

GPC GLOBAL PROTECTION FORUM 2021

Unpacking the protection of civilians in armed conflict: case-studies from the field

UNHCR and OCHA

27 October, 14:00/15:30 (GVA time)



Interpretation



This room will have Zoom Translation enabled for Spanish and French Speakers

In order to access the translation services, click the globe link at the bottom of your Zoom window and click the language you require translation into (i.e. French or Spanish). Only as and when translation from French or Spanish is required into English should you click the English Translation button. Otherwise, keep translation services off. The event will be held in English.

Esta sala tendrá habilitada la traducción del Zoom para los hablantes de español y francés

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Cette salle sera équipée de Zoom Traduction pour les orateurs espagnols et français

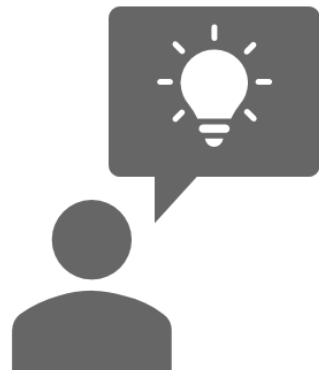
Pour accéder aux services de traduction, cliquez sur le lien du globe terrestre en bas de votre fenêtre Zoom et cliquez sur la langue dans laquelle vous souhaitez obtenir une traduction (c'est-à-dire le français ou l'espagnol). Vous ne devez cliquer sur le bouton "Traduction en anglais" que lorsque la traduction du français ou de l'espagnol est requise vers l'anglais. Dans le cas contraire, désactivez les services de traduction. L'événement se déroulera en anglais.

HOUSEKEEPING

Your engagement and involvement in today's event is vital. Here is what we would love to see:

- ☐ Please keep your videos on throughout the event
- ☐ When in plenary, please mute yourselves when others are speaking
- ☐ If you require translation, please click the little globe at the bottom of your Zoom screen and select your language preference.
- ☐ If you would like to view the live transcript of the meeting, click the Live Transcript CC button on your Zoom console and then select Show Subtitles.
- ☐ To ask questions, please ask your questions in the Zoom chat box or raise your virtual Zoom hand. Dialogue is encouraged during Q&As and in breakout group discussions.

We are
pleased to
welcome our
speakers for
this session:



- Moderator: Houda Chalchoul, Senior Legal Officer (IHL), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- Bernadette Castel-Hollingsworth, Deputy Director, Division for International Protection, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- Aurelien Buffler, Chief, Policy Advice and Planning Section, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- Aziz Rahjo, Senior Protection Cluster Coordinator Officer (Sudan)
- Viola Giuliano, Peacekeeping Researcher (CAR), Center for Civilians in Conflict
- Jacques Ajaruvwa Wathum, Senior Protection Cluster Coordinator Officer (CAR)
- Yasin Abbas, Senior Protection Cluster Coordinator Officer (Syria)
- Ezequiel Heffes, Senior Policy and Legal Advisor, Geneva Call
- Hannah Rose Holloway, Co-Coordinator, Mine Action Area of Responsibility (MA AoR) and Humanitarian Disarmament and Peacebuilding (HDP) Coordinator – Danish Refugee Council Geneva Representation
- William Chemaly, Global Protection Cluster Coordinator, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

**Sudan POC strategy
Joint UN Support Plan for the
implementation of the National
Plan for Protection of Civilians**

Global Protection Forum 2021

Sudan POC strategy – vision and objectives

Vision:

A safe, secure and protective environment, in which the integrity and rights of all civilians in Sudan are fully respected, protected and promoted, is expanded. In this regard, the Government of Sudan has sufficient capacity to strengthen protection mechanisms, mitigate threats and enhance response capabilities, protect and fulfil its human rights obligations, including addressing impunity and delivering on its responsibility to protect civilians and create conducive conditions for the ability of the dignified return of IDPs and refugees to their homes.

Objectives:

- Reduce and prevent the threat to the civilian population particularly internally displaced persons and returnees from armed conflict and violence;
- Support the expansion of an enabling protective environment by supporting the capacity of the Government of Sudan to implement the NPCP and JPA and Constitutional Declaration provisions on protection of civilians, human rights and rule of law; and
- Ensure that UN action on PoC is strategically aligned, coordinated, predictable, accountable and effective.

