



PROTECTION FUNDING WHERE DO WE STAND IN 2023?



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INTRODUCTION

People in Need 168 M	People Targeted 79 M	People Reached 12 M
Requirements (US\$) 3.6 B	Funded (US\$) 1.4 B	Coverage 38%

Crises are lasting longer, driven by conflict, climate change, food insecurity and economic turmoil and becoming ever harder to solve. Violations of international humanitarian law, attacks on hospitals, schools and critical infrastructure, sexual violence and rampant human rights violations remain the main drivers of protection risks today. In this context, people are victims of harm against their physical integrity and are increasingly pushed towards harmful practices as they struggle to get by. This includes rising rates of forced, early and child marriage, survival sex, recruitment into armed groups or forces, trafficking in persons, spiralling household debts and the sale of productive assets. These negative coping mechanisms are themselves driving increasingly complex protection risks, particularly affecting the most vulnerable, including women and girls, older persons, and persons with disabilities.

Conflict and food insecurity – both worsened by the war in Ukraine – continue to drive the significant rise in needs. Not only is the connection strong between hunger and conflict, but evidence shows it is also growing more widely. The World Food Programme (WFP) reports that 70% of people experiencing hunger live in areas affected by conflict, and a Global Protection Cluster (GPC) analysis finds that in food insecure contexts (IPC3+) there are now more people in need of protection than last year¹. The connection between protection risks and food insecurity is a vicious cycle, where protection risks linked with conflict and violence are driving and aggravating food insecurity, and food insecurity is in turn deepening protection risks, including child labour, forced recruitment, and gender-based violence. However, humanitarian responses to addressing these mutually reinforcing needs are often siloed and more systematic approaches to analyse and act on food insecurity and protection risks through a multisectoral lens are sorely needed².

The requirements for the Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO) currently stand at \$55.2 billion to assist 248 million of the 363 million people in need. Donors have provided \$15.8 billion as of end-August for plans in the GHO, which represents 29% of the total funding required this year. This amount is less than what was recorded at the end of August in 2022 due to several factors, including some donors' ongoing budgetary debates, delays in reporting over the summer, and fewer supplemental budgets from top donors this year. Coverage of the plans varies widely³.

In this context, the international emergency aid funding system appears as a system in crisis facing spiralling humanitarian needs and stretched funding. According to the Global Humanitarian Assistance report⁴, donors' funds rise each year, but they don't keep pace with increasing humanitarian needs. Reforms to make aid more efficient, more locally led and focused on prevention and anticipatory action as well as on immediate life-saving responses in the 'hour of people's needs', haven't yet evolved quickly enough.

This report provides an overview on the status of protection funding after mid-year point to bring forward protection priorities and attention to funding gaps. It serves both as a strategic opportunity for advocacy, as well as an intention to influence donors' decision-making for future funding allocations, especially before the start of the 2024 Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC) – ultimately strengthening the protection of communities affected by crises. Alongside this funding dimension, the report also serves as a space to highlight protection action around the world. This year, the GPC is focused on advancing shared understanding of the importance and opportunities in relation to community-led protection.

The report highlights how different protection actors and networks, including the protection clusters, are advancing and leveraging strengthened protection presence through community networks amidst shrinking humanitarian and civic spaces around the world. The report also showcases the importance of viewing protection as a life-saving activity and why anticipatory action to better predict and prevent crises before they spiral must become a new approach to how we operate and are funded.

¹Global Protection Cluster (GPC). Global Protection Update. July 2023. Available [here](#).

²ECOSOC Official Side-Event. Protection Risks & Food Insecurity: Strengthening Community-led Solutions to Complex Crises. June 2023. Available [here](#).

³OCHA. Global Humanitarian Overview 2023. July Update. Available [here](#).

⁴Development Initiatives. Global Humanitarian Assistance Report 2023. Available [here](#).

While there is a growing dependence on emergency aid, a joint Nexus approach between humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding actors is more needed than ever to ensure the root causes of crises are addressed as well as the consequences. With most funding expected to be driven towards highly visible crises, one should not lose sight of the need to maintain stepped up funding for protection and for forgotten crises in the last quarter of 2023 and as we enter the humanitarian response planning process for 2024.

Methodology – Improving the Tracking of Protection Funding

In its report [Breaking the Glass Ceiling: A Smarter Approach to Protection Financing](#) published in 2020, the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) recommended for an annual donor meeting “to take stock of protection funding”, and “mobilise funds to fill gaps in underfunded crises and thematic areas”. This recommendation was also in line with the Child Protection AoR [Still Unprotected: Humanitarian Funding for Child Protection](#) report and UNFPA and UN Women commissioned report on [Funding for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls in Humanitarian Programming](#).

An analysis of protection financing is complicated by the fact that protection is at the same time an *overall goal* of humanitarian response, an *approach* that should be mainstreamed in how humanitarian assistance is delivered as well as a *standalone activity* undertaken by different agencies. This report focuses principally on direct funding to the protection sector. Since there is no comprehensive source of data for protection financing in place, it is hard to arrive at a complete picture of the extent to which protection activities are funded. Improving the tracking of funding to protection activities is key to a smarter approach to protection financing, as outlined in the GPC/NRC 2020 report.

Similarly, a significant proportion of protection financing is not being accurately and comprehensively recorded through OCHA's Financial Tracking System (FTS). Given that FTS relies on self-reporting from donors and aid organizations, the accuracy and completeness of the data are dependent on the willingness and ability of these actors to provide timely information. If a donor or aid organization fails to report, under-reports, or inaccurately reports their funding, it can affect the accuracy of the overall picture. As such, there may be a time lag between when funds are pledged, committed, or disbursed and when they are reported in the FTS – therefore impacting the real-time accuracy of the system. In addition, funding for protection activities is often left unspecified in FTS reporting as there is no way currently to capture the funding for the protection sector in multi-sector contributions. Finally, the FTS coding for the Protection Cluster's Areas of Responsibility (AoR) is being inconsistently reported from one humanitarian appeal to another.

As a result, the GPC launched its Funding Data Collection Tool in 2021 to assist its operations in collecting and reporting data on protection-related funding. For this exercise, protection activities are considered to be all those stand-alone actions implemented by the Protection Cluster. These include its respective Areas of Responsibility (AoR), namely, Child Protection (CP), Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Mine Action (MA), and Housing, Land and Property (HLP), with a breakdown in analysis whenever possible.

The GPC Funding Data Collection Tool was also designed to meet specific needs for reliable data to inform strategic decision-making during mid-year reviews, fundraising events and response planning (HRP) for the following year. Such a tool helps to ensure that protection funding is properly documented, and that all relevant stakeholders have access to up-to-date and accurate information on the funding situation. The data collected through the GPC tool refers to both Humanitarian Response Plans (HRP) and Flash Appeals (FA).

The data on protection funding outlined in this report was directly collected from the partners of national Protection Clusters, including the four Areas of Responsibility. This year, 28 countries⁵ participated in this exercise, compared to 23 countries in 2022 and 12 countries in 2021, allowing for a more detailed analysis of the protection funding situation. Other specific data sources such as OCHA FTS, CERF and CBPFs were used to compare and provide data for a few specific operations complementing data reported directly by Protection Clusters. **Given FTS lags behind real time reporting methods, by applying a similar exercise, it is expected that all sectors funding levels would exceed FTS levels. As such, the data reported here should not be used as a means for comparative analysis with other sectors' data as reported in FTS.** The GPC data also has limitations and depends on the accuracy of the reported data and submissions by partners. The GPC is committed to continue improving its data collection system to better monitor protection funding and improve its analysis.

⁵Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria, oPt, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, Venezuela and Yemen.

KEY MESSAGES

- 1** Violations of international humanitarian law, attacks on hospitals, schools and critical infrastructure, sexual violence and rampant human rights violations remain the main drivers of protection risks today. As a result, **protection needs continue to grow at a steady pace with 168 million people in need of protection in 28 operations** – representing an additional 30 million people (22%) in comparison to 2022, largely driven by the three scale-up emergencies in DRC, Haiti and Sudan, the worsening situations in Ukraine, Honduras and Burkina Faso, as well as continued high levels of needs in protracted crises like Yemen, Syria and Afghanistan.
- 2** Funding requirements for protection programming remain at high levels with more than \$3.6 billion required, increasing from \$2.9 billion in 2022. **The funding reported by the protection sector has also increased compared to June 2022 (38% vs 29%), mainly due to the Ukraine crisis that alone is counting for 30% of the total funding received in 2023.** By excluding Ukraine, the Protection Cluster is funded at 31%, with \$967 million received. This continuous underfunding trend, coupled with the high absorption of funds by the Ukraine crisis, is causing unavoidable compromises and prioritisation, leaving millions of people without any chance of receiving comprehensive protection support across the majority of humanitarian crises.
- 3** **This year, protection actors have been at the forefront of a number of crises affecting the lives, dignity and rights of populations.** As shown in the examples highlighted in this report, this includes the efforts of protection actors to prevent harm and mitigate further protection risks, as well as the responsive actions taken amidst violence, disasters and civilian harm – ensuring from the outset a timely, accountable and efficient protection response. Despite these efforts, major emergencies and scale-up contexts continue to experience heavy bureaucratic impediments, access constraints and limited resources ultimately hampering the effectiveness of the humanitarian and protection response.
- 4** In 2022-2023, the GPC and its AoRs, with the support of international and national partners, have taken **significant steps to bring conceptual clarity regarding protection crisis and the articulation between protection needs and requirements in humanitarian appeals.** This included the development of key guidelines and tools to joint protection analysis and the adoption of a common approach to defining 15 core Protection Risks. These improvements aim to make the sector more compelling and fit-for-purpose in helping to respond to the complex challenges and acute needs of crisis-affected populations.
- 5** There are also encouraging signs that when concerted action is taken to bring about systematic change in the humanitarian response to prioritise protection, increased funding has followed. In particular, **funding for the protection sector by CERF and CBPFs had led to increased flows of funding to the sector.** This is especially the case for protection from and response to gender-based violence which remained central to CERF and CBPF allocation strategies over the last two years.
- 6** **Protection is not always viewed as a priority within humanitarian action, or as life-saving in the same way as other sectors.** In food security, health and climate-induced disasters the protection dimension of a crisis is not always immediately apparent, and the issue often gets overlooked. As a result, it can be deprioritised in funding decisions. The Protection Cluster should continue to strengthen collaboration with other sectors ensuring protection risks are properly captured and adequate preparedness and responsive actions are in place. With most funding expected to be driven towards highly visible crises, one should not lose sight of the need to maintain stepped up funding for protection and for forgotten crises in the last quarter of 2023 and for the humanitarian response planning process for 2024. Most of cluster operations (23 out of 28, or 82%) still record less than 50% of the required funding – hampering an adequate protection response.
- 7** While it is difficult to track resources that are not specifically allocated to an Area of Responsibility, **there are protection risks across operations that are systematically reported and which would require increased attention,** such as actions to prevent violence, abduction, kidnapping, destruction of property, denial of resources, opportunities and services, trafficking in persons or slavery-like practices.

8 **Gender-based violence continues to be reported as the priority risk by Protection Clusters.** In three humanitarian scale ups (DRC, Sudan, and Haiti), GBV is at the heart of the protection crisis. In these contexts, sexual violence is used as a tactic of war to terrorize people and a spike in violence against women and girls is reported. Faced with food insecurity, women and girls are adopting negative coping mechanisms; desperate to earn money, women are forced into transactional sex, are exposed to physical violence and abuse. An immediate end to all forms of gender-based violence is urgently needed, in addition to a continued scale up of lifesaving services.

9 **National and local actors are recognised as the frontline driving force of protection.** 20% of the total \$1.26 billion were operated by national and local partners in 2023, compared to 17% in 2022. Data by type of recipient was not available for \$140 million. Signatories to the Grand Bargain have agreed on a target of at least 25% of humanitarian funding going to local and national actors. The type and nature of funding schemes should be as direct as possible, flexible and long-term, allowing for the achievement of protection outcomes. National and local NGOs, including women-led organisations (WLOs) and women-rights organisations (WROs), who are proactively addressing threats to civilians in conflict are best placed to lead protection efforts forward.

