



**GLOBAL PROTECTION FUNDING**

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# WHERE DO WE STAND MID-YEAR 2022?

**A spotlight on operational access  
for protection**



Yemen. Displaced by conflict in Hudaydah Governorate. © UNHCR/Rashed Al Dubai



## INTRODUCTION

<b>People in Need</b> <b>151.6 M</b>	<b>People Targeted</b> <b>67.6 M</b>	<b>Coverage</b> <b>45%</b>
<b>Requirements (US\$)</b> <b>2.9 B</b>	<b>Funded (US\$)</b> <b>833.6 M</b>	<b>Coverage</b> <b>28%</b>

2022 has so far been a very difficult one for the many millions of civilians caught in crisis zones, faced with targeted and indiscriminate attacks by state and non-state actors, multiple and protracted displacements and violations of their most basic rights. Protection responders identified 151 million people in need and requested \$2.9 billion to provide live-saving protection services to 67 million people. The number of people in need of protection has increased by 33% compared to 2021.

Conflict, violence, systematic breaches of international humanitarian law and human rights violations remain the main drivers of protection risks today, exacerbated by the worsening impacts of climate change, socio-economic shocks and food insecurity. Armed conflict continues to be characterized by high numbers of deaths, injuries, targeted killings, psychological trauma and sexual violence. With 90% of national Protection Clusters active in conflict settings, the protection of civilians remains critical and deserves greater consideration in humanitarian decision-making and response.

In this context, people in conflict and disaster zones are increasingly pushed towards harmful practices as they struggle to get by. Across multiple Protection Cluster operations, there is a marked rise in the use of negative coping mechanisms by families impacted by conflict - particularly those experiencing displacement. This includes rising rates of child labour, early and forced marriage, survival sex, child soldiers, reliance on risky smuggling routes, and spiralling household debts. These negative coping mechanisms are themselves driving increasingly complex protection risks particularly affecting the most vulnerable including women and girls, older persons and persons with disabilities.

The vicious cycle between armed conflict, food insecurity and protection risks has been increasingly visible over the last year. By December 2021, around 193 million people faced crisis or worsening levels of acute food insecurity in 22 conflict-affected countries<sup>1</sup>. In places such as Ethiopia, Nigeria, South Sudan, Somalia, the Sahel and Yemen, conflict and violence are driving catastrophic food insecurity and compounding protection risks due to reduced access to livelihoods. The ripple effects of food insecurity are considerable for children and women. Food reduction has further exacerbated cases of child labour, increased the number of children out of school, higher number of child marriage and seen domestic violence on the rise including increased risk of physical and sexual intimate partner violence as well as sexual exploitation and abuse<sup>2</sup>. These issues are intimately linked and create a vicious cycle that is undermining the capacities of people to withstand these different shocks, and deepening protection risks.

Conflict and insecurity have continued to hamper humanitarian access, taking the lives of 38 humanitarian aid workers and resulting in 62 kidnappings and 37 staff wounded in the first part of 2022<sup>3</sup>. Hostilities, bureaucratic impediments, sanctions and counterterrorism measures, violence against humanitarian personnel and assets, the continuous closing of space for civil society and other challenges overlapped to hinder humanitarian access with real impact on civilians in need of protection. Protection Cluster operations, active in 32 crisis contexts globally, and consisting of national and international NGOs and UN members, estimate that on average they can reach 25% to 50% of those in need of protection. In several contexts, including Yemen, Ethiopia, Sudan and Mozambique, this figure is significantly lower. The operational reality has therefore limited the capacity to deliver protection services.

### Data collection methodology

During the 2020 Global Protection Forum, the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) committed to take stock of protection resources at the mid-year point. The data includes both Humanitarian Response Plans and Appeals. The GPC collected data on protection funding directly from the partners of National Protection Clusters including Areas of Responsibility and specialised working groups in 23 countries, compared to 12 countries last year, allowing for a more detailed analysis on these countries. The UNOCHA Financial Tracking System (FTS) was used to provide data for a few specific operations to complement data reported directly by partners. The GPC data has limitations and depends on the accuracy of the reported data and submissions by partners. The Global Protection Cluster is committed to continue improving its new data collection system to better monitor protection funding, and improve its analysis.

## KEY MESSAGES

**1** Protection risks continued unabated with **151 million people in need of protection**. An additional 38 million people were in need of protection in comparison to 2021, largely driven by the worsening situations in Ukraine, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Sudan, Myanmar as well as continued high levels of needs in Yemen, Syria and the Democratic Republic of Congo. This is the highest increase in one year that we have seen in a long time.

**2** **Protection partners are increasingly trusted and resourced** to deliver frontline protection services. This year, we recorded a doubling in funding reported at mid-year<sup>4</sup>, which stands at \$833 million. This should encourage current and new donors and agencies to continue investing in protection until the end of the year.

**3** **Local actors are recognised as the frontline driving force of protection and receiving increasing levels of resources**. 17% of the total \$833 million were operated by local partners. This represents a tripling in the amount of funding recorded compared to last year and a doubling in proportion of funding going to NNGOs, putting the protection cluster on the right track to meet the Grand Bargain commitment of 25% funding to local actors by the end of 2022.

**4** As of mid-2022, **only 28% of life-saving protection activities have been funded**, with most of our operations still recording less than 50% of required funding. This implies unavoidable compromises and prioritisation, leaving approximately 110 million people without any chance of receiving holistic protection support. With most funding expected to be driven towards highly visible crises, one should not lose sight of the need to maintain stepped up funding for protection and for forgotten crises in the second half of 2022 to not fall short of what is still so needed.

**5** **Gender-Based Violence, including towards children, is the least funded area of protection** and requires particular support. Every operation reports Gender-Based Violence including sexual violence as a priority risk and 95% describe it as severe or extreme. GBV continues to be committed in contexts of displacement, as well as within communities and families. In addition, sexual violence in conflict continues with complete impunity and can be used as a tool to punish, terrorize and destroy populations.

**6** **Resources allocated for specialised areas of protection that do not have an established Area of Responsibility are difficult to track but also require attention and support**. This includes addressing the protection needs of youth, elderly and persons with disability, countering trafficking in persons, providing legal support and improving laws and policies, advocating for the protection of civilians, addressing trauma, mental-health and providing psychosocial support.

