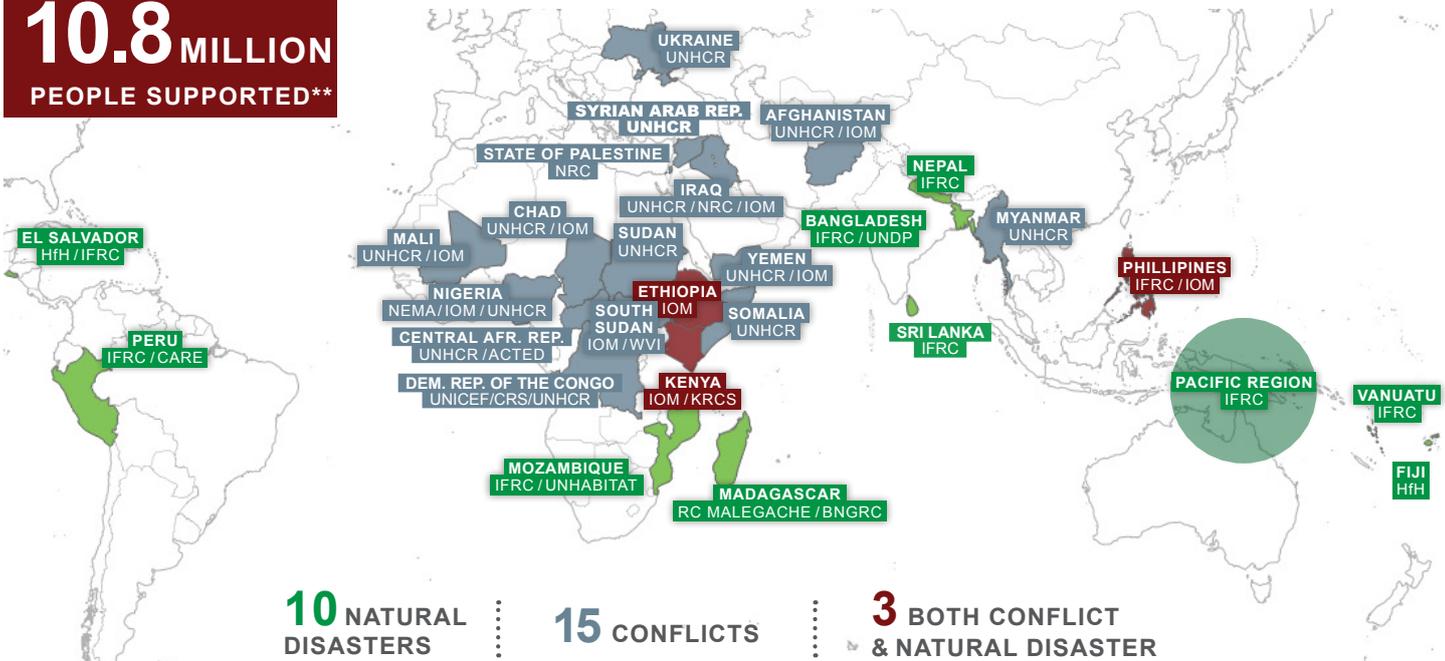
CLUSTER PARTNERS*

\$403M

FUNDING RECEIVED

10.8 MILLION

PEOPLE SUPPORTED**

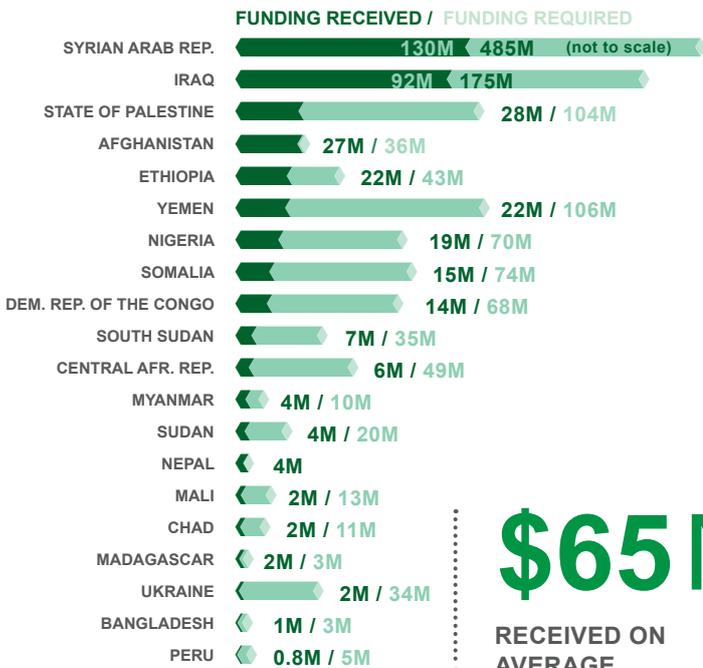


10 NATURAL DISASTERS

15 CONFLICTS

3 BOTH CONFLICT & NATURAL DISASTER

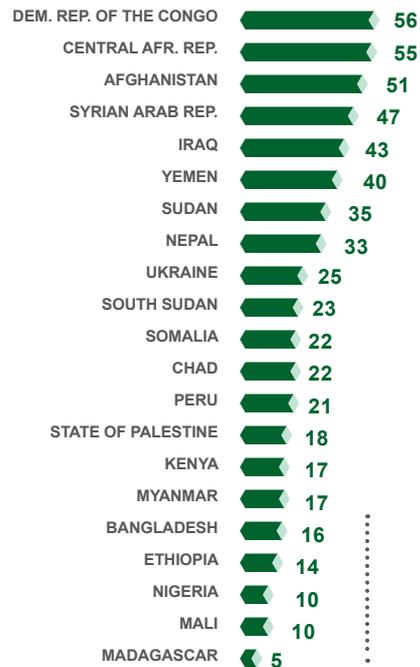
CLUSTER FUNDING ANALYSIS***



\$65 M

RECEIVED ON AVERAGE

CLUSTER PARTNERS



28

AVERAGE

* The number of cluster partners is based on the number reported by the cluster in its factsheet. This number does not include clusters in preparedness mode.

