

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

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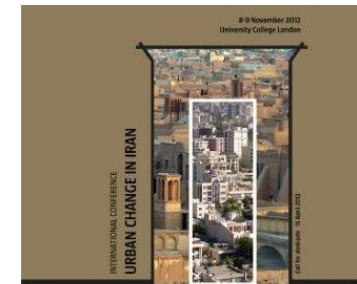
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- An overview of the core principles of the formation of the built environment
- Socio-cultural drivers for urban change
- Urban Vulnerability to natural disasters
- Urban Management

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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.

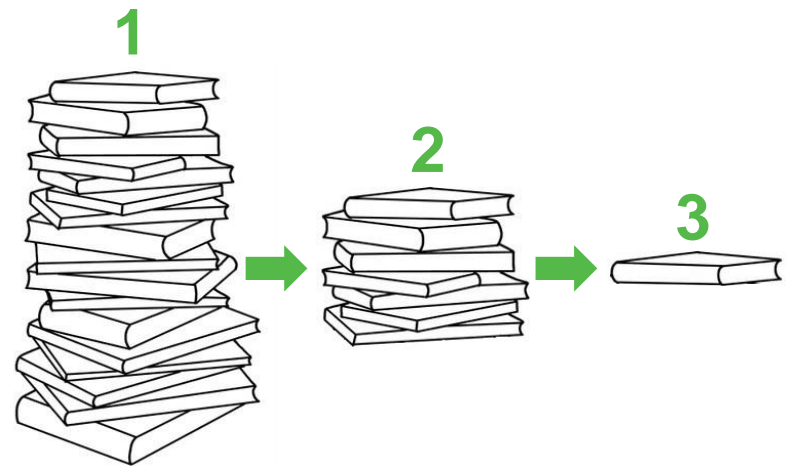


Between November 2015 and July 2016  
HFH and UCL are completing a review on  
**‘humanitarian interventions supporting shelter self-recovery’.**

**Systematic reviews** synthesise existing research

on a specific topic. They involve:

1. collecting all existing research
2. filtering the evidence
3. identifying common findings.



This type of study:

