



ProCap: Stories from the Field

Protection Standby Capacity Project

The IA 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 Advisers 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. The Project welcomes contributions to its 2017 Annual Appeal available at <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/coordination/procap>

April 2017

Addressing Protection Needs in the Northern Triangle of Central America (NTCA)
Isabelle Rivolet
(Panama/Regional Feb 2017 – Present)



For several years the humanitarian community has been raising concerns regarding the level of unmet protection and humanitarian needs of people and communities exposed to the high level of violence generated in Central America by criminal groups and armed gangs. A major problem has also been the lack of visibility of the humanitarian consequences resulting from the non-conventional violence in the NTCA. This is coupled with under-reporting linked to fear and silence of victims, limited cases being investigated, limited cases resulting in convictions etc.; limited access to affected communities and areas for security reasons; and weak capacity in terms of information management and analysis.

The ProCap deployment is timely as two key, recently launched initiatives could give a renewed opportunity to define the way forward for the UN System with regard to complex and mixed protection crises that are increasingly affecting Central America:

- A high-level roundtable on 6-7 July 2016 in San José, Costa Rica, organised by OEA (Organización de los Estados Americanos) explored opportunities for a coordinated response to the growing need for international protection in the region and concluded with the San Jose Statement, forming the basis for a coordinated response to the complexity of human mobility and violence in this area.
- The World Humanitarian Summit in May 2016, with commitments around the Agenda for Humanity, the Grand Bargain and the New Way of Working have been reaffirmed through a new initiative for NTCA recently launched (March 2017) by UNDG LAC.

I am hosted by OCHA ROLAC but also report to UNHCR, as lead of both the protection groups in the three NTCA countries (Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador) and the UNDG LAC Protection Task Force. This is a unique opportunity for the ProCap project to be at the nexus of this New Deal aimed at “transcending humanitarian-development divides” to meet immediate humanitarian needs whilst at the same time reduce risk and vulnerability. The work plan designed with UNHCR and OCHA on the basis of my initial Terms of Reference illustrates how the ProCap project can support the New Way of Working process towards achieving:

1. Pooled and combined data, analysis and information
2. Better joined up planning and programming processes
3. Effective leadership for collective outcomes and:
4. Pursuing financing modalities to support collective outcomes

ProCap Deployments April 2017	
Name and Country	Host
Current Deployments	
Pakistan – Penelope Muteteli	UNHCR
Ethiopia – Laurie Wiseberg	UNHCR
Colombia – Fedde Groot	UNHCR
Burundi – Francesco Ardisson	OCHA
Panama (regional) – Isabelle Rivolet	OCHA
Kenya (regional) – Erin Mooney	OCHA
Egypt – Dalia Aranki	WFP
Jordan – Michelle Berg	OCHA
Global – Caroline Blay	UNDP

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Protection Mainstreaming and Advocacy in Ethiopia

Laurie Wiseberg

(Ethiopia Feb 2017 – Present)

I arrived in Addis Ababa just over a month ago, seconded to UNHCR. My Terms of Reference focused on three areas: to support protection advocacy with Ethiopian Humanitarian Country Team (EHCT) members and help them develop an EHCT Protection Strategy and an operational plan for implementation; to support the Protection Cluster (PC) in protection mainstreaming with other clusters; and to support the EHCT, the PC and other IDP-focused coordination platforms to analyze IDP related protection issues.



One month is not a very long time in a new country, especially one as complex as Ethiopia. Nonetheless, I have been able to make a few modest contributions. I have assisted the PC in developing activities that are to receive US\$ 1 million from the Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund which will fund the deployment of six Mobile Protection Teams and establish women/children friendly spaces co-located with health and education centres in the most drought-affected region of the country, the Somali region. It will also support a PC Coordinator in the region to improve protection analysis, coordination and advocacy. With support from OCHA and the participation of UNHCR, IOM and NRC, I undertook a field mission to this region, visiting both drought affected-IDPs and conflict-IDPs. My recommendations from that field visit include: establishing a Protection Cluster for the Somali region which will be operational and responsive to emergency protection concerns; and revitalizing the Durable Solutions Working Group to deal with protracted case loads. I have also suggested some quick impact programs to help locally integrate IDPs as pilot durable solution projects. Next week I will visit another area of high displacement, the Afar Region.

During my deployment I have assisted a working group of the PC, focused on the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) to draft a PSEA strategy that will shortly be sent to the Humanitarian Coordinator for her review.

So, a few accomplishments but much to be done...

ProCap Global Support to the GCER

Caroline Blay

(Global, May 2016 – Present)



The ProCap deployment has supported the rollout of the “Preliminary Operational Guide on Developing Joint Durable Solutions Strategies”. This included a survey on its use, which indicated that a bottom-up approach was more effective in developing durable solutions strategies. This approach is now being integrated into a training package on durable solutions, which will be piloted during the course of 2017.

During the deployment, ProCap has provided support through policy and operational guidance to Afghanistan, Burundi, Chad, CAR, DRC, Mali, Iraq, Sudan and Yemen. In April 2017, a mission to Sudan was carried out to ensure stakeholders have a uniform understanding of durable solutions to address protracted displacement situations in the country. The mission, which included visits to protracted IDP camps in Darfur, led to better understanding of durable solutions among members of the recovery, return and reintegration sector, the Durable Solutions Working Group, the government’s Joint Mechanism for Sustainable Solutions along with UNAMID staff and decentralized line ministries. The UNCT is mobilising a Profiling Coordinator and a Durable Solutions Coordinator to follow-up this initial phase with concrete planning and programming.

A field mission to Afghanistan was also undertaken to provide advice on durable solutions for the unprecedented returns of Afghans and the caseload of conflict-induced displacement to the government. Coordination gaps and bottlenecks were identified, recommendations were made to the government and the international community and a concept note was developed by the ProCap advisor to inform the structure of the coordination unit.

The ProCap support to the GCER also included collaborating with the Joint IDP Profiling Service (JIPS) on the development and use of durable solutions profiling indicators; chairing the GCER’s Technical Working Group on Durable Solutions; and providing input for a guidance note on mainstreaming HLP issues in key humanitarian, transitional and development planning tools for the HLP Area of Responsibility.