



Global Protection Cluster



GLOBAL PROTECTION UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2024



© UNHCR/Andrew McConnell



PROTECTION AMIDST CONFLICTS AND CLIMATE SHOCKS

CONTEXT

The **global protection landscape** in 2024 has been deeply shaped by the intersection of armed conflict and climate-related disasters, creating a dual threat to vulnerable populations. Countries already grappling with protracted crises have faced compounded risks as climate-induced disasters exacerbate humanitarian needs. These intersecting crises drive displacement, undermine coping mechanisms, and intensify vulnerabilities for affected communities, particularly women, children, and marginalized groups. In the last quarter of 2024, the humanitarian crisis in Gaza intensified while Lebanon and Syria also saw worsening humanitarian conditions due to regional instability, economic collapse, and displacement crises. The conflict in Sudan continued to devastate millions, exacerbating displacement and severe food insecurity, while the Sahel experienced escalating violence and governance challenges, significantly impacting civilian populations. Climate-related disasters like droughts, floods, and cyclones hit regions including Asia and Africa, displacing communities and threatening food security.

According to [OCHA](#), 2024 has been the **deadliest year for aid workers**, with over 400 killed, injured, or kidnapped globally. The war in Gaza has driven the surge in casualties, with at least 333 humanitarian personnel killed since October 7, 2023. This alarming trend underscores the deteriorating safety of humanitarian spaces, particularly in conflict zones. Urgent calls have been made to enhance security protocols, ensure adherence to international humanitarian law, and address impunity for attacks on aid personnel. The violence against aid workers also reflects a broader pattern of civilian harm in conflict zones. Last year saw more than 33,000 civilian deaths in 14 armed conflicts – a 72 percent increase from 2022.

The violence experienced by women and girls remains a top priority risk across cluster operations. The [16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence](#) underscored the staggering reality that one in three women experience GBV in their lifetime. Efforts during the campaign focused on strengthening prevention, increasing funding for survivor support services, and fostering legal and policy reforms to protect women and girls. Advocacy also emphasized engaging men and boys as allies in combating GBV and dismantling harmful societal norms.

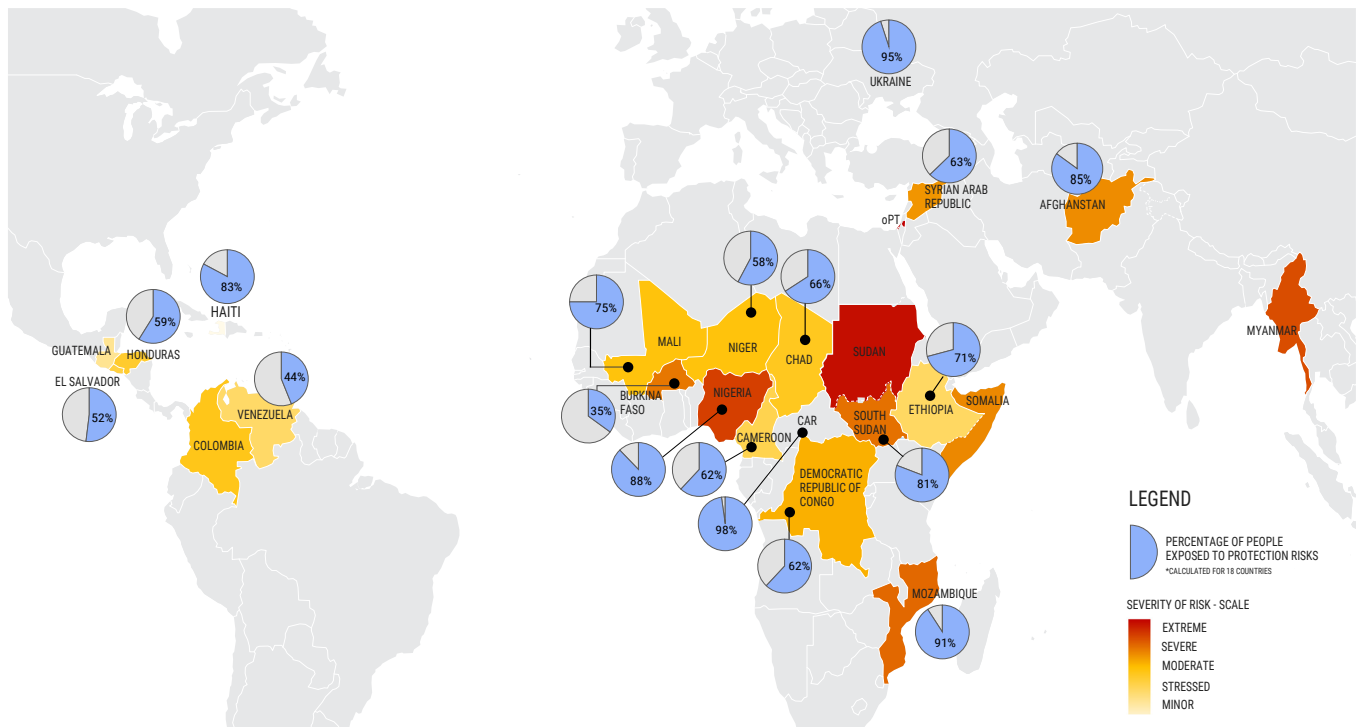
In September 2024, the **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** continued to emphasize the urgency of reforms in multilateral systems to address emerging global challenges. Key discussions centered on enhancing the effectiveness of international cooperation, equitable representation in global governance, and bridging divides in peace, security, and sustainable development efforts. During the [Summit of the Future](#), world leaders adopted a [Pact for the Future](#) that includes a Global Digital Compact and a Declaration on Future Generations ([A/RES/79/1](#)). The Pact covers a broad range of themes, including peace and security, sustainable development, climate change, digital cooperation, human rights, gender, youth and future generations, and the transformation of global governance. The [UN Climate Conference \(COP29\)](#) held in Baku in November 2024 highlighted the interconnectedness of climate resilience, sustainable development, and global stability, emphasizing the urgency of collective action. While countries made notable pledges and commitments, the UN Secretary-General expressed a desire for more ambitious outcomes, particularly in terms of financing and mitigation efforts.

The [Global Humanitarian Overview \(GHO\) 2025](#) was launched on 04 December 2024 by Tom Fletcher, the newly appointed United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC). At a time of escalating crises, the GHO 2025 serves as a crucial tool to raise awareness of and support for the vital role of humanitarian action. Humanitarians are appealing for US\$47 billion to assist nearly 190 million people facing urgent needs in 2025. The GPC and its network of partners echoed the GHO's clear calls for: greater respect for international humanitarian law and accountability for violations; adequate funding for localized, high-quality responses; and joined-up approaches that links humanitarian action with climate and development focused efforts. **Among his priorities the new ERC** has called for scaling up humanitarian responses to meet increasing needs, enhancing partnerships with local actors for greater impact, and leveraging innovative financing mechanisms to sustain humanitarian operations. Central to his agenda is a commitment to reducing bureaucratic bottlenecks and ensuring that aid reaches the most vulnerable populations effectively and efficiently.

216 M.
PEOPLE EXPOSED TO
PROTECTION RISKS

As of November 2024, Protection Clusters identified a total of **216 million people exposed to protection risks in 18 countries**. This analysis, which is being introduced for the first time, highlights a dire protection situation that requires increased collective efforts. **Attacks on civilians, disinformation and family separation** are the most common risks driving people's exposure to harm. These threats are largely

fueled by ongoing political instability, armed conflict and a lack of accountability for violations of human rights and international humanitarian law. Compared to the HNRP 2024, this indicates that the number of people estimated to be at risk is nearly double the 117 million who faced severe humanitarian protection needs that year¹. The map below highlights countries based on the aggregated severity of all 15 protection risks, along with the percentage of their population exposed to risks compared to the total population affected by the humanitarian crisis.



PEOPLE AFFECTED (IASC, 2016): Includes all those whose lives have been impacted as a direct result of the crisis.

PEOPLE EXPOSED TO PROTECTION RISKS: People exposed to protection risks are a subset of people affected by the crisis whose life is directly affected by current violence, coercion or deliberate deprivation in the form of protection risks severity.

PEOPLE IN NEED OF PROTECTION : Individuals, across all population groups and considering their age, gender and diversity, exposed to protection risks in the areas affected: 1. whose safety constraints limit their ability to move freely and access public spaces, 2. who cannot perform practices that ensure physical, emotional, psychological, and social safety, such as social interaction, educational pursuits, economic engagement, and healthcare, and 3. who are deprived of their rights, including adequate access to essential services and justice, considering their age, gender, and diverse needs.

