Global Shelter Cluster
ShelterCluster.org
Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter

2019 ACHIEVEMENTS REPORT

www.sheltercluster.org

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GLOBAL SHELTER CLUSTER (GSC)

Co-led by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies 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 natural 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 growing 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 and the Global Shelter Cluster lead agencies.

During 2019, GSC partners supported 14.2 million people with shelter and NFI assistance. These efforts including support to the GSC governing structures, working groups, communities of practice, and the GSC website were possible thanks to the support of our donors, partner agencies and members of the SAG whose contributions have made GSC activities more sustainable.

Global Shelter Cluster
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Global Shelter Cluster Strategy 2018 - 2022

AIM — **STRENGTHENED SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS RESPONSES THAT BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES**

1 COORDINATION

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

1.1 PREDICTABLE, TIMELY, EFFECTIVE
Support and services for Shelter Clusters

1.2 LOCALISED AND AREA-BASED
Strengthening area-based coordination and promoting settlement approaches

1.3 TRANSITION TO RECOVERY
Facilitating transition to recovery coordination, enhancing engagement with governments and development actors

1.4 INTEGRATED RESPONSE
Effective inter-cluster coordination and joint response planning approaches

2 ADVOCACY

Increased recognition of shelter and settlement in humanitarian response and recovery

2.1 IMPORTANCE OF SHELTER AND SETTLEMENT
Strengthened understanding of shelter and settlement's critical multi-sector impact

2.2 ENGAGEMENT
Increased donor and agency engagement and support for shelter and settlements sector

2.3 RESPONSE FUNDING
Critical funding and response gaps are monitored, communicated and supported

2.4 INFLUENCING
Engaging others: appropriate urban assistance, cash and markets-based programming, area-based approaches

3 EVIDENCE-BASED RESPONSE

Shelter response informed by evidence, best practice and learning

3.1 AVAILABLE AND USED
Evidence available and used to inform planning, coordination and decision-making

3.2 EVIDENCE GAPS FILLED
Key shelter and settlement evidence gaps filled

3.3 CAPITALISATION
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

4 CAPACITY

Shelter sector capacity to address ongoing and emerging challenges

4.1 SKILLS
Increased and localised shelter response capacity

4.2 PREPAREDNESS
Country workshops and HLP

4.3 UTILISING CASH AND MARKETS
Shelter responders apply cash and markets modalities appropriately

4.4 FUTURE OF SHELTER AND SETTLEMENT
Analysis of sector future response needs and capacity

For more information on the Global Shelter Cluster 2018-2022 Strategy Scan the following QR Code

MAINSTREAMED PROTECTION, GENDER, DISABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT