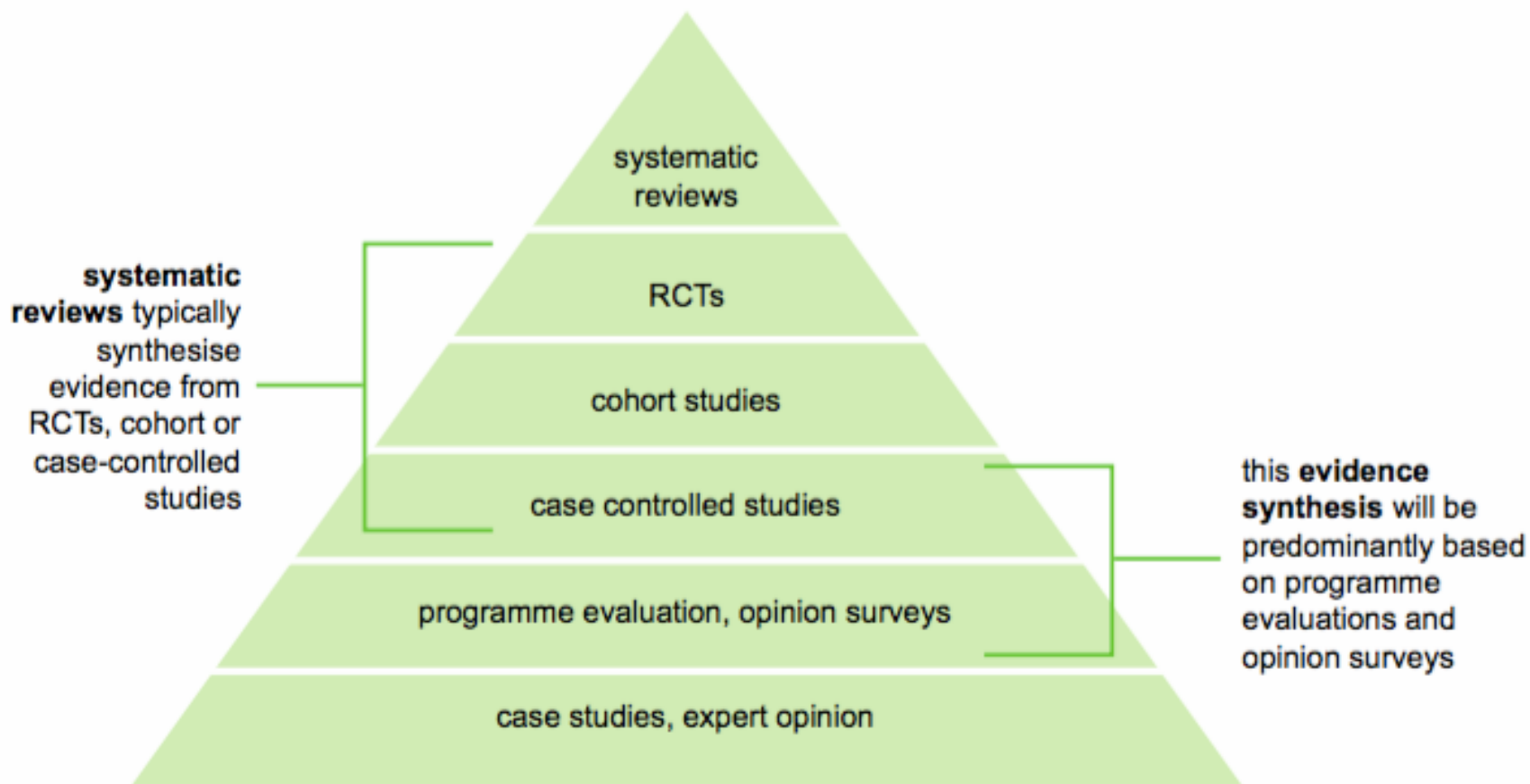
- has not been done before for shelter
- can generate robust conclusions
- makes existing knowledge more accessible
- will highlight gaps in knowledge and topics for further research.

## What is the difference between a literature review and a systematic review?

	Systematic Review	Literature Review
<b>Protocol</b>	Peer-reviewed protocol (research approach)	No protocol
<b>Inclusion and exclusion criteria</b>	Criteria stated before review is conducted (in Protocol)	Criteria not usually identified
<b>Search Strategy</b>	Comprehensive (in Protocol)	Not usually stated
<b>Process of evaluating articles</b>	Quality appraisal explicit (in Protocol)	Not usually described or undertaken
<b>Process of extracting information</b>	Clear and specific (in Protocol)	Not clear or explicit
<b>Results and data synthesis</b>	Clear summaries of studies based on best quality 'evidence'. Risk of bias/limitations explicit.	Summaries based on range of quality 'evidence'. Likely to be limited range of articles. Risk of bias/limitations not always stated.

*Adapted from: <http://libguides.newcastle.edu.au/sysreviews>*

## Why an 'evidence synthesis' and not a 'systematic review'?



**Since November 2015** we have:

1. Narrowed the research focus
2. Defined the intervention
3. Developed the methodology
4. Screened and quality appraised more than 4,500 documents
5. Identified a short-list of 11
6. Synthesised common findings (currently under review).

1. Focus	2. Define	3. Method	4. Screen	5. Short-list	6. Synthesise
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## To narrow the focus we:

1. asked stakeholders what research questions they would like the study to address and what evidence is available
2. mapped the evidence available and identified potential research questions
3. selected a question which addressed a key topic of interest using the evidence we have.