10 Protection in humanitarian action is grounded with the aim of preventing or reducing harm to civilians and supporting the realization of their rights. It places a firm and needed focus on the duties of parties to a conflict and the authorities, from local to national levels, to reduce harm and protect rights. Emphasis has also often been placed on the role of external protection actors to provide support and assistance to affected communities when duty bearers are failing to protect. However, the independent and unique capacities of communities themselves in contributing to their own protection has often been less understood and remained unnoticed in funding allocation or not visible enough as a response strategy. Over the past number of years this is however starting to shift, and **protection actors have been placing more importance on the participation and leadership of communities in protection work amidst spiralling protection needs across complex crisis situations.** It is clear that community-led approaches offer a pathway for advancing prevention and response to protection risks by giving control of decisions and resources to community groups as agents of their own protection.

11 Crises are lasting longer, driven by conflict, climate change, food insecurity and economic turmoil and becoming harder to solve. **Reducing protection risks to crisis-affected populations requires a set of multi-sectoral and complementary responsive interventions** that can be addressed as part of HRP through short-term humanitarian financing. However, to change behaviours and address the underlying causes of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, including violence, coercion or deliberate deprivation, requires remedial and environmental building actions over mid and long term, **as well as engagement with development actors and local actors.** Currently there are no adequate funding mechanisms to address this need and use complementary funding streams.

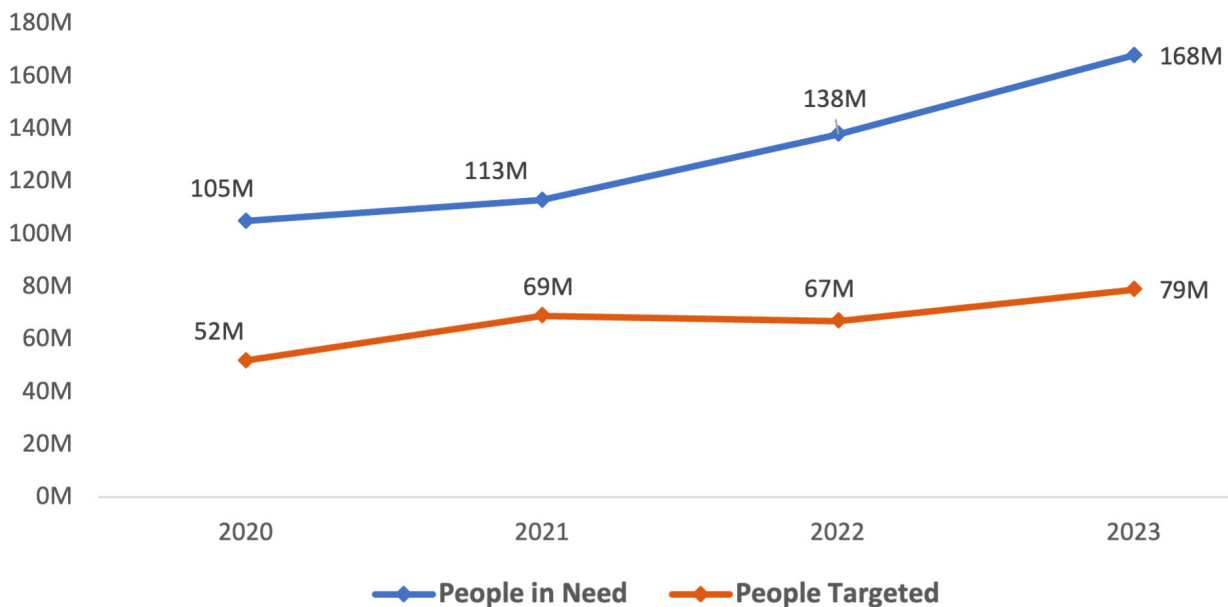
12 **Protection financing should be viewed as one part of a holistic approach to delivering protection outcomes, with political engagement, advocacy and programming all vitally important as well.** To uphold our policy commitment of making protection central within the humanitarian response, protection needs to be prioritized in all funding decisions processes. Ahead of the 2024 Humanitarian Planning Cycle, it is urgent to scale up our ambitions so as to reflect and address the rising humanitarian needs. This can be done by investing in preventive approaches to mitigate and reduce protection risks and in immediate and time-critical life-saving protection activities that aim to allow actors to respond in the 'hour of need'.

13 In the next months of 2023 and moving towards 2024, **donors and agencies should support the following priorities.**

- a. Continue to support operations that have shown progress and where additional funding will lead to effective protection outcomes for targeted communities, preserving their dignified existence and well-being.
- b. Boost advocacy actions for operations where unaddressed needs remain starkly visible.
- c. Strengthen diplomatic and political efforts to gain more 'access that protects' through advocacy and influencing behaviour changes.
- d. Support community-led action to strengthen protection outcomes and increase direct funding to local actors, including WLOs/WROs.
- e. Take into consideration the most critical protection risks that require diplomatic, political and funding actions.

OVERVIEW OF PROTECTION FUNDING: WHERE DO WE STAND IN 2023?

Protection needs trends (2020-2023)



People in Need are a “subset of the population affected” who are in need of assistance to ensure their “physical security, access to basic rights or dignity” and a return to “normal living conditions”⁶.

People Targeted are a “sub-set of the people in need and represent the number of people humanitarian actors aim or plan to assist”, based on the “needs assessment and the feasibility of the response”. “Physical access, legal issues, operation capacity, availability of support structure or financial delivery” can be obstacles to target people in need⁷.

The number of people in need of protection has increased by 22% compared to 2022, while the number of people targeted saw an increase of 18%. Protection Clusters are being asked to be more realistic in their targeting considering operational constraints, access issues, or limited number of partners and resources. **168 million people are in need of protection this year.** This is 30 million more than in 2022 – a number largely driven by the three scale-up emergencies in DRC, Haiti and Sudan, the worsening situations in Ukraine, Honduras and Burkina Faso, as well as continued high levels of needs in Yemen, Syria and Afghanistan. For two consecutive years, the number of people in need of protection has seen a significant increase of 22%. Since 2020, the protection needs have continued to grow exponentially – from 105 million people in need of protection in 2020 to 168 million in 2023.

In light of ever-increasing humanitarian needs, the IASC Humanitarian Programme Cycle Steering Group is expected to look into the **HPC reform and lightening and effectiveness** of the HPC processes. Ensuring that funding requirements within humanitarian plans are commensurate with needs and are accurately set is key to improve the performance of the sectors that will result in attracting more funding. The Protection Cluster and its AoRs are supportive of streamlining humanitarian planning processes ensuring needs analysis remain robust and evidence-based, accurately quantifying protection requirements in humanitarian appeals and ensuring the targeting is reflecting operational, access and capacity constraints for a more realistic and efficient response. Setting tight priorities and clearer boundaries between what can be achieved within the humanitarian response and what should be taken on by development actors is critical as well.

According to the Global Protection Risks Tracker, in the second quarter of 2023, 11 Protection Cluster operations reported a **combined severity of 15 protection risks at level 4**, in a scale of 1 to 5⁸. The population in Afghanistan, Cameroon, Mali

⁶Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC). Humanitarian Population Figures, April 2016, as cited in Still Unprotected: Humanitarian funding for Child Protection. 2020 (p.22).

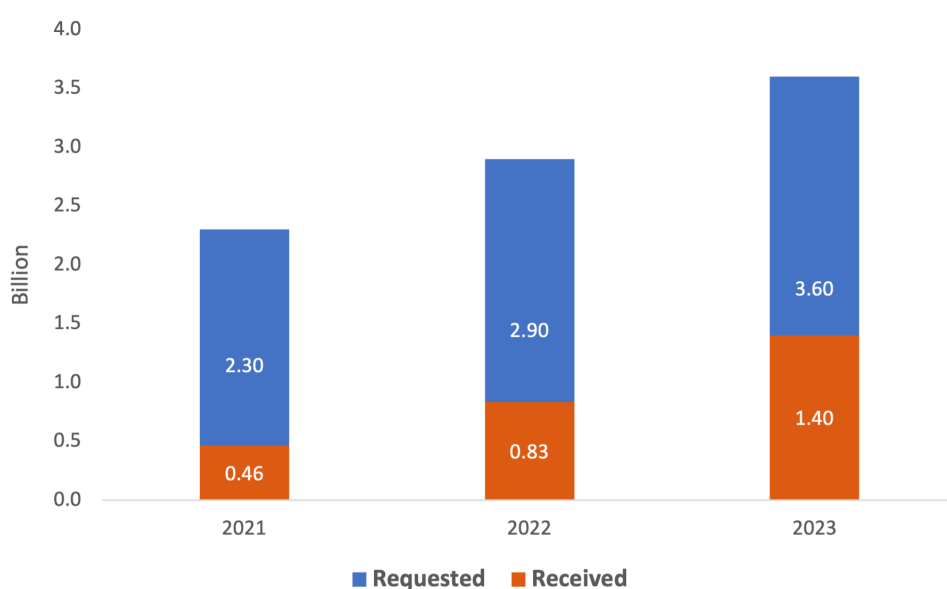
⁷OCHA. Humanitarian Response Plan: Guidance on Response Analysis, Formulation of Strategic and Specific Objectives, and Targeting. August 2020. As cited in Still Unprotected: Humanitarian funding for Child Protection. 2020 (p.22).

⁸Global Protection Cluster (GPC). Global Protection Update: Protection and Food Security. June 2023. Available [here](#).

Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, South Sudan, Sudan, oPt, Syria and Ukraine is extensively exposed to simultaneous sources of extreme harm affecting their safety and well-being directly related to human actions, with significant role of duty-bearers either by engaging in harmful actions and/or neglect their obligations to stop the harm. Similarly, in these countries the populations face serious barriers in accessing protection services. The actions of perpetrators, authorities and non-state armed groups are increasing the magnitude of the threats to populations, causing a spiral of increasing needs and an erosion of coping capacities.

It is important to note that **gender-based violence** and **psychological/emotional abuse** are occurring in all cluster operations, with 76% and 60% of cluster operations reporting the risk as high or very high respectively. A worrying trend of **child and forced family separation** has been reported by all operations since the beginning of 2023. In addition, **attacks on civilians and infrastructures** are occurring in 92% of cluster operations with significant levels of harm to the population, which trigger **movement and forced displacement**, with 68% of cluster operations classifying the risk as high or very high. **Abduction, forced disappearance, arrest and/or detention** are again a major concern since the beginning of 2023. Civilians, particularly women and children, continue to bear the brunt of the violence with a significant and steady increase of **sexual violence; forced recruitment and association of children with armed forces; child, early and forced marriage; and discrimination, stigmatization, denial of resources and opportunities**, compared to 2022⁹.