In the next 6 months of 2022 donors and agencies should support the following priority needs.

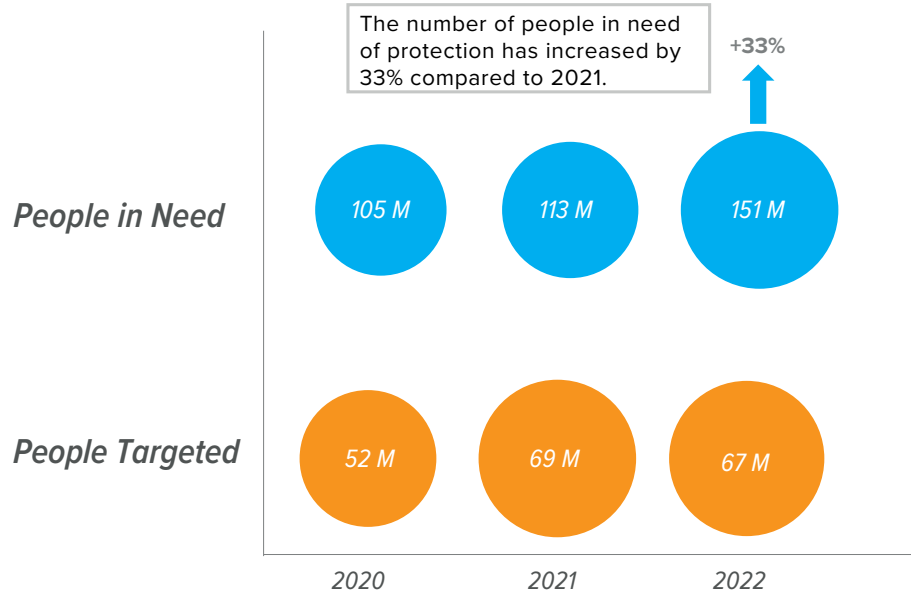
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- a. Continue to support operations that have shown progress and where additional funding will lead to effective protection outcomes.
  - b. Boosting funds to operations where unaddressed needs remain starkly visible, especially **Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, the Sahel, Chad**, and **Mozambique**.
  - c. Boosting diplomatic and political efforts to gain more 'access that protects' in **Ethiopia, Myanmar, Yemen, Afghanistan, Syria** and **CAR** through advocacy and influencing behaviour changes.

**8** As we approach the 2023 Humanitarian Planning Cycle, we need to **scale up our ambitions beyond the current 45 % average targeting of people in need** so as to reflect and address the rising needs through localisation and improving access that protects. This will require a collective effort not to cap or limit protection planning processes as the funding request will increase according to rising needs.

**9** Access to funding is only one part of the picture. **Diplomatic efforts and political support are paramount** to promote timely and principled access to people in need of protection. Amidst areas of real progress in strengthening protection response and outcomes, access for protection purposes remains challenging.

# PROTECTION FUNDING IN 2022: WHERE DO WE STAND ?

## 1. Protection needs trends (2020-2022)



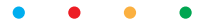
The number of people in need of protection has increased by 33% compared to 2021, while the number of people targeted saw negligible change. This may be the result of operational constraints, access issues, limited number of partners and resources, or protection planning processes being capped. **151 million people are in need of protection this year.** This is 38 million more than 2021 – the highest increase in one year we have seen in a long while. This is largely driven by the worsening situations in Ukraine, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Myanmar, Sudan, as well as continued high levels of need in Yemen, Syria and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

**People in Need** are a “subset of the population affected” who are in need of assistance to ensure their “physical security, access to basic rights or dignity” and a return to “normal living conditions”<sup>5</sup>.

**People Targeted** are a “sub-set of People in Need and represent the number of people humanitarian actors aim or plan to assist”, based on the “needs assessment and the feasibility of the response. Physical access, legal issues, operation capacity, availability of support structure or financial delivery” can be obstacles to target people in need<sup>6</sup>.

Attacks on civilians and infrastructures are occurring in all our field operations, with 65% of them reporting the situation as severe or extreme. This violence is triggering forced displacement and impediment to freedom of movement with 78% of operations classifying the situation as severe or extreme. Abduction, kidnapping, forced disappearance and arbitrary arrest are a major concern.

Civilians, particularly women and children, bear the brunt of the violence. Every field operation reports Sexual and Gender-Based Violence as being amongst top concerns, with 95% describing the risk of GBV as severe or extreme. All operations describe psychological/emotional abuse or inflicted distress amongst the affected populations. Child, early and forced marriage is a risk across all operations.

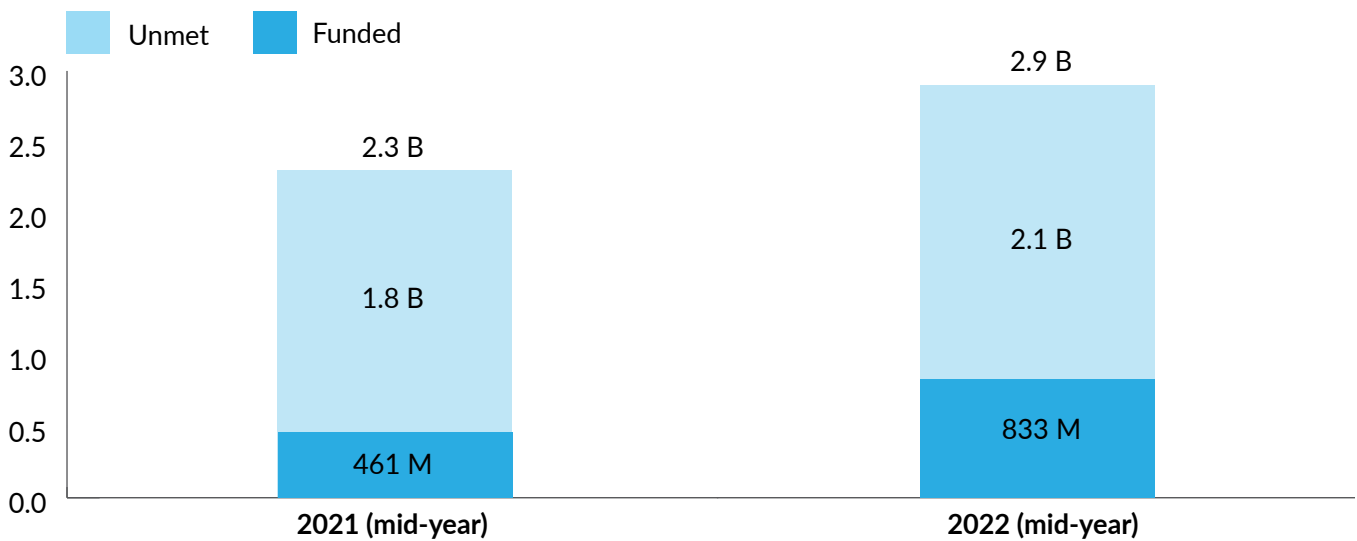


## PROTECTION RISKS

Based on the results of surveying protection risks in 23 Protection Clusters.