PROTECTION ANALYSIS UPDATES

27 Protection Clusters have produced 93 Protection Analysis Updates, including 57 national, 31 sub-national and 5 thematic since the 1st of January 2022. The PAUs are produced on a regular basis with the aim of informing the protection response – including in terms of identifying pressing gaps, needed programmatic and advocacy actions and protection priorities. They are grounded in the Protection Analytical Framework. The following 23 PAUs were produced thus far in 2024. [Click on the country to access the latest PAU \(if public\).](#)

PAUs PUBLISHED 2024

SOMALIA	JANUARY	oPt (GAZA)	MAY	SOMALIA	AUGUST	DRC	OCTOBER
MOZAMBIQUE	FEBRUARY	AFGHANISTAN	MAY	AFGHANISTAN	SEPTEMBER	COLOMBIA	NOVEMBER
DR CONGO	MARCH	ETHIOPIA	MAY	VENEZUELA	SEPTEMBER	VENEZUELA	DECEMBER
oPt (WEST BANK)	MARCH	SOUTH SUDAN	JULY	COLOMBIA	OCTOBER	GUATEMALA	DECEMBER
SOUTH SUDAN	MARCH	UKRAINE	JULY	NIGER	OCTOBER	CENTRAL AFRICAN REP.	DECEMBER
NIGERIA	APRIL	MALI	AUGUST	ETHIOPIA	OCTOBER		

¹ In 2024 the GPC and its AoRs have introduced an analysis of how many people are exposed to protection risks compared to the population affected by crises. The number of people exposed to protection risk is used as a baseline to identify how many of those at risks are in need of humanitarian protection assistance (PIN).

KEY COUNTRY NEWS

Widespread protection risks persist in **Afghanistan** as a consequence of the continuing humanitarian and economic crisis, as well as the shrinking protection spaces particularly for women, girls, and other vulnerable groups. In August, the Taliban enacted a new law expanding its morality police's powers, imposing severe personal conduct restrictions on Afghans, particularly women.

Burkina Faso's security situation has deteriorated since October, with rising violence including armed incursions, IEDs, and kidnappings, causing significant civilian casualties, displacement, and destruction. Rural villages, particularly in the Sahel and Est regions, are frequent targets, with an August attack in Barsalogo alone claiming an estimated 150 - 500 lives in one of the deadliest incidents this year.

Burundi faces a sharp rise in mpox cases. Child cases have surged from 89 to 1,100 since mid-August, with stigma and misinformation hindering containment efforts.

Severe flooding in **Cameroon's** Far North region has displaced over 420,000 people, destroyed 56,000 homes, and submerged 85,000 hectares of arable land. In the North-West and South-West, escalating violence has further driven displacement and disrupted access to healthcare and education, leaving thousands of children out of school.

116 incidents targeting humanitarian workers were reported in October in the **Central African Republic**, reflecting ongoing threats from armed groups and military operations.

Since the end of July, torrential rains have caused flooding in all 23 provinces of **Chad**, affecting nearly 2 million people, with over 580 deaths reported. Concurrently, the Sudan crisis has driven an influx of 222,750 Chadian returnees. The security situation in Lake Chad Basin has deteriorated, mainly due to the presence of Boko Haram and other NSAGs.

In November, **Colombia** declared a national emergency for the second time in 2024 due to severe rains and floods in Chocó and La Guajira. Meanwhile, an 80% drop in river levels in Amazonas caused by drought has restricted water and food access, and led to the closure of over 130 schools, increasing children's risk of forced recruitment and exploitation by NSAGs.

In October, after a two-month ceasefire, the M23 rebel group resumed its offensive in eastern **DR Congo**, leading to renewed clashes with the Congolese armed forces. The withdrawal of MONUSCO from South Kivu, and soon from North Kivu and Ituri, along with the recent Mpox epidemic, constitute major aggravating factors for the protection and safety of affected populations.

In **El Salvador** the most vulnerable populations — such as women, children, LGBTQI+ individuals, and indigenous groups — face heightened risks of violence and discrimination. The population also struggles with high levels of domestic violence, especially against women.

La Niña is predicted to cause drought in Somali, Oromia, and Southern regions of **Ethiopia** in late 2024, into 2025, worsening food insecurity and

public health issues like cholera, of which there has been over 27,000 cases so far this year. In September, severe flooding and landslides affected over 430,000 thousand across Gambella, South Ethiopia, Afar, Oromia, Somali, and Sidama, causing extensive damage to crops and to vital infrastructure, including over 9,000 schools.

Floods and landslides in October displaced over 15,000 people in **Guatemala**. The presence of organized crime groups continues to pose serious challenges to the protection of the population due to their reach, control, and the violence they exert.

The population in **Haiti** faces constant threats, including kidnappings, extortion, and violent clashes, while the government's ability to maintain order is severely compromised. The breakdown of law and order has led to an increase in sexual and gender-based violence, particularly against women and children.

Making landfall in **Honduras** on 13 November 2024, Tropical Storm Sara affected 128,000 people, damaged 2,500 homes, and isolated over 1,700 communities.

Mali is facing its worst flooding in decades, impacting over 380,000 people, destroying 48,000 homes, and devastating 85,000 hectares of crops. With 330,000 internally displaced people and 1.37 million affected by food insecurity, the crisis is deepening as conflict escalates post-rainy season, particularly in Koulikoro, Mopti, Timbuktu, and Gao, where rising insecurity further strain an already precarious protection environment.

KEY COUNTRY NEWS (CONT'D)

The protection situation in **Mozambique** remains fragile, with ongoing instability and violence in the northern provinces, particularly Cabo Delgado, Nampula, and Niassa. The violence persists in rural and remote regions, especially as the groups shift tactics and target civilians, military, and humanitarian workers.

Over 3.4 million people in **Myanmar** are displaced due to intensified conflict and severe flooding. Violence, including airstrikes and landmines, has killed or maimed at least 650 children in 2024 alone.

The 2024 rainy season in **Niger** brought catastrophic flooding – the worst the country has seen in 20 years. Torrential rains in July and August caused widespread destruction, and although the rains have since abated, the number of people affected continues to rise, surpassing 1.5 million. By November, at least 396 deaths had been reported, more than 200,000 homes destroyed, and over 26,000 heads of livestock lost.

The removal of fuel subsidies in **Nigeria** last year drove food prices and inflation to a near 30-year high in 2024, worsening food insecurity and acute malnutrition, and pushing already vulnerable communities to resort to negative coping mechanisms to provide for their families. This crisis is further exacerbated by devastating floods affecting 1.3 million people across 34 states.

As of November 19, the war in the **occupied Palestinian territories** has claimed over 43,970 Palestinian lives in **Gaza** and 732 in the **West Bank**.

In Gaza, over 70,000 housing units have been destroyed, displacing 1.9 million people. In October, Israel's parliament voted to ban the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) from operating across the oPt.

Successive typhoons and tropical storms in November have affected over 13 million people in 17 regions across the **Philippines**, with 711,000 displaced and extensive flooding and landslides destroying homes and infrastructure.

Over 427,000 people were newly displaced in **Somalia** in the first 10 months of 2024, bringing the total number of IDPs to 3.7 million by December.

Flooding across 44 counties in **South Sudan** has displaced over 379,000 people and affected 1.4 million. In addition, in September, the government announced a two-year delay of the general elections initially scheduled for December 2024, citing incomplete preparations.

Over 11.8 million **Sudanese** have been displaced by conflict, including 8.4 million internally. With famine-level acute malnutrition in North Darfur's Zamzam IDP camp, a collapsed healthcare system, and cholera and dengue outbreaks, nearly 26 million people face severe hunger, including 755,000 at catastrophic levels (IPC Phase 5). The war between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), which began in April 2023, has resulted in over 100,000 deaths.

The escalation of hostilities in **NW Syria** has caused the displacement of more than 115,000 people. 70%

of these IDPs have moved from Idleb governorate and 30% from Northern Aleppo. Children, especially unaccompanied and separated minors, are among the most exposed to protection risks, with 13% reporting family separation.

November 19th marked 1,000 days of conflict in **Ukraine**, with over 12,000 civilians killed and 27,000 injured. Drone strikes continue to increase, with October alone seeing 1,900 attacks on civilian and critical infrastructure. As winter approaches, these escalating attacks on energy infrastructure have deepened the humanitarian crisis, with 9.9 million displaced, including 3.3 million internally.

Protests over the disputed outcome of **Venezuela's** July 2024 presidential elections have led to 24 deaths and thousands detained, as the Government intensifies its crackdown on opposition figures, drawing widespread international condemnation and calls for respect for democratic principles.

Yemen continues to face severe food insecurity – with an estimate that 17.1 million people, 49% of the population, anticipated to be severely food insecure in 2025. Flooding has displaced over 500,000 people and damaged critical infrastructure. The ongoing conflict also continues to severely impact civilians, with reports of casualties from airstrikes, shelling, and ground fighting.

The worst drought in 40 years has left 7.6 million people food insecure in **Zimbabwe**, with crisis-level outcomes expected until the 2025 harvest.

