



## Libya Protection Sector Strategy 2018-2019

### 1 CONTEXT

The political and security situation in Libya continues to be deeply divided, as three authorities including the Tripoli based UN-backed Government of National Accord, vie for political legitimacy, control of territory, resources and infrastructure. Armed conflict and political instability have impacted the lives of more than three million people across the country, displacing hundreds of thousands and disrupting people's access to basic services, including fuel and electrical power, as well as severely constraining life-saving protection and humanitarian assistance.

The protection crisis in Libya is characterised by violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, restricted access to safety and freedom of movement, forced displacement, severity and pervasiveness of gender-based violence. All parties to the conflict have committed breaches of international law including torture, unlawful killings, indiscriminate attacks, abductions, kidnapping, disappearances and the forceful displacement of people. The number of people with mental health and psychosocial problems increased substantially as a result of the conflict, including severe psychological distress for the conflict affected population, as well as the contamination from explosive hazards affecting human security and access.

Due to the volatile security and access limitations, the majority of international humanitarian actors continue their involvement in Libya with remote management work modality through national and local actors as well as key official stakeholders.

### 2 RATIONALE AND PURPOSE

The Protection Sector was set up in 2015 under the overall leadership of the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC), with UNHCR as a sector lead<sup>1</sup>. Its aims are to **"provide safe and dignified access to life-saving protection assistance to people in need"** and to "ensure prompt identification of protection needs and timely delivery of specialized

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<sup>1</sup> Six sectors have been activated for the response to the humanitarian situation in Libya including Health, Protection, Shelter & Non Food Items (NFI), WASH, Food Security, and Education. UNHCR leads the Shelter & NFI Sector Working Group, the Protection Sector Working Group and the Cash and Markets Working Group (under Inter Sector Coordination).



protection services to the most vulnerable". The Protection Sector focuses on conflict affected populations, including (i) IDPs; (ii) returnees, (iii) non-displaced populations, especially vulnerable groups such as children, adolescents, women at risk of gender based violence, older people, persons with disability and other minorities groups. The Mixed Migration Working Group established in December 2016 is the multi-sectoral working group focusing on coordination of the humanitarian response to refugees and migrants, the protection sector and MMWG will work together on the establishing referral mechanism and share regular information on protection concerns the identified needs, also advocacy initiatives will be developed by both working group to improve the overall protection of the civilian in Libya including refugees and asylum seekers, migrants and Libyans . While plans are underway to establish a sub working group for GBV to improve the coordination and response GBV related to the Libyans and non-Libyans.

All humanitarian efforts must be underpinned by improving and advocating for the protection of civilians and consider specific vulnerability and protection risks of returnees, IDPs, and residents in conflict areas. The protection of the most vulnerable Libyan people, is one of the overarching strategic objectives of the international humanitarian response in Libya and protection outcomes for the whole humanitarian response as overseen by the HC. Protection is a shared responsibility beyond the Protection Sector and cuts across the wider humanitarian response in Libya as informed by the HRP and the strategic directions of the different sector components.

The protection of civilian populations is the primary responsibility of national authorities. Under the Protection Strategy, protection priorities will be pursued in accordance with applicable national legislation in coordination with government counterparts and all other relevant stakeholders including humanitarian actors, donors, local authorities, IDP and returnees Committees, civil society and persons of concern. Given the scale of the political crisis in Libya, security and access constraints, and limited capacity on the ground, the strategy aims to set out a realistic response to addressing priority protection concerns in the context of remote working arrangements. In doing so, it is acknowledged that protection risks, concerns, needs and responses significantly vary across different areas of Libya.

### **3 IDENTIFICATION OF PROTECTION RISKS**

According to the 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Libya, there are currently 1.3 million people in the country in need of protection and assistance in areas such as protection, shelter, health, food security, WASH, education and nutrition. The people in need include 241,000 internally displaced people (IDPs), 250,000 returnees, 100,000 refugees, 195,000 migrants and 437 000 non-displaced, conflict affected populations.



### 3.1 Violations of the right to life: safety and security

The overall situation in Libya remains fragile, with pervasive insecurity, outbreak of conflict as well as protracted and new displacement. Hundreds of thousands of people in the country have been affected by the collapse of law and order, unlawful killings, arbitrary detention, abductions, torture and other ill-treatment, gender based violence, forced recruitment of children, and widely reported the prevalence of Explosive Remnants of War (ERWs). There are also reports and allegations that internally displaced persons returning to certain areas are being killed. the majority of the armed groups across the country commit summary executions and other unlawful killings and unlawful deprivation of liberty of civilians including activists, IDPs, children, women, politicians on account of their origin, opinions and perceived political or tribal affiliations.

