



Report – Global Protection Cluster Field Mission in Libya

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Unit: International Rescue Committee (IRC)

Country visited: Tripoli (Libya)

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Objectives and Outputs

The following objective and outputs were achieved during the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) mission to Libya. For further details, please refer to the narrative below.

Objective	Outputs
<p>Support Protection Mainstreaming initiatives led by the Protection Sector at the country level with the overall goal of ensuring that protection is central in the humanitarian response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A Protection Mainstreaming Review of the 2018 HNO/HRP identifying current good practices and protection mainstreaming efforts in the Libya Operation (Annex A). b) A Protection Mainstreaming Workshop conducted for Sector Coordinators (or their designated focal points) to strengthen the understanding of what mainstreaming protection mainstreaming at the coordination level means practically. c) A Protection Mainstreaming Monitoring Score Card completed with Sector Coordinators to evaluate the level to which protection has been mainstreamed across the response (Annex B). d) A Protection Mainstreaming Action Plan endorsed by the Inter-Sector Coordination Group to ensure protection is mainstreamed in the humanitarian response, and more specifically in sectoral strategies and response plans of the 2019 HRP and funding allocations (Annex C).

Overview

Upon the request of the Protection Sector in Libya, the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) Task Team on Protection Mainstreaming (TTPM) conducted a field visit to Tripoli (Libya) from 20th to the 27th July 2018 to support protection mainstreaming initiatives being led at the field level. The GPC TTPM Coordinator led a two-day workshop for Sector Coordinators (or their designated focal points) to strengthen the capacities and the engagement of colleagues to support the implementation and monitoring of protection mainstreaming in the humanitarian response in Libya. The intended outcome of the workshop was to endorse a collective action plan at the Inter-Sector level to ensure protection is reflected in the 2019 HPC process (i.e. HNO/HRP, funding mechanisms, HCT Protection Strategy).

The **specific objectives** of the workshop were the following:

- Demonstrate the importance and relevance of protection mainstreaming in the humanitarian context;
- Explain the definition of protection mainstreaming and discuss its application in the Libya humanitarian operational context;
- Establish concrete actions to mainstream protection at all stages of the Humanitarian Programme Cycle (i.e. sectorial analysis and response plans, funding mechanisms, policy-making);
- Present the tools and resources available at the global level to mainstream protection and demonstrate their added value;
- Clearly define the responsibilities of the humanitarian sectors and promote the commitment of sector coordinators to mainstream protection in sectoral responses.

The workshop was conducted with 22 participants who were Sector Coordinators or their designated representatives from the Education, WASH, Shelter/NFI, Mixed Migration WG and Protection Sectors (including MA and CP sub-sectors) as well as from OCHA and INGOs (NRC, Intersos, Cesvi, and DRC).

The **first day of the workshop** started with an introduction on the relevance of protection mainstreaming for the Libya context, presenting the findings of the assessment conducted by the Protection Sector (see below). A general presentation on the concept of Protection Mainstreaming and the framework of the Centrality of Protection as stated in the IASC guidance was presented. The role and responsibilities of each actors towards protection mainstreaming and the methodology for implementing protection mainstreaming at the strategic/collective level through the cluster system and the humanitarian programme cycle was also clarified. The tools available in the Protection Mainstreaming Toolkit were presented to the participants with an emphasis on the protection analysis and the monitoring score cards.

The **second day of the workshop** gave an opportunity for participants to reflect on protection mainstreaming efforts already implemented in humanitarian operation in Libya. The objective was to identify existing practices, experience and challenges with regards to protection mainstreaming. The GPC TTPM Coordinator also produced an analysis of how protection mainstreaming was reflected in the 2018 HNO/HRP. An action plan was collectively developed to strengthen protection mainstreaming in the humanitarian system and implement and monitor the commitments taken in the HRP.

Findings

The **Centrality of Protection** is set as a **key principle of the collective response** with a strategic objective of the HRP dedicated to protection. Protection Mainstreaming is also well-reflected in the sectoral strategies and response plans with a series of commitments taken by each sectors. However, it seems that in practice protection mainstreaming is not properly reflected across the response.