Protection funding trends (2020-2023)

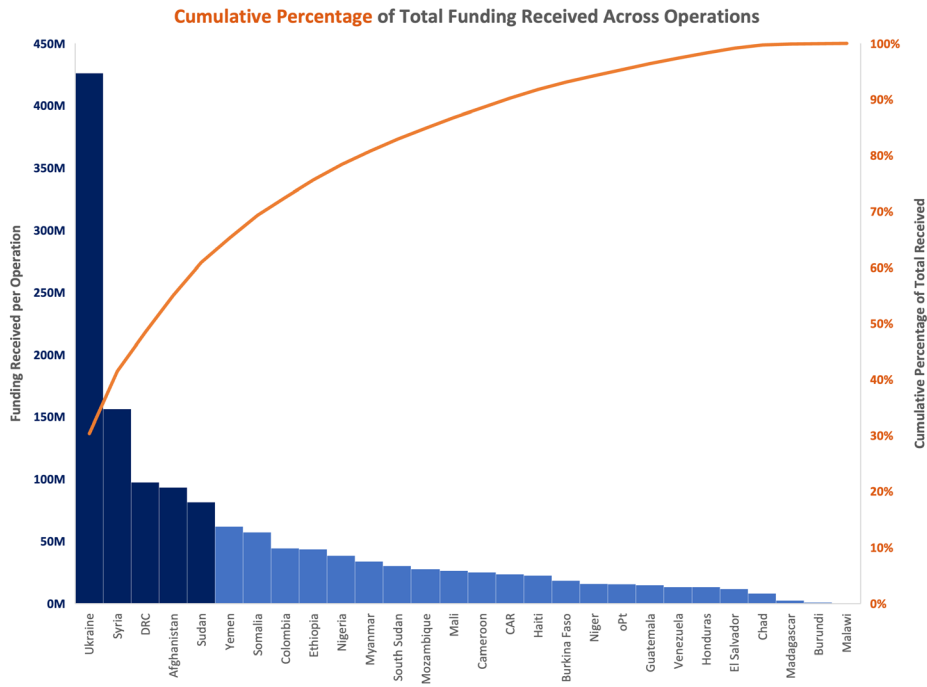


Funding requirements for protection programming remain at high levels. In 2023, **protection actors requested \$3.6 billion dollars to provide protection services across 28 operations**. This represents a 24% increase compared to last year. The increase in funding requirement reflects the growing importance of protection in humanitarian response, with many emergencies now characterised as ‘protections crises’ (e.g. Afghanistan, Sahel, DRC, Sudan and Haiti). The five biggest operations in terms of funding requirement are: Ukraine (495 million), Syria (463 million), Ethiopia (344 million), Sudan (235 million), and Yemen (226 million). These five countries account for 49% of the total protection funding requirements in 2023.

Overall, **protection actors received \$1.4 billion out of \$3.6 billion required** (38% of protection funding met in September 2023), compared to \$833 million out of \$2.9 billion required (29% of protection funding met in June 2022). Protection Clusters remain largely underfunded or data inaccurately reported – falling short by a gap of \$2.2 billion.

The increase in protection funding is mainly reflecting efforts in data reporting from protection partners. In addition, a **couple of operations highly funded are driving the total funding coverage up**. The five biggest operations in terms of funding received are: Ukraine (426 million), Syria (156 million), Democratic Republic of the Congo (97 million), Afghanistan (92 million), and Sudan (81 million). These five countries account for 61% of the total protection funding received in 2023. The line graph on the following page represents the cumulative percentage of the total funding received across operations.

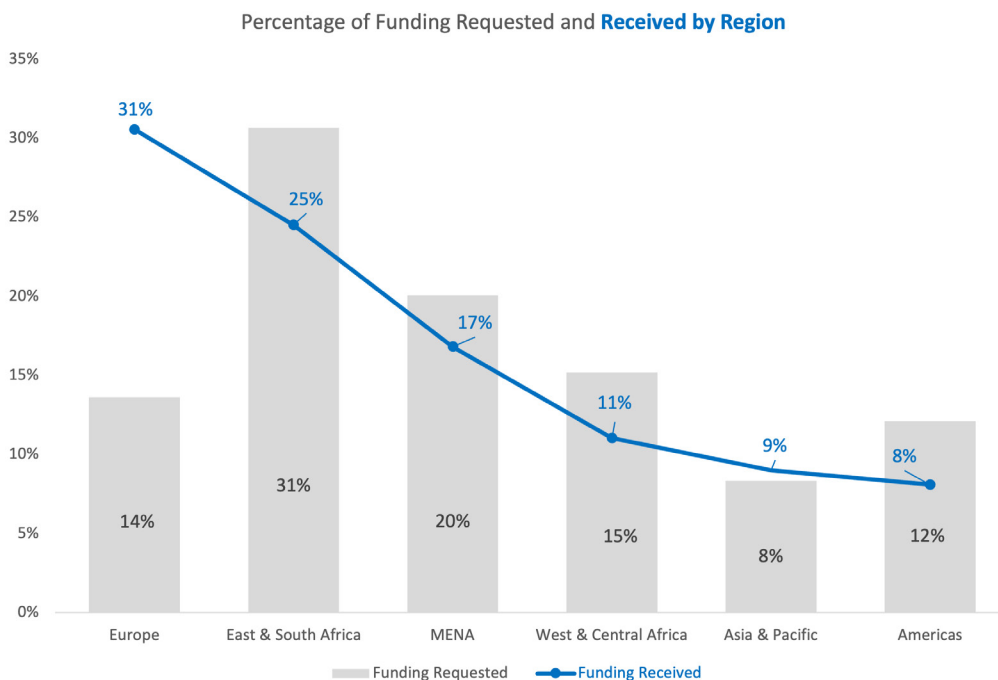
⁹Ibid (8)



Ukraine – An Outlier?

The Ukraine crisis is taking up about 1/3 (30%) of the total funding received, as compared to 14% funding required out of the total Protection Cluster ask. Ukraine is also almost fully funded, with 86% of the requested funds met. Protection received the highest funding at 139% of the requirement; child protection received the lowest funding at 38%, while GBV was funded at 74% and mine action at 85%. The funding level in Ukraine is driving overall funding in the protection sector up – diverting attention and resources from other crises that remain largely underfunded. Overall, by excluding the funding requested and received for Ukraine from the global analysis, the Protection Cluster is funded at 31%, with only \$967 million received out of the \$3.1 billion requested. Additionally, within the Protection Cluster, child protection is funded at 27% (instead of 29%), gender-based violence at 27% (instead of 30%), mine action at 26% (instead of 43%), and housing, land and property remains at 25%.

In terms of regional analysis, the East and South Africa region has notably requested higher funding, amounting to \$1.1 billion, however, it is the Europe region that has received the highest funding at \$426 million – driven solely by the Ukraine crisis. Conversely, the Americas region has secured the lowest funding, receiving just \$113 million out of the \$440 million requested.





FUNDING FOR SPECIALISED AREAS OF PROTECTION PROTECTION



Protection required \$1.26 billion in the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plans and Flash Appeals for protection activities. These activities aim to strengthen the protection of civilians. They include protection monitoring, analysis and advocacy, case-management, community-based protection, as well as addressing the needs of elderly and disabled people, and other marginalised groups. In September 2023, 51% of these activities have been funded (with \$644 million received). This is a significant increase from last year’s figure where field coordinators reported approximately 31% of total funding requirement was funded in June 2022 (\$313 million out of \$1 billion in the 2022 HRPs). 16% of the protection funding was channelled to local actors, while 84% of the funding in 2023 went to international actors (UN and INGOs).

CHILD PROTECTION



Child protection required \$1.03 billion in the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plans and Flash Appeals for child protection activities. These activities aim to ensure children in emergencies are protected from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence. They include monitoring of grave violations against children, reintegration of children associated with armed forces or armed groups, case-management and psychosocial support, as well as supporting unaccompanied and separated children, survivors of sexual violence, and vulnerable children at risk of abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence. As of September 2023, the CP AoR is funded at 29% (with \$302 million received). This is a slight increase from last year’s figure where field coordinators reported approximately 26% of total funding requirement was funded in June 2022 (\$195 million out of \$738 million in the 2022 HRPs). The percentage of funding received for CP AoR varies across operations ranging from more than 60% in Afghanistan, DRC and Syria and less than 10% in Burkina Faso, Colombia, Mali, Myanmar, Somalia and Yemen. Within the Protection Cluster, at 27%, child protection has the highest proportion of national and local actors accessing funding while 73% went to international actors.

MINE ACTION



Mine action required \$341 million in the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plans for mine-related activities. These activities aim at preventing and responding to risks associated with mines, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices. They include the removal and clearance of explosive items, provision of risk education to impacted communities, as well as support to persons injured physically or mentally by explosives items. As of September 2023, the MA AoR was funded at 45% (with \$154 million received). This is a slight decrease from last year’s figure where field coordinators reported 49% of total funding requirement was funded in June 2022 (\$138 million out of \$279 million in the 2022 HRPs). The percentage of funding received for MA AoR varies across operations ranging from 10% (Syria) to 85% (Ukraine). There were five more countries with less than 20% of funding received in 2023, which are Burkina Faso, Mali, Nigeria, South Sudan, and Yemen. National and local actors received 5% of the funding while 95% went to international actors.

HOUSING, LAND and PROPERTY



Housing, land and property required \$72 million in the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plans and Flash Appeals for HLP activities. These activities aim at ensuring displaced people have a safe home, free from the fear of forced eviction, a place that offers safety, and the ability to seek livelihood opportunities. They include mapping and recording rights to land, provision of legal documentation, including property documents, prevention of disputes and forced evictions, support in reclaiming homes, lands and property as well as working with government institutions to strengthen vulnerable people's security of tenure, particularly for women. As of September 2023, the HLP AoR was funded at 25% (with \$18 million received). This is a decrease from last year's figure where field coordinators reported approximately 55% of total funding requirement was funded in June 2022 (\$34 million out of \$62 million in the 2022 HRPs). The percentage of funding received for HLP AoR varies across operations, with Burkina Faso and Cameroon less than 10% funded. National and local actors received 4% of the funding while 96% went to international actors.

