



## SHELTER MEETING 18:

# The Settlements Approach and Urban Response

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2018, 09h – 17h

Club Suisse de la Presse, Geneva

Shelter Centre in collaboration with IMPACT Initiatives and the Global Shelter Cluster's Urban Settlements Working Group are pleased to announce the next Shelter Meeting on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at Club Suisse de la Presse, Geneva**, generously supported by USAID OFDA and DG-ECHO.

Over the course of the day, participants will discuss **"the Settlements Approach and Urban Response"**, sharing experiences, perspectives, research and initiatives, framed around several overarching questions:

- How do **Settlement and Area Based Approaches** differ in **urban and rural settings**?
- How could Settlement and Area Based Approaches offer practical means of facilitating the **"humanitarian-development nexus"**?
- What is the **relationship between these approaches and traditional humanitarian sectoral interventions**? Are these approaches complementary?
- Building on a growing evidence-base, what is the **way forward** with these approaches?

Complementing discussions and working groups, the 'open-mic' offered regularly through the Shelter Meeting will again be available, providing participants an opportunity to share good practice, priorities and new initiatives in-person and through live videoconference from around the world.

**Registration:** To register to attend the Shelter Meeting please visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/shelter-meeting-18-tickets-46400153107>. Live video conferencing will be available.

### Why the Settlements Approach?

Affected populations do not perceive their communities through a sectoral lens, but from a holistic perspective. Whilst sectoral technical expertise remains an important ingredient in response and recovery, understanding the holistic needs of affected communities - and the relationship between different sectors, calls for an integrated approach. **The Settlements Approach, aligning with the Area-Based Approach are characterised as geographically targeted, inclusive and multi-sectoral**, (Parker and Maynard, 2015) and provide a useful approach to gain this holistic understanding to better inform response and recovery.

Organised by:



In partnership with:



The application of Settlement and Area Based Approaches builds on experiences of urban and regional planners working on community renewal through geographically-based, multi-sectoral initiatives in vulnerable locations since the 1960s and 1970s (Sanderson and Sitko, 2017). In recent years, these approaches have gained traction among humanitarian aid agencies seeking to provide better responses to crises and conflicts.

Settlement and Area-Based Approaches can offer a practical means of facilitating the **"humanitarian-development nexus"**, bridging relief and recovery. This growing consensus has been reinforced by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee's call for a *"paradigm shift in humanitarian assistance in urban areas, based on a community-based - rather than - an individual beneficiary approach"*. These approaches further imply that **planning, coordination, response and recovery should be centred around holistic human needs rather than sectoral operation**.

The application of Settlement and Area Based Approaches in complex urban settings is receiving increasing attention. **By 2030, 4 billion people, almost fifty percent of the world's population, are predicted to live in the towns and cities of low- and middle-income countries**. Within these urban environments, almost half of the population are likely to live in informal settlements (UN DESA 2014). Recently, the Habitat III Summit, the Global Alliance for Urban Crises and strategy papers by OFDA, ECHO, and UNHCR have further promoted the use of settlement and area based approaches in urban contexts.

Please see below for the tentative agenda:

0830	Registration and morning coffee
0900	Introduction to the day & announcements
0930	<p><b>Applying Settlement and Area Based Approaches in Rural and Urban Humanitarian Crises – learning from experience:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are recent experiences and lessons identified from applying settlement based initiatives in both rural contexts and cities in crises?</li> <li>What opportunities exist in these approaches to contribute to the humanitarian-development nexus?</li> </ul> <p>Panel discussion, plenary Q&amp;A</p>
1030	Morning tea/coffee break
1100	<p><b>CONTINUED: Applying Settlement and Area Based Approaches in Rural and Urban Humanitarian Crises</b></p> <p>Small informal discussions</p>
1145	<p><b>Applying Settlement and Area Based Approaches: Are they compatible with the current humanitarian system? What is the way forward?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the relationship between settlement-based approaches and traditional humanitarian sectoral interventions? Are these approaches complementary?</li> <li>What is the way forward with these approaches? How to influence system change whilst remaining contextually driven, adaptable and innovative?</li> </ul> <p>Panel discussion, plenary Q&amp;A and discussion.</p>
1230	Operationally taking this forward
1245	Lunch break
1345	<p><b>Open mic sessions and short presentations on key issues in urban humanitarian response and shelter</b></p> <p>If you wish to propose to present at this Shelter Meeting, please email your presentation title, a summary, the presenter and your agency details to <a href="mailto:meeting@sheltercentre.org">meeting@sheltercentre.org</a> on or before Friday 29th June 2018.</p> <p>If you are not able to attend in person, video conferencing is available to present from around the world.</p> <p>Please note the presentation either should be consistent with the Shelter Meeting theme, or should be related to your priorities in progressing the sector.</p> <p>Example presentations from the last Meeting may be found at <a href="https://humanitarianlibrary.org/channel/shelter-meeting-17-channel/">https://humanitarianlibrary.org/channel/shelter-meeting-17-channel/</a>.</p>
1630	Wrap-up and close by 1700