Several issues relating to protection mainstreaming have been identified by the Protection Sector¹:

- o Lack of specialized assistance for elderly, PWSN, women and children.
- o High level of marginalization and discrimination of vulnerable groups due to lack of identification mechanism and referral system and lack of accountability.
- o Favouritism and discrimination being observed as common occurrences in aid distribution.
- o Reports that most vulnerable groups do not receive the aid needed or requested.
- o Feedback and complaints mechanisms being inexistent or unknown from the affected population.
- o Perception among affected populations that their views are not taken into account in the design phase of the delivery of humanitarian assistance.
- o Lack of consultation and participation of affected populations in the process of identifying needs.
- o Concerns over aid distribution and the use of militia or armed groups for crowd control.

Other **protection mainstreaming concerns** expressed by participants included: the lack of disaggregated data by age and gender, the selection of beneficiaries guided by local authorities, the difficulty in monitoring aid delivery, the issue of data collection and analysis, the lack of evidence-based programming, the problem of humanitarian access.

Due to the semi-remote management context of the Libya operation, **increasing the support to local partners** on protection mainstreaming and protection principles in general is paramount to ensure the effectiveness of the response. The Protection Sector is committed to mobilize the necessary resources to provide this support.

There seems to be **confusion on what is the role and the specific responsibilities** of each actor towards protection mainstreaming, and particularly who is ultimately responsible between the Protection Sector, the Sectors, the Inter

¹ Between January and May 2018, the Protection Sector conducted 40 FGD in 17 locations and collected evidence of the lack of implementation of protection mainstreaming in practice.

Sectors Coordination Group and OCHA. The guidance provided in the Protection Mainstreaming Toolkit can help clarify the role of each group.

There is a perception among participants that protection mainstreaming and accountability are issues **lacking interest from the HC/HCT**. Several tentative to bring protection on the agenda of the HCT have been turned down. One of the recommendations of the workshop is to advocate for a HCT Protection Strategy to be endorsed to address critical protection concerns.

Key Deliverables

A. Protection Mainstreaming Review of 2018 HNO and HRP

The GPC TTPM Coordinator produced an analysis of how protection mainstreaming is reflected in the 2018 HNO and HRP for Libya. This exercise showed that protection has been widely considered by the different sectors and integrated in their strategies and response plans with specific commitments taken towards the implementation of protection mainstreaming. However, one of the gaps identified is the lack of concrete means to monitor these commitments.

B. Protection Mainstreaming Monitoring Score Card

Tool #A4 of the Protection Mainstreaming Toolkit was completed as a collective exercise during the workshop to evaluate the level to which protection has been mainstreamed across the sectors in the Libya humanitarian response. The exercise concluded that protection has been somewhat mainstreamed but that considerable improvements need to be made, particularly in terms of implementation and monitoring.

C. Inter-Sector Protection Mainstreaming Action Plan

An action plan was developed collectively with participants from the different sectors to promote protection mainstreaming across the humanitarian response. It will be endorsed at the inter-cluster level and monitored by the ISC/OCHA with the technical support of the Protection Sector.

Recommendations

The following recommendations arose from the Protection Mainstreaming workshop and are detailed in the Inter-Sector Protection Mainstreaming Action Plan.

- ✓ Reinforce the capacities of staff on protection mainstreaming through the identification of capacity needs assessment and the delivery of trainings;
- ✓ Reinforce the way protection analysis and assessments are conducted and continue to proactively advocate for protection to be regularly discussed at the ISC/HCT level;
- ✓ Monitor the commitments taken by sectors in the 2018 HRP and support the integration of actionable and measurable commitments in the 2019 HRP;
- ✓ Advocate with donors for protection mainstreaming to be part of their funding allocation strategy;
- ✓ Advocate for the adoption of a HCT Protection Strategy and request the deployment of a ProCap to support its development.

Annexes

All documents are available on the Dropbox folder of the GPC TTPM, available [here](#). The folder include: ToRs, workshop material and the mission report and annexes.

Annex A – Protection Mainstreaming Review of Libya 2018 HNO and HRP

Annex B – Protection Mainstreaming Monitoring Score Card

Annex C – Inter-Sector Protection Mainstreaming Action Plan Libya