EMERGING PROTECTION TRENDS

CRISIS WATCH	ALARMING SITUATIONS	
GAZA	SYRIA	SUDAN (ZAMZAM)
<p>One year into the ongoing crisis in Gaza, the situation has reached catastrophic levels of devastation, and violence. Critical shortages of essential supplies are leaving millions of people in dire need. Civilians continue to bear the brunt of the conflict, facing devastating loss of life, mass displacement, and the collapse of critical infrastructure, including healthcare, water, and electricity systems. Food insecurity is rampant, and the psychological toll is immense, particularly among children, who are growing up amid relentless trauma. Humanitarian organizations are struggling to deliver aid due to access constraints, while calls for adherence to international humanitarian law and the protection of civilians remain urgent. The crisis underscores the need for an immediate ceasefire, unimpeded humanitarian access, and a long-term solution to address the root causes of the suffering in Gaza.</p>	<p>In November and December 2024, the situation in Syria underwent significant developments marked by escalating conflict and a shift in political power. Multiple areas, including Aleppo, Hama, Idlib, north-east Syria and rural Damascus, experienced increased hostilities. This led to severe humanitarian impacts, including displacement, restricted access to essential services, and critical infrastructure damage. In early December, the Syrian government, under Bashar al-Assad, collapsed following a rapid rebel offensive. Opposition forces took control of key cities, including Homs and Damascus, with minimal resistance. After nearly 14 years of conflict and one of the world's worst humanitarian crises, these events mark a turning point for Syria and the region, with uncertainties about the future governance and stability of the country.</p>	<p>A deadly shelling attack on Zamzam camp, the largest site for IDPs in Sudan's Darfur region, occurred on the evenings of December 1 and 2. The shelling resulted in at least five deaths and 18 injuries, forcing the evacuation of a hospital and halting healthcare operations. Located near El Fasher in North Darfur, Zamzam is home to over half a million displaced people and has already been suffering from a months-long siege and critical shortages of humanitarian supplies. In August 2024, famine conditions were confirmed, making it the only place globally to declare famine this year. This attack marks an escalation of violence at a site previously spared from active hostilities, though it aligns with a pattern of attacks on other IDP camps, such as Abu Shouk and Nefasha, where 13 people were killed on October 6-7.</p>

PROTECTION RISKS

OF CONCERN	HIGHLIGHTS ON PROTECTION RISKS	
<p>ABDUCTION, KIDNAPPING, ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE, ARBITRARY OR UNLAWFUL ARREST AND/OR DETENTION</p>	<p>48% of cluster operations (12) report the risk as 'high' or 'very high'. This represents an increase (5 countries) compared to the previous period.</p>	<p>CHILD AND FORCED FAMILY SEPARATION</p>
<p>28% of cluster operations (7) report this risk as 'high' or 'very high'. This represents an increase (4 countries) compared to the previous period.</p>	<p>28% of cluster operations (7) report the risk as 'high' or 'very high'. This represents an increase (4 countries) compared to the previous period.</p>	
<p>TORTURE OR CRUEL, INHUMAN, DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT</p>		

MONITOR

TRACKING OF 15 PROTECTION RISKS ACROSS EMERGENCIES

The Global Protection Cluster and its Areas of Responsibility monitor and track 15 protection risks¹ across crises with active Protection Cluster operations. In June 2024 the **Global Protection Risk Tracker** has been changed from a survey-based system to an in-country subnational joined-up analysis mechanisms based on a convergence of evidence and structured value judgement. The tracker is currently embedded in the Protection Cluster approach to contribute to the JIAF and the Humanitarian Needs Overview².

PROTECTION RISK	MOST SEVERE COUNTRY SITUATIONS	MINOR	STRESSED	MODERATE	SEVERE	EXTREME
ABDUCTION & DETENTION	SUDAN, OPT, NIGERIA		4	9	9	3
ATTACKS ON CIVILIANS	DRC, MYANMAR, SOMALIA, SUDAN, OPT, NIGERIA, HAITI, UKRAINE	1	3	5	8	8
DISCRIMINATION	AFGHANISTAN, MYANMAR, SOMALIA, SUDAN, OPT, NIGERIA		3	9	7	6
DISINFORMATION	OPT	1	8	10	5	1
FAMILY SEPARATION	SUDAN, OPT	1	2	15	5	2
FORCED RECRUITMENT	COLOMBIA, DRC, MOZAMBIQUE, MYANMAR, SOMALIA, SUDAN	1	4	7	7	6
GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE	AFGHANISTAN, DRC, MALI, MOZAMBIQUE, SOMALIA, SUDAN, VENEZUELA, SOUTH SUDAN, OPT, HAITI		1	2	12	10
LEGAL IDENTITY	AFGHANISTAN, MOZAMBIQUE, MYANMAR, SUDAN, SOUTH SUDAN, OPT	1	1	10	7	6
MARRIAGE	AFGHANISTAN, MOZAMBIQUE, SUDAN, SOUTH SUDAN		4	11	6	4
MOVEMENT & DISPLACEMENT	AFGHANISTAN, MYANMAR, SOMALIA, SUDAN, OPT, NIGERIA		2	5	12	6
PRESENCE OF MINES	AFGHANISTAN, MYANMAR, SOMALIA, SUDAN, OPT, NIGERIA	5	4	5	5	6
PSYCHOSOCIAL	AFGHANISTAN, DRC, SUDAN, SYRIA (including North-West), OPT, NIGERIA	1	2	6	9	7
THEFT & EVICTION	SOMALIA, SUDAN, SYRIA North-East, OPT, NIGERIA	1	2	8	9	5
TORTURE & CRUELTY	SUDAN, OPT	2	8	8	5	2
TRAFFICKING & LABOUR	MYANMAR, SUDAN		8	9	6	2

¹ [GPC Protection Risks Explanatory Note, March 2023](#)

² [Protection Cluster Joined-Up Approach to Protection Analysis, June 2024](#)



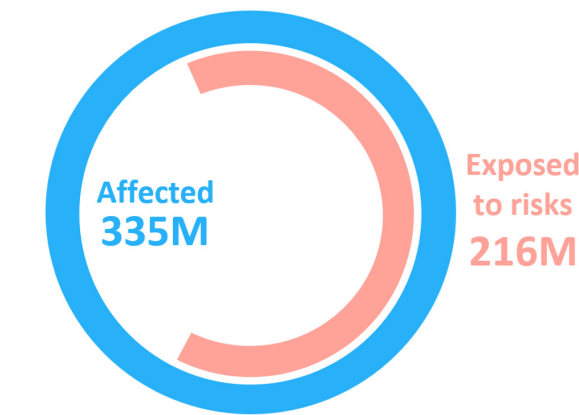
GLOBAL PROTECTION TRENDS

The changes in approach and methodology to strengthen continuous joined-up protection analysis at subnational level are offering a renewed perspective on the global protection situation. Alongside this Global Protection Update, the GPC is also launching a new [Global Protection Data and Analysis Platform](#), providing an accessible resource for more detailed analysis and insights.

This renewed picture of the global protection situation reveals that in 2024, protection risks continue to significantly affect the lives of affected populations, driving substantial humanitarian needs. Across 25 operations, an analysis of all 15 protection risks highlights alarming trends: **2 countries (8%) are experiencing extreme situations (oPt and Sudan)**, while **9 countries (36%) are severely impacted** by protection risks. Protection Cluster and its AoR, and partners have started assessing the severity of risks at the subnational level, offering a more granular understanding of how the different protection risks impact specific regions within their country.



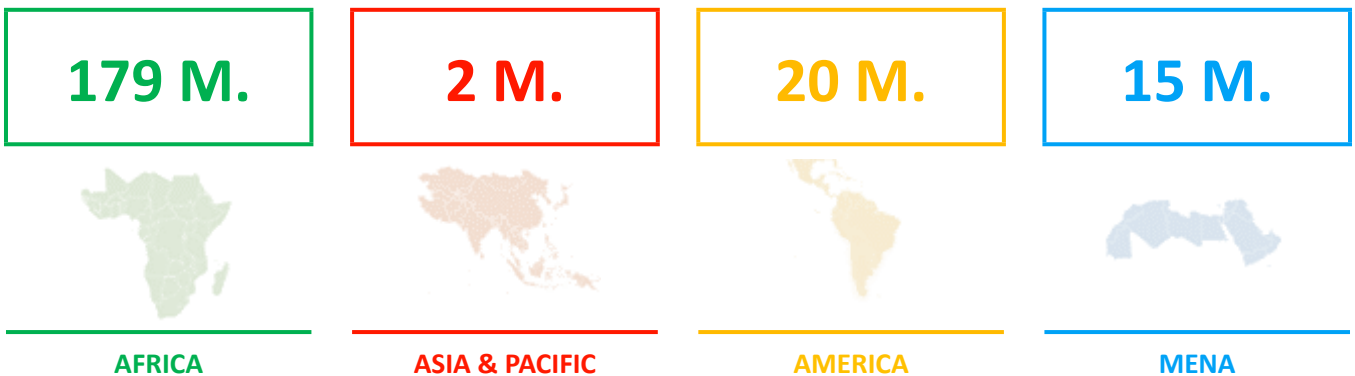
Figure 1 Percentage of countries per severity level



People are caught in a complex net of **increasing and persistent threats, primarily linked to political motives, conflicts, and the failure of states to uphold human rights and comply with International Humanitarian Law (IHL)** as well as **the persistent presence of multidimensional threats that go beyond physical dangers, encompassing social, psychological, and economic harms.** An **estimated 216 million people face protection risks** across 18 countries¹, **nearly double the 117 million identified as needing humanitarian protection assistance** in 2024. With Protection Clusters targeting 49 million people in 2024, current estimates suggest only 1 in 4 individuals at risk is prioritized for humanitarian protection activities².