** 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).

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

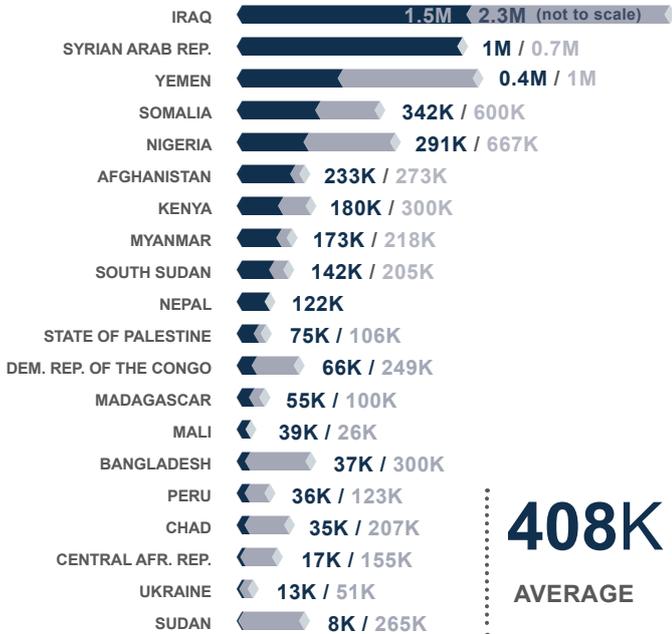


4.8M PEOPLE SUPPORTED WITH SHELTER INTERVENTIONS



10M PEOPLE SUPPORTED WITH NFI INTERVENTIONS

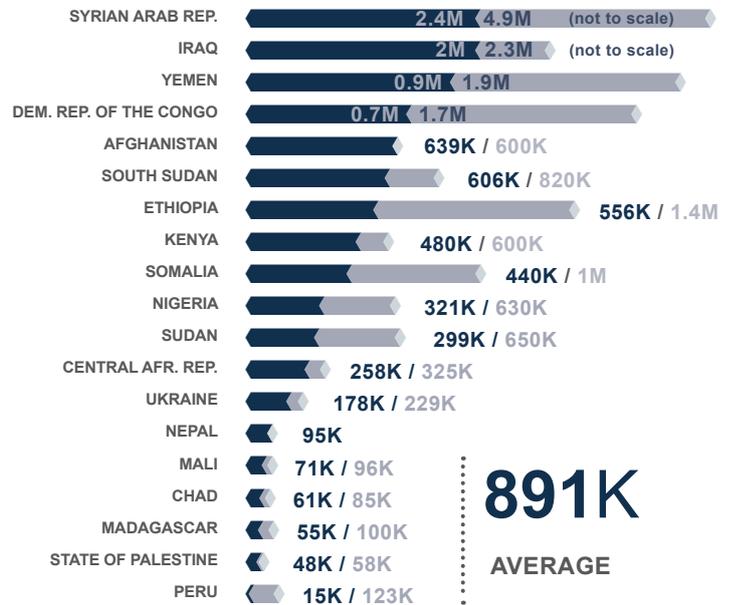
NUMBER OF PEOPLE SUPPORTED / TARGET



408K

AVERAGE

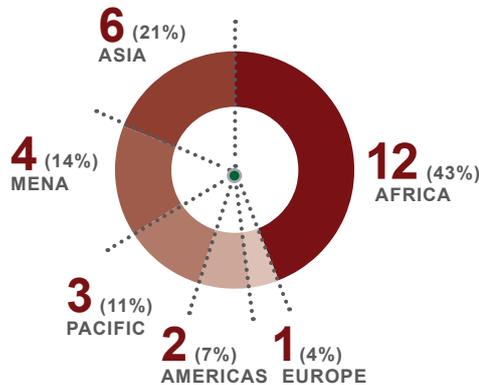
NUMBER OF PEOPLE SUPPORTED / TARGET



891K

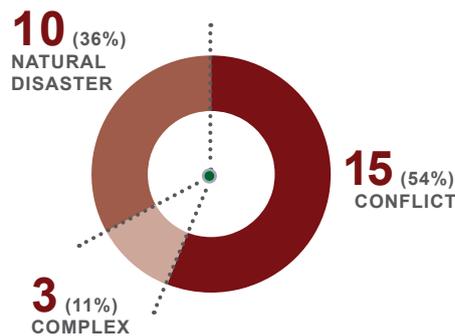
AVERAGE

BY REGION

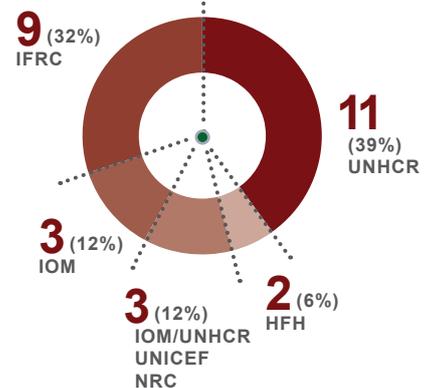


BREAKDOWN OF CLUSTERS

BY TYPE OF CRISIS



BY LEAD AGENCY



SYSTEM WIDE LEVEL 3 EMERGENCIES



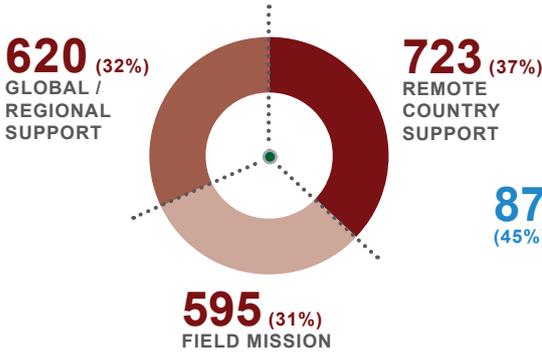
GLOBAL SUPPORT TEAM ACTIVITIES

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

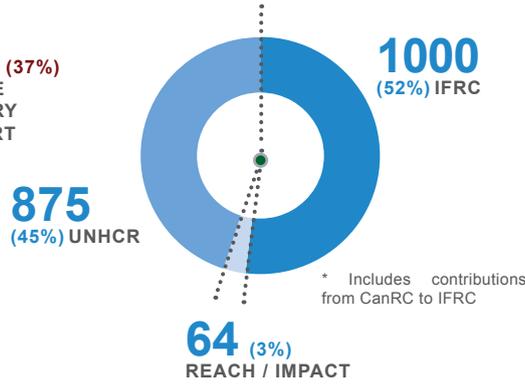
1938

TOTAL # OF DAYS

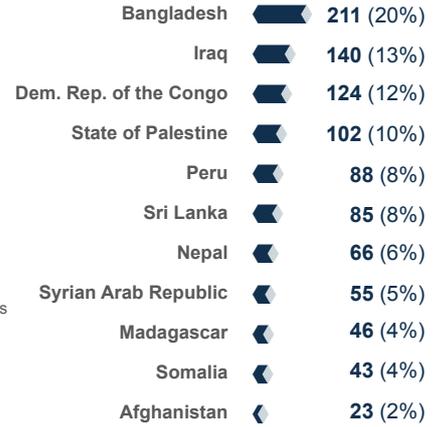
BY TYPE



BY ORGANISATION*

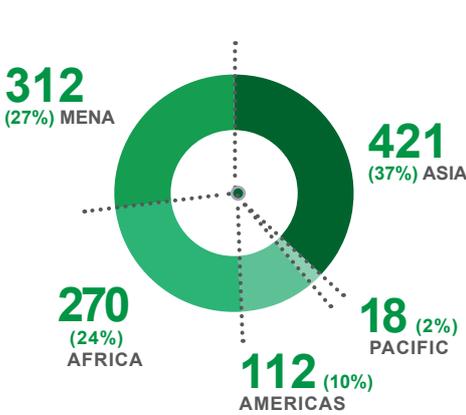


BY COUNTRY

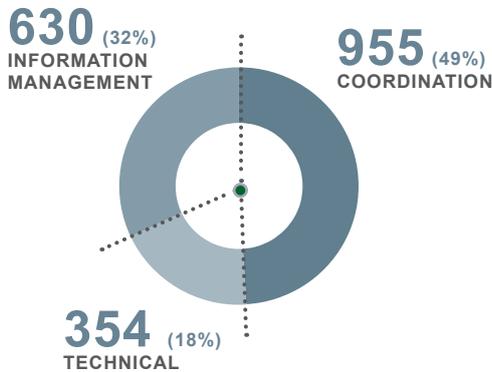


Only countries with more than 20 days of support are shown

BY REGION

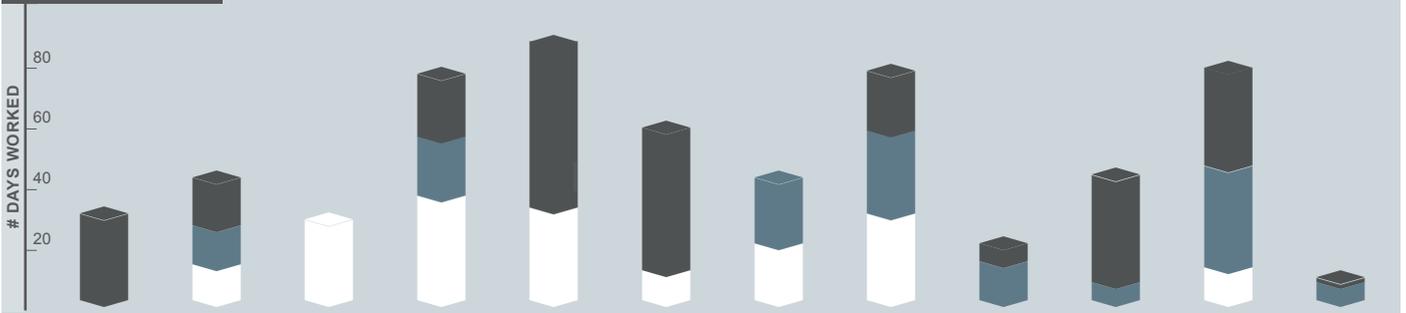


BY FUNCTION

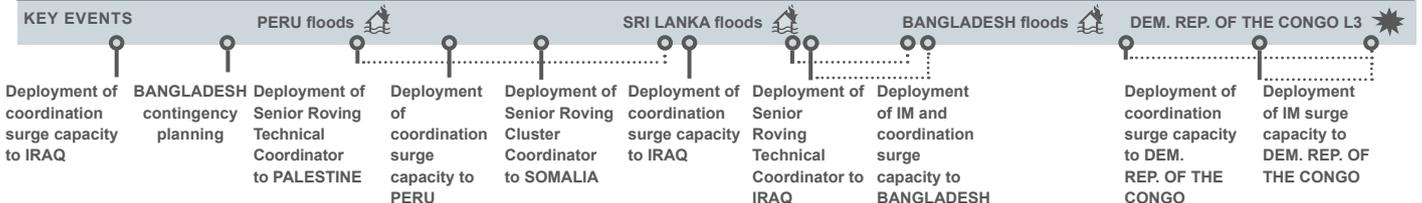


FIELD MISSIONS

Coordination Information Management Technical



KEY EVENTS



CLUSTER CHALLENGES

FUNDING