**We decided to focus on: 'supporting shelter self-recovery'**

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**Our definition**, based on analysis of existing practice, is:

Humanitarian interventions

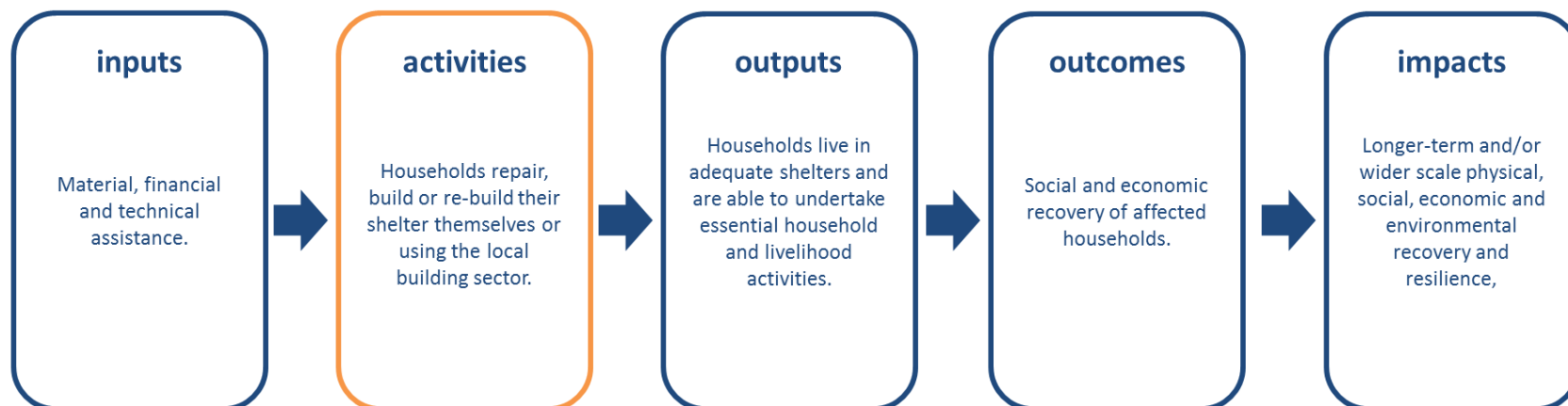
supporting shelter self-recovery:

- provide one or a combination of material, financial and technical assistance;
- during the relief and/or recovery phase;
- to enable affected households to repair, build or rebuild their own shelters themselves or through using the local building industry.

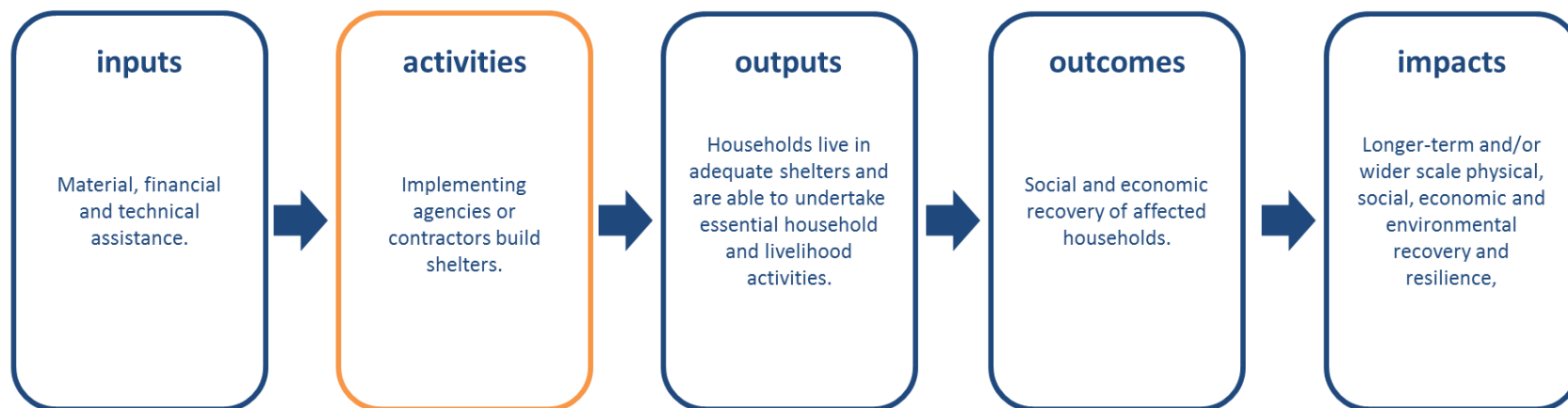
Material assistance includes the provision of construction materials, tools and support for salvaging and re-use of debris. Financial assistance includes the provision of cash or vouchers. Technical assistance can include (but is not limited to) the provision of guidance on construction through training, guidelines or mass communications.

