# Shelter Meeting 14 Breakout Sector Response Options

## Group 6 Camps and collective centres

**Shelter Meetings**

*The Shelter Meeting is a global biannual conference for the humanitarian shelter sector, with participation in-person and online from around the world from governments, donors, IASC clusters, UN bodies, IOs, the Red Cross Movement, NGOs, independent humanitarian shelter specialists and academic research bodies.*

*Objectives of the Shelter Meeting include; engaging and supporting all stakeholders in the global shelter sector; linking all coordination that is supporting the shelter sector including IASC clusters; engage, linking and supporting other events and initiatives in the shelter sector; engaging in, linking and supporting the events and initiatives of other humanitarian sectors and cross-cutting issues; supporting consensus on policy, standards, specifications & operating procedures; sharing programmatic and technical good practice on on-going field operations; sharing information on project activities valuable for the global shelter sector; agreeing on and prioritising further project activities valuable for the global shelter sector; forming external working groups to support project activities; and reviewing project activities.*

**Shelter Meeting 14, 10th October 2014**

On 10th of October 2014, the Shelter Meeting welcomed participation in-person and online from over 25 countries by representatives from 44 different agencies. Hosted by the IASC Global Shelter Cluster, the meeting breakout groups covered the areas of 'Response Options' and 'Technical Sector Priorities'.

Presentations from Shelter Meeting 14 can be viewed [here](http://www.sheltercentre.org/shelter-meeting-14).

As a part of each Shelter Meeting, there are breakout groups, which are meant to begin a greater exploration of the topics relevant and important to current Shelter sector concerns. In Shelter Meeting 14 the theme was ‘Sector Response Options’ which worked to explore terms used by the sector that needed further discussion and definition.

**Next steps**

The conclusions of these breakout groups, including suggestions, will be first circulated in draft to the session chairpersons and team members for their comments. The final notes will inform broader and more formal discussions of these topics within the shelter sector, including through: comments made to the notes posted online on the Shelter Meeting 14 webpage; subsequent Shelter Meetings; related fora, such as the UK Shelter Forum; technical and innovation working group meetings of the IASC global shelter cluster and other IASC global clusters, such as the CCCM, Early Recovery and WASH clusters; as well as other national, regional and global fora, research and academic agencies.

**Notes summarising Group 6 Camps and collective centres**

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Group Rapporteur: Ayane Ezaki, IMPACT Initiatives

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*In this session, the term camp and collective centres were discussed, but also there was discussion within the group about agreement on sub categories. There were some variations in description, but it was important to consider the cultural differences applications. These notes, along with the notes from the other groups in the breakout sessions from Shelter Meeting 14, will be taken forward through various fora, including the Technical and Innovation Working Group (TiWG) of the IASC Global Shelter Cluster.*

**5.1** **Most participants in this group were relatively content with existing definitions for ‘Camps’ and ‘Collective Shelters’**.

**5.1.2** Some potential variations to the existing definitions were identified by the group members, and those are discussed below in order to better articulate their meaning.

**5.1.3** Participants stated that it was important to consider the difference between the technical definition and the definition culturally acceptable in each context of the terms.

**5.2 There was a proposal for the group to discuss the term ‘Formal Tented Settlements’**

**5.2.1** Examples of refugees in Lebanon from 2011-2014, was given for this conversation on ‘formal tented settlements’.

**5.2.3** Due to increasing rent prices in Lebanon’s urban centres due to an increased demand for housing many refugees live in ‘Informal tented settlements’ (ITS). Many of these settlements are on property that is rented out to tenants on a monthly basis. Recently the use of ‘formal tented settlements’ has risen in number and popularity in Lebanon..

**5.2.4** In the case of Lebanon, private actors such as religious or political groups not humanitarian actors, are organising these mass rental agreements and opening these formal tented settlements for refugees living in the settlements. In some cases these groups have covered rental costs for a period of time.

**5.2.5** Where the settlements are self-settled, the beneficiaries generally end up paying rent to private landowners.

**5.3 There was a proposal for the group to discuss the terms ‘Eviction or Separation Camps’**

**5.3.1** Examples were taken from recent experiences with Ebola, South Sudan, and areas in Syria that needed to be decontaminated after gas attacks.

**5.3.2** Populations in these camps need to be separated and protected, either because of disease or hostile parties. With these camps, there are additional concerns about health and WASH.

**5.3.3** ‘Protection sites and/or containmentsites’ were considered as alternative terms for ‘eviction’ or ‘separation’ camps.

**5.4 There was a proposal for the group to discuss the term ‘Collective Centres’**

**5.4.1** The group discussed that ‘collective centres’ decided is the term that is the least defined, because of the variations in how they appear and are used is so broad.

**5.4.2** The difference between using the terms ‘collective centres’ and ‘collective shelters’ and what each term covered and they did not cover was examined by the group. The group determined the difference is in the levels of management; in that ‘collective centres’ have proper management and accountability, whereas ‘collective shelters’ are largely referring to informal emergency shelter.