

# Humanitarian evidence summary

## No.16

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*This is the 16th monthly Humanitarian Evidence Summary (HUMES) to signpost FCDO and other UK government departments to the latest relevant evidence and discourse on humanitarian action to inform and support their response. It is the result of 1 day of work per month and is not intended to be a comprehensive summary of available evidence on humanitarian action but aims to make original documents easily accessible to decision-makers that, if relevant to them, they could refer to before making decisions.*

### Enhancing protection and humanitarian

Publication date	Title/URL	Author(s)/Journal/ Publication type	Summary	HoP Top reads
June 2021	<a href="#">PSEAH implementation quick reference handbook</a>	Corinne Davey and Lucy Heaven Taylor; CHS Alliance; handbook	Guide for aid organisations to implement Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (PSEAH) measures.	
24 June 2021	<a href="#">Safeguarding Humanitarian Action in Counterterrorism Contexts: Addressing the Challenges of the Next Decade</a>	Laetitia Courtois, Naz Modirzadeh and Jehangir Khan; International Peace Institute; recorded discussion.	Discussion of the effects of counter-terrorism legislation on humanitarian actor, and strategies to maintain humanitarian space.	
20 June 2021	<a href="#">The principle of non-refoulement under Islamic law and international law: complementing</a>	Ahmed Al-Dawoody and Tilman Rodenhauer; ICRC Law &	Shows the commonalities between the treaty and customary international law principle of non-refoulement and the longstanding Islamic principle of amān.	


	international legal protection in Muslim contexts	Policy blog.		
26 May 2021	Avoiding Civilian Harm from Military Cyber Operations During Armed Conflicts: ICRC Expert Meeting 21–22 January 2020 – Geneva	Ewan Lawson and Kubo Mačák; ICRC: report	Outlines how states and others can use and adapt IHL protections to threats from cyber operations in war.	
10 June 2021	If not us, who? How States – with the help of civil society – can implement the legal framework protecting the environment from armed conflict	Doug Weir and Stavros Pantazopoulos; ICRC Law & Policy blog	Noting that it is unlikely that the legal framework protecting the environment in relation to armed conflicts (PERAC) will result in a binding treaty, the blog outlines alternative ways to implement the draft principles without a treaty. First, it shows the important role of civil society in promoting PERAC norms. Second, it suggests an implementation database to monitor compliance with PERAC principles and highlight good practice.	
June 2021	Intersecting exclusions: Displacement and gender-based violence among people with diverse sexualities and gender identities in Kenya	Rachel George et al.; ODI working paper; literature review	Finds that support for refugees and asylum seekers with diverse sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sex characteristics (SOGIESC) is inadequate. This is partly because of a lack of disaggregated data, and harmful laws and norms in Kenya. The report surveys laws and programmes; LGBTQI+ experiences; sexual- and gender-based violence; and recommendations.	

## Accountability to affected populations

Publication date	Title/URL	Author(s)/Journal /Publication type	Summary	Top reads
May 2021	Survivor- and community-led crisis response: Practical experience and learning	Justin Corbett, Nils Carstensen and Simone Di Vicenz; ODI HPN; report	The paper discusses survivor and community-led crisis response (sclr) and ways for international aid organisations to complement it. It is based on research with hundreds of self-help groups and NGOs linked to the Local2Global Protection initiative (L2GP).	
June 2021	Interrogating the evidence base on humanitarian localisation: A literature study	ODI, HPG: Veronique Barbelet, Gemma Davies, Josie Flint and Eleanor Davey	There are assumptions that localisation will improve the quality and impact of humanitarian responses; but very little generalisable evidence has tested these assumptions. The literature consistently reminds donors of their critical role in creating effective policies and incentives to support localisation and the report summarises some of these	
June 2021	Accountability to affected people: stuck in the weeds	Humanitarian Advisory Group; report	The short report summarises evaluations and reviews of accountability to affected populations (AAP) and finds a 'systematic failing'. It suggests reasons, including standardisation of AAP practices, delegation to AAP specialists, and a focus on guidance rather than outcomes.	
April 2021	Covid-19 implications for localisation: a case study of Afghanistan and Pakistan	Zaki Ullah, Saeed Ullah Khan and Eranda Wijewickrama; HPG; working paper	Covid has led to a greater role for local and national organisations, as well as greater risks, although international funding has been skewed towards larger, national organisations. A digital divide also made it harder for small local organisations to fully benefit from remote working.	


April 2021	Covid-19 innovation in low- and middle-income countries: lessons for development co-operation	OECD Development Policy Papers	A report on innovation led by people in LICs and MICs in response to covid-19 that may have lessons for humanitarian or development work. They are often more needs driven and driven by local communities. The report provides examples, and suggests possible wider contributions from such efforts. It argues donor countries should support research on what works in such innovations, and greater collaboration.	
June 2021	Bridging the intention to action gap: The future role of intermediaries in supporting locally led humanitarian action	Jessica Lees et al.; Humanitarian Advisory Group; report	The paper discusses the role of intermediaries with respect to localisation. It argues that intermediaries could do more to enable local organisations, and uses behavioural science to understand barriers.	

