



Global Protection Cluster



# 2022

GLOBAL PROTECTION TECHNICAL  
FORUM REPORT

## INTRODUCTION

Every year, the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) organises its Global Protection Forum to convene its field coordinators, partners, and key stakeholders to discuss contemporary and emerging protection challenges, review the strategic direction of the Protection Cluster, and plan activities to be undertaken at field and global level for the upcoming year.. The programme of the 2022 Global Protection Forum includes the following elements: a Technical Segment (April 2022), a Funding Mid-Year Review (June 2022), a Thematic Segment (October 2022), and an End-of Year Event (December 2022).

The Technical Segment took place from 28 March to 29 April 2022. This year, the GPC opted for a **modality of regional workshops** in four different locations over the course of five days. These series of regional workshops were the first forums to be organized in person since 2019, taking some time to reflect after coming out of a two-year pandemic.

The regional forums were operationally oriented and provided opportunities for field coordination teams to engage and exchange on a range of protection priorities, technical development and standards. Overall, **267 participants joined the four forums** (121 in-person and 168 online). Participants included Global, National and Sub-national Coordinators, Co-coordinators and Information Management Officers (IMO) from 34 operations and coordination hubs, AoRs Global Coordinators, colleagues from UNHCR regional bureaux and from regional Protection Working Groups, Global Coordinators of other Clusters, and donors.

On average, respondents to the post-forum satisfaction survey ranked the regional workshops with four out of five stars, with 20 of the 22 sessions ranking four stars or higher. The most appreciated sessions were the red thread, the opening remarks and the Field Coordination Package.

## THE PROGRAMME

The 5-day workshops were organized around standard sessions across all regions focusing on three global priorities of the GPC: the Field Coordination Package, protection analysis and advocacy. Sessions were designed to maximize peer-to-peer exchanges, facilitate discussion and exchange between operations, with several operations presenting concrete case studies, approaches, or tools. In addition, sessions on localization, disability, inclusion, service mapping, and funding tracking were conducted upon request by colleagues and in line with the GPC Strategic Framework 2020-2024.

The hybrid modality of in-person and online sessions was adopted to maximize participation and inclusion of operational and GPC teams, while maintaining COVID-19 and budgetary restrictions of in-person presence. While it required significant preparation to troubleshoot technical issues and ensure active participation and interaction between online and in-person participants, the modality allowed technical experts to join online to facilitate or support the facilitation of some sessions.

The regional format facilitated knowledge and peer-to-peer exchange between operations from the same region. Participants expressed that one of the most valuable parts of the technical forum were the connections, networking and exchanges that took place in between sessions, during the coffee break, or late at night during the group dinners. It also allowed for the participation of representatives and colleagues from the UNHCR regional bureaux to foster and enhance greater collaboration between the GPC, regional colleagues and field operations, as well as other stakeholders such as donors based in the region.

# 2022 GLOBAL PROTECTION TECHNICAL FORUM AGENDA

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00	Welcome Coffee				
9:15	Eyes and Ears				
9:30	Red thread & Introductions  GPC Leadership	Introduction to Protection Analysis  Severity  Information & analysis	Protection Joint Analysis  Information & analysis	Advocacy Toolkit and GPC support  Advocacy	Localization  Advocacy
11:00	Coffee				
11:30	Opening Remarks & High level conversation  GPC Leadership	Severity  PIN and Targets  Information & analysis	Analysis & Advocacy  Advocacy	GPC Data and Funding Portals  Field operations & support	Disability  Learning, development and capacity building  Deeds of Commitments
13:00	Lunch				
14:00	Energizer				
14:15	Good, Bad & Ugly Feedback from Operations  GPC Leadership	PIN and Targets  Protection Risks Definition  Information & analysis	Reflection & guidance on HCT/Donor/ICCG engagement  Advocacy	Service Mapping & Referrals  Field operations & support  Deeds of Commitments	Deeds of Commitments & Closing Session
15:30	Coffee				
16:00	Good, Bad & Ugly - Looking Ahead  IMO's Separate Session	Protection Risks Definition Reflection of the day  Information & analysis	Advocacy strategy process and key actions  Advocacy	Regional Conversation  Regional Bureaux	
16:30	Field Coordination Package  Field operations & support				
17:30	Group Dinner				



## TOP 10 TAKE-AWAYS & COMMITMENTS

1

All Protection Clusters can make use of the newly developed **Field Coordination Package** that will be launched in July 2022 and will include minimum requirements, guidance, tools, and best practices for field operations.

