Humanitarian Evidence Programme: Evidence synthesis on humanitarian interventions supporting shelter self-recovery

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Between November 2015 and January 2017 HFH and UCL completed a review on ‘humanitarian interventions supporting shelter self-recovery’.

**Systematic reviews:** sythesise existing research on a specific topic. They involve:
1. collecting all existing research
2. filtering the evidence
3. identifying common findings.

www.shelterforum.info/systematic-review
What is the difference between a literature review and a systematic review?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Systematic Review</th>
<th>Literature Review</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protocol (research approach)</td>
<td>Peer-reviewed protocol</td>
<td>No protocol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusion and exclusion criteria</td>
<td>Criteria stated before review is conducted (in Protocol)</td>
<td>Criteria not usually identified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Search Strategy</td>
<td>Comprehensive (in Protocol)</td>
<td>Not usually stated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Process of evaluating articles</td>
<td>Quality appraisal explicit (in Protocol)</td>
<td>Not usually described or undertaken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Process of extracting information</td>
<td>Clear and specific (in Protocol)</td>
<td>Not clear or explicit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results and data synthesis</td>
<td>Clear summaries of studies based on best quality ‘evidence’. Risk of bias/limitations explicit.</td>
<td>Summaries based on range of quality ‘evidence’. Likely to be limited range of articles. Risk of bias/limitations not always stated.</td>
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Adapted from: http://libguides.newcastle.edu.au/sysreviews
The Humanitarian Evidence Programme aims to:

- synthesise research
- communicate findings
- improve policy and practice.

Systematic reviews will be completed on topics such as:

- market support interventions
- child protection
- water, sanitation and hygiene
- urban environments.
Step 1: Develop Research Protocol

Step 2: Run search terms and initial screening of documents

4,613 documents identified;
- duplicates removed
- non-eligible documents excluded

Step 3: Second screening of documents

102 documents screened;
- full text-review,
- non-eligible documents excluded

Step 4: Critical appraisal of ‘included’ studies

15 documents reviewed;
- full text-review,
- low quality documents excluded (3)
- contradictory document(s) excluded (1)

Step 5: Data extraction and evidence synthesis

11 documents included
(+ 8 ‘supporting documents’)
Shelter self-recovery: Theory of Change

Source: The research team, based on Buchanan-Smith and Cosgrave (2013); DFID (2011); Proudlock et al. (2009); Yates et al. (2016)
Shelter self-recovery: Theory of Change

Support for self-recovery interventions

**inputs**
Material, financial and technical assistance.

**activities**
Households repair, build or re-build their shelter themselves or using the local building sector.

**outputs**
Households live in adequate shelters and are able to undertake essential household and livelihood activities.

**outcomes**
Social and economic recovery of affected households.

**impacts**
Longer-term and/or wider scale physical, social, economic and environmental recovery and resilience.

Agency- or contractor-build interventions

**inputs**
Material, financial and technical assistance.

**activities**
Implementing agencies or contractors build shelters.

**outputs**
Households live in adequate shelters and are able to undertake essential household and livelihood activities.

**outcomes**
Social and economic recovery of affected households.

**impacts**
Longer-term and/or wider scale physical, social, economic and environmental recovery and resilience.

Source: The research team, based on Buchanan-Smith and Cosgrave (2013); DFID (2011); Proudlock et al. (2009); Yates et al. (2016)
Shelter self-recovery: Data sources

Source: The research team, based on Louw (2009)
Shelter self-recovery: Research questions

What effects do interventions that support affected populations own shelter self-recovery processes have on household-level outcomes following humanitarian crises?

Evidence of positive outcomes on household dignity and self reliance; and household perception of safety from natural hazards and security.
Inconclusive or insufficient evidence on outcomes on income or livelihoods; or assets or debts; or physical and mental health; or knowledge of safer construction.

What factors helped or hindered the implementation of interventions supporting populations’ own shelter self-recovery processes following humanitarian crises?

The ability of households and communities to contribute skills, labour, materials or finance
For more information:

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Thank you!