

Humanitarian evidence and discourse summary No.30






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Monthly Humanitarian Evidence and Discourse Summaries aim to signpost FCDO and other UK government departments to the latest relevant evidence and discourse on humanitarian action. It is structured around three themes:

- **Protect:** Protect civilians, IDPs, refugees, marginalised groups including women and girls, and humanitarian access.
- **Prioritise:** Prioritise effective humanitarian assistance to people in greatest need
- **Prevent:** Prevent and anticipate future shocks and rebuild resilience in protracted and recurring crises





Further detail on methodology, scope and resource hubs at the end. Click on the following hyperlinks to bring you down to the relevant literature.










Protect





Publication date	Title/URL	Publication type (evidence, discourse or policy/guidance)	Summary	HoP Top reads
8 August 2022	Civil war and death in Yemen: Analysis of SMART survey and ACLED data, 2012–2019	Debarati Guha Sapis et al.; PLOS Global Public Health Evidence 	Analyses mortality in Yemen during 2015-2019 using household surveys and the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project database, finding 168,212 excess deaths, with 67.2% attributable to combat-related violence.	
30 August 2022	Aid Worker Security Report 2022 – Collateral violence	Abby Stoddard, Paul Harvey, Monica Czwarno, and Meriah-Jo Breckenridge; Humanitarian Outcomes Evidence 	Statistics and analysis of aid worker security during 2021, with a focus on collateral violence, and comparisons with years from 2012.	
26 August 2022	Enhancing a survivor-centred approach to healthcare provision in Afghanistan: Understanding and addressing the barriers faced	Julienne Corboz et al.; Child Abuse & Neglect Evidence 	Research on the barriers faced by male victims of sexual violence in Afghanistan finds stigmatisation, fear of healthcare providers, and lack of knowledge of children's capacities as barriers. These barriers are accentuated for those with diverse sexual	

	by male victims/survivors of sexual violence		orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC).	
25 August 2022	System of filtration: mapping Russia's detention operations in Donetsk Oblast	Kaveh Khosnood and Nathaniel Raymond; Humanitarian Research Lab at Yale School of Public Health Evidence 	Evidence documenting the infrastructure and processes used by Russia to 'register, interrogate, and detain Ukrainian civilians, prisoners of war, and others' in Donetsk. It is based on open-source information and satellite imagery. It identifies 21 facilities involved in filtration: (1) registration, (2) holding, (3) secondary interrogation, and (4) detention; and discusses the protection issues raised.	




Prioritise







Publication date	Title/URL	Publication type (evidence, discourse or policy/guidance)	Summary	Top reads
August 2022	State of Humanitarian System (summary report)	Alice Obrecht; ALNAP Evidence 	Based on primary and secondary data, the report provides an overview of the humanitarian system in 2022. Includes data on humanitarian funding, funders, the proportion of needs met, and discussion of the role of aid from outside the humanitarian system, types of assistance, key problems such as protracted crises, forced displacement and active conflict (among others), and measurement of performance on indicators including effectiveness and coverage.	
4 August 2022	Power shift? USAID and localisation	Cameron Hill; Dev Policy Discourse 	USAID's commitment to localisation, including direct budgetary support to Ukraine.	
August 2022	Who is counting the refugees? Displacement data, its limitations, and potential for misuse	Jeff Crisp; Refugee History Discourse 	Reflecting on improvements in refugee statistics since 1999, the blog considers continuing difficulties in gathering accurate statistics, including fragile contexts and manipulation of figures. It highlights the implications of data collection – that it uses resources that might better be used elsewhere, without necessarily improving policy; creates significant data protection issues; and may be distorted by aid agencies.	



