



**Humanitarian Network and Partnership Week:
Leverage Protection Risks Analysis to Inform Joined-Up Collective Actions**
26th of March, 14:00-15:30 (CET)

Concept Note & Agenda

Background

Understanding protection risks in context is not only critical for shaping humanitarian policy but is also fundamental to prioritizing life-saving operations and ensuring that resources reach those most in need. The Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO) 2025 underscores that the escalating harm to civilians, driven by armed conflict and widespread disregard for international humanitarian and human rights law, remains a key driver of humanitarian needs. In an era marked by deepening financial constraints, dwindling humanitarian funding, and escalation of humanitarian crises, there is an urgent imperative to rethink efficiency, strengthen prioritization, and align humanitarian responses to maximize impact, while encouraging others to contribute to the collective effort.

At the heart of this crisis lies a fundamental challenge: how to do better with less, without compromising the core humanitarian commitment to protection. While protection analysis is foundational, its true value is realized when it can be used to guide difficult decisions about where and how to allocate limited resources. Achieving this requires moving beyond fragmented approaches and adopting a collective, evidence-based strategy that positions the reduction of protection risks as a central component of humanitarian efficiency and effectiveness.

Protection risk analysis is a key enabler of smarter, more effective humanitarian action. It provides the basis for robust prioritization of response efforts, ensuring that resources are channeled where they are most needed, while preserving the ability to scale up when necessary. This session will examine how protection risk analysis, when used strategically, can support broader efforts to strengthen efficiency, reduce violence, save lives and maintain critical interventions, ensuring that the humanitarian response remains fit for purpose in the current financial crisis.

Objectives

This session will feature insights from donors, GPC, OCHA and non-protection actors, sharing key lessons and practical opportunities for leveraging protection risk analysis to drive collective, strategic action amidst financial and operational constraints. It will emphasize the alignment of humanitarian coordination with field-driven solutions, ensuring that protection analysis supports faster, more effective decision-making on where and how to intervene. The discussion will focus on practical steps for integrating protection risk analysis into humanitarian prioritization processes, financing decisions, and response strategies, ensuring that humanitarian action remains responsive, efficient, and life-saving while encouraging others to take up the effort.

Target Audience

The meeting is designed to bring together senior officials from Member States and donors engaged in humanitarian action, alongside key stakeholders shaping response strategies in crises. It will be open to a diverse range of participants, including coordination teams, technical leads and decision-makers from UN agencies, international and local NGOs, as well as representatives from global clusters and development actors. By fostering cross-sectoral dialogue, the event aims to engage both those actively supporting humanitarian programming, those actively working on protection, as protection partners and technical leads, and those

influencing broader policy and operational frameworks, ensuring a more inclusive and comprehensive discussion on protection and humanitarian response.

The event is part of the Humanitarian Network and Partnership Week (HNPW) and will be promoted through both HNPW communication and GPC external communication channels. The event will take place in Geneva with remote connection possible.

Expected Outcomes

- Identify **potential practical mechanisms to integrate protection risk analysis into humanitarian decision-making and response prioritization**, ensuring that actions are based on greatest risks and resulting needs facing affected populations, and operational feasibility rather than rigid structures.
- Identify ways of strengthening cross-sectoral collaboration where **protection risk analysis serves as an enabler** to enhance operational efficiency, reduce duplication, and ensure protection is integrated as a core component of humanitarian action rather than treated as a separate, siloed effort.
- Develop recommendations for both protection and non-protection actors on the **joined-up use of protection risk analysis** as a driver for **more effective prioritization and resource allocation**, ensuring it informs humanitarian planning and response.
- Explore ways to **leverage protection risk analysis** to drive **actionable strategies**.

Agenda

- **Setting the Scene** (2 mins) – Introduction and framing
- **Protection Risks and Donor Strategies** (10 mins) – How protection risk analysis enhances prioritization and resource allocation
- **Protection Risk Analysis for Collective Action** (20 mins) – GPC analysis outputs and opportunities on humanitarian planning
- **Sector Coordination Opportunities** (30 mins)
 - Cross-sector collaboration example
 - Non-protection actor example
- **Q&A** (20 mins) – Discussion on operationalizing protection risk analysis
- **Closing & Next Steps** (5 mins) – Key takeaways and implementation steps

Detailed Agenda

Section	Objectives	Presenter/Panelist
Introductions and Setting the Scene <i>(2 mins)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduce and present panel - Frame the discussion around how protection risk analysis can drive efficiency, prioritization, and cross-sectoral collaboration. 	Josep Herreros, GPC
Opportunities for Donors, Member States, and Collective Action <i>(10 mins)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Highlight the critical role of protection risk analysis in ensuring strategic prioritization of resources and response efforts. - Present practical entry points for donors and member states to enhance impact and effectiveness by using protection risk analysis for better prioritization and resource allocation. 	Dominik Stillhart, SDC
Opportunities: Protection Risk Analysis for Collective Action <i>(20 mins)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Present GPC protection analysis outputs as a foundation for strengthening collective response. - Reflect on how protection risk analysis enables more collective and efficient humanitarian planning amid financial constraints. 	Francesco Michele, GPC OCHA (TBC)
Opportunities for Sector Coordination <i>(30 mins)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Showcase practical examples of joined-up efforts demonstrating how protection risk analysis can enhance operational efficiency. - Highlight how protection risk analysis for a non-protection actor can strengthen programming. 	Katie Grant, IRC Andrea Breslin, WFP
Q&A and Discussion <i>(20 mins)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engage participants in a discussion on how to operationalize protection risk analysis within existing constraints. - Gather reflections on practical steps to embed protection considerations across humanitarian sectors. 	Josep Herreros, GPC
Closing and Next Steps <i>(5 mins)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outline next steps for strengthening collective implementation. 	Sara Brodd, SIDA