The past year witnessed new waves of displacement (in the Oil Crescent), the deterioration in the living standards and security of communities displaced in previous years (e.g. Tawargha), and some returns to unsafe areas where essential services/infrastructure were lacking or inadequate (Sirte, Benghazi). Hostage-taking for ransom or prisoner-exchange and abductions including of children have continued unabated; and frequently render victims vulnerable to other violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law including torture, rape, arbitrary detention, and ill-treatment.

The fragmentation of national institutions and the breakdown of the rule of law constrain the vulnerable communities' ability to seek remedies at the local or national levels and impede their enjoyment of their rights to health, education, and family life under domestic law. The unstable security and political situation create additional challenges for the international community's ability to timely respond to the growing needs of affected populations.



### 3.1 Explosive hazards

**The presence of a variety of explosive hazards, including Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and landmines in urban and rural areas continue to have a huge impact on local communities, IDPs and returnees.** As open conflict subsides in some areas, many IDPs are returning to their former areas of residence. Returnees in transit and other civilians face a number of protection concerns, such as threats posed by explosive remnants of war (ERW). Recent figures suggest that hundreds of thousands of people living in major cities are at high risk of death or serious injury due to ERW.

Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) is among the main protection concerns for IDPs in Benghazi, according to a UNHCR/Mercy Corps assessment conducted in December 2016. 35% of interviewed households were aware of UXO-related incidents. At Benghazi University, an LNA de-mining team has cleared only 5% of booby traps. Conventional anti-personnel mines and anti-vehicle mines have also been reported. With limited equipment available, it may take months to complete necessary survey and clearance operations. After IS has been driven out of Sirte, the city is progressively being cleared of explosive hazards, but this exercise is estimated to take months. Other areas already taken from IS have seen shepherds and herdsmen in particular danger of mines and ERW.

Limited access to contaminated areas, ongoing conflict, and limited national and international capacity prevents full-scale mine action activities to mitigate the threat from explosive hazards. Returning IDPs may also cross conflict zones on their journey, risking collateral damage and general violence, and can be detained arbitrarily at checkpoints.

### 3.2 Gender Based Violence

In the wake of the on-going conflict and political instability, GBV remains a pervasive life threatening issue. Loss of income and the ongoing uncertainty increase shock and stress among affected populations in displacement and host communities. The struggle to meet basic needs increases risk to exploitation and abuse, including sexual violence. Populations affected are also pressured to resort to negative coping mechanisms that expose them to gender based violence. Availability and access to minimum life-saving multi-sectorial services to prevent and address GBV is a challenge with services overstretched or non-existent, and a concerning lack of information in terms of referral mechanisms.

Numerous reports on protection and gender profile in Libya show that Gender Based Violence (GBV) is rampant, mostly against women and girls and in particular in geographical areas run by militias. <sup>2</sup> Although women and girls are not the only population at risk to GBV they are a

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<sup>2</sup> Libya Country Common Assessment 2016; Gender Situational Analysis in Libya, UN WOMEN, 2016;



particularly vulnerable group from the ongoing conflict in Libya, especially those in situation of displacement, detention and women heads of household. Violence against women and girls ranges from psychological and verbal abuse to kidnapping, rape and other forms of sexual assault. Due to the stigma and the fear of the retaliation, GBV is widely underreported in Libya. Underreporting of GBV is also associated to the lack of trust on the formal judicial system, weak reporting structures, lack of specialized staff, collapsed infrastructure including health facilities which have been damaged and fragile security situation for legal justice. This has immensely contributed to very little data collected on GBV to inform humanitarian actors of the magnitude of the problem.

It is believed that the vast majority of GBV survivors do not receive adequate assistance. There are no government services for survivors of GBV due to the ongoing conflict. The government lacks policy structures, institutional capacity and resources for the provision of life saving multi sectorial services, including health, psychosocial support, legal aid and support services for survivors of GBV, while assistance through international organizations remains very limited in light of the large unmet needs.