OVERALL RISKS AND CONCERNS	MINOR	STRESSED	MODERATE	SEVERE	EXTREME	N/A or no answer
Sexual and gender-based violence	0	0	1	15	7	0
Impediments or restrictions to freedom of movement, siege and forced displacement	1	0	3	13	5	1
Abduction, kidnapping, forced disappearance, arbitrary or unlawful arrest and/or detention	1	2	6	11	2	1
Psychological/emotional abuse or inflicted distress	0	1	4	11	7	0
Child, early or forced marriage	0	2	9	11	1	0
Attacks on civilians and other unlawful killings, attacks on civilian infrastructures	2	3	2	10	5	1
Theft, extortion, eviction or destruction of personal property	0	3	7	10	2	1
Forced recruitment, including recruitment of children in armed forces and groups	2	2	10	8	0	1
Discrimination and stigmatization, denial of resources, opportunities, services	0	3	11	8	0	1
Forced family and child separation	0	4	11	7	0	1
Impediments and/or restrictions to access to documentation, remedies and justice	1	2	8	7	4	1
Presence of mines and other explosive ordnance	3	1	10	7	1	1
Torture or inhuman, cruel, degrading treatment	2	2	11	6	1	1
Forced labour, slavery, trafficking in persons	2	8	8	3	1	1
Misinformation and denial of access to information	2	8	7	3	2	1

## 2. Protection funding trends (2020-2022)



Funding requirements for protection programming remain at high levels. For 2022, protection actors requested \$2.9 billion dollars to provide live-saving protection services across 32 operations. This represents a 26% increase compared to last year. The increase in funding requirement is somehow commensurate with the increase in protection needs (+33%). The five biggest operations in terms of funding requirement are: Syria (419 million), Ethiopia (277 million), Ukraine (218 million), Yemen (203 million) and Sudan (162 million). Last year, protection actors reached almost \$1 billion in funding received out of \$2.3 billion required. This represents 43% of protection funding met at end-of-year point. If we have to meet the same level for this year, we still need \$414 million.

## 3. Protection funding in 2022

Protection actors committed to take stock of protection resources at mid-year point to improve funding monitoring. The GPC collected data on protection funding directly from the partners of National Protection Clusters and Areas of Responsibility in 23 countries, compared to 12 operations last year, allowing for a more detailed analysis on these countries. Overall, protection actors received 833 million out of \$2.9 billion at mid-year 2022 compared to 461 million out of 2.3 billion at mid-year 2021. Thus far, at the mid-year point, 28% of the protection funding requirements have been met, leaving millions of people in need of protection without protection assistance. The Protection Clusters fall short of 2 billion.

In the second half of 2021, the funding received for protection activities was boosted to almost double, matching the amount of funding received in the first half of the year. Whilst the figures at mid-year 2022 reflect a positive trend in funding from last year, the Protection Cluster remains largely underfunded. With most funding expected to be driven towards highly visible crisis one should not lose sight of the need to maintain stepped up funding for protection and for forgotten crises in the second half of 2022 to not fall short of what is still so needed.

## FUNDING FOR SPECIALISED AREAS OF PROTECTION

### PROTECTION



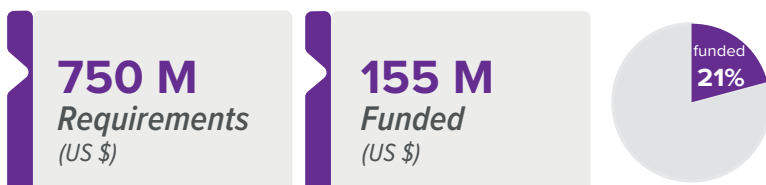
34% of the funding requirements for the Protection Cluster are for protection activities, with a total requirement of \$1 billion in the Humanitarian Response Plans. These activities aim to strengthen the protection of civilians. They include protection monitoring, analysis and advocacy, case-management, community-based protection, as well as addressing the needs of elderly and disabled people, and other marginalised groups. As of mid-year 2022, 31% of these activities have been funded. 16% of the protection funding was channelled to local actors, while 84% of the funding given in the first six months went to international actors.

### CHILD PROTECTION



Child protection required \$738 million in the Humanitarian Response Plans for live-saving child protection activities and received 26% of this amount. These activities aim to ensure children in emergencies are protected from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence. They include monitoring of grave violations against children, reintegration of children associated with armed forces or armed groups, case-management and psychosocial support, as well as supporting unaccompanied and separated children, survivors of sexual violence, and vulnerable children at risk of abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence. Most of the funding for the first six months of 2022 went to international actors (81%), while local child protection actors received directly 19%.

### GENDER BASED VIOLENCE



Gender-based violence required \$750 million in the Humanitarian Response Plans for GBV prevention and response activities and received 21% of this amount. These activities aim at responding to all forms of gender-based violence through prevention, risk mitigation and response measures. They include specialised medical services and psychosocial support for GBV survivors, case management, legal assistance, socio-economic reintegration, as well as activities through safe space, community outreach, cash-based intervention, livelihood and empowerment. Within the Protection Cluster, at 23%, GBV has the highest proportion of local actors accessing funding while international actors have received 77%.



## HOUSING, LAND and PROPERTY



Housing, land and property required \$62 million in the Humanitarian Response Plans for HLP activities and received 55% of this amount. These activities aim at ensuring displaced people have a safe home, free from the fear of forced eviction, a place that offers safety, and the ability to seek livelihood opportunities. They include mapping and recording rights to land, provision of legal documentation, including property documents, prevention of disputes and forced evictions, support in reclaiming homes, lands and property as well as working with government institutions to strengthen vulnerable people's security of tenure, particularly for women. Local actors received 3% of the funding for housing, land and property while 97% went to international actors.

