



ProCapUpdate

IASC Protection Standby Capacity Project

The Protection Standby Capacity Project (ProCap) - an inter-agency initiative created in 2005 in collaboration with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) - seeks to build capacity of relevant actors to enhance the humanitarian protection response. ProCap Officers support the strategic and operational humanitarian protection response for IDPs and other vulnerable populations. ProCap deploys senior personnel with proven protection expertise to field, regional and global operations and trains mid-level protection staff from Standby Partners and UN Agencies. As per September 2016, ProCap has received generous contributions from Australia, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) (via the Global Protection Cluster), Sweden, Canada, Norway and the United States of America. The Project welcomes contributions to its 2016 Annual Appeal launched in late 2015.

Protection Policy

Michelle Berg – Senior Protection Officer (Fiji, April 2016 – On-going)

In 1999, after a series of debates and discussions, humanitarian actors in the IASC defined protection; in 2015/2016, they set out to explain it further and enshrine it into policy. Working with an Inter-Agency Task Team, the ProCap was chosen to be the “pen-holder” for the IASC protection policy. Over a period of months, ProCap conducted close to 100 stakeholder interviews, across several countries, field and headquarters, UN and NGO (national and international), various experts and roster members to get different perspectives and ideas about how such a policy should be constructed, and what it should contain. The key challenge being to define what operationalizing protection means practically, to IASC actors, and how this should be encapsulated in a policy to guide these actors.

After a series of drafts, comments and workshops to refine the structure of the policy, and agree on core content, the ProCap deployee produced a final draft based on the outcomes of the workshops. The approval process is underway at the time of writing, it is expected that the policy will provide a framework to implement the Centrality of Protection Statement. ProCap was honoured to be part of such a significant process in the evolution of protection in humanitarian action.

Mainstreaming protection in the return process of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) in Pakistan.

**Penelope L Muteteli
(Pakistan, June 2016 – On-going)**

Multi-sectoral assessments and recorded grievances from the women, men, girls and boys in affected populations, collected by protection actors led to the identification of a significant number of vulnerable Female Headed Households and other vulnerable groups such as elderly persons, people with disability, people affected by extreme poverty, who had become ineligible for return assistance because they lack identity documents. To be qualified for the return package of cash grants and food assistance set up by the Government of Pakistan, IDPs must be registered and verified in the national database of identification. The return package consists of transportation, a basic subsistence allowance and compensation for damaged houses.

Through the collection of context-specific protection information, the analysis of sources of risks, vulnerability and capacity of the affected population to meet their own needs, protection mainstreaming seeks inclusive targeting of vulnerable and marginalised affected populations, namely, vulnerable Female Heads of Households and other vulnerable groups who lack identity documents. IDP families receive information on where and how to collect assistance and are referred to relevant entities to ensure they are included in the lists of beneficiaries.

Mainstreaming protection has increased accountability to, and equity among, the affected population and has helped reduce feelings of exclusion. For instance, WFP has established flexible procedures to include these beneficiaries because they meet the criteria for food assistance. UNHCR, on the other hand, has designed a program that specifically targets vulnerable affected populations and provides shelter and cash assistance to registered vulnerable returnees, whose verification in the government database is pending and as a consequence disqualifies them from government cash assistance.



Mainstreaming of protection in Burundi and Chad
Alberta Santini
(July 2016 – On-going)

I was recently deployed as a Senior Protection Officer, to support the mainstreaming of protection in Burundi and Chad.

“This is the second time I have been deployed to work on protection mainstreaming, as part of a set off-key objectives related to setting up or supporting coordination and response by protection clusters. The political and security crisis in Burundi and the conflict in Chad have created contexts where, despite obvious differences, protection organisations continue to experience blockages in meeting the needs of people. The analysis on main protection concerns continue to be major challenge too.

I am trying to find protection solutions for challenging contexts where people are affected by forced displacement or political violence; solutions that are sustainable, safe and pertinent. As one of my colleagues says; ‘when things are too complex and resources are limited, let’s keep it simple and remember the essence of humanitarian work and our mission, the principle of humanity and the humanitarian principles.’ Humanitarian action, especially in these contexts, has a key role in increasing the impact of protection measures. We can all contribute to ensuring that any cluster based response works to restore the safety, and dignity of affected people via meaningful participation, accountability and by valuing their own capacities through all the humanitarian response.

In Chad, a series of protection mainstreaming workshops were organized, across clusters, in collaboration with the protection cluster to reach a common understanding of the protection mainstreaming process and its main principles.

The HTC actively supported and participated in an Inter Cluster Coordination session and was present during the drafting of main s and a work plan to implement them. A protection mainstreaming task force was also set up to ensure comprehensive contextualization of training materials and the

PROCAP DEPLOYMENTS September 2016		
Name and Country	Hosting Agency	Nb
CURRENT DEPLOYMENTS		
Pakistan– Penelope Muteteli Cameroon – Franscesco Ardission Geneva – Caroline Blay Fiji – Michelle Berg Burundi- Alberta Santini	UNHCR/RC UNHCR UNHCR OCHA UNHCR	5
COMPLETED DEPLOYMENTS		
Geneva (GPC), Nigeria, Amman, Somalia, Chad, Iraq, Sri Lanka, Kenya/regional , DRC, Turkey, Somalia, Yemen, Iraq, Central African Republic	UNICEF (3) UNHCR (8) OCHA (3)	14
TOTAL OCHA (4), UNHCR (12), UNICEF (3)	19	

launch of field based workshops, this was also done in the spirit of fostering more cost effectiveness, given a distinct shortfall in the availability of resources. Four workshops over the course of a month were organized with the support of OCHA in the field operational areas. This is where protection is most needed by affected people. This is also where staff members of very diverse organizations immediately see how important it is to include a protection dimension in all of their respective programmes. After just a couple of hours’ of induction training the importance of having disaggregated data becomes obvious, having gender diverse teams is recognized as vital in the need to respect the dignity of all people, ensuring participation and addressing safety, physical and social barriers for all . Follow up on it becomes all essential in the elaboration of sector programme for each agency, so as to promote more relevant and people-owned solutions.

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