

Consultation event report

Climate preparedness and community-based protection

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On 19 November, the International Association of Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) and the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) organized a consultation event on the role of the GPC in relation to protection in climate change-related disaster response and in climate preparedness. The event took the form of an expert panel discussion with active participation from attendees via chat, Q&A, and live polls.¹ The event was preceded by a brief survey on the overall effects of climate change on humanitarian action; the adjustments of humanitarian actors to date; protection in preparedness work; needed skills and training; and the role of the GPC. This report outlines the results of the webinar and survey and provides recommendations for the GPC Strategic Framework for 2020-2024.

¹ Recordings of the webinar are available at <https://phap.org/19nov2019>

Key statistics:



808 event registrations



411 participants in the live webinar²



272 in the event platform



102 in the YouTube video livestream



37 in the audio only livestream



353 viewers and listeners of recorded events to date³



78 Adobe Connect recording views



92 YouTube recording views



183 Audio podcast downloads



247 pre-event survey respondents

² The count of live participants only includes unique logins. Most webinars organized by PHAP has several groups of varying sizes logging in jointly, in which case they are only counted once.

³ Recording statistics compiled on 2 February 2020.

Summary recommendations and key takeaways:

Pre-event survey

- There is strong support among practitioners for pushing for an overall shift in focus from humanitarian response to preparedness in light of climate change.
- No humanitarian actors are seen to have made much progress to date in adjusting to the changing needs related to climate change. This is especially the case for national/local civil society and local communities.
- While views are somewhat more positive regarding how humanitarian actors have taken into account protection concerns related to climate change in their work, there is clearly a large gap in this regard.
- Further knowledge and skills development to be able to meet climate challenges are seen as needed by most, in particular related to fundamental understanding of the effects of climate change on humanitarian response and on protection.
- Many respondents would like to see the GPC's role adjusted in light of climate change, in particular to include an explicit role in preparedness.

Webinar:

- As a first step, the GPC should clearly put the issue of climate change and preparedness on their agenda, update existing guidance, and make sure that their role in this area is widely understood.
- A clearer narrative on protection in preparedness is needed in order for the GPC to properly engage in preparedness functions and in the nexus, even where protection clusters are already present.
- The GPC should look into ways to work on national disaster response plans together with government authorities related to ensure that protection is taken into account, for example by influencing the displacement policies and standards and by making simulation exercises protection sensitive.
- It is important to link this with the localization agenda and focus the work on building and supporting national and local capacities whenever possible.
- Protection clusters are not, and will most likely not be, active in most countries at risk of major disasters. The GPC should, however, consider how it can provide experts and expertise in other contexts, in particular those most vulnerable to disaster displacement, to ensure that protection is taken into account in disaster contingency planning.
- The GPC should engage in preparedness and disaster risk reduction more widely, beyond preparing for disaster response, with national disaster management agencies and regional DRR mechanisms.
- When communicating about and building capacity on protection, preparedness, and climate change, it is important to avoid using “headquarters language” and instead use clear and straightforward language that can both be understood globally and be easily adapted to work well with local communities.
- There is insufficient disaggregated and granular data on disaster-related displacement, especially when looking beyond current displacement flows to “accumulated” displacement, which makes it difficult to monitor the protection situation globally.

Survey results

In order to gather the views of a broader range of practitioners in the sector ahead of the webinar, a survey was organized for the webinar registrants. The survey served dual purposes: on the one hand to inform the webinar planning and on the other to provide direct input to the Strategic Framework drafting process.

Crosstabs have been carried out in terms of region based in, geographic scope of work, and organization type and any notable differences in responses are reported. However, as the selection of respondents was not randomized, no formal statistical tests were carried out on the data.

