Training for disasters

When disaster strikes, a timely and professional response is crucial for the survivors.

One of the key components of a shelter response is the immediate availability of trained professionals for rapid deployment. Providing training is therefore a key priority for the International Federation. Trainings are provided for technical professionals as well as volunteers.

Learn from the professionals

Most instructors on shelter trainings have extensive field experience. They have been in areas working closely with survivors and Red Cross Red Crescent volunteers in shelter programmes. Their experience and knowledge is shared with training participants through a combination of simulations, lectures and workshops.

Working with partners

The International Federation Shelter Trainings are often delivered in collaboration between the Federation Shelter Department, Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies, ICRC, and external partners, such as the UN, NGOs, and Universities. Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies often host such trainings, and support the participation of their personnel. As required, the International Federation’s Global Shelter Programme can subsidise participation by National Society nominees, and can also fund National Societies to deliver such trainings on behalf of the International Federation.
Training for shelter operations

**Shelter technical training**
Advanced training for experienced shelter practitioners. The main issues of Shelter Relief are addressed: the Disaster Management response tools, how to design a shelter strategy, different types of shelter programmes, shelter and settlement options for displaced populations, reconstruction options for non-displaced populations, the links with relief, logistics, procurement, early recovery and other sectors and practical exercises. It is usually delivered twice a year in different locations.

**Shelter kit training**
Training in use of the IFRC Shelter Kits. Practical training with focus on designing and building shelters with a standardized set of tools (the IFRC Shelter Kit) and local materials.

Primary target group is volunteers and professionals from National Societies in areas with high shelter risks where the provision of non-tent rapidly deployable shelter solutions such as Shelter Kits is the preferred option.

**Camp management training**
Advanced training for shelter practitioners involved in managing camp-type situations: self-settled camps, planned camps, and collective centres both in rural and urban settings. It is delivered by trainers from the Norwegian Refugee Council, using the Camp Management Toolkit.

**Shelter sessions in existing trainings**
In the Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT), Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT), Emergency Response Unit (ERU) trainings.
Training for shelter coordination

The International Federation is the convener of the Shelter Cluster for natural disasters. In order to coordinate in-country Shelter Clusters, the Federation deploys Shelter Coordination Teams (SCT) comprising Coordinators, Information Managers, and Technical Coordinators.

Shelter coordination team training
Advanced training for future members of the SCT: people with experience in emergencies and good coordinating and communication skills. It includes participants from Red Cross and Red Crescent, UNHCR, the co-lead of the Shelter Cluster for conflict situations, and other cluster members. The interagency humanitarian reform process is addressed, as well as the role of the Shelter Cluster and the SCT in particular in facilitating the provision of effective and efficient shelter assistance.

Information manager training
Advanced training for people with experience in emergencies, good coordination skills and advanced computer skills that wish to become Shelter Information Managers within the SCT. The training addresses the role of the Shelter Information Manager in collecting information from stakeholders, analysing it and delivering it back to the members of the cluster, to enable informed programme decision-making. Advanced knowledge and use of Excel and web resources is required.

Technical coordinator training
Advanced training for shelter practitioners. The content is the same as the Shelter Technical Training, but without the elements specific for the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement. It is aimed at experienced shelter practitioners with good coordination and communication skills that wish to become Technical Coordinators in the SCT that coordinates the in-country Emergency Shelter Cluster.
Future trainings

In response to particular capacity building needs identified by field personnel, a number of additional trainings or modules to be included within existing trainings are under development.

These include:
- Management of Shelter Operations
- Shelter Recovery Operations
- Planning of camps, camp-like settlements, and collective centres
- Distance learning on shelter
- Self-training modules on FedNet

Apply for training

An up-to-date list of scheduled training sessions is available on the Shelter FedNet page:

fednet.ifrc.org/Shelter

Please apply directly from FedNet – or use the contact details at the bottom of this page to get in touch with us.