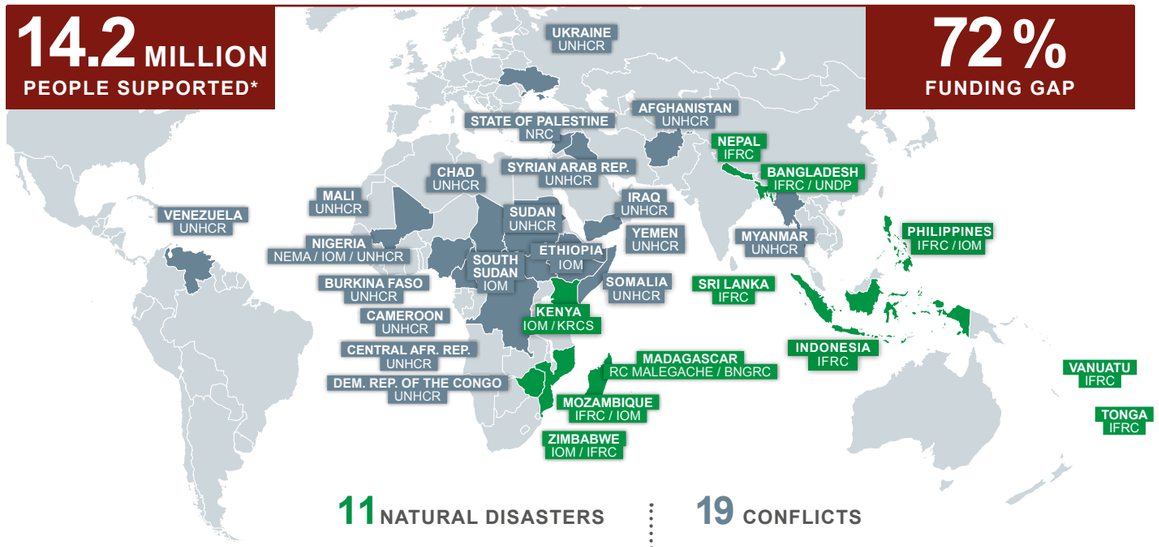
30
ACTIVE CLUSTERS

$403M
FUNDING RECEIVED

$1.5B
FUNDING REQUIRED

14.2 MILLION
PEOPLE SUPPORTED*

72%
FUNDING GAP

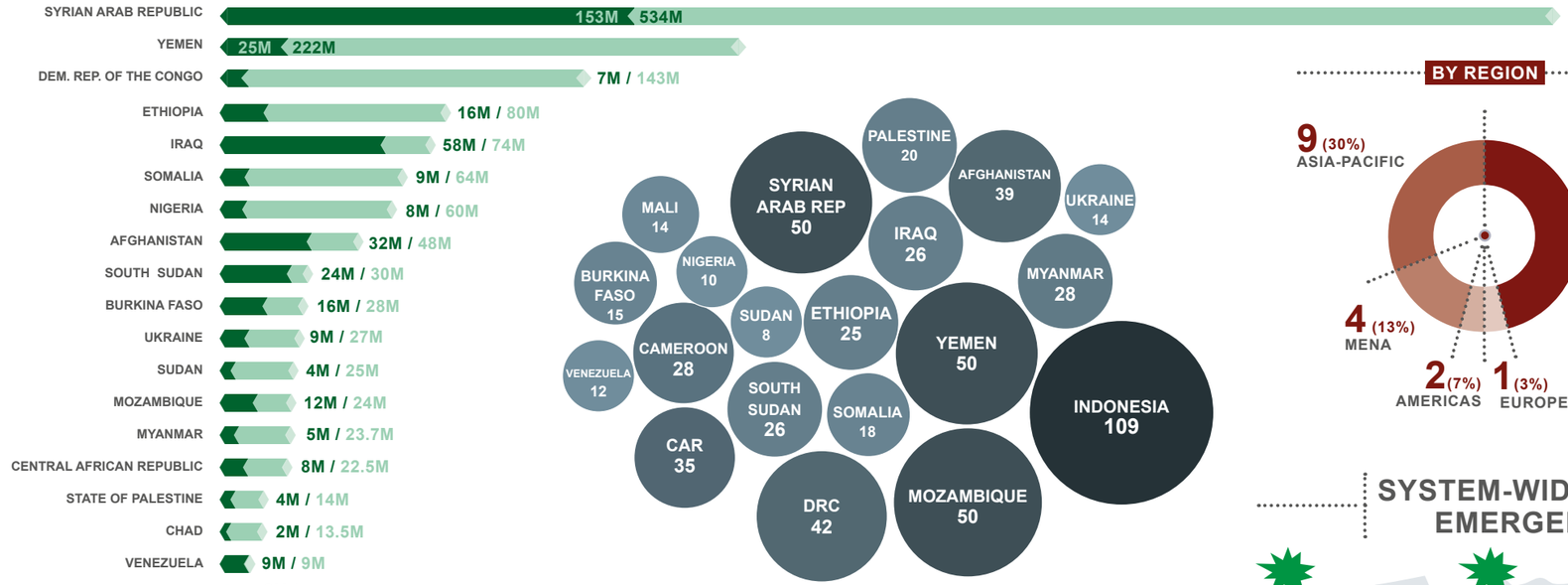


11 NATURAL DISASTERS

19 CONFLICTS

CLUSTER FUNDING ANALYSIS**

FUNDING RECEIVED / FUNDING REQUIRED



28%
AVERAGE LEVEL OF FUNDING

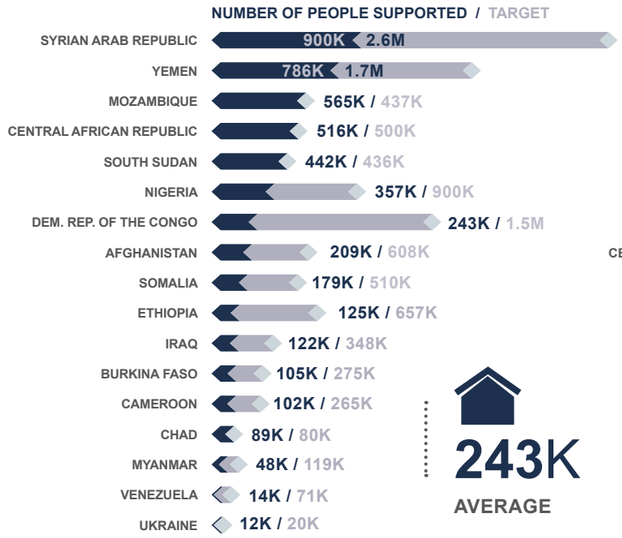
CLUSTER PARTNERS

639
CLUSTER PARTNERS***

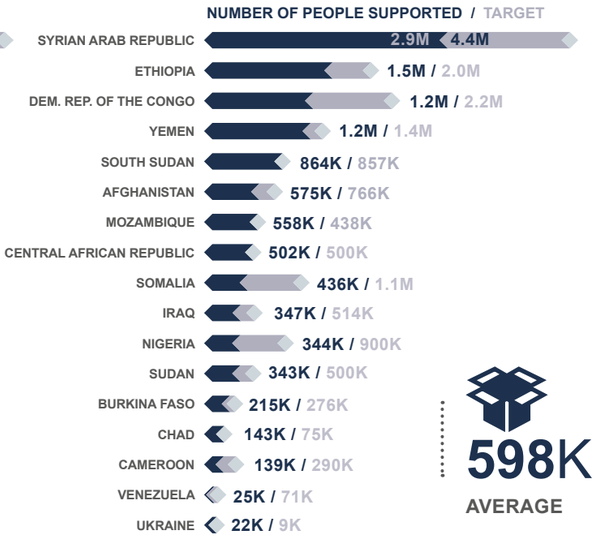
14.2M
PEOPLE SUPPORTED

4.9M
PEOPLE SUPPORTED WITH SHELTER INTERVENTIONS

11.4M
PEOPLE SUPPORTED WITH NFI INTERVENTIONS



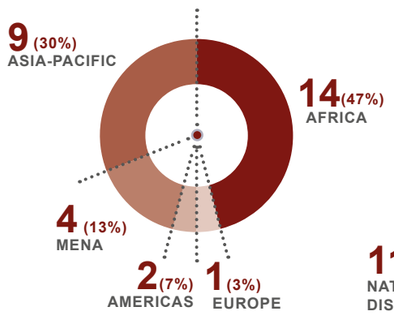
243K
AVERAGE



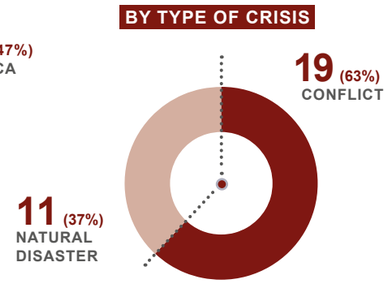
598K
AVERAGE

BREAKDOWN OF CLUSTERS

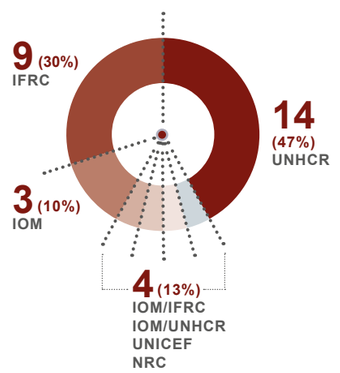
BY REGION



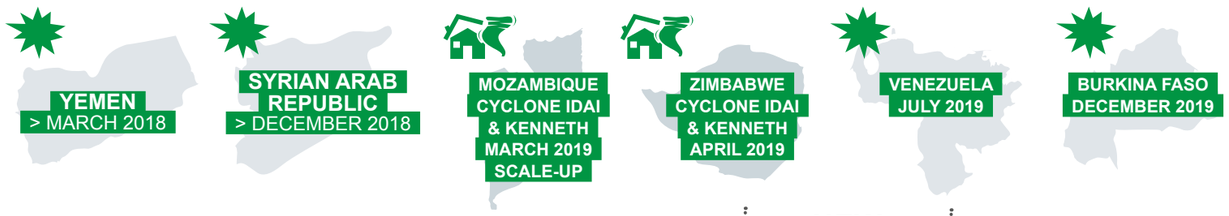
BY TYPE OF CRISIS



BY LEAD AGENCY



SYSTEM-WIDE LEVEL3 EMERGENCIES



NEW RESPONSES

* 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.

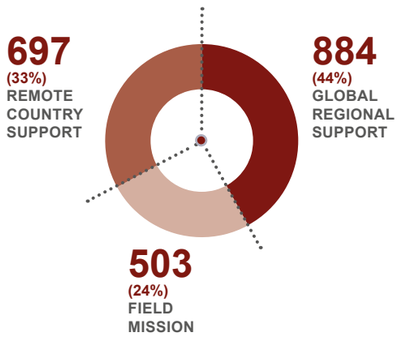