2

All Protection Clusters should ensure that their **programming and planning is commensurate to the size of needs and risks** in the operation. Field operations should aim to have a protection programme size between 15% and 20% of the overall HRP – with at least 25% of the programmes run by local actors – in order to allow them to target no less than 75% of people in need in their strategic planning. Those operations who cannot reach this threshold due to operational constraints will receive priority support from GPC to engage in active and courageous advocacy. This will ensure that effective resources and access are granted to protection actors to provide life-saving services, and achieve protection outcomes through engagement with communities and armed groups, pro-active presence and a community-based response.

3

Protection Analysis Updates (PAU) are key products resulting from inclusive joint analysis in line with the overall GPC and AoRs protection analysis methodology. **All national Clusters should produce a national level PAU at least once a year.** A National level PAU can be complemented by a thematic or subnational PAU as required. The PAU shall inform and feed into the HNO and inform briefings to the HCT, ICCG, and donors on the protection context, priorities, needs and risks.

4

**All operations should have service mapping and referral mechanisms in place.** The referral mechanisms require collective efforts to ensure a joint and coordinated approach between PC & AoRs – and where possible at the inter-sectoral level – to ensure all actors understand how to safely refer people in need, and enhance access to essential services for survivors and other people in need.

5

**Advocacy is a core function, role, and mindset** for cluster coordinators. National clusters should take forward advocacy-focused actions in partnership with and on behalf of the cluster members, benefitting from the power of the network, to engage with and influence authorities and armed groups, humanitarian leadership, donors and other clusters.

6

The Protection Cluster is committed to enhancing **Age & Disability inclusion** in all field operations, ensuring that Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) and organizations working on age and disability are better included in field cluster operations and their expertise used to help guide the collective response.

7

**The Protection Cluster is committed to localization.** We remain strongly engaged to increasing funding to NNGOs to deliver lifesaving services (with 25% of the programmes run by local actors), prepare transition and exit strategies for clusters, and ensure that NNGOs are appropriately included and leading cluster decision-making processes and structures.

8

All National Clusters should benefit from a well-established and good functioning **Co-Coordination structure** and **Strategic Advisory Groups (SAG)** to foster participatory, inclusive, and accountable cluster coordination and decision-making, which is essential to effective coordination of field clusters.

9

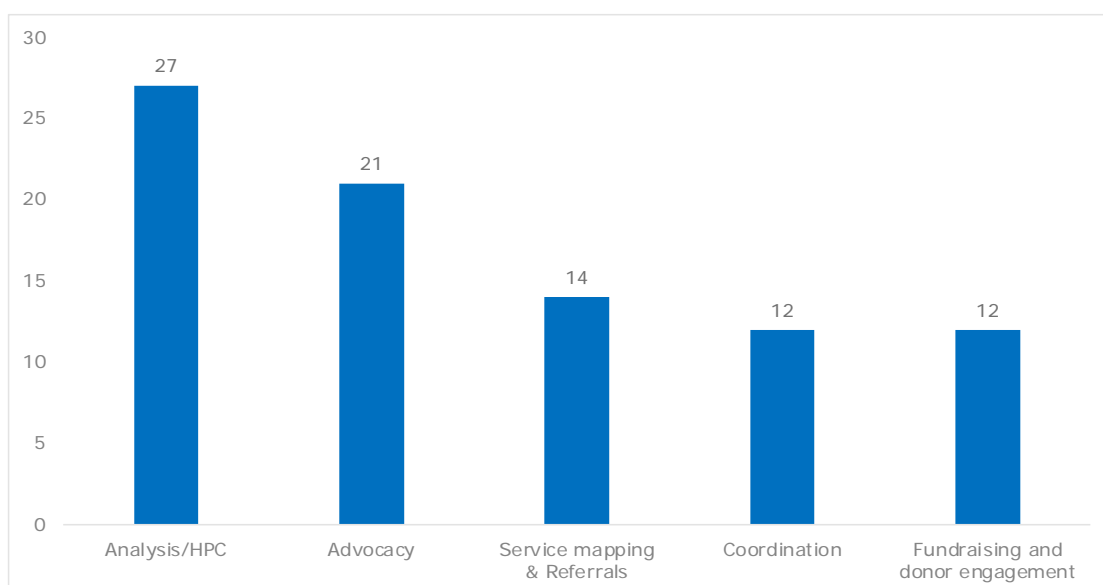
National Clusters should ensure their visibility by actively contributing to the Global Protection Update through **GPC Data** to be filled once per quarter and a **GPC Funding Tracker** taken stock of twice a year.

