

Preparedness messages (NOT FOR CYCLONE)

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The following are basic messages to be disseminated by teams providing assistance to tie down shelters as well as for radio dissemination. They can be used as preparedness messages for the monsoon season. They are not applicable when cyclone warning (flags) is issued. The messages below can be used by CWC to be further developed for radio.

Tie Down Kits (organization specific):

_____ (Name of organization) is distributing 'tie down kits' to strengthen your shelters in preparation for the monsoon and strong winds. The kit consists of the following items: _____ (items should be rope, sand bags or metal pegs – list items that will be provided by your organization, including printed instructions on how to prepare your shelter for bad weather). You will receive this kit together with _____ (Other distribution that your organization is going to provide tie down with).

Tie Down Kits (generic):

The monsoon season is approaching and it is important that you make your shelter safe. This will help you to protect your family. Each household will receive rope to tie down shelter. This rope will be provided to you together with other distributions. There will be no distribution only to provide you rope. Use the rope as soon as you receive it and make sure your shelter is tied down and connections in your shelter are strong. Follow the printed instructions provided with the tie down kit.

Tie down your shelter:

When wind will come your tarpaulin roof may fly away. If the wind is strong your whole roof or shelter might be blown away by wind.

To prevent this tie your shelter to the ground. You can do this by putting rope over your shelter and tie that rope to a metal peg, sand bag or any other appropriate material buried at least 2ft under the ground on both sides of your shelter. It is very important that the rope is tight. Tie your shelter down!

If you have no space and you already have metal footings (*angelin*) you can also tie the rope over the roof then circle it around the beam (*pair*) on top of bamboo columns and from there tie it down to the metal footing (*angelin*). Make sure that your beam (*pair*) is strongly tied to the columns (*khuti*).

Check the rope regularly to ensure it is tight. If the rope becomes loose, tighten it up again. Remember, a loose rope will not make your shelter safer!

Strengthen the connections in your shelter

Make sure that all bamboo connections in your shelter are tied tightly and securely with rope and dowel through the bamboo, or through the bamboo with a hole. If any dowel is thin or broken replace it and strongly tie it with rope. Check ropes at least once a week so they are always tight.

It is especially important that roof structure is well tied together. All purlins (*batti*) and rafters (*rua*) are tied to one another. Then the roof structure needs to be tied to the beam (*pair*) on top of bamboo columns and the beam (*pair*) to the bamboo columns (*khuti*). If you have footings (*angelin*) in your shelter, bamboo columns should be connected tightly to them. If any of those ties is missing your shelter is vulnerable to the wind.

Create, clean and maintain your drainage

Make sure that your shelter has drainage all around it so your shelter will not get flooded during rains. If you have no drainage you should dig it. Make sure drainage is sloped properly so water flows into bigger existing drainage and does not stay around your shelter. Connect your drainage to the larger drain, taking water away from your shelter. Avoid throwing garbage or waste in the drainage. Regularly clear the garbage from the drainage and maintain its sides and bottom so it doesn't get blocked.

Support for those who are unable to tie down and maintain their shelters

If you are unable to maintain or tie down your shelter for any reason, or need help with drainage around your shelter, please reach out to other members in your community who can support you.

If you have questions or need further assistance, you can also approach the nearest Information Service Centre or Site Management Support Office, or reach out to a community volunteer.

Humanitarian Services are Free of Charge and Prevention of Sexual Violence and Abuse

All Humanitarian Services, including the delivery of goods to persons with specific needs, are free of charge. Goods and services are not exchangeable for sex and other favours. If you have been requested to pay to receive humanitarian assistance, or perform other favours to receive services, or if you have seen or heard of such incidents, report this to a humanitarian aid worker (UN or NGO staff), approach the Information Service Centre, Complaint and Feedback Desk or Site Management Support Office.