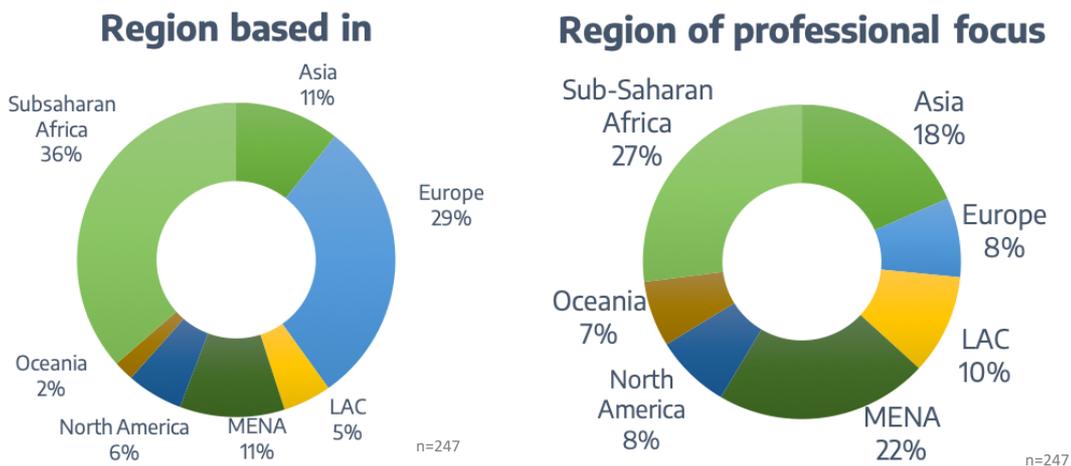
Free-text responses have been cleaned up and categorized by primary theme. The full list of responses can be found in *Appendix 1*.

Survey respondent demographics

Basic demographics

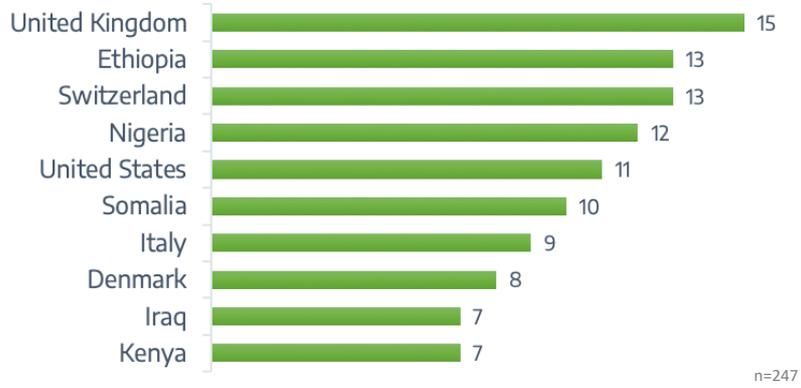
The pre-event survey gathered a total of **247 responses**⁴ from webinar registrants from **76 countries**. Respondents based in **Sub-Saharan Africa** and **Europe** were particularly well represented. However, when taking into account the **regions that their work is focused on**, the representation of **Asia** and **MENA** grew to about a fifth each of the respondents, and **LAC** and **Oceania** to 10% and 7% respectively.

There was an **even split** between those with an **international and national scope of work**. The respondents included respondents from **all organization types**, but with a particularly strong turnout among **INGOs**, and with a higher than proportion of respondents from **national and local NGOs** compared to other consultation events.. The **gender balance** was **fairly even**, but with a slight majority of female respondents.

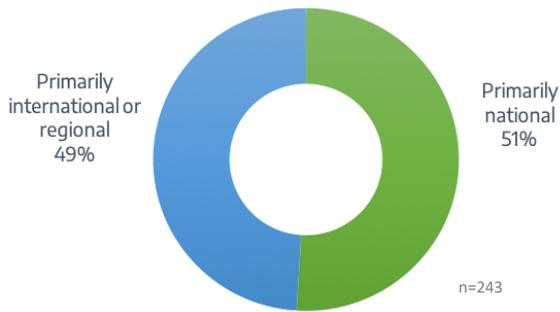


⁴ Of the 247 responses, 207 were complete responses and 40 were incomplete but responded to the demographic questions and at least one of the substantive questions.

