

Consultation event report

**The future of protection in the
nexus:** The role of the Global
Protection Cluster and humanitarian
protection in the humanitarian-
development-peace-security nexus

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On 22 October, the International Association of Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) and the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) organized a consultation event on the role of the GPC and humanitarian protection in the humanitarian-development-peace-security nexus. The event took the form of an expert panel discussion with active participation from attendees via chat, Q&A, and live polls.¹ The event was preceded by a brief survey on challenges and opportunities related to humanitarian protection and the nexus. This report outlines the results of the webinar and survey and provides recommendations for the GPC Strategic Framework for 2020-2024.

¹ Recordings of the webinar are available at <https://phap.org/22oct2019>

Key statistics:



1 119 event registrations



454 participants in the live webinar²



377 in the event platform



56 in the YouTube video livestream



21 in the audio only livestream



629 viewers and listeners of recorded events to date³



125 Adobe Connect recording views



197 YouTube recording views



307 Audio podcast downloads



448 pre-event survey respondents

² The count of live participants only includes unique logins. Most webinars organized by PHAP has several groups of varying sizes logging in jointly, in which case they are only counted once.

³ Recording statistics compiled on 10 December 2019

Summary recommendations and key takeaways:

Pre-event survey

- Practitioners have **experienced an increased integration** in their areas of work of the humanitarian, development, peace, and security sectors, even though progress has been mixed.
- The GPC should **build on the overall optimism** regarding the effects of nexus reforms on protection, while **taking into account the mixed views** of results to date.
- Practitioners are reporting a **wide range of gaps and challenges** that they attribute to nexus reforms, in particular related to funding, coordination, access, capacity, and humanitarian principles,
- Practitioners who want to see the GPC's role change in light of nexus reforms are primarily calling for a **strengthened coordination role across sectors**, as well as **advocacy** targeted at other sectors on behalf of humanitarian protection.

Webinar:

- It is necessary to **ensure that the protection clusters are fit for purpose** given the nexus reforms, both in terms of overall structure and individual members.
- While guidance and tools should be developed by the GPC, they would need to be **contextualized to the specific response contexts** they address, as the relevance and shape of the nexus varies widely from situation to situation.
- Given the wide range of situations where there is a potential nexus – especially between the development and humanitarian sectors – the **GPC will need to show leadership to prioritize** the areas where it can have the greatest impact.
- In order to do so, the GPC should have a role to **monitor and analyze how nexus reforms are having an impact** on structures and implementation on the ground, and what the concrete options are for interaction and coordination in these concrete situations.
- There is an important **advocacy role for the GPC within the UN**. The development sector is not as far advanced on protection as is the humanitarian sector. UNDP has done some important work to address this and incorporate protection into their work, but the GPC should work closely with UNDP and other development actors to further ameliorate the situation. Similarly, DPKO has made a lot of progress on integrating protection in their work, but the situation may be different at the DPPA.
- Various concerns were raised about nexus reforms leading to gaps and counteracting the ambition to **“Leave No One Behind”**. Much work was needed in this area, including ensuring that **planning frameworks** for development and humanitarian actors match.
- The GPC should help **reduce confusion** relating to the nexus reforms, including by clarifying frameworks and roles, as well as clarifying policies for how protection should relate to the nexus. The GPC will need to carefully tread the line between being too vague and being too technical in its guidance.
- **Capacity building** related to how to interact in a more integrated or harmonized response is needed for humanitarian actors – but at least as important also for development and peace actors. The GPC should have a role in helping structure this capacity building to ensure that it is in line with the protection community's priorities.
- To strengthen coordination, humanitarian actors need to get better at thinking about **how they can best help development and peacebuilding actors**, including figuring out what kind of information they can provide to feed into the other sectors' planning frameworks.

Survey results

In order to gather the views of a broader range of practitioners in the sector ahead of the webinar, a survey was organized for the webinar registrants. The survey served dual purposes: on the one hand to inform the webinar planning and on the other to provide direct input to the Strategic Framework drafting process.

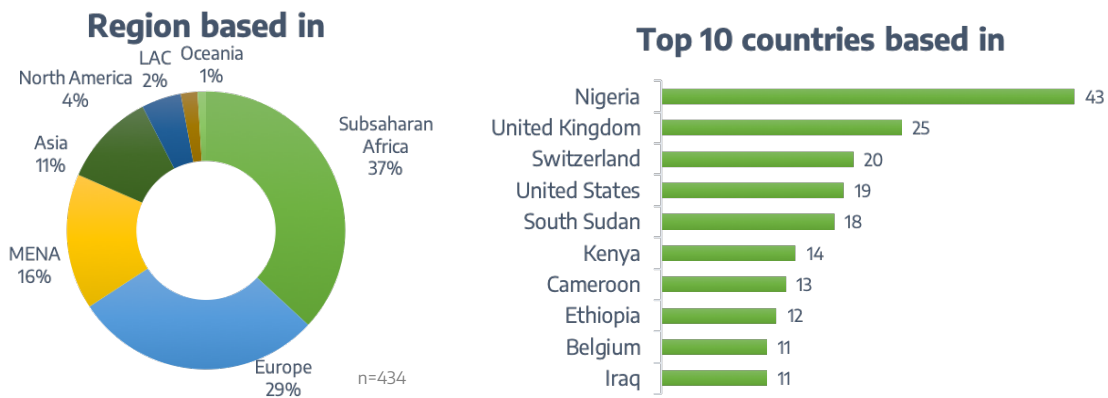
Crosstabs have been carried out in terms of region based in, geographic scope of work, organization, and primary sector and any notable differences in responses are reported. However, as the selection of respondents was not randomized, no formal statistical tests were carried out on the data.

Free-text responses have been cleaned up and categorized by primary theme. The full list of responses can be found in *Appendix 1*.

Survey respondent demographics

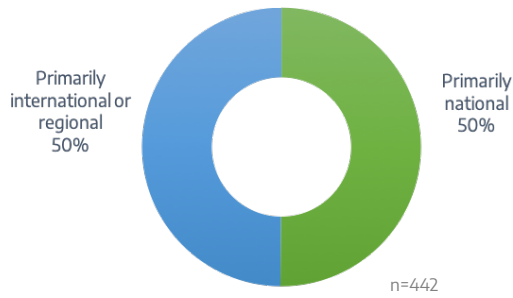
Basic demographics

The pre-event survey gathered a total of **448 responses**⁴ from webinar registrants from **75 countries**. Respondents based in Sub-Saharan Africa, Europe, and MENA were particularly well represented, with smaller numbers of respondents in Asia, North America, LAC, and Oceania. There was an **even split** between those with an **international and national scope of work**. The respondents included respondents from **all organization types**, but with a stronger turnout amount **INGOs, UN and other intergovernmental organizations**, and **local NGOs**. The **gender balance** was **fairly even**, but with a slight majority of female respondents.

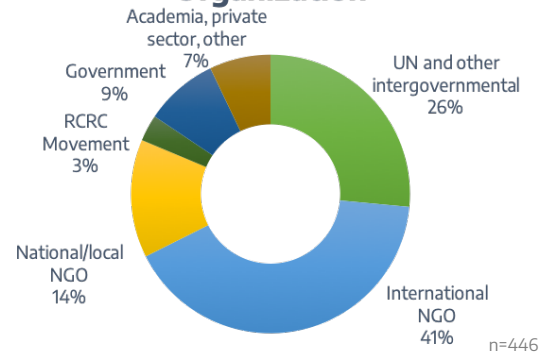


⁴ Of the 448 responses, 294 were complete responses and 154 were incomplete but responded to the demographic questions and at least one of the substantive questions.

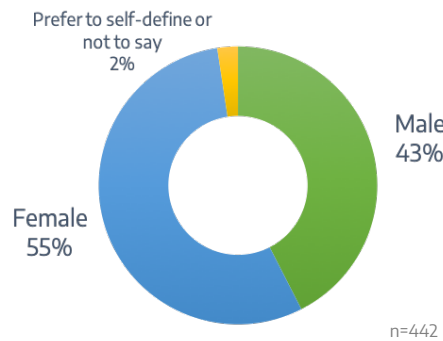
Geographic scope of work



Organization



Gender

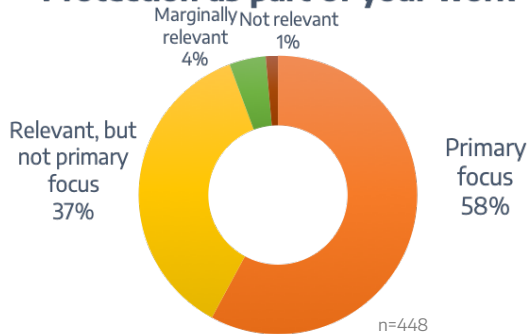


Professional focus

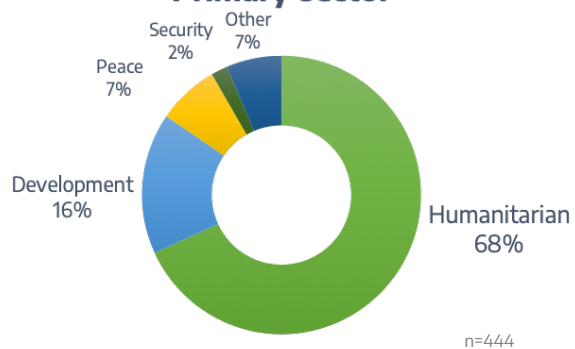
The respondents included a **majority focusing on protection** in their work, with most of the others indicating that protection was a relevant part of their work.

As expected, given the overall networks used for outreach, **more than two thirds of the respondents indicated that their primary sector was humanitarian**, but with considerable numbers of respondents primarily in development or peace. However, it was clear that there was a lot of **movement between and overlap of sectors**. Almost all respondents had experience of the humanitarian sector, over 60% of the development sector, and more than a third of peace work. **Security was less well represented** with just 2% indicating it as their primary sector and 16% as having experience of it.

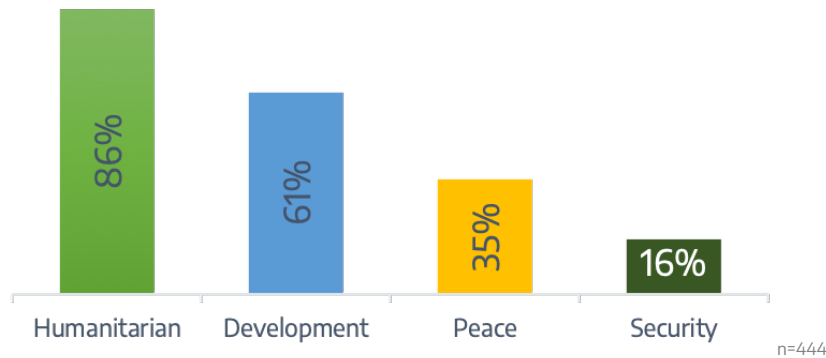
Protection as part of your work



Primary sector



Sectors of experience



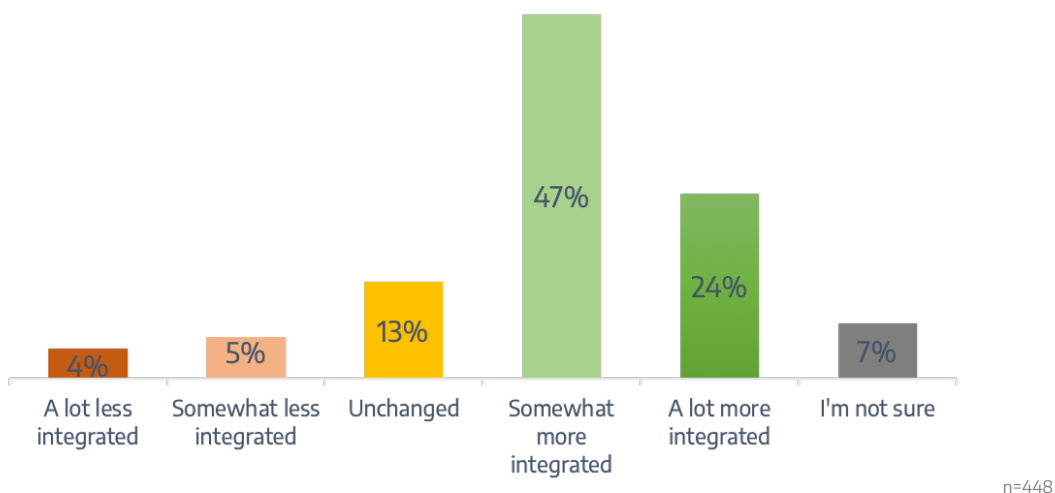
Integration of humanitarian work

Respondents overall found humanitarian work more integrated, with over 70% thinking it had become somewhat or a lot more integrated over the past five years. This result was consistent across organizations, nationally and internationally focused staff, and primary sector. There was, however, a notable difference in that those based in Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia found that it had become more integrated to a greater degree (76.5% and 78.3% respectively) compared with those based in MENA and Europe (62.3% and 69.5% respectively). Other regions did not have enough responses to meaningfully compare.

However, a common comment among respondents was that it was still very unclear what the nexus reforms would mean in practice and how they were different from previous initiatives.

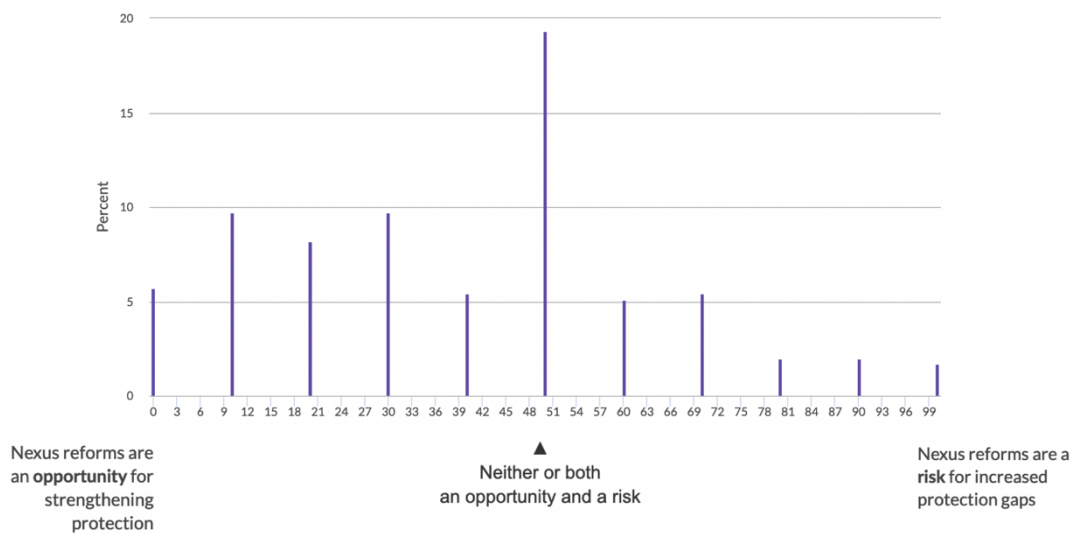
Three years after the idea took shape at the World Humanitarian Summit, it is still early days for nexus-focused programming. And with limited independent monitoring so far, it's hard to get a clear picture of what has really changed – for better or worse.
 - Respondent based in Germany (International NGO)

Has humanitarian work become more integrated?



Effects on protection

Respondents had an overall positive view of the future overall effects of nexus reforms on protection. When asked to place themselves on a scale between seeing nexus reforms as an opportunity for strengthening protection to seeing them as a risk for increased protection gaps, there was a fairly strong skew towards seeing it as an opportunity rather than a risk, with an average of 30.3 on a scale with a midpoint of 50. It should be noted that there are still a considerable number of practitioners who see it as primarily a risk. It is worth noting that of those concerned about the risk (placing themselves at 60-100), 58 of 63 (92%) are primarily working in the humanitarian sector. Moreover, 42.3% agreed or strongly agreed (compared with only 15.7% disagreeing or strongly disagreeing) that assistance benefiting more than protection from nexus reforms.



n=369

This result was mirrored in a question on the overall effects of future nexus reforms on protection. However, when asked about new or worsened gaps in protection, 21.4% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that future nexus reforms would likely result in such outcomes.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Nexus reforms to date have already resulted in overall stronger protection outcomes. Count Row %	17 4.4%	71 18.3%	187 48.2%	101 26.0%	12 3.1%
Nexus reforms to date have already resulted in new or worsened gaps in protection . Count Row %	16 4.1%	101 26.2%	186 48.2%	70 18.1%	13 3.4%
Future nexus reforms will likely result in overall stronger protection outcomes. Count Row %	7 1.8%	22 5.7%	114 29.6%	198 51.4%	44 11.4%
Future nexus reforms will likely result in new or worsened gaps in protection . Count Row %	19 5.0%	128 33.8%	151 39.8%	72 19.0%	9 2.4%
Humanitarian assistance (material and logistical) will benefit more than humanitarian protection from nexus reforms. Count Row %	13 3.4%	47 12.3%	160 42.0%	129 33.9%	32 8.4%
Nexus reforms will likely result in more principled humanitarian actors disconnecting from the rest of the humanitarian sector. Count Row %	19 5.0%	101 26.4%	153 39.9%	93 24.3%	17 4.4%
Nexus reforms will likely lead to restricted access for humanitarian protection activities. Count Row %	19 5.0%	131 34.3%	139 36.4%	75 19.6%	18 4.7%