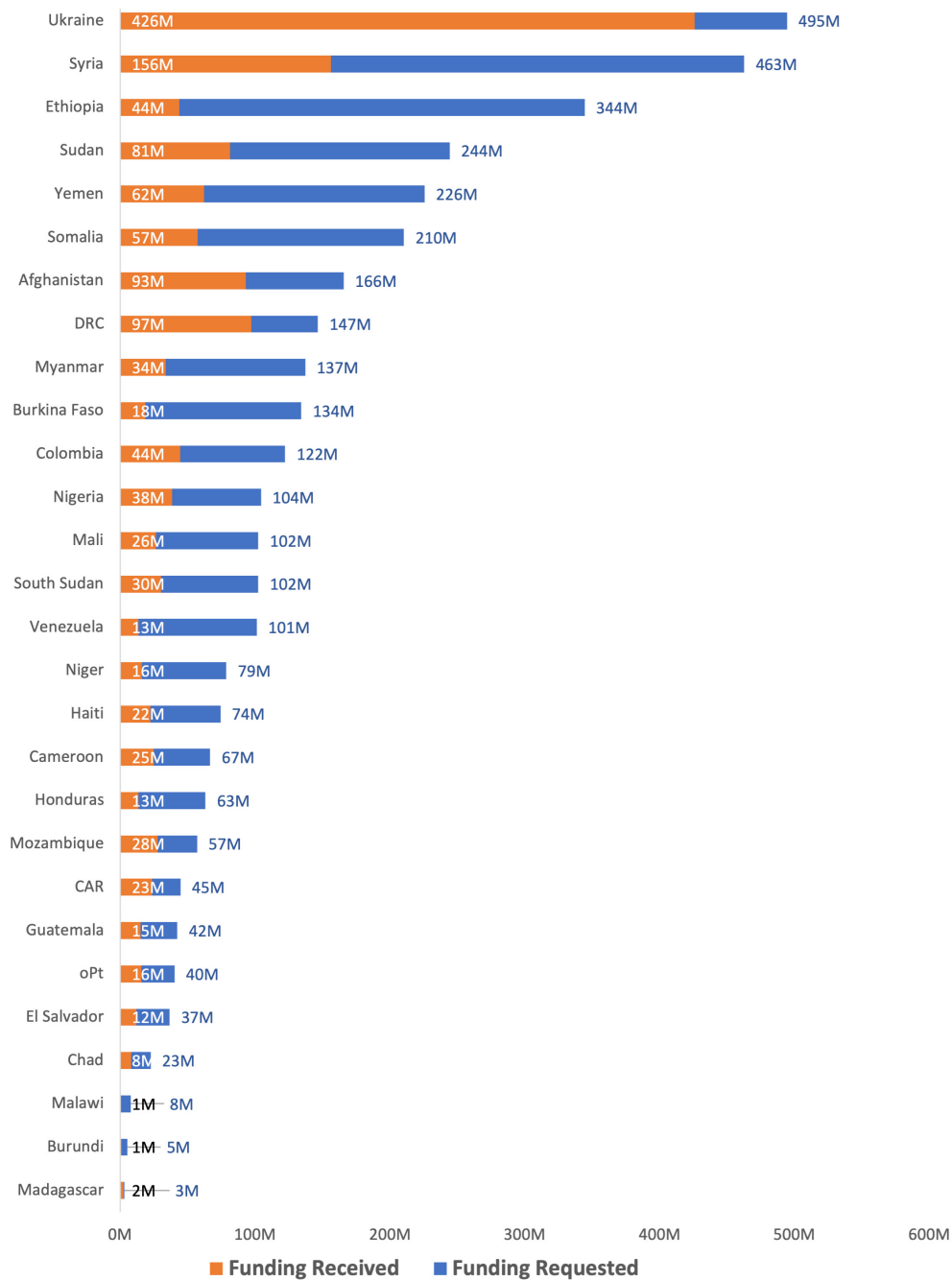
GENDER BASED VIOLENCE



Gender-based violence required \$935 million in the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plans and Flash Appeals for GBV prevention and response activities. These activities aim at responding to all forms of gender-based violence through prevention, risk mitigation and response measures. They include specialised medical services and psychosocial support for GBV survivors, case management, legal assistance, socio-economic reintegration, as well as activities through safe space, community outreach, cash-based interventions, livelihood and empowerment. As of September 2023, the GBV AoR was funded at 30% (with \$285 million received). This is a slight increase from last year's figure where field coordinators reported approximately 28% of total funding requirement was funded in June 2022 (\$203 million out of \$734 million in the 2022 HRPs). The percentage of funding received for GBV AoR varies across operations ranging from 2% (Myanmar, Venezuela) to 83% (Afghanistan). The median funding received reported was 28% of the funding requirement. Interestingly, only four out of 28 operations reported more than 60% of funding received – which were DRC (84%), Afghanistan (83%), Ukraine (74%), and Madagascar (62%). There were seven countries with less than 10% of funding received which are Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Malawi, Niger, Myanmar, Venezuela confirming the funding gap in the GBV AoR. National and local actors received 16% of the funding while 84% went to international actors.



FUNDING STATUS IN COUNTRY OPERATIONS



Almost all operations participated in the data collection exercise on funding for protection this year. Only a certain number of operations were excluded from the analysis as no data was available: Pakistan, Pacific, Philippines, Zimbabwe.

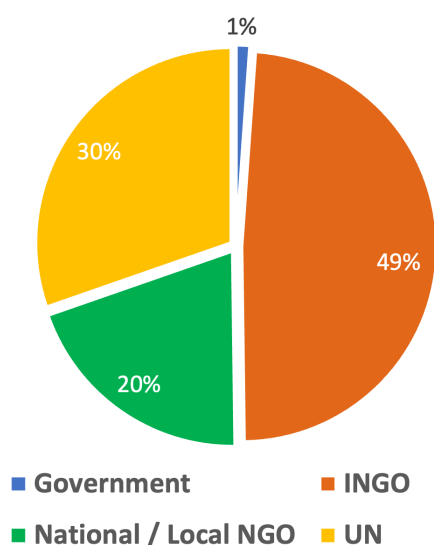
While only two operations (Madagascar and Ukraine) are adequately funded at more than 75%, most operations still record a high number of unmet needs. All operations should be at least 75% funded at mid-year to allow partners to effectively implement protection programming and generate protection outcomes for people affected by conflict, violence and disaster.

Three operations (Afghanistan, CAR, DRC) are funded between 50% and 75% in 2023 compared to six operations in 2022 and zero operation in 2021. 16 operations (Cameroon, Chad, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, oPt, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Yemen) are funded between 25% and 50% in 2023 compared to nine operations in 2022 and six operations in 2021.

The seven operations (Burkina Faso, Burundi, Ethiopia, Honduras, Malawi, Niger, Venezuela) funded at less than 25% in 2023 have experienced particular access challenges, operational constraints or poor data reported.

In the trend analysis of funding received from 2021 to 2023, it has been observed that funding for several operations has experienced a decline. These operations are dispersed across different regions and encompass a variety of contexts, yet they share the common challenge of reduced financial support. Burkina Faso, Burundi, and the Central African Republic in Africa; Colombia, El Salvador, Honduras, and Venezuela in the Americas; Madagascar, Malawi, and Ethiopia in East & South Africa; and oPt in the MENA region have all witnessed a downturn in funding. This decrease in funding could potentially hinder the effectiveness and reach of these operations, requiring a thorough review and strategic realignment to ensure that critical needs are met, and interventions are sustained in these diverse and often challenging environments.

FUNDING BY TYPE OF RECIPIENTS



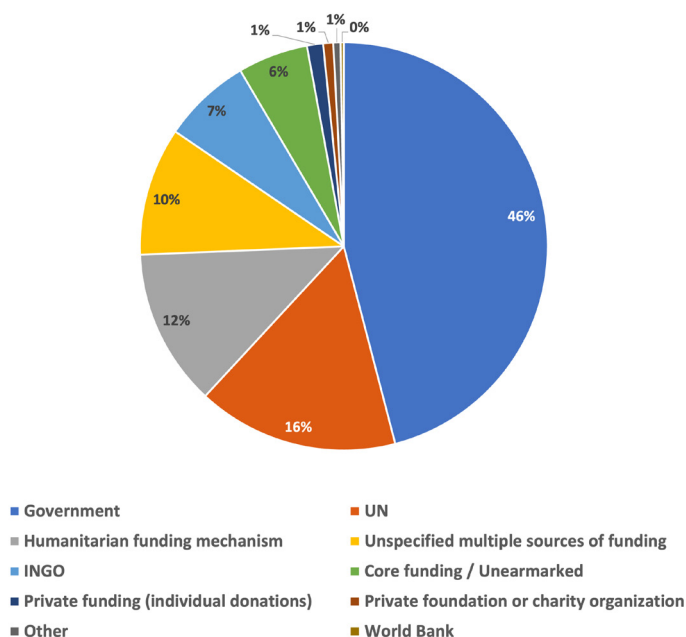
Where data on the recipient of funding is available from the operations, out of the \$1.26 billion reported, \$614 million went to the INGOs, \$382 million to the UN, \$14 million to the government, and \$251 million to N/LNGOs. Among the total amount of funding to N/LNGOs, \$96 million came from indirect funding from INGOs (\$48 million) and UN (\$46 million), representing 8% of the total funding received. Funding to national and local actors varies between AoRs, representing 4% in the HLP AoR, 5% in the MA AoR, 27% in the CP AoR and 16% in the GBV AoR. With 20% of funding for protection going to national and local actors, protection partners have demonstrated their commitment to the objectives of localisation and are on track to meet the Grand Bargain commitment of 25% funding to local actors.

Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPF) provide a significant proportion of their funds to local actors, including in protection. The consortium model also represents a good opportunity to channel funds to local actors. While direct funding is critical, principled and strategic partnerships are also crucial to strengthen local actors' institutional and long-term development. Stronger local actors ensure not only a timely and appropriate response, but also contribute to building a sustainable and locally led protection response.

FUNDING BY TYPE OF DONORS

Where data on the source of funding is available from the operations, the majority of protection funding is allocated through various channels. Government donors contribute the largest share at 42%, followed by UN Agencies at 16% and INGOs at 13% (through partnership agreement), and humanitarian funding mechanisms at 12%. Additionally, unspecified multiple sources of funding account for 7%, private foundations or charity organizations for 6%, and core and unearmarked funding for 3%.

The same few donors fund the vast majority of protection assistance. United States, European Union, Germany and Japan accounted for more than two thirds of all protection assistance in 2023. The protection sector has not yet managed to diversify its funding base. There are long-standing calls to find new sources of funding - including from 'non-traditional donors' - not only governments - but also foundations and the private sector, for example.



TOWARDS A BETTER FUNDING SYSTEM FOR PROTECTION

IT IS TIME TO ADDRESS PROTECTION RISKS

2023 was marked by a continuous increase of protection risks both in magnitude and complexity, registered already throughout 2022. In many crises around the world, vulnerable and marginalized people are facing relentless protection risks due to the multi-dimensional impacts of armed conflict, climate change, economic instability, and food insecurity. In 2020 the Breaking the Glass Ceiling report highlighted that “despite the widespread protection risks for civilians in many crises and the centrality of the protection agenda, protection interventions are being overlooked when it comes to decisions about funding”¹⁰. The status of protection funding since then still shows the same bleak reality.

The humanitarian response has however made steps to address this phenomenon, reinforcing processes aimed at understanding and incorporating protection risks in analysis and prioritization. The Joint and Intersectoral Analysis Framework (JIAF) version 2.0, released in 2023, sets global standards for the estimation and analysis of humanitarian needs “**and protection risks**”. The IASC Task Force 1 (TF1) on Centrality of Protection, co-chaired by UNHCR and InterAction, is in parallel taking forward the findings and conclusions of the Independent Review of the Implementation of the IASC Protection Policy (May 2022), identifying a set of benchmarks to support the HC and HCTs in identify and planning **to address critical protection risks**.

The recently released JIAF 2.0 introduces more prominently protection risks analysis in the design of Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), both to define the overall magnitude of a crisis and how severe the humanitarian situation is. In addition, it includes violations of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law to determine the intersectoral severity of needs. This has required a revision of the sectoral approaches to establish severity of needs and the calculation of the population in need of humanitarian assistance. While the protection community (Protection Clusters, Areas of Responsibility and partners) has extensively invested in recent years, including through contributions to the JIAF 2.0 design, to better identify protection risks, there is still an open debate on the protection sector's approach in terms of assessment of needs, analysis of protection risks and the design and costing of interventions.

Reducing protection risks to crisis-affected populations requires a set of multi-sectoral and complementary responsive¹¹ interventions that can be addressed as part of HRP through short-term humanitarian financing. It requires as well remedial and environmental building¹² actions to change behaviours and address the underlying causes of violence, coercion or deliberate deprivation over the mid and long term, allowing a complementary use of protection-oriented development aid tracked by the OECD Development Assistance Committee (OECD DAC). An analysis that looks at the severity of protection risks could potentially provide a more solid identification of people in need of protection and, more importantly, lay out a set of efficiency gains in the use and distribution of protection funding. Contexts or areas with highest levels of severity of protection risks could guide the complementary use of both humanitarian and development funding and resources aiming at mitigating, if not responding, to those identified risks.

However, such an approach is challenging and requires a solid reflection by the protection community, alongside donors, as it touches on the modalities of protection financing and requires clearly identifying what changes different stakeholders can make to channel the limited resources that exist towards the best protection outcomes for those most at risk¹³. Donors, development partners and other humanitarian actors need to reflect on how a focus on protection risks can foster stronger integration and complementarity in a response, whereby the different areas of protection can better target and address rising protection needs, and meaningfully implement the humanitarian-development nexus.

Geographic areas widely affected by protection risks may not necessarily have the same level of severity in terms of how protection needs are defined. As an example, the risk of trafficking in persons, forced labour or slavery-like practices is reportedly high in countries such as Colombia, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, South Sudan, Ukraine and Venezuela. Yet only a small portion of the protection response is directed towards responding to it. For the 2024 HPC Cycle, the GPC started the revision of its own guidance to introduce the prioritization of protection risks as criterion to guide the value judgement of protection actors in the definition of severity and the calculation of people in needs, thus contributing to both the JIAF sectoral and intersectoral analyses. The introduction of common criteria, in any approach that looks at protection risks, also requires the use of qualitative data in identification and reporting, given the inherent challenges to obtain precise data on threats and violations¹⁴. However, a full-scale approach will require a joint dialogue and reflection to ensure the most effective protection to populations affected by conflict and climate-induced disasters.

¹⁰Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and Global Protection Cluster (GPC). Breaking the Glass Ceiling, A Smarter Approach to Protection Financing. November 2020.

¹¹Responsive activities aim at preventing patterns of abuse, putting a stop to it, and/or alleviating the immediate effects of protection risks.