## Cash programming

Publication date	Title/URL	Author(s)/Journal/ Publication type	Summary	Top reads
June 2021	Country Reviews of Social Assistance in Crises: A compendium of rapid assessments of the nexus between social protection and humanitarian assistance in crisis settings.	Habiba Mohammed et al.; Better Assistance in Crises (BASIC); report	Overviews of social assistance in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Mali, Niger, Northern Nigeria, Somalia and Yemen, based on research in December 2020-January 2021. The research explores targeting and implementation challenges on the themes of: 'what works' (for routine, effective and efficient delivery); financing and value for money; risk, accountability, and technology; climate vulnerability and resilience; displacement; politics, principles and the role of the state; inclusion; and livelihoods and transformation.	
April 2021	Transfer Values: How Much Is Enough? Balancing social protection and humanitarian considerations	Calum McLean et al.; SPACE consortium; report	Operational guidance on setting transfer values to align humanitarian and social protection goals.	
17 June 2021	Linking humanitarian cash and social protection – ECHO's vision and practical examples from Somalia and Jordan	UNICEF/IFRC/FC DO/ECHO; webinar	Recording of a discussion of ECHO's experience linking humanitarian cash with social protection in Somalia and Jordan.	
June 2021	Review of environmental	UNHCR; report	Outlines environmental impacts of cash transfers, and steps needed to	

	impact of Cash Based Interventions and in-kind assistance		assess them. Links to guidance and checklists.	
14 June 2021	Trumanitarian Bonus Episode: Clash Coordination	Lars Peter Nissen; Center for Global Development; podcast	Guests discuss the coordination arrangements for cash assistance	


## Managing risk better, preparedness and anticipation

Publication date	Title/URL	Author(s)/Journal/ Publication type	Summary	Top reads
June 2021	Preparing for future global threats: six steps	Randolph Kent; Humanitarian Futures; report	This short document discusses ways to anticipate, monitor and mitigate increased global threats. Organised around 6 factors: mapping, data challenges, knowledge exchange, horizon scanning, transformative technologies and platforms for collaboration.	
June 2021	Global Humanitarian Assistance Report 2021	Development Initiatives; report	Provides data on humanitarian financing, including numbers in need, donors, recipients, proportions of earmarked and unearmarked funding, single- and multi-year funding, and delivery modalities (e.g. cash transfers, proportion given to local actors, etc). The number of people in need of humanitarian aid rose, but donations failed to increase.	
June 2021	Early Warning and Early Action for Increased	Daniel Maxwell et al.; Feinstein International	Analyses early warning systems in East Africa with respect to the possible actions to mitigate known shocks. It outlines key constraints,	

	Resilience of Livelihoods in IGAD Region	Center; report	and new practices such a predictive analytics and machine learning.	
June 2021	A systematic review of prediction methods for emergency management	Di Huang, Shuaian Wang and Zhiyuan Liu; International Journal of Disaster Reduction; journal article.		

## Resilience and protracted crisis

Publication date	Title/URL	Author(s)/Journal/ Publication type	Summary	Top reads
June 2021	Mind the gap: the state of girls' education in crisis and conflict	Inter-agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE); report	Outlines data on girls' education in 44 crisis-affected countries in 2018 and 2019. Chapters cover the relevant laws; links between education and protection; data on the gap between male and female participation in education, and forcibly displaced girls; and government expenditure.	
June 2021	Monthly Update of Forced Displacement Literature Review	Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement; literature review	Selection of recent articles on subjects including labour integration, displacement and covid, gender-based violence, and other issues.	
June 2021	The Political Economy of Nationality-Based Labor Inclusion Strategies: A Case Study of the Jordan Compact	Shaddin Almasri; Middle East Critique; journal article.	The article analyses the Jordan Compact and its effects on the labour market. It argues that Syrians are prioritised over non-Syrian migrants, and that the compact focuses on permit number rather than job creation.	

June 2021	Social protection provisions to refugees during the Covid-19 pandemic: Lessons learned from government and humanitarian responses	Jessica Hagen-Zanker and Nathalie Both; ODI working paper	Looks at evidence from lower- and middle-income countries hosting refugees. It maps responses across a number of countries and gives case studies of the DRC, Colombia, Jordan and Pakistan. It finds that relatively few refugees are covered by government responses compared to humanitarian responses. Humanitarian actors tended to align values disbursed with government programmes, although this did not always meet the needs of refugees. Collaboration between government and humanitarian actors, and mature social protection systems both enabled better responses.	
June 2021	When Do Refugees Return Home? Evidence from Syrian Displacement in Mashreq	Lori Beaman, Harun Onder and Stefanie Onder; World Bank working paper	Finds that by mid-2018, 1.8% of the 5.6 million Syrian refugees had returned to the country. Using administrative data, conflict data, nightlights data and household surveys, it finds that reductions in conflict, increased luminosity, as well as improved conditions in host countries, increase returns.	
June 2021	From Displacement to Development: How Ethiopia Can Create Shared Growth by Facilitating Economic Inclusion for Refugees	Jimmy Graham and Sarah Miller; Center for Global Development; report	Outlines the barriers to economic inclusion for Ethiopia's 800,000 refugees, and considers the progress of initiatives such as the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) and recommendations and their potential impact on refugee and host populations.	

