

First step in the planning of the project was to create a design manual; a handbook for transitory towns.

The manual is based on the "Camp planning standards"; an emergency handbook for planned settlements made by the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR).

Based on the core idea that planning should happen ahead of a crisis instead of as a response to one, the process has been to take out useful parts from the existing handbook, basically by leaving out the bits that do not coincide with this new foundation. The white text parts are re-writings of removed sections, the red markings are particularly important paragraphs, and the yellow stickers are my notes/comments.

This document forms part of the 4th edition of the UNHCR Emergency Handbook and was generated from the digital Emergency Handbook system.

Camp

- UNHCR discourages the establishment of formal settlements and (whenever possible) prefers alternatives to camps, provided they protect and assist people of concern effectively.

- Due considerations should be given to the operational phase. What may be deemed adequate during an emergency in terms of shelter (for example plastic sheeting, tents) and average camp area per person cannot be regarded as adequate in a protracted displacement situation.

minimum standards and / camps as part of a refugee emergency response.

an emergency response.

Often for temporary accommodation at the beginning of a refugee crisis.

response.

HANDBOOK FOR HOW TO DESIGN A TRANSITORY TOWN (TT)
(A RE-WAITING/EDITED VERSION OF THE UNHCR EMERGENCY HANDBOOK FOR CAMPS)

TT planning standards (planned settlements)

Key point

WHY NOT ACT BEFORE THE CRISIS OCCURS?
WHY NOT PLAN AS PREPARATION?
WHY NOT TRY TO FACILITATE MIGRATION!

+ WHAT HAS BEEN TAKEN OUT ARE THE ELEMENTS THAT MAKES THE "CAMP" - THE TEMPORALITY
- THE URGENCY
- THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE

A

- Shelter Housing practice should be adapted according to the geographical context, the climate, the cultural and habits, the local availability of skills as well as accessibility to adequate construction materials in any given country.
- Homes should be designed for people in transit and contain basic, practical functions, but there should also be space for personalization.
- Transitory towns should be prepared for relocation as they are constructions for an ever-changing migration situation caused by unpredictable conflicts and climate conditions.

1.

1. Overview

This entry provides key information on best practice which should be referenced and consulted when developing planned settlements

B

Generally, a sector specialist covers shelter and settlement needs assessment, analysis and site planning during the first phase of

a reception or transit centre is necessary

Refer to entry on Transit Center standards

for more information on these standards.

These guidance notes outline the minimum standards required to ensure planned settlements enable refugee communities to live with security and dignity in a healthy environment which improves their quality of life.

C

UNHCR Master Plan Approach to Settlement Planning Guiding Principles is a key reference when defining a settlement

The choice of settlement location is a critical

[REDACTED] a settlement in the wrong geographical location can threaten the protection and assistance of displaced persons and have negative consequences for local development [REDACTED]

Emergency [REDACTED] shelter [REDACTED]
(See links below for additional information).

[REDACTED] size of a camp and [REDACTED]
camps [REDACTED] shelters [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] camp [REDACTED] in a camp. [REDACTED] dignified

[REDACTED] camp					
Acceptable	Range:	Unacceptable	Range:	Critical	Range:
35 sq. m		34 - 30 sq. m		29 sq. m	

A minimum surface area of 45 Sqm per person including household gardening space should be allocated.

[REDACTED] It excludes however, any land for significant agricultural activities or livestock. [REDACTED]

Emergency [REDACTED] The design of planned settlements follow SPHERE emergency standards. [REDACTED] the minimum [REDACTED]

Minimum [REDACTED]

(C)

decision which will have significant impact on the protection and well-being of displaced people, as well as broader local development. [REDACTED] a well-positioned settlement can have multiple protective benefits and contribute to local development, [REDACTED] and the peaceful coexistence of communities.

2.

2. standard
There are several indicators determining the adequacy of [REDACTED] for refugees and displaced persons.