¹²Remedial activities aim at restoring people's dignity and ensuring adequate living conditions, subsequent to harm. Environment building activities aim at creating and/or consolidating an environment conducive to full respect for the rights of the individual.

¹³Ibid (10)

¹⁴See as an example: Voices from Syria, Whole of Syria GBV Area of Responsibility (AoR).

NW Syria – Identifying Protection Risks and Strengthening Rule of Law Programming

Access to rights in Northeast and Northwest Syria has become increasingly challenging for crisis-affected communities amidst the on-going conflict, and protection crisis, which began 12 years ago. The recent earthquakes in February 2023 have further compounded humanitarian needs while exacerbating existing protection concerns and driving new risks. Importantly, this included growing risks linked to the loss of documentation, and the related intensification of risks related to trafficking, recruitment, evictions, and statelessness for affected population groups. To reduce the vulnerability of Syrians residing in Northeast and Northwest Syria and strengthen their ability to enjoy basic rights, the Protection Sector identified that it was crucial to support strengthened rule of law, including via improved access to documentation and other legal services and conducted a [roundtable discussion](#) during Brussels VII Conference bringing together protection and human rights partners to explore new and alternative ways of working to ensure access to rights and long-term resilience.



Burkina Faso © UNHCR/Nana Kofi Acquah

IN THE HOUR OF NEEDS: PROTECTION ON THE FRONTLINES, DURING EMERGENCIES, SCALE-UP AND FORGOTTEN CRISES

A key challenge faced by the protection sector is that protection is not always viewed as a priority within humanitarian action, or as lifesaving in the same way as other sectors¹⁵. In food security, health and climate-induced disasters the protection dimension of a crisis is not always immediately apparent, and the issue often gets overlooked. As a result, it can be deprioritised in funding decisions. With most funding expected to be driven towards highly visible crisis or to tackle the food insecurity and famine needs one should not lose sight of the need to maintain stepped up funding for protection and for forgotten crises in the last quarter of 2023 and in 2024 so as to not fall short of our collective commitment towards the centrality of protection. The connection between protection risks and food insecurity is a vicious cycle, where protection risks linked with conflict and violence are driving and aggravating food insecurity, and food insecurity is in turn deepening protection risks, including child labor, forced recruitment and gender-based violence.

This year, **protection actors have been at the forefront of a number of crises** affecting the lives, dignity and rights of populations. As shown in the following examples, this includes the efforts of protection actors to prevent harm and mitigate further protection risks, as well as the responsive actions taken amidst violence, disasters and civilian harm – ensuring from the outset a timely, accountable and efficient protection response.

¹⁵Ibid (10)



Syria - Rapid Assessments and Scale-Up of Protection Services during the Earthquake Response

On February 6, 2023, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck central Türkiye close to the Syrian border, followed by dozens of violent aftershocks. The scale of this devastating disaster overlaid on an already severe protection crisis, causing further losses of life and destruction inside Syria, along with widespread displacement. In the days following the earthquake, the Protection Sector and its diverse members were able to identify and respond to protection risks and priorities, conducting [Rapid Protection Assessments \(RPA\)](#) which included 232 key informant interviews in 26 sub-districts with the support from over 12 protection partners in GoS areas and 1,579 interviews in 259 communities across North-West Syria by 32 partners, to identify particularly vulnerable individuals and deliver needed emergency support.

Through these assessments, protection partners observed an increase in cases of exploitation and abuse, especially linked to overcrowding in the collective shelters and lack of privacy and adequate WASH facilities as well as movement restrictions, housing, land and property-related issues, forced recruitment, gender-based violence, separated and unaccompanied children, psychological distress and reliance on harmful coping mechanisms (including child labour and early marriage). Some of the most affected groups included women (pregnant and lactating, single women and/or heads of household), unaccompanied and separated children, older persons, people with chronic illnesses, persons (including children) with disabilities (PWD), especially those with intersectional vulnerabilities, child and youngster-headed households, single parent headed households, homeless persons and those without civil documentation.

Protection partners with the support of donors urgently scaled-up access to quality and comprehensive protection assistance with a focus on those experiencing the greatest vulnerabilities – responding to the most acute protection needs as well as ensuring that protection was mainstreamed at reception centres, collective shelters and other priority locations. In parallel, advocacy for sustained and quality humanitarian access to affected populations was an integral part of the response modality of the protection sector supporting a principled approach to the delivery of humanitarian assistance and calling as well for the leadership of national protection partners in the response.

It should be recalled that protection concerns in the aftermath of disasters are a crucial, however often neglected area. When protection considerations are not addressed during a humanitarian response's planning and initial stages, there is a greater risk that violations and barriers to accessing life-saving assistance and basic services will continue to occur after the emergency

phase is over. Possibilities of 'doing harm' and leaving certain groups or communities excluded from response and recovery efforts have been sadly demonstrated in a number of previous large-scale disaster response efforts.

Yemen – Emergency Evacuations of IDPs in the midst of Severe Threats to Life and Security

In the context of Yemen, relocations of IDPs from sites to other areas of the country have been increasingly observed in 2023 due to the expiry of verbal/written occupancy agreements from state (public) or privately owned land; request from the landowner to get the land back for their own personal or investment purposes; or for reasons of safety and security with the aim of moving IDPs further away from the frontlines. In such contexts, the Protection Cluster and its AoRs issued a [Framework for Voluntary Relocation of IDPs Elsewhere in the Country](#) to set out the minimum standards that should guide the engagement of humanitarian actors in relocations in line with humanitarian standards, International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, including the involvement and voluntariness of affected people.

The framework also included Cluster Relocation Support Packages meant to be implemented through each phase of the relocation process when the minimum standards were met and outlining the first-line response activities and second-line interventions. In Yemen, humanitarian actors, in cooperation with the State, have exceptionally resorted to emergency evacuations or relocations in extreme circumstances, when there was no other way to provide urgent assistance or protection to respond to severe threats to life and security.

Ukraine – First Line Responders in the Most Funded Humanitarian Operation

Since February 2022, Ukraine has experienced devastating levels of destruction, displacement, and suffering from continuous shelling and air strikes. The presence of explosive ordnances, intense hostilities and shifting frontlines required tailored approaches. This included working with community-based groups for greater efficiency in the protection response. In 2023, the Protection Cluster in Ukraine is the most funded operation and protection partners have been able to continuously monitor existing and new protection risks, scale-up protection services accordingly and conduct collective advocacy on critical protection concerns.

The outpouring support from donors enabled these efforts, ensuring protection outcomes for the people affected by the conflict. The protection response also benefited from the strong partnership built between the humanitarian community, local volunteers and civil society organizations who are the first line responders in Ukraine.

Nigeria – Positioning Protection Issues at the centre of the Humanitarian Response

Nigeria is showing good progress in funding levels this year, which reflects efforts conducted by the Protection Sector in North-East Nigeria in terms of advocacy and positioning of protection issues at the centre of the humanitarian response, ultimately showing results in resource mobilisation. At mid-year 2023, the Protection

Sector managed to report \$38 million from 47 protection partners, which represents 36% of the HRP requirement. Last year, at mid-year 2022, the Sector reported \$24 million (27% of the total requirement).



Guatemala © UNHCR/Nicolo Filippo Rosso



Despite these efforts, **major emergencies and scale-up contexts** continue to experience heavy bureaucratic impediments, access constraints, sanctions regimes and limited resources ultimately hampering the effectiveness of the humanitarian and protection response.

Sudan – A Forgotten Protection of Civilians Crisis

Sudan's conflict has had a devastating impact on humanitarian operations with funding and security constraints, and a long list of bureaucratic and administrative impediments that have limited the flow of international aid workers and relief items. While UN and some international NGOs had to stop or relocate their offices, staffs and programmes, local organizations and communities have been at the forefront of providing humanitarian aid to those in need of assistance since the crisis erupted.

Financial requirements for the Sudan response have risen by 47%, from \$1.7 billion before the conflict to \$2.6 billion to address needs in 2023. Despite a ministerial-level pledging event organised in June where donors pledged \$1.5 billion to support Sudan, and after four months of war, the humanitarian appeals are less than 27% funded¹⁶. Critical gaps remain in protection funding as well, with only 34% of the funding requirement met so far (\$81 million received out of \$235 million required). Gender-based violence is particularly underfunded with only 16% of the funding requirements secured. Similarly, the funding gap reported on child protection (only 13% funded) risks leaving 2 million of the 4.3 million children in need without care.

The protection of civilians remains a significant concern, with reports of escalating use of sexual and gender-based violence, targeted attacks on - or harm against - civilians based on ethnicity, grave violations of children's rights, family separations, theft, extortion, and the threat posed by unexploded ordnances¹⁷. Civilians also grapple with food shortages, a lack of access to health services and other basic services. With over 3.8 million people internally displaced, it is crucial to scale up principled and needs-based humanitarian assistance to respond to the most urgent needs of people in Sudan as well as engaged with development actors to address the critical gaps in accessing basic services, particularly in locations where local communities host high number of displaced persons.

Afghanistan – Funding and Principled Action

Afghanistan remains one of the most complex environments for aid operations today. Donor restrictions and policies following the Taliban take over in August 2021 have been seen as constraining and having considerable impact on principled action¹⁸.

The recent bans in 2022/2023 on Afghan women working for I/NGOs and the UN by the de facto authorities have added to the existing protection needs, and further constrained the operational capacity of partners to deliver efficient and inclusive responses. Considering the worsening protection situation, the estimated PIN of protection assistance has increased to 22.1 million (up from 20.3 million at the beginning of 2023)¹⁹. The 2023 HRP was revised in May to adjust the response according to the cluster capacity, delivery approaches to operate effectively within the current context and the protection priorities of unmet needs for the remaining seven months of 2023.

Funding flexibility, more direct funding to local implementers, and stronger collaboration with development actors is seen as essential. Protection partners in Afghanistan are also asking donors to prioritize and scale up funding to multi-sectorial humanitarian interventions including cash assistance to support vulnerable households and mitigate protection risks that increase negative coping mechanisms such as child labour and child marriage.

Haiti – A Grave Protection Crisis and Cluster Scale-Up

Violence perpetrated by armed gangs in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince and the Artibonite department has continued to grow in 2023, drastically impacting the lives of the population. The number of people killed, injured and kidnapped by criminal gangs has reached unprecedented levels. Sexual violence, including collective rapes, is also increasingly used as a weapon of terror and subjugation against the population. As a result of gang activity, at least 1.5 million people (half the capital city's population) are experiencing restrictions to their freedom of movement and access to basic services, including healthcare and education.

Furthermore, children facing food insecurity and limited socio-economic opportunities are being recruited into gangs, who offer them regular access to food and money. In light of the deteriorating situation, a system-wide humanitarian scale-up for three months was announced on 17 April and 5 Clusters and 2 AoRs were activated on 15 May leading to a reinforcement of cluster coordination staff capacity on the ground.

¹⁶Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC). Statement by Principals of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee: After 4 Months of War, Humanitarian Leaders Urge Action to End the Tragedy in Sudan. August 2023. Available [here](#).

¹⁷Sudan Protection Analysis Update. July 2023. Available [here](#).

¹⁸Danish Refugee Council (DRC). Briefing Note: Principled Humanitarian Action in Afghanistan. May 2023. Available [here](#).

¹⁹Afghanistan Protection Analysis Update. July 2023. Available [here](#).

However, lack of sufficient donor funding is an important contributing factor for some of the scale-up benchmarks not being reached. The amount of funding available for the HRP (30% funded) is not commensurate to the needs and scale-up emergency context. Flexible funding that will allow scale-up of staff and reprioritization of resources to areas of high impact is critical, including to protection activities which go beyond the humanitarian response and seek to stop the cycle of violence.

Central Sahel – The Fastest Growing Yet Most Forgotten Crises Amidst Political Instability

The Sahel crisis remains one of the fastest growing yet most forgotten crises in the world. Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger have seen rising levels of humanitarian needs in 2023 due to political instability and military takeovers, armed conflict, food insecurity and the devastating effects of climate change, including loss of livelihoods due to droughts and floods.

