Sphere Shelter
Standard 7

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The Standard

Shelter Standard 7 - Environmental sustainability: Shelter and settlement assistance minimises any negative programme impact on the natural environment.

Environmental sustainability addresses responsible programming that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Ignoring environmental issues in the short term can compromise recovery, worsen existing problems or cause new ones.

Cute Point 1 – how can shelter be sustainable if the rest of the response isn’t sustainable?
The Activities

- Integrate environmental impact assessment and management in all shelter and settlement planning.
- Select the most sustainable materials and techniques among those available.
- Manage solid waste (aka debris) in a safe, timely, culturally sensitive and environmentally sustainable way in all settlements.
- Establish, restore and promote safe, reliable, affordable and environmentally sustainable energy supply systems.
- Protect, restore and improve the ecological value of operational sites (such as temporary settlements) during and after use.

Cute Point 2: Pretty easy; Current good practice
The Indicators

1. % of shelter and settlement activities preceded by an environmental review
2. # of recommendations from the environmental management and monitoring plan implemented
3. % of shelter constructions using low carbon emission construction materials and methods
4. % solid waste on the site repurposed, reused, or recycled – target: 70% of volume
5. % of temporary settlement sites restored to a better condition than before use
Where Next?

1. % of shelter and settlement activities preceded by an environmental review
2. # of recommendations from the environmental management and monitoring plan implemented
3. % of shelter constructions using low carbon emission construction materials and methods
4. % solid waste on the site repurposed, reused, or recycled – target: 70% of volume
5. % of temporary settlement sites restored to a better condition than before use

- **Indicators 1 and 2**: No problem, tools and procedures exist – NEAT+, Profiles, Checklist, REA…. *(Cute Point 3: You should already be doing these things.)*
- **Indicator 4**: Can do this, but is it a Shelter AoE in all disasters? *(Cute Point 4: Need to sort out who takes charge on the ground in each disaster.)*
- **Indicator 5**: No problem, if there is the $ *(Cute Point 5: You should already be doing this, and it can be ignored if there are no camps.)*
- **Indicator 3**: Cute Point 6: And just how in the world are we to do this?
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