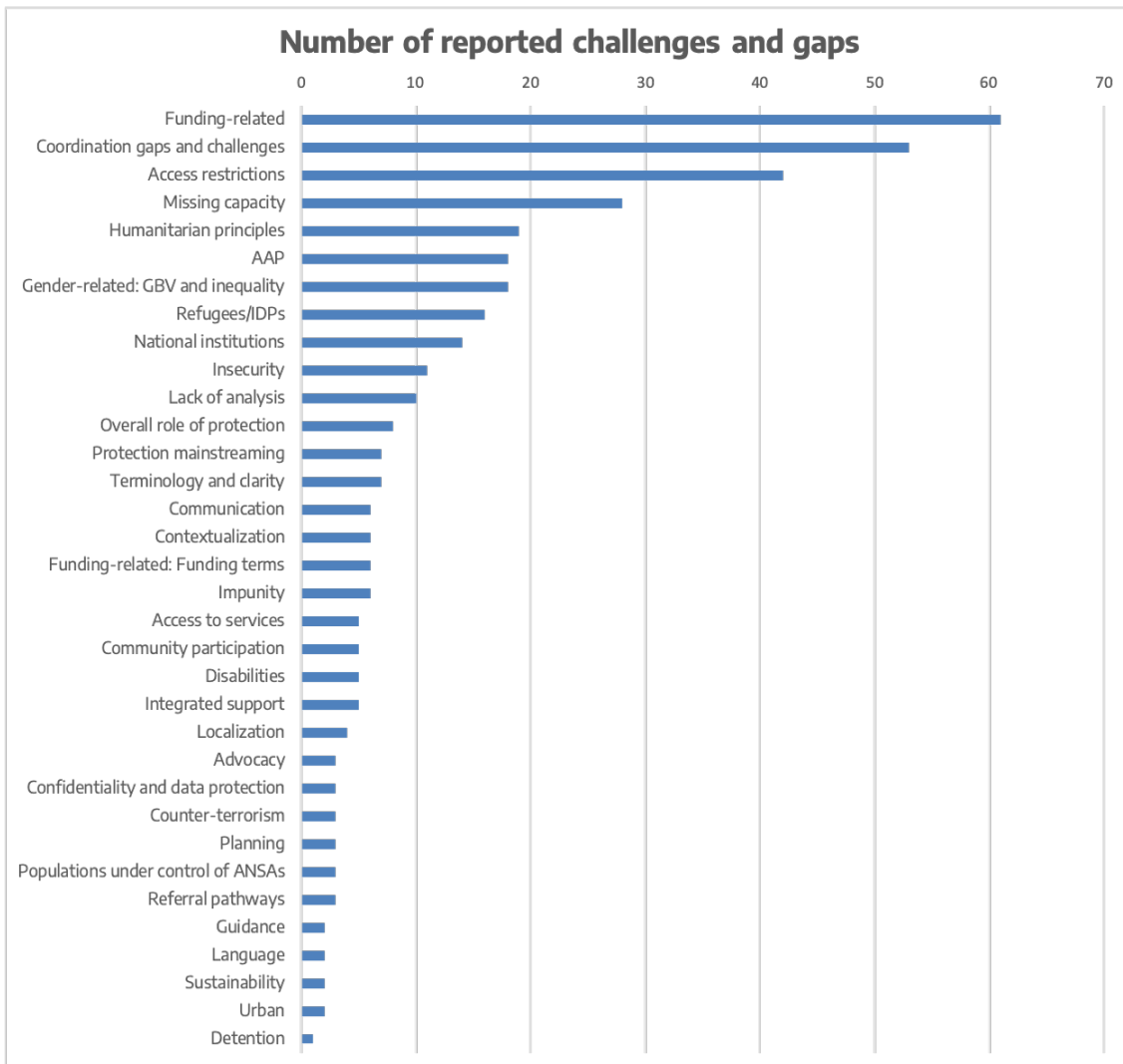
For other potential problematic effects of nexus reforms, the views of respondents were more divided. 28.7% agreed or strongly agreed (compared with 31.4% who disagreed or strongly disagreed) that they would likely lead to principled humanitarian actors disconnecting from the

rest of the sector. 24.3% agreed or strongly agreed (compared with 39.3% disagreeing or strongly disagreeing) that they would likely lead to access restrictions for protection activities.

Moreover, when looking instead at the effects of nexus reforms to date on protection, respondents are less positive. While there were somewhat more respondents who agreed that they have resulted in overall stronger protection outcomes, 21.5% found that they had resulted in **worsened** gaps in protection.⁵

Gaps and challenges

Respondents listed a total of 387 protection gaps and challenges that they explicitly thought were either directly or partly caused by nexus reforms. It should be noted that obviously unrelated gaps and challenges have been removed, but the link to nexus reforms of some of the reported challenges is unclear, as some respondents likely overstated the connection to nexus reforms. Prior to data cleaning, 651 gaps and challenges were reported as caused by nexus reform, out of a total of 1566 reported protection gaps and challenges.



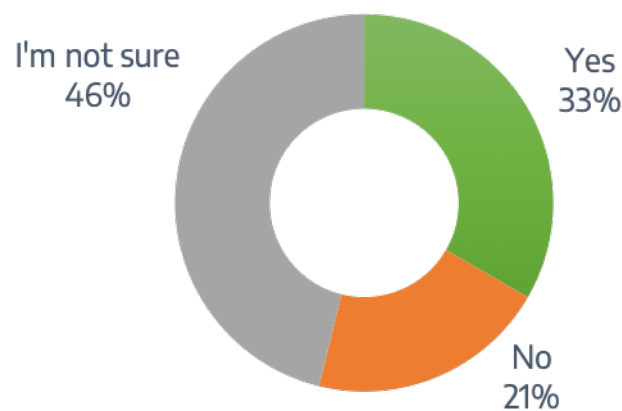
⁵ Note that there was not complete overlap between those with a negative view of gaps resulting from past reforms as for future reforms. 38% of those who had a negative view of future reforms had a positive or neutral view of past reforms.

The most frequently reported challenges and gaps related to nexus reforms for protection work concerned **funding, coordination, access, capacity, humanitarian principles, accountability, and gender-based violence**. For examples of these challenges as experienced by the respondents, see *Appendix 1.3*. For a full list of all of the relevant challenges submitted by respondents, see *Appendix 1.4*.

Role of the GPC

Respondents to the survey were finally presented with the current mission statement of the GPC and were asked whether the role of the GPC should change in light of the nexus reforms.

Should the role of the GPC change?



A third of respondents thought that it should change, but 46% were unsure, likely reflecting the lack of clarity of what the nexus reforms mean in practice for humanitarian protection.

Among the suggestions provided by respondents, it was clear that they favored an **expanded coordination role for the GPC**. The suggestions can be grouped in two main categories: on the one hand suggestions to **coordinate work related to protection of all sectors**, and on the other to have more of an **advocacy role to preserve humanitarian space and principles** in relation to other actors in the nexus. Other suggestions included explicitly including refugees in the GPC’s mission and to focus their coordination efforts on peacebuilding actors.

All suggestions have been categorized and are presented in *Appendix 1.1*.

Webinar summary

22 October 2019
15:00–16:30 (Geneva time)



The future of protection in the nexus:

The role of the GPC and humanitarian protection in the humanitarian-development-peace-security nexus



Photo: European Union

Overview

On 22 October PHAP organized a webinar in partnership with GPC on the future of humanitarian protection in the nexus, discussing how humanitarian protection fits into the vision and concrete plans for humanitarian action in the coming decade.

Humanitarian action has never been carried out in isolation from other sectors. Building on long-running initiatives, such as “linking relief rehabilitation and development” (LRRD) and disaster risk reduction (DRR), efforts to strengthen connections with other sectors have accelerated over the past few years, especially following the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit. The UN and World Bank’s New Way of Working (NWoW), the EU’s Joint Humanitarian and Development Frameworks, and other initiatives have in common a focus on the “nexus” between humanitarian work and development, as well as with peace and security to ensure that common objectives are reached.

In these new models connecting and aligning humanitarian action, development, peace, and security, the vision of the role for humanitarian protection is less clear. There may be agreement that the overarching responsibility for protection is shared, but key practical questions remain, including:

- Who carries out humanitarian protection work in practice in the nexus?
- How is the need for independence of certain protection work ensured in conflict-affected and politically sensitive contexts?
- Are we facing risks that we will create protection gaps?
- Who should be tasked with coordinating to ensure any such gaps are covered?

Speakers



William Chemaly Global Protection Cluster Coordinator



Natascha Hryckow Chair, Conflict Analysis Network (CAN)



Caroline Khoubesserian Head of the Unit for the Protection of the Civilian Population, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)



Ralph Mamiya Executive-in-Residence, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)



Agnese Spiazzi Humanitarian, Development, Peace Coordination Advisor, UN Development Coordination Office

Co-hosts



Angharad Laing Executive Director, PHAP



Paul White ProCap Advisor to the Global Protection Cluster

Key takeaways

The following are the key takeaways from the dynamic discussions between panelists, co-hosts, and participants during the webinar.

The full webinar transcript is available in *Appendix 2*. Recordings are also available at <https://phap.org/22oct2019>.

- It is necessary to ensure that the protection clusters are fit for purpose given the nexus reforms, both in terms of overall structure and individual members.
- While guidance and tools should be developed by the GPC, they would need to be contextualized to the specific response contexts they address, as the relevance and shape of the nexus varies widely from situation to situation.
- Given the wide range of situations where there is a potential nexus – especially between the development and humanitarian sectors – the GPC will need to show leadership to prioritize the areas where it can have the greatest impact.
- In order to do so, the GPC should have a role to monitor and analyze how nexus reforms are having an impact on structures and implementation on the ground, and what the concrete options are for interaction and coordination in these concrete situations.
- There is an important advocacy role for the GPC within the UN. The development sector is not as far advanced on protection as is the humanitarian sector. UNDP has done some important work to address this and incorporate protection into their work, but the GPC should work closely with UNDP and other development actors to further ameliorate the situation. Similarly, DPKO has made a lot of progress on integrating protection in their work, but the situation may be different at the DPPA.
- Various concerns were raised about nexus reforms leading to gaps and counteracting the ambition to “Leave No One Behind”. Much work was needed in this area, including ensuring that planning frameworks for development and humanitarian actors matched up.
- The GPC should help reduce confusion relating to the nexus reforms, including by clarifying frameworks and roles, as well as clarifying policies for how protection should relate to the nexus. The GPC will need to carefully tread the line between being too vague and being too technical in its guidance.
- Capacity building related to how to interact in a more integrated or harmonized response is needed for humanitarian actors – but at least as important also for development and peace actors. The GPC should have a role in helping structure this capacity building to ensure that it is in line with the protection community’s priorities.
- To strengthen coordination, humanitarian actors need to get better at thinking about how they can best help development and peacebuilding actors, including figuring out what kind of information they can provide to feed into the other sectors’ planning frameworks.

Appendix 1: Free-text survey responses

1.1 Suggestions for changing the GPC's role

Advocacy

Define protection and be more clear on what protection interventions mean and how to support on advocacy. In addition, be more lean and focused, and better defined.

- *Based in Yemen (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Coordination (general)

Include independent country focal persons to provide country's specific coordination, reporting to the global cluster. Let ICFPs delivery their independent reports of activities, and programs to support the global clusters.

- *Based in Nigeria (National/ local NGO)*

Some additional interface should be created with RC and IFIs in nation wide development plans or frameworks.

- *Based in United Kingdom (Private sector)*

Cross-sectoral coordination role

Gaining influence as a cross-sector actor with protection as a transversal marker not limited to humanitarian setting. Ensuring / developing an ability to work on immediate issues linked to protection abuses (case management, support to victims) and structural causes (macro level response, national coordination, etc.)

- *Based in France (International NGO)*

The goal should be development, peace and security of affected people to thrive.

- *Based in Zimbabwe (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

To encourage a coordination structure at all levels of nexus programming. Often development practitioners are not holding coordination meetings which can often create gaps in programming needs.

- *Based in Myanmar (International NGO)*

More cooperation with development groups

- *Based in Switzerland (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

The current role is oriented to humanitarian settings, so it should be broadened to include protection in other contexts.

- *Based in United States (International NGO)*

The GPC should also facilitate coordination with development and security actors.

- *Based in Senegal (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Policy advice and guidance to development and peace programming

- *Based in Central African Republic (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

To link humanitarian work with efforts to build sustainable peace in affected areas as well as connecting displaced persons to the development activities of their current locations

- *Based in Zimbabwe (National/ local NGO)*

Strategic integration and assimilation where possible, even while keeping distinct role and identity - sounds paradoxical but it can be done, I feel.

- *Based in Thailand (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

GPC should ensure that Protection and Humanitarian remains key response at the beginning when the operation is life-saving centered and encourage a parallel coordination forum where forward immediate and longer term planning on this nexus takes place.

- *Based in Romania (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Co-lead a discussion outside of the cluster system with actors that are not part of it but that have clear impacts on the protection of civilians before, during and after crisis.

- *Based in Switzerland (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Should coordinate and integrate its mandate with other organizations and bodies. Welcome other stakeholder in without losing its space

- *Based in Spain (Other)*

This role should further look at linking humanitarian actions with that of development reforms. Taking on more of system strengthening approach to coordination, resources and tools that can be easily transitioned to development from humanitarian. I would like to see how the GPC drives and influence protection into stabilization programming.

- *Based in Jordan (International NGO)*

Adopting and encouraging system strengthening approach in emergencies, and coordinate the phasing out of emergency mood to nexus and beyond

- *Based in Uganda (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

the GPC should take on some roles (convener may be) in the sector coordination in developmental context and to identify what roles it can play in peace building.

- *Based in Kenya (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Explicit declaration of role in working 'at the nexus' and with peace, development, etc. What does this look like? How will the GPC lead?

- *Based in Canada (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

GPC needs to get out of its own silo - from my experiences, GPC coordinators only understand protection issues, and never really engaged or talk to other actors, interventions tend to be very isolated. Rather than protection stand alone, it got to be integrated and mainstreamed across all other interventions.

- *Based in Turkey (International NGO)*

Focus on development

It is better to always teach a person to catch fish than to always give him or her fish. GPC should be based on development empowerment of the affected population.

- *Based in Cameroon (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Develop guidance

The GPC needs to provide guidance on the continuum from humanitarian protection to the humanitarian nexus

- *Based in Yemen (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

)

Include refugees

Should include refugees

- *Based in Iraq (National/ local NGO)*

I think you cannot avoid people in refugee type situations

- *Based in Canada (Government (civilian))*

The refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants cannot be excluded anymore from its mandate.

- *Based in Tunisia (International NGO)*

Include refugees such as the IDA'18 subwindow for refugees.

- *Based in Cameroon (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Information sharing

Expand its mandate to be more inclusive, timely and open and transparent in regards to information sharing.

- *Based in United States (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Long term view

Cater for more long term aspects

- *Based in Congo, Democratic Republic of the (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Mixed migration

Support protection responses in mixed migration settings

- *Based in France (International NGO)*

No new role

I don't consider there is a need for a new or updated role, a protection response is by nature a rights based response and not a needs based response and therefore it is just the fulfilling of it's mandate

- *Based in Jordan (International NGO)*

The role does not need to change but the description of the role could be modified to include reference to global standards on the nexus such as "in consultation with other actors and authorities where possible to strengthen action and response"

- *Based in Canada (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Peacebuilding

Build more on peacebuilding relations.

- *Based in Nigeria (International NGO)*

Including coordination of peace agencies in the coordination. Leading the coordination among peace working groups. Influencing for longer term investment in peacebuilding Increasing localisation in the coordination of protection and peace related.

- *Based in South Sudan (International NGO)*

Preserve humanitarian space and principles

I think the GPC potentially has a role to play in ensuring that the nexus does not negatively impact the work of field clusters or humanitarian protection actors. The GPC secretariat could engage with nexus conversations at global level to work to/advocate for the preservation of humanitarian protection space.

- *Based in Australia (International NGO)*

GPC should have stronger role in ensuring humanitarian space in Nexus context. Specifically, the humanitarian principles of neutrality, independence and impartiality (already hard to respect in some instances) are more endangered when development and political actors enters the game. The overall dialogue with local governments and development partners (such as the WB) should not undermine the respect of humanitarian principles.

- *Based in Lebanon (International NGO)*

Policy advice, guidance, standards and policy setting needs to reach beyond humanitarian actors - the cluster needs to play a stronger influencing/advocacy role to ensure humanitarian protection is supported, appropriately funded, and that development and political actors safeguard the humanitarian protection space

- *Based in United Kingdom (Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement)*

What is the role of the GPC related to risks that the nexus bring to the protection sector? What is the role of the GPC in linking humanitarians setting to other actors? (they should be involved in building the bridge ensuring respect of our principles but also highlighting opportunities)

- *Based in Belgium (International NGO)*

The role should be realistic to set rules for humanitarian protection work that are more aggressive and transparent that affect the suffering of the victims, alleviate their suffering and protect their dignity, and focus on material assistance that strengthens the victims, as well as the authority of the protection workers so that the organizations working in protection are not exposed to extortion as they are today.

- *Based in Yemen (National/local NGO)*

To ensure centrality of protection at all levels

- *Based in Pakistan (International NGO)*

Protection environment building

Strengthen the protection environment building, i.e. dutybearer capacity development and working with state actors

- *Based in Denmark (International NGO)*

Support protection actors in nexus

- Determine how / to which extent should protection partners support the nexus, or use the nexus as an opportunity to deliver improved protection - Share good practices / examples of protection activities / programmes which have been successfully developed with the nexus in mind. - Advise on criterias/benchmarks/conditions which should lead protection partners in their engagement in support of the nexus reform - Reinforce awareness of nexus/development partners with which protection cluster partners should engage with to build strengthened protection services.

- *Based in Somalia (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Text edits

"coordinates and provides global level inter-agency policy advice and guidance on the implementation of the cluster approach to Protection Clusters in the field, supports protection responses in non-refugee situation humanitarian action as well as leads standard and policy setting relating to protection in complex and natural disaster humanitarian emergencies AND AFTER, in particular with regard to the protection of internally displaced persons."

- *Based in Congo, Democratic Republic of the (National/ local NGO)*

-----, supports protection responses in non-refugee situation in both nexus and humanitarian action as well as leads standard and policy setting relating to protection in complex emergencies, including protracted internal armed conflict areas, particular with regard to the protection of internally displaced persons."

- *Based in Sweden (International NGO)*

coordinates and provides global level inter-agency policy advice and guidance on the implementation of the cluster approach to Protection Clusters in the field, supports protection responses in non-refugee situation humanitarian action as well as leads standard and policy setting relating to protection in complex and natural disaster humanitarian emergencies, in particular with regard to the protection of internally displaced persons. The GPC ensures neutral and impartial humanitarian protection program distinguished from peace or security processes.

- *Based in Syria (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

1.2: Do you have any comments on the overall effects of nexus reforms on humanitarian protection?

Both risk and opportunity

Both a chance due to possibilities of protection systems building jointly with authorities and other actors, as well as a risk due to stronger alignment with a state/party to a conflict. Guiding principle for engagement with the state should be to leave no one behind.

- Based in Turkey (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

There are risks but also opportunities. We must keep protection as central as possible in all country nexus operations, keep it on the agenda and develop 'ratings' for each project that is applying for funding according to the extent to which they incorporate the centrality of protection - development and peace/ stabilisation programmes especially, so those submitted for funding that do not meet the rating, will not be funded.

- Based in Central African Republic (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Context-dependent

It really depends on the context, very difficult to predict and generalise.

- Based in Jordan (Government (civilian))

Coordination

The effects will depend mostly on the capacity of an efficient and effective coordination, including information sharing and planning between humanitarian, development and peace actors on the ground.

- Based in Central African Republic (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Joint efforts needed

I strongly believe that a measurable result in reducing people's needs, risks and vulnerabilities and increasing their resilience will require combined effort of different actors.