In **Mali**, following the approval by the UN Security Council to withdraw the Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSMA), protection actors anticipate a severe deterioration of the security, humanitarian, and human rights situation in the country, leading to significant harm to civilians²⁰. The withdrawal of MINUSMA will have concrete funding implications to provide physical protection to civilians, delivery of humanitarian aid including support to local service provision, as well as human rights monitoring, reporting and advocacy with duty-bearers. Explosive ordnance risk education (EORE), clearance efforts, victim assistance as well as coordination of mine action will be further limited, and a number of child protection efforts (notably linked to MRM) and reporting on conflict-related sexual violence will also be impacted.

In **Niger**, the current sanctions are expected to further impact the protection situation and increase the risk of populations to resort to negative coping mechanisms such as early marriage, survival sex, child labour, and recruitment in armed groups. There is also a crucial need to reinforce coordination and programmatic actions against the growing threat of explosive devices which doubled in the 2nd quarter of 2023²¹.

In **Burkina Faso**, humanitarian access has become increasingly tenuous in 2023, with 23 provinces out of 45 not accessible and around 1 million people living in armed groups-controlled areas, including more than 10 communes under blockade, with no access to operational markets or basic social services²².

The necessary resources to address existing humanitarian needs and facilitate service provision will be needed in the Sahel in 2024. Donors should remain committed to supporting vulnerable communities, including by increasing funding to the humanitarian response plan. Failure to do so could lead to further instability and insecurity. Member States, through the ERC, should continue to demand a humanitarian exemption to sanctions imposed on Niger, ensuring national NGOs and protection assistance are not left out of the exemption.

Venezuela – A Protracted Crisis with the Least Funded HRP

As of 30 June, donors provided \$104 million for the Venezuela crisis, with the HRP receiving 14% of the total required. This is below the global average of 20% funding for HRPs and represents three-quarters of the funding received in Venezuela at the mid-year point in 2022. Overall, and after several years of growth, funding for Venezuela has been declining since 2022, decreasing 10% between 2021 and 2022, with further reductions observed in 2023. Globally, the current funding situation places Venezuela as the second most underfunded humanitarian response²³.

The protection sector is particularly affected with only 23% of funding required met for protection, 2% for gender-based violence and 16% for child protection in 2023. Venezuela continues to face a humanitarian crisis with urgent protection needs to be met and the lack of funding is leaving millions of people facing critical protection risks. Of particular concern is the risk of human trafficking, with young women, adolescents and girls exposed to sexual exploitation, forced labour and child labour. The expansion of violence and insecurity, including sexual violence, particularly in bordering, rural and remote urban areas, is putting women and children at risk of forced recruitment by armed groups while political persecution, arbitrary detention and torture is frequently perpetrated during security operations.

Further investment is urgently required to address critical protection needs in Venezuela, especially to provide multisectoral response services such as GBV and child protection case management, family tracing and reunification, MHPSS with special emphasis in levels 2 and 3 of the pyramid, clinical management of rape, legal aid, access to identity and civil documentation, safe spaces for women and girls, food security and livelihood, among others.

²⁰Mali Protection Cluster. Key Messages on the Protection Impacts of the MINUSMA Withdrawal. August 2023.

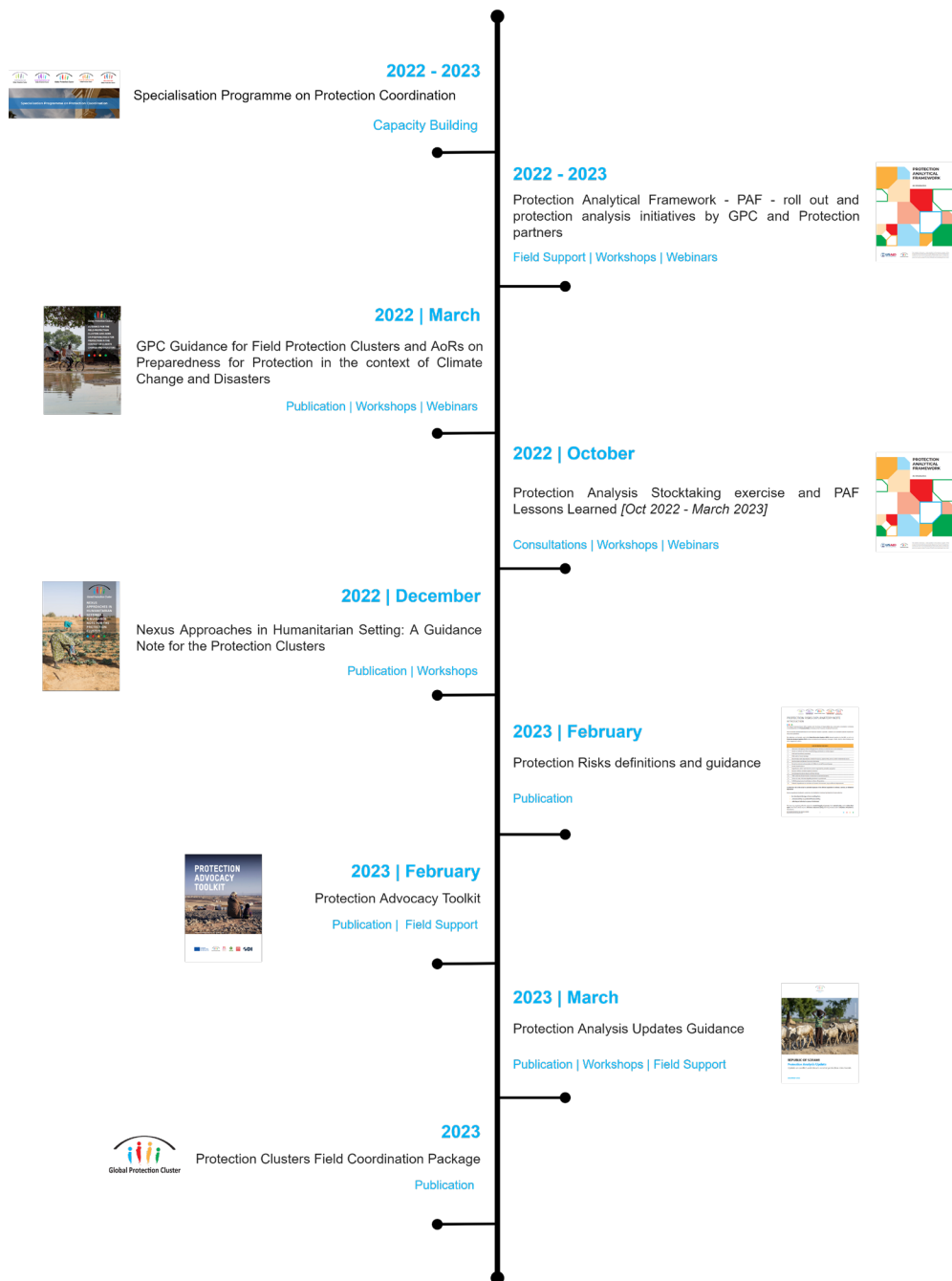
²¹Niger Protection Cluster. Advocacy Note, A Crucial Need to reinforce actions against the growing threat of explosive devices in Niger. July 2023. Available [here](#).

²²Global Protection Cluster (GPC). Global Protection Update. March 2023. Available [here](#).

²³OCHA. Venezuela Funding Snapshot. June 2023. Available [here](#).



Efforts from protection actors on the frontline have been complemented by global guidance and initiatives aimed at equipping front-line responders with the required skills and tools to face the increased complexity of crises and respond efficiently to protection risks and resulting needs. Some of these efforts, highlighted in the below timeline, are shaping the modalities of the response and ways of working in the protection sector. In 2022-2023, the GPC and its AoRs have taken significant steps to bringing some conceptual clarity regarding protection crisis and the articulation between protection needs and requirements in humanitarian appeals. This included the development of key guidelines and tools to [joint protection analysis](#) and the adoption of a common approach to defining 15 core [Protection Risks](#). These improvements aim to make the sector more compelling and fit-for-purpose in helping to respond to the complex challenges and acute needs of crisis-affected populations. In addition, development aid and funds for peace actors are probably surpassing the scale of humanitarian funding in many situations, supporting significant activities such as the rule of law, administration of justice, human rights, prevention against violence against women, child reintegration, demining and social protection schemes. Recognising that today's challenges demand a more holistic approach involving real, concrete collaboration by humanitarian, development, and peace actors, to reduce protection risks, the GPC and its AoRs published a [Guidance Note](#) meant to help protection actors apply nexus approaches in a practical way, including how to mobilise resources in the interests of achieving protection outcomes.



SUPPORTING COMMUNITY-LED PROTECTION ACTION

Protection in humanitarian action is grounded in the aims of preventing or reducing harm to civilians and supporting the realization of their rights. It places a firm and necessary focus on the duties of parties to a conflict and the authorities, from local to national levels, to reduce harm and protect rights. Emphasis has also often been placed on the role of external protection actors to provide support and assistance to affected communities when duty bearers are failing to protect. However, the independent and unique capacities of communities themselves in contributing to their own protection has often been less understood. Communities – be they displaced or not – were traditionally treated as recipients of external protection action and therefore seen as beneficiaries. Yet, communities are not just passive recipients of protection but have agency and capacity to strengthen their protection. In situations of violence, civilians and communities engage in self-protection actions to keep themselves, their families, and their communities safe. This can involve engaging with armed actors, as both perpetrators of violence and potentially providers of protection or working on their collective cohesion. In this regard, civilians often make risk-benefit calculation – conscious sequenced choices that are based on local knowledge.

Over the past number of years this is however starting to shift, and protection actors have been placing more importance on the participation and leadership of communities in protection work amidst spiralling protection needs across complex crisis situations. However, no systematic shift to community-led protection approaches to engagement has yet happened. Obstacles include concerns over neutrality, tensions between international principles and frameworks, and local norms and customs; legal implications of engagement with proscribed armed groups; inflexible funding and the persistence of top-down approaches.

Proactive Protection: refers to the field of humanitarian action which encompasses structured approaches carried out at community or individual levels, which can be applied at different stages of the conflict: during the early stages to prevent violence when it is imminent or during the crisis to stop violence or de-escalate tensions.

Community-Led Protection: refers to multiple actions taken by civilians to respond to their own needs, which include protection from violence, coercion and deliberate deprivation. When paired with additional protection tools and services, the anticipated outcome is that communities and individuals will be able to expand their capacities for self-protection, building and strengthening their resilience to address and respond to protection threats.

Civilians Self-Protection: refers to actions that are taken to protect against immediate, direct threats to physical integrity imposed by belligerents or traditional protection actors, which are primarily selected and employed by civilians during an armed conflict or other situation of violence. Examples of CSP strategies are re-establishing community ownership over public spaces through visualisation, community-led advocacy, mediation and negotiation, establishment of non-violent civil-defence corps among others

One of the main obstacles to communities organising to protect themselves is a lack of funding. Often, they have a better understanding than outsiders of what the challenges may be, and have innovative ideas for overcoming them, but they lack the finance to put these ideas into action. Research by the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) has identified three main reasons why local communities cannot raise money: 1) they lack appropriate networks, not being sufficiently aware of or within easy reach of funding opportunities; 2) even where there is awareness of the opportunities, local communities are often either not eligible or not able to apply for funding, not being registered, able to complete the requisite log frames and budget proposals, or to conduct the monitoring and evaluation that are usually required; 3) there may be a lack of trust between local communities and prospective funders, whether the national government, bilateral donors or NGOs²⁴.