2.1

2.1 Indicator
Average [REDACTED] area per person: The [REDACTED] area per capita is critical in the planning. [REDACTED] crowded conditions lead to increased morbidity and stress. The provision of adequate space, both outside and inside [REDACTED] is an essential requirement

The 'average [REDACTED] area per person (Sqm.)' indicator measures the average living space to which a person has access [REDACTED] This space should accommodate all services while promoting living:

Indicator: Average [REDACTED] area per person (Sqm)
How should this indicator be measured:
Standard: 45 sq. m

ADD EXTRA 5q.m FOR COMMUNAL AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES
30 sq.m + 15 sq.m = 45 sq.m

D

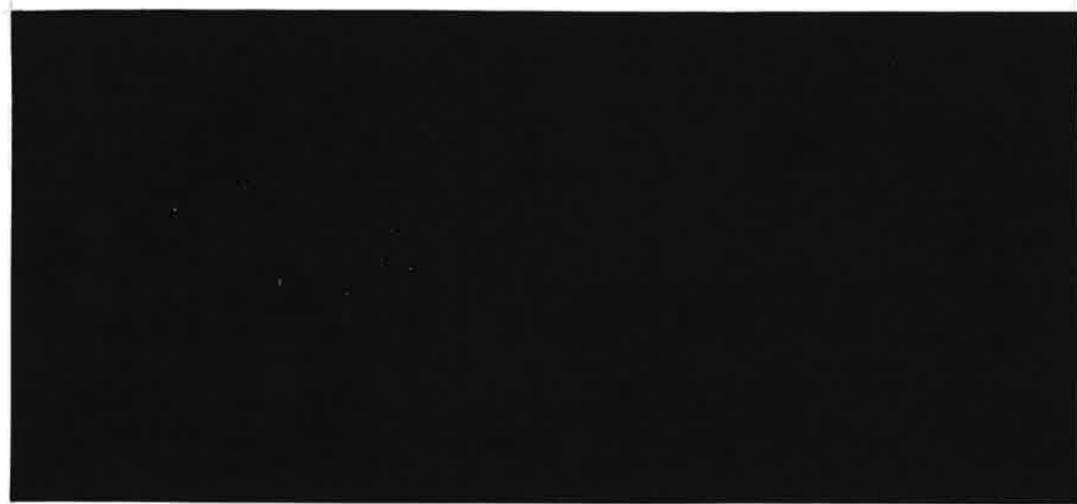
30 Sqm per person will be necessary for roads, foot paths, educational facilities, sanitation, security, firebreaks, administration, water storage, distribution points, markets, storage of relief items and, of course, plots for shelter. [REDACTED] The remaining 15 Sqm per person is allocated to household gardens attached to the family plot which should be included in the site plan from the outset. [REDACTED]

2.2
T. 01

2.2 standard
standards to be applied.

Description	Standard
Covered living area	3.5 sqm. Per person minimum In cold climates and urban areas more than 3.5 sqm. may be required (4.5 sqm. to 5.5 sqm. is more appropriate) Minimum ceiling height of 2m at highest point

DESIGN PARAMETERS: WILL BE TESTED IN 1:50 MODELS AND RE-CONSIDERED WHETHER THE "APPROPRIATE" IS MORE "APPROPRIATE"



Minimum [redacted] camps



[redacted] within persons of concern, including clan, tribes and extended family arrangements, as well as their traditional settlement layouts and shelter preferences. This consideration will yield a greater degree of satisfaction, and [redacted]

The following table uses the family unit as the smallest planning 'module' and builds up to larger units:



The following are recommended site planning standards for services and infrastructure and should be referred to when preparing the camp layout:

Communal	1 per 20 persons - emergency phase	Separate latrine areas for men and women For long-term accommodation use [redacted]
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(T. 01)

Camp settlement size	45 sqm. per person (incl. kitchen and vegetable garden)
Fire Safety	30 m firebreak every 300 m Minimum 2 m between structures – use 2 times the height of the appropriate distance.
Gradient for camp site	1 to 5 %, ideally 2 to 4%
Drainage	Appropriate drainage needs to be put in place, especially relevant in locations that experience a rainy season or flash floods.

MAY BE ADD THE AGRICULTURAL ASPECT - AN ACTUAL PRODUCTION OF FOOD FOR THE TT.

Table 1 - standards for planning

E

Site planning should begin from the scale of the individual refugee family, addressing needs at household level, such as their distance to water, access to communal services, recreation facilities, access to showers and latrines, waste management, etc

It is advisable to consider the social structures and relations

sense of ownership.