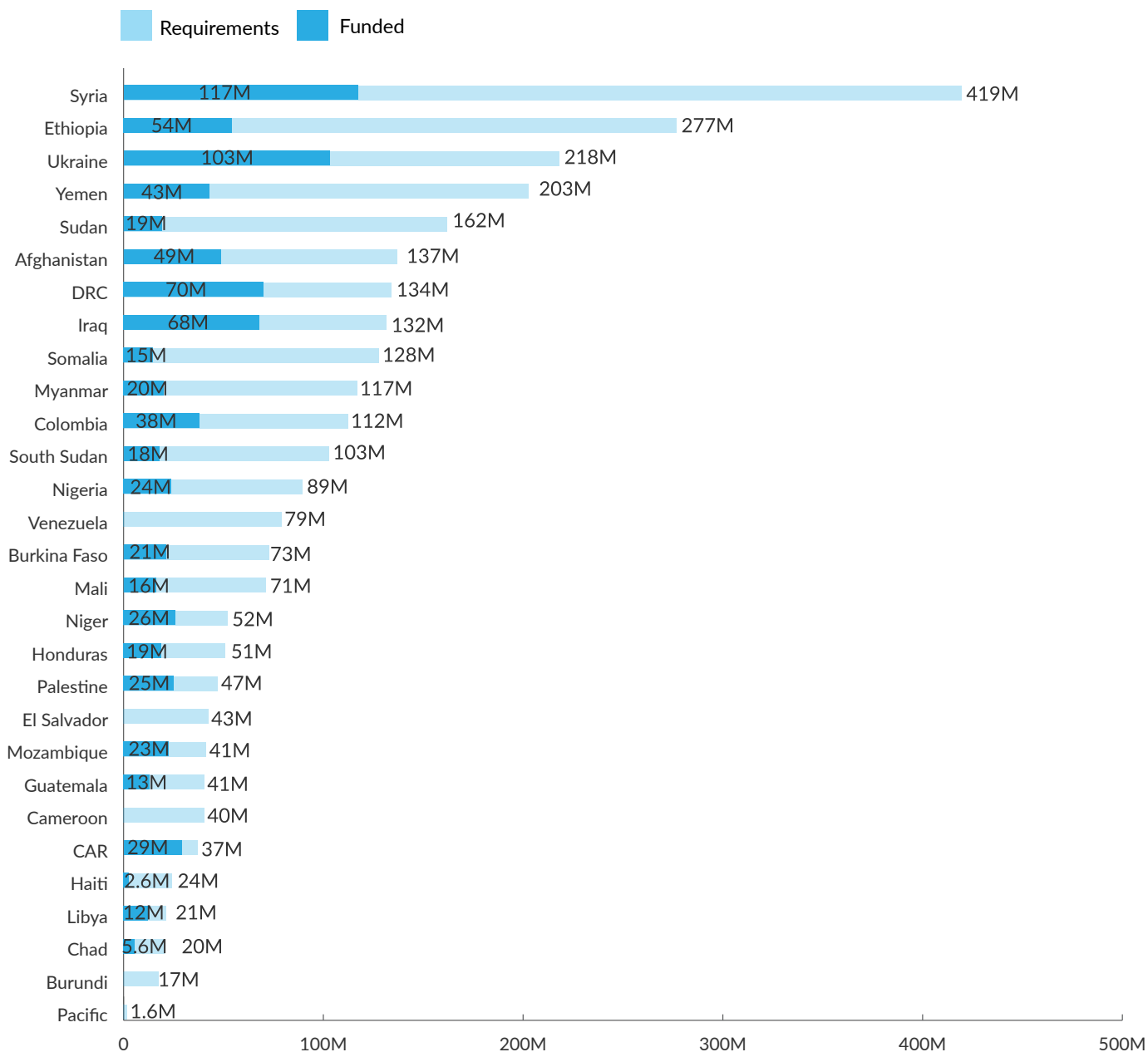
## MINE ACTION



Mine action required \$279 million in the Humanitarian Response Plans for mine-related activities and received 49% of this amount. These activities aim at preventing and responding to risks associated with mines, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices. They include mapping of explosive threats, clearance and stockpile destruction, victims assistance, and advocacy. Local actors received 12% of the funding for mine action while 88% went to international actors.



# FUNDING STATUS IN COUNTRY OPERATIONS



All operations show positive trends in the data collected on funding for protection this year compared to last year. Only a certain number of operations were excluded from the analysis as no data was available: Burundi, Cameroon, El Salvador, Pacific, Philippines, Zimbabwe, and Venezuela.

The five biggest operations in terms of funding requirements are Syria, Ethiopia, Ukraine, Yemen and Sudan. These five countries account for 44% of the total protection requirements in 2022.

While only one operation is adequately funded at more than 75%, most operations still record a high amount of unmet needs. All operations should be at least 75% funded at mid-year to allow partners to effectively implement protection programming and generate protection outcomes for people affected by conflict, violence and disaster.

Six operations are funded between 50% and 75% in 2022 compared to zero operations in 2021, while nine operations are funded between 25% and 50% in 2022 compared to six operations in 2021 - confirming the positive trend observed in the data collected on funding through the GPC data collection system.

The operations funded at less than 25% in 2022 have experienced particular access challenges, operational constraints or poor data reported.

## Where do we stand mid-year 2022?

## SPOTLIGHT ON OPERATIONS

### Mozambique

Mozambique is showing great progress in funding levels this year, which reflects efforts conducted by the Protection Cluster in terms of advocacy and positioning of protection issues at the centre of the humanitarian response, ultimately showing results in resource mobilisation. At mid-year 2022, the Cluster managed to mobilise 22.8 million, which represents 55% of the HRP requirement. Last year, at mid-year 2021, and using only FTS data, the Cluster reported 3 million (14.5% of the total requirement). As such, funding by mid-year is more than seven times higher in absolute number and three times higher in percentage terms.

Yet, the 2021 mid-year data came from FTS, thus significantly underrepresenting the funding reality. It should also be noted that FTS reports 0.2% funding for protection to date.

