### Summary

This module aims to provide participants with a better understanding of how the Sphere standards and indicators for the shelter, settlements and NFIs technical chapter, together with the rights-based approach, can assist them and the people they serve in humanitarian preparedness and response.



### Aim

This module aims to provide participants with a better understanding of how the Sphere standards and indicators, together with the rights-based approach, can assist them and the people they serve through humanitarian preparedness and response.

### Learning objectives

*By the end of this session, participants will be able to:*

* Locate the technical chapter on shelter, settlements and NFIs in the Sphere Handbook and describe some of its minimum standards associated key indicators, key actions and guidance notes
* Illustrate how the minimum standards and key indicators can be practically implemented
* Advocate for the implementation of the Sphere minimum standards.

### Key messages

* The 10 shelter, settlements and NFIs standards and their supporting activities and indicators provide a useful guide for assessing, analysing, designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating emergency camps and shelter programmes.
* Shelter, settlements and NFIs requirements are highly site, climate, and culture-specific. The Core Humanitarian Standard (which replaces Sphere Core Standards ‘Chapter), actions and indicators relating to analysis and community involvement are therefore key in this chapter.
* The shelter, settlements and NFIs technical chapter cannot be achieved without taking into account the Sphere Humanitarian Charter, the Protection Principles and the Core Humanitarian Standard, as well as the cross-cutting themes and the other technical chapters.

#### Preparation & resources

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| For the facilitator | For each participant | For each group of 3-5 participants |
| * Sphere Handbook * Pocket calculators * Review slides 2 to 12 and preselect in advance a few problems of specific interest to your participants (about 3 out of the 10 problems). Mask the slides you won’t use by right clicking on the slide and selecting ‘mask’ at the bottom of the list so they do not appear in the presentation. * Print Handout ‘The scenarios’, cut out each scenario and keep those you have selected for the group work. | * Sphere Handbook & highlighter | * Flip chart stand, paper and marker pens (various colours) * Pocket calculators * Print p.1-2 of Handout ‘The minimum standards in Shelter, Settlements and NFIs’ in colour, if possible. Cut out all 10 images and place in an envelope. There should be one envelope per group. * Print Handout ‘Exercise: using Sphere in shelter, settlements and NFIs’ |

### You may also want to look at:

* **Module A1-A2-A3** – What is Sphere?
* **Module A4-A5** – Sphere in context
* **Module A7** – Sphere cross-cutting themes
* **Module A8** – The Core Humanitarian Standard
* **Module A9-A13** – Sphere and the Rights-Based Approach (RBA)

### To know more:

* **Browse** ‘The Sphere Project in brief’: [www.sphereproject.org/about](http://www.sphereproject.org/about)
* **Read** the chapter ‘What is Sphere?’ of the Sphere Handbook (p. 4-17)
* **See** the video ‘Humanitarian Standards in Context – Bringing the Sphere Handbook to Life’: [www.sphereproject.org/resources](http://www.sphereproject.org/resources)

#### Session plan

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| Activity | Description | Timing |
| Introduction | The Sphere shelter, settlements and NFIs standards and indicators, together with the rights-based approach, can assist you and the people you serve in humanitarian preparedness and response. |  |
| Slide presentation  ‘Some problems in shelter, settlements and NFIs’ | Present the preselected slides (you should have chosen in advance about 3 out of the 10 problems of specific interest to your participants and context from slides 2 to 12). Keep the session engaging and moving quickly.  Explain how the preselected slides depict the various types of recurring problems that often arise in disaster-affected areas.  Present each problem. Use your own examples and stories to illustrate each of these problems and call for examples from others in the group who may have encountered them. Prompt participants to share about other problems they may have faced in disaster response situations, from camp and/or other environments. | 15' |
| Group work  ‘Sphere minimum standards in shelter, settlements and NFIs’ | Divide participants into 4 groups of 3-5 people. If some participants have a relevant technical background, make sure to assign them to different groups as resource persons.  Distribute one envelope per group. Each envelope should contain the 10 pictures (see Handout ‘The minimum standards in shelter, settlements and NFIs’).  In each group, have one participant choose a picture and read the corresponding standard aloud to their group. All group members should look for this minimum standard in the Handbook. The participant who has chosen the picture should make sure it is clear to the rest of their group. Next, have another participant choose a picture, etc., until all 10 have been presented.  In every case, challenge the group to ‘test’ the standard and agree whether or not it is, in fact, universal in nature and globally applicable. | 15' |
| Slide presentation  ‘Visualising the shelter, settlements and NFIs indicators and guidance notes’ | Show slide 13 and highlight the relationships between the components of the Sphere Handbook. Point out that indicators should be selected and adapted to one’s context.  You should have chosen in advance **one or (maximum) two** examples most appropriate for your context from slides 14 to 39. Run the presentation with the corresponding slides. Use the questions in the presentation to get active participation from the group. Clearly read aloud one key action and one guidance note associated with each indicator to ensure that participants understand the structure: Minimum standards / Key actions / Key indicators / Guidance notes.  Raise specific questions on the cross-cutting themes (gender, environmental impact, disaster risk reduction, etc.), principles (on roles and responsibilities, for example), rights or Protection Principles and the Core Humanitarian Standard to ensure participants always consider them – even when they focus on technical standards and indicators. | 10' |
| Practical group exercise  ‘Emergency shelter strategies’ | State that this exercise will allow participants to practice what they are learning.  Show slide 40 with the instructions (make sure to read the facilitator notes below the slide). Distribute to each group the Handout ‘Exercise: using Sphere in shelter, settlements and NFIs’ as well as their assigned scenario.  Each team must pick a strategy from the list and then illustrate how this strategy could be monitored or evaluated using the indicators from the ‘Shelter and settlement’ chapter of the Sphere Handbook.  The group action should be done quickly. (15’) | 25' |
| Feedback  ‘Emergency shelter strategies’ | The group reporting format should be very brief: have each group present its scenario and answers (3’ per group).  The conclusion of this exercise is simply that not all emergencies require emergency tent camps. | 15' |
| Plenary brainstorm and wrap-up  ‘Sphere RBA and transversal aspects’ | While doing this exercise, ask the following question:   * How have you considered the Humanitarian Charter, the Protection Principles, the Core Humanitarian Standard, the cross-cutting themes and all the technical chapters?   Ask participants how they feel and what they would do differently next time.  Recap the key messages of the module and use slide 41 to conclude the session. | 10' |

### Tips for facilitators

* If you are not an expert in shelter, settlements and NFIs (an architect, engineer or camp planner), you may want to ask someone who is an expert in shelter, settlements and NFIs to support you during this session. Ideally, this person is one of the participants.
* If you have any props to bring to the session – plastic sheeting samples or photographs of emergency camps, for example – use them.
* It is very useful to use masking tape to create rectangular areas on the training room floor to depict the minimum shelter space per person (3.5 sq.m.) as well as the minimum site space per person (45 sq.m.).

**Acknowledgement**: InterWorks Sphere technical sectors course materials have been used and adapted to design this module: [www.interworksmadison.com/publications-training-resources/sphere](http://www.interworksmadison.com/publications-training-resources/sphere).