The estimate of people exposed to risks is derived from a predictive model that analyzes the severity of protection risks and other shocks affecting populations. The analysis considers **non-displaced population, IDPs and returnees** to identify who among the people exposed to protection risks is most in need of humanitarian protection assistance. The analysis reveals that **attacks on civilians, disinformation and family separation** are severe protection risks affecting all population groups, compounded by extreme threats, vulnerabilities to those, and/or inadequate capacities to cope. Additionally, **theft and evictions** and **presence of mines** are recurrent for **IDPs**, **legal identity, discrimination, forced recruitment and presence of mines** are recurrent for **returnees**, and **legal identity and psychosocial** are recurrent for **non-displaced populations**.

PEOPLE EXPOSED TO PROTECTION RISKS BY REGION



¹ The revised methodology has been introduced in June 2024 and will be roll out in all Protection Clusters operations in 2025. Countries covered by the analysis are: Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, CAR, Chad, DRC, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Haiti, Honduras, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, South Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, Venezuela.

² At the time of this report PIN and Targets 2025 are not available yet. The real estimate of how many people exposed to protection risks is in need of humanitarian protection activities in 2025 will be calculated upon their availability.

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS AT SUBNATIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL

The specific severity of each of the **3,214 subregions assessed** offers a more detailed overview of risks, revealing that significant portions of the populations in the evaluated countries are living in extreme conditions.

Countries such as **Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, CAR, DRC, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Haiti, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, oPt, South Sudan, Sudan, Ukraine** and **Venezuela** have specific areas where the situation is categorized as **severe or extreme**.

In **Central & South America**, countries like **El Salvador** and **Venezuela** stand out with extensive areas of the country in grim situations. In **Africa** similarly to **Ukraine**, it is extremely worrying that almost all population groups face a moderate to extreme level of all 15 protection risks combined. The maps below provide a more detailed overview of these findings.

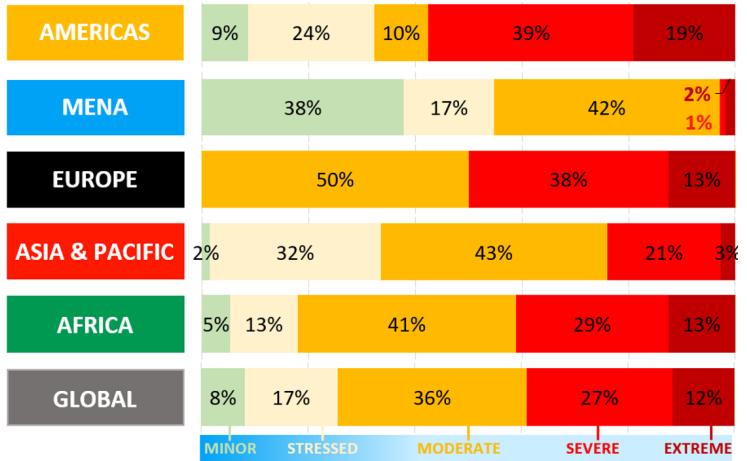
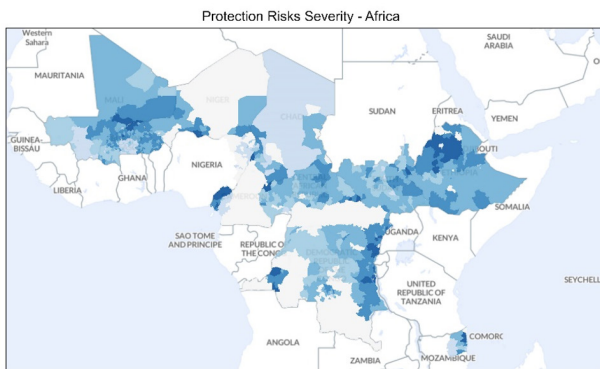
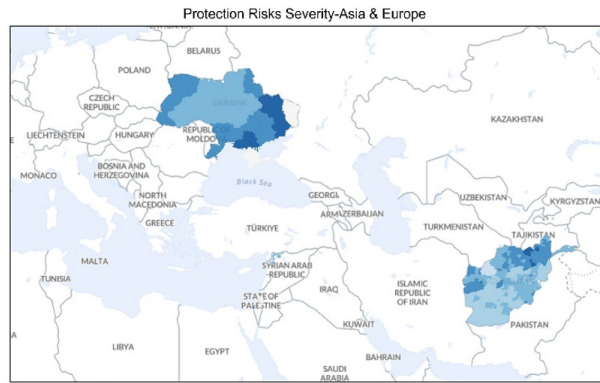
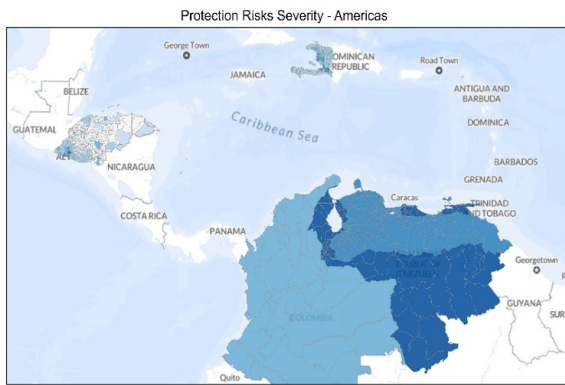


Figure 2 Percentage of subnational areas (Admin1) per severity level



Protection risks do not impact affected population in a vacuum, instead they are interrelated to other numerous factors. While these factors are challenging to isolate and vary across country-specific contexts, a cluster analysis combining protection risks severity with existing datasets¹ shows the following patterns:

MYANMAR, OPT, SUDAN	AFGHANISTAN, CAR, CHAD, DRC, ETHIOPIA, HAITI, SOMALIA, SOUTH SUDAN, SYRIA, VENEZUELA
Extreme violence, collapsing governance, and overwhelming civilian vulnerabilities requiring urgent action.	Pervasive protection risks, displacement, and instability, with fragile governance unable to address widespread violations.
BURKINA FASO, MALI, MOZAMBIQUE, NIGER, NIGERIA	COLOMBIA, EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, HONDURAS, UKRAINE
Severe insecurity, rampant human rights violations, and weak governance, exposing civilians to grave risks.	Relative resilience but requiring continued support to address ongoing conflict and protection risks.

¹ The analysis is based on a Hierarchical Clustering Dendrogram using the following data: Protection Risks severity 2023-24, Human Development Index (HDI), Multi-dimensional Poverty Index (MPI), ACLED Conflict Index, Corruption Perception Index (CPI), Gender Inequality Index, INFORM Risk selected indicators (Development & Deprivation, Socio-Economic Vulnerability, Food Availability, Food Utilization, Food Security, Governance Effectiveness, Economic Dependency).

AT A GLANCE

MOST SEVERE PROTECTION RISKS REPORTED IN THE LAST QUARTER

Since June 2024, the 8 most severe reported protection risks remain the same. 'Attacks on civilians and other unlawful killings, and attacks on civilian objects' sees a significant increase (14%), similarly to 'Unlawful impediments or restrictions to freedom of movement, siege and forced displacement' (12%) and 'Psychological/emotional abuse or inflicted distress' (9%), indicating a worrying trend of escalating conflict, increased displacement and significant psychosocial harm to affected populations. 'Gender-based violence' remains the top reported protection risk, with a slight decrease in the countries reporting it as 'high' or 'very high'.



GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

100% of operations report gender-based violence as being the most concerning. 88% describe the risk as 'high' or 'very high'.



MOVEMENT & DISPLACEMENT

100% of operations report forced displacement and impediments to freedom of movement as a risk. 72% describe the risk as 'high' or 'very high'.



ATTACKS ON CIVILIANS

Attacks on civilians or infrastructures are occurring in 100% of operations. 64% describe the risk as 'high' or 'very high'.



PSYCHOLOGICAL

100% of operations report psychological/emotional abuse or inflicted distress amongst the affected populations. 64% rate the risk as 'high' or 'very high'.