- Based in Kenya (International NGO)

Against the background of increasing conflicts, mass displacement and growing refugee flows it is essential for all relevant actors to join forces and redouble efforts for prevention and durable solutions. There is an urgent need to bridge the humanitarian/development gap and apply harmonized tools and processes - but still ensuring strong protection approaches.

- Based in Senegal (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Lack of clarity

It is too early to assess or predict actual effects of nexus reforms on humanitarian protection. One challenge in particular is the lack of clarity/consistency on who is involved in the "peace" pillar.

- Based in Switzerland (Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement)

There needs to be more succinct clarity on what reforms are. Most of us in the field do not have the time to study what specific reform was confirmed or not (to start with) and then actually being implemented at UN level. We were talking about linking relief and development which is pretty much the same thing and not much has changed in terms of humanitarian and development implementation

- Based in Iraq (International NGO)

Three years after the idea took shape at the World Humanitarian Summit, it is still early days for nexus-focused programming. And with limited independent monitoring so far, it's hard to get a clear picture of what has really changed – for better or worse.

- Based in Germany (International NGO)

In Afghanistan we are approaching the Nexus from a principled humanitarian approach but it is too early to answer some of these statements as Nexus has not yet been concretised

- Based in Afghanistan (National/local NGO)

No one in the field actually KNOWS about the nexus and what it means-lots of talk little action as humanitarian systems are not structured to deal with it

- Based in Ethiopia (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

As of yet in my experience there is a lot of talking and focus donor level on planning and joint assessments but i do not see (yet) much implications for our programming other then confusion on what it means and especially confusion on the triple nexus (peace component)

- Based in Netherlands (International NGO)

Nexus theory, its institutional ownership and guidelines are all unclear. It muddles the thinking. "Double" Nexus is the opportunity for hard core humanitarians to avoid security, political and military actors and an excuse not to engage with them. Unrealistic and potentially divisive combination.

- (Government (civilian))

Unless involved individuals (humanitarian actors, development actors, and donors) especially at the field level have full understanding of this approach and know how to fit into their areas of activities/on-going implementation, little will change. Protection actors need to know how to address and speak to those who have little understanding of this approach.

- Based in Turkey (International NGO)

These nexus reforms need to be communicated more.

- Based in Cameroon (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Learning from experience

I feel that new "buzzwords" tend to saturate the sector (right now it's nexus) and that these reforms tend to be a donor-driven venture. While it is crucial to ensure the linkages exist, what are the consultations that have been done on the ground (bottom-up)? We have a lot of examples of where things didn't work (e.g. Haiti post-earthquake 2010), it would be great to hear real-life examples where it has worked. And also how this has/is being incorporated into the current nexus model.

- Based in Denmark (International NGO)

Need for action

The Nexus reforms depend highly on "how", the capacity and resources available. If the purpose of Nexus is to "leave nobody behind" there is still much to do to make this happen. The government donors/international donors also have to shift from "competition" to greater collaborative efforts. There is room for more multi-stakeholder interventions. And most important there should be much more space for local communities and people in crises to be part in both defining their problem and solutions. This requires a shift from "delivering" aid to building capacity for durable solutions/sustainable development. I'm also wondering how much Agenda 2030 is used as a common framework, as well as "rights based participatory methods"? How can we shift from "talking" Nexus, into "doing".

- *Based in Sweden (International NGO)*

Current reforms are good on paper, but when reality comes in the field with fast changing situation that affect the population, the flexibility to modify existing nexus program is almost impossible as financial system set up will not allow this when activities i.e. moving from nexus due to an escalated conflict to humanitarian distribution, CPiE and shelter/IDP support. Donors should really look at their financial systems and the flexibility within these.

- *Based in Sweden (International NGO)*

It is easy to think of a nexus in a policy department. It is a nice new term to frame the old humanitarian problem of combining different good things in difficult situations – life saving, development and an increase in peace.

- *Based in Pakistan (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Positive outcomes – General

I guess nexus will be good in term of protection of the most vulnerable in a more effective manner

- *Based in Philippines (International NGO)*

The nexus will add value to the existing efforts of humanitarian protection.

- *Based in Somalia (International NGO)*

For me, the nexus reforms will improve/change the humanitarian protection

- *Based in Central African Republic (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

To a very large extent Nexus reforms on humanitarian protection is moving in the right direction.

- *Based in Nigeria (National/local NGO)*

Nexus reforms are the need of the hour and will be catalyst in achieving 2030 agenda.

- *Based in India (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

It can strengthen the work of protection, given that there will be an integrated approach.

- *Based in Philippines (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

It's can create a synergy action in the humanitatrian actions

- *Based in Burkina Faso (National/local NGO)*

Right reforms will have positive effects in strengthening protection outcomes.

- *Based in Cameroon (National/ local NGO)*

I appreciate their contributions towards effective protection work!

- *Based in Uganda (International NGO)*

I think nexus reforms would impact positively on humanitarian protection

- *Based in Congo, Democratic Republic of the (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

It can result in a positive outcome if carefully planned, following a risk analysis on a continuous basis. Development, humanitarian and peace building follow different principles because deal with different aspects of people's life though they have the positive purposes, and all actors have to be aware of this, trying not to undermine their own principles, but at the same time looking for a better cooperation where possible. Further, how to make the nexus concretely possible is a question mark.

- *Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)*

I believe nexus reforms will result in mainstreamed protection in all humanitarian action.

- *Based in Saudi Arabia (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Positive outcomes – Root causes

I believe that the nexus reforms have the potential to strengthen protection because by coordinating action towards reducing vulnerabilities and enhancing resilience, they can contribute to addressing root causes of conflict and thus contribute to (a more sustainable) peace.

- *Based in Congo, Democratic Republic of the (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Nexus reform allows better preparation to handle the protracted humanitarian protection, and allows communities to reduce the level of devastation that creates humanitarian needs.

- *Based in Myanmar (Government (civilian))*

Overall nexus reform is going to empower humanity not to depend humanitarian protection.

- *Based in Cameroon (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

In my opinion the effect of nexus reforms on humanitarian protection will improve the quality of services being rendered to the victims. Any humanitarian services without development is half done

- *Based in Nigeria (Other)*

Positive outcomes – Sustainability

I feel that the nexus can offer very interesting opportunities to build more sustainable protection mechanisms, which can be mainstreamed into the regular protection services of States. Of course, this applies when minimum conditions are met for the nexus to be engaged without losing ground for protection.

- *Based in Somalia (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Prevention

Nexus will improve protection if an element of prevention is included.

- *Based in Myanmar (International NGO)*

Protection not in focus

Humanitarian protection is not really in the heart of the debate and comes sometimes as an afterthought. You see it in some paragraphs, but not so accentuated or seen as a potential risk.

- *Based in Switzerland (International NGO)*

Question 12 should include the answer option "Don't know"! I don't have the evidence to support an informed decision. My general fear is that humanitarian response (especially the life-saving emergency side) will get lost in the belief that development actors 'know better' and 'can do better'. We have a responsibility to respond to emergencies in a way that paves the way to solutions, but delivering that emergency response must remain the overall imperative.

- *Based in Denmark (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

It depends on how it is done, but I do not have confidence that individuals and institutions driving the nexus agenda understand the need to protect principled humanitarian assistance.

- *Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)*

Nexus reforms has its own benefits such as ownership, sustainability, opportunity to strengthen systems locally however there is need to prepare stakeholders to recognize that protection comes first and there is need to build protection and accountability capacity of all humanitarian actors.

- *Based in Kenya (International NGO)*

Risks from nexus reforms – Conflicts

I am concerned about how the impact of the nexus in contexts where government actors are perpetrators of abuses. I am likewise concerned that the inclusion of "peace" in the nexus may blur lines between humanitarian and security actors and lead to greater risks for humanitarian personnel (including protection personnel) working in insecure areas.

- *Based in Australia (International NGO)*

NWOW/nexus pushes humanitarian actors closer to government authorities also when this is undesirable and undermines humanitarian space and protection advocacy; this agenda somehow presupposes a benign government, but grapples with situations where the government may be part of the problem. There are advantages; increasing closeness to authorities and increasing connectedness to players like the World Bank can strengthen relations and increase leverage. The trick would be to contextualize properly, but the nexus policy push is broad and does not - in practice - differentiate between conflict and non-conflict situations.

- *Based in Switzerland (Government (civilian))*

Trends and variations to the above considerations will depend on the scenario/context where the nexus will be made operational (high intensity conflict with the State as one party; post-conflict situations; disaster-induced emergencies); the attitude of the stakeholders in place and their engagement; the profile and role of the State authorities.

- *Based in Switzerland (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

More critical reflection is needed on the potential impact of the nexus approach on humanitarian protection. For example, recent responses to conflict-related displacement crises in Ethiopia (such as Gedeo and West Guji) revealed numerous protection challenges, which the humanitarian community struggled to navigate. In many cases, the nexus framework promoted in the country exacerbated these challenges. For example, the push to channel resources through government systems and the limited role hum. organisations play in targeting of assistance had serious consequences in a context with rushed IDP returns and access to assistance issues. Mali and Nigeria are other examples of how certain ways of working, justified within the context of nexus reform, limit humanitarian space and exacerbate protection risks for affected populations, particularly around access to assistance

- *Based in Kenya (International NGO)*

Is there any risk assessment done about Nexus effect on situation on non-international armed conflicts where non-state armed groups are active and might be labelled to terrorism?

- *Based in Syria (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Risks from nexus reforms – Principles

Unfortunately, little awareness has been made on how to do the nexus in a manner that does not compromise key protection principles. While fully aware of the importance of the nexus, it is imperative that we keep in mind and be fully aware of humanitarian imperatives, which is somehow missing the emergencies real life situations.

- *Based in Romania (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Urban response

Without addressing the 75% of displacement in urban areas in new and better ways protection actors will become increasingly irrelevant – this demands increased focus on nexus.

- *Based in Norway (International NGO)*

1.3 Gaps and challenges – selection of relevant comments related to the nexus

AAP

Gap/challenge: AAP/PSEA Training

Comment: When quality and accountability are applied in humanitarian and development action and affected populations are aware of their responsibilities and rights, the outcomes are better

- Based in Congo, Democratic Republic of the (National/local NGO)

Access restrictions

Gap/challenge: Situations of non-international armed conflicts

Comment: Due to Nexus, humanitarian actors involved in peace processes (e.g. UN agencies) and active non-international armed conflicts, might face access challenges. Especially where non-state armed groups are active.

- Based in Syria (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Access restrictions

Gap/challenge: Lack of humanitarian access to populations

Comment: Lake Chad region; third leg of "triple nexus" is seen as a military component; negatively affects perceptions among communities and armed groups of humanitarian actors, who withdraw from volatile regions or are more susceptible to attacks. Undermines protection efforts and overall impartiality of response.

- Based in Switzerland (Government (civilian))

Access restrictions

Gap/challenge: Compromising access

Comment: The open cooperation with State authorities in Afghanistan has severely restricted access to areas controlled by NSAG, due to the perception that humanitarian actors were exclusively associated with the political agenda of the Government.

- Based in Switzerland (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Access restrictions

Gap/challenge: Restrictions posed by states on protection actors to provide assistance

Comment: Peace and security are increasingly being handled through military intervention which greatly impacts the neutrality of humanitarian actors in the field, especially in the area of Counter Terrorism.

- Based in Jordan (International NGO)

Access restrictions

Gap/challenge: Access denial

Comment: it was in 2014 immediately after the 2013 Conflict in the country, our team (UN peacekeepers) were to join the humanitarian actors to monitor and investigate human rights violations in the IDP camp unfortunately the state government denied our team access because they do not want us to talk to the IDPs who fled from the neighboring town due to conflict but they allowed the humanitarian actors since their work involves provision of services but not

getting involved in investigating human rights violations allegedly committed both by the government and the rebel groups.

- Based in South Sudan (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Access restrictions

Gap/challenge: Minorities not aligned to groups in power

Comment: Somalia is a protracted crisis which has more or less stabilised due to the formation of Federal Member States (FMS). These FMS are dominated by certain clans but potentially supported by international actors. Minorities in these FMS are at risk of not being reached (due to government restrictions in movement and/or due to lack of identification/visibility), which may be conscious policy on behalf of the local authorities as they want to increase support/service delivery to their immediate support base. Humanitarian / development actors may be at risk of (unwittingly) reinforcing power imbalances between groups at the detriment of minority groups.

- Based in Turkey (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Lack of analysis

Gap/challenge: Proper analysis to inform protection action

Comment: In high intensity conflict or protracted complex emergencies, where the State is a part to the conflict, the possibility to conduct an independent assessment reaching out to different segments of the population and enquiring about specific protection issues has been contested by the State, thus limiting the rigour of the analysis. In the name of maintaining good relations with national authorities, protection analysis has been sacrificed.

- Based in Switzerland (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Lack of analysis

Gap/challenge: Lack of clear risk analysis

Comment: In a given area, where we had an increasing number of protection incidents, we were trying to advocate for increasing measures of physical protection. DPKO was just trying to demonstrate that a military operation carried out was a success and that armed group capacity was almost neutralized. We had just different protection analysis and we loose more time trying to have a common protection risk analysis in order to provide better protection.

- Based in Central African Republic (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Missing capacity

Gap/challenge: Keeping well trained, dedicated staff in tough areas

Comment: As more organizations (development and humanitarian) will be working on joint issues, staff will have more opportunities / move around more. They are also likely to wish to work more in development, as the locations / work are seen as more stable

- Based in Iraq (International NGO)

Missing capacity

Gap/challenge: Understanding of protection, mainstreaming and implementation (centrality)

Comment: The protection actors often lack the understanding of protection, its centrality and the need for mainstreaming, which often leads to the provided services being abrupt and not tailored. Quite often, the actors lack empirical knowledge in delivering protection related activities, or undermine the need for evidence based decision making. In certain instances the

actors do not acknowledge the need for humanitarian development nexus in their programming, thus contributing to the development of negative coping mechanisms among those whom they work for and with.

- Based in Iraq (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Communication challenges

Gap/challenge: Capacity to "communicate" protection to the humanitarian leadership

Comment: The profile of the leadership has not been always ideal in terms of familiarity with humanitarian and protection principles. Merging the leadership's more marked expertise in development-oriented approaches with humanitarian functions has not always played in favour of a good understanding of protection.

- Based in Switzerland (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Confidentiality and data protection

Gap/challenge: Data protection and privacy

Comment: Inter-linkages of humanitarian and security/peace nexus raises some sensitivities specially in insecure areas, mostly contested between the government and non-state armed groups as to who exactly is a beneficiary and data protection, with both sides increasingly showing interest in the humanitarian data becomes a challenge.

- Based in Afghanistan (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Coordination gaps and challenges

Gap/challenge: Coordination

Comment: Projects are not most of time harmonized

- Based in Congo, Democratic Republic of the (National/local NGO)

Coordination gaps and challenges

Gap/challenge: Implementing protection in isolation

Comment: I work in a refugee camp/ settlement, if protection is clearly connected to development, peace and security - relief recovery would be quicker and sustainable.

- Based in Zimbabwe (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Coordination gaps and challenges

Gap/challenge: Coordination

Comment: Having more actors involved is always a coordination challenge. When working on the nexus with undp, we even had challenges coordinating within the organization, let alone with other organizations involved in other parts of the nexus

- Based in Congo, Democratic Republic of the (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Coordination gaps and challenges: Civil

Gap/challenge: Civil coordination for protection outcomes

Comment: Humanitarian actors are working in more protracted conflicts. There has been less respect from certain military actors/security forces to adhere to IL,IHL, IHRL, (or even their own rules of engagement). Balancing out coordinating with perpetrators of violence either to mitigate harm or risk to affected population, for access to affected population, protecting

humanitarian service provision/deconflicting sites, or capacity building of those forces, humanitarians prefer to keep their distance than risk being possibly associated with those forces, and be seen compromising their humanitarian principles. There has been an increase in considerable risk in not maintaining clear distinction, which has also impacted humanitarians ability to provide protection and services. CMCoord is dramatically understaffed and highly criticized in contexts like Syria, and doesn't necessarily have a focus on protection of civilians. Other organizations are not building that capacity and maintaining a centralized coordination model. Orgs are setting up their or negotiations for access, using different methods, or are developing parallel structures. WFP is engaging in building their own capacity, RCRC/MSF movement has their own approach, its fractioning a unification and standardization of approaches

- Based in United States (Government (military))

Coordination gaps and challenges: Civmil

Gap/challenge: CMcooperation

Comment: In my opinion we should keep the nexus on double level, not triple and keep security out. This because the UN peacekeeping mission uses it in a way that creates more barriers and challenges for humanitarians to access areas and be accepted. its produces a lot of misunderstanding of the population

- Based in Mali (International NGO)

Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related

Gap/challenge: Clear connection btn protection and development

Comment: When agencies protection to affected population, they usually consider enjoying rights as other people, without necessary thinking of development. Affected people don't eat rights or their rights do not foster co-existing peaceful in security within themselves and with host communities.

- Based in Zimbabwe (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related

Gap/challenge: Protection strategies not set to achieve devt and peace

Comment: I think the gap btn protection and development, peace & security should be filled 1st - Such that all protection provided helps and uplifts affected people towards development, peace and security. Protection should be just a stepping stone for affected population to achieve development. peace and security wherever they may be.

- Based in Zimbabwe (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related

Gap/challenge: Development programmes not incorporating protection sufficiently

Comment: Major water works in urban areas do not take into account that the improvement of such infrastructure may lead to vulnerable people such as IDPs being evicted in these areas, to benefit others who can pay more for increased property values

- Based in Central African Republic (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related

Gap/challenge: Security (includes camp management) especially concerning girls, young women

Comment: Camps closed by the government and CP services non-existent in a protracted crises area - what happens to the protection of girls and young women in relation to security and safeguarding - no nexus funding to take over but humanitarian operations closed now.

- Based in Sweden (International NGO)

Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related

Gap/challenge: Intersectoral coordination

Comment: The lack of knowledge about protection in other sector challenge the possibility of intersectoral coordination.

- Based in Peru (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related

Gap/challenge: Development programming - risks

Comment: Moving from emergency WASH to significant urban water infrastructure improvement was an example of attempts at nexus, but has significant protection risks for the population it is intended to benefit

- Based in Central African Republic (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Counter-terrorism

Gap/challenge: Counter-terrorism rules

Comment: Having peace and security into the nexus open a door for states to control humanitarian aid funds, usign some of them for security goals which jeopardise our independence (and neutrality)

- Based in Belgium (International NGO)

Detention

Gap/challenge: Protection of individuals facing arbitrary detention

Comment: Humanitarians sometimes worry that by trying to support this population, they will be seen by authorities as supporting criminality/terrorism. The desire by donors/UN agencies to link security with humanitarian/development activities can limit their advocacy on such issues with authorities, thereby constraining humanitarians' room for maneuver.