On the one hand, the data shows that despite tremendous operational challenges, partners have been scaling up protection programs and services in Mozambique. However, because only FTS data was available last year, it is difficult to compare data and attribute the increase in funding data exclusively to an increase in actual funding. On the other hand, while HRP is funded at 55%, major protection needs remain unaddressed, including holistic individual protection assistance for persons with specific needs. Mozambique contains critical funding gaps. It is worth noting the level of funding is also relative as the HRP funding requirement was capped by the HCT from an initial ask of 60 million USD – double that of 2021.

### Central African Republic

At mid-year 2022, CAR shows almost twice as much funding reported as compared to last year, and appears to be over 90% funded. This is mainly explained by the fact that CAR conducted a thorough data collection exercise this year, with more partners sharing their protection funding data. In addition, it is worth mentioning that the 2022 HRP funding requirement for the Protection Cluster was capped by the HCT despite highest needs on the ground. The total requirement for the Protection Cluster in 2022 was reduced to 37 million compared to 40 million in 2021. This ‘capping’ took place on the grounds that the protection actors lack the capacity to fundraise (given the underfunded situation captured through FTS data). This example shows the importance of quality funding data collection and its impact on leadership decisions when it comes to humanitarian planning.

Among the total amount of 33.8 million reported this year, 18.6 million (this is 3 times higher than last year) was allocated for gender-based violence programming, reflecting the consistent advocacy led by the GBV AoR and highly supported by the Humanitarian Coordinator. As a result, the CAR Humanitarian Fund allocated 5 million to gender-based violence in 2021-2022. While

this funding expires mid-year 2022, it is crucial to maintain high-level advocacy on GBV issues in CAR and ensure adequate funding is provided to GBV partners given the scale of violations is widespread and levels of sexual and gender-based violence are alarming.

### Ethiopia

Between January and May 2022, more than 50M USD has been secured for protection activities in Ethiopia. While this is more than double the amount reported last year, it reflects the increasing needs and already scaled-up response amid the deteriorating situation in Ethiopia due to armed conflict in the north and other regions, as well as severe droughts, reportedly the worst in 40 years. The Cluster’s PIN and target numbers in 2022 have doubled in comparison to the 2021 figures, and more people have been reached by protection actors in the first four months of 2022 than in the entire past year.

While the current figures also suggest better reporting and tracking of donors’ contributions, some of the funds have been rolled over from 2021. In some cases, they were allocated towards the end of the year, and in many other cases, partners were unable to implement earlier in 2021 due to access constraints, especially the de-facto blockade in northern Ethiopia, safety risks in other regions, limited presence of protection partners, as well as delays due to lengthy bureaucratic procedures such as visas, permits and accreditation requirements. For example, the Mine Action AoR was only activated in September 2021, and then experienced delays in the recruitment of specialists and in awarding grants to local implementing partners. The implementation of Housing, Land and Property (HLP) activities was also hindered last year following the suspension of an important HLP partner by local authorities.

### Colombia

Thus far, Colombia stands at 35% of required protection funding, and stagnation in long-term project implementation related to funding insecurities has glaringly apparent consequences for vital protection activities. Additional challenges presented in 2022 also include the political transition associated with the presidential elections. Colombia continues to depend on CERF emergency funding, 50% of which is allocated to protection interventions in the Department of Chocó. Funded this year so far at 41%, the Mine Action AoR through UNMAS Colombia has been implementing the Regional Coordination Project, which since 2018 has aimed to better address and respond to the needs of explosive ordnance (EO) affected communities by deploying regional coordinators in the field. The project has assisted 239 municipalities, covering the regions where 94% of new casualties have occurred in the last four years, directly helping 63% of new EO victims



registered since January 2018. Unfortunately, this project is on the brink of suspension in June 2022 due to a lack of funding.

### DR Congo

Funding for DR Congo is approximately 70 million at mid-year 2022, compared to 16 million at mid-year 2021. This year, the Protection Cluster and its AoRs undertook a comprehensive data collection exercise, reaching out to main protection partners in DR Congo who submitted information through the GPC data collection platform. Last year, DR Congo did not submit any data and the GPC relied solely on FTS. As a result, DR Congo is funded at 52% while FTS reports that only 12 million have been allocated to the protection sector in DR Congo.

The HRP budget for Protection remained similar to last

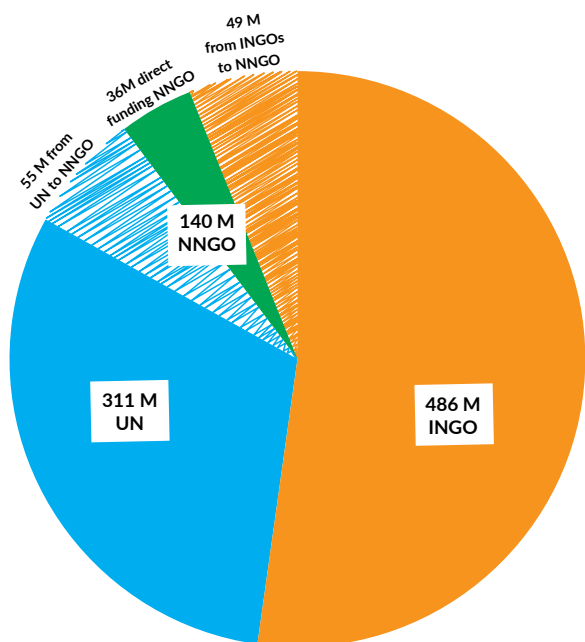
year (around 134 million) despite the needs remaining high. The HCT requested the protection cluster to limit its target and budgets on the ground that overall funding reported last year were not sufficient to justify an increase. The poor funding data sent the message that the Cluster does not have the capacity or the partners to mobilise more funds. The substantial improvement made by the Protection Cluster this year positions itself well to undertake an active advocacy with the HCT ahead of the 2023 Humanitarian Programme Cycle.

Given the deterioration of the situation in Ituri and North Kivu with the resumption of fighting with the M23, it is crucial to maintain focus on DR Congo and support protection programming, particularly in the areas of protection of civilians, community-based protection, and comprehensive child protection and GBV holistic response.

