

Terms of Reference (ToR) for Training and Construction Project in Disaster-Affected Regions

1.0. Background

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), as the world's largest humanitarian organization, is dedicated to preventing and alleviating human suffering globally. Guided by fundamental principles, IFRC collaborates extensively to address the needs of vulnerable populations during disasters and health emergencies. With a steadfast presence in Afghanistan since 1990, IFRC partners with the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) to enhance operations, outreach, and medical supply chains.

In the wake of seismic events that struck western Afghanistan on October 7, 2023, with subsequent aftershocks, the province of Herat bore the brunt of a magnitude 6.3 earthquake and its aftermath. The disaster affected four provinces, causing extensive casualties, injuries, and structural damage, particularly in the districts of Guzara, Injil, Khushk, and Zinda Jan. Recognizing the urgency of the situation, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) swiftly joined forces with the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) to initiate emergency response efforts.

Recognizing the imperative for specialized knowledge in constructing earthquake-resistant structures and culturally suitable shelter solutions, the IFRC has devised plans to enlist an external organization to conduct training sessions across various districts in Herat Province. This proposed collaboration seeks to leverage the renowned expertise of an external organization/firm in seismic engineering to tackle the challenges brought about by the earthquakes in Herat. The strategic alliance aims to take a comprehensive approach with an extensive training for ARCS and IFRC personnel, volunteers, and local masons. The project not only places priority on immediate reconstruction but also emphasizes fostering the long-term resilience of affected communities through a "build back better" strategy in humanitarian aspect.

The contextual background lays the groundwork for a meaningful partnership between the IFRC and an external firm with proficiency in trainings facilitation related to construction, aligning with the IFRC's approach of "build back better." This highlights their shared commitment to delivering effective, culturally sensitive, and sustainable solutions to the shelter and settlement needs arising from the Herat earthquakes.

2.0. The Objective of the Facilitation Services

The Terms of Reference (TOR) is designed to holistically tackle post-earthquake challenges in northwestern Afghanistan and Herat province by focusing on following 5 main objectives-

1. Develop comprehensive training content for skill based safe shelter construction training for masons, earthquake resilient construction training for engineers, and Safe Shelter Awareness training for volunteers/social mobiliser.
2. Facilitate an event of 3-day safe shelter construction training program for shelter 16 engineers covering essential aspects of shelter construction, seismic resistance, and cultural considerations.
3. Conduct a 15-day on-the-job training program for 150 masons, focusing on practical construction techniques, community engagement, and safe, culturally sensitive shelter construction.
4. Conduct a two-day training session for 30 volunteers and four social mobilizers. The training aims to raise awareness about safe shelter construction practices and the building back safer approach. The objective is to equip participants with the knowledge and skills needed to facilitate the participatory approach for safe shelter awareness, specifically focusing on the PASSA (Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness) message.
5. Create detailed 3D views and specifications for a 40-square-meter shelter, ensuring clarity, accuracy, and adherence to Shelter Cluster standards in order to make all mason understandable on type of shelter IFRC is going to implement.

3.0. The Scope of the Consultancy Services

A. Training of ARCS and IFRC Shelter Technical Staff/Engineers: 3 days Earthquake resilient construction training for engineers, 2-days training Safe Shelter Awareness training for volunteers/social mobiliser

- i. Develop a three-day course outline for engineers and a two-day course outline for volunteers/social mobilizers and obtain final approval from the IFRC Shelter Delegate.
- ii. Organize training 3 days sessions for engineers from the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) and IFRC.
- iii. Conduct two-day training sessions for volunteers on the aspects of building back safer within the shelter cluster context, focusing on reconstruction and shelter construction projects. Following this orientation, volunteers and social mobilizers should be equipped to conduct shelter awareness and building back safer sessions within the community.
- iv. Cover a range of topics related to shelter and settlements, including seismic-resistant construction techniques, cultural sensitivity, and sustainable rebuilding practices.
- v. Adopt the IFRC building back safer approach and also Shelter Cluster recommendation and safety practices.
- vi. Include specialized trainer who have been engaged for the delivery of safer construction training for engineers.
- vii. Orient the engineers on basic building code of Afghanistan.
- viii. 16 ARCS/IFRC engineers to enhance their technical expertise in shelter and settlements.

B. Facilitate Safe Shelter Construction Training Programs for Local Masons (150 Masons divided into groups of 25 for each event, running concurrently):

- i. Develop the on-the-job training course content for masons and obtain final approval from the IFRC Shelter Delegate.
- ii. Engage in collaborative training initiatives involving local carpenters, masons, and community members.
- iii. Impart knowledge about building back safer techniques, emphasizing best practices in construction methods aligned with seismic resilience and cultural appropriateness.
- iv. Foster a sense of ownership and empowerment within the community.
- v. The training will create livelihood opportunities by enhancing the skills of local craftsmen, contributing to long-term community resilience.