- Based in Iraq (International NGO)

Funding-related challenges

Gap/challenge: Consistent multi year funds from donors

Comment: Determining how much financial resources will be allocated. maintaining shorter term humanitarian funding cycles on a one year basis without slowly engaging development actors. They are brought in to late, or not at all. they don't seem to particularly coordinate in the same sphere as the humanitarian actors - if they are sharing information at all.

- Based in United States (Government (military))

Funding-related challenges

Gap/challenge: Influencing

Comment: Financing for Protection work in humanitarian settings is limited, short term, and does not go to finance long term requirements for say addressing 'trauma'. Accountability in protection does not hold perpetrators of violence or violators of rights. Influencing seems to be

restricted to the UN and Humanitarian structure seemingly neglecting the duty bearers, the government. SSHF funding for example is short term and does not adequately and sufficiently address nexus things because 6 months project period is also challenged by rainy seasons and it's too short in itself.

- Based in South Sudan (International NGO)

Funding-related challenges

Gap/challenge: Competition for funding between NGOs

Comment: I have come across in a few organisations already where nexus is the new "holy grail" and forces organisations without any legitimate experience to almost fabricate their experience to show that they have worked in the nexus - this is a very donor driven modality. The only way I can describe it is like trying to fit a triangle shape through a square shape, only because the donor requirements state so.

- Based in Denmark (International NGO)

Funding-related challenges

Gap/challenge: Donor fatigue, funding gaps and transitions

Comment: In countries such as Iraq there is a considerable decrease in humanitarian funding and a push to move into development. Despite the push to ensure a smoother transition there remains a huge gap in funding. Also the fluidity of the current situation in some parts of Iraq means that we cannot clearly define the transition between humanitarian and development.

- Based in Jordan (International NGO)

Funding-related challenges

Gap/challenge: Limited funds

Comment: Funds are directed to development, and security work reducing funds toward protection.

- Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)

Funding-related challenges

Gap/challenge: Lack of resources

Comment: Usually the government ministries what are given the responsibility for protection do not receive much developmental funding for protection programmes and services yet during humanitarian action these same government institutions are usually get some level of resources by working with protection agencies - this helps them to take forward their responsibilities for protection

- Based in Kenya (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Funding-related challenges

Gap/challenge: Lack of independent, neutral, impartial funding

Comment: Yemen, the challenge of providing a principled protective humanitarian response in contexts where large amount of humanitarian funding comes from parties to the conflict, also engaged in peace negotiations. Nigeria, World Bank providing large amounts of funding directly to the government for development in conflict affected areas, this created an incentive for the government to force people back into extremely unsafe areas where they were attacked and killed as the funds could not be accessed until the area stabilised. In addition, large amounts of funding for development, undermines the influence of humanitarian actors. Greece/Turkey,

funds were monopolised by the EC/EU, while the EU had a political interest in pushing asylum seekers back into Turkey - this eroded international refugee law and access to international protection. It also meant the crucial provision of legal assistance and representation was massively under-funded.

- Based in United Kingdom (Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement)

Funding-related challenges: Funding terms

Gap/challenge: Existing financial systems set up by donors that still even as nexus funding do not provide flexibility that is required

Comment: Conflict escalates and nexus program cannot be changed more towards humanitarian ops which means planned EiE type of activities are not allowed to support CPiE actions - adolescent girls facing more GBV (where the programmatic approach accepted by donor is not flexible for change).

- Based in Sweden (International NGO)

Gender-related: GBV

Gap/challenge: GBV survivors

Comment: Absent development project to help GBV survivor to go out situation

- Based in Central African Republic (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Gender-related: GBV

Gap/challenge: Intra community conflict related GBV in management in nexus areas

Comment: Push to bring fast new ideas/behavioral change (as in development program) in to the program nexus target communities where new value model lifted out too fast to community members that have been living by very traditional values - causes intra-community conflict/GBV related matters. Donor expectations for a nexus program are that workplan is "set up" and not understanding that in nexus program, the approach has to be extremely flexible as work includes different ethnic communities, changing situations and differences between communities that are still affected by protracted crises.

- Based in Sweden (International NGO)

Impunity

Gap/challenge: Restriction: difficulties in challenging rights violations perpetrated by the state or groups linked to the state

Comment: In order not to lose access to areas/populations some humanitarian actors refrain from raising rights abuses perpetrated by state linked groups with responsible authorities. This is especially the case in areas where (local) authorities are strong, ie. Mazar-i-Sharif in northern Afghanistan, young Federal Member States in Somalia such as Jubaland, as well as in Turkey.

- Based in Turkey (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Impunity

Gap/challenge: Weak and eroding international rights accountability systems

Comment: This is harder to detail, however developmental, political and economic considerations are taking precedence over international accountability frameworks, including the Security Council, the Human Rights mechanisms and International Refugee protection. This is also true for support to survivors of sexual violence, in which the political agenda of several OECD countries is cutting access to SRHR. This is exacerbated by the Nexus in which humanitarian

principles and international legal mechanisms are not upheld or respected by all actors as they prioritise longer-term economic and stabilisation agendas.

- Based in United Kingdom (Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement)

Integrated support

Gap/challenge: Financial or in-kind assistance to support the resilience of the POCs

Comment: Taking the same example of GBV services, the lack of self empowerment and resilience components in the support programs are not allowing for the concerned people to benefit from the provided support, leading quite often to inter dependency from the humanitarian services and development of negative coping mechanisms. Thus, joint nexus programming is required to effectively counter the existing and arising protection challenges and risks of the POCs with sufficient support and sustainability in consideration.

- Based in Iraq (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Protection mainstreaming

Gap/challenge: Safe programming or protection mainstreaming is not properly accepted and implemented by the other sectors in response though indicators set up and capacity building initiative done.

Comment: It is observed that other sectors consider safe programming or protection mainstreaming is the job of protection. Every sector ensures safe programming by own where protection gives technical input. But that is not happening.

- Based in Bangladesh (International NGO)

National institutions and capacity

Gap/challenge: Limited presence of culture of protection within the wider system, i.e. national authorities, local first responders, etc.

Comment: The demands of national authorities towards developmental institutions are more stringent and any intervention or collaboration is strongly determined by those authorities.

- Based in United Kingdom (Private sector)

National institutions and capacity

Gap/challenge: Fragmented national decision-making structures in humanitarian settings.

Comment: The growing inter-connectedness of programming in crisis settings means that humanitarians have to deal with a growing range of national authorities (e.g., ministries of planning, ministries of finance) that have limited understanding of how humanitarians work - and vice versa. This, combined with the deterioration of state authority that normally occurs in a crisis, means that humanitarians can face more challenges finding/convincing the right decision-maker.

- Based in Iraq (International NGO)

Populations under control of ANSAs

Gap/challenge: Protection of civilians with family links to non-state armed groups

Comment: Host governments have different approaches to dealing with such populations - but mainly, they are heavily securitized, with humanitarian/human rights as secondary considerations. Donors/UN agencies are sometimes too deferential to this, which leads to human rights abuses and unacceptable living conditions for affected people, limited access for humanitarians, and limited space for reconciliation or peace-building.

- Based in Iraq (International NGO)

Humanitarian principles

Gap/challenge: Perception of host populations: Blurred line between the "blue UN" and the "black UN"

Comment: Eastern DRC: Host population attacks WHO vehicles, due to their perception that the high level of attention which international actors pay to the Ebola response would weaken MONUSCO's (in-)ability to address the ongoing armed conflict

- Based in Congo, Democratic Republic of the (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Humanitarian principles

Gap/challenge: Maintaining impartiality within the nexus *modus operandi*

Comment: In certain countries, preparedness for humanitarian emergencies (conflict-related) has been underplayed and disregarded - including by the leadership - due to the reluctance to confront the national authorities by sending early warning signals that an internal crisis was looming (situation specifically applicable to conflict-induced internal displacement).

- Based in Switzerland (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Refugees/IDPs

Gap/challenge: Systemic failure to protect refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants in most of the contexts

Comment: International actors are not fulfilling their duty to protect and take responsibility over the world PoC population. There is a generic approach that externalises and delegates the responsibility to traditionally transit countries and Humanitarian Strategic frameworks (such as 3RP, LCRP, Lybia HRP) are focused on maintaining status quo for the countries, rather than giving response to people needs. At the expense of protection status, most of the times.

- Based in Tunisia (International NGO)

Refugees/IDPs

Gap/challenge: Nature of displacement (protracted)

Comment: In a protracted displacement situation, the protection actors tend to forget about the importance of resilience and self reliance to adapt to the long existing shocks of the concerned population. Furthermore, in an attempt to receive more funding, the actors tend to reorient their programs toward "more appealing areas" (example shift of services from Kurdistan, which was hosting at the time some 500 000 IDPs to Mosul right after its liberation).

- Based in Iraq (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Overall role of protection

Gap/challenge: Insufficient authority of HC as protection manager

Comment: Because the focus of decision making in development, peace and security are elsewhere and are more focused on outputs

- Based in United Kingdom (Private sector)

Overall role of protection

Gap/challenge: Lack of leadership recognition of protection needs and impacts

Comment: In Nigeria, development actors with long-standing relations with the government were not acting independently and as such ignored and down-played the level of the crisis to protect their relationships. This delayed the humanitarian response and meant that the response was not at the scale required, it also meant that the management of the response did not adequately protect displaced populations and prioritised political agendas over the safety of protected populations.

- Based in United Kingdom (Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement)

Overall role of protection

Gap/challenge: Visibility of protection in all country operations

Comment: Protection is not being put front and centre in development or peace programming. It needs to be reiterated as a priority in ALL programming

- Based in Central African Republic (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Sustainability

Gap/challenge: Sustainability

Comment: I do think the humanitarian sector do not support sustainability after the crisis, capacity building, system strengthening, costing, system building, are not priorities for the humanitarian sector in the field.

- Based in Peru (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Terminology and clarity

Gap/challenge: Language (protection vs human rights)

Comment: Development projects do not talk about protection, but they claim to be 'rights based'. This is too broad a definition and doesn't include protection activities (nor even human rights activities sometimes, despite claims that they do)

- Based in Central African Republic (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Terminology and clarity

Gap/challenge: Language (protection vs human rights)

Comment: None of the development programmes involved in nexus activities mention protection as an activity or as a central concern in programming. They refer to rights being respected for all, but it is too vague and too passive.

- Based in Central African Republic (UN and other intergovernmental organization)

Urban

Gap/challenge: Urban programming

Comment: Different set of stakeholders demands better understanding and mapping to ensure addressing the topics of relevance to protection

- Based in Norway (International NGO)

1.4 Gaps and challenges – all identified gaps and challenges reported as relevant to the nexus

This table includes all gaps and challenges reported by respondents as either somewhat or directly caused by nexus reforms. The gaps and challenges were entered in the respondents own words and have been categorized as part of the analysis.

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
AAP	Accountability		Other
AAP	Those responsible for protecting civilians are not held accountable if they violate the rules	Switzerland	Gov. (civilian)
AAP	Accountability		INGO
AAP	Accountability	Belgium	INGO
AAP	Accountability among protection actors	Nigeria	NNGO
AAP	Lack accountability for behaviours and actions conflicting with protection mainstreaming principles.	United Kingdom	Private sector
AAP	Enforcement system of accountability measures		Other
AAP	Accountability	South Sudan	NNGO
AAP	Accountability to affected population	South Sudan	INGO
AAP	Accountability of responses to incidents at grasroot level	Norway	INGO
AAP	Accountability	Belgium	INGO
AAP	Breach in humanitarian code of conduct by humanitarian actors	Kenya	INGO
AAP	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse	South Africa	UN & intergov.
AAP	Lack of mechanism for people in need raise their voices	Colombia	UN & intergov.
Access restrictions	Unhindered access	Belgium	INGO
Access restrictions	Lack of access to some remote areas	Nigeria	Gov. (civilian)
Access restrictions	Access	United States	Academia
Access restrictions	Access to information	Philippines	INGO
Access restrictions	Access	Nigeria	INGO
Access restrictions	Shrinking space for protection solutions	Iran	INGO
Access restrictions	Access	Pakistan	UN & intergov.
Access restrictions	Protecting hard to reach populations	Netherlands	Other
Access restrictions	Proximity	Belgium	INGO
Access restrictions	Access	DRC	UN & intergov.
Access restrictions	Lack of access / denying of access	Belgium	INGO

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Access restrictions	Lack of access	<i>Cameroon</i>	NNGO
Access restrictions	Lack of resources to negotiate access	<i>Cameroon</i>	NNGO
Access restrictions	Lack of access	<i>Spain</i>	INGO
Access restrictions	Access	<i>Belgium</i>	INGO
Access restrictions	Lack of access	<i>Nigeria</i>	NNGO
Access restrictions	Access	<i>Afghanistan</i>	UN & intergov.
Access restrictions	Accessibility	<i>South Sudan</i>	NNGO
Access restrictions	Access	<i>Nigeria</i>	INGO
Access restrictions	Armed forces restricting and controlling physical access to people in need and affected population	<i>South Sudan</i>	INGO
Access restrictions	Access to affected population	<i>United Kingdom</i>	INGO
Access restrictions	Securing consistent and meaningful access to affected populations	<i>United States</i>	Government (military)
Access restrictions	Access	<i>Italy</i>	UN & intergov.
Access restrictions	Access to migrant detention centres	<i>Senegal</i>	INGO
Access restrictions	Humanitarian access	<i>France</i>	INGO
Access restrictions	Acceptance and therefore access - physical/bureaucratic impediments	<i>Senegal</i>	Gov. (civilian)
Access restrictions	Access and mainly reluctance of governments to recognize protection needs	<i>DRC</i>	INGO
Access restrictions	Situations of non-international armed conflicts	<i>Syria</i>	UN & intergov.
Access restrictions	Controlling government and accessibility in conflict zones	<i>Kenya</i>	INGO
Access restrictions	No trust of people	<i>Afghanistan</i>	Other
Access restrictions	Decreasing access	<i>Sweden</i>	Gov. (civilian)
Access restrictions	Lack of humanitarian access to populations	<i>Switzerland</i>	Gov. (civilian)
Access restrictions	Compromising access	<i>Switzerland</i>	UN & intergov.
Access restrictions	Access	<i>United States</i>	Academia
Access restrictions	Access	<i>Pakistan</i>	UN & intergov.
Access restrictions	Access to certain locations		UN & intergov.
Access restrictions	Access	<i>Norway</i>	Gov. (civilian)
Access restrictions	Restrictions posed by states on protection actors to provide assistance	<i>Jordan</i>	INGO
Access restrictions	Access denial	<i>South Sudan</i>	UN & intergov.

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Access restrictions	Lack of safe corridors like in areas of active combat	<i>Kenya</i>	<i>Academia</i>
Access restrictions	Access to terrorist occupied territories	<i>Senegal</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Access restrictions	Minorities not aligned to groups in power	<i>Turkey</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Access to services	Legal protection in some remote countries	<i>Yemen</i>	<i>Red Cross/ Red Crescent Movement</i>
Access to services	Access to services	<i>Philippines</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Access to services	Lack of access to basic service	<i>Colombia</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Access to services	Lack of access to basic services for displaced and local population	<i>South Sudan</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Advocacy	Lack of the knowledge about the protection issues by some of the member of the communities	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>Gov. (civilian)</i>
Advocacy	Advocacy to address protection issues concretely	<i>Yemen</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Advocacy	Training population	<i>Burkina Faso</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Communication	Lack of proper communication	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Communication	Communication	<i>Bolivia</i>	<i>Other</i>
Communication	Information	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Communication	Communication	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Communication	Capacity to "communicate" protection to the humanitarian leadership	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Communication	Information and language	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Community participation	Lack of co-decision making between agencies and affected populations	<i>Myanmar</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Community participation	Lack of Community participation and inclusion in decision making	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Community participation	Ownership	<i>Cameroon</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Community participation	Ownership (including among POCs)	<i>Iraq</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Community participation	Participation of affected populations	<i>Myanmar</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Confidentiality and data protection	Data protection and privacy	<i>Afghanistan</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Confidentiality and data protection	Confidentiality	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>INGO</i>

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Confidentiality and data protection	Data sharing is not done to each others due to policy and Do No Harm. For this data collection, each organization investing and missuse of fund.	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Contextualization	Absence of contextualized intervention	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Contextualization	Understanding cultural context	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Contextualization	Not taking into consideration social differences especially in the sensitive issues	<i>Yemen</i>	<i>Red Cross/ Red Crescent Movement</i>
Contextualization	Culture and tradition of the people	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>Gov. (civilian)</i>
Contextualization	Cultural and social barriers of affected communities and barriers in accepting protection based interventions	<i>Jordan</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Contextualization	Culture setting of the place	<i>Uganda</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges	Lack of cordination among partners	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges	Lack of protection partners	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges	Inter-agency advocacy	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges	Lack of coordination between protection actors	<i>Mali</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges	Coordination	<i>South Sudan</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges	Coordination	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges	Lack of coordinations	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges	Lack of proper coordination	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges	Clarity of responsibilities among partners	<i>Kenya</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges	Lack of good coordination	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges	Lack of coordination between INGOs and UN agencies		<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges	Coordination	<i>United States</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges	Coordinacion	<i>Bolivia</i>	<i>Other</i>

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Coordination gaps and challenges	Coordination	<i>DRC</i>	NNGO
Coordination gaps and challenges	Implementing protection in isolation	<i>Zimbabwe</i>	UN & intergov.
Coordination gaps and challenges	Humanitarian action and coordination, humanitarian status and application gaps	<i>Ethiopia</i>	NNGO
Coordination gaps and challenges	Coordination under short time frame	<i>Jordan</i>	INGO
Coordination gaps and challenges	Resilience to integrate protection in other sectors which create violation of the "do no harm", agencies competition risks protection	<i>Romania</i>	UN & intergov.
Coordination gaps and challenges	Lack of coordination between protection actors.	<i>Saudi Arabia</i>	UN & intergov.
Coordination gaps and challenges	Less coordination between countries	<i>Turkey</i>	Gov. (civilian)
Coordination gaps and challenges	Lack of coordination among partners	<i>Kenya</i>	INGO
Coordination gaps and challenges	Lack of coordination among humanitarian actors	<i>Colombia</i>	UN & intergov.
Coordination gaps and challenges	Coordination		UN & intergov.
Coordination gaps and challenges	Silo programming	<i>France</i>	INGO
Coordination gaps and challenges	Actors still working in silos	<i>Sweden</i>	INGO
Coordination gaps and challenges	Clusters Coordination	<i>Mozambique</i>	UN & intergov.
Coordination gaps and challenges	Coordination	<i>United States</i>	NNGO
Coordination gaps and challenges	Lack of coordination under solid State structures	<i>South Africa</i>	UN & intergov.
Coordination gaps and challenges	Harmonizing different actors approaches	<i>Syria</i>	UN & intergov.
Coordination gaps and challenges	Collaboration	<i>United States</i>	Academia
Coordination gaps and challenges	Coordination	<i>DRC</i>	UN & intergov.
Coordination gaps and challenges	Coordination	<i>Mali</i>	UN & intergov.