2022	Local Humanitarian Learning: Global capacity strengthening needs of local civil society organisations in technical expertise and leadership	Samantha Davies, Seema Patel and Pawel Mania; Humanitarian Leadership Academy Policy/guidance 	Survey of current and future capacity needs of civil society organisations, and localisation.	
22 August 2022	Nutrition and Mortality Monitoring in IDP Populations: Report on Round 1 - July 2022	Norwegian Refugee Council and BRICS Evidence 	Near real time data on nutrition and mortality in selected IDP sites in Somalia, including through using innovative verbal autopsy methodologies.	
July 2022	Humanitarian assistance and social protection linkages: strengthening shock-responsiveness of social protection systems in the Ukraine crisis	Sarah Blin and Niamh Cahill Billings; Social Protection Technical Assistance, Advice and Resources (STAAR) Evidence 	Discusses ways to strengthen links between humanitarian aid and social protection in Ukraine and refugee-receiving countries. Also includes individual social protection profiles for the Ukrainian responses in Slovakia, Czechia, Poland, Hungary, Ukraine, Moldova and Romania.	
August 2022	Changing gender norms in displacement: Venezuelans in Bogotá, Cúcuta and Pasto, Colombia	Kerrie Holloway et al; Overseas Development Institute Evidence 	Research on how changing gender norms have affected Venezuelans displaced in Colombia in family life, work, and related to gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health. Includes to what extent and in what ways humanitarian actors have considered gender, finding a focus on women, GBV and reproductive health.	
September 2022	Monitoring inclusion in crises	Jo Carpenter; K4D Policy/guidance 	Briefing note discussing how and why to monitor inclusion in crises, including some of the key barriers and best practice.	
September 2022	Ukraine conflict environmental briefing: water	Conflict and Environment Observatory and Zoi Environment Network Evidence 	Evidence and analysis of the effect of the war on Ukraine's water supplies, including deliberate targeting of infrastructure, and pollution.	
August 2022	The short-lived effects of unconditional cash transfers to refugees	Onur Altindag and Stephen D. O'Connell; Journal of Development Economics Evidence 	Research on cash aid to Syrian refugees in Lebanon, showing improvements in consumption, child well-being and food security, but no lasting effects six months after the programme end.	
August 2022	The humanitarian-development nexus: a framework for maternal,	Momentum and USAID Policy/guidance 	Discusses how different approaches to the humanitarian-development nexus can be applied to maternal, newborn, and child health, voluntary family	

	newborn, and child health, voluntary family planning, and reproductive health in fragile settings		planning, and reproductive health (MNCH/FP/RH) services.	
30 August 2022	Communicating humanitarian learning: What do we know?	J-H Lavey; ALNAP Evidence 	Scoping paper looking at how producers and consumers of humanitarian knowledge communicate it.	
July 2022	How do refugees resist corruption	Ryan O'Byrne; LSE blogs Discourse 	Blog referencing broader research on the importance of refugee voice and agency in their personal and communal resilience - using the example of Uganda 2018 when refugees mobilised to draw attention to corruption in relief delivery.	
22 August 2022	Vale the humanitarian principles: new principles for a new environment	Matthew Clarke Brett W. Parris; Centre for Humanitarian Leadership Discourse 	Argues that given the significant changes since the formation of the Red Cross movement in the 1860s, the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence should be replaced by: equity, solidarity, compassion and diversity.	

Prevent

Publication date	Title/URL	Author(s)/Publication/Publication type (evidence, discourse or policy/guidance)	Summary	Top reads
August 2022	Climate adaptation investments in conflict-affected states	Adriana Quevedo and Yue Cao; SPARC Evidence 	Discusses how fragile and conflict-affected states are not receiving adequate climate adaptation investments. Discusses existing funding and programming, and barriers to more funding.	
August 2022	Digital livelihoods for refugees: examples, challenges and recommendations	Hervé Nicolle; German Marshall Fund Discourse 	Blog exploring the 'opportunities and limitations of digital livelihoods' for refugees. Challenges include a lack of infrastructure, and false expectations in a competitive sector. Includes recommendations to address these challenges.	
4 August 2022	Why does the humanitarian system need so much money?	Damian Lilly & Mike Pearson ; Humanitarian Funding Forecast Evidence 	Blog looking at the data on humanitarian funding requirements to consider why needed funding has increased 223% in five years. Hypotheses include increased conflict and displacement, climate change, food insecurity, the use of humanitarian funding for poverty alleviation, lengthening crises, and covid-19.	

