



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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**Shelter Research Unit**

an initiative of the **Benelux Red Cross Societies**

# Creation and Objective

The Shelter Research Unit was **founded in 2010 by the Red Cross Societies of the Benelux in collaboration with the IFRC** Shelter & Settlements Department, with the aim to improve products used in humanitarian sheltering. The focus of our research is on context-specific **material and technical aspects of humanitarian sheltering** and settlement solutions.

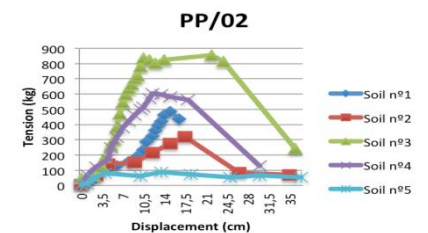


The SRU is conceived as a research service for the RCRC Movement and the wider humanitarian shelter sector to

➤ **Document and analyze existing shelter practices**, consolidate to build a body of knowledge in shelter and to **manage and share the information** with the shelter practitioners.

➤ Facilitate and/or conduct technical research to **improve techniques, materials and items** for the development of innovative shelter solutions.

➤ **Test shelter solutions, materials and items** to assure quality and recommend for field use.





# Governance

## IFRC-SRU A.S.B.L.

Association sans but lucratif

➤ Legal entity: non-profit organisation registered in Luxemburg

## IFRC-SRU Board of Directors

➤ Governance: by the founding members, the Benelux Red Cross societies and the IFRC.  
Adhering to the principles of the Red Cross Movement.



➤ Supportet by a **Technical Advisory Group**, composed of 5 Experts from the founding members as well as additional invited Experts, to **identify and prioritize most relevant research topics**.

➤ Funding: **project based** with clear timeline and budget

➤ **Collaborating with Universities, research institutes, other humanitarian organisations and private sector** to achieve our research objectives.



# Projects:



➤ **SPEEDKITS: «Rapid deployable kits as seeds for self-recovery »**

➤ **Adapted shelter solutions:**

- climatically and culturally adapted shelter for tuared refugees from Mali in Burkina Faso.
- Reconstrucion in Niger after the floods, improved Mud buildings
- **Shade net:** comparative study and lab testing.

➤ **Anchor testing and conference:** comparative testing of different anchor types in different soils. Presentation of test-results during a conference on April 9/10.2013

➤ **Knowledge exchange to support local construciotn techniques in Burundi.** Conference & workshop in Burundi from 22.04-24.04 2013

➤ **Field testing of tent prototypes** from the IFRC/ICRC/UNHCR R&D tent development project