Sudan POC strategy

The One UN approach coordinates and aligns with other protection strategies and planning documents, within the mission and the Protection Sector Strategy, workplan, the Sudan Peace-making, Peacebuilding Stabilization Program (SPPSP), the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), and related elements of the Common Country Analysis and Integrated Strategic Framework (ISF).

Provides a framework to facilitate a coordinated approach to the implementation of the UN's protection of civilians' mandate. It is an operational, advocacy and resource mobilization tool along with national and local counterparts, in support of collective outcomes that reduce risks and vulnerabilities of the civilian population.

Reinforces the government's responsibility to protect and describes the UN's commitment to support GoS initiatives towards the implementation of the NPPOC, JPA and the Constitutional Declaration.

Sudan POC strategy

Developed following extensive consultation with UN agencies, National Mechanism for the implementation of the NPPOC, CSOs and other protection actors. Reflects on the Sudan Protection Sector strategy, is informed by the inputs provided by the Protection Cluster, its AoRs, benchmarks and indicators related to UNITAMS mandate.

Drawn and framed around the national and UN intervention priority areas, and focuses on and reinforces, the interface of the humanitarian and development nexus, seeks to address human rights, displacement, accountability, intercommunal violence, challenges of DDR, promotion of the rights and protection of women and children etc.

It is in line with the UNSC Resolution 2579 (2021) mandating UNITAMS to assist peacebuilding, civilian protection, and rule of law, in particular in Darfur and the Two Areas, by supporting Sudanese-led efforts to establish a secure and stable environment in delivering on its protection of civilians' responsibilities informed by existing UN policies on POC and the Transitional Government's NPPOC.

Sudan POC Strategy

Builds on the Government of Sudan NPPOC to also perform its primary responsibility in provision of protection to civilians. Apart from the nine thematic areas, the NPPOC calls for the establishment of joint security forces to protect civilians.

The Strategy seeks to provide innovative ways to prevent and reduce the threat to civilian population from armed conflict and violence. Furthermore, it seeks to provide guidance on the key building blocks to creating a safe and secure environment, in which the rights of civilians are fully respected, protected and promoted.

Since the document focuses on the strategic level, specific operational plans and guidance will need to be developed to address specific protection challenges. Different UN agencies and protection actors might also choose to develop more specific guidance and directives on Protection of Civilians relevant to their actions.

Scope of the strategy and timeframe

- Civilian Protection is a whole-of-UN responsibility. Therefore, the strategy is applicable to all of UN and other protection actors.
- Civilian Protection is an embodiment of actions that will be implemented by the UN entities through its cooperation and integration as outlined in the Integrated Strategic Framework (ISF), and as referenced in Security Council resolution 2579 (2021) to: (i) Assist the political transition, progress towards democratic governance, in the protection and promotion of human rights, and sustainable peace; (iii) Assist peacebuilding, civilian protection, human rights and rule of law, in particular in Darfur and the Two Areas.
- This is a three-year Strategy in line with the transition period's timeframe. If the transition period or Security Council mandate changes, the Strategy will be adjusted accordingly. The Strategy is a living and dynamic document.

Guiding Principles:

National
Ownership

Accountability
to Affected
Populations

Whole of UN
approach

Complementarity

Flexibility and
pragmatism

Innovative

Environmental
impact

UN Response and Support to NPPOC

The NPPOC has a three-tier approach to protection of civilians which this Strategy aligns with:

- Support to prevention through dialogue, engagement and conflict resolution
- Support to physical protection; and
- Expansion of a protective environment.

UN response and support to NPPOC

Support to prevention – through early warning, dialogue, engagement and conflict resolution,

Support to physical protection - through physical presence, monitoring, proactive political engagement, advocacy, enhanced human rights monitoring and reporting, targeted trainings on compliance with international human rights and humanitarian law obligations.

Expansion of a protective environment - focuses on the creation of a secure environment allowing IDPs and refugees to achieve the durable solution of their choice. To this end, the UN will support institutional and legal reforms, strengthen the capacity of the National Human rights Commission, expand the civic space and enhance women's and children's rights. UNHCR in consultation with other agencies and with the support of IGAD will also support the Government of Sudan with the development of durable solution strategies for IDPs and refugees.