*** The number of cluster partners is based on the number reported by the cluster in its factsheet. This number does not include clusters in preparedness mode.

GLOBAL SUPPORT TEAM ACTIVITIES

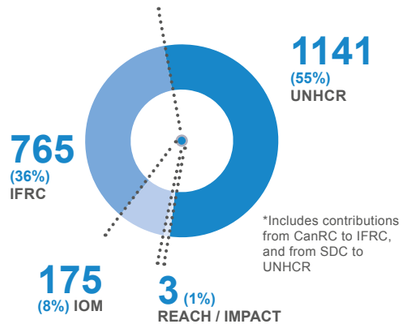
Data includes information received to date from members of the GSC Support Team, except for the Global Cluster Coordinators.

2083
TOTAL # OF DAYS

BY TYPE



BY ORGANISATION*



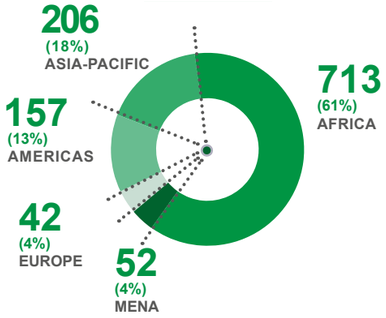
*Includes contributions from CanRC to IFRC, and from SDC to UNHCR

BY COUNTRY

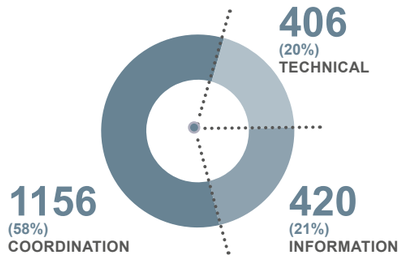
Mozambique	**171** (15%)
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	**130** (11%)
Venezuela	**124** (11%)
Indonesia	**118** (10%)
Ethiopia	**101** (9%)
Burkina Faso	**98** (8%)
Nigeria	**50** (4%)
Chad	**48** (4%)
Cameroon	**46** (4%)
Mongolia*	**28** (2%)
Bahamas	**22** (2%)
Central African Republic	**19** (2%)
Afghanistan	**19** (2%)
Syrian Arab Republic	**17** (1%)
Georgia*	**16** (1%)
Mali	**15** (1%)
Vietnam*	**15** (1%)

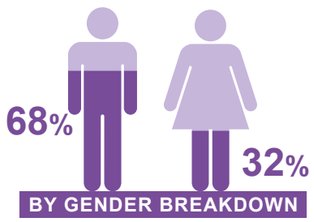
Only countries with more than 15 days of support are shown
*Missions for contingency planning (cf page13)