T. 02

Module	Structure	Approximate number
Single	1 x single person	1 person
Family	1 x family	4-6 persons 2-10 persons
Community Collective	16 x families 10 singles or 1-5 families	80 persons 10 persons
Block Community	16 x communities 10 collectives	1,250 persons 100 persons
Sector Neighborhood	4 x blocks 10 communities	5,000 persons 1000 persons
Settlement Town	4 x sectors x neighborhoods	20,000 persons <

Table 2 - Indicative modular planning units.

+ TWO CATEGORIES: "SINGLE" FOR 7 PER-SON "TOWN" FOR < 10,000 PERSONS

T. 03

Description	Standard	Further consideration
latrine		3 latrines per collective (10 persons) latrine per family one household

Latrine distance	Not more than 50m from shelter and not closer than 6m	Latrines must be close enough to encourage their use but far enough to prevent problems with smells and pests
Water distance	Max. 200m from household	No dwelling should be further than a few minutes' walk from a water distribution point
Referral hospital	1 per 200,000 persons	1 per 10 settlements
Distribution centre	1 per 5,000 persons	1 per sector
Feeding centre	1 per 20,000 persons	1 per settlement
Storage area	15 to 20 Sqm. per 100 persons	Refugee storage
Lighting	As appropriate	Consider priority locations such as latrine, wash areas, public service areas
Security post	As appropriate	

(T. 03)

Shower	1 per 50 persons 6 per 100 persons	Separate, well drained, shower areas for men and women
Water supply	20 litres per person per day	
Water tap stand	1 per 80 persons	1 per community
Rubbish container of 100 litres	1 per 50 persons	1 per 10 families
Refuse pit - 2mx5mx2m	1 per 500 persons	1 per 100 families
Health centre	1 per 20,000 persons (use existing hospitals)	1 per settlement town Include water and sanitation facilities
School	1 per 5,000 persons (use existing institutions)	1 per sector neighborhood 3 classrooms, 50 Sqm.
Market place	1 per 20,000 persons	1 per settlement neighborhood
Registration area	As appropriate 1x Transit Center	May include arrivals area, medical clearance, distribution, parking
Administration / office	As appropriate 1x Transit Center	Receives calls from coming inhabitants and prepares the temporary homes

CONNECTED TO THE EXISTING SYSTEM

→ COULD THE SCHOOLS BE COLLABORATING WITH LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM?

OR "AGORA" WILL ALSO PROVIDE A DEMOCRATIC SPACE

LAST TWO:
COMBINED AND WOULD THEREBY CONSTITUTE THE "TRANSIT CENTRE"

Security fencing	Depending on the circumstances	
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[Redacted]

Sites for planned camps [Redacted]

The operational context will determine site selection criteria. In general, however, the following factors need to be considered when selecting sites for refugee settlement:

	Land
	covered with grass will prevent dust. Wherever possible, steep slopes, narrow valleys, and ravines should be avoided.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ideally, a site should have a slope of 2%–4% for good drainage, and not more than 10% to avoid erosion and the need for expensive earthmoving for roads and building construction.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soils that absorb surface water swiftly facilitate the construction and effectiveness of pit latrines. Subsoil should permit good infiltration (permit soil to absorb water and retain solid waste in latrines). Very sandy soils may have good infiltration; but latrine pits may be less stable. Pit latrines should not penetrate into the ground water. The groundwater table should be at least 3m. below the surface of the site. Avoid excessively rocky or impermeable sites as they hamper both shelter and latrine construction.

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Table 3 – Site planning standards for services and infrastructure

2.3

2.3 Site selection criteria:

[Redacted] should be selected in consultation with a range of sectors, including WASH, protection and supply, as well as with technical specialists such as hydrologists, surveyors, planners, engineers, and environmental engineers. Developing an inappropriate site or failing to develop a site to standards can result in further displacement causing unnecessary further loss and distress to persons of concern and may put some people/groups at further risk. Refer to the UNHCR Master Plan Assessment Template

[Redacted], which includes the Site Assessment Form to help you define suitability of a given site.

F Where possible the towns should be located on water; a city of floating islands attached to an existing city structure. This will enable the whole settlement to; adapt to changing weather conditions and water levels, connect to existing facilities and logistics, detach itself from its location when it is needed elsewhere.