As for the policy and legal environment, there are no current policies on GBV due to the ongoing conflict. The breakdown of rule of law has led to impunity for armed groups who perpetrate conflict-related GBV on all sides of the conflict. GBV survivors also avoid the formal justice system for fear of shame and stigma, as cases reported through the formal justice system become public knowledge. As for the GBV in the private sphere, the Penal Code condemns GBV by providing that a man who “merely” assaults his wife without causing bodily harm shall not be punished.<sup>3</sup>

Libya acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1989, but made a general reservation that accession to CEDAW “...cannot conflict with the laws on personal status derived from the Islamic Sharia.”

While it is often presumed that GBV protection and response can wait, the reality is the reverse. It is a life-threatening health, human right and protection issue that is exacerbated in emergencies.<sup>4</sup> Key to the protection sector strategy is the integration of GBV risk mitigation measures across all sector response efforts.

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Libya Humanitarian Response Plan 2017; EU/EAS Update of the Gender Profile Libya, Huda Gashut, 2017; Gender in Transition in Libya, Selimovic J. M. & D. Larsson, Swedish Institute of Int. Affairs 2014; Enhancing Knowledge of the Impact of Extremism on Women and Girls in Libya with Specific Reference to ISIL, UNSMIL (draft), 2017

<sup>3</sup>UNDP Laws, Policies and Practices on Gender Justice: Libya, draft

<sup>4</sup> UNFPA Regional Strategy on Prevention and Response to Gender-Based Violence in the Arab State Region, 2014-2017



### 3.3 Violation of Children's Rights

Children have been among the most negatively impacted by the ongoing conflict, as they comprise around 40 percent of the Libyan population. The psycho-social impact on children has been devastating and is further aggravated by the death of relatives or friends, the continuous exposure to violence and by their experience of forced displacement. Children have been the victims of human trafficking; forced recruitment by armed groups, particularly in the southern region; abduction and torture by armed groups and in detention facilities; and of collateral damage from airstrikes and other targeted attacks. The presence and control of militia within communities in which children live, increasing risk of association. Also, the prolonged cycle of adolescents/ children being drawn into association with armed groups directly encouraged by their communities, families and peers, within the context of 'protection' for the community. Children's /adolescents – violence and aggression in the community and schools, as well as their involvement in criminal activities and drug abuse. Cases of violence against children, if reported, face limited capacity for professional follow up. There is a clear gap in the supportive child protection and family welfare services within communities, including more focused specialized services for vulnerable children affected by armed conflict. The lack of knowledge and understanding of child rights, children's vulnerability to violence, and the developmental and emotional impact of conflict and violence of children on boys and girls is an issue in Libya .In the light of the current context in Libya, the child protection programmatic strategy endeavours to address the more immediate consequences and impacts of ongoing conflict, violence and insecurity on child's protection and wellbeing in Libya, while also ensuring longer-term sustained impacts through a strengthened protective environment for children.

### 3.4 Displacement

The escalation of violence in Libya since 2014, has led to civilian casualties, mass displacement, as well as disruption of markets and the commercial sector, basic social services and social protection systems

The displaced are among the most vulnerable due to their loss of income and assets, limited coping capacity and insecurity, in particular displaced women, children, the elderly and those with low economic means. The cumulative effects of the conflict and the lack of access to disrupted public services, is particularly felt in both the east and south of the country

### 3.5 Issues with documentation and housing, lands and proprieties (HLP)

There are legal concerns related to the inability of IDPs to access legal documentation such as family booklets, birth registration, ID documents, etc. In 2016 and this year, there were increased reports of lost legal documentation. Lack of documentation is a concern for IDPs, who are at a greater risk of losing their credentials while relocating. Loss of identity documents was a recurrent issue among IDPs interviewed in an UNHCR/Mercy Corps assessment in December 2016, pre-displacement housing, land and property (HLP) issues.



During the Gaddafi period, foreign-owned property was nationalized and Libyan-owned property redistributed. Law No. 4 in 1978 transformed all tenants into owners of the homes or land they rented. Later efforts to reverse this policy through restitution and compensation for confiscated property were never completed. IDPs who acquired their homes in connection with Law No 4 fear that their legal rights may be revoked in their absence. If this is not addressed, durable solutions will be difficult to obtain in Libya. They also some reports of eviction as IDPs unable to continue renting shelters

### 3.6 Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

One of the fundamentals for ensuring mental health and psychosocial wellbeing is access to basic needs together with the sense of security that comes from living in a safe and supportive environment. The ongoing state of conflict and instability has resulted in extraordinary painful experiences for people, and has increased the number of people living with mental health and psychosocial problems<sup>5</sup>. An enormous effort, in line with the principles and approaches of the IASC 2007 MHPSS guidelines, is needed to support people within their own communities to cope with their experiences and rebuild the social fabric and the capacity for recovery. Following months of shelling and conflict, the need of psychosocial support across the country have been identified as especially high, according to protection assessments and discussion with IDPs. The MHPSS needs have been increasingly acknowledged by Libyan MHPSS stakeholders such as mental health professionals, government, civil society organizations and community leaders. There is a need for context appropriate assistance to GBV survivors under MHPSS. Healing individuals and communities has also been increasingly perceived as foundational to achieving reconciliation and peace in Libya.