BY REGION



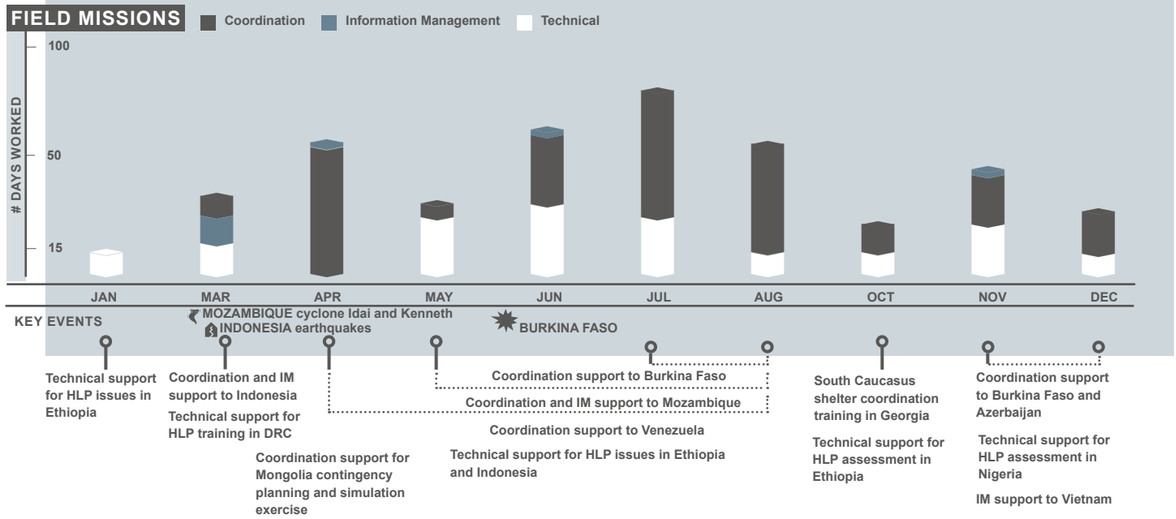
BY FUNCTION





Based on the number of days worked

FIELD MISSIONS



COORDINATION

At the end of 2019 a total of 30 clusters or cluster-like arrangements were active. There were **four new emergencies and official cluster activations** in 2019: **Mozambique** (March 2019) and **Zimbabwe** (April 2019) for Tropical Cyclone Idai, **Venezuela** (July 2019) in response to the displacement crisis, and **Burkina Faso** (December 2019) in response to conflict displacement. The GSC supported these newly activated clusters with surge capacity and remote support in the areas of coordination, information management, and assessment. This early engagement was important to ensure a common understanding of the situation and a common direction for all cluster partners as well as good linkages with Protection, WASH, and other key sectors.

The GSC support team spent 88 days of surge support to establish the Shelter Cluster in the complex environment of Venezuela, 85 days of surge support to the new emergency for the Shelter Cluster in Mozambique, and 72 days of surge support to set up the Shelter Cluster in Burkina Faso. The GSC continued to provide additional support to active system-wide level 3 emergencies: Syria (active since 15 January 2013, Yemen (active since 1 July 2015), Mozambique (Scale-up for 3 months from 22 March 2019 until end of June 2019) as well as the Democratic Republic of the Congo (active from 20 October 2017 until end of May 2018)[1]. Other clusters and Working Groups received support from the GSC resources.

The GSC Operations web page provides a map showing the 2019 Shelter Clusters and cluster-like coordination mechanisms, as well as a chronology of all the support in the past. In addition to these responses, the Global Shelter Cluster provided remote coordination support to the following countries: Afghanistan, Bahamas, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Libya, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, State of Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria (including Cross Border from Turkey), Ukraine, Venezuela, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

[1]A scale-up protocol for the Control of Infectious Disease Events was activated in 31 May 2019 and extended into early 2020.

▶ GLOBAL SUPPORT TEAM

In 2019, the GSC continued to provide immediate and medium-term support to country-level clusters through maintaining the GSC Surge Capacity Team.

The existing Global Focal Points and Roving Focal Points provided overall **1200 days of support** which include **503 days of on-request in-country support** and **697 days of remote country support**, responding to new emergencies and reinforcing existing coordination mechanisms.

The Global Shelter Team dedicated a total of **2083 days** to supporting country-level clusters remotely or through missions and undertook **27 missions to 12 countries** mainly in the Africa and Asia-Pacific regions.

The global Support Team 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 Roving Technical Coordinator** (IFRC)
- **1 GSC Associate** (IFRC)
- **1 Associate Roving Cluster Coordinator** (hosted by UNHCR)
- **1 Regional Focal Point for Asia-Pacific** (IFRC)
- **1 Roving Shelter-HLP Advisor** (hosted by IOM)

Funding reductions in 2019 made it more difficult for the GSC to maintain the levels of surge capacity support provided in past years. As an example, in 2018 the GSC provided 2,408 days of support to country-level clusters, 325 days more than in 2019. Should these funding reductions continue in the future, the GSC will not be able to maintain the same support to country-level clusters and to global partners.

COORDINATION

► WORKING GROUPS

Working Groups are task-oriented and time-bound structures with clear executable deliverables that are established by the SAG to address identified needs. There are active Working Groups on the following topics:

- **Construction Standards**
- **NFI practices**
- **Promoting Safer Building**
- **Settlements Approaches in Urban Areas**
- **Shelter and Cash**
- **Shelter Projects 2017 – 2018**
- **Shelter Vulnerability Classification**
- **Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Shelter Programming**
- **Diaspora Engagement in Shelter Response**

► Strategic Advisory Group

During 2019, the Global Shelter Cluster renewed its Strategic Advisory Board through elections with results announced during the Global Shelter Cluster Meeting 2019 in Geneva. The newly elected members of the SAG were: ACTED/ IMPACT Initiatives, Australian Red Cross, Care International, Catholic Relief Services, Danish Refugee Council, Habitat for Humanity, IFRC, InterAction, IOM, Norwegian Refugee Council, Save the Children, and UNHCR.