Within the current humanitarian system, there is limited technical guidance and visibility of community-led and civilians self-protection activities, not only at the global level but also in the way protection action is coordinated and implemented at the country level. Civilian self-protection is rarely prioritised in HRP and in humanitarian pooled fund allocation strategies, even though numerous national organizations, CBOs and civil society, as well as some international organizations already focus on this specialised area of protection work. As a matter of illustration, civilian self-protection was mentioned as a strategic activity in only 4 HRPs in 2021 and 2022 (e.g. Afghanistan, Colombia, DRC and Somalia), compared to 6 in 2023 (e.g. Afghanistan, CAR, Colombia, Myanmar, Ukraine and Venezuela)²⁵.

²⁴Forced Migration Review. Khalid Koser and Amy Cunningham. Filling the Funding Gap for Community Protection. October 2016. Available [here](#).

²⁵Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). Internal Review of Community Self-Protection Activities in 2021-2023 HRPs.



Researchers, academics, and other areas of expertise – such as access, civil-military coordination and peace actors – also engage in elements of community-led protection, such as conflict resolution, community-led negotiations and negotiations with armed actors, however, there are no common guidelines or standards on supporting community-led protection nor commonly used tools and no central platform for sharing information, experiences, and learning, disseminating best practices, and identifying challenges and solutions around working on supporting community-led protection.

The humanitarian coordination system – and specifically, the GPC and its network of international and national partners – offers an opportunity to support greater visibility of enhanced practice and deeper learning related to community-led protection programmes as enablers of proactive protection. The GPC is thus committed to expanding the traditionally top-down, state-centric mode of protection work, recognising and promoting how protection is an activity done by affected populations, not just for affected populations. There is also an opportunity for sharing emerging and good practices, learning, and providing a platform for strengthening synergies between protection and peace action.

The following stories highlight what can be achieved when supporting community-led action with the right type of funding. More information is available on the GPC website: [Community-Led Protection | Global Protection Cluster](#)

Spotlight on Civilian Self-Protection: Insights from Colombia. As illustrated by the efforts of conflict-affected communities in Colombia, with the support of partners like NRC, community self-protection is a critical complement to other protection interventions and efforts, contributing to risk mitigation before, during and after armed conflict. In La Secreta, Colombia, for example, community members were able to activate early warning systems and ensure safe evacuation for the most vulnerable community members in advance of armed clashes, avoiding the loss of life and serious injury. These systems were activated based on collaborative risk assessment and planning done by community members, including in coordination with local authorities. In the aftermath of the clashes and in the midst of displacement, trained community members were able to provide psychological first aid to those who needed it, and families were provided with support to mitigate risks associated with children being recruited by illegal armed groups.

Spotlight on Community-Based Protection: Insights from oPt. As evident in the occupied Palestinian territories, community-based protection efforts can serve as a critical enabler for the provision of essential services while also building community networks and protection capacities. The Tamer Institute, for example, partners with Oxfam and works with different conflict affected communities in the Gaza strip to identify priority protection risks and design tailored plans in support of protection that community members can take forward. In one community in the South West, a community committee led a consultative process with other groups, including women and youth groups, and identified access to essential services as a priority to address as movement restrictions and other constraints were severely limiting the communities' ability to safely access needed services and exposing them to pronounced threats during long travels, often on foot, to schools and health clinics in surrounding towns. The community committee was able to secure a building where different service providers could offer services in a 'one stop shop' format and from where they could deploy mobile protection services, while also enabling further community organizing and engagement. Flexible donor funding was critical in supporting this effort, enabling communities to determine priority protective actions, instead of having fixed results or pre-determined deliverables from the outset. The risk-sharing inherent in such responsive funding approaches enables communities and local partners to truly follow community leadership and priorities in shaping needed efforts to reduce protection risks.

Spotlight on Community-Based Protection: Insights from CAR. For the 'Association les Femme Solidaires' in the Central African Republic, building the trust and leadership of the women and girls they work with is foundational to achieving protection outcomes. The Association is working in areas where many international actors are not able to reach or where assistance is stretched thin. The organization works to mobilize women and girls around actions such as community assessments of protection risks, documentation of human rights violations and advancing needed referrals, particularly with GBV cases, and brokering dialogue on protection risks and priorities with decision-makers while also offering concrete support and education for those experiencing protection risks. The Association sees the blockages with implementation of localization commitments first hand, with the funding they receive for community-based protection continuing to go through multiple intermediaries and primarily based on discrete, pre-defined activities. This has direct impacts on available resources and ultimately their responsiveness and programming with conflict-affected women and girls. The Association continues to call on donors to urgently shift towards more flexible and risk-tolerant approaches to funding in support of protection outcomes for conflict affected communities.

PROTECTION CENTRAL IN HUMANITARIAN FUNDING MECHANISMS

The Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) – through the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPF) – has sought to ensure greater prioritisation of protection in humanitarian financing over the past several years. The publication of clear [CERF Life-Saving Criteria](#) (2020) and [CBPF Guidelines](#) (page 17) helped put protection front and centre in these funding mechanisms, articulating the commitment that protection is one of the main aims and intended outcomes of humanitarian action. The protection of all persons affected and at-risk must be ensured by humanitarian actors through immediate and life-saving activities, and throughout the duration of a crisis. More concerted action like this is required to deliver adequate funding for protection and ensure protection remains central to any and all humanitarian responses.

CERF Life-Saving Criteria defines life-saving actions as those that, within a short time span, remedy, mitigate or avert direct loss of life and harm to people, and protect their dignity. The criteria for eligible life-saving humanitarian action, referred to as the “Life-Saving Criteria,” codify what activities can be funded by CERF grants, and list eligible activities by sector/cluster for the Fund’s Rapid Response and Underfunded Emergencies windows. Protection and AoRs key activities have been included as life-saving criteria: protection monitoring, profiling, registration, family tracing and reunification, documentation, case management, provision of life-saving support to people with specific needs, survivors of violence, exploitation and abuse, including mental health and psychosocial support, set-up of community-based protection mechanisms, provision of protection-related and life-saving information, access to justice, remedies and reparations, emergency support to address the humanitarian impact of forced evictions, land and resource grabs, survey and clearance of explosive ordnance and delivery of EORE.

CBPFs Guidelines advocate and support actions that promote the centrality of protection, reducing and preventing the exposure to risks, and ensuring respect for the rights of individuals by all responsible stakeholders. They promote the centrality of protection as a priority in humanitarian assistance, including by supporting analysis to identify the most significant protection risks affecting different parts of the population and drivers of those risks and building mechanisms to monitor protection risks across sectors and humanitarian operations. CBPFs encourage ‘protection integration,’ and the attainment of clearly articulated protection objectives (in line with the HRP or other strategic and policy documents) through the work of partners in all sectors, including sectors other than Protection.

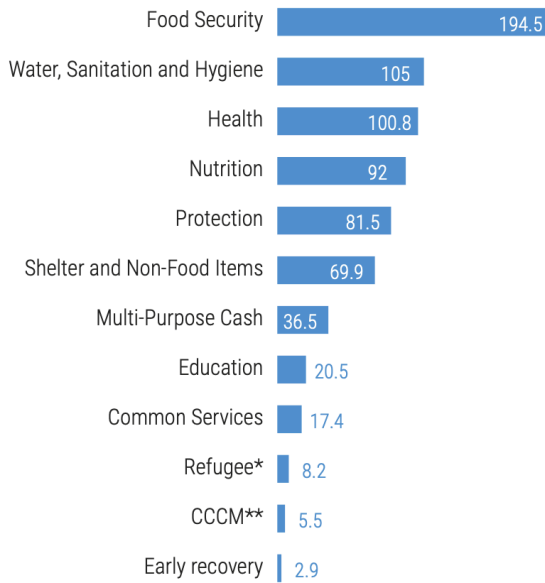


Mozambique © UNHCR/Hélène Caux



CERF FUNDING BY SECTOR

in US\$ million



*Multi-sector Refugee Assistance

**Camp Coordination and Management

Source: CERF 2022 Annual Report²⁸

Similar to CERF, CBPFs have shown a pattern of increased protection funding over the past several years, with \$66 million allocated to protection in 2023, as of the beginning of September³². In 2022, CBPFs allocated \$128.6 million to the protection sector with \$58 million (5% of total CBPF funding) to projects dedicated to addressing GBV, assisting almost 3 million affected people³³.

Yet, allocation of funding to protection varies largely from one operation to the other. While funding allocation should respond to the context and priority needs identified in country, the following table highlights 2023 CERF Protection Funding per country (as per the data available on 15 September 2023), showing important variability of funding going to protection.

²⁶OCHA. CERF 2022 Annual Result Report. Available [here](#).

²⁷OCHA. CERF 2023 Allocation per Sector. Available [here](#).

²⁸Ibid (26).

²⁹Ibid (26).

³⁰Ibid (26).

³¹Ibid (26).

³²OCHA. CBPF Data Hub. 2023 Allocation per Sector. Available [here](#).

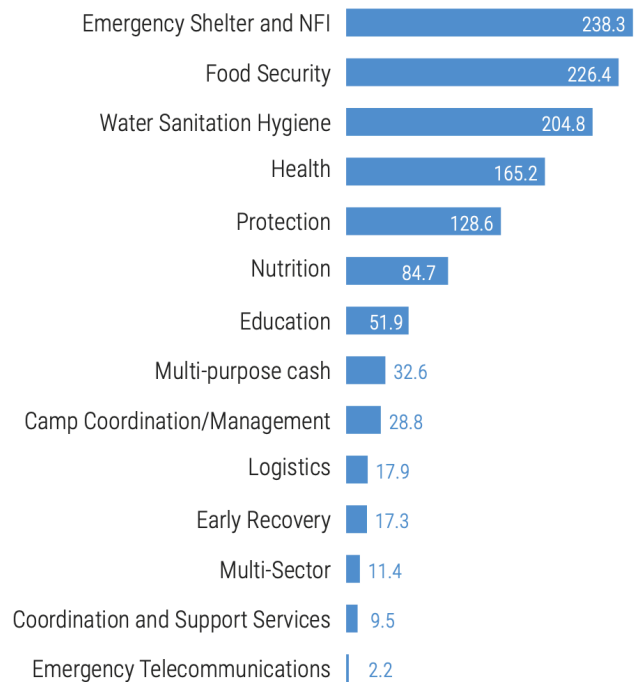
³³OCHA. CBPF 2022 Annual Report. Available [here](#).

For protection actors, CERF and CBPFs represent critical sources of support, both for delivering specialized protection programmes and services as well as ensuring protection is mainstreamed in the response. CERF and CBPFs are also essential sources of support for local and national actors. CERF funding to the protection sector has risen consistently since 2020, providing record levels of funding to the protection sector – \$81.5 million or 11 per cent of all funding in 2022²⁶. In the first half of 2023, CERF already allocated \$50 million to the protection sector²⁷. 28% went for stand-alone protection projects, while 72% for protection within multisector projects.

In 2022, nearly three-quarters of people assisted by CERF were affected by displacement, the highest proportion in the Fund's history²⁹. Protection from and response to GBV remained central to the CERF, with 82% of all projects having GBV either as their main objective or as a programme component³⁰. In 2022, the CERF supported dedicated protection projects assisting some 5.2 million people. Almost half of them benefited from GBV services, while more than 2.2 million children were assisted with protection interventions³¹.

