# **Introduction**

Although this step is rarely formally documented it is useful for the shelter practitioner and other senior operational staff to methodically consider what responses are most appropriate given the context. This then helps to set the direction of the operation with limited RCRC resources being focused strategically to have greatest impact on those they are trying to assist.

There may be a response option analysis undertaken across the sectors (for example, should your response include elements of health as well as multi-purpose cash and shelter for example), and there may be analysis within specific sectors. This SoP concerns response option analysis within the shelter sector.

The [IFRC (2020) Step-by-step guide for rental assistance to people affected by crisis](https://cash-hub.org/resource/step-by-step-guide-for-rental-assistance-to-people-affected-by-crisis/) , step 1, sub-step 2, provides information on the different shelter assistance options that can be considered, and the list of considerations. Annex 2 of the step-by-step guide includes the use of a tool against a specific example scenario. Note that you may undertake a response option analysis in the initial weeks and months of the emergency and a revision or a separate response option analysis when planning in recovery and mid-term/ long-term protracted crisis.

A tool from the toolkit, that may be useful to assist here includes:

* 1.2 Tool\_ShelterResponseOptionAnalysis.xlsx
	+ Editable spreadsheet based on the tool from the step-by-step guide that can be used as a semi-quantitative method to compare different response options. A simpler use of this tool involves not filling in the numbers but just completing it with narrative to show what has been considered in relation to each response option. Available in French and Spanish.