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Coordination gaps and challenges	Lack of proper coordination	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges	Understanding of governance	<i>Norway</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges	No coordination with local authorities	<i>Afghanistan</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: CivMil	coordination between civil and military actors	<i>Zambia</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: CivMil	With the new reform/strate which dictate very different approaches to protection and the use of forces and the role of military in the protection	<i>Jordan</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: CivMil	Civ mil coordination for protection outcomes	<i>United States</i>	<i>Government (military)</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: CivMil	CMcooperation	<i>Mali</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related	Prioritization by HCT/UNCT	<i>Ethiopia</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related	Long-term objectives prioritized over immediate and life-saving priorities, together with further reduction of humanitarian funding to the benefit of development/security-focused funding, and increasing use of stabilization (security) funding of "humanitarian" response, particularly in contexts affected by extremist groups affecting the neutrality and independence of humanitarian action from political objectives (going back to challenge 1)	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related	Multiple agendas and priorities	<i>Zambia</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related	Clear connection btn protection and development	<i>Zimbabwe</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related	Protection strategies not set to achieve devt and peace	<i>Zimbabwe</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related	Development programmes not incorporating protection sufficiently	<i>Central African Republic</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related	Limited understanding from security and humanitarian partners how to interact appropriately	<i>United States</i>	<i>Government (military)</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related	Security (includes camp management) especially concerning girls, young women	<i>Sweden</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related	Protection in development interventions	<i>Cameroon</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related	Intersectoral coordination	<i>Peru</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related	Creating a clear connection between protection with development, peace and security	<i>Zimbabwe</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related	Development programming - risks	<i>Central African Republic</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related	Lack of importance of humanitarian views in the political decision making	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Coordination gaps and challenges: Nexus-related	Improper implementation	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Counter-terrorism	Counter-terrorism rules	<i>Belgium</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Counter-terrorism	Counter-terrorism measures	<i>Germany</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Counter-terrorism	Counter terrorism legislation	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Detention	Protection of individuals facing arbitrary detention	<i>Iraq</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Disabilities	Disability non inclusion	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Disabilities	Considering people living with disability in accessing essential services	<i>Kenya</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Disabilities	Specific services for persons with specific needs (rehabilitation, eye and hear care, reconstructive surgeries, specialised mental health services...)	<i>Uganda</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Disabilities	Unfavorable systems and tools for Disability inclusion	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>INGO</i>

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Disabilities	Disable persons need to be considered	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>Government (military)</i>
Funding-related	Funding	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Funding-related	Lack of funds	<i>United Arab Emirates</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Funding-related	The great gap between humanitarian needs and funds made available by the international community continues to increase.	<i>Ethiopia</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Funding-related	Lack of funds	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Funding-related	Donor fatigue in certain contexts creating a lack of funding opportunities.	<i>Myanmar</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Funding-related	Limited resources	<i>Uganda</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Funding-related	Funding	<i>Ethiopia</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Funding-related	Consistent multi year funds from donors	<i>United States</i>	<i>Government (military)</i>
Funding-related	Lack of funds		<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Funding-related	Funding	<i>Cameroon</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Funding-related	Money	<i>Malaysia</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Funding-related	Funding	<i>South Sudan</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Funding-related	Funding	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Funding-related	Funding	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Funding-related	Funding	<i>Netherlands</i>	<i>Other</i>
Funding-related	Short time frames for execution	<i>Palestine</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Funding-related	Lack of budget allocation	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Funding-related	Influencing	<i>South Sudan</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Funding-related	Fund limitation	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Funding-related	Lack of ressources	<i>Burkina Faso</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Funding-related	Funding	<i>France</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Funding-related	Uncertainty in geopolitics that triger to implementing organization to receive proper fund to implement.	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Funding-related	Lack of funding	<i>Central African Republic</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Funding-related	Funding gaps	<i>Myanmar</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Funding-related	Competition for funding between NGOs	<i>Denmark</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Funding-related	Financial problem	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>Gov. (civilian)</i>
Funding-related	Funding	<i>United States</i>	<i>Academia</i>

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Funding-related	Money	Malaysia	INGO
Funding-related	Funding	Thailand	UN & intergov.
Funding-related	Funding	Nigeria	INGO
Funding-related	Funding	Pakistan	UN & intergov.
Funding-related	Funding	Kenya	UN & intergov.
Funding-related	Minimal funding	South Sudan	NNGO
Funding-related	Funding	Norway	Gov. (civilian)
Funding-related	Funding	Ethiopia	UN & intergov.
Funding-related	Lack of funds	Kenya	INGO
Funding-related	Lack of fund	Somalia	NNGO
Funding-related	Funding	United States	INGO
Funding-related	Donor fatigue, funding gaps and transitions	Jordan	INGO
Funding-related	Limited funding to organizations involved in PoC	Kenya	Academia
Funding-related	Budget	Ethiopia	UN & intergov.
Funding-related	Funding	Switzerland	INGO
Funding-related	Financing	Mali	UN & intergov.
Funding-related	Limited funds	United Kingdom	INGO
Funding-related	Lack of resources	Kenya	UN & intergov.
Funding-related	Insufficient funding	Yemen	UN & intergov.
Funding-related	Lack of funding / decrease in funding as a result of donor fatigue	Lebanon	INGO
Funding-related	funding constraints for protection interventions,	Kenya	INGO
Funding-related	Fund limitation	Bangladesh	NNGO
Funding-related	Funding	Iraq	INGO
Funding-related	Funding	Iraq	NNGO
Funding-related	Funding and donor priorities	Nigeria	INGO
Funding-related	Resource mobilization	South Sudan	NNGO
Funding-related	Funding	Ethiopia	UN & intergov.
Funding-related	Lack of independent, neutral, impartial funding	United Kingdom	Red Cross/ Red Crescent Movement
Funding-related	Lack of funds		UN & intergov.
Funding-related	Time and funding limitations	Palestine	INGO

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Funding-related	Lack of fund	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Funding-related	Avoiding funding for UN and Agencies	<i>Turkey</i>	<i>Gov. (civilian)</i>
Funding-related	Funding	<i>DRC</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Funding-related	Lack of resources		<i>INGO</i>
Funding-related: Funding terms	Donor or fund driven project is obstacle for long term commitment for community based protection.	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Funding-related: Funding terms	Implementation period	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Funding-related: Funding terms	Short term project fund	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Funding-related: Funding terms	Sufficient time to implement protection activities to obtain protection outcomes	<i>Yemen</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Funding-related: Funding terms	Donor or fund driven project is obstacle for long term commitment for community based protection.		<i>INGO</i>
Funding-related: Funding terms	Existing financial systems set up by donors that still even as nexus funding do not provide flexibility that is required	<i>Sweden</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Gender-related: GBV	GBV	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>Gov. (civilian)</i>
Gender-related: GBV	GBV and safeguarding adolescents girls in changing context	<i>Sweden</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Gender-related: GBV	(S)GBV	<i>Italy</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Gender-related: GBV	SGBV		<i>INGO</i>
Gender-related: GBV	SGBV	<i>Central African Republic</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Gender-related: GBV	GBV	<i>Somalia</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Gender-related: GBV	No responses on GBV issues	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>Gov. (civilian)</i>
Gender-related: GBV	Lack of protection from gender-based and sexualised violence for women and girls	<i>South Sudan</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Gender-related: GBV	GBV protection	<i>South Sudan</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Gender-related: GBV	GBV survivors	<i>Central African Republic</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Gender-related: GBV	FGM	<i>Somalia</i>	NNGO
Gender-related: GBV	Intra community conflict related GBV in management in nexus areas	<i>Sweden</i>	INGO
Gender-related: GBV	SGBV	<i>Central African Republic</i>	UN & intergov.
Gender-related: GBV	Survivors of SGBV cases needs to be considered	<i>Nigeria</i>	Government (military)
Gender-related: GBV	Lack of competent referral mechanisms for GBV	<i>South Sudan</i>	INGO
Gender-related: Inequality	Gender inequality	<i>Nigeria</i>	INGO
Gender-related: Inequality	Gender balance	<i>Kenya</i>	INGO
Gender-related: Inequality	Absence of protection and gender strategy	<i>Pakistan</i>	INGO
Guidance	Lack of policies and specific guidelines	<i>South Sudan</i>	INGO
Guidance	No specific protocols and forms	<i>Afghanistan</i>	INGO
Humanitarian principles	Neutrality	<i>Senegal</i>	INGO
Humanitarian principles	Independence	<i>Pakistan</i>	UN & intergov.
Humanitarian principles	Perception of host populations: Blurred line between the "blue UN" and the "black UN"	<i>DRC</i>	UN & intergov.
Humanitarian principles	Neutrality (development and security/stabilisation approaches focus on supporting governmental actors), and thus acceptance by all parties to an armed conflict, leading to access impediments or interference with humanitarian action	<i>Switzerland</i>	INGO
Humanitarian principles	Maintaining impartiality within the nexus modus operandi	<i>Switzerland</i>	UN & intergov.
Humanitarian principles	Perceived biaseness	<i>Kenya</i>	Academia
Humanitarian principles	Political and context specific challenges: when existing laws and policies undermine the ability of an agency to ensure impartiality of the action	<i>Lebanon</i>	INGO
Humanitarian principles	Independence	<i>Italy</i>	UN & intergov.
Humanitarian principles	Formal restrictions to operate according to humanitarian principles	<i>Switzerland</i>	UN & intergov.

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Humanitarian principles	Impartiality	<i>Italy</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Humanitarian principles: Politicization	Politicization of humanitarian work	<i>United States</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Humanitarian principles: Politicization	It has become politicized	<i>Senegal</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Humanitarian principles: Politicization	Political intervention	<i>United Arab Emirates</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Humanitarian principles: Politicization	Political nature of the environment	<i>Uganda</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Humanitarian principles: Politicization	Protection is being used to solve political problems	<i>Ethiopia</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Humanitarian principles: Politicization	Negative fallout of security-driven donor policies	<i>Netherlands</i>	<i>Other</i>
Humanitarian principles: Politicization	That parties to the conflict can be part and parcel of the cluster system	<i>Senegal</i>	<i>Gov. (civilian)</i>
Humanitarian principles: Politicization	International interests	<i>Spain</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Humanitarian principles: Politicization	Humanitarian work being questioned due to perceived closeness to political/military agendas	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>Gov. (civilian)</i>
Impunity	Accountability of belligerents to abuses in their areas of control.	<i>Cameroon</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Impunity	The absence of alternative credible and effective enforcement mechanisms	<i>Jordan</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Impunity	Restriction: difficulties in challenging rights violations perpetrated by the state or groups linked to the state	<i>Turkey</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Impunity	Accountability of local actors	<i>DRC</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Impunity	Weak and eroding international rights accountability systems	<i>United Kingdom</i>	<i>Red Cross/ Red Crescent Movement</i>
Impunity	Disregard for international law and obligations	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Insecurity	Insecurity	<i>Central African Republic</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Insecurity	Security	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Insecurity	Security	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Insecurity	Insufficient Security	<i>South Sudan</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Insecurity	Insecurity	<i>Yemen</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Insecurity	Security issues	<i>Turkey</i>	<i>Gov. (civilian)</i>
Insecurity	Security	<i>Afghanistan</i>	<i>Other</i>
Insecurity	Insecurities	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Insecurity	Security	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Insecurity	Safety	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Insecurity	Security	<i>Norway</i>	<i>Gov. (civilian)</i>
Integrated support	Integrated support	<i>France</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Integrated support	Integration of organizations	<i>Mozambique</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Integrated support	Lack of intergating humanitarian and Development	<i>Ethiopia</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Integrated support	Financial or inkind assistance to support the resilience of the POCs	<i>Iraq</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Integrated support	Considering economical security as a factor of promoting protection	<i>Syria</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Lack of analysis	Proper analysis to inform protection action	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Lack of analysis	Long analysis rather than immediate actions	<i>DRC</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Lack of analysis	No protection mapping	<i>Afghanistan</i>	<i>Other</i>
Lack of analysis	Absence of protection and gender analysis at time of designing stage of new funding	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Lack of analysis	Lack of clear risk analysis	<i>Central African Republic</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Lack of analysis	Protection analysis	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Lack of analysis	Protection analysis	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Lack of analysis	Not sufficient/adapted assessment tools to provide relevant humanitarian protection information	<i>Tunisia</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Lack of analysis	Lack of information	<i>DRC</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Lack of analysis	Oversimplifying protection analysis to make it "understandable"	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Language	Language	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>Gov. (civilian)</i>
Language	Language and culture barriers	<i>Palestine</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Localization	Localization in action	<i>DRC</i>	<i>NNGO</i>

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Localization	Lack of involvement of local actors	<i>DRC</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Localization	Should consider building on the capacities of individuals and communities to strengthen their resilience.	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Localization	Localisation	<i>Belgium</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Missing capacity	Lack of capacity or understanding particularly field level staff more specifically national staff	<i>Ethiopia</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Missing capacity	Human resources	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Missing capacity	No trained staff in protection	<i>Afghanistan</i>	<i>Other</i>
Missing capacity	Lack of professionalism	<i>Afghanistan</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Missing capacity	Capacity	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Missing capacity	Capacity	<i>Norway</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Missing capacity	Committment of staff	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Missing capacity	Inadeqaute capacity building	<i>Ethiopia</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Missing capacity	Lack of manpower	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Missing capacity	Weak capacities of local humanitarian protection service providers	<i>Kenya</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Missing capacity	Staff training	<i>United States</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Missing capacity	Capacity	<i>Belgium</i>	<i>Gov. (civilian)</i>
Missing capacity	More training on what protection is in humanitarian work	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Missing capacity	Lack of experties	<i>Ethiopia</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Missing capacity	Keeping well trained, dedicated staff in tough areas	<i>Iraq</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Missing capacity	Lack of expertise in humanitarian sector	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Missing capacity	Skilled local staff	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Missing capacity	Capacity of humanitarian workers	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Missing capacity	Lack of technical knowledge	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Missing capacity	Lack of understanding of protection amongst humanitarian practitioners	<i>United Kingdom</i>	<i>Gov. (civilian)</i>
Missing capacity	Understanding of protection, mainstreaming and implementation (centrality)	<i>Iraq</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Missing capacity	Lack of proper knowledge on humanitarian protection	<i>Colombia</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Missing capacity	Maintaining the quality of sector specific staff in field, country and regional roles (staff retention)	<i>United States</i>	<i>Government (military)</i>
Missing capacity	Staff retention	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>INGO</i>

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Missing capacity	Staffing	<i>Ethiopia</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Missing capacity	Lack of professionals	<i>Afghanistan</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Missing capacity	Lack available protection actors	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
Missing capacity	Use of unskilled personnel	<i>South Sudan</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
National institutions	Corruption of authorities	<i>Cameroon</i>	<i>INGO</i>
National institutions	Lack of government commitment	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
National institutions	No or little co-operation from governments	<i>Kenya</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
National institutions	Political will to address protection issues	<i>Yemen</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
National institutions	Lack of support to national institutions in charge of protecting civilians	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
National institutions	Failure of governments to take responsibility for the protection of its citizens	<i>Kenya</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
National institutions	Adequate capacity of the actors, mainly, government agencies to address the needs of POCs	<i>Iraq</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
National institutions	Buy-in by local authorities	<i>South Sudan</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
National institutions	Not support from government	<i>Ethiopia</i>	<i>NNGO</i>
National institutions	Weak rule of law	<i>South Africa</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
National institutions	Building National Policies	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
National institutions	Limited presence of culture of protection within the wider system, i.e. national authorities, local first responders, etc.	<i>United Kingdom</i>	<i>Private sector</i>
National institutions	Fragmented national decision-making structures in humanitarian settings.	<i>Iraq</i>	<i>INGO</i>
National institutions	Weak laws and policies	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Overall role of protection	Disregard for protection as a sector	<i>Canada</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Overall role of protection	Protection is not inbuilt in the design	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Overall role of protection	Insufficient authority of HC as protection manager	<i>United Kingdom</i>	<i>Private sector</i>

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Overall role of protection	POC empowerment, leadership and governance	<i>Cameroon</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Overall role of protection	More focused on implementation rather than protection driven assistance	<i>Romania</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Overall role of protection	Lack of leadership recognition of protection needs and impacts	<i>United Kingdom</i>	<i>Red Cross/ Red Crescent Movement</i>
Overall role of protection	Lack of understanding about what protection means in the whole humanitarian sector	<i>Peru</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Overall role of protection	Visibility of protection in all country operations	<i>Central African Republic</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Planning	A re-definition of impact (not in terms of quantity but quality and sustainability of the intervention)	<i>Jordan</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Planning	Lack of long-term planning and non-resilience of beneficiaries	<i>Mali</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Planning	It is often based in specialized services that not always are translated in impressive figures (impact is conceptualized in terms of quantity and not quality of response)	<i>Jordan</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Populations under control of ANSAs	Populations under control of extremist groups	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Populations under control of ANSAs	Protection of civilians with family links to non-state armed groups	<i>Iraq</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Populations under control of ANSAs	Populations under control of opposition groups/non-state armed groups	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Protection mainstreaming	An effective protection mainstreaming strategy particularly in L3 emergency contexts	<i>Jordan</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Protection mainstreaming	Inadequate integration into humanitarian assistance	<i>United Kingdom</i>	<i>Gov. (civilian)</i>
Protection mainstreaming	Must contribute to the capacity of other actors to ensure that no harmful effects derive from their actions. Those involved in protection activities.	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Protection mainstreaming	Protection mainstreaming	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Protection mainstreaming	Non-protection staff finds challenging to grasp protection work	<i>Jordan</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Protection mainstreaming	Safe programming or protection mainstreaming is not properly accepted and implemented by the other sectors in response though indicators set up and capacity building initiative done.	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>INGO</i>

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Protection mainstreaming	Mainstreaming protection	Uganda	INGO
Referral pathways	Functional referral pathways	South Sudan	INGO
Referral pathways	Referrals	Nigeria	INGO
Referral pathways	Lack of proper referral mechanisms		INGO
Refugees/IDPs	The 'effective scope' of the international refugee protection regime	Jordan	UN & intergov.
Refugees/IDPs	Lack of assistance for people with irregular status	Colombia	UN & intergov.
Refugees/IDPs	IDPs	DRC	INGO
Refugees/IDPs	the non-applicability of international refugee instruments where a country has either not acceded to them, or maintains reservations to its provisions	Jordan	UN & intergov.
Refugees/IDPs	Lack of reintegration assistance	Ethiopia	UN & intergov.
Refugees/IDPs	Refugees/IDPs	Italy	UN & intergov.
Refugees/IDPs	Host and refugees community conflict	Bangladesh	INGO
Refugees/IDPs	More IDP and refugees	Turkey	Gov. (civilian)
Refugees/IDPs	Systemic failure to protect refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants in most of the contexts	Tunisia	INGO
Refugees/IDPs	Legal status of displaced populations	Netherlands	Other
Refugees/IDPs	Government Support to IDPs and refugees		UN & intergov.
Refugees/IDPs	Nature of displacement (protracted)	Iraq	UN & intergov.
Refugees/IDPs	Addressing protection concerns amongst migrating populations	South Sudan	INGO
Refugees/IDPs	IDPs	Central African Republic	UN & intergov.
Refugees/IDPs	Nationalism and public attitudes towards refugees and other persons of concern.	Saudi Arabia	UN & intergov.
Refugees/IDPs	Lack of protection against violence and exploitation for displaced population	South Sudan	INGO
Specific groups	Persons accused of practice of charlatanism	Central African Republic	UN & intergov.
Sustainability	Sustainability	Peru	UN & intergov.
Sustainability	Sustainability	Cameroon	UN & intergov.
Terminology and clarity	Language (protection vs human rights)	Central African Republic	UN & intergov.