THEFT & EVICTION

100% of operations report theft, extortion, forced eviction or destruction of personal property. 56% describe the risk as 'high' or 'very high'.



DISCRIMINATION

Discrimination and stigmatization, denial of resources, opportunities, services and/or humanitarian access across 100% of operations. 52% describe the risk as 'high' or 'very high'.



FORCED RECRUITMENT

100% of operations report forced recruitment. 52% describe the risk as 'high' or 'very high'.



LEGAL IDENTITY

100% of operations report impediments and/or restrictions to access to documentation, remedies and justice. 52% describe the risk as 'high' or 'very high'.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

AFGHANISTAN	MALI	DRC	MOZAMBIQUE	SOMALIA	SUDAN
VENEZUELA	SOUTH SUDAN	oPt	HAITI	BURKINA FASO	CHAD
COLOMBIA	EL SALVADOR	ETHIOPIA	HONDURAS	MYANMAR	SYRIA-DAMAS
SYRIA - NE	SYRIA - NW	NIGERIA	NIGER	GUATEMALA	CAMEROON
UKRAINE					

In **Colombia**, gender-based violence (GBV) continues to rise amidst the armed conflict, and natural disasters. In 2024, over 103,000 GBV cases were reported, with 76% of survivors being women and 46% being children. Migrant women are particularly vulnerable during transit, facing exploitation and violence. A lack of safe reporting mechanisms and limited institutional capacity exacerbates the challenges survivors face in accessing justice and protection. In **Guatemala**, **49% of women** are experiencing some form of violence in their lifetime. The most common type is sexual violence (**34.48%**), followed by psychological (**31.67%**) and physical violence (**18.14%**). Women and adolescent girls in transit face additional risks, with **43%** of migrant women reporting incidents of violence during their journey. In the **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)**, GBV remains pervasive, especially in the eastern provinces. From January to June 2024, over **61,346 survivors** of GBV were recorded, with nearly **89% being women and girls** and **40% being children**. The provinces of **North Kivu, South Kivu, and Ituri** report the highest cases, driven by armed conflict and insufficient humanitarian assistance. Impunity for perpetrators exacerbates the risk, as victims fear stigma and retaliation, limiting access to support services. In **Ethiopia**, GBV is exacerbated by conflict, climate shocks, and displacement. Between 2021 and 2024, the population in need of GBV response surged from **3.5 million to 7.2 million**, highlighting the severity of this risk. In regions like **Oromia, Amhara, Somali, Afar, Gambella, and Benishangul-Gumuz**, conflict and displacement increase exposure to sexual exploitation and abuse, child marriage, and intimate partner violence. For example, **child marriage** is often used as a coping mechanism in drought-affected areas like Somali and Tigray, with **4 in 10 girls** married before 18. In **Niger**, GBV remains widespread, with **1,048 incidents** reported from January to June 2024, a **11% decrease** from 2023. Women and girls constitute **97% of victims**, with most cases involving intimate partner violence. Displaced girls face heightened risks of **sexual violence and early marriage**, especially in insecure areas like **Diffa and Maradi**. Limited access to GBV response services compounds the challenges for survivors. In **Mali**, GBV remains a significant concern, with **7,641 incidents** reported between January and June 2024—a **66% increase** compared to the same period in 2023. Sexual violence, forced marriages, and intimate partner violence are prevalent, with **70% of cases** involving women and girls. Conflict-affected areas like **Mopti, Gao, and Tombouctou** report the highest rates of GBV, compounded by limited access to support services. Survivors often face stigma and rejection, further exacerbating their vulnerabilities.

UNLAWFUL IMPEDIMENTS OR RESTRICTIONS TO FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT, SIEGE, AND FORCED DISPLACEMENT

AFGHANISTAN	MYANMAR	SOMALIA	SUDAN	oPt	NIGERIA
SYRIA - NE	SYRIA - NW	SYRIA - DAMAS	NIGERIA	SOUTH SUDAN	MOZAMBIQUE
MALI	DRC	COLOMBIA	HONDURAS	CAMEROON	BURKINA FASO
CHAD	EL SALVADOR	VENEZUELA	GUATEMALA	HAITI	UKRAINE
ETHIOPIA					

In **Colombia**, forced displacement remains a pressing issue, with over 338,701 individuals displaced in 2024. Indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities face confinement due to armed group control in regions such as **Nariño, Cauca, and Putumayo**, undermining their autonomy and fundamental rights. The internal conflict continues to fragment communities, forcing families into precarious living conditions. In **Guatemala**, armed groups impose "invisible borders" in urban and rural areas, restricting residents' movement and access to basic services. Over **1.2 million people** have been displaced due to violence, natural disasters, and climate change impacts. These displacements disrupt livelihoods and exacerbate vulnerabilities, particularly for indigenous communities, women, and children. The escalation of conflict, particularly in **North Kivu and Ituri**, has displaced over **6.4 million individuals**. The occupation by armed groups, such as M23, and clashes between the **Lendu and Hema communities** have severely limited civilian movement and access to basic services. Attacks on displacement sites, like the May 2024 bombing of Mugunga in Goma, have further endangered IDPs. **Ethiopia** hosts **4.5 million IDPs**, largely displaced by **conflict (73%)** and **climate disasters (12%)**. Regions like **Somali, Oromia, and Tigray** see recurring displacement due to violence. Restrictions on movement, such as curfews in **Amhara**, limit civilian access to resources and hinder humanitarian aid. Flooding in 2024 affected **1.6 million people**, displacing **443,000** and compounding existing vulnerabilities. In **Afghanistan**, approximately **19% of returnees** face rent disputes, with **16% threatened with eviction**, often due to lack of proper documentation or conflicting land claims. Informal settlements and urban areas such as Kabul, Jalalabad, and Kandahar report frequent eviction threats, forcing families into precarious living conditions. Women, particularly female-headed households, are disproportionately affected as their names rarely appear on land documents. Additionally, **explosive ordnance contamination** in provinces like Kandahar and Helmand poses severe restrictions on safe mobility for returnees, with **34 provinces** affected by unexploded remnants of war. In **Mali**, restrictions on movement and forced displacement are widespread due to ongoing violence and conflict. Over **913 movement restrictions** and **3,515 forced displacements** were reported in the first half of 2024. Armed groups use roadblocks and sieges to isolate communities, particularly in **Kidal, Gao, and Tombouctou**. These restrictions hinder humanitarian access and disrupt livelihoods, forcing families to adopt negative coping mechanisms such as early marriage and child labor.



ATTACKS ON CIVILIANS AND OTHER UNLAWFUL KILLINGS, AND ATTACKS ON CIVILIAN OBJECTS

MYANMAR	DRC	SOMALIA	SUDAN	HAITI	oPt
UKRAINE	NIGERIA	CAMEROON	MALI	BURKINA FASO	MOZAMBIQUE
SYRIA - NW	SYRIA - DAMAS	SOUTH SUDAN	NIGER	AFGHANISTAN	CHAD
COLOMBIA	ETHIOPIA	HONDURAS	SYRIA - NE	EL SALVADOR	VENEZUELA
GUATEMALA					

The conflict in the **DRC** has resulted in over 9,915 protection incidents from January to August 2024, with 14% involving killings and 6% involving torture. Civilian infrastructure, such as schools, health facilities, and markets, continues to be targeted, particularly in **Ituri, North Kivu, and South Kivu**, disrupting economic and social services. In **Niger**, non-state armed groups (NSAGs) continue to target civilians, particularly in **Tillabéri, Tahoua, and Diffa**. From January to June 2024, 1,339 incidents were documented, including killings, abductions, and property destruction. Children accounted for 12% of victims, with many abducted for ransom or forcibly married to combatants. The destruction of schools, health centers, and homes disrupts community stability and increases displacement. In **Somalia**, Jowhar faces threats from Al-Shabab, whose offensive strategies target civilian infrastructure and populations. This has resulted in collateral damage, extortion, and forced recruitment of children. Inter-clan conflicts, particularly between the **Abgaal/Hawiye and Somali Bantu clans**, remain a persistent risk, with historical grievances over land ownership sparking periodic violence. In **Mali**, armed conflicts have escalated significantly in 2024, with 2,009 people killed and 790 security incidents documented in the first half of the year. Regions such as **Mopti, Gao, and Ségou** have been heavily impacted. Indiscriminate attacks by non-state armed groups have targeted civilians, schools, and healthcare facilities, forcing closures and displacing over 330,713 people. Armed groups frequently employ sieges and roadblocks to control territories, leaving communities without access to essential services, including food and healthcare.