Underfunding due to, for instance, increased needs, cumbersome application procedures for in-country funds, donor reluctance to fund a certain response or high cost of certain intervention types.

ACCESS

Difficult access, due to for instance, besiegement, insecurity, natural disasters, geographical factors, severe weather or lack of infrastructure.

CAPACITY

Limited capacity to plan and implement as a result of, for instance, high turnover of staff, lack of critical expertise (e.g. logistics) or low number of cluster partners compared to the needs.

DATA

Data and information is unavailable, outdated, not accurate or does not allow for sufficient disaggregation due to, for instance, access constraints or lack of information management capacity.

STOCKPILES

Depletion or lack of emergency stockpiles, limiting the ability of partners to respond to sudden displacements.

PROTRACTED DISPLACEMENT

Prolonged displacement as a result of, for instance, persistent violence, leading to a need for repeated assistance.

HOUSING, LAND & PROPERTY

Shelter support is complicated due to housing, land and property issues (for instance loss of occupancy documents or lack of secure land for the settlement of IDPs).

MATERIAL

Lack of certain goods, such as heating resources or local construction materials due, to for instance, poor availability or price fluctuations in local markets.

ARMED GROUPS

Interference of armed groups with the implementation of shelter and NFI activities.

This wordcloud provides an overview of the most common challenges reported by the clusters in their factsheets.

SUPPORT TO COUNTRY LEVEL SHELTER COORDINATION MECHANISMS

At the end of 2017 a total of 28 clusters or cluster-like arrangements were active. There was one official activation in response to floods in Peru (April 6, 2017) and the existing cluster in DR Congo was strengthened to deal with the system-wide level 3 emergency. Additionally, the existing national cluster in Madagascar mobilized to respond to Cyclone Enawo and a Shelter Working Group was established in Sri Lanka to respond to floods. The Shelter Cluster in Ecuador was deactivated in 2017. The cluster in Bangladesh received support through the deployment of a cluster coordinator and information manager in response to the floods in August 2017.

The GSC continued to provide additional support to active system-wide level 3 emergencies, including the newly declared emergency in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), as well as other clusters and working groups. In addition, further synergies were sought with other sectoral coordination mechanisms. Coordinators of refugee working groups participated in the coordination workshop and GSC meeting as well as in the Humanitarian Shelter Coordination Training.

► GLOBAL SUPPORT TEAM