Category	Gap/Challenge	Country	Organization
Terminology and clarity	Clarity on humanitarian protection and human rights	<i>Syria</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Terminology and clarity	"Protection" signifies almost anything - often includes activities with no apparent link to IHL, IHRL or refugee law.	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>Gov. (civilian)</i>
Terminology and clarity	I work primarily in Child protection and often the sector emphasizes skills for the education sector without realizing these are different areas of expertise. This often creates larger protection gaps	<i>Myanmar</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Terminology and clarity	Lack of clear protection concepts	<i>DRC</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Terminology and clarity	Language (protection vs human rights)	<i>Central African Republic</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Terminology and clarity	When protection actors take action to ensure that the authorities (including armed groups) respect their obligations towards the population, their reference to the law must be accurate	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>UN & intergov.</i>
Underlying issues	Nexus focuses on interpretation of humanitarian crises as caused by lack of resilience of affected populations, this overlooks the role of governments and non-resource/economic causes of armed conflict and of protection issues	<i>Switzerland</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Urban	Access in urban areas	<i>Norway</i>	<i>INGO</i>
Urban	Urban programming	<i>Norway</i>	<i>INGO</i>

Appendix 2: Webinar transcript

The Future of Protection in the Nexus:

The role of the Global Protection Cluster and humanitarian protection in the Humanitarian-development-peace-security nexus

October 22, 2019

NOTE: *This transcription may contain inaccuracies. For a complete recording of the webinar, please visit <https://phap.org/22oct2019>*

Angharad Laing: Good morning, good afternoon and good evening to all of you joining us today. My name is Angharad Laing. I'm the Executive Director of PHAP. That's short for the International Association of Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection.

I am pleased to be welcoming you to today's webinar entitled *The Future of Protection in the Nexus: The Role of the Global Protection Cluster and Humanitarian Protection in the Humanitarian-Development-Peace-Security Nexus* organised by PHAP in partnership with the global protection cluster GPC.

As many of you know, PHAP is an inclusive global society of local and international humanitarian actors and other stakeholders on the frontlines of assistance and protection efforts worldwide. As an important part of its mission, PHAP engages its community and its analytical capacity to support consultation efforts to bridge the gap between policy and practice. In that context, we are very pleased to have this opportunity to work together with the Global Protection Cluster to support its consultations to inform the GPC Strategic Review.

Today's webinar is the first in a series of three webinars to be organised in partnership between PHAP and the GPC for this purpose. I'm joined today by co-facilitator Paul White who is ProCap advisor to the GPC and is conducting the consultation efforts for this GPC Strategic Review.

And, as Paul and I were just discussing before we went on the air today, we are both impressed by the record levels of interest in today's event with over, now, 1100 people having registered, as I understand, either to participate live in this platform or to use the live streaming options or view the recordings. Furthermore, we've had 425 responses to the pre-event survey which will provide very helpful input to the strategic review.

In addition to overall outlook on protection in the nexus and perceptions of risk and opportunities, which we will have a quick look at when we look at the survey results a bit in the event today, survey respondents also shared numerous practical examples and details from their experiences in different response contexts and these stories and examples from practice will be featured in the post-event report, which you'll be seeing come out in the next few weeks, and will also make a critical contribution to the GPC's consultation processes. Thank you very much to all of you who took the time to submit those responses.

I would now like to turn to my co-facilitator, Paul to say a few words about the purpose of today's webinar and what he hopes to get out of it today. Over to you, Paul.

Paul White: Thanks, Angharad. So welcome to everyone. So the Global Protection Cluster is drafting a strategic framework, 2020 to 2024 to guide its work over the next 5 years. Many of you have contributed already. But one issue that needs clarification that many contributors have mentioned is the reforms in the humanitarian system around the nexus.

So by nexus we mean the humanitarian and development and peace and, often, we add security as another part of the nexus. But the nexus is the linking or binding together of humanitarian, development and peace. It's not a new idea, though. Some see it as just collaboration between humanitarian, development, peace and security actors and as a continuation of long-running efforts in the humanitarian and development fields, disaster risk reduction, linking relief, rehabilitation and development, the resilience agenda. I'm sure you know many more.

But in its current iteration, some humanitarians think that the nexus is something stronger than just collaboration and it's pushing us into dangerous territory. Others see it as a fantastic opportunity to ensure humanitarian protection has impact beyond its current limited scope in humanitarian operations.

So to inform our strategic framework and work plans, the Global Protection Cluster is keen to establish where we should sit and how we want to bind ourselves together with our development, peace and security colleagues and ensure we join up not just in strategic goals in our diverse fields of practice but also in implementation of our programs.

So today, I'd like to understand better at the end of this webinar how the protection community participating in the webinar see our role working in the broader environment and, of course, how participants think the GPC can help them meet their obligations and expectations. So it would be good to hear a bit about the nexus platforms, nexus advices, and the plans for these supports to the resident coordinators and humanitarian coordinators. We might also ask for some clarity on how the nexus is coming to life at country level. So they're the things that I'd be interested in hearing from you about.

Angharad: All right. Thank you very much, Paul.

Now, before we launch into the meat of this session and introduce our panellists, I will briefly explain a few technical aspects of the platforms that we can all get the most out of this experience today. First, and importantly, how to submit questions.

If you have questions for the speakers at any time during today's session, please submit them using the Ask a Question box in the lower right-hand corner of your screen. And note that if you would like to ask your question anonymously, which of course you're welcome to do, you should make a clear note of this when submitting your question, otherwise we may say your first name when we mention your question on the air.

Next, you will possibly be seeing some more snap polls come up during this session. These are to gauge your own views or experience beyond the information that we've already gathered in the pre-event survey. You'll now see two test polls displayed as an example. Just click on a response or for free text polls as on the right-hand side, click in the text box, enter the response and click

Submit. And note that for the polls, all of your answers are automatically anonymous.

If you do encounter any technical problems with the platform today, you are very welcome to use one of our video or audio live streaming backup options. These use less bandwidth so they may be more convenient depending on the bandwidth you have and your location. However, they do not allow for the same degree of interactivity with the Q&A and the chat so they really are a backup option.

However, to connect to them, just follow the links that you see now on your screen. And if later in the event you feel you need to jump over to the live stream if you're having some bandwidth issues, just mention that in the chat, if you can, and my colleague will be happy to share those links again so that you can jump over to the live stream.

So getting to today's event and our agenda, we will be covering quite a lot of ground. We'll first start with a brief introduction to the concept of protection, how we're using it in the context of this discussion. We will then be asking each of our panellists about their perspectives on protection and on the nexus.

We'll then turn to some highlights from the pre-event survey that I mentioned at the beginning that so many of you have filled in and then we'll discuss some of those results.

Finally, we'll be hopefully having some time at the end to discuss a number of the questions that have been submitted by you as participants, before and then during the event as well.

To the extent that we're not able to get to all of the questions that are coming in during the event, and that may well be the case, we will try to follow those up in writing afterwards. So even if you see we're running low on time, if you have a great question in your mind, please do write that in so we can incorporate it into the after-event followup.

Again, throughout the discussion today, I would encourage you to engage in the chat on the left and also to submit your questions so that we can get everyone's views into this process and really help Paul and all of his colleagues with their consultation efforts.

Now, I'd like to get started by introducing our guest panellists. Today, we're joined by five speakers all bringing different perspective on protection and the nexus. First of all, we have William Chemaly, Global Protection Cluster Coordinator. We have Agnese Spiazzi who is Humanitarian, Development, Peace Coordination Advisor with the UN Development Coordination Office.

Sorry, I wanted to mention we're un-muting all of you so we can do a double-check of your audio and also give you an opportunity to say hello to everyone. Sorry about that.

First to you, William. Welcome, William, and thanks so much for joining us in the office today. Over to you.

Okay. That didn't actually quite work. Shall we give it another try?

William Chemaly: Well, thanks. Great to be here and very much looking forward to this

discussion.

Angharad: Okay, very good. Thanks so much for being here, William.

And now Agnese. Agnese Spiazzi joining us from New York today. How are you?

Agnese Spiazzi: Hello. Good morning. I'm doing fine. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening to all.

Angharad: Okay. Thanks for being on the line. Now, Caroline Khoubesserian who is Head of the Unit for Protection of the Civilian Population with ICRC. Welcome, Caroline. Great to have you with us.

Caroline Khoubesserian: Thank you. Good afternoon to everyone. I'm looking forward to the conversation also.

Angharad: Thank you. And Natascha Hryckow who is Chair of the Conflict Analysis Network. Good afternoon, Natascha. Welcome.

Natascha Hryckow: Thanks very much for having me. Really looking forward to the conversation.

Angharad: Terrific. Thank you for joining us. And last, but not least, Ralph Mamiya who is Executive-in-Residence with the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, the GCSP. Welcome, Ralph.

Ralph Mamiya: Hi. Thank you so much.

Angharad: Terrific. So we will be getting to our panellists very shortly but, first, I would like to ask Paul to help us set off the stage by clarifying what we mean by protection in the context of these discussions. As we all know, it can be a bit of a tricky term as it is used by different actors in different ways. So over to you, Paul, to get us started with some reflections on that.

Paul: Thank you very much. So to frame our discussion today, I just want to look at the protection in the context of the nexus from the perspective of the expectations of the GPC. So what expectations do we have towards those actors who take on protection responsibilities and make commitments. I think there's a slide there.

So the Global Protection Cluster uses the definition that's very well known to most of you, I expect. Basically, all activities aimed at obtaining full respect for the rights of the individual in accordance with the letter and spirit of the relevant bodies of law: Human Rights, International Humanitarian and Refugee Law, taking into account age, gender, social, ethnic, national, religious and other backgrounds.

We don't want to get held up in a discussion on how to define or refine protection. That can be a debate for another day. But most of our partners use this IASC definition as a starting point.

In practice, that means that protection is directed at preventing or stopping violations, ensuring the remedy to violations, including the delivery of lifesaving goods and services, promoting respect

for rights in the rule of law and creation of early warning systems.

In my consultations on the strategic framework, some colleagues have expressed concern that the nexus might reduce our access to those most in need. Or involvement in the nexus might compromise our commitment to the humanitarian principles, particularly independence, impartiality and neutrality.

So these are not new dilemmas for humanitarians but as part of a bigger movement or a stronger push towards getting us to work together. Some humanitarians feel we have less choice and maybe less influence over how we work.

Colleagues involved in protection have moved a long way over the last decade yet working in the nexus will still create challenges and it will create things that we need to untangle, issues that we need to untangle and we hope that we can do some of that today. The experience of our four areas of operation, who emphasise different aspects of protection, is also vital to our work and in agencies, like UNICEF who lead the child protection AoR are more familiar with working in a nexus framework so we can learn much from their experience. But I'd like to emphasise six expectations that I expect the GPC will have around protection.

The language is familiar to many of you whether specifically mandated to do protection work or not. It's not original thought and within the comfort zone of protection offices yet, as we move working beyond our pure humanitarian context and out of our comfort zone, I hope framing it this way as expectations will help identify the gaps or issues we might find when we apply protection in the field in a nexus context.

So our first expectation is that we work together to enhance people's safety, dignity and rights.

Secondly, that we avoid exposing people to harm. So the Do-No-Harm principle is vital to our work.

And thirdly, that we ensure people's access to assistance is according to need and without discrimination. So we still work in operations in some places where minorities or political opponents of government are discriminated against.

Fourthly, we want to continue to assist people to recover from the physical and psychological effects of threatened or actual violence, coercion or deliberate deprivation. So, again, in many operations, we're not able to cope well particularly with the psychological aspects of issues that come up. GDB is a classic example where the international system is often not well-equipped to work with girls who, for example, escaped from ISIS-run brothels that we worked with in various places.

A fifth expectation is that we'll continue to help people claim their rights. Protection is not just about reacting. We want to be able to help people claim their rights. So we welcome opportunities to work in a nexus with those working on developing justice systems.

Sixthly, we want to encourage all actors to work and persuade authorities fulfil their responsibilities. And if they fail to do so then we expect them to work in dealing with the

consequences. So some of our members in my discussions in consultations have identified issues where working with authorities in one part of the country gives us less access to vulnerable people in another. So how will that impact on the protection work in the nexus?

The other key thing is the centrality of protection. This is vital in our work. We want to push this through with our nexus partners. It's foundational and requires continuous analysis of the risks people face, the threats and vulnerabilities and capacities of affected persons, and of the commitment and capacities of duty bearers to address the risk factors. So protection of all persons affected and at risk must inform humanitarian decision-making and we want to push this into the work of our nexus partners.

In practical terms, this means identifying who is at risk, how and why at the very outset of the crisis, and thereafter taking into account specific vulnerabilities that underlie these risks, so including those that are experienced by men, women, girls and boys and groups such as internally displaced older persons, persons with disability and those belonging to minorities.

So they're the expectations that we have for partners that we want to work with in a nexus operation.

Angharad: Perfect. Thank you, Paul.

Now, I'd like to turn to Agnese. So Agnese, if you are directly involved yourself in the UN Nexus Reforms, could you reflect as evidenced by the many questions we received from participants wondering what the current state of these reforms is, it's not necessarily such an easy process to follow. In your view, what is the overall aim of these reforms? How do you express that? And what is the vision that we are trying to move towards with these reforms? Over to you, Agnese.

Agnese: Yes, thank you, Angharad. So just to say, indeed, the UN Development System Reforms, I wouldn't call it nexus reforms. I would just stay the developing system reforms, really, as many of you know, aims to achieve the vision of the 2030 Agenda which is about sustainable, inclusive, and peaceful society where people fully enjoy their rights and live in harmony with the nature. So, indeed, the people and the planet are at the core of this reforms and partnerships are really a key aspect of how we foresee to achieve these goals.

So the development system reforms really aim to get us fit for purpose to achieve that agenda and, as many of you know, I'm not mentioning some of the facts or the figures, but in the development context that we have today, we are still pretty far towards achieving this vision and the sustainable development goals that member states agreed a few years ago.

As you all know, today, we are not on track to achieve, for example, the target of ending global poverty. The number of people hungry has increased since 2014. There are still two billion people leaving countries that are experiencing water stress. Last year, in 2018, we had 28 million new displacements recorded due to conflict and national disasters and unprecedented more than 70 million people that have been forcibly displaced. So there are a number of areas where we really need to do more and we really need to do better.

The development reform is really a way to rethink the way we support and work and collaborate

with the countries.

In terms of some of the key issues that I think is worth mentioning about the reform is, first of all, the key role of the normative agenda and the focus on prevention. So the normative agenda and the focus, for example, on human rights is based on the understanding that for development gains really to be sustainable and to achieve the promise of leaving no one behind, we really must shift to a model that promotes sustainable development, that promotes peace and lives of dignity. And a model that really puts the human rights dimension of people into the centre of the work we do in all context.

So this is really an important aspect as well as and, again, related to the prevention component. The need to focus more on disaster risk reduction, on early warning, on early action, and on preventing really conflict from coming up, and the need to build a resilience to external shocks.

A second component which I think is key to the reform is the leaving-no-one-behind focus. So indeed, we do of course have the 17 goals that have been, as I said, agreed by all countries but, indeed, the focus should be on eradicating poverty in all its forms, on ending discrimination and exclusions, on reducing inequality and vulnerability. And the leaving-no-one-behind focus of the reform really aims to push focus on these issues.

The third one I would mention is the economic transformation and the strong emphasis by the reform to actually come up with the different economic models in the different contexts. They do provide and do create more opportunities for all and so they are more inclusive, just and really brings prosperity for all.

A fourth one that I would mention that of course is very much related to the nexus is really the need to ensure a more cross-pillar approach. So stronger collaboration really across all actors that are present within a country, humanitarian, development and peace partners, to really tackle what are the underlying vulnerabilities and the root causes of needs within a country.

So maybe just to say that this nexus approach for us, and when I say for us I mean for the development community, where I have to say this discussion is not as much advanced as it is in the humanitarian community. It really means an approach and a framework that of course the knowledge, the imperative of delivering humanitarian lifesaving assistance to protect people and to save lives, but at the same time it needs to take into account the long-term needs of the affected population and to enhance opportunities for peace. That's really a key part. This is really what we mean when we talk about the nexus.

And just to say that even though, of course, the reform is global but we do have different approaches in different contexts. We don't have and I think we shouldn't have a one-size-fits-all context but we really need to try to look at the different contexts and how this usually translates in different ways in different contexts. And the reform does acknowledge, as I said, the importance of preserving the humanitarian space which should continue to remain a priority as well as a humanitarian principle to be able to save and protect lives, as it was mentioned by Paul.

Angharad: Thank you, Agnese. Just to follow up on that, what would you say are some of the

main processes then that practitioners on the ground should be aware of as things are developing?

Agnese: The first one that comes to my mind is actually the new cooperation frameworks. These are the development frameworks that the UN country teams are developing normally in all countries. And between 2020 and 2021, 50 countries will roll out new frameworks. We believe this is an opportunity really to start doing our work in a different way.

