**Inclusion of existing or proposed agency projects**

**as Global Shelter Cluster activities**

**ACTIVITY PROPOSAL TEMPLATE**

23 March 2015

*Notes: this template format is for a* ***maximum three page proposal*** *to the GSC SAG for activities that the sponsoring agencies agree to become GSC products as in-kind contributions to the work of the GSC in accordance with the protocol “Contributory resourcing of Global Shelter Cluster activities” (2014) (Annex A).*

### Activity title

Development of Polcies and Standards for the Construction of Public Buildings

### Proposing/Lead agency(ies)

Save the Children (and IFRC, Habitat or NRC)

### Summary

*To include the rationale for the activity, the issue or gap that the project aims to address, the objectives, why this should be a cluster product, and which pillar and outcome in the GSC strategy the activity aligns with.*

Construction quality in the NGO sector, in humanitarian crises, protracted crises and on-going development programs is often subject to weak building regulations in countries that have poorly developed frameworks. This project aims to develop a harmonised set of non-technical standards for construction processes that can be adopted in any context, and that will inform a consistent postition on construction due diligence that agencies can commit to.

Save the Children has developed an internal framework comprising Construction Policy, Essential Standards and Benchmarks, and Tools. It is planned with working group mmebers to use this framework as a starting point for a common inter-agency position to inform and influence both donors and national / local authorities. The standards will provide the GSC with a common language and aspiration around construction quality, in the same way that Sphere provides commonly recognised standards and benchmarks for humanitarian action.

The project is in line with the GSC Strategy 2013 – 2017, particularly the strategic aim 3.8:

*Enhanced articulation of the linkages between shelter risk reduction, preparedness, relief, recovery, and development, through a resilience approach, resulting in a seamless transition from emergency relief to recovery and reconstruction; as well as contributing to the greater cluster objectives of enhanced coordination and predictable levels of performance and accountability.*

### Duration and key milestones

*To include donor reporting deadlines and other external parameters.*

*Submission of proposal to SAG (March SAG meeting)*

**April 2016:    Milestone 1, Scoping and ToR Development**

**Aug 2016:    Milestone 2, Draft Standards**

**Sep 2016:  Milestones 3, Finalisation of outputs**

### Contributory resource requirements

*Provide a short indicative itemised activity budget (in the body of this template or as an attachment) for which financial, human resource or in-kind services contributions are from interested agencies, and identify the provisional contribution from the proposing/lead agency(ies).*

Only time commitment is required from contributing members.

### Process

*The activity will be overseen by a dedicated GSC Working Group, to be chaired or co-chaired by the proposing/lead agency(ies) unless agreed otherwise by the SAG. The SAG will request expressions of interest from other agencies to contribute with reference to the itemised activity budget in 5 above. Indicate any previous or proposed outreach to or consultation with other agencies, related institutions, sector events or initiatives to inform the activity.*

*Submission of proposal to SAG (March SAG meeting)*

**Milestone 1, Scoping and ToR Development**

* Draft of TOR
* Stakeholder analysis e.g. Education and WASH Clusters, Donors and Key NGOs
* Draft common policy position towards public building life-safety
* Review key opportunities and barriers to achieve at scale

*Review by cluster partners for feedback*

**Milestones 2, Draft Standards**

* Agreed TOR
* Workshop to develop key opportunities and barriers eg:

- Review existing internal/external practices and protocols

- Draft construction common standards

- Draft internal/external advocacy approach

- Draft change process plan for achieving standards

- Agree common next steps

*Circulation of outputs to cluster members for review*

**Milestones 3, Finalisation of outputs**

* Finalisation of outputs
* Dissemination of outputs

### Outputs

*List deliverables highlighting which would use the GSC logo. In accordance with the GSC protocol reference above, all contributing agencies/institutions will be given visibility through the inclusion of the logos of these agencies/institutions adjacent to the GSC logo and reference to the activity being “supported by” these agencies or similar wherever reference is made to the initiative as being an output from the GSC e.g. the front cover of a publication. Contributions from other agencies and individuals in the form of content, participation in peer review or consultation processes etc., will be separately acknowledged in text associated with the development of the initiative e.g. in the acknowledgements section of a publication.*

