

Introduction to the Child Protection/Mine Action ProCap Support Mission

On-going desk review reveal¹ continuing and alarming trends in various countries and humanitarian contexts concerning the direct and indirect impact of explosive ordnance (EO) on civilian populations, and especially children. Since 2013, not only have total EO victims² been generally on the rise, the proportion of child victims among the total has also. The increased cases are reportedly due to a spike in the production and use of victim-activated improvised explosive devices (IED) and as a result of other explosive remnants of war (ERW) related to on-going armed conflict. While active conflicts add to existing contamination, it also hampers progress of clearance efforts by national and international actors – including with respect to international treaty obligations.

Moreover, security and access issues in hot war-zones prevent comprehensive reporting on victims and also pose acute challenges for operational actors delivering protection, health, education and broader humanitarian assistance to victims of EO (victim assistance (VA))³ in the humanitarian response. At the same time, funding shortages have a limiting effect on operational actors' ability to make progress even in areas where hostilities have ceased. As stated in the report of the UN Secretary-General on a comprehensive approach to mine action⁴, "As the upward trend in casualties shows, we cannot afford the luxury of complacency."

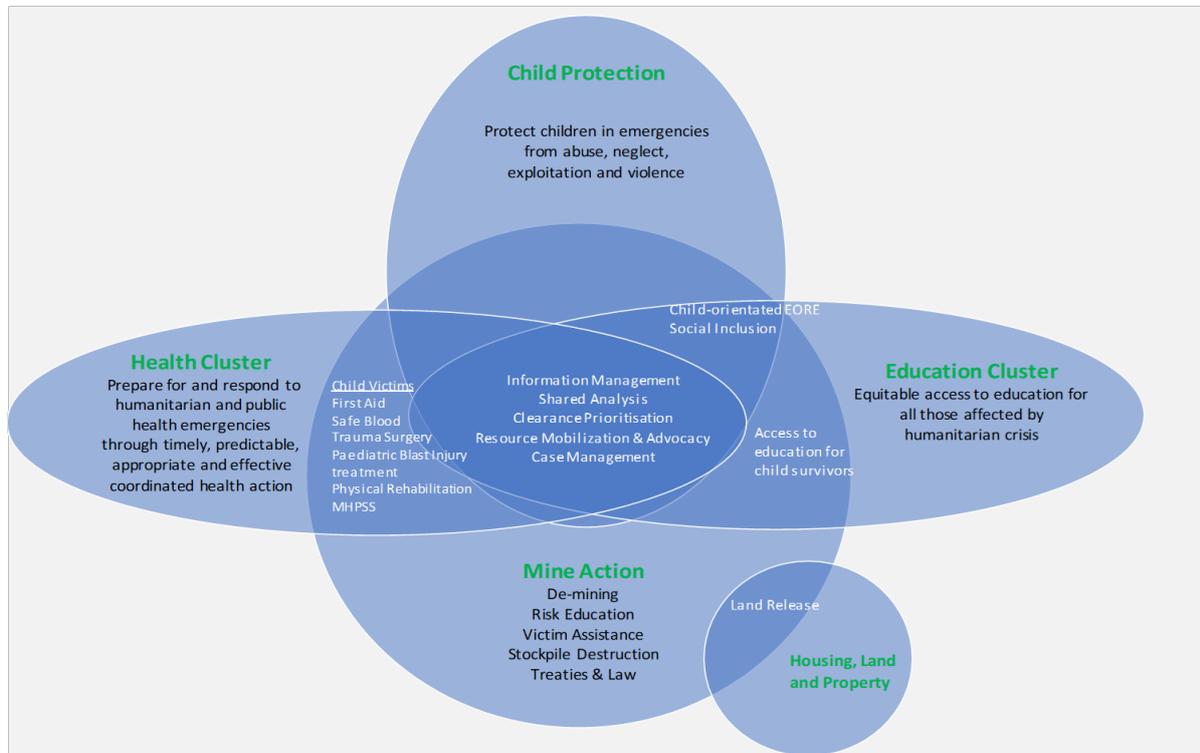
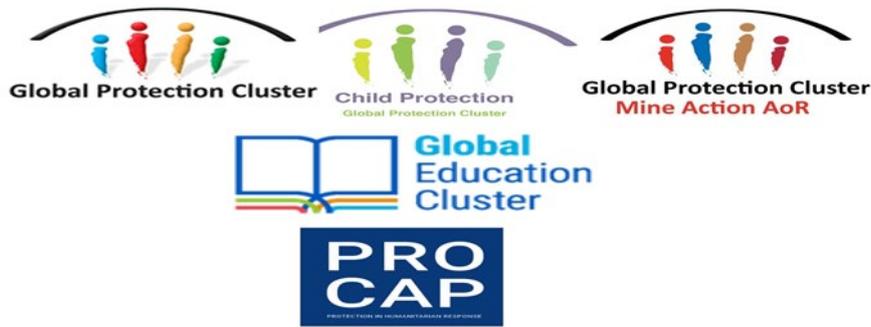
Against this backdrop, and in line with existing complimentary mandates, the Child Protection and Mine Action AoRs have been increasing efforts to strengthen their collaboration to specifically prevent and address the fatal and long-lasting impact that EO continues to have on children worldwide. Such efforts are clearly articulated in the MA AoR work-plan for 2018-2019 and other work-plans such as of the Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) Advisory Group that reflect related policies on protection and IASC-level discussions.