► NEW Diaspora Engagement in Shelter Response Working Group

This is a new WG that was approved by the GSC at the end of June 2019. The group officially launched its activities at the Global Shelter Cluster Meeting in October 2019. This Working Group aims to provide a concrete contribution to the process of straightening and mainstreaming diaspora's engagement in shelter response, by developing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for diaspora organizations to promote an increased coordination with diaspora actors and more effective responses, which account for the meaningful contribution of diasporas, as "non-traditional" but key actors. These SOPs will seek to clarify how diaspora organizations can link with the Shelter Cluster and international shelter organizations, as well as how diaspora groups can better use their skills and capacities in response. The focus will primarily be on natural disasters with diaspora groups for Haiti, Bangladesh and the Philippines, but the outcomes of the Working Group will eventually be of use for other contexts and diasporas.

For more information, visit the WG pages on the GSC website: www.sheltercluster.org/working-group/active-working-groups

► COORDINATION PERFORMANCE MONITORING

10 country clusters (Afghanistan, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic (including Turkey Cross-Border Hub), Vanuatu, and Yemen) out of the 21 in response mode[1] have been formally assessed by their partners or the GSC. Most clusters used the globally agreed Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring Tool on its light version with a ten-question survey. The GSC provided support to prepare online surveys making it available in English, French, Arabic, Spanish, and Farsi. The results of the surveys provided the basis for agreeing on concrete actions to improve the performance of the cluster and informed Shelter Cluster strategies at country-level.

[1]Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, CAR, Chad, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iraq, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, Venezuela, Yemen.

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COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE - ENVIRONMENT

Communities of Practice (CoPs) are voluntary groups of practitioners consisting of individuals with expertise and interest in a thematic area related to humanitarian shelter response, shelter practices or shelter coordination. The Environment CoP has been particularly active this year, below is an update of their activities:

► Support to the Democratic Republic of Congo Shelter Working Group (from December 2018 to June 2019)

Provided advice and networking support to the DRC Shelter Working Group on environmental issues related to displacement as well as terms of reference for a 2 months temporary deployment to support the integration of environmental considerations into shelter responses.

► Development of a Strategic Advisory Group policy statement on single use plastic (from November 2018 to June 2019)

Based on a request from ShelterBox, related with some countries banning single use plastic in shelter/NFI kits. Options were defined and brought up to the GSC Strategic Advisory Group. A policy statement on single use plastic was approved by the GSC Strategic Advisory Group.

► Sphere Shelter Standard 7 Review Note (from January to February 2019)

Developed a Reference Note on the use of the Sphere Shelter Standard 7 for Environmental Sustainability for the presentation at the February Humanitarian Partership meeting which was shared with the Environment Community of Practice.

► Use of bamboo for the construction of shelters in Ethiopia (February 2019)

Shared construction and preservation guidance on the use of bamboo for the construction of shelters following the request by the shelter cluster coordinator for the Gedeo and West Guji zones.

► Environmental issues related to Cyclone Idai (March to June 2019)

Developed a rapid assessment of possible environmental issues related to Cyclone Idai that was then conducted by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) to provide advice to the Mozambique Shelter Cluster during the early phase of the response.

► Use of single use plastics in Vanuatu (May and June 2019)

Conducted a rapid assessment covering single use plastics and other environmental issues in Vanuatu and focused on the integration of environmental concerns into pre-disaster planning (e.g reduction of single use plastics and removal/ disposal of plastic waste after disasters).

► Plastic sheeting options and asbestos in Indonesia (May and June 2019)

Responded to a query from the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) on plastic sheeting and alternatives not based on petroleum sources and exchanged with the Indonesian National Shelter Sub-Cluster on the specific challenges related to the management of large volume of asbestos and asbestos debris.

► Nigeria (June 2019)

Provided support on a USAID-standard Initial Environmental Assessment and a review on the use of pesticides for treating wood used for IDP shelters in Nigeria.

ADVOCACY

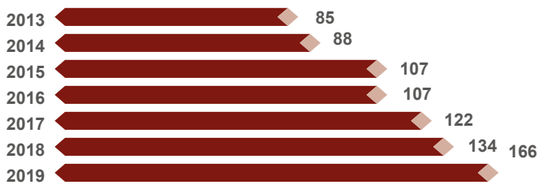
► IASC ACTIVITIES AND INTER-CLUSTER COORDINATION

The Global Shelter Cluster Coordinators or Deputy Cluster Coordinators (IFRC and UNHCR) regularly participate in IASC discussions and decision-making through the Global Cluster Coordinator's Group. These meetings also provide an avenue to interact in a multi-sectoral way with country operations through the briefings with Humanitarian Coordinators or heads of OCHA. In addition, the Global Shelter Cluster Support Team regularly participates in other inter-agency coordination fora such as: the HPC Steering Group, the JIAG, and the Geneva Based Cash Working Group among others.