In 2017, the GSC continued to provide short to medium-term support to country-level clusters through its Global Support Team (GST), as well as targeted recruitment and deployment of experienced humanitarian coordinators, information management and technical shelter professionals.

The GST consisted of:

- 2 GSC Coordinators from the Global Co-Lead Agencies (IFRC and UNHCR)
- 2 Deputy GSC Coordinators (IFRC and UNHCR)
- 3 Global Focal Points (GFPs) for Coordination (1 IFRC and 2 UNHCR)
- 2 GFPs for Information Management (IFRC and UNHCR)
- 1 GFP for Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation (REACH)
- 2 Roving Technical Coordinators (UNHCR/NRC and IFRC)
- 1 GSC Associate (IFRC)
- 1 ECHO Grant Manager (hosted by UNHCR)
- 2 Senior Roving Cluster Coordinators (hosted by UNHCR)
- 1 Regional Focal Point for Asia-Pacific (IFRC)

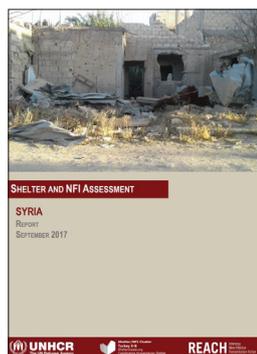
SUPPORT TO COUNTRY LEVEL SHELTER COORDINATION MECHANISMS

The GST dedicated a total of 1,938 days to supporting country-level clusters remotely or through missions and undertook 29 missions in support of 13 countries. This was mainly to provide coordination, information management, and overall support and guidance to national and sub-national clusters, but in some cases also to support preparedness/advocacy activities in countries where clusters are not activated or to provide regional support.

