



Global Protection Forum 2026

Session 5 – Destruction and Closure of Critical Protection Infrastructure and Essential Services: Protection, Health, and Education – a Continuum of Care?

Friday 06 November, 14.00-15.30 CET

Registration Link: [here](#)

Objective

The destruction, closure or disruption of critical infrastructure and essential services – including protection services, women and girls' safe spaces, child-friendly spaces, schools, and health facilities – can have profound protection consequences for affected populations. Beyond the immediate loss of services, such disruptions can increase exposure to protection risks, exacerbate existing vulnerabilities, and undermine people's access to basic rights and essential assistance. This session will explore the interlinkages between protection, health and education services and consider how their disruption affects a broader continuum of care. The discussion will also consider how humanitarian actors can better anticipate, prevent and respond to these consequences, including through more integrated approaches to protecting and maintaining essential services.

Moderator

Manisha Thomas, Geneva Representative, Women Refugee Commission (WRC)

Overarching guiding questions

1. *How do disruptions in protection, health and education services affect one another, and what are the implications for the safety, well-being and rights of affected populations?*
2. *How can we strengthen coordination to identify and monitor service disruptions and closures, assess gaps in service coverage, and inform more effective responses and advocacy?*

Format

- The session will be fully online with simultaneous interpretation available in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.
- Registration for all speakers and participants is required.

Agenda

Time	Segment & Speakers
14:00 – 14:02	Instructions on the platform translation features (Mastervoice)

14:02 – 14:07	Introduction and welcome to participants , Manisha Thomas, Geneva Representative, Women Refugee Commission (WRC) and moderator of the session
14:07 – 14:15	Opening reflection on attacks on civilian infrastructures and impact on protection , from Michael Keeffe, Protection Advisor, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
14:15 – 15:20	Panel discussion & Q&A with participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sophia Karimi Kavengi, GBV Coordinator, International Medical Corps (Syria) • Sandrine Lusamba, National Coordinator, SOFEPADI (Democratic Republic of Congo) • Hannah Wild, Founder of the Explosive Weapons Trauma Care Collective (EXTRACCT) • Ndi Wangang Scoffy, Education Cluster Cameroon • Harriet Tino, Humanitarian Response Manager, Plan International (Sudan)
15:20 – 15:30	Closing reflections from Anita Queirazza, Plan International and Global Protection Cluster SAG co-chair