► GLOBAL SHELTER CLUSTER MEETING

On the 9th-10th October in Geneva, Switzerland, 166 participants from 65 organizations including members of shelter cluster coordination teams from 20 countries attended the Global Shelter Clusters Meeting. The theme of the meeting was about building national capacity. 11 representatives from the governments of 5 countries were also in attendance. The 2019 Global Shelter Cluster Meeting marked the second meeting after the approval of the Global Shelter Cluster 2018-2022 strategy. Discussions focused on the accomplishments in its implementation to date and what was needed to continue implementation.

NUMBER OF GSC MEETING PARTICIPANTS



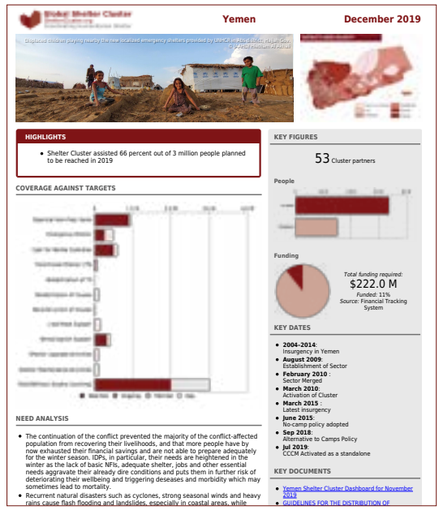
► GSC COORDINATION WORKSHOP

The Global Shelter Coordination Workshop took place in Geneva on 7 and 8 October 2019. This annual event (open to all staff participating in Shelter Coordination Teams in country-level clusters) provides an opportunity to review and revise shelter coordination methodologies, tools and practises. A total of 20 country-level clusters or cluster-like mechanisms were represented in the workshop.

Participants drawing on experiences of cluster coordination over the past years reviewed what had worked well and what needed improvement and shared recent developments in country-level cluster coordination guidance and tools.

► GSC FACTSHEETS

In 2019, 13 country-level shelter clusters in response mode submitted their yearly fact sheets providing the GSC with key data and information on their respective yearly resources, achievements and challenges. This effort has allowed the GSC to have a better understanding for turning key data into evidence-based advocacy.


Yemen December 2019

HIGHLIGHTS
- Shelter Cluster assisted 66 percent out of 3 million people planned to be reached in 2019

COVERAGE AGAINST TARGETS

KEY FIGURES
53 Cluster partners
People
Funding
Total funding required: $222.0 M
Funded: 11%
Source: Financial Tracking System

KEY DATES
- 2004-2014: Insurgency in Yemen
- August 2009: Establishment of Sector
- February 2010: Sector Merged
- March 2010: Activation of Cluster
- March 2015: Latest Insurgency
- June 2015: No-camp policy adopted
- Sep 2018: Alternative to Camps Policy
- Jul 2019: CCCM Activated as a standalone

NEED ANALYSIS
- The continuation of the conflict prevented the majority of the conflict-affected population from recovering their livelihoods, and that more people have by now exhausted their financial savings and are not able to prepare adequately for the winter season. IDPs, in particular, their needs are heightened in the winter as the lack of basic NFIs, adequate shelter, jobs and other essential needs aggravate their already dire conditions and puts them in further risk of deteriorating their wellbeing and triggering deseases and morbidity which may sometimes lead to mortality.
- Recurrent natural disasters such as cyclones, strong seasonal winds and heavy rains cause flash flooding and landslides, especially in coastal areas, while

KEY DOCUMENTS
- Yemen Shelter Cluster Dashboard for November 2019
- GUIDELINES FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF

► REPRESENTATION IN GLOBAL EVENTS

On the 6th of February 2019, the Global Shelter Cluster participated in a session at Humanitarian Network and Partnerships Week on the topic of strengthening coordination in urban crises. In addition to the Global Shelter Cluster Coordinator from UNHCR, the panel included representatives from the CCCM Cluster, the WASH Cluster, the Global Alliance for Urban Crises, and IMPACT Initiatives.

On the 16th-17th May 2019, the Global Shelter Cluster participated in the third Grand Bargain Cash Workstream Workshop. The Workshop was an opportunity for the Global Shelter Cluster Coordinator from UNHCR to speak about the progress of the Shelter Cluster on cash and market activities. An appeal was made for cash experts to increase their collaboration with sectoral experts in order to increase the sustainability of cash and market assistance.

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CLUSTER CHALLENGES

ACCESS

Access challenges due to natural disasters, geographical factors, severe weather, or lack of infrastructure.

DATA

Lack of up-to-date and accurate data to improve targeting of shelter assistance. Need for improved data analysis and information management capacity.

FUNDING

Underfunding due to increasing needs, complicated application procedures for in-country funds, donor reluctance to fund certain responses or high cost of certain but necessary shelter interventions.

CAPACITY

Limited capacity to plan and implement due to high turnover of staff, lack of critical expertise, low number of cluster partners compared to needs.

STOCKPILES

Depletion of emergency stockpiles has slowed timely response to sudden displacements or increases in damages to shelter and infrastructure.

HOUSING, LAND & PROPERTY

Provision of "secure enough" tenure: Loss of occupancy documents or lack of clear documentation to prove tenure in shelter complicates provision of shelter assistance.

PROTRACTED DISPLACEMENT

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

MATERIAL

Local markets in crisis fail to provide quality construction materials and heating sources for winterization.