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## Support for self-recovery interventions



## Agency- or contractor-build interventions



1. Focus

2. Define

3. Method

4. Screen

5. Short-list

6. Synthesise



#### HUMANITARIAN EVIDENCE PROGRAMME

The effectiveness and efficiency of interventions supporting shelter self-recovery following humanitarian crises:  
An evidence synthesis protocol



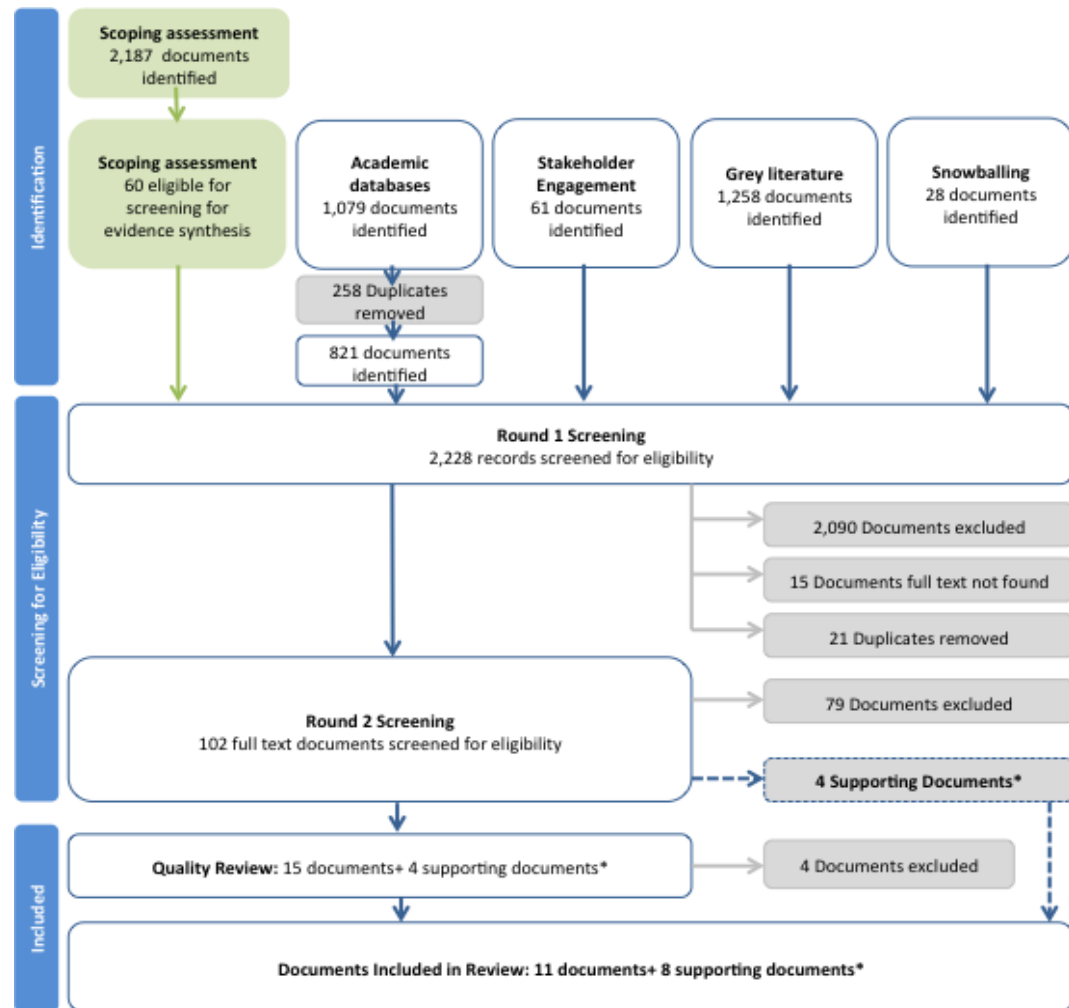
## Our methodology

- Quite detailed!
- Peer reviewed
- Available from [www.oxfam.org.uk/hep](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/hep)

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## Screening and QA:

- Identified +4500 documents
- Academic, grey literature and stakeholder recommendations
- Two-stage screening process
- Quality appraisal
- Snowballing



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## The 11 short-listed documents

described interventions:

- supporting households who were either not displaced, or were returning or resettling;
- to repair, build or re-build their shelters;
- through the provision of one or a combination of material, financial and technical assistance;
- in nine countries;
