

HPC Viewer

HPC.TOOLS AND THE VIEWER

HPC.tools are the information services provided by OCHA which enable the humanitarian community to manage the structured information around the humanitarian programme cycle (HPC): needs indicators, strategic and cluster plan frameworks, response indicators, activities and projects, 3W, and financial data. They support the cycle at all stages: identification of needs; strategic, cluster-level and project planning; periodic monitoring; presence mapping and financial tracking.

*HPC Viewer*¹ provides a publication layer and single point of entry for all programme cycle data managed using the HPC.tools suite. It empowers country operations and clusters to curate interactive online presentations of their needs, planning and monitoring information, while simultaneously providing a reference for globally aggregated data used in corporate products such as the Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO).



DESIGNED TO ACCOMMODATE THE VARIETY IN RESPONSE

The HPC guidance recommends standard formats and structures, such as humanitarian profiles made up of affected, in need, targeted and reached populations, or logical frameworks consisting of strategic objectives, cluster objectives and cluster activities. Every response is however different, and the colleagues leading each response often diverge from these standards to suit the operational context.

The HPC database accommodates this variance, facilitating the modeling and monitoring of the plan structures colleagues agree upon. HPC Viewer is designed to follow the structures established in RPM for a given plan and in turn grants the relevant content editor² *granular publication control* of HPC data, so it can be appropriately configured however unorthodox the plan structure may be. This empowers colleagues to communicate their message as they see fit.

The editor determines which data to display, in which format, the labels used and the audience. While the interface will suggest default settings, decisions on which data is presented, how and where on the page, and viewable by which users are entirely in the control of the relevant editor. Although the Viewer is public, specific page elements can be restricted to logged in users with appropriate access, allowing the tools to be used for both information management coordination and public advocacy.



SUPPORTING IM COORDINATION, FACILITATING RESPONSE MONITORING AND ANALYSIS

By providing a single source of truth for all structured programme cycle data, the Viewer will provide several key benefits. Everyone involved in an operation, be they OCHA, partner agency or NGO staff in the field, HQ and regionally-based colleagues, global cluster colleagues and donor representatives, will have a single place to find caseload data, planning figures, indicator targets and results and the like. Field operations will not need to dedicate precious resources to developing their own sites and portals for publishing monitoring data. This reference function allows the time currently spent searching and scraping PDF reports for key figures and ensuring everyone is looking at the same revision of an Excel sheet to be better spent analyzing and drawing conclusions from the data.

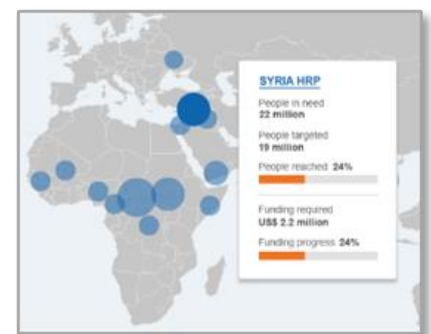
In addition, a publicly-accessible publication platform such as the Viewer provides a further incentive for clusters and partners for submit monitoring data. Smaller NGOs in particular tell us they want to participate in project planning because having projects in an HRP on FTS provides exposure and recognition. Similarly, it is hoped that publication on HPC Viewer of monitoring results submitted through RPM will provide clusters a similar incentive to increase the quality and frequency of reporting. Simultaneously, granular publication control ensures that OCHA offices and clusters only publish what they want to publish, in the format of their choice.

FEATURE OVERVIEW

The Viewer's home page provides and a map of operations, several globally aggregated headline figures, and a plans table. The map and plans table display the top-line GHO figures for the chosen year's plans and provide access to the individual plan pages. Access to edit plan and cluster pages and view restricted page elements is granted using HID.

Each plan page consists of several tabs: an overview, a tab with subpages per strategic objective, and a tab of subpages per cluster. The editor chooses from a selection of page elements to create their preferred presentation. These include maps, tables, and charts, as well as features for embedding externally-hosted content such as dashboards. When configuring page elements, the page context limits the selection to the relevant data, reducing the potential for errors.

