

Global Protection Cluster Mid-Year Update

August - December 2022



As affirmed by the Global Protection Cluster Coordinator, Samuel Cheung, in his [message](#) on International Human Rights Day 2022, to all protection clusters, “Our work is not only about responding to needs, it is also about empowering people to claim their rights, advocating on behalf of affected communities and strengthening the capacities and accountability of duty-bearers to meet their legal obligations.”

Cooperation with OHCHR/ Human rights component in field missions

SUDAN

As part of the transition map for the Protection Cluster, a Strategic Forum – the Protection Platform (PP) - co-led by UNHCR and OHCHR with the participation of UN entities, INGO and NNGO representatives was activated on 17 October 2022. The first core meeting was attended by UNHCR, OHCHR, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, IOM, UNAMI CP, NRC, DRC, BWA, NCCI and NPC. During the meeting, participants reiterated the main goals of the PP: the coordination for high-level advocacy and the provision of guidance to partners, especially under the UNSDCF, to ensure protection issues continue to be addressed.

SOUTH SUDAN

The Protection Cluster engages with UNMISS Human Rights Division (HRD) on a regular basis at Juba level as we all state level. Additionally, the Protection Cluster interacted with UNMISS, in the development of the Protection Monitoring System to ensure complementarity of the information and the inclusion of strong human rights elements.

WHOLE OF SYRIA

On 16 December, the Inclusion Technical Working Group for North-West Syria, established by the Protection Cluster, participated in a launching event of OHCHR action plan on the inclusion of the rights of persons with disabilities. This plan will include:

- 1) A consultation meeting with expert Syrian and international NGOs to discuss the action plan and its respective activities, with a view to integrating priorities of persons with disabilities identified during the consultation into the action plan.
- 2) Publishing and discussing the new OHCHR Syria Office legal note on the use of the individual complaint procedure before the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

Cooperation with National Human Rights Institutions and other local human rights actors

HAITI

Since 2018, the Office for the Protection of the Citizen (OPC), which is the national human rights institution, has co-lead the Protection Sector (PS), with the support of OHCHR.

The protection sector consists of several human rights local and international NGOs working specifically on civil space, rights of women and girls, persons with disabilities, LGBTI+ people and persons deprived of liberty. The participation of human rights actors in the PS has a comparative advantage as they contribute to the integration of human rights in the humanitarian action.



Inclusion of human rights elements in the protection monitoring and protection strategies

NORTH-EAST NIGERIA

The Protection Sector North-East Nigeria (PSNE) is currently setting up its Protection Monitoring System and has drafted a Protection Monitoring Household Assessment Tool with a strong focus on protection risks and human rights violations, as based on the PAF, with the support of the Global Protection Cluster Human Rights Engagement Task Team (HRE TT).

HAITI

In 2022, the Protection Sector, co-led by OHCHR, was the penholder of the Humanitarian Response Plan (HNO) Protection Chapter, the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), and the Cholera Flash Appeal. As a result, human rights aspects were integrated into these strategic documents.

Under OHCHR's leadership, local NGOs have been able to carry out periodic protection analysis considering the deteriorating socio-political situation, stirred up by gang violence. Moreover, in December 2022, OHCHR contributed to the planning of a multi-sectoral needs assessment by providing a questionnaire aimed at understanding the protection issues facing the affected population, which allowed to identify several human rights violations.

Capacity Building

Democratic Republic of the Congo

The HRE TT has supported the National Protection Cluster in two different occasions. In May 2022, the HRE TT and the United Nations Joint Human Rights Office (UNJHRO) delivered two sessions on human rights engagement and human rights-based approach during a training on protection mainstreaming. In October 2022, the HRE and the Advocacy Task Team delivered a joint training on human rights engagement and advocacy together with the UNJHRO for 30 protection actors in Goma, the first training of this kind in DRC.

North-East Nigeria

The HRE TT delivered a training, together with the Advocacy Task Team, on human rights engagement and advocacy for members of the Protection Sector in North-East Nigeria between 21-24 November 2022. The training was very well received by Sector's members and helped to re-conceptualize protection work as rights-based interventions in support of rights-holders. It also raised awareness on practical entry points for contribution of the PSNE to the human rights mechanisms.

SOUTH SUDAN

The Protection Cluster has launched the Protection Monitoring System (PMS) which gathers information on civil documentation issues, lack of access to justice, safety and security concerns, including the killing of civilians and child recruitment, and includes strong human rights elements.



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