* Agreed common construction policy position and minimum standards guidance note
* Agreed advocacy approach
* Agreed change process plan for achieving standards across multiple actors

Contributory resourcing of Global Shelter Cluster activities

## 1.0 Purpose

The cluster approach was established in 2005 as part of the wider humanitarian reform process aimed at “improving the effectiveness of humanitarian response by ensuring greater predictability and accountability, while at the same time strengthening partnerships between NGOs, international organizations, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and UN agencies.”[[1]](#footnote-1)

Beyond the initial support to establish the cluster system through UN Global Cluster Appeals in 2006 and 2007, it was foreseen that ‘’any costs associated with cluster leadership at the global level [would] be incorporated into agencies’ normal fundraising mechanisms.”[[2]](#footnote-2)

The Global Shelter Cluster (GSC) has acknowledged that “in line with the aspirations of the cluster approach, it is the responsibility of cluster members (including both operational and donor agencies) to identify the resources required to ensure the continuity of core cluster functions at the global level and to deliver on activities within the GSC strategy and annual workplan.”[[3]](#footnote-3)

This note provides guidance on “the provision by cluster agencies of funding, dedicated human resources or in-kind services and support ……… to deliver specific activities identified and agreed by the SAG or thematic working groups.”[[4]](#footnote-4)

## 2. Identification of activities

Specific activities other than core global cluster coordination functions and services to be developed and implemented by the GSC are subject to the following conditions:

1. To be identified through the GSC structure (Co-leads, Strategic Advisory Group, Working Groups, annual meetings etc.).
2. To be approved by the SAG.
3. Addresses an acknowledged gap in the sector not otherwise addressed by an existing or planned interagency or individual agency shelter sector initiative.
4. The adoption and continuation by the GSC of existing shelter sector activities if agreed by the existing activity stakeholders.
5. Accordance with GSC contributory resourcing principles (see 3.0)

## 3.0 Contributory resourcing principles

Contributions to specific activities identified by the GSC are to accord with the following principles:

1. Cluster agencies (cluster co-leads and participating agencies) are not expected to contribute equally to each and every activity, but the resourcing of activities should be on a basis of equitable burden sharing over time.
2. Contributions towards specific line items in agreed activity budgets can comprise funding, human resources, or in-kind services, including the contracting of consultancy services or similar.
3. Agency contributions will be in accordance with the mandate and priorities of the respective agency.
4. Activity documentation will include indicative line item budgets and related agency contributions.
5. Contributing agencies will take all reasonable measures to meet their agreed commitments.

**4.0 Visibility**

Contributing agencies will be given visibility through the inclusion of the agencies logos adjacent to the GSC logo and reference to the activity being “supported by” these agencies or similar wherever reference is made to the activity stakeholders e.g. the front cover of a publication.

## 5.0 Intellectual property rights

All copyrights on and intellectual property rights to material, documents or other outputs resulting from the GSC activity will remain commonly owned by all contributing agencies. All cluster agencies can use the outputs from the GSC activity provided that the GSC is accredited. The intellectual property rights to material provided by an agency towards a GSC activity will remain with the agency in question.

## 6.0 Disclaimer

It is acknowledged that contributions by agencies to the resourcing of specific activities should not imply that each and every agency endorses, supports or uses the outputs of the activity in question. However, such outputs should not be in contravention of the mandates or strategic interests of other cluster agencies.

1. IASC Guidance Note On Using The Cluster Approach To Strengthen Humanitarian Response November 2006 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Ibid [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Resourcing of the Global Shelter Cluster, GSC 2014 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Ibid [↑](#footnote-ref-4)