Programmatic approaches and coordination

- Early Warning Response and Integrated Information management (Data as a prevention and programming decision-making tool), Protection of Civilians Coordination Group (HCT level), Sudan Protection Sector, State level PWGs, and Coordination with the GoS
- Furthermore, describes roles and responsibilities (Senior UN leadership, Police Commissioner, Directors of OSCP and OSPT), Office of Support to Civilian Protection, Police Advisory Unit (PAU), UNHCR as Protection Cluster lead agency, OCHA, Heads of Field Offices
- Resources and Capacities, Training, Expected Impact of Implementing the Strategy, Reporting, Monitoring, Evaluation, Operational Considerations,
- ANNEXES: Policy Framework guiding protection programming in Sudan, Reference documents, POC Threat and Risk Assessment, Typology of violent situations impacting the POC in Sudan, Humanitarian, human rights, peace and development nexus, Terms of Reference for Protection of Civilian Coordination Group.

Case Study from Syria: The role of communities in strengthening the protection of civilians in armed conflict

Global Protection Forum 2021



Protection and Community Services Sector Inside Syria

قطاع الحماية والرعاية الاجتماعية في الجمهورية العربية السورية



IN SYRIA

IMPACT



28 attacks on health facilities and 59 attacks on schools

+2K

2,059 civilian casualties recorded in 2020, more than half of which were children



813 incidents of recruitment and use of children for combat verified by UN in 2020



Infrastructure required to deliver basic WASH, health and education services is highly dysfunctional in 131 sub-districts



Only 58% of hospitals and 53% of primary health care centers are fully functional



2.4M children are out of school



6.7M displaced within Syria



1.9M people living in informal settlements and planned camps, a 20% increase since January 2020



448,000 spontaneous IDP return movements in 2020, while 38,200 refugees returned to Syria, mainly from Lebanon and Iraq



300,000 jobs lost since the beginning of pandemic, approximately 50% unemployment.



236% price increase of average food basket between December 2019 and December 2020




51% of average household income spent on food

❖ A decade of conflict

❖ Protracted crisis

❖ Civilian population is still exposed to ongoing and new hostilities



Enhance the prevention and mitigation of protection risks and respond to protection needs through supporting the protective environment in Syria, by promoting international law, IHL, IHRL and through quality, principled assistance.

