

Project title

Construction of 800 transitional shelters for South Sudanese Refugees

Foto: Daniel Pittet

Thematic focus

Migrants, refugee camps, architecture, urbanism

Year

2018-19



Project location

Nguennyiel Refugee Camp, Gambella Region, Ethiopia

Swiss Institution

Tabata Fioretto, IOM – International Organization for Migrants Geneva, www.iom.int

Partner Institutions

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Description

The project is meant to provide a safe shelter to 800 families of South Sudanese refugees in Gambella Region, just few kilometers from the border, in Ethiopia.

The target was the building of 750 shelters by wood and a pilot of 50 shelters by CSEB (Compressed Stabilized Earth Blocks). The design of the shelters, according to IOM standards, was basic, oriented to the maximum output in terms of [Families*Years/USD] (i.e. minimum expense for sheltered families ponderated on the expected durability).

The project has been concluded in February 2020, with a 3-month delay, but fulfilling all the expected results.

The blocks were made by clay mixed with a very small percentage of cement (around 3%), manually compressed by a mechanical press machine produced in Addis Ababa.

Development relevance (Agenda 2030)

Generally speaking, the project wants to provide a shelter for refugee, so it directly refers to the n. 11 of the Agenda (inclusive and sustainable settlements).

The aim of the pilot was to explore the mud blocks improved technique, still not used in the area, with the conventional one, made by wood.

The main reason of this is the scarcity of wood in the area, given that the 7 camps in the nearby host almost 300.000 people. For this reason, also objectives n. 8 and 9 are touched.



Shelter

The shelter unit: foundations in stone, CSEB walls, wooden structure and grass roof, with plastic sheet layer.



WC

The toilette: there is a WC unit every two shelters. The basement is made by CHB, the structure by wood and the roof by corrugated iron sheet.