And the common country analysis that do inform these frameworks are meant to be multi-stakeholder analysis, really engaging with all partners in a country. We know these frameworks are documents and frameworks signed between the UN and the government but now there is really more emphasis to engage with partners in the process to have, for example, a more comprehensive and multi-dimensional risk analysis which really identifies what are the drivers of humanitarian needs and conflict in the countries, the risks, the vulnerabilities which identify the population that are left behind and the reasons why they're left behind and how they are impacted by these drivers.

And we really feel this should be a very participatory and inclusive process at the country level. I think this is one first process which is, I believe, interesting and useful to be aware of.

Then another one would be the cross-pillar collaboration. I've mentioned that already. The more emphasis in the crisis context, particularly and currently we have about 30 to 35 countries that do have international coordinated humanitarian plans. And in those contexts we are really trying to push this nexus discussion and engaging with the partners on the ground to identify and unpack what it means to address risks and vulnerabilities in those contexts.

A third one that was briefly mentioned by Paul in the introduction is the strengthening of the resident coordinator system. As you know, the resident coordinators are the highest, let's say, officials for the United Nations country teams in a country, and many of them are also designated as humanitarian coordinators. Now, the system, the RC system has been with the reform has been de-linked by UNDP and they really are focusing on the whole of the system, let's say strategies and visions. So, really, more dedicated to their roles as RCs.

At the same time, we do have strengthened resident coordinator offices. So their offices are being strengthened with additional capacity including strategic planners, economists, staff and management people but also for some of them, in particular in crisis context, there will be additional advisory support including on prevention on human rights, on peace and development on the nexus depending really on the need highlighted by the RCs. And that's I think quite important to keep in mind as we are trying really to boost the capacities in-country.

The fourth one I think may be interesting to know is the reorganisation of the UN regional architectures. So we do acknowledge and we all know that the drivers of some humanitarian needs are really regional. We do have also regional, let's say, phenomena and trends like migration, human trafficking, trans-boundary crimes and others that really require also regional solutions. So we are also looking at how to restructure our regional presence to have a more meaningful impact on country support.

Angharad: Great. Thank you so much for that, Agnese.

So I'm going to jump ahead here. We've talked a bit about the overall vision, about the approach of the UN to the nexus and a number of the processes that everyone should be aware of. But in your view, how does protection then fit into this vision?

Agnese: As I said of course, and as it was mentioned by Paul at the beginning, in humanitarian terms, really protection of civilian is a central component of the humanitarian response. It should really promote and ensure the respect of humanitarian. And RCs and UNCTs do fully recognise and support the needs to preserve the humanitarian space and humanitarian principles to save and protect lives in those settings.

When we talk about protection in development terms, we are looking at social protection systems that really do help individuals and families, in particular the poor and the vulnerable ones, to cope with crisis and shocks, for example, to find jobs to be supported and protected in different ways.

We do have within, let's say, in development terms other systems like welfare systems, social services, social safety nets or other sets of policies and programs. For example, aiming at promoting distant employment or more inclusive labour markets and protect workers, for example, that could be strengthened and should be really geared towards addressing the exclusions and the marginalisations and really trying to support the most vulnerable people within the community.

So it's important for the resident coordinators and the UN country teams when they take a look and they review their work at the country level to really ensure some of these interventions are part of the UN system support to the countries to really target the people that are farthest behind, or at least of being left behind.

Angharad: Thank you very much, Agnese. We'll be coming back to you with some follow-up questions. For now, I would like to turn to Caroline.

Caroline Khoubesserian, Head of the Unit for the Protection of the Civilian Population with the ICRC. Now, Caroline, as I understand, although the ICRC may be sitting outside of these processes, these reforms that we've been hearing about, I understand that from where you sit in the ICRC you have been looking from the outside at these reforms and potentially at their impact on humanitarian protection work. I'd like to ask, do you share the vision or do you relate to the vision that Agnese has outlined for what the nexus reforms or the system reforms should achieve? Over to you.

Caroline: Yeah. Good afternoon, again. I think what's interesting with the nexus or the nexus discussion is that the span of the nexus becomes something that allows you to reframe or to rethink your protection concerns over time. And I think any protection organisation should be able to look at a problem over time. While humanitarian actors might be caught in the immediate crisis in the immediate focus there is definitely some worth to thinking about how that problem is going to evolve over time, how it's going to transform, and what can be done then to respond to it in the immediate, but then how can you make your humanitarian response impactful over time.

So I think the discussion is good. I will have a bit of trouble kind of relating that directly to the

architecture or the evolving developments in the UN system because I'm not sure it's out there yet and that the comments we can make can be concrete. But in terms of the thinking of how you conceptualise protection problems, I think there's something to be said about the span of the nexus. Whether it's in this discussion or, more broadly, the security part of that span as being tacked on, I would start to pose questions as to what we mean by security when we talk about the nexus.

We say peace and then sometimes we're adding security. Are we talking about human securities, security sector reform? And depending what we precisely mean with regards to security, there could be a set of questions and challenges to whether that's relevant in the nexus debates. So I think we should be careful around that and it would be up to, first, the people around the architecture of the nexus to think through what they mean on security.

Then I think where Agnese was making a point about... sorry. First, I'll go into I think not only framing protection problems across the span is interesting but it allows you also to bring in all the actors that are involved, whether it's with regards to humanitarian crisis or development or down the line to peace discussion, your bringing certain actors closer to very key problem sets for individuals, for communities that are impacted by these different moments and you're bringing them closer to the problem set and, perhaps, bringing them in to responsabilise them a bit more with regards to why the situation is as it is.

So there is an interesting potential to responsabilise, to change a bit the way we've set out our roles and responsibilities in these different sectors and to sort of re-negotiate, if you will, or to re-dimension the problem to have a different set of actors involved in resolving problems.

But I think with these two potential opportunities that are a set of challenges that need to be paid attention to, we'll get to the question around principles. But I think, just if we're thinking about architecture and ambitions behind achieving the SDGs, there was an interesting point made from Agnese about making sure that we leave no one behind.

Leaving no one behind is a very important concept. It could be akin to making sure you have a very neutral and impartial work in the humanitarian world. But it will depend as to how that is understood, framed and unpacked and how then the developments understanding of leaving no one behind or the peace understanding of leaving no one behind matches up with humanitarian principles of getting to the most vulnerable populations and addressing them whether they're individuals, communities, or larger populations.

And I think that leaving no one behind aspect should eventually be put up further up the list in terms of priorities so that it doesn't get overwritten by ambitions to just have collective outcomes or collective mechanisms but that the leaving no one behind is kind of the drive for the activities.

And perhaps here, this is where GPC would have a role to make sure that if it's termed 'leaving behind', it really means that there are certain populations who maybe, if you're looking at it from the security paradigm, would actually be cast aside because they were, whether you want to call them the perpetrators or the opposition group or the fighters in a conflict setting, they still have rights and they still have needs as well.

So if you're at the front end of the spectrum, you may have a tendency to discard them because you're thinking through maybe the authorities' prism. You still have to ensure that leaving no one behind means leaving no one behind. So perhaps the role there for GPC, perhaps the resident coordinator, maybe he's becoming unattached from several of the former outcomes that were expected so that he has a much broader perspective, but I would suggest that there should be some incentivising around certain aspects and if we come to some common ground by saying leaving no one behind is really a driving factor then some incentivisation should go there. So those are some initial thoughts.

Angharad: Excellent. Thanks so much, Caroline.

So in the questions that have come in from participants in the event, we've had a lot of people expressing concern related to principled humanitarian action in the context of the nexus. For example, Emmanuel in Turkey asking, "To what extent is principled humanitarian action at risk of being compromised as a result of nexus-related system reforms". Do you have any thoughts on that?

Caroline: I have a few thoughts. I think ICRC is still elaborating or defining its position with regards to the nexus. So definitely, this is not a firm position or a firm word from ICRC, but definitely there's a question of preserving principled action, preserving the principles, preserving humanitarian space, if you will, making sure we're able to act, again, for the most vulnerable populations in an as effective way as possible.

I think even in Paul's opening when he spoke about the six actions that GPC would be undertaking, he mentioned that there is a question about what happens when you work with authorities and does that cause a problem for being able to engage in a humanitarian action.

I don't think it's a question about engaging with authorities, because ICRC and when many others do protection work, they raise the responsibilities of the authorities, the weapon bearers, with regards to protecting populations. So there must be an engagement with the authorities. There must be, from our point of view, transparency with the authorities that you do want to raise those protection questions, you do want to raise the responsibility with regards to rights that are established in different legal frameworks.

So there will always be this exchange with authorities but the question is how are you coming at that discussion and how are you presenting yourself and how is your work framed? What is the perception that whether it's the state of authorities or other armed groups, weapon bearers, how do they perceive your work and do they understand you as neutral? If they understand you as neutral they are going to be much more willing to understand that you are there to respond to the vulnerabilities or the needs of the most dire populations.

If they believe you're coming with a political agenda and that starts to get attached to the peace and definitely the security aspects of this nexus, you're going to have a lot of difficulty convincing them that you're just there to answer to the immediate needs of the population in this crisis or conflict-type situation.

So right there and then, by being linked to the nexus, you have a challenge with regards to perception and your neutrality. And how the organisations involved in this movement deal with that will be a big question that will need to be addressed, I think, over time as this system gets articulated.

Angharad: Before we move on, just a final question for the moment. One of the biggest concerns, as I mentioned, that people have raised is related to principled humanitarian action. Are there any concerns or risks related to the nexus reforms or nexus initiatives that you've observed, that you've heard discussed when it comes to meeting protection needs?

Caroline: I think I can highlight two different ones that I would see in the immediate. One would be about how this actually plays out in different conflict context or different contexts that are protracted, conflicts where there is these mix of actors. These are issues that are present today but definitely will be even more intensified as you move towards a nexus movement.

So this pressure to become part of joint activities, whether it's to have common outcomes for the no leaving behind or for some other ambitions, in crisis situations, it's very difficult to be as coherent as we would all like to be in terms of logically-minded human beings. In conflict situations things are patchy. Understanding of protection problems come from different angles, different voices. And having an ambition for hyper coherence might break that down in terms of the iterative process for getting to what is the real protection concern, how do we manage to work on it with different voices, different added value.

And on that added-value point, different organisations having different added value, I would add that, in an extreme case, the nexus ambition might push humanitarian actors to, depending on who's managing the architecture, and that's another big question as to how this architecture will... who will have an overall view of it, but if humanitarian actors because their added value is their ability to reach out to non-state armed groups, non-state actors into the more dangerous areas, so more far-flung geographical areas as well, will humanitarian action then be restricted] to those areas and the populations that would need the humanitarian-type response or the protection lens of the humanitarian action in bigger cities, in safer areas but yet where populations are maybe stigmatised or not necessarily all considered equally in terms of their rights. Will those be forgotten because the development processes tend to be development, peace, tend to be bigger processes that see populations as whole groups whereas humanitarian action maybe spends a bit more time on the individual problems that are very specific and then pushing them up into the light, into the discussion.

So we have to be careful to not restrict smaller, agile humanitarian action to far-off places where bigger structural responses are left in areas where there are more structure, bigger cities and so on.

Then there's a question about the law. So ICRC is very attached to the law when we speak about international humanitarian law but also other frameworks, and so are other protection agencies. If you run the spectrum, the IHL set of laws is obviously very close to the humanitarian action. And as you move further out to development or peace, that set of law tends to diminish in terms of its importance because other frameworks may take wider space.

But if we try to be hyper coherent or continually having common objectives, there may be even more confusion as to which laws apply, how to approach them, the different sets of laws that are sometimes interplaying with each other, and thus the rights that go with those laws and the rights that go towards those vulnerable populations, and we'll have to be careful of how that plays out as well.

Angharad: Great. Thanks so much, Caroline. So we will, hopefully, again be coming back to you in a few minutes for some follow-up questions. We've already had some great ones come in on the principles so I do hope we have time to come back to you on those.

Now, turning to Ralph Mamiya, Executive-in-Residence with the GCSP, Ralph, having worked on protection and peacekeeping during your time with the DPKO, I wonder if you could reflect for us a bit the peace and security are relatively new additions that we've heard to the nexus discussions compared to development and humanitarian work. Having heard the visions and perspectives outlined by Agnese and Caroline, do these resonate with you from a peacekeeping perspective on protection? Over to you, Ralph.

Ralph: Thanks so much. So, yes, this discussion certainly resonates. And I think as Paul mentioned in the beginning, it's not necessarily new discussion. Peace and security may be new additions to the nexus but these issues have been around us for a very long time. I'm sure many colleagues listening and engaged with either with peacekeepers or with political officers, humanitarian or development workers sometimes, if not part of their organisations then at least as very close collaborators. That may not always be true. It may not always be an appreciated attitude. But it's certainly one that you encounter a lot.

So I don't know think if you talk to the average peacekeeper, he may be more surprised to the new conversation rather than something that's been going on for some time.

I think that it's had a bit of a checkered history. I can remember being engaged in discussions around integration and what we called early recovery on the development side a decade or so ago. And those efforts bore some fruit in some cases and less in others. I think the main lesson I can recall from this is both not to be too vague, not to make the idea of nexus or integration too aspirational. But also on the other side, not to make it too technical.

I've been involved in lots of integrated strategic frameworks in various other planning documents, it's very easy to take this merely as an issue of planning. And I think that it really does have to go deeper than that.

Also drawing on experience from integration and new admissions, that is an issue that at the policy level is pretty well agreed between DPKO and the UN humanitarian system.

On the ground, again, as I'm sure many listeners will recognise, it is much more fraught, and that comes out of a few areas that I think are going to be very relevant to the nexus. When we have discussions with our counterparts on the other side, those conversations can happen at a normative level at a level of principle, a level of what you might call professional expertise, and in a very sort of nuts-and-bolts practical level.

I think most of the time when we have these discussions on the ground, what we're really looking for is a nuts-and-bolts discussion of how we work together to get from Point A to Point B. But what very often happens is this conversation escalates both to a level of professional expertise and then, quite frequently, to a level of norms and principles. Of course, when you get to the discussion of principles, it becomes very difficult to resolve these questions just in a meeting.

And when it comes to protection I think as well, as Caroline mentioned security, these are issues that both humanitarian and certain peacekeepers feel they have some expertise in. Peacekeepers, particularly military, will often think of protection as being what they do, and security is what they do. Whereas, as I'm sure this audience knows well, protection is a core humanitarian competency and also humanitarian organisations are very adept at providing security for their own staff in a manner that's very different from the way that a peacekeeping mission would do the same.

So reflecting on that experience, I think there are some lessons to draw on the history we have of integration in the UN system. In the context of the nexus, I think this can work. We just have to avoid some of the difficulties we faced in the past.

Angharad: Thanks a lot, Ralph. We often hear concerns from a humanitarian perspective about protection being somehow overlooked as result of greater and increasing integration. However, of course many peacekeeping operations have explicit protection mandates. Are there similar concerns in that sector or is it a different story? Back to you Ralph.

Ralph: Sure. I don't think that peacekeeping operations feel threatened by the nexus perhaps in the same way that some humanitarian or development actors do. Their peacekeeping is threatened by other dynamics in the world right now, including sort of a loss of multilateral cooperation and increasingly shrinking budgets.

But protection in peacekeeping has always been focused on coordination. In that respect, I think it has a great deal in common with the nexus. If the nexus is, in a large part, about ensuring a degree of common effort between different organisations then I think it's very much in line with the core concept of the protection of civilians and human peacekeeping.

And I think it's going to be increasingly important with regard to transition. A lot of our larger missions are downsizing and, in that context, the question of how you continue to have a protected effect either with less troops or no troops, and having those functions taken over by the UN country team or by other protection actors becomes much more important.

Angharad: Thank you. And, again, hoping to come back to you with some follow-up questions in a few minutes.

But now turning to Natascha Hryckow, Chair of the Conflict Analysis Network. Natascha, many of the context in which the nexus reforms are focusing are protracted crises where there is an ongoing conflict. And yourself having worked on overall conflict security and political analysis of crisis response context, you've already had the opportunity I think to approach the humanitarian, development, peace and security sectors together as a whole, to look at them holistically.

So first question for you, do you share the views that you've heard so far from the other speakers

today regarding the overall need, the promise of the nexus reforms? Over to you Natascha.

Natascha: Yes, absolutely. What I was going to say is one of the themes that's come out today is really familiar to me and that's making double points. One, that there is nothing new about the nexus, which I think virtually everyone has mentioned, and there's not clearly we've been operating in these very complex environments for a long time where, inevitably, all of the different intervention types butt up against each other and interact.

But at the same time, I think it was Agnese who said I don't think development is as far advanced as the humanitarians in the conversation on the nexus. All of the players that I speak to say the same thing. And I'm not sure that there hasn't been a lot of thinking. It's just that this is very complex. And so having neat, simple, articulate answers is not where we're at yet. And that, for me, is real opportunity in terms of those who are concerned by any kind of threat from the nexus.

But I think it's also interesting. I'm sure we'll talk about principles but it's also interesting to talk about opportunities. So I hope we come back to that as well.

One of the interesting things that's been noteworthy from my point of view is I do work very much in the political world and we hardly heard the word 'political' used. I understand that's brought a lot of baggage for this humanitarian community. But, in many ways, if you're talking about peace and security, you're looking at another one of the pillars of UN reform, the peace and security reform which is going alongside our development partners.

And if you listen to the words coming from the Secretary General's office, he does talk about a hierarchy where the political objective is being put first. Now, that is really interesting for those who operate on the ground because there's different ways to think about a political objective. There's a political agenda that might be carried out and we need the political literacy.

So a lot of the things that we're talking about I think today is if we're going to understand where the interactions are, if we're going to understand the transitions that Ralph was just talking about and the handovers and some peace missions are shutting down, if we're going to understand the communities that we're dealing with and we really want to empower them and their voices using some of that localisation jargon, do we understand who they are?

I think some of the work coming from UNDP looking at really enhancing country analysis is great, but we also have to be aware that a UN document sponsored or co-sponsored by state who is almost inevitably party to the conflict is going to come in some kind of a sanitised form. So what else are we doing to complement those things? I think it's going to be a really important of the way forward.

It's also interesting to look at who are our natural partners? Who is our community when we're involved in conflict? Who do we have more and less ease of reaching out to? If you're talking about the UN system trying to operate in an area, for example, reaching to Russian or Iranian partners is much more complex than reaching out to US coalition partners in the north east of the country.

If we're going to operate in this kind of nexus ways those linkages need to be stronger. And then

of course if we're starting to talk about non-state groups and non-state actors, I'm not sure what the best terms being used at the moment are, we need to be understanding those a lot better.