¹ Full list of material currently being reviewed is found in Annex 1 to this paper. The documents have been provided by the management group or added by the ProCap advisor during the desk review process. All assertions in this paper rely on the content of literature being reviewed and is firmly based on the ProCap support request submitted by UNICEF (Annex 2), also annexed to this paper. Numbers cited in the footnotes correspond to document number as referenced in Annex 1

² 36, 25, 28, 19, 8, 18

³ VA definition 22, 36, 12

⁴ 28



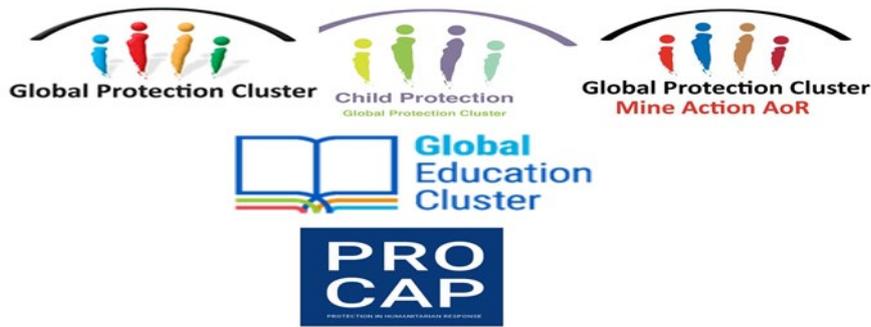
Ultimately the objective set has been to enhance the operational impact of such initiatives at the field level in line with four “Collective Outcomes” that remain at *the heart of converging mandates of the Child Protection, Mine Action AoRs, Health and Education clusters*:

To this end, in March 2018, the respective AoRs embarked to set a baseline⁵ on current levels of intra and inter-cluster cooperation with regarding services of relevance to the collective outcomes, including but not limited to:

1. Reducing the number of children that have an accident with an explosive ordnance through innovative and context specific risk education;
2. Increase the survival rate of child casualties, through increased access to first aid, access to safe blood cold chains, trauma surgery and ongoing medical care;
3. Increase personal capacities of child survivors through rehabilitation, prosthetics and orthotics, as well as mental health & psycho-social support (MPHSS) of both child survivors and their caregivers.
4. Increase inclusion of child survivors in family, community, and school life.

A field survey was conducted with 50 CP and MA coordinators in the field (output 1.6 of MA AoR Work-Plan) by mid-2018 and the survey findings were subsequently presented and further developed during a protection conference and thematic session⁶ held in Bangkok in May 2018. The conference⁷ already revealed some key

⁵ 2
⁶ 4
⁷ 17



indications on levels of field-based cooperation, examples of “promising practices” and areas where improvements could be made.

In order to continue with the momentum begun earlier in 2018, efforts were renewed in 2019, including through UNICEF’s submission of a request⁸ to the Inter-Agency Protection Standby Capacity (ProCap) in August 2019 for support (and subsequent deployment of a Senior Protection Adviser as of 15 October 2019). The request essentially underlined the objective to build on progress made so far and complete the exercise.

The assignment specifically focuses on more thoroughly documenting relevant practices especially with regard to converging areas of responsibility where they exist in the field, producing guidance on ways to replicate or improve such practices and to focus on integrating VA & Risk Education across on-going humanitarian responses. while strengthening advocacy efforts. Further aspects of the assignment are and will be clarified through consultations with the management group and technical reference group being set up as described below.

Methodology and Management Framework

The overall oversight of the assignment will be provided for by an inter-agency management group consisting of designated staff from UNICEF, UNMAS, Humanity & Inclusion, Save the Children. The group will meet periodically to review progress and provide feedback on a regular and ad-hoc basis, including through monthly meetings.

A technical reference group (TRG), once formed, will serve as the point of contact for the ProCap adviser on all day-day technical aspects and will provide inputs to the material, recommendations and guidance that is due to be drafted as a part of the assignment. The TRG will be comprised of technical experts and coordinators from agencies represented on the management group and in addition Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, Landmine Monitor, OCHA, Mines Advisory Group, and the IFRC/ICRC.

Both the management and technical reference group will stay intact and continue to ensure sustainability of progress made after the ProCap support mission comes to an end.

The methodology and process for the assignment will follow 3 main approaches:

- Desk review of literature, project documents and other material relevant to the assignment along with broader documents on policy and technical standards available to CP and MA AoRs
- Consultations with key personnel at the global and field level
- Survey at global and field level
- Field visits to selected countries based on review against pre-established criteria

During a final compilation and drafting phase all documented practices, case-studies, and recommendations will be synthesized and summarized. The deliverable will form an "Explosive Ordnance Child Casualties: Prevention/Response Package". In parallel various “by-products” during the assignment may be delivered, such as joint CP/MA country briefs from field visits and other advocacy products, inputs to GPC Strategic Framework and the collaborative framework for protection/health.

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