



About the Ukraine Shelter/NFI Cluster

The goal of the Ukraine Shelter/NFI (non-food item) Cluster is to provide people affected by the humanitarian emergency with the means to live in safe, dignified and appropriate shelter.

The Ukraine Shelter/NFI Cluster Team works with everyone who is involved in providing shelter and basic household items. These Shelter/NFI Cluster partners include the government, UN agencies, international and local NGOs, civil society organizations, volunteer organizations, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, academia, and donors. The Cluster also provides a forum to liaise with the media, the private sector, and other actors with a stake in the provision of humanitarian shelter.

The Shelter/NFI Cluster helps all shelter actors work together better, so that the people who need shelter assistance get help faster and receive the right kind of assistance. The team makes every effort to involve the affected people and their communities in decisions related to the shelter response.

The Shelter/NFI Cluster is a global mechanism that is supported by many different organizations. In Ukraine the Shelter/NFI Cluster is led by UNHCR, and co-chaired by the NGO People in Need.

What the Shelter/NFI Cluster Team can do for you

The Shelter/NFI Cluster Team is here to support the work of those working to provide shelter and to facilitate agreement on important topics. These topics can include:

- Coordinated and joint assessments
- Overall strategic priorities for the response
- Standardization of shelter and building materials
- Technical support for alternative shelter solutions such as repairs, host families, or rental support.

The Shelter/NFI Cluster team does not directly provide shelter materials, such as tents, plastic sheeting, tools etc., but helps Shelter/NFI Cluster partners provide assistance in a coordinated way.

The Shelter/NFI Cluster works with all stakeholders to help ensure that the right resources are made available to the right people, but depends on the Cluster partners to implement decisions.

To achieve this, the Shelter/NFI Cluster team collects, analyses and shares information. Some of the ways that organizations can benefit from participating in the Shelter/NFI Cluster include:

- Up-to-date information showing shelter needs, how these needs are being met, who meets them, as well as the remaining gaps. This includes maps, factsheets, distribution data etc.
- Technical expertise and lessons learned
- A place where shelter actors can agree on standards and decide on common strategies

- Information about available funding, what it is for and how to access it
- A platform for coordination to help avoid duplication and overlap of activities and to facilitate targeting of those most in need
- Advice on how to connect the current shelter programmes to early recovery, contingency planning and risk reduction
- A team that will advocate on behalf of the shelter sector

Structure

The Shelter/NFI Cluster consists of:

- A dedicated team that manages the core functions of the cluster, usually coordination, information management and technical support. The **national** team is complemented by a dedicated **sub-national** team, covering the northern Donbas region.
- **Cluster Meetings** - national and sub-national - which are open to all shelter and NFI actors.
- The **Strategic Advisory Group (SAG)**, a smaller group of organizations that represents the Cluster and provides strategic direction.
- **Technical Working Groups (TWiGs)** that work on specific issues such as shelter design, technical specifications, land issues, housing, land and property rights, reconstruction planning, etc.

Please contact coord.ukraine@sheltercluster.org if you have additional questions.

Visit www.sheltercluster.org/ukraine for more information, including key documents, assessments, and strategy documents, in English and Ukrainian/Russian.