T. 04

Topography, drainage, soil conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The topography of the land should permit easy drainage and the site should be located above flood level. Rocky, impermeable soil should be avoided.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid areas likely to become marshy or waterlogged during the rainy season. Consult national meteorological data and host communities before making a decision.
	<p>(IF THE TT IS LOCATED ON WATER THE RISE AND FALL OF WATER LEVEL WILL BE LESS IMPORTANT AS THE MODULES WILL FOLLOW THE MOVEMENT)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If possible, select a site where the land is suitable for vegetable gardens or smallscale cultivation.

G

and ideally near high ground that has good surface water run-off and drainage. Once located, water sources should be protected. Ideally, no individual should have to walk for more than a few minutes. There should be at least one water point for every 250 people.

- Ideally, hydrological surveys will provide information on the presence of water. A site should not be selected on the assumption that water will be found by drilling. Trucking water over long distances should be avoided if possible.

UNHCR

- Governments often make public land available.
- Private or communal land (including unclosed pastoral land) may only be used if the Government has agreed a formal legal arrangement with the owner(s), in accordance with the laws of the country.
- The status of land occupied for sites should be clarified in writing by the Government.
- In association with the Government and host community, agree and clarify the entitlement of refugees to carry out given activities (forage for food, collect firewood, collect timber and other shelter materials such as grass or mud, gather fodder and graze animals).

wherever possible and avoids the need to develop parallel services for the camp population.

- Liaise with development agencies, including UNDP and related Government ministries, to secure improvement of access routes.
- UNHCR

H

Water resources

- Choose locations that are reasonably close to an adequate source of good water.

WHEN IT IS ARE LOCATED CLOSE TO EXISTING CITIES THE WATER SYSTEM CAN EASILY BE CONNECTED TO THE EXISTING ONE

I

Land Rights and Water Rights

- neither purchases nor rents land for refugee settlements.
- Refugees should enjoy exclusive use of the site in which they live, by agreement with national and local authorities.

IN THIS CASE IT WILL BE EV THAT NEITHER RENTS OR PURCHASES LAND..

J

Accessibility

- Ensure the site has an adequate road infrastructure; access to it should be reliable, including during the rainy season.
- Assess the site's proximity to national services, including health facilities, markets and towns. Access to mainstream services is encouraged

K

- should fund the cost of building short access roads connecting the site to the main road. And a new ferry system that connects with existing city.

→ These factors are arguments for why the Ville Éphémère is placed where it is ..

• The site should be located a sufficient distance from international borders (50km), conflict zones, and other potentially sensitive areas (such as military installations).

• Avoid locating refugees in places whose climate differs greatly from that to which they are accustomed.

• Ensure the site has sufficient ground cover (grass, bushes and trees). Vegetation provides shade, protects from wind, and reduces erosion and dust.

• Avoid sites where dust clouds are common; these cause respiratory disease

• Avoid sites within 1 day's walk of an environmentally protected area (such as a wild-life reserve).

UNHCR Intranet: Shelter and Settlement
UNHCR, IFRC, UN-HABITAT- Shelter Projects

Shelter and settlement impact indicators
Camp management tool kit

Need help?

CONTACT Shelter and settlement section, Division of Programme Support and Management. At: HQShelter@unhcr.org

Security

• Avoid locations that experience extreme climatic conditions, or present evident health (malaria), environmental or other risks.

• High winds can damage temporary shelters and increase fire risks.

• Evaluate seasonal variations. Sites that are ideal in the dry season may be uninhabitable in the rainy season.

Environment and Vegetation

• Take steps to ensure access to a supply of firewood, in collaboration with local forestry authorities, and in negotiation with the host community.

Table 4 – Site selection factors of importance

3. Links

UNHCR Master Plan Approach to Settlement Planning Guiding Principles
The Sphere Project 2018

Annexes

• UNHCR - Global strategy for settlement and shelter (2014-2018)



Version: 2.3
Document date: 17.02.2020

- UNHCR - Policy on alternatives to camps
- Sphere Handbook (2018)
- Settlement Folio

Version and document date

Version:
DOCUMENT DATE:
24.02.2020