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.
For more information please visit the operations section of GSC's website on the following link: https://www.sheltercluster.org/operations

ADVOCACY

► GSC GLOBAL UPDATES AND TWITTER

A total of 21 Global Updates providing information on country level shelter clusters and global initiatives were sent to an audience of 1.368 people. Through these updates, cluster partners were timely informed of cluster activations, responses to new emergencies, and global cluster activities. The GSC Twitter Account has been monitored and maintained, sharing relevant information with country-level clusters and re-tweeting. The number of followers of the Shelter Cluster twitter account has increased from 2883 in 2018 to 3289 in 2019 (88% increase). The current reach of the Shelter Cluster twitter account is 4.020.586 while the potential reach is 21.883.674 people.

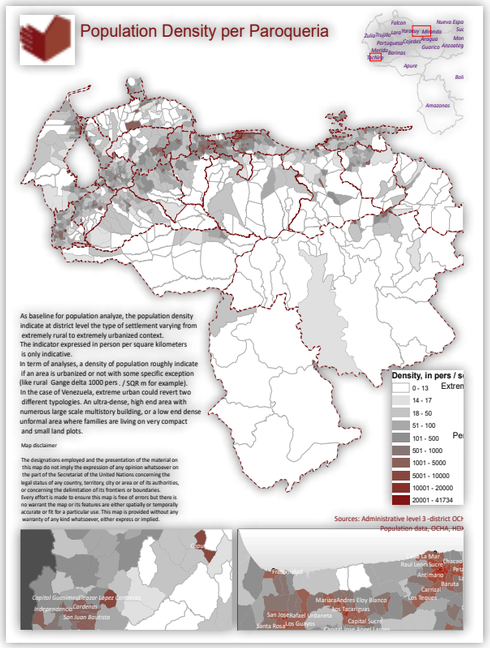
EVIDENCE-BASED RESPONSE

► ASSESSMENTS

In 2019, the GSC continued to provide operational analysis to country-level clusters supporting field assessments and analysis.

Venezuela
An Assessment Officer was deployed through an agreement between UNHCR and IMPACT Initiatives. Through this support, the Shelter Cluster in Venezuela was able to establish their basic information management systems. The Assessment Officer provided support on capacity building of local staff on Information Management, on the methodology for estimating the number of people in need of shelter in Venezuela and drafting the NFI, Shelter and Energy Sector chapters of the Venezuela HNO and HRP 2020.

Syria
Assessment and information management support was deployed to support the Shelter Cluster in Syria with the humanitarian needs overview process and the daily information management tasks.



► GSC WEBSITE AND MOBILE APPLICATION

The GSC website continues to be regarded as the key tool for knowledge management. From 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019, 3 new response pages were created, and 1,311 new documents were uploaded. The website and its companion mobile application have had regular updates with new features and improvements to facilitate communication between coordination teams the partners and stakeholders they support. Recent improvements include integrating basic email dissemination to group-specific contact lists for each response. Followers of groups will receive daily or weekly alerts when new content is available as well as allowing real-time bespoke mobile alerts from cluster coordination team members to respond to page followers for rapid dissemination of security or strategic information.

CAPACITY

► WORKSHOPS, TRAININGS AND FORUMS

REGIONAL MEETINGS AND FORUMS

In 2019, the GSC held 3 regional meetings in order to facilitate local actors' participation in GSC events. These meetings were held in Lombok (Indonesia), Nairobi (Kenya), and Amman (Jordan). During the Shelter Cluster events in Lombok from the 21st to the 23rd of August, a field visit was undertaken to earthquake impacted areas.

Mongolia Contingency Planning and Simulation Exercise, May 2019

The Global Focal Point for Technical Coordination deployed to Mongolia to support the preparations of and participation in an earthquake contingency planning and simulation exercise. IFRC is the designated shelter cluster lead agency and as such it had the responsibility to convene partners and lead the shelter cluster coordination for this exercise, under the overall leadership of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

Rwanda National Shelter Preparedness Plan, October 2019

Upon the request of the Rwandan Government through the Rwanda Red Cross, the Global Focal Point for Coordination deployed to Rwanda to support the Government in developing a National Shelter Preparedness Plan ahead of the rainy season. This involved a week in Kigali working at the Ministry of Emergency Management to develop a draft outline of a shelter sector emergency plan. The Rwanda Red Cross plays a leading role in this plan as the designate shelter sector coordinator in Rwanda. The week involved consultations with the Ministry, Red Cross and key shelter counterparts and formed part of a wider review of government of Rwanda approaches to emergency management.

Vietnam Shelter Coordination and Technical Training, November 2019

Members of the Global Shelter Cluster Support Team facilitated a 6-day Shelter Coordination and Technical Training in Hanoi, Vietnam from 6 to 12 November with the financial support of the Swiss Red Cross. This event was attended by 25 participant representatives from the country Shelter Working Group including from Vietnamese Red Cross Society, Swiss Red Cross, IOM, CRS, and Save the Children. Participant attendees came from various disciplines from both headquarters and branch levels.

Cameroon Capacity Building Workshop, May and September 2019

The Shelter Cluster in Cameroon was activated in a context where development actors outweighed the humanitarian actors. In order to scale up the capacity of parters in humanitarian shelter approaches Shelter Cluster conducted two trainings with partners in order to familiarise them with the cluster system and the activities of the Shelter Cluster. A member of the Global Shelter Cluster team skyped in to present the activities of the Global Shelter Cluster to the country-level Cluster partners and to inform how activities at country and global levels are connected.