C. Develop 3D views for the Shelter Cluster's 2 room type, 40-square-meter shelter model, utilizing the existing 2D-AutoCAD drawings prepared by Shelter Cluster.

D. Project Coordination and Reporting:

- i. Establish effective communication channels between IFRC and local stakeholders.
- ii. Coordinate training content, schedules, ensuring timely and efficient implementation.
- iii. Regularly monitor and evaluate the progress of training initiatives.
- iv. Provide training reports at key milestones, detailing accomplishments, challenges, and recommendations for continuous improvement.

4.0. Methodology and Work Plan

The plan is set up as a step-by-step approach to efficiently complete specific tasks within a designated time frame. Initially, in the 3-day Training Content Design phase, a comprehensive content will be developed, and necessary consent will be taken from IFRC. This plan includes 15 days of on-the-job training for masons, a 3-day course for engineers, and IFRC courses on building back safer and shelter awareness for volunteers/social mobilizers. Concurrently, a 3D Drawing needs to be developed by collaborating with architects and utilizing AutoCAD drawings (cad file) that are already available with IFRC for a 40-square-meter shelter developed by Shelter Cluster. This phase emphasizes achieving clarity, accuracy, and adherence to Shelter Cluster standards.

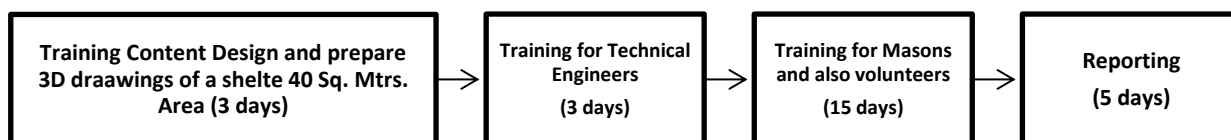
The subsequent step involves a 3-day Training for Technical Engineers, where all 16 engineers will receive comprehensive training in a single event. This training covers crucial aspects of shelter construction, such as seismic resistance, site selection, site safety, IFRC's building back safer approach, and cultural considerations. The curriculum is designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of engineers, ensuring proficiency in executing effective shelter reconstruction projects.

Following this, the 15-day Training for Masons will begin, emphasizing on-the-job training. All six mason training sessions will run concurrently, each accommodating 25 participants. Throughout the course, six shelters will be constructed simultaneously, with each group initiating the construction of a separate shelter. All participants in the mason training actively engage in the real construction process. This comprehensive program involves both masons and volunteers, covering topics from practical construction techniques to community engagement. The primary objective is to equip masons with fundamental construction skills, empowering them to lead teams effectively. The training also imparts essential skills for safe and culturally sensitive shelter construction, fostering a comprehensive understanding among participants.

Concurrently, training for Volunteers/social mobilizers will run in parallel with two events, accommodating 30 volunteers and four social mobilizers each. The aim is to raise awareness about safe shelter construction practices, the building back safer approach, and the participatory approach to safe shelter awareness (PASSA). Following this training, volunteers are expected to organize community sessions focused on disseminating IFRC building back safer/PASSA messages to the community.

The subsequent Reporting phase spans five days, compiling detailed reports on the progress, outcomes, and feedback from each training module. Special emphasis will be placed on providing a clear and comprehensive overview of the impact of the training sessions, along with any recommendations for improvement.

Throughout the methodology, a continuous feedback loop allows for necessary adjustments, ensuring that the training content remains effective, engaging, and aligned with the objectives of promoting resilience and sustainable rebuilding efforts in the aftermath of earthquakes.



5.0. Location of the work

The project activities will be conducted in various villages of the Zindajan district or in neighboring districts within the Herat region in Northwestern Afghanistan.

6.0. Submission of Documents and Deliverables

- ✓ Training Module/content for engineers – 3 days course
- ✓ Training Module/Content for 15 days on the job training for Mason – 15 days course
- ✓ Training/Orientation Module on Safe Shelter Awareness Training for volunteers – 2 days
- ✓ Create detailed 3D views and develop specifications for a 40-square-meter area, two-room shelter, utilizing the already available 2D AutoCAD drawing with IFRC.
- ✓ Comprehensive training sessions for ARCS and IFRC engineers – 16 persons
- ✓ Specialized training for 30 volunteers plus 4 social mobilisers actively engaged in reconstruction efforts.
- ✓ Conduct 15 days on the job training for 150 local masons @ 25 in each group.
- ✓ Effective project coordination, including communication channels and training schedule management.
- ✓ Regular progress reports at key milestones and Final Report covering all the trainings.

7.0. Completion date

The extensive construction project for permanent shelters in Herat, northwestern Afghanistan, is technically facilitated by an external experienced firm and is expected to be completed within 26 calendar days, including reporting.