

Ashmore, J., E. Babister, T. Corsellis, J. Fowler, I. Kelman, P. Manfield, A. McRobie, R. Spence, A. Vitale, R. Battilana, and K. Crawford. 2003. "Diversity and Adaptation of Shelters in Transitional Settlements for IDPs in Afghanistan". *Disasters*, vol. 27, no. 4 (December), pp. 273-287.

Abstract

The diversity of shelters used in transitional settlements for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Herat, Afghanistan is described. The information is based on a field survey undertaken in March 2002 and highlights the adaptation techniques, which IDPs undertake to improve any provided shelter. Potential areas for improvement are indicated; for example, the possibility for using insulated, demountable liners to prevent cold-related deaths without sacrificing shelter flexibility along with the likely need for better agency coordination of the shelter responses they provide. The wider context in which the technical recommendations would be implemented must also be considered. Such issues include agency resources, political impediments to providing the desired option, and the preference of many IDPs that the best shelter would be their home.

Keywords

Afghanistan, forced migrants, IDPs, shelter, tents, transitional settlement.