### GPC Funding: Five Largest Operations - 2022 (mid-year)

Funding Requested (USD)	Targeted / People in Need	Funding Received (USD)	Received (%)	Targeted / People in Need
Syria 419 M	10.7 M / 14.2 M	Syria 117 M	28%	
Ethiopia 277 M	7.9 M / 22 M	Ukraine 103 M	47%	
Ukraine 218 M	3.9 M / 15.7 M	DR Congo 70 M	52%	3.8 M / 9.2 M
Yemen 203 M	11.2 M / 17.2 M	Iraq 68 M	52%	0.5 M / 1.5 M
Sudan 162 M	2.5 M / 4.5 M	Ethiopia 54 M	19%	

## WHO IS RECEIVING FUNDING?

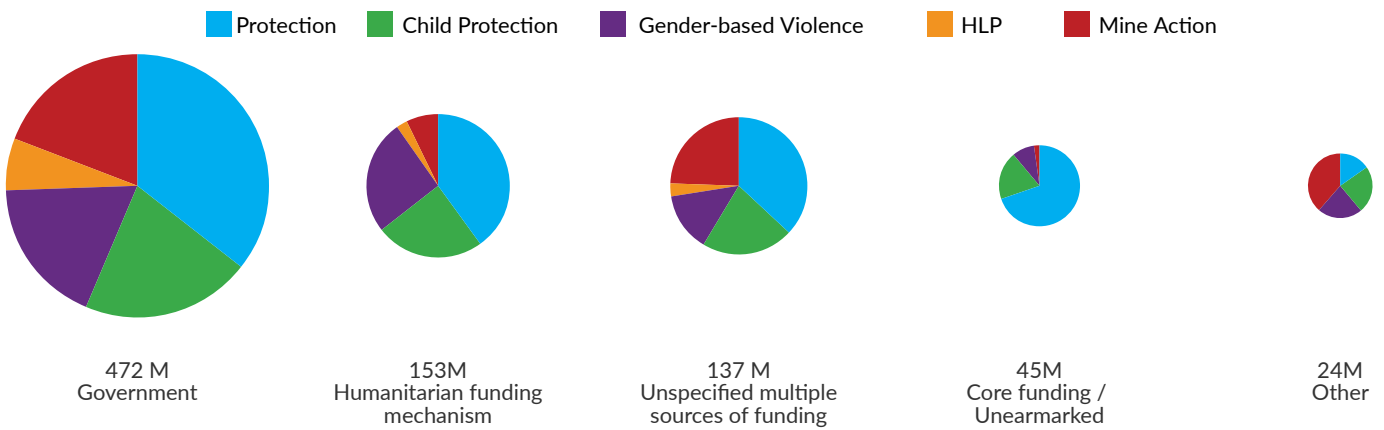


Out of the 833M reported, 311M went to the UN, 486M to INGOs and 36M to NNGOs directly. The total amount of funding to NNGO is 140M when including indirect funding from INGOs (49M) and UN (55M), representing 17% of the total funding recorded. Funding to local actors varies between AoRs, representing 3% in the HLP AoR, 12% in the MA AoR, 19% in the CP AoR and 23% in the GBV AoR.

Protection partners have demonstrated their commitment to the objectives of localisation and are on track to meet the Grand Bargain commitment of 25% funding to local actors. Overall, funding to local partners tripled in absolute numbers and doubled in terms of proportion of funding recorded.

To increase access to funding by local actors, more investment could be made in Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPF) as well as in nationally-led financing intermediaries such as pooled-funds and other grant making mechanisms. Donors can also set funding conditions for consortia to ensure that local actors are given equal footing to international actors. Within the consortium model, local actors can benefit from support from international actors on, for example, financial management and have the possibility to use simplified reporting formats. Such arrangements can both empower local actors and strengthen their capacity. While direct funding is critical, principled and strategic partnerships are also crucial to strengthen local actors' institutional capacity and long-term development. Stronger local actors ensure not only a timely and appropriate response, but also contribute to building a sustainable, community-led protection response.

## WHO IS PROVIDING FUNDING?



The vast majority of protection funding is allocated through government donors (57%), humanitarian funding mechanisms (18%), unspecified multiple source of funding (16%), and core and unearmarked funding (5%).

## ACCESS TO PROTECTION PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES

Amidst areas of real progress with strengthening protection response and outcomes, access for protection purposes remains challenging. A range of constraints increasingly impact the ability of affected people to have full access to humanitarian aid, especially to protection services. Access for protection purposes ultimately means comprehensive and sustained access that enables communities to access a range of protection services and likewise the ability of protection actors to access communities, engage with armed groups, conduct protection monitoring and deliver responsive protection services in a comprehensive way.

The following case studies illustrate some of the linkages between funding and access to services and how funding impacts the ability of protection actors to support affected communities to access needed protection services and support.

### Life-saving EORE activities and victims assistance delivered by local actors at risk of shutting down in Myanmar

In Myanmar, reduced funding as of 2022 has resulted in the curtailing of vital protection efforts, with general protection, mine action and child protection programmes notably affected. An international agency has been actively discussing the implications of the downsizing of the clusters in Rakhine, Kachin, and Northern Shan, with activities such as child protection case management, psychosocial support (PSS) and prevention, and general protection monitoring already impacted. Across Myanmar, the Mine Action AoR reports the devastating harm caused by an increase in landmines and other explosive ordnance usage over the last 18 months, exacerbated by a lack of awareness, underlining Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) as a protection imperative. Yet, funding currently lies at 27% of what is needed to carry out these life saving activities under the Humanitarian Response Plan, with one international partner reporting that,

without emergency funding, it will be forced to cut its long-term collaboration with two local partners who are delivering lifesaving EORE and Victim Assistance services in Kachin by the end of August this year.

Due to a lack of other protection actors presence in the area, it is increasingly difficult to hand over activities, resulting in some communities bearing the brunt of conflict and displacement and prevented from accessing critical protection services. In the long term, a lack of monitoring capacity results in losing sight of human rights issues occurring in these locations and jeopardising future efforts to raise funding for protection activities.