- in response to both natural disasters and complex emergencies.

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This evidence synthesis is the first application of the systematic review approach to humanitarian shelter.

### Key findings on the *process*:

- The importance of stakeholder consultation
- Limited quantity and quality of evidence
- Knowledge is fragmented
- Evidence is captured in evaluations rather than academic publications
- Evidence is qualitative or mixed methods.

**Key findings on supporting shelter self-recovery will be presented at the UK Shelter Forum next week!**

### Key Resources...

1. [www.alnap.org](http://www.alnap.org)
2. Bond Evidence Principles and Checklist
3. <http://www.3ieimpact.org/>

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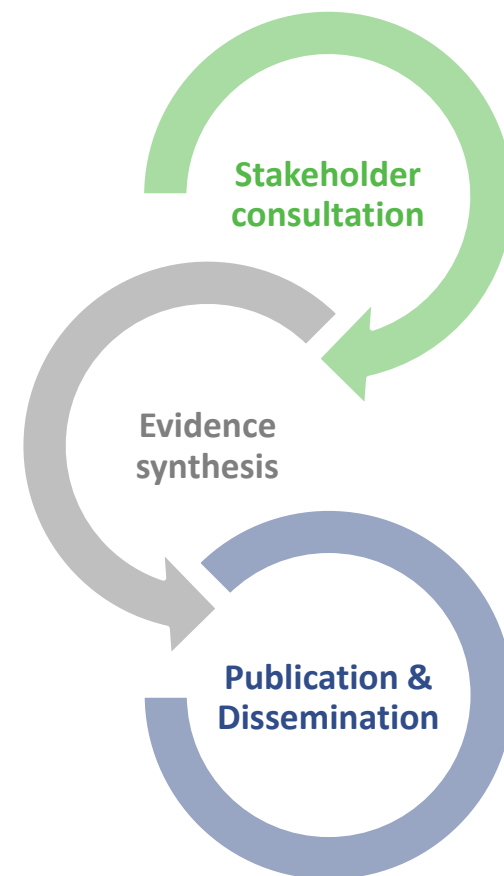
# Next steps...

## For more information:

- [www.shelterforum.info/systematic-review](http://www.shelterforum.info/systematic-review)
- [shelter.systematic.review@gmail.com](mailto:shelter.systematic.review@gmail.com)

Our research is currently under review...

In May 2016 key findings will feed into the World Humanitarian Summit. We'll publish the final report in July 2016.



# Thank you!