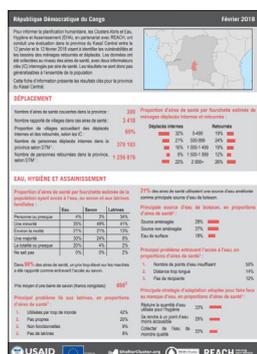
► ASSESSMENTS

The GSC continued to provide operational analysis to country-level clusters through field assessments, using the capacity and expertise of REACH teams.

In August and September 2017, REACH led a country-wide assessment of the shelter and NFI needs targeting 8 governorates in north-west, north-east, and south Syria. The resulting comparisons of shelter conditions between regions, population groups and over time provided by REACH and the Shelter Cluster have been used as a basis for the 2018 Humanitarians Needs Overview and provided operational actors with the evidence to effectively tailor their responses to address these variations.



In addition, a pilot evaluation of the Shelter Working Group was conducted in December 2017 in South Kivu, DRC, with support from ACTED and facilitation by REACH. Overall, the objective of the assessment was to inform the response planning. Looking into the identification and scope of vulnerabilities and shelter needs from returnee and displaced households, the study provided an overall insight on housing conditions among the various types of populations, as well as the available financial services, access to market facilities and materials.



► NATIONAL WORKSHOPS

Bangladesh Workshop, February 2017

This workshop was called by the Bangladesh Shelter Cluster in conjunction with the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRCO) and the Ministry of Disaster Management. The workshop included government representatives and local and international NGOs and was prepared, developed and led by GFPs for Coordination, Information Management, and the Senior Roving Technical Coordinator. The workshop had three main aims: to contribute to response planning for an earthquake scenario initiated by the UNCRO; to map responders and response options for dense urban contexts in Dhaka; and to scope coordination training and capacity development needs of government and local NGOs in shelter coordination.

Nepal Coordination training, November 2017

The GSC responded to a request from the Nepal Shelter Cluster and the Nepal Government Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (the government counterpart to the Shelter Cluster). GFPs for Coordination, Information Management and the Senior Roving Technical Coordinator, as well as the Shelter Cluster Coordinator for Bangladesh, travelled to Nepal to develop and deliver the workshop to address shelter response and coordination challenges in the Nepal context. The workshop was attended by local and international NGOs and government counterparts and focussed on building coordination skills including response management, strategy development, and approaches to urban response and recovery.

► COORDINATION PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Additionally, the GST supported the roll out of the Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM) tool to the field to simplify performance evaluation, enable cross-country comparison, and improve coordination. However, the number of clusters that have completed the full process annually remains limited. Since September 2017, the GSC has been participating in a Task Team for the Global Cluster Coordinators Group (GCCG) with the aim to review the CCPM process and current practice. As a result, there should be more clarity on who is responsible for initiating the process and the process itself will be more oriented towards the workshop and its resulting action plan.

EFFECTIVE AND WELL-FUNCTIONING GLOBAL SHELTER CLUSTER

► REVIEW OF GSC STRATEGY 2013-2017 AND DEVELOPMENT OF GSC STRATEGY 2018-2022

The independent review of the GSC Strategy 2013 – 2017, which was finalized in 2017, showed that the overall perception is that the GSC is advancing in the right direction in terms of finalising its 2013-2017 strategy and in terms of satisfaction by partners with the services provided.

This review identified a number of recommendations and provided key background for the new GSC strategy 2018 - 2022. During 2017, a big effort was made by the GSC to draft the new strategy, this was done in a collaborative manner through the GSC Strategy WG, in the GSC meeting, and during the SAG Retreat.

► ADDRESSING THE COMMITMENTS OF THE WHS AND HABITAT III

In 2017, the GSC developed specialised capacity in Cash for Shelter. Four partners received funding support to develop different aspects of the capacities missing and needed to implement and coordinate cash-based programming for shelter in the field. These four organisations are referred to as the Cash Champions of the GSC.