These elements all read directly from the HPC database, so data submitted through FTS, RPM, or HPC Projects dynamically updates the Viewer. Each element can be downloaded individually and used in other products and reports.



¹ HPC Viewer is the working title for this new platform. Titles currently under consideration include Aperture, HPC Portal and Oriel – suggestions welcome!

² OCHA IMOs or PIOs for plan page Overview and Strategic Objective tabs, and cluster colleagues for each of the plan page's sub-tabs per cluster.

HPC Viewer

The upcoming pilot release includes page elements such as:

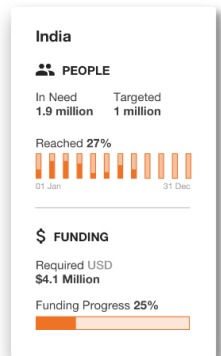
CLUSTER	IN NEED	TARGETED %	TARGETED
Camp Coordination and Camp Management	1,000,000	90.2%	900,000
Early Recovery and Livelihoods	5,500,000	49.1%	2,700,000
Protection	5,800,000	46.6%	2,700,000
Health	5,400,000	94.4%	5,100,000
Water and Sanitation	2,900,000	72.4%	2,100,000
Food Security	3,700,000	100.0%	3,700,000
Child Protection	2,900,000	34.5%	1,000,000
Emergency Shelter and NFI	2,100,000	61.9%	1,300,000
Gender-Based Violence	2,400,000	62.5%	1,500,000
Nutrition	3,900,000	77.1%	2,700,000
Education	2,800,000	79.6%	2,200,000

- ✓ Headline figures, for highlighting up six key figures from over a dozen options
- ✓ Plan entity overviews, which list the editor's choice of e.g. strategic objectives
- ✓ Two cluster tables, both featuring inline pie charts and progress bars:
 - one optimized for cluster caseload data, and
 - overview figures e.g. number of projects, partners, requirements, funding, coverage etc.
- ✓ Interactive maps designed by VIU for geographically disaggregated caseloads or indicators
- ✓ Indicator tables, to display selected key indicators for the editor's choice of plan entities
- ✓ Embedded Tableau and PowerBI dashboards preserving any interactivity
- ✓ Links to external content.

UPCOMING IMPROVEMENTS

The initial pilot release is limited in scope due to time and resource constraints and omits numerous planned features. Several major improvements are currently scheduled for subsequent releases:

- ✓ All page elements displaying reached/measured results will be upgraded to display multiple monitoring periods and progression over time using sparklines and column charts
- ✓ A substantial redesign of the interactive maps:
 - merging the tabs for each data point (i.e. in need, target, reached),
 - replacing the spots for each location with miniature donut charts conveying relative proportions
 - improving the summary pop-overs with column charts to convey progression over time
- ✓ Concurrently with the launch of HPC Projects, plan pages for project-costed plans will gain a fourth tab in the Viewer dedicated to partners and projects
- ✓ The configuration interface will be redesigned for improved usability
- ✓ Substantially improved downloads



ROLLOUT PLANS AND ADOPTION SUPPORT

The initial release of HPC Viewer is currently in final testing and is scheduled to be released in **August 2018**. Colleagues in Nigeria, Somalia, Libya and oPt have expressed interest in early adoption (tbc). Other countries will then incrementally be added between the initial launch and the annual GHO event, at which next year's HRPs will be launched.

Configuring HPC Viewer requires a solid understanding of a given plan's structure and logical framework, but only very limited technical skills. The platform is built with the same content management system used by humanitarianresponse.info and will be familiar for those colleagues who manage pages on that platform so training requirements should be limited. MPTS staff will be organizing briefings and training events via Webex, assuring close support to all adopters as they roll out the tool, and providing a 'helpdesk' for continued technical support over the longer term.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Mark Pryce | Viewer Project Manager | pryce@un.org | +41 22 917 2947
 Monitoring Platforms and Tools Section | Assessment, Planning and Monitoring Branch | OCHA