So there's a lot of good process thinking going on but, now, to translate that into really concrete actions I think that we can do is probably a bit of a next step. In some ways, I like the idea of having a toolbox where we can look at the sorts of ways that the humanitarians and the protection community might like to interact.

So really going back to say practically what do we want to do, what might we want to do. And it's not just about looking at joint programming. It's about what does the protection community want from those other pillars. What things can they support us with as well as what can we support them with. And then I think having some of those concrete examples, concrete proposals might be a useful way forward and then contextualising to specific operations to make sure that we are looking at the risks and we are looking at the reality of each context in its own right.

Angharad: Okay. A quick follow-up question for you, Natasha, and apologies for the background noise there. I know that was distracting. There was a question raised by Caroline a few minutes ago regarding what we mean by security when we're talking about, I guess, potentially a quadruple nexus then bringing security into the nexus discussion. In the conversations that you've had in that arena, how do you see the concept of security sometimes being brought in? What is meant by that then?

Natascha: It was a really good point by Caroline. Mostly, when I hear people talking in the nexus context, they are talking about the peace and security pillar in the UN framing of that. But if I talk to people on the ground, security means everything from fighting in the streets to non-state armed groups to international actors coming in trying to cooperate with international coalitions, trying to cooperate with national armies. So it can mean a lot of things to different people.

And again, I'd go back to saying that if we do end up with the peace and security idea from the UN context, in many ways, what we're also talking about there is the political and it's trying to find ways to ensure that that understanding is brought in as well. Not that I want to add another layer to the multi-layered nexus but it's difficult to talk about these issues without talking about the political.

Angharad: Got it. Thank you very much and, yes, I do hope we'll have time to come back to you to discuss opportunities amongst other things.

Now, I'd like to turn to William. William Chemaly, Global Protection Cluster Coordinator. William, we have heard from the other panellists about their views on the nexus from a variety of different perspectives. As the system reforms of various processes have been ongoing for some time and discussions around the humanitarian, development nexus, in one way or another, have been around, as it's been pointed out, for decades, how is the GPC currently approaching this conversation from its end? And what role for the GPC? What kind of support was identified that the GPC could potentially provide that was needed by other actors in the sector as a part of the current strategic framework? What's the current state of discussion there? Over to you, William.

William: Thanks very much, Angharad. It's an excellent discussion. There is also a big shout I'd like to put out for the chat people on the side. I see a parallel full-on discussion is also happening, so it's very interesting. Please keep it up, guys.

Angharad, indeed the focus of humanitarian, development, peace joint-up approach or nexus has evolved, I think. It's true. And I like the double point that you mentioned, Natascha. Has evolved in focus over the last time, even though it existed for a while. I think we started with a lot of focus on effectiveness of aid and then handover from a humanitarian to development and peace. There was a period where the focus was on sustainability and joint action.

But I think what's different now in the conversation and the narrative is the talk about the joint action towards shared goals and the UN SDG, the Sustainable Development Goals are used as a reference point as well as a conflict prevention and sustaining peace agendas.

My views so far from the consultations that we've had is actually that the weight and influence of policy and development actors over the nexus discussion is very strong. That might be varying from the size of the operations in terms of resources between development action, peace action that is on the ground and the humanitarian one.

So the way we approach it is actually that we argue that the humanitarian part of the nexus is of equal importance. And I like the point made by Caroline of keeping the idea of leaving no one behind up there. I would add to it as well the centrality of protection.

Of course protection should remain central to humanitarian action, but I think when there is co-existence between the different approach we see that protection is at least essential to development and peace agendas.

So when it comes to how the GPC is approaching all of this, I would like to raise four points. First, I think we should engage positively. There is a lot of opportunities with the enthusiasm behind this. We shouldn't be naïve but I think that the potential opportunities that this approach and momentum, political momentum to bring some of that is important. But we should also work together. Also remember that joining up is not a one-off choice. It's not like we join the nexus or not for the coming 10 years. It's a choice that evolves over time.

And of course we should, as protection actors, follow protection objectives. And sometimes there are opportunities and have been approached more with other approaches or sharing information or sharing plans or joining analysis with others. And sometimes, indeed, we should have a hardcore, principled humanitarian distant action from any other approach indeed to preserve access and be able to reach those who are left most behind.

So my first element of the answer is we should engage positively. And, remember, it is a choice that can evolve over time depending on how our reading of protection problems are evolving.

The second element this is another opportunity for us to double up our efforts on promoting centrality of protection and international humanitarian law. The dimension that co-existence of different approaches in one geographic area or one country from development to peace to humanitarian gives the importance of centrality of protection and international humanitarian law

and promoting a new dimension, a wider dimension, if I'm allowed to say. I think that gives us an important role of explaining protection to actors from our perspective that probably read protection in a different way, but also not only look at the long-term perspective to engage in this.

For example, a big part of protection work and international humanitarian law advocacy rests on the way the hostilities are conducted when the war is raging. And I think the way the war is conducted or the conflict is conducted has a massive impact on the civilian infrastructure, on the protection humanitarian work but also on the long-term development work. And I think engaging with the actors that are supporting parties to the conflict on reminding them on their protection responsibilities and international humanitarian law responsibilities is crucial even at this very early stage even in a preventive way before the conflict stops.

So the point I'm raising here is we see this nexus narrative as an opportunity to reconfirm centrality of protection and international humanitarian law and we see it at all stages and not only waiting until protection kicks in and we need to start thinking long term. We can actually start from the beginning.

The third point I would like to make is that when we have interaction between humanitarian and specifically protection work and development and peace work, this puts more pressure on a really joint-up and non-fragmented protection approach in a crisis. The many operations around the world we see the reading of what are the major protection issues and the approach to address and become sometimes a state of tension between protection and humanitarian actors. This is something that needs to be resolved. Of course every actor should retain their added value and their philosophy of attaining things. We're not calling on one approach but I think the whole joint-up approach beyond the humanitarian sector calls on the humanitarian house and the protection house specifically to have continuous talk and interaction among each other, joint-up analysis and real focus on reading the problems in a way that brings all perspectives and makes us read the problems with as comprehensive angle as possible together.

So that would summarise my third point which is fragmentation of protection sector becomes under harsher tension when we're talking about peace, development and humanitarian joint-up approach and we should double up our efforts to come together as a factor in this environment.

Finally, I think operationally we should focus on our added value. And our added value could be summed up with us being there and remaining on the frontline. We should retain this proximity to the people we try to serve as well as the armed actors and other stakeholders and keep that concrete added value that we bring to the dialogue alive and relevant and strong, because, otherwise, we lose ground in bringing these principles of protection and humanitarian action to the table.

Angharad: Great. Thank you very much, William. We're now going to turn to my colleague, Markus Forsberg. As you all saw when registering, we ran a survey for the participants in this webinar to help inform both the webinar and the GPC Strategic Planning process. So, again, a big thank you to everyone who completed that. It will be a critical input into not only today's discussion but the rest of the process.

I'd like to turn now to Markus to provide you with a very brief overview of the results. Over to you, Markus.

Markus: Thank you, Angharad. So just to point out that, as Angharad said, this is a very brief overview. We'll be putting together these results in a report and we'll be sharing with you in the coming weeks.

But the purpose was both to look at the overall views of the nexus reforms and to identify specific protection gaps and challenges related to the nexus. Here, I'll only look at the overall views of nexus reforms and we will be looking at the specific protection gaps and challenges in the report.

So very briefly, about respondents, so we had 425 respondents, so close to half of the registrants. Based in 75 countries with quite even gender balance and also a wide representative organisational spread of the sector but with a bit more of international NGOs perhaps than other types of organisations. And a pretty much perfect split between those with an international or regional geographic scope of their work or those who primarily are working at the national level.

Important also to keep in mind is that the majority here had the humanitarian sector as their primary sector that they identified with but, as we saw, there were also many of you who have experience of development, peace and some of security as well. The majority with the primary focus on protection almost everyone else said it was relevant but not their primary focus.

So looking at the results, first of all, it was clear that most of you close to... well even more than 70% has already seen humanitarian action become either somewhat more integrated or a lot more integrated. With that in mind, then asking how nexus reforms to date have affected protection then there was, interestingly, an overall positive view of the facts to date both in terms of protection outcomes and protection gaps, but it was most of you or almost the majority did not have a strong opinion about this what has happened to date.

Importantly to keep in mind is that more than 20% actually had negative views of how nexus reforms to date have affected protection.

Then we also asked the outcome for the future, how you think that the future nexus reforms will affect protection. Here we saw a much more positive view both in this question where we asked people to place themselves on a spectrum, whether they saw it as an opportunity or a risk for protection, and there's a strong skew to the left there, so towards an opportunity. We saw a similar result when we asked about outcomes and gaps. A much stronger majority thought that the nexus would lead to overall stronger protection outcomes and not lead to worsen gaps and protection.

Then, finally, looking at a few more nuance questions as well, we saw that more than 40% of respondents thought that humanitarian assistance would benefit more than protection from nexus reforms. We also had close to 30% thinking that this might lead to principled humanitarian actors disconnecting from the rest of the sector, but we did have fewer who thought that nexus reforms would lead to restricted access for protection activities.

So this was just a very brief overview of a few of the questions and we'll be returning to the rest of them in the reports.

Angharad: Yes, thanks so much, Markus. It's very interesting to see the degree of optimism among respondents when it comes to the future. So having been either on the fence or maybe a bit negative when it comes to reforms or changes to date, but having a really overall a very positive and optimistic outlook for the potential in the future, again, going to those opportunities that Natascha mentioned.

There are of course, as Markus mentioned at the end, some potential challenges there that we can dig into in future events related to access, related to potentially skewing towards assistance rather than protection in the dynamic, but overall a very optimistic outlook.

And again, we'll be sharing some of the actual practical examples that came as part of the survey responses as well in the report.

Now, as we are starting to run very short on time, I'd like to ask Paul, actually, my co-facilitator to give a brief summary of what we've heard over the last hour-and-a-half, some of the key points that have come out. And then I'm going to go around the panel one more time to ask each of our panelists just in 30 seconds if you could select a single priority for the global protection cluster to focus on as their contemplating the strategy for the next few years what would that be from your perspective.

So first over to Paul to give us a few key points.

Paul: Thank you very much. Let me just run through a few of the key takeaways. I said at the start that we want to look at things that will help us guide the work of the global protection cluster over the next five years. I think one thing is ensuring that our protection clusters and members of our global protection clusters are fit for purpose. That's one issue that's come out several times.

This discussion about 'leave no one behind', I think there's a lot of work to be done there. It's a classic thing that should be done by the GPC so we can work on that and incorporate that in various ways into our framework.

Another thing that's come out to me is that GPC has a responsibility to be able to articulate pertinent issues within this nexus debate to reduce the confusion. So we need basically to find frameworks and understand roles better, and that's clearly something that can come from our level in consultation and discussions with our partners in the field.

Development is not as far advanced on protection. This is very much a message that I think William and I got in recent discussions in New York, that we are far ahead on protection issues and it's good if we can ensure that we work closely.

My colleague from ProCap, Caroline did some very good work on solutions with UNDP and incorporate a lot of protection into one area of their work. But there's a lot to be done there. I think we can identify other areas to work with them on.

I think the other key thing that's come out that if we are working on tools, toolboxes, it needs to be quite particular and contextualised for a particular space. We're not necessarily going to work across the whole nexus the whole of the time but we might need to identify those areas that we

think we can have most impact in.

So for me, they are some very great takeaways from this discussion so far. But I know there are many more that I'll be looking forward to going through in more detail in the question and answers. Thanks a lot.

Angharad: Thanks so much, Paul. Now, as I mentioned, I'd like to go around our panel one more time. I'm going to go here in the reverse order so starting with William. Could you share with us, William, maybe a few points regarding the GPC briefly and where you see the key opportunities for the future? Then we'll go around to the other panellists. Over to you, William.

William: Thanks a lot, Angharad. I think the first key takeaway is that there is a need for policy clarification and contextual clarification of how do we interact with the nexus. I think that's the first rule for the GPC to take on to create a platform to clarify the policy direction and the conceptual direction.

The second is really understanding the structural impact of the nexus platforms on the ground and concretely how will that work in countries that are taking on the nexus approach and where the development is happening. How do we as a protection actors interact with these structures? What are the entry points? When is the planning happening? How do we engage in the analysis, etcetera? I think we have an important role here to understand how this is evolving and clarify for our partners on the ground and the clusters at national level and sub-national level on how to interact.

The third is really understanding the operational impact of the nexus approach when it's applied. I think this is where we need to build on a lot of the existing knowledge of our partners, a matter that Paul mentioned at the beginning. But also seeing how operations are being shaped or evolving or changed in the coming years. What are the opportunities and the challenges there and make us smarter operationally by way of observation and sharing.

Finally, I think there's a lot of capacity building and sharing the knowledge that is being accumulated and built over the coming years, one, for the protection side on how to engage with that but I'm sure also for the development and peace actors of how to interact with that when it comes to protection issues. Over back to you, Angharad.

Angharad: Okay. Thanks a lot William and thanks so much for being a part of the conversation today. We're looking forward to continuing the collaboration that we've started now today.

Now, I'd like to ask Natascha. Could you come in, Natascha? Just briefly, as I mentioned, if you could choose a single priority for the GPC to focus on, from your perspective, what would be the one? Over to you, Natascha.

Natascha: I'm going to cheat a little bit and say capacity building. But I would like that capacity building to be up and out, if you like, to hit the other parts of the nexus and influence how they act, ensure they understand what the protection community would like to see happen.

But I'd also like that capacity building to be down to improve our ability to understand the context we're operating in so that when you use phrases like 'do no harm' and 'leave nobody behind' we

actually understand whether we're achieving those goals or not.

Angharad: Excellent. Thank you so much and thanks for being part of our panel today. It's been great to have you on the line.

Now, to Ralph, turning to you for your one priority for the GPC, from your perspective, what would that be. Over to you, Ralph.

Ralph: Sure. I'm going to choose two but they're related, and actually related to Natascha's as well. The first is really leadership. I mentioned that the nexus is something you don't want to be too vague about but you also don't want to be too technical about because both of them can get you nowhere.

One important role that GPC could serve is providing that external monitor for a country that is engaging in nexus work to make sure that the nexus doesn't just become a talking point but also doesn't become just a bunch, another log frame on paper. That it should really be adding value. And sometimes coming in from the outside when you're not part of the country team, it can really be important.

The second I would say is kind of an advocate internally within the UN. I would say that when it comes on the peace and security side, in peacekeeping now that a permanent peace operations, they're very well sensitised to issues of protection. Their counterparts over at the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs are much less so.

And even though the DPPA mission, and they include missions like Afghanistan, Somalia, Colombia, these are countries in context with major protection issues, but they are very averse to discussing protection. And I think engaging them on protection and discussing how their missions can contribute to overall protection goals would be a really important role.

Angharad: Excellent. Thanks so much and thanks to you, Ralph for being a part of the conversation. Look forward to having you in another event soon. In fact, our course coming up on protection at the end of next month so very much looking forward to having you there.

I just want to make a note, before I turn to Caroline, that we're also inviting all of the participants in the webinar to share their own recommendations or priority for the GPC. So please do take a moment, everyone who's online, to share your own thoughts. Again, we can compile that in a report and share that with the GPC for their process as well.

Now to Caroline. Over to you. What are your thoughts regarding key priorities for the GPC as they consider the next phase of their work? Over to you.

Caroline: I'll go back to the point I made about leaving no one behind. So unpacking that and seeing as much as possible how that can match what target populations or affected populations look like for a humanitarian sector worker and then does that make sense in the development world log frames and planning and so on. Can we speak to each other and make sure that we essentially do not leave anyone behind.

And then adding on to that I would say helping with figuring out what type of information a humanitarian sector-like organisation can bring out and what will be valuable to the development-type actors so that really we end up being able to speak the same language. And we can point to issues that will really feed the planning process in a development-type organisation.

Angharad: All right. Thank you, Caroline. Thank you for being part of our panel today and looking forward to the next opportunity.

Last but not least, Agnese. I'd like to turn to you. From your perspective, what would you share as a priority for the work of the GPC moving forward?

Agnese: I would actually mention the need and importance to focus on context specificity. And ensure of course that regardless of the broader strategy and approach that is going to be adopted over the next years, it's very important to ensure that we are aware and we acknowledge that there are different models and different practices that do apply to different contexts. And actually generalising is sometimes not very helpful and we really need to take into account the issues within a given country.

I just have a reflection maybe also based on some of the messages I've seen in the chat which is about the importance of financing, which we have not really covered here which is fine. But for me, it's important to keep in mind that as concerns develop in financing in crisis context, 77% of the ODA is challenged bilaterally. And this goes back to what Natascha said about the political dimension in all of this discussion and the importance for us working on the nexus really to engage better and more with the donors.

Angharad: Thank you so much, Agnese. And thanks to all of our panellists for their contributions today. It's been an incredibly rich discussion not only in audio with the panel but also it has been mentioned in the chat, really a lot going on here.

We had a lot of questions coming in as well which, unfortunately, we simply didn't have time to deal with today. However, the good news is we have two more webinars coming up as a part of this consultation process and I see that a lot of the questions coming in were actually related to the issues that we had already anticipated covering in those webinar. And we'll also inform the detail planning for those webinars.

So please do stay tuned and join us again for the ongoing discussion.

So the recording of today's events, both in video and audio podcast format, will be available on the event page in the coming days. That can be an ongoing resource for you. Feel free to share the link with your colleagues. And if they'd like to contribute to the process to join the next conversation, they're very welcome to do so.

We'll also be posting the survey results once those have been fully analysed. As mentioned, that will be in the coming weeks. And if you didn't have the chance to complete the survey before the webinar, you do have one final chance today. We're going to open the survey back up. So if you'd like to contribute, you can do that if you do it before tomorrow, so by midnight today. Is that right? Yes, by midnight today we will be able to include your input in the final report.

So then just to highlight the dates of those next events that I mentioned with the GPC, the 19th of November we're going to be looking at *Climate, Preparedness and Community-Based Protection*. We had a lot of questions coming in specifically related to climate. So those will be informing the planning for that session.

Then we'll have the third and final webinar in this collaboration with the GPC on the 26th of November that's entitled *Emerging Challenges for Humanitarian Protection*. There are a number of issues that we plan to tackle there and that will be informed as well by the results of today's events.

I'd also like to briefly mention another upcoming event we have next month that's a part of PHAP's series with ICVA and we'll look at Risk Management for Humanitarians. That will be on the 21st of November.

So with that, I would like to thank everyone, our panellists, participants, our partners at the GPC, my co-facilitator, Paul, for a very interesting discussion today and we look forward to seeing you next time. This is Angharad Laing signing off from Geneva.