10

National Clusters can use support from the GPC through: technical help desk, gap filling or support missions, task team's support, trainings, resource mobilization, and advocacy with Member States in global forums.

At the end of the week, all cluster operations made deeds of commitment for the upcoming year for which the GPC committed to provide the necessary support. These commitments are in most part in line with GPC priorities, as indicated by the table below, which highlights the most common commitments made by field Protection Clusters for 2022 as a result of the forums.

Top 5 priorities identified by field operations in 2022



## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Istanbul

Europe/ Asia /  
MENA  
(English)

28 March – 1 April



The Regional Forum in Istanbul included 27 participants in-person and 45 participants online coming from 14 different operations across Asia/MENA/Europe (Afghanistan, Philippines, Myanmar, Pacific, Papua New Guinea, Iraq, Libya, Palestine, Syria, Whole of Syria, Northeast Syria, Northwest Syria, Yemen, and Ukraine), along with colleagues from MENA and Asia Regional Bureaux, Global Shelter Cluster, Global Mine Action AoR, Global HLP AoR and GPC colleagues.

Across operations, a number of shared issues and challenges were identified, including hand-over of Cluster responsibilities to national authorities, highly restrictive operating environments limiting access, and increasingly complex protection issues for communities experiencing protracted displacement and ongoing conflict, economic crisis, COVID-19 and climate shocks.

Country operations committed to focus on capacity-building for coordination teams and Cluster partners on protection programming and Centrality of Protection; reinforce advocacy to ensure that the narrative of the crisis is framed around protection; strengthen coordination structures and linkages with nexus actors; and improve already existing referral systems and service mapping.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Nairobi

East & Southern  
Africa  
(English)

4- 8 April



The Regional Forum in Nairobi brought together 27 participants in-person and 29 participants online from the Protection Cluster and AoRs coordination team members from Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Burundi and Myanmar, as well as colleagues from the Regional Bureaux.

Operations were able to use this Technical Forum to share experiences across the same region and connect beyond the Forum, as well as use this time to take stock within their teams, away from the day-to-day fast-paced work. Donors joined the forum and presented their approach and priorities to funding protection interventions in the region, given the multi-layered crises affecting various operations, and discussed those less funded and "forgotten" crises. Country operations committed in particular to produce/update PAUs and to leverage them for advocacy, with strengthened advocacy strategies, to various audiences including HCT and donors.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Dakar

Western &  
Central Africa  
(French)

4 - 8 April



The Regional Forum in Dakar gathered 28 participants in-person and 50 participants online from the Protection Cluster and AoRs coordination team members from CAR, DR Congo, Chad, Cameroon, Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso, and Haiti. It also benefitted from the active participation of the colleagues from the Regional Protection Working Group (RPWG), which led to substantial and constructive discussions on how to foster and reinforce regional and national protection monitoring systems, coordination between the national Protection Clusters, the GPC, the Regional Protection Working Group, and cross-border issues and dynamics.

Country operations committed in particular to reinforce their engagement with donors for a strategic approach to resource mobilization, to conduct regular collective protection analysis that would lead to robust advocacy with HCT, to develop a concrete action plan to step-up the localization agenda in coordination based on the inspiring examples shared during the Forum, and to reinforce service mapping through better online platforms.



## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Panama

Latin America  
(Spanish)

25- 29 April



The Regional Forum in Panamá gathered coordination teams from El Salvador, Colombia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras and Venezuela (17 participants in-person and 46 participants online) and the active participation of colleagues from the Regional Bureau for the Americas during what participants defined as “5 suns and 4 moons of intense and productive training and discussions”. The GPC trained and briefed participants on GPC strategic priorities including analysis and advocacy. Discussions about the importance of public policies in advocacy in Latin America and the Caribbean were promoted through a dedicated conversation with an external invitee from WFP in Brazil.

Among others, country operations have committed in particular to produce a Protection Analysis Update (PAU) ahead of the 2023 HPC, invest in the Protection Funding data, either establish or update national service mapping and referral services, create national SAG in countries that do not yet have one and to foster and reinforce coordination with the GPC, Regional Bureau for the Americas and the Regional Group on Risks, Emergencies and Disasters for Latin America and the Caribbean (REDLAC).

The below table indicates deeds of commitments for each country, with required GPC support or not:

[illegible]

## CONCLUSION

Achievements and progress against these deeds of commitment will be reviewed in the workshops of the 2023 Technical Forum. The 2022 Technical Forum will contribute further to our collective efforts under the GPC 2020-2024 Strategic Framework to support effective and predictable field coordination and delivery of life-saving protection services.