PSYCHOLOGICAL/EMOTIONAL ABUSE OR INFLICTED DISTRESS

AFGHANISTAN	DRC	SUDAN	SYRIA - DAMAS	SYRIA - NW	oPt
NIGERIA	BURKINA FASO	COLOMBIA	EL SALVADOR	MALI	MOZAMBIQUE
MYANMAR	SYRIA - NE	SOUTH SUDAN	VENEZUELA	CAMEROON	CHAD
ETHIOPIA	SOMALIA	HAITI	NIGER	HONDURAS	UKRAINE
GUATEMALA					

In **Niger**, the ongoing conflict has left **59% of IDPs** as children, many experiencing psychological trauma from separation, violence, or abduction. Displacement sites in **Maradi and Tahoua** report significant needs for psychosocial assistance, particularly for children exposed to violence and abuse. In **Afghanistan**, a staggering **45% of returnees** report experiencing stress that adversely affects daily life, with **28% of families** observing behavioral changes in members, including sadness, withdrawal, and aggression. Returnees, particularly children and women, suffer from psychological trauma caused by forced displacement, harsh living conditions, and restricted freedoms. Access to mental health services remains limited due to high costs and a lack of qualified personnel. The protracted conflict in **Somalia** has resulted in widespread **psychological distress** among residents of Jowhar. Displacement, lack of access to basic services, and loss of livelihoods have contributed to heightened anxiety, depression, and social fragmentation. Vulnerable groups, including **women, youth, and displaced minorities**, face the most severe mental health challenges. Factors such as exclusion from humanitarian assistance and disruption of social structures further exacerbate emotional abuse and distress.

THEFT, EXTORTION, FORCED EVICTION OR DESTRUCTION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

SOMALIA	SUDAN	SYRIA - NE	oPt	NIGERIA	BURKINA FASO
CHAD	HONDURAS	MOZAMBIQUE	MYANMAR	SYRIA - NW	SYRIA - DAMAS
SOUTH SUDAN	NIGER	AFGHANISTAN	CAMEROON	COLOMBIA	DRC
EL SALVADOR	MALI	VENEZUELA	GUATEMALA	ETHIOPIA	UKRAINE
HAITI					

Guatemala has one of the highest rates of extortion in the region, with a **22.9% increase** in cases reported in 2023. Internal displacement due to extortion and violence is rising, particularly in urban and high-crime areas. Forced evictions disproportionately affect indigenous families, with **503 families displaced** in 2023 alone, marking a **101% increase** from the previous year. From January to August 2024, over **13,152 property-related incidents** were reported. These include **6,754 cases of extortion, 3,591 incidents of looting, and 231 forced evictions**. The **South Kivu province**, experiencing the withdrawal of MONUSCO, reports a rise in land confiscation and forced evictions, exacerbating vulnerabilities among IDPs and returnees. In **Niger**, ANSAs frequently extort livestock, crops, and valuables from communities, severely affecting livelihoods. Extortion through illegal taxation (zakat) in **Tahoua and Tillabéri** has escalated, leaving families destitute. Forced evictions due to land disputes or security operations further destabilize displaced populations, often without access to durable solutions. In **Somalia, Jowhar**, theft, extortion, and forced evictions are widespread, exacerbated by climate shocks such as flooding and socio-economic hardships. Rising land prices often lead to evictions, leaving residents, particularly **minority and marginalized communities**, vulnerable to displacement. Land disputes and inter-clan conflicts further escalate the destruction of personal property. The lack of enforcement of the **2019 Eviction Guidelines** and secure land tenure contributes to recurrent evictions and insecurity. Flooding has destroyed crops and livestock, compounding the vulnerabilities of displaced populations in the region.

DISCRIMINATION AND STIGMATIZATION, DENIAL OF RESOURCES, OPPORTUNITIES, SERVICES AND/OR HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

AFGHANISTAN	MYANMAR	SOMALIA	SUDAN	oPt	NIGERIA
BURKINA FASO	CHAD	MALI	MOZAMBIQUE	SYRIA - NW	SOUTH SUDAN
NIGER	CAMEROON	COLOMBIA	DRC	EL SALVADOR	ETHIOPIA
HONDURAS	SYRIA - DAMAS	VENEZUELA	GUATEMALA	SYRIA - NE	HAITI
UKRAINE					

In **Guatemala**, indigenous populations and rural communities face heightened discrimination and restricted access to essential services, including education and healthcare. Over **2.7 million children** were out of the education system in 2023 due to insufficient infrastructure and systemic inequalities. This lack of access is exacerbated by inadequate public spending, which represents only **2.48% of GDP**, leading to severe disparities, particularly in rural and indigenous areas. Discrimination in **Ethiopia** disproportionately affects **IDPs and marginalized groups** such as ethnic minorities, women, and people with disabilities. Nearly **50% of IDPs** reported exclusion from decision-making processes regarding aid distribution. Lack of identification documents further hinders access to essential services. Despite the implementation of the national "Fayda" digital ID system, accessibility challenges remain for vulnerable populations. In **Afghanistan**, returning refugees face widespread discrimination and systemic barriers to accessing resources. Women-headed households (**15%** of returnees), persons with disabilities (**15%**), and elderly-headed households (**12%**) are disproportionately affected. Among these, women face compounded barriers due to restrictive societal norms and legal restrictions, such as bans on women accessing humanitarian services. Additionally, **47% of returnee families lack essential documentation**, impeding access to education, healthcare, and other vital services. Returnees from rural and impoverished backgrounds are particularly vulnerable to stigmatization, limiting their ability to integrate into host communities.

FORCED RECRUITMENT AND ASSOCIATION OF CHILDREN IN ARMED FORCES AND GROUPS

COLOMBIA	DRC	SOMALIA	SUDAN	MOZAMBIQUE	MYANMAR
HONDURAS	SYRIA - NE	BURKINA FASO	SOUTH SUDAN	oPt	NIGERIA
HAITI	AFGHANISTAN	CHAD	MALI	SYRIA - NW	SYRIA - DAMAS
VENEZUELA	NIGER	CAMEROON	EL SALVADOR	ETHIOPIA	GUATEMALA
UKRAINE					

In **Colombia**, forced recruitment of children by armed groups remains a significant protection risk. The Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism verified 263 cases of recruitment and use of children during 2023, marking a 61% increase compared to the previous year. Ethnic groups, particularly Indigenous and Afro-descendant communities, disproportionately experience these violations, representing 59% of cases. High-risk areas include Nariño, Cauca, Valle del Cauca, and Chocó, where armed groups utilize children in illicit economies, exposing them to further risks of sexual violence and exploitation. Children in the **DRC** are increasingly vulnerable to forced recruitment by armed groups. Territories in **North Kivu (Masisi and Rutshuru)** and **South Kivu (Kalehe and Walungu)** report significant recruitment activity. In 2024, **47% of recruitment cases** were recorded in South Kivu, followed by **39% in Ituri** and **14% in North Kivu**. The lack of protection mechanisms in western provinces has made children, especially boys as fighters and girls as sexual slaves, targets of armed group exploitation. Although **forced recruitment** is less prominent in **Ethiopia** compared to other risks, it remains a concern in regions with heightened conflict, such as **Amhara and Oromia**. Unaccompanied children are often targeted during migrations, especially along the **Eastern migration route**. Child protection gaps in **Tigray** include lack of enforcement against recruitment and exploitation. **Somalia** remains one of the countries with the highest number of grave violations against children, including forced recruitment. In Jowhar, children are coerced into joining armed groups like **Al-Shabab** due to poverty, family separation, and lack of protective environments. Children not living with primary caregivers or in stable environments are particularly vulnerable. Children in **Mali** remain vulnerable to forced recruitment, with **763 cases** reported in 2023. Armed groups exploit children as combatants and laborers, particularly in conflict zones like **Mopti and Ségou**. Boys constitute **74% of recruitment cases**, while girls are often subjected to sexual violence. Weak enforcement of child protection policies exacerbates the situation, leaving many children without adequate safeguards. In **Haiti** child recruitment by armed groups surged by 70% in 2024. Children now comprise up to half of all armed group members, with recruitment driven by widespread poverty, lack of education and collapse of essential services.

IMPEDIMENTS AND/OR RESTRICTIONS TO ACCESS TO LEGAL IDENTITY, REMEDIES AND JUSTICE

AFGHANISTAN	MOZAMBIQUE	MYANMAR	SUDAN	SOUTH SUDAN	oPt
BURKINA FASO	EL SALVADOR	HONDURAS	SYRIA - NE	SYRIA - NW	SYRIA - DAMAS
NIGER	CAMEROON	CHAD	COLOMBIA	DRC	ETHIOPIA
MALI	SOMALIA	VENEZUELA	GUATEMALA	NIGERIA	HAITI
UKRAINE					

In **Afghanistan**, over **50% of returnee households** lack at least one critical document, such as birth certificates or Tazkiras, with children (**47%**) being the most affected. This documentation gap prevents access to basic rights and services. Women face greater challenges due to restrictive norms requiring a male guardian (mahram) for administrative processes. Many families lack generational documentation, making it nearly impossible to secure legal identity for future generations, particularly for women and children born outside Afghanistan.