2022 CBPF ALLOCATIONS BY SECTOR

in US\$ million



Country	Protection Funding	Total Allocation	Percentage
<i>Bangladesh</i>	\$ 759,000	\$ 11,665,027	7%
Burkina Faso	\$ 600,570	\$ 9,010,873	7%
Central African Republic	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 3,999,997	63%
Chad	\$ 2,258,847	\$ 23,003,652	10%
Colombia	\$ 2,734,613	\$ 6,525,950	42%
DR Congo	\$ 5,568,694	\$ 35,762,813	16%
<i>Egypt</i>	\$ 1,633,981	\$ 5,000,105	33%
Ethiopia	\$ 1,342,000	\$ 28,000,000	5%
Haiti	\$ 4,321,405	\$ 17,989,406	24%
Honduras	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 6,499,852	38%
<i>Islamic Republic of Iran</i>	\$ 52,274	\$ 1,000,020	5%
<i>Kenya</i>	\$ 504,000	\$ 8,001,346	6%
<i>Lebanon</i>	\$ 3,650,000	\$ 8,000,000	46%
Madagascar	\$ 638,993	\$ 8,499,950	8%
Malawi	\$ 1,319,000	\$ 9,800,022	13%
Myanmar	\$ 1,985,000	\$ 10,000,614	20%
Pakistan	\$ 1,000,025	\$ 6,484,314	15%
<i>Panama</i>	\$ 980,861	\$ 3,545,672	28%
<i>Peru</i>	\$ 828,049	\$ 6,867,917	12%
Republic of the Sudan	\$ 6,110,200	\$ 40,082,119	15%
Somalia	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 18,000,000	17%
South Sudan	\$ 1,998,999	\$ 23,999,991	8%
Syrian Arab Republic	\$ 4,040,000	\$ 40,000,000	10%
<i>Türkiye</i>	\$ 450,000	\$ 10,200,241	4%
	\$ 50,776,511	\$ 341,939,881	15%

Despite encouraging progress with regards to clear guidelines for the inclusion of protection in these humanitarian financing mechanisms and increased allocations, Protection Clusters have reported some instances where protection has been deprioritized in CERF/CBPFs allocations. This can result from the absence of Protection Cluster's analysis and advocacy efforts that demonstrate the critical protection dimension of a crisis or by the lack of prioritization of protection in allocation processes at the country level. Protection Clusters have noted such trend particularly in context where humanitarian issues such as food security or disaster response form the overarching narrative or where protection mainstreaming becomes the main focus.

Key observations include:

- **Despite record levels of funding allocated to the protection sector in humanitarian financing mechanisms, the critical consideration to protection is not consistent across operations.** With \$81.5 million in 2022 CERF allocations and \$128.6 million in 2022 CBPFs allocations, protection is the fifth sector supported by humanitarian financing mechanisms – relatively far behind other top recipient sectors such as Food Security, WASH, Shelter and Health. In addition, despite the ERC's call to pay special attention to protection within Food Security allocation, this didn't always translate into action at the country level. That said, the overall trend analysis in recent years shows that the level of protection funding in humanitarian financing mechanisms has considerably increased overall.
- **Accurately estimating the amount of CERF and CBPFs funding going to protection is difficult as activities are often mainstreamed within projects that have other primary objectives.** While the level of funding going to protection has significantly increased in CERF and CBPFs over the last few years, the lack of understanding of the difference between, and criticality of both specialized protection services and 'protection mainstreaming' can have an impact on protection funding.
- **The Protection sector often adopts a siloed funding strategy, with different strands of protection work getting split up at the allocation stage** and specific envelopes going to protection, child protection, gender-based violence, mine action or housing, land and property. This is inherent to the set-up of the Protection Cluster, often leading to only one specialized area of protection being prioritized at the expense of others. This approach limits the ability for the protection sector and its areas of responsibility to ensure a comprehensive response to the protection risks identified and their impacts on affected communities.



In North-West Syria, protection including GBV, mine action and child protection were not included in the 6 key priorities identified by the DHRC for SCHF Earthquake Response Allocation Phase 2. This was particularly concerning since the protection needs in 2023 have only increased following the earthquake and many were linked to protection risks such as civil documentation and HLP that are critical also in terms of addressing other sector needs (i.e. shelter, health and early recovery in this context). Advocacy from the Protection Cluster was needed at the local and regional levels to guarantee the inclusion of protection in the identified priorities.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Data shows that well-functioning clusters attract more funding, which in turn means that these protection clusters have significantly strengthened structures and processes, such as monitoring and analysis of funding data that is needed to guide resource mobilisation, frame advocacy asks and inform protection programming. This highlights that the issue at hand is not exclusively about attracting more funding for protection, but also using limited resources smartly, to effectively target protection risks that need to urgently be addressed, thus demonstrating the impact more funding would bring.

Protection partners are on the ground, with strong ability to deliver services to address the multitude of needs of communities. In order to ensure this work is reaching those who are most in need, donors and agencies need to continue their support to protection as we enter the 2024 Humanitarian Programme Cycle, particularly for the following priorities.

- a. Continue to support operations that have shown progress and where additional funding will lead to effective outcomes for targeted communities, preserving their dignified existence and well-being.
- b. Boost advocacy actions for operations where unaddressed needs remain starkly visible.
- c. Strengthen diplomatic and political efforts to gain more 'access that protects' through advocacy and influencing behaviour changes.
- d. Support community-led action to strengthen protection outcomes and increase direct funding to local actors, including WLOs and WROs.
- e. Take into consideration the most critical protection risks that require diplomatic, political and funding actions.

Recommendations

To Protection Clusters and AoRs

- Present an up-to-date and comprehensive protection analysis to support donors, HC/RCs and other humanitarian leaders in their funding decisions. For protection analyses to be meaningful and inform lifesaving responses, they need to present how affected communities experience the risks and be timely to inform funding allocations from the outset of a crisis.
- Consider integrated funding strategies which aims to support a comprehensive and robust approach to protection. Ensure that agencies who have operational capacity and footprint are given the funding, regardless of their leadership role within the cluster/AoRs and according to the protection risks prioritized through a comprehensive analysis process.
- Advocate for more explicit recognition and inclusion of community-led protection actions in relevant HNOs, HRPs and pooled fund processes.

To the Global Protection Cluster and AoRs

- Continue to develop a methodological approach building on the intersection between current guidance and tools on protection risks and humanitarian needs identification to design and plan interventions that respond to needs of affected populations and measure the results.
- Consolidate ongoing reflections to use a joint approach to 4/5Ws in order to streamline response monitoring across operations and showcase the contribution to commonly defined protection outcomes.
- Continue to convene an annual donor meeting to take stock of protection funding and mobilise attention to fill gaps in underfunded crisis and thematic areas.

To HCs/RCs

- Recognize the protection dimension of every crisis, including the protection risks driving vulnerabilities and the need to address them in a comprehensive way that speak to the complexity of crisis-affected people's lived identities and realities – in line with the mandatory collective responsibility towards the centrality of protection and gender-based violence.

To Donors

- Support the protection sector in defining how to best address protection risks, through a collective reflection on the financing and other implications of analysing, identifying and responding to protection risks.
- Reach out and convene other non-traditional donors to the protection sector to diversify funding for protection.
- Provide successive and long-term rounds of investment, supporting institutional capacity development and fundraising skills of national and local NGOs and community networks.
- Make the necessary changes to support community-led protection work. This will involve more risk sharing and less risk transfer, ensure greater flexible funding, the adoption of the Principles of Partnership, establish new partnership modalities and help local players achieve standards to access directly funds.

To ERC, CERF and CBFP

- Extend the strategic priorities for CERF and CBPF funding and include additional underfunded protection risks, as defined by the in-country protection analysis.
- Continue to support and prioritize local and frontline protection actors' access to CBPF funding allocations.
- Continue to communicate to HCs/RCs the importance of addressing the centrality of protection in all humanitarian planning and funding decisions, focus on protection activities addressing protection needs and risks, and provide guidance to balance stand-alone protection and protection mainstreaming.

To ICCG

- Develop proposals with an integrated protection approach that involves collaborative efforts between different sectors with the shared objective to protect people from violence, coercion, and deprivation. Activities may include joint assessments and analysis, coordinated multi-sector response strategies aiming to reduce protection risks, and collective advocacy initiatives. Integrated protection programming should not be confused with protection mainstreaming.

To Protection Actors

- Continue to improve reporting on protection financing through existing systems.
- Scale-up small pilot projects that are community-led, as an accompaniment to existing protection programming.
- Engage directly with communities, such as community protection committees, and give visibility to their locally led protection action and community self-protection efforts.
- Place greater emphasis on preventing and stopping violence rather than just responding to its consequences.



ANNEX

PROTECTION REQUIREMENT AND FUNDING BY COUNTRY OPERATIONS

Operation	Funding Required	Funding Received	Protection		CP		GBV		HLP		MA	
			Required	Funded	Required	Funded	Required	Funded	Required	Funded	Required	Funded
Afghanistan	165.6M	93.1M	42.0M	7.3M	51.0M	38.4M	50.0M	41.6M	7.0M	0.8M	15.6M	5.0M
Burkina Faso	134.2M	18.4M	24.8M	10.9M	71.7M	2.4M	31.8M	4.2M	2.6M	0.1M	3.3M	0.8M
Burundi	5.3M	0.8M	2.0M	0.1M	1.9M	0.4M	0.9M	0.3M	0.5M			
Cameroon	66.6M	24.8M	28.2M	15.6M	16.2M	2.0M	18.0M	6.9M	4.3M	0.4M		
Central African Republic	44.6M	23.5M	16.7M	13.9M	10.5M	4.8M	14.4M	2.1M	1.0M	1.9M	2.0M	0.8M
Chad	22.5M	8.1M	5.9M	1.9M	6.9M	1.2M	9.8M	5.1M				
Colombia	122.2M	44.4M	42.9M	22.2M	21.4M	2.1M	19.6M	2.7M			38.2M	17.4M
Democratic Republic of the Congo	146.6M	97.2M	50.2M	24.2M	37.9M	27.3M	43.9M	36.9M	12.8M	2.8M	1.8M	6.0M
El Salvador	36.5M	11.8M	24.2M	6.9M	7.1M	2.5M	5.2M	2.3M				
Ethiopia	344.4M	43.6M	126.0M	16.0M	95.5M	15.8M	108.8M	8.6M	4.1M	0.0M	10.1M	3.2M
Guatemala	42.3M	15.0M	32.7M	11.5M	5.9M	3.2M	3.7M	0.3M				
Haiti	74.3M	22.4M	42.1M	17.1M	20.1M	1.0M	12.1M	4.2M				
Honduras	63.1M	13.3M	34.7M	8.5M	15.0M	4.4M	13.4M	0.4M				
Madagascar	3.1M	2.5M	0.9M	1.1M	0.6M	0.3M	1.6M	1.0M				
Malawi	7.8M	0.5M	1.5M	0.2M	2.7M		3.7M	0.3M				
Mali	102.3M	26.2M	19.6M	7.3M	39.2M	7.9M	22.1M	5.8M	14.9M	4.2M	6.5M	1.0M
Mozambique	57.0M	27.6M	19.0M	17.7M	19.0M	4.3M	19.0M	5.7M				
Myanmar	137.1M	33.7M	70.2M	23.6M	22.6M	4.6M	28.0M	0.5M			16.3M	5.0M
Niger	78.6M	15.9M	22.2M	11.7M	15.3M	1.6M	37.9M	1.5M	3.2M	1.0M		
Nigeria	104.3M	38.5M	14.7M	12.9M	31.9M	11.7M	44.9M	11.2M	5.4M	1.7M	7.4M	0.9M
oPt	40.2M	15.7M	23.2M	4.1M	8.3M	1.9M	6.7M	3.3M		4.0M	2.0M	2.5M
Somalia	210.3M	57.2M	42.3M	21.2M	71.3M	6.6M	78.7M	23.4M	10.0M		8.0M	6.0M
South Sudan	102.3M	30.1M	20.2M		34.0M	15.3M	32.9M	12.3M	6.2M	1.4M	9.0M	1.0M
Sudan	244.2M	81.4M	74.9M	52.7M	81.0M	10.6M	62.8M	10.3M			25.5M	7.8M
Syria	462.7M	156.2M	198.1M	58.9M	96.0M	59.9M	103.9M	31.0M			64.7M	6.5M
Ukraine	494.5M	426.1M	165.6M	230.3M	165.1M	63.4M	64.2M	47.5M			99.6M	84.9M
Venezuela	101.1M	13.3M	33.4M	7.7M	31.2M	4.9M	36.6M	0.7M				
Yemen	225.6M	61.9M	84.8M	38.6M	49.6M	3.5M	60.3M	14.9M			31.0M	5.0M
Total	3.6B	1.4B	1.3B	644M	1.0B	302M	935M	285M	72M	18M	341M	154M