Myanmar: © UNICEF/UN0235073/Htet

### Budget cuts affecting preventive community-level interventions in South Sudan

South Sudan continues to experience overwhelming funding constraints which are impacting protection activities. For child protection, the AoR reports prioritising only 27% of people, based on severity of need – but currently does not have the funding to even cover this. Organisations specialised in child protection will be forced to cease their work with some forced to close offices at sub-national level, meaning children who have experienced violence will be less likely to access services. Risks are further exacerbated due to attacks on schools and hospitals leaving children without access to education, nutrition and medical care. Plan International South Sudan has reported budget cuts of over 40%, leading to the phasing out or scaling down of preventive community level interventions, such as capacity building and PSS. Key gains that enhanced a protective environment and positive coping mechanisms are disrupted, affecting protection mainstreaming, protection risks mitigation including PSEA risks.

## Impact of underfunding on GBV, child protection and mine action programming in Syria

Across Syria, underfunding for protection activities has left many people's needs unaddressed and curtailed the impact of protection interventions. Reduced capacity to address harmful coping strategies has had detrimental consequences across sectors and undermined attempts at fostering resilience and early recovery. In NW Syria, funding for GBV programming in general, and Women and Girls Safe Spaces (WGSS) in particular, remains unpredictable and short-term, jeopardising the sustainability of WGSS in communities where there is currently no alternative access to life-saving GBV services. Similarly, reduced funding for child-friendly spaces, community-based programs, PSS, structured non-specialized programs, and parenting skills has impacted the cluster's capacity to respond to the increase in psychological distress and trauma among children and their caregivers, increasing the risk that short-term distress leads to longer-term concerns. In the last six months, at least 12 humanitarian organisations operating community-based child friendly spaces and PSS mobile teams in NW Syria reported a full suspension of their activities due to funding gaps. In NE Syria, some partners reported that reduced funding directly resulted in children in rural and insecure locations excluded from access to protection services.

Insufficient funding for mine action has left millions of Syrians at risk, compounding civilian vulnerability in at-risk areas and endangering or limiting access to humanitarian assistance. Survey and clearance activities, highly technical and costly interventions, remain particularly underfunded. Without this ability to fully eliminate risks, the exceptionally high rates of injury and death from explosive hazards will continue to strain an already overburdened healthcare system, and to compromise lives and livelihoods in vulnerable communities.



Syria: © UNHCR/Antwan Chnkdji

## Funding gaps limiting partners to train social welfare workforce, the frontline support systems for victims of violence in Nigeria

In Nigeria, the child protection AoR reports just 4% of the HRP 2022 target reached in the first quarter of the year, leaving children and their caregivers with very limited options to support their families due to economic hardship and conflict in the North East of the country. This has led to an increase in child protection concerns such as trafficking, GBV, child



labour, violence, abuse and neglect of children. Additionally funding gaps have limited the capacities of partners to train community-based structures, such as the social welfare workforce, who are the frontline support systems to prevent and respond to the victims of violence, abuse and neglect with required services and referrals. The current reach in terms of strengthening of the CP support to the social welfare workforce lies at 13% against the HRP targets.

### Scale-up of child protection services in Ukraine

Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine, eastern Ukraine continues to bear witness to intense fighting with lines of contact shifting, while sporadic airstrikes and missile attacks continue to be reported in multiple oblasts across central and western Ukraine, with access remaining constrained in the Donbas region. Reaching close to 65% of its total funding requirement so far, UNICEF has seen a quick and effective deployment of these resources, including significant investments in child protection, translate into results. Since 24 February, together with partners, UNICEF-supported MHPSS interventions have reached a total 919,784 children and caregivers to help them deal with the distressing effects of conflict and displacement. A total of 57,869 children and their families have benefited from specialised services through case management and referral to support services. Additionally 30,103 women and children have so far been reached by UNICEF-supported gender-based violence (GBV) prevention, risk mitigation and response services.

## CONCLUSION

Data shows that well-functioning clusters attract more funding, which in turn means that these protection clusters have significantly strengthened structures and processes, such as monitoring and analysis of funding data that is so needed to guide resource mobilisation, frame advocacy asks and inform protection programming. This highlights that the issue at hand is not exclusively about attracting more funding for protection, but also using limited existing resources smartly, to effectively target risks, threats and vulnerabilities that need to urgently be addressed, thus demonstrating the impact more funding would bring.

Protection partners are on the ground, with strong ability to work, and more trusted than ever before to deliver services to address the multitude of needs of communities. In order to ensure this work is reaching those who are most in need, donors need to continue their support to protection as we enter the 2023 Humanitarian Programme Cycle, particularly the following priority needs.

- a. Continue to support operations that have shown progress and where additional funding will lead to effective outcomes for targeted communities preserving their dignified existence and well-being.
- b. Boosting funds to operations where unaddressed needs remain starkly visible, especially Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, the Sahel, Chad, and Mozambique.
- c. Boosting diplomatic and political efforts to gain more 'access that protects' in Ethiopia, Myanmar, Yemen, Afghanistan, Syria and CAR through advocacy and influencing behaviour changes.