### 3.7 Durable solutions prospects

While sporadic military activity in 2017 including in Benghazi, Derna, Sabratha and Wershefana continued to result in displacement across the country, and despite the fact many areas of origin remain unsafe, spontaneous returns are taking place to certain parts within Libya, in particular to Benghazi, Sirte, Tawargha and Kikla, Gwalesh.

Returns to Sirte commenced in late 2016 and will continue in 2017, as security allows. Upon return, there remain concerns regarding security, social acceptance, reintegration and access to public services. In some cases, returnees have no choice but to live in insecure accommodation as their houses have been damaged or destroyed by the conflict.

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<sup>5</sup> see REACH MSNA Protection Fact Sheets [http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/system/files/resource\\_documents/reach\\_lby\\_factsheet\\_msna\\_protection\\_sector\\_september\\_2017.pdf](http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/system/files/resource_documents/reach_lby_factsheet_msna_protection_sector_september_2017.pdf)



#### 4 PROTECTION SECTOR OBJECTIVES

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) has defined protection as “... all activities aimed at obtaining full respect for the rights of the individual in accordance with the letter and the spirit of the relevant bodies of law (i.e. International Human Rights Law (IHRL), International Humanitarian Law, International Refugee law (IRL)).”<sup>6</sup> The IASC has also affirmed that all humanitarian actors have a responsibility to place protection at the center of humanitarian action. In line with the Libya Humanitarian Response Plan, the following are the strategic objectives of the Protection Sector:

- Monitor the protection situation of the conflict-affected population (including violations of IHL/IHRL and IDP guidance principles, vulnerable conflict-affected individuals including children and GBV survivors) in order to identify and respond to the needs of the conflict affected population, inform the humanitarian response and to ensure evidence based advocacy;
- Provide life-saving protection assistance and services to vulnerable, conflict-affected individuals, including children and GBV survivors in difficult to reach areas and unstable environment;
- Provide specialized protection services to the people suffering from the abuse and violence
- Address the risk of explosive hazards to ensure safe and dignified access to life-saving assistance and support return to places of origin in conditions of safety and dignity and to reduce risk of death or serious injury due to explosive hazards, such as ERW and landmines.
- Engage with and strengthen capacities of partners, local actors, service providers and local authorities on protection issues;
- Enhance protection mainstreaming and integration of GBV interventions into all sector specific humanitarian response

##### **Objective 1: Protection monitoring, needs analysis and advocacy**

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<sup>6</sup> Inter-Agency Standing Committee, Policy on Protection in Humanitarian Action, October 2016.



Monitor the protection situation of the conflict – affected population (including violations of IHL/IHRL, vulnerable conflict individuals including children and GBV survivors) in order to identify and respond to the needs of the conflict affected population, inform the humanitarian response and to ensure evidence-based advocacy:

- ✓ Monitoring of the protection situation of IDPs, returnees and conflict affected civilians, especially those who have suffered physical or psychological harm resulting directly from the conflict, to inform decision making for the provision of appropriate humanitarian responses.
- ✓ Tracking movements to the extent possible and with the objective of ensuring an appropriate and targeted response.
- ✓ Establishing and developing existing case management systems and referral mechanisms
- ✓ Protection Sector members commit to cooperate and harmonise approaches for collecting and sharing information to inform efficient resource allocation across the sector and support advocacy related to policies and practices which violate the rights of persons in need. This is to be done through harmonise Protection Monitoring Form and other related tools.
- ✓ Mapping of local actors to enhance protection monitoring.
- ✓ Ensure that assessments, protection monitoring mechanisms, including in emergencies, always include a component on mental health and psychosocial support and GBV risks and respect principles of inclusion and accessibility for persons with disability. This also includes continuous contribution of the mapping exercise , with the purpose to support and improve coordination efforts, establish functioning and up to date referral mechanisms, and gain an updated understanding of the different services available or unavailable to target communities.
- ✓ Coordination mechanisms to be put in place inside Libya with local partners and authorities including liaison arrangements between the Protection Sector based in Tunis and local coordination mechanisms for the purpose of information sharing and dissemination.
- ✓ Establish of agreed protection referral pathways based on the available protection activities;
- ✓ Training to be provided to local partners and members of the Protection Sector on the ethical and safe use of common tools for data collection, analysis, dissemination and use, with a focus on survivor-centered approach.