## Other



Publication date	Title/URL	Author(s)/Journal/ Publication type	Summary	Top reads
June 2021	<a href="#">How diverse leadership shaped responses to covid-19 within the international Red Cross and Red Crescent movement</a>	Jessica Avalon et al.; Humanitarian Advisory Group; report	The report finds that diversity and inclusion practices affected the way decisions were made in the Red Cross/Red Crescent. Based on responses from staff and volunteers.	
June 2021	<a href="#">The Grand Bargain at five years: An independent review</a>	Victoria Metcalfe-Hough et al; HPG; report	Measures progress on the commitments, based on self-reports by signatories and interviews. It finds significant progress in cash assistance, localisation, joint needs analysis and harmonised reporting. Less progress is found on work streams including 'reduce duplication and management costs' and 'participation revolution'. Provides data and discussion of the 01 work streams, issues of gender equality, risk management and the covid-19 response, as well as recommendations.	
22 June 2021	<a href="#">Shifting Power in Humanitarian Nonprofits: A Review of 15 NGO Governing Boards</a>	Rose Worden and Patrick Saez; Center for Global Development; report.	Analyses the composition and characteristics of 15 NGO boards. It finds that only 20% were from aid recipient countries, and fewer than 2% had been affected by a humanitarian crisis. Financial management, administration and fundraising were the most common forms of expertise of board members.	

## Resource Hubs

Title/URL	Author/Organisation	Summary
Social protection responses to compounding risks: Lessons from Covid-19 and climate-related disasters	Red Cross and Red Crescent Climate Centre	A data dashboard of social protection responses to covid-19, at the national and international level.
COVID-19 Data Explorer: Global Humanitarian Operations	Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX)	World map of covid cases and various vulnerability and socio-economic risk factors (including vaccine rollout, food security, school closures, CERF allocations etc.).
Covid-19 and Humanitarian Crises	Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health, Health in Humanitarian Crises Centre, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies, The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies and the University of Geneva	Website for the exchange of field-based COVID-19 programme adaptations and innovations.
Covid-19 Mobility Impact Reports	UN IOM	Frequently updated reports on migration restrictions.
IDMC Internal Displacement Updates	Internal displacement monitoring centre	Global data on internal displacement
ACAPS Crisis in Sight	ACAPS	Global overview of crisis, including covid and conflict; as well as access constraints.
CVA and COVID-19: resources, guidance, events and questions	CaLP	Guidance and resources on covid and cash transfers

IASC: COVID-19 Outbreak Readiness and Response guidance	Inter-Agency Standing Committee	IASC principles and protocols adapted to covid-19
OCHA COVID19 Resource Material	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	A wide range of guidance and resources from WHO, IASC, the EU, IFRF and others, as well as country-specific information.
Humanitarian Data Exchange: COVID-19 Pandemic in Locations with a Humanitarian Response	Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX)	Global data on infections and deaths; a list of data sets on cases and prevention/mitigation measures.
Humanitarian Data Exchange: Government Measures Dataset	Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX)	Global data on government covid-19 measures under 5 categories: Social distancing; Movement restrictions; Public health measures; Social and economic measures; Lockdowns.
IEG Lesson Library: Evaluative Resources and Evidence to inform the COVID-19 Response	World Bank Independent Evaluation Group	A library of Evaluative Resources and Evidence to inform the COVID-19 Response
Relief Web: regional topic pages for Covid-19 and global topic pages	Relief Web	Regional and global reports and resources on humanitarian needs and response.
IASC Accountability and Inclusion Resources Portal	Inter-Agency Standing Committee	A library of resources on accountability and inclusion.
Attacked and Threatened: Health care targeted in conflict and COVID-19	Insecurity Insight	Map of violence and threats against health care across the world.

Conflict and Health	Conflict and Health	Open-access journal on the health impacts of conflict.
International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction	International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction	An interdisciplinary journal of DRR.
Journal of Refugee Studies	Journal of Refugee Studies	Research on forced migration and responses to it.
Disasters	Disasters	Focuses on disaster management and policy from academic and field perspectives.

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## Methodology

Given the wide range of topics covered, this monthly summary includes guidelines, blogs, news articles, dashboards, data, and editorials, in addition to policy and academic literature. The sources included are found through searches of academic literature, humanitarian think tanks, resource hubs and NGO websites. The searches are restricted to articles published in the previous month, in English. This is complemented by email recommendations from FCDO advisors and leading experts. This is trial and error approach, which will be refined and changed over the coming weeks. If you have literature to include in the weekly summary, please email – [luke.kelly@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:luke.kelly@manchester.ac.uk).

## About this report

*The monthly Humanitarian Evidence Summaries are not intended to replace professional advice and the researcher or the K4D consortium cannot be held responsible for any decisions made on the basis of the summaries alone.*

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