	0- Protection Cluster			1- Protection			2- Child Protection			3- Gender-based Violence			4- HLP			5- Mine Action		
Operation	Requirement 2022	Funded 2022	%	Requirement 2022	Funded 2022	%	Requirement 2022	Funded 2022	%	Requirement 2022	Funded 2022	%	Requirement 2022	Funded 2022	%	Requirement 2022	Funded 2022	%
Afghanistan	137,048,832	48,562,970	35%	37,425,000	11,989,821	32%	26,022,000	14,775,047	57%	45,022,696	5,415,566	12%	12,000,000	4,541,845	38%	16,579,136	11,840,691	71%
Burkina Faso	72,892,586	21,182,206	29%	16,397,704	952,975	6%	30,561,789	19,390,659	63%	22,021,031	428,012	2%	1,372,039	0	0%	2,540,023	410,560	16%
Burundi	17,371,582			9,693,648			3,029,114			4,218,720			430,100			0		
Cameroon	40,450,000			9,596,000			14,302,000			14,952,000			1,600,000			0		
Central African Republic	37,000,000	29,014,330	78%	14,800,000	11,627,307	79%	8,700,000	3,390,425	39%	12,000,000	13,314,218	111%	1,500,000	432,380	29%	0	250,000	
Chad	20,423,453	5,567,389	27%	4,124,033	952,314	23%	5,859,485	3,277,812	56%	10,439,935	1,337,263	13%	0	0		0	0	
Colombia	112,363,022	37,905,779	34%	40,728,975	12,800,597	31%	13,104,162	3,268,350	25%	12,449,500	3,997,049	32%	0	0		46,080,385	17,839,783	39%
Democratic Republic of the Congo	134,121,474	70,182,327	52%	46,776,191	12,177,089	26%	29,286,982	15,643,019	53%	43,436,304	22,385,449	52%	11,326,315	19,976,770	176%	3,295,682	0	0%
El Salvador	42,700,000			42,700,000			0			0			0			0		
Ethiopia	276,800,000	54,129,320	20%	112,000,000	17,485,333	16%	66,000,000	20,823,466	32%	90,000,000	14,536,772	16%	0	216,221		8,800,000	1,067,528	12%
Guatemala	40,533,763	13,101,064	32%	36,124,763	12,073,700	33%	2,159,000	574,053	27%	2,250,000	453,311	20%	0	0		0	0	
Haiti	24,400,000	2,639,870	11%	7,400,000	1,779,638	24%	11,200,000	390,232	3%	5,800,000	470,000	8%	0	0		0	0	
Honduras	50,897,051	18,742,695	37%	33,347,050	14,009,234	42%	9,750,001	1,678,160	17%	7,800,000	3,055,301	39%	0	0		0	0	
Iraq	131,528,882	68,087,815	52%	49,789,000	25,525,952	51%	30,057,079	12,513,580	42%	36,217,553	8,529,716	24%	0	0		15,465,250	21,518,567	139%
Libya	21,342,790	12,255,133	57%	10,157,093	6,807,366	67%	3,082,058	639,287	21%	3,357,239	1,457,155	43%	0	409,865		4,746,400	2,941,460	62%
Mali	71,332,055	16,111,540	23%	16,439,667	5,194,866	32%	28,030,682	3,426,691	12%	17,298,605	6,301,849	36%	6,180,051	965,116	16%	3,383,050	223,018	7%
Mozambique	41,400,000	22,818,973	55%	15,000,000	12,772,615	85%	18,200,000	6,093,311	33%	8,200,000	3,878,631	47%	0	74,416		0	0	
Myanmar	116,800,000	19,996,854	17%	60,000,000	8,174,716	14%	15,000,000	4,199,835	28%	34,000,000	5,225,105	15%	0	259,000		7,800,000	2,138,198	27%
Niger	52,029,211	27,150,452	52%	20,789,886	20,276,939	98%	8,800,000	4,096,705	47%	20,400,000	2,318,919	11%	439,325	149,006	34%	1,600,000	308,883	19%
Nigeria	89,407,308	24,034,515	27%	13,684,902	5,468,123	40%	36,000,000	9,701,651	27%	33,148,363	4,575,016	14%	1,313,664	1,025,779	78%	5,260,379	3,263,946	62%
Pacific	1,623,078			853,078			290,000			480,000			0			0		
Palestine	47,143,024	26,612,698	56%	4,731,672	4,928,088	104%	15,933,073	4,958,248	31%	10,097,844	10,636,526	105%	12,760,437	1,131,051	9%	3,619,998	4,958,785	137%
Somalia	128,000,000	14,676,451	11%	40,000,000	7,914,570	20%	46,600,000	2,201,063	5%	30,300,000	2,809,015	9%	6,700,000	1,751,803	26%	4,400,000	0	0%
South Sudan	103,000,000	17,876,098	17%	22,000,000	5,881,000	27%	33,000,000	3,373,740	10%	32,000,000	8,621,358	27%	6,000,000	0	0%	10,000,000	0	0%
Sudan	161,920,000	19,141,371	12%	58,740,000	11,173,279	19%	54,680,000	2,470,510	5%	40,000,000	2,621,461	7%	0	2,602,283		8,500,000	273,838	3%
Syria	419,442,846	117,262,609	28%	167,688,065	45,292,245	27%	84,017,786	27,998,688	33%	84,144,036	18,921,740	22%	0	0		83,592,959	25,049,936	30%
Ukraine	218,000,000	103,102,019	47%	86,000,000	35,819,731	42%	68,000,000	27,981,633	41%	39,000,000	4,156,040	11%	0	0		25,000,000	35,144,615	141%
Venezuela	79,104,400			24,924,951			24,894,050			29,285,399			0			0		
Yemen	202,922,907	42,830,059	21%	64,937,031	22,193,185	34%	51,564,216	1,651,504	3%	61,421,660	9,950,502	16%	0	688,495		25,000,000	8,346,373	33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,891,998,264</b>	<b>832,984,537</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>1,066,848,709</b>	<b>313,270,683</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>738,123,477</b>	<b>194,517,669</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>749,740,885</b>	<b>155,395,974</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>61,621,931</b>	<b>34,224,030</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>275,663,262</b>	<b>135,576,181</b>	<b>49%</b>



Endnotes

- 1 WFP, Hunger Map: Global Insights and key trends, <https://static.hungermapdata.org/insight-report>
- 2 In the Central African Republic, there has been an increase in women and girls accessing GBV services and reporting incidents of intimate partner violence during the lean season, drought periods and in areas where food insecurity is higher. No Conflicts Exists in a Vacuum - Food security and the consequences of the Ukraine crisis on GBV in the West and Central Africa, GBV AoR Working Group, West and Central Africa, <https://gbvaor.net/sites/default/files/2022-04/No%20Conflict%20in%20a%20Vacuum-GBV-Food%20Insecurity-Ukraine%20and%20WCAR-FINAL-4.4.2022.pdf>
- 3 Humanitarian Outcomes: Aid Worker Security Database, [www.aidworkersecurity.org](http://www.aidworkersecurity.org)
- 4 It is difficult to verify whether the increase in funding recorded is due to better data gathering, increased funding or a mixture of both. This year, the GPC and AoRs collected data directly from protection partners in 23 countries compared to 12 countries last year.
- 5 Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), Humanitarian Population Figures, April 2016, as cited in Still Unprotected: Humanitarian funding for Child Protection, 2020, p.22.
- 6 OCHA, Humanitarian Response Plan: Guidance on Response Analysis, Formulation of Strategic and Specific Objectives, and Targeting, August 2020, as cited in Still Unprotected: Humanitarian funding for Child Protection, 2020, p.22.