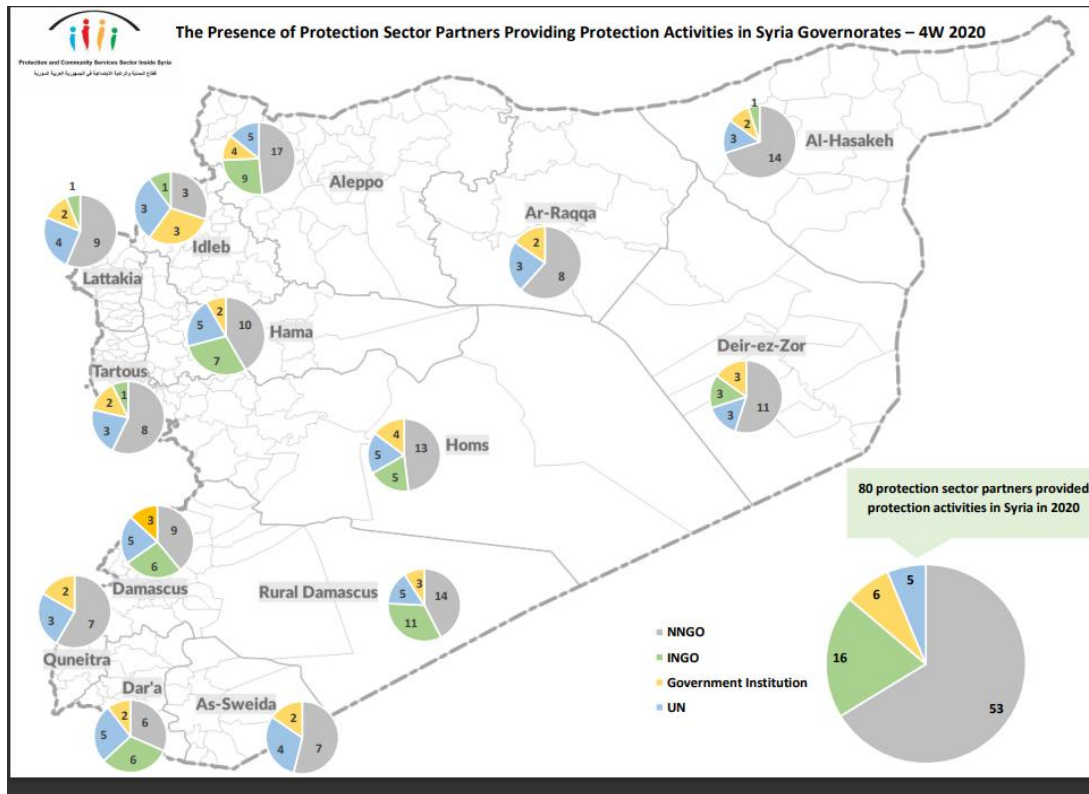


Protection and Community Services Sector Inside Syria

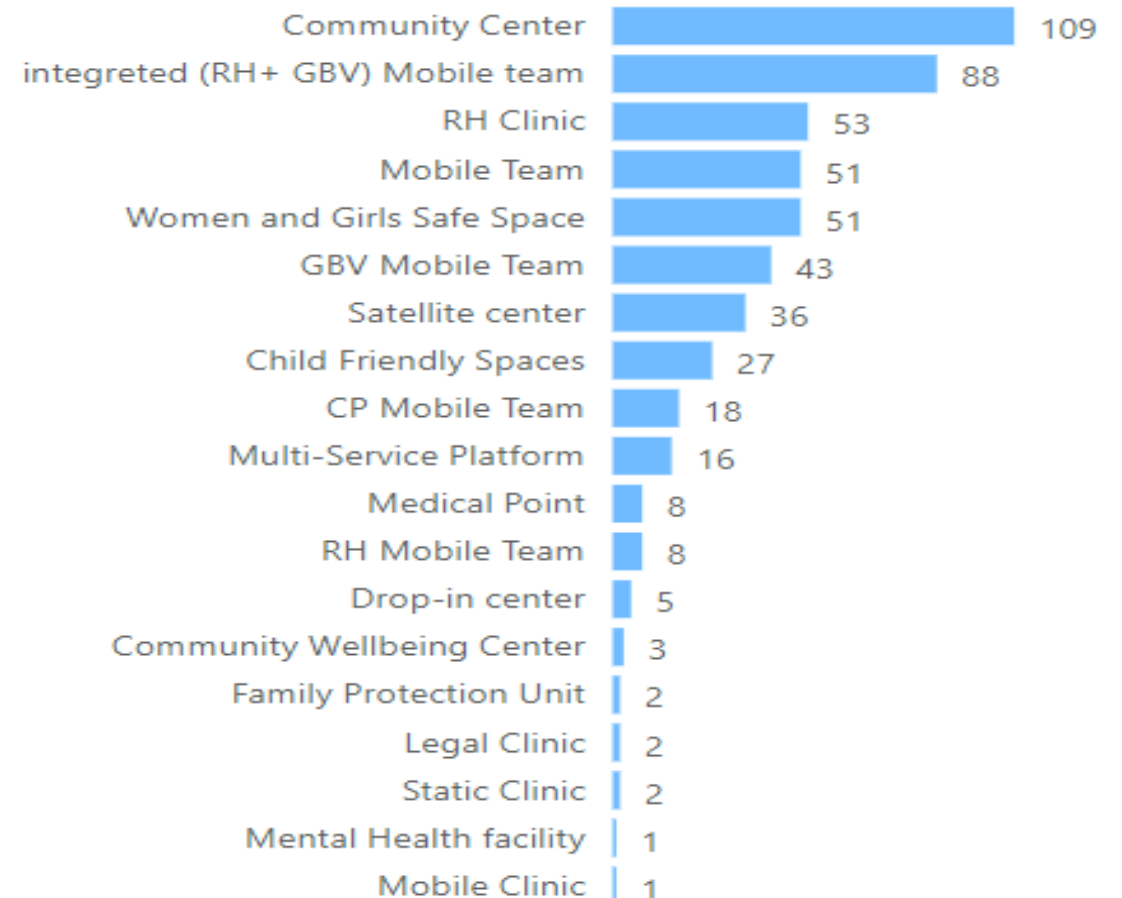
قطاع الحماية والرعاية الاجتماعية في الجمهورية العربية السورية

Protection interventions and services in Syria are based on community-based and participatory approaches and are delivered through a network of static facilities and mobile/outreach interventions.