ACCESS THAT PROTECTS

The Global Protection Cluster recognizes the foundational role that access plays in enabling protection, and how protection actors can support strengthened access, and has therefore focused on advancing policy and practice change that further enables these linkages between access and protection. As laid out in our report [Access that Protects: An Agenda for Change](#), published in collaboration with OCHA, we have been pursuing a range of actions to drive improved policy and practice that strengthens the intersection between access and protection.

Over the past two years, the GPC has joined UNHCR's Division of International Protection and [the Centre of Competence on Humanitarian Negotiation](#) (CCHN) to design and deliver workshops for a diverse range of protection staff and partners. To date, this collaboration has resulted in the delivery of 7 workshops with more than 180 participants. As part of this collaboration, tailored peer workshops on protection in armed conflict and negotiations for protection were conducted in October and November with the North-West Syria Protection Cluster and the Somalia Protection Cluster partners, respectively. These five-day, in-person workshops aimed to enhance the skills, capacities and practices of frontline protection partners in advancing impactful approaches and interventions to reduce the protection risks faced by civilians in conflict settings. Several days of the workshops were dedicated exclusively to negotiations for advancing protection outcomes. Approaches to supporting sustained and meaningful access, including through community-based/led protection, protection advocacy and negotiations, were integrated throughout, with particular attention to addressing the limited access to assistance and protection experienced by conflict and crisis-affected communities in NW Syria and Somalia. Participants explored different negotiations tools, addressed complex dilemmas and engaged in simulations, designed to enhance their ability to effectively engage with various stakeholders, including armed actors, authorities or de facto authorities, and community leaders and structures in support of protection aims and outcomes. These workshops represent, inter alia, the continued implementation of a core recommendation from the GPC-OCHA report [Access that Protects: An Agenda for Change](#) with regards to building the capacity of protection actors to advance negotiations and access. Through the CCHN's Community of Practice and UNHCR-GPC follow-up support, workshop participants will continue to benefit from additional learnings, peer exchanges and strategic guidance and technical support.

SITUATIONAL UPDATE

ACCESS OVERVIEW FOR PROTECTION

ABILITY OF PROTECTION ACTORS TO ACCESS AFFECTED POPULATIONS

MOST IMPORTANT BARRIER

Regions	Bureaucratic and Administrative Constraints	Environmental and Logistical Constraints	Direct Attacks or Threats against Protection Actors, Facilities and Assets	Interference from Authorities or Non-State Actors	On-going Insecurity or Hostilities	Other, please specify
Americas	0%	33%	0%	33%	33%	0%
Asia & Pacific	50%	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%
East & Southern Africa	0%	0%	17%	0%	67%	17%
MENA	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
West & Central Africa	20%	0%	0%	0%	80%	0%

PERCENTAGE OF THE AFFECTED POPULATION THAT CAN BE REACHED BY PROTECTION ACTORS

Approx. 25% or less	Between 25% and 50%	Approx. 75% or more	Do not know
Mozambique, Niger, oPt, Sudan, Venezuela	Afghanistan, Cameroon, Chad, Colombia, Ethiopia, Haiti, Honduras, Myanmar, NE Syria	DR Congo, El Salvador, Mali, Somalia, South Sudan	Guatemala, Nigeria

ABILITY OF AFFECTED POPULATIONS TO ACCESS PROTECTION SERVICES

MOST IMPORTANT BARRIER

Regions	Insecurity or Hostilities	Direct Attacks or Threats	Environmental and Logistical	Other, please specify	Restriction and Obstruction	Unavailability of Protection Services
Americas	33%	0%	17%	0%	33%	17%
Asia & Pacific	50%	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%
East & Southern Africa	50%	0%	0%	17%	17%	17%
MENA	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
West & Central Africa	20%	60%	0%	0%	20%	0%

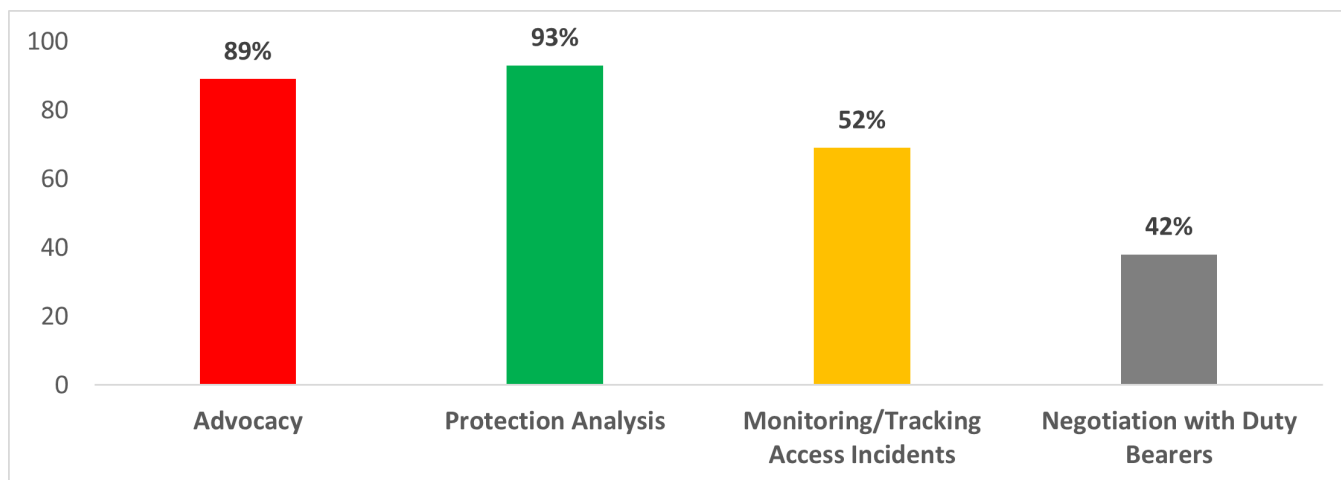
PERCENTAGE OF THE AFFECTED POPULATION THAT CAN REACH PROTECTION SERVICES

Approx. 25% or less	Between 25% and 50%	Approx. 75% or more	Do not know
Guatemala, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, oPt, Sudan, Venezuela	Afghanistan, Cameroon, Chad, Colombia, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Haiti, Honduras, Myanmar, NW Syria, Somalia	Burkina Faso, NE Syria, El Salvador, South Sudan, Syria - Damascus	Nigeria