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has deployed a Cash and Markets Technical Advisor twice in 2017, Habitat for Humanity lead the Cash Working Group, Save the Children progressed towards developing a training package on cash for shelter and UNHCR developed seven cash and shelter checklists to guide using cash in the areas of shelter programming, construction, NFIs, targeting hosting communities, rent, upgrading, and winterisation.

► UPDATE ON WORKING GROUPS

In 2017, the GSC has mandated Working Groups to deliver on a number of outputs, approved by the SAG.

Those working groups were:

- Americas Regional Shelter Cluster Coordination
- Construction Standards
- GBV in Shelter Programming
- Settlements Approaches in Urban Areas
- Promoting Safer Building
- Shelter and Cash
- Shelter Projects 2015 - 2016

- Strategy 2018-2022
- NFI Practices
- The State of Humanitarian Shelter and Settlements

For information on the achievements of the Working Groups, please visit their dedicated pages on the [GSC website](#).

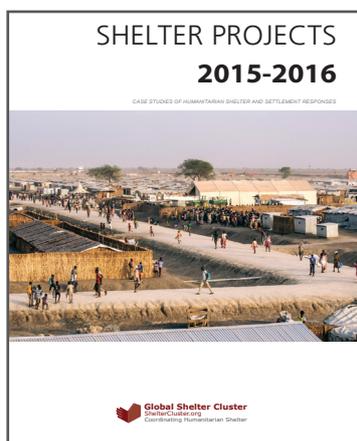
► GLOBAL SHELTER COORDINATION WORKSHOP

The Shelter Coordination Workshop took place in Geneva on October 2-3. This annual event was open to all personnel participating in Shelter Coordination Teams in country-level clusters. A total of 23 country-level clusters or cluster-like coordination mechanisms were represented in the workshop.



The objective of the workshop was to share practice and review and revise shelter coordination methodologies and tools. Drawing on the experiences of cluster coordination over the past year, participants reviewed what had worked well and what needed improvement, and got up-to-date with recent developments in country-level cluster coordination guidance and tools.

Participants shared practices in different areas of expertise, particularly around coordination, information management, and technical issues. One day of the workshop was held jointly with all agencies leading country-level clusters, the remaining half-day was held separately by the different lead agencies in order to address specific issues related to the agency such as staffing, resource mobilisation, communication, relations with management, and other issues.



EFFECTIVE AND WELL-FUNCTIONING GLOBAL SHELTER CLUSTER

► HUMANITARIAN SHELTER COORDINATION TRAINING

The GSC “Humanitarian Shelter Coordination” course aims to equip participants with the skills required to coordinate a shelter response in a humanitarian crisis caused by a natural disaster, a conflict or a combination of both. The course is accredited by Oxford Brookes University and participants who successfully complete it are included in the shelter coordination surge capacity roster under different capacities.

In 2017 two trainings were conducted, the first one started in February and the second one in August, both were followed by a face-to-face workshop and had around 25 participants from UN agencies, NGOs, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement as well as privately funded participants.

► CO-LEAD TRAINING

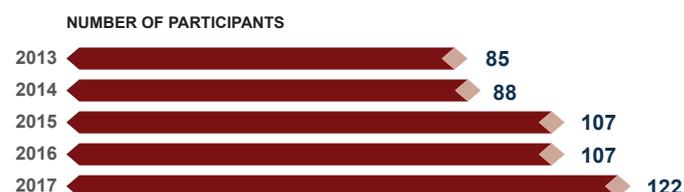
UNHCR undertook one edition of its Coordination and Leadership training in 2017 instead of two, as revision of the training for 2018 started as well. This training brings together current or future cluster coordinators from the three clusters led by UNHCR: Shelter, Protection, and CCCM. The training is open to participants from other organisations and has a particular focus on conflict.

► STRATEGIC ADVISORY GROUP (SAG)

The 2017 SAG consisted of ACTED, Care International, CRS, Habitat for Humanity, InterAction, IOM, NRC, Save the Children, UN-HABITAT, World Vision International, and the two co-leads IFRC, and UNHCR. The 2018 SAG was appointed during the 2017 GSC meeting, it consisted of the co-leads and the following ten members: ACTED, Australian Red Cross, Care International, CRS, DRC, Habitat for Humanity, InterAction, IOM, NRC and Save the Children.