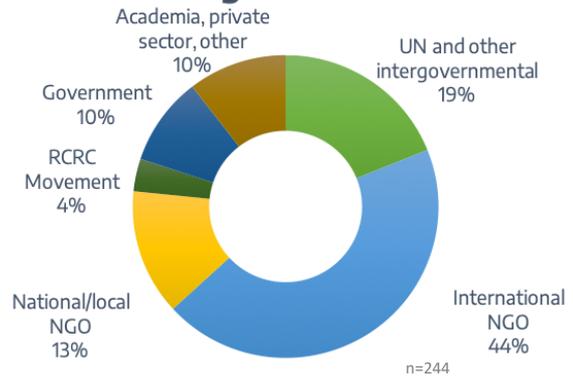
Top 10 countries based in



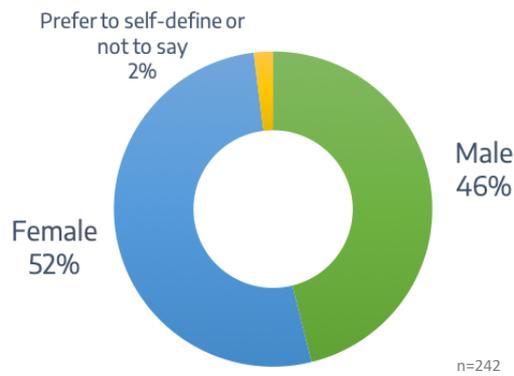
Geographic scope of work



Organization



Gender



Professional focus

About a third of the respondents were **protection specialists**, while **protection was relevant for, or a focus area of**, the work of another 54.8% of respondents. While fewer respondents had them as the primary focus of their work, **climate change response and mitigation, disaster preparedness, and DRR** were relevant or a focus area for a large majority of respondents. Respondents were also roughly equally focused in their work on response to **fast-onset and slow-onset disasters**.

	Not relevant	Slightly/marginally relevant	Relevant, but not a focus area	One of several focus areas	The primary focus
Humanitarian protection					
Count	12	20	45	87	77
Row %	5.0%	8.3%	18.7%	36.1%	32.0%
Responding to the effects of climate change					
Count	24	34	79	69	27
Row %	10.3%	14.6%	33.9%	29.6%	11.6%
Climate change mitigation					
Count	33	43	75	63	21
Row %	14.0%	18.3%	31.9%	26.8%	8.9%
Disaster preparedness					
Count	17	38	67	80	34
Row %	7.2%	16.1%	28.4%	33.9%	14.4%
Disaster risk reduction					
Count	22	44	63	68	36
Row %	9.4%	18.9%	27.0%	29.2%	15.5%
Rapid response/response to fast-onset disasters					
Count	22	37	64	66	41
Row %	9.6%	16.1%	27.8%	28.7%	17.8%
Response to slow-onset disasters					
Count	26	38	68	77	25
Row %	11.1%	16.2%	29.1%	32.9%	10.7%

Climate change and humanitarian action

Almost all respondents agree or strongly agree that **climate change will require a fundamental change** in how humanitarian action is carried out.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Climate change will require a fundamental change in <u>how</u> humanitarian action is carried out.	14 6.0%	6 2.6%	7 3.0%	93 39.7%	114 48.7%
Climate change will require a much greater <u>scale</u> of humanitarian action.	9 3.8%	3 1.3%	16 6.8%	90 38.5%	116 49.6%
Climate change will require shifting the focus <u>from response to preparedness</u> .	10 4.3%	5 2.1%	21 9.0%	63 27.0%	134 57.5%
Climate change will <u>amplify/increase existing protection gaps</u> .	11 4.9%	6 2.7%	22 9.7%	64 28.3%	123 54.4%
Climate change will create <u>new serious protection gaps</u> .	9 4.1%	7 3.2%	26 11.7%	64 28.8%	116 52.3%
Implications for <u>humanitarian protection get more attention</u> than implications for humanitarian assistance.	9 4.7%	32 16.8%	57 29.