Protection Resources	Other Mobile Units	ORVs
525	158	2,876



of Protection Resources per Type

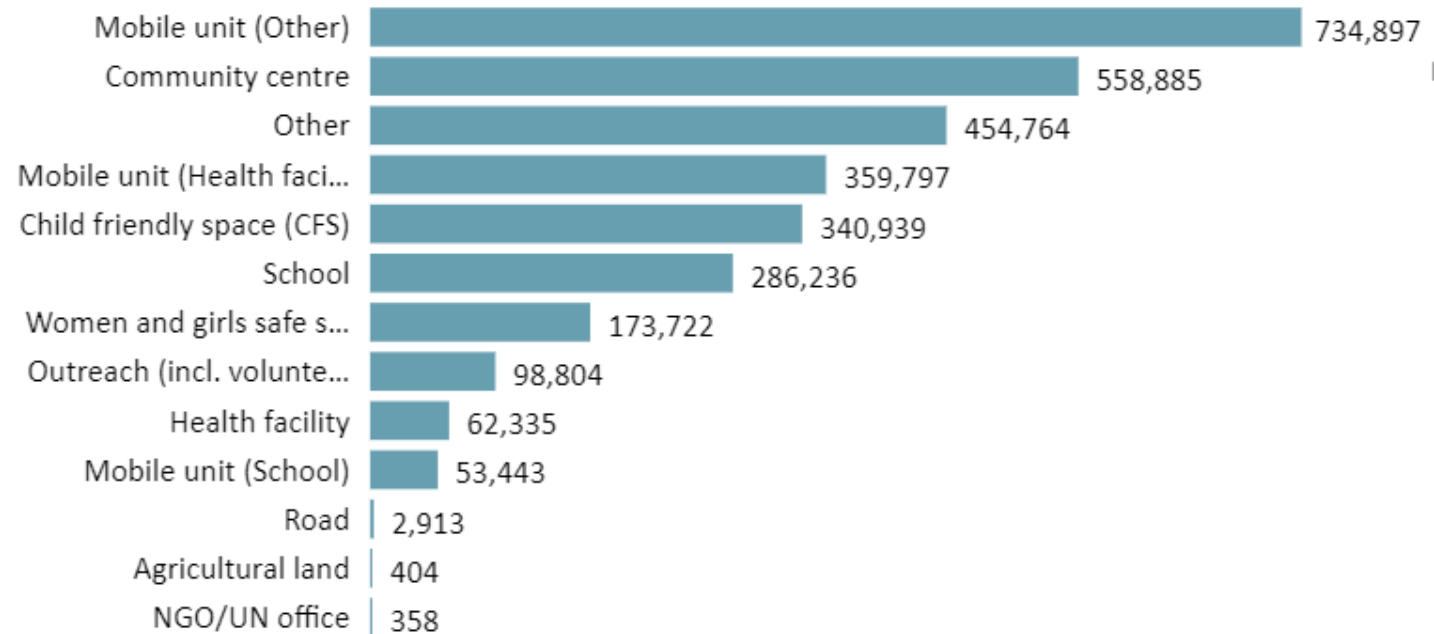


Enhancing the community self-protection mechanisms in protection response in Syria

3,127,060

Interventions to people

Interventions by Mode of Delivery



Protection and Community Services Sector Inside Syria

قطاع الحماية والرعاية الاجتماعية في الجمهورية العربية السورية

Why choosing the community-based approach



Protection is fundamentally about people

People who make decisions

Sustainability Solutions

What they need is a support to build their already existing capacities

Why does CPB matter?



- Working through community mechanisms enhances protection and in turn strengthens communities.
- generates effective and sustainable protection outcomes and improves the lives and resilience of affected communities by identifying protection gaps through consultation and strengthening local capacity.
- Understanding communities and putting them at the core of programming contributes to the 'do no harm' principle and ensures that programmes do not inadvertently leave people and communities worse off.
- Engaging IDP and conflict-affected communities in their own protection promotes decision making and also helps to achieve durable solutions.

- Community based protection facilitates the empowerment of communities to obtain their rights safely and with dignity. It involves adopting a rights-based approach that *recognizes* that all IDPs and conflict-affected people are rights holders.
- Through CBA communities, who assist them can *identify* protection risks, *explore their causes* and decide to *prevent and respond*.

CLOSING REMARKS



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<https://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/news-and-events/global-protection-forum/>

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