► GSC MEETING

The GSC held its annual meeting on October 4-5. A total of 122 participants from 37 different agencies and institutions addressed issues emerging from country-level clusters and IASC-related global-level initiatives, reviewed GSC progress and deliverables from the implementation of the GSC Strategy and activities in 2017, endorsed the nominations of agencies to a new GSC SAG, and outlined the GSC priorities for the development of a new GSC Strategy for the period 2018-2022.



► IASC ACTIVITIES AND INTER-CLUSTER COORDINATION

The GSC Coordinators or Deputy Coordinators (IFRC and UNHCR) regularly participate in IASC discussions and decision-making through the Global Cluster Coordinators Group. The GSC coordinated closely with other sectors, especially with the Global Protection and CCCM Clusters (also led/co-led by UNHCR) and engaged other Global Clusters on a number of specific issues.

Close collaboration with the Global WASH Cluster led to the finalisation of the Global WASH and Shelter Cluster Joint Advocacy Paper which outlines commitments and challenges that both sectors are facing. The GSC Settlements in Urban Areas WG is collaborating with the Global Food Security Cluster and the Global WASH Cluster to improve multi-sectoral coordination in urban areas. The GSC also participated in the ECHO funded project led by the Global Food Security Cluster to undertake joint inter-sectoral analysis.



ENHANCED ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION

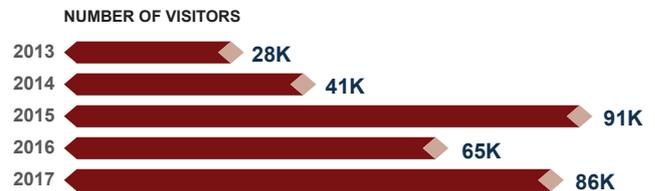
► REPRESENTATION IN GLOBAL EVENTS

In 2017, the GSC was represented in a number of global events attended widely by humanitarian and development actors, like the Global Alliance for Urban Crisis Meeting in Paris (9-10 October) and the InterAction Shelter & Settlement Conference in Washington (15-16 June). A side event to advocate for the importance of shelter was held during the UNHCR Standing Committee 68th meeting on 15 March 2017.



► GSC WEBSITE

The GSC website continues to be regarded as the key tool for knowledge management and has been improved in terms of search functionality, with faster and more relevant results and improved presentation. In addition, the Shelter Projects website has been migrated to the GSC server to further consolidate these two key knowledge management resources. Finally, 9 new response pages were created¹ and a total of 1,940 documents were uploaded in 2017.



► GSC GLOBAL UPDATES AND TWITTER

A total of 16 Global Updates providing information on country-level shelter clusters and global initiatives were sent to an audience of 972 people. The GSC Twitter account has been monitored and maintained, sharing relevant information with country-level clusters and re-tweeting important messages. The number of followers of the GSC Twitter account has increased from 2,039 in 2016 to 2,483 in 2017 (22% increase). A total of 458 messages were tweeted in 2017. The current reach of the GSC Twitter account is 3,327,634 while the potential reach is 25,828,631 people.²



► GSC FACTSHEETS

During 2017, the number of country-level clusters that submitted factsheets has stabilised at 22 out of 28, or around 80%.³ This effort has allowed the GSC to have a better understanding of key data which in turn informs evidence-based advocacy. The quarterly factsheets filled by cluster coordination teams in-country provide the basis for some of this analysis. The factsheets and some of the analysis undertaken can be found on the [GSC website](#).



¹ Bangladesh Landslides and Cyclone Mora 2017, Bangladesh Monsoon Floods 2017, Dominica Hurricane Maria, Madagascar Cyclone Enawo 2017, Peru Floods 2017, Sri Lanka Floods 2017, TC Donna 2017, Vanuatu Ambae Volcano 2017 and X-Border Operation - Jordan Hub.

² Current reach is the total number of followers of our followers who actively mention or retweet Shelter Cluster messages. Potential reach is the sum of followers of all our followers.

³ Factsheets were available for 64% of the clusters in 2015 and for 88% in 2016.



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SCAN TO DOWNLOAD



CLUSTER LEAD AGENCIES

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

 **UNHCR**
The UN Refugee Agency

2017 SAG MEMBERS



DONOR CONSULTATION GROUP MEMBERS



OTHER PARTNERS