August 2022	Drought and food insecurity in Somalia: lessons from past public health impact analyses	Francesco Checchi; LSHTM Evidence 	Recording of a lecture on the drivers of mortality and health impacts in past droughts. Finds that excess mortality occurs before IPC phases 4 & 5; that excess mortality is concentrated in pockets of the population, at or below district level, requiring analysis of who is most at risk; the need to monitor the terms of trade.
August 2022	Systems thinking for humanitarians: An introduction for the complete beginner	Leah Campbell; ALNAP Policy/guidance 	A concise guide to systems thinking and how it can be used in humanitarianism.
24 August 2022	South Sudan, Resilience Learning: Impact evaluation	UNICEF Evidence 	Inception report for the evaluation of a UNICEF and WFP resilience programme in South Sudan.
2 September 2022	How can social assistance better embrace uncertainty in protracted crises?	Jeremy Lind; Institute of Development Studies Discourse 	Blog discussing the difficulties of establishing social protection systems in protracted crisis settings. Given the fragility and uncertainty of these settings, programmes seeking to implement social protection seek to manage risks. However, the blog argues that the risk management approaches used fail to account for the uncertainty of the situations and that therefore programmers should 'embrace uncertainty' with a 'high reliability approach'.
August 2022	The State of the Humanitarian Energy Sector: Challenges, Progress and Issues in 2022	Sarah Rosenberg-Jansen and Hajar Al-Kaddo; Global Platform for Action on Sustainable Energy in Displacement Settings. UNITAR Publishing Evidence 	Report outlining the 'state of play in energy access, governance, policy, financing, delivery, and evidence on energy in situations of displacement'
September 2022	Climate change, conflict and displacement: five key misconceptions	Caitlin Sturridge and Kerrie Holloway; Overseas Development Institute Discourse 	Blog correcting what it identifies as common misconceptions about climate change, conflict and displacement.

August 2022	Greening the system: a vision for a green humanitarian future	Jessica Lees, Sam Quinn, Peter McArdle; Humanitarian Horizons Discourse 	Paper outlining the current evidence on the humanitarian sector's environmental impact, and discussing how the sector can become more green.	
August 2022	The policy landscape and challenges of Disaster Risk Financing: navigating risk and uncertainty	Olivia G Taylor; Disasters Evidence 	Paper exploring the policy landscape of disaster risk financing by showing how different humanitarian agencies approach it, as well as some of the practical challenges of implementing DRF.	

Resource Hubs

Title/URL	Author/Organisation	Summary
COVID-19 Armed Non-State Actors' Response Monitor	Geneva Call	Resource tracking Covid-19 responses by armed non-state actors globally.
From Words to Deeds	The Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, in collaboration with Geneva Call, the American University in Cairo and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Research on armed non-stated actors' adherence to IHL.
Global Database of Humanitarian Organisations	Humanitarian Outcomes	Database of humanitarian providers and resources.
Evidence database	Anticipation Hub	Database of evidence on the effectiveness of early actions.
Covid-19: tracking local humanitarian action and complementary partnerships	Overseas Development Institute, Humanitarian Policy Group	Map of complementary partnerships and local humanitarian action across the globe.
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	Website for the exchange of field-based COVID-19 programme adaptations and innovations.

	Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies and the University of Geneva	
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.
International Review of the Red Cross	International Review of the Red Cross	Journal focusing on international humanitarian law, policy and action in situations of conflict.

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. Resources are selected based on their relevance to the themes of protect, prioritise and prevent. Entries are categorised as **evidence** (academic peer-reviewed articles or reports that have gone through a quality assurance process); **discourse** (opinion and discussion of key issues in the humanitarian sector); and **policies and guidelines** (newly published policies and guidelines on humanitarian response). 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. 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. 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

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About this report:

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