**Objective 2: Address the risk of explosive hazards to ensure safe and dignified access to life-saving assistance and support return to places of origin in conditions of safety and dignity.**

- ✓ “Physical safe and dignified access” has been identified as priority throughout the HRP 2017.



- ✓ Engage in awareness raising on risks of landmines and ERWs in the areas of return.
- ✓ Coordinate with the relevant working and/or sub-working groups across sectors, to ensure that messages and awareness are appropriately incorporated into the humanitarian response.
- ✓ Advocate for the marking and clearance of explosive hazards in a comprehensive manner.
- ✓ .

**Objective 3:-Provide life-saving protection assistance and services to vulnerable, conflict-affected individuals, including children and GBV survivors, including in difficult to reach areas and unstable environment**

Life-saving protection assistance and services provided by the Protection Sector and its partners include mental health and psychosocial support, cash assistance and legal assistance to conflict affected individuals including IHL/IHRL violations, vulnerable populations, children and GBV survivors, as well as provision of information to people to understand their situation and be able to make informed decisions ( including about return)

- ✓ Map who is doing what, where and with whom from Protection Sector members and within local communities to prevent and respond to GBV and identify gaps in responses to inform programming.
- ✓ Map local actors and capacity to respond in areas where humanitarian needs are high and set up mechanisms for sustained engagement by local actors including establishment of local GBV coordination platforms and agreed on referral pathways;
- ✓ Strengthen case management and referral pathways to address the needs of people at increased risk due to violence, including referral mechanism for access to multi-sectorial GBV prevention and response services;
- ✓ Establish fast track measures for the referral of critical protection concerns to members of the Protection Sector that can provide a specialist response
- ✓ Ensure access to information and legal advice and support for the purpose of obtaining documentation and pursuing mechanisms for accountability and compensation of losses.

Cash assistance (both one-time and regular) is provided on the basis of protection and vulnerability criteria to address serious protection risks <sup>7</sup> faced by vulnerable

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<sup>7</sup> Cash assistance can address protection risks such as child protection (child labor, early marriage, school enrolment and retention, UASC), SGBV (for survivors, women at risk of sexual exploitation), individual protection assistance to PSN and CBIs can address economic components of protection risks. The provision of CASH Should be agreed with the Protection Sector and in coordination with CMWG



individuals/households/also as remedial assistance for victims of IHL/IHRL violations, and to prevent recourse to negative coping mechanisms.

- Conduct a context-specific protection risk and benefit analysis - community-led if possible, the analysis will feed into CMWG analysis as part of the protection mainstreaming support from Protection Sector;
- Increase awareness of members of the possible use of CBIs to directly contribute to protection outcomes.
- Increase CBI capacity of protection staff; protection induction for CBI specialists; multifunctional team.
- Systematically consider CBIs as a response option, where appropriate and feasible<sup>8</sup>.
- Build evidence base on cash and protection for internal and external advocacy.
- Explore the linkages between cash, livelihoods support and SGBV prevention and response.

#### **Objective 4: Enhance protection mainstreaming and integration of GBV interventions into all sector specific humanitarian responses**

- ✓ Recognising that provision of assistance may impact negatively on communities and worsen the effects of the conflict, humanitarian actors will respect the principle of “do no harm”.
- ✓ Ensure that assistance is provided in a manner that prevents or minimizes risk and threats to persons seeking assistance. Participation and empowerment of affected communities and meaningful access. Provision of assistance based on needs and without discrimination and focus on the most vulnerable civilians, especially women and children.
- ✓ Advocate for integrated, specialized, community-based mental health and psychosocial support and GBV in ongoing programming, emergency preparedness and contingency planning

## **5 PROTECTION SECTOR PRIORITY RESPONSE**

In order to prioritize the objectives, activities and resources to deliver protection outcomes in the current humanitarian response, the Protection core pillars of the strategy will be organised as follows<sup>9</sup>:

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<sup>8</sup> MPGs/MPC is considered the type of cash having the most substantial protection benefits, if implemented correctly (understanding of protection risks / implementing risk mitigation measures)