AGENDA FOR CHANGE

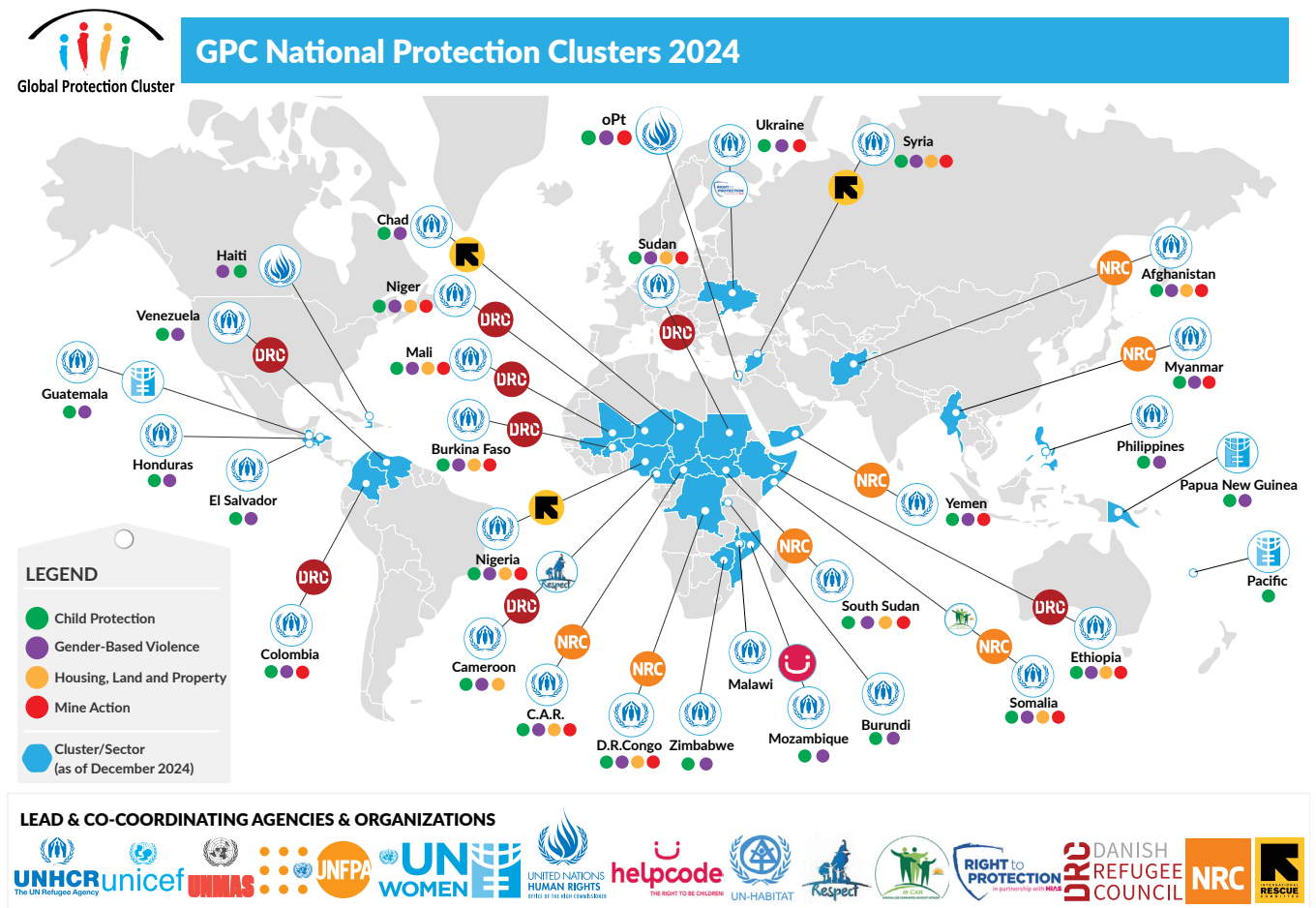
PROGRESS AND HIGHLIGHTS ON PROTECTION CLUSTER COMMITMENTS

TYPES OF EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN BY PROTECTION CLUSTERS



FIELD COORDINATION AND OPERATIONS

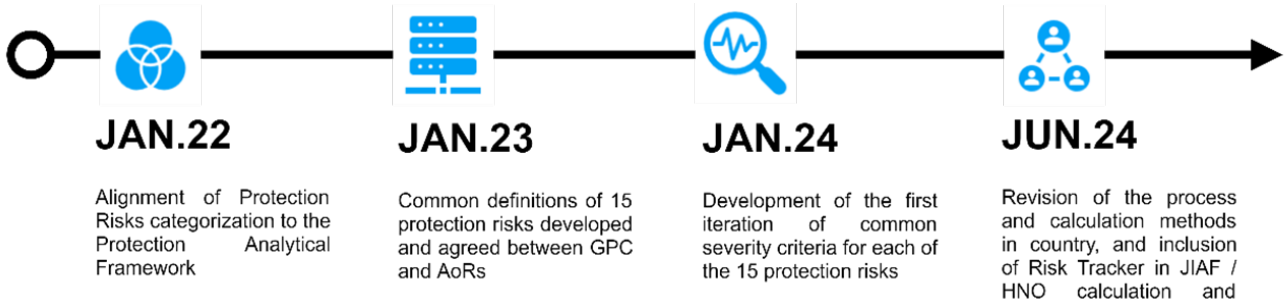
In 2024, the GPC Field Support Desk addressed 473 field support requests from 34 Cluster/Sectors, with the collaboration of over 16 global protection partners and task teams/working groups. 7 partners supported the GPC with deployments to cover critical coordination gaps, and the GPC carried out 12 support missions, including Somalia, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Mali, Palestine during the last quarter of 2024. While most requests focused on cluster coordination, protection policy and principles, operational response and the humanitarian programme cycle, specific support extended to areas such as protection analysis, advocacy and cross cutting/inclusion issues.



ANNEX

PROTECTION RISK TRACKER TRANSFORMATION

Following the endorsement of the Protection Analytical Framework, the GPC is transforming the Global Protection Risks tracker. This aims to establish a more reliable and comparative qualitative measure of protection risk severity across countries with active Protection Clusters. The process incorporates ongoing feedback from Protection Clusters, AoRs, SAG, key GPC partners and donors.

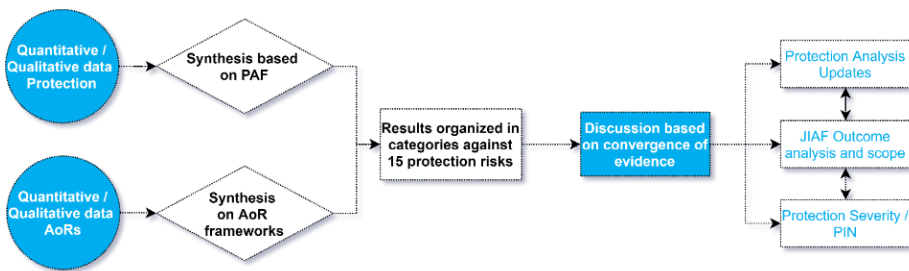
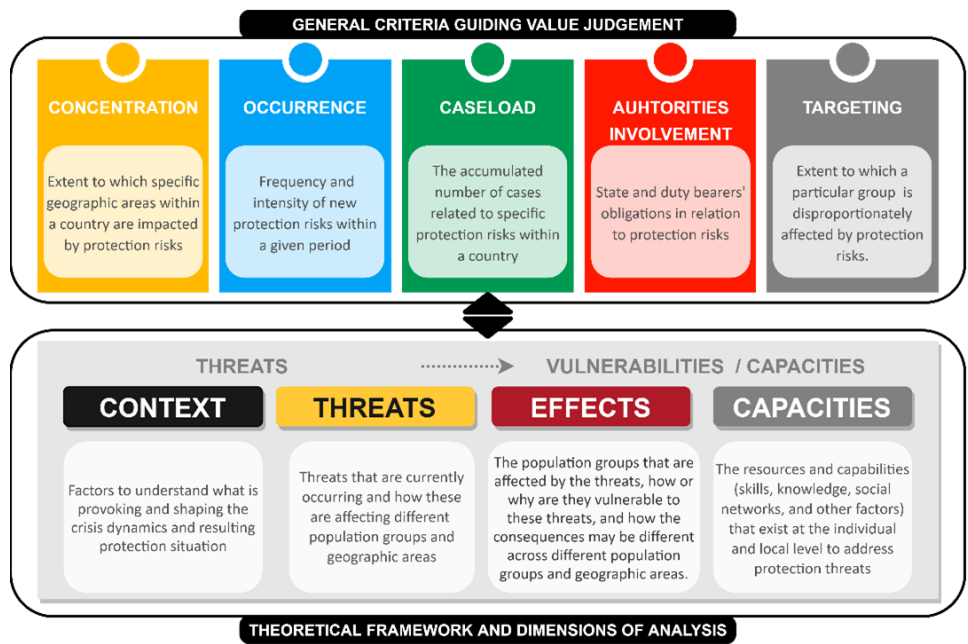


The current Global Protection Risks Tracker does not include a specific Protection Risk Index that is calculated across countries. Instead, it provides a situational analysis of protection risk severity¹, aggregating subnational measures based on value judgment and evidence convergence.

This mechanism is detailed in the renewed GPC and AoRs guidance, with all tools available on this page.

During the 3rd and 4th quarters of 2024, the GPC, together with the AoRs, is managing the revised approach and tool as a use case across all Protection Cluster operations to collect inputs, feedbacks and lessons learned from direct implementation.

This process, together with a set of consultations, will be used for the finalization of the methodology components as well as to design the overall severity model for 2025.



The protection risks severity is now part of the Protection Cluster contribution to the Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework (JIAF) and Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO). For more information please consult this guidance.

¹ While the Protection Analytical Framework provides an endorsed global theoretical framework, the general criteria are currently implemented as guiding principles informing the collective consultation and value judgement.

PROTECTION RISKS CATEGORIES

Protection risks are referred as per their code in this report for simplicity. The below table provides the corresponding expanded terminology. The related definition can be found [here](#), and the related human rights violations and considerations can be found [here](#).

ICON	CODE	PROTECTION RISK
	ABDUCTION & DETENTION	Abduction, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary or unlawful arrest and/or detention
	ATTACKS ON CIVILIANS	Attacks on civilians and other unlawful killings, and attacks on civilian objects
	DISCRIMINATION	Discrimination and stigmatization, denial of resources, opportunities, services and/or humanitarian access
	DISINFORMATION	Disinformation and denial of access to information
	FAMILY SEPARATION	Child and forced family separation
	FORCED RECRUITMENT	Forced recruitment and association of children in armed forces and groups
	GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE	Gender-based violence
	LEGAL IDENTITY	Impediments and/or restrictions to access to legal identity, remedies and justice
	MARRIAGE	Child, early or forced marriage
	MOVEMENT & DISPLACEMENT	Unlawful impediments or restrictions to freedom of movement, siege, and forced displacement
	PRESENCE OF MINE	Presence of Mine and other explosive ordnance
	PSYCHOSOCIAL	Psychological/emotional abuse or inflicted distress
	THEFT & EVICTION	Theft, extortion, forced eviction or destruction of personal property
	TORTURE & CRUELTY	Torture or cruel, inhuman, degrading treatment or punishment
	TRAFFICKING & LABOUR	Trafficking in Persons, Forced Labour or Slavery-Like Practices