South Caucasus Shelter Coordination Training (in Georgia), October 2019

Members of the Global Shelter Cluster Support Team facilitated a 3-day Regional Shelter Coordination Workshop, which took place in Tbilisi, Georgia form 28 to 30 October. There was broad participation from Georgia (the Red Cross National Society, ICRC, UNHCR, NGOs and the government) as well as representatives from Azerbaijan and Armenia National Societies. Azerbaijan and Georgian RC already have an official role as the lead for Shelter Cluster coordination in their countries and want to build their capacity. Armenia RC is exploring the possibility and will request support to build their capacity in 2020.

Azerbaijan National Level Simulation Exercise, November 2019

The Shelter Coordination Officer participated in a 3-day simulation exercise in Azerbaijan from 11-13 November, where IFRC and the National Society (NS) took on the role of shelter cluster lead agency. Thanks to the Regional Training conducted in Georgia prior to the SIMEX, the NS was able to engage in the Coordination meetings with a comprehensive understanding of shelter being more than just tents, with a focus on the sheltering process and the added value of coordination.

CAPACITY

► UTILISING CASH AND MARKETS

Building on the commitments to the WHS process, the GSC has recognised that the sector needs to adapt to the growing use of cash and more guidance and capacity should be provided to the country-level shelter clusters and to inter-cluster conversations. Therefore, the GSC has sought to develop global capacity and methodology in the field of cash for shelter response in a similar way as it has developed and deployed REACH capacity to design and carry out shelter assessments in country.

GLOBAL WASH AND GLOBAL SHELTER CLUSTER

On 8 and 9 April 2019, the Global Shelter Cluster together with the Global WASH Cluster hosted a Technical Meeting on Multipurpose Cash Transfer and Market Support with the following objectives: to take stock of progress on sectoral market and cash-based interventions and related initiatives; identify requirements to achieve broad 'quality' sectoral outcomes when using market support and MPC modalities; and prepare messaging targeted at key donors to address key bottlenecks that prevent adequately covering humanitarian needs in WASH and Shelter when using Market Based Programming.

CASH AND MARKET RESEARCH

In April 2019, Catholic Relief Services also produced a report reviewing how cash and market specialists supported country-level Shelter Clusters with cash and market activities. The report reviews the trends and lessons learned from deployments to Bangladesh, Yemen, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, and South Sudan. The activities covered in the report include delivery mechanism mapping, emergency market analysis for shelter-related needs, and capacity building on cash and markets.

CASHCAP

Due to the trend of many internally displaced people seeking urban rental arrangements, the Shelter Cluster Cash Working Group partnered with CashCap in order to develop new guidance documents on how to conduct a rental market analysis and to implement rental programming. A consultant from CashCap worked with members of a steering committee selected from the Cash Working Group for a period of six months. The outputs of this consultancy will be published during 2020.

► UNHCR INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION LEARNING PROGRAMME (IACLP)

The IACLP is a newly established UNHCR internal training course that further develops the content of its predecessor, the UNHCR Coordination and Leadership (Co-Lead) Training. This new course trains UNHCR staff in developing coordination skills in inter-agency issues as well as refugee and cluster coordination models through a series of online modules as well as a 5-day residential workshop. The Global Shelter Cluster has actively contributed in developing the training modules related to cluster coordination as well as facilitated 2 cohorts of 25 participants each during June 2019.

CAPACITY

► 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 2019 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 46 participants from UN agencies, NGOs, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement as well as privately funded participants.

► HOUSING, LAND AND PROPERTY

In 2019 the HLP Advisor completed 10 deployments to emergency responses in five different countries, covering Indonesia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Mozambique, Nigeria and several conflict-affected regions in Ethiopia. In addition to country deployments, the HLP Advisor was requested to provide remote support to country shelter clusters, conduct webinars, compile, curate and make available relevant HLP resources and publications. As part of his role, the Advisor participated in the wider HLP community of practice, all in close coordination with the Global Protection Cluster's HLP Area of Responsibility.

In addition, the HLP Advisor participated in the following events: the Global HLP AoR meeting, the East Africa Shelter Forum and the Global Shelter Cluster Week.

Photo credit: © **Ibere Lobes / HLP Mission / Ethiopia (2019)**

► SHELTER AND SETTLEMENT RESPONSES IN URBAN AREAS

A major focus of the Global Shelter Cluster was on how to improve coordination in urban areas. Much of this work was led by the Shelter Cluster's Settlement Approaches in Urban Areas working group. The working group developed a compendium of case studies on area-based approaches used in shelter and settlement responses. The working group undertook regional consultations in Bangkok, Thailand; Lombok, Indonesia; Amman, Jordan; Tacloban, Philippines; and Manila, Philippines to record how area-based approaches were or were not changing the ways shelter practitioners are working.

CLUSTER LEAD AGENCIES

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

2019 SAG MEMBERS

ACTED

The power of humanity – Australian Red Cross

care

CRS Catholic Relief Services

DRC Danish Refugee Council

Habitat for Humanity

InterAction – A United Voice for Global Change

IOM • OIM

NRC Norwegian Refugee Council

Save the Children

DONOR CONSULTATION GROUP MEMBERS

Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection

USAID

DFID

OTHER PARTNERS

architectes de l'urgence

Austrian Red Cross

Build Change

Canadian Red Cross

Christian Aid

CRAterre

croix-rouge luxembourgeoise

German Red Cross

Global Communities – Partners for Good

The Graduate Institute Geneva

IMPACT

MEDAIR

OCHA

Oxfam

Oxford Brookes University

People in Need

proact network

redr uk

Relief International

Rescue

RICS

shelter centre

shelterBOX

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

Swedish Red Cross

TECHO

unicef

UN-HABITAT

World Vision