<sup>9</sup> See more details on annex 1, work-plan to achieve the protection sector priority response



- ✓ To enhance Protection Information Management to provide quality information and data on the protection of displaced individuals and groups in all possible types and phases of an operation or situation, and to do so in a safe, reliable, and meaningful way
  - Enhance needs analysis.
  - Joint assessments, to identify protection needs and to strengthen evidence-based advocacy at all levels and with different stakeholders.
  - Development of a mechanism that gathers information on IDPs including: location, humanitarian situation and protection needs.
  - Monitoring of the protection situation of IDPs and conflict affected civilians, especially those who have suffered physical or psychological harm, including GBV, resulting directly from the conflict, to inform decision making for the provision of appropriate humanitarian responses.
  - Tracking movements to the extent possible and with the objective of ensuring an appropriate and targeted response.
  - Establishing and developing existing protection monitoring , case management systems and referral mechanisms
  - Improve information sharing between the protection actors;
  - Ensure the protection of data of beneficiaries through establishing SoPs related to data protection and sensitivity.
  
- ✓ To engage with and strengthen capacities of local actors to assess, analyse and respond to the protection needs of affected populations and mainstreaming protection across the humanitarian response.
  - Encourage the humanitarian community to strengthen the capacities of local actors, including those at risk, by developing their understanding of the humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence and 'do no harm' and basic principles of international humanitarian and human rights law.
  - Engage, support and invest in national civil society organizations that are working with affected populations and providing direct protection services.
  
- ✓ To enhance protection-oriented planning and programming across the humanitarian response.
  - All strategic planning exercises, including contingency planning, sector strategies and localised strategies should reflect potential protection risks and mitigating measures.
  - Expand protection support services through community based activities to better reach the most vulnerable groups.



- Set up mechanisms to ensure feedback, including complaints, from the affected population

## 6 LIBYA PROTECTION SECTOR COORDINATION

The Protection Sector serves as a participatory forum, open to all international and national organizations who, in good faith, seek to promote protection of all vulnerable and persons of concerns in Libya.

The Sector brings together UN agencies and non-governmental organizations as well as representatives of the Libyan authorities to, on an equal basis, exchange information on protection concerns; seek to identify solutions both immediate and through long-term advocacy and awareness raising; advocate and promote within the UN system and Libyan authorities a more systematic protection for the population of concern; seek to ensure the mainstreaming of human rights and protection tools in programming and assessments throughout the country and, finally; develop and promote strategies on protection concerns as and when necessary. The Protection Sector will seek to strengthen its partnership and coordination with relevant government agencies. It will also explore options for activities that will strengthen the capacity of its members to engage in the promotion and protection of relevant human rights and protection standards in Libya.

The Protection Sector is Led by UNHCR and co-chaired by Handicap International, the co-chair should be regularly reviewed with the objective of periodic rotation

A technical committee will be established and comprised of key protection organizations will, in consultative manner, guide the large Protection Sector membership

Sub-WGs:

- Mine action. (Led by UNMAS)
- Child Protection. (led by UNICEF) (Not active)
- Gender Based Violence. (led by UNFPA)
- Return and reintegration task force ( Led by UNHCR) ( not active, return issues discussed at the protection sector level)

## 7 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

This Strategy is intended as a living document that will be reviewed in light of new developments and evolving protection concerns. The Sector lead agency, UNHCR, is



accountable to the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) for ensuring that protection issues are identified, brought to the attention of responsible institutions and adequately addressed.

The ability of the Sector to fulfil its tasks depends on the direction and support it receives from the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), Humanitarian Coordinator and lead agencies. The Protection Sector will thus be working closely with HCT, HC and responsible agencies to uphold their role in promoting respect for human rights and humanitarian law; in advocating with the national authorities and other actors for respect for humanitarian principles, including unimpeded access to affected populations; in promoting gender mainstreaming, social inclusion for persons with disability and women's rights at the policy, planning and implementation levels; and in mobilizing resources for the humanitarian.

## **8 RISKS AND CONSTRAINTS**

- Deterioration of the security situation and lack of access to conflict affected areas may impact on the presence of protection actors on the ground;
- Remote management of international staff from Tunisia (reference to the UNHCR Libya Protection Strategy 2016-2017)
- Lack of funding means that activities cannot be carried out

## **9 KEY DOCUMENTS**

- Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP);
- Protection Sector Working Group Terms of References;
- Protection core group Term of Reference;
- Global Protection cluster.