**Shelter Cluster Narrative**

Preliminary government reports indicate that approximately 70,000 houses have been destroyed. However, based on field observations and population densities these figures are expected to rise. Many of the affected areas are in hard to reach rural areas where delivery of shelter materials will be difficult and costly. With the impending monsoon season and numbers displaced, speed in delivery is critical to ensure that those affected are able to return home whilst having been provided with a protective shelter intervention. Current available humanitarian NFI and shelter stocks in country are very limited, while the need to assist IDPs staying in self-settled and formal sites is increasing. Quality of locally available materials is also a concern and procurement time will need to be factored in.

Planned temporary settlement sites are necessary but are considered a last resort. Every effort should be made to minimise the need for resettlement to planned temporary sites that are located away from previous homes and communities. Planned settlements in a relief context are usually very expensive to maintain and service and very had to close. In order to avoid multiple displacement, adequate site services and planning must be provided. Whilst those who remain displaced are a priority in the initial phase, reconstruction will start immediately for those who return quickly or whose homes were only partially damaged. Technical support must be provided to this group so as to ensure a build back safer approach.

Move from emergency shelter programming (tents tarpaulins and shelter kits) to a transitional shelter (made of more durable construction material) should happen as soon as possible and within the emergency response phase to effectively mitigate against other risks and to allow sufficient time for the Government to plan the reconstruction effort.

Indicative Activities:

* Immediate life-saving shelter interventions such as tarpaulins, basic tools and fixings for damaged homes for displaced people, along with the provision of appropriate non-food items.
* Provision of emergency cash assistance to address urgent needs of the most vulnerable households and host families, including rental subsidies in urban or semi-urban areas.
* Support to municipalities and districts to ensure safe housing checks prior to movement of people.
* Provision of information, education, and communication (IEC) materials on appropriate, safe, building standards are provided to affected populations and implementing agencies.
* Coordination support for the development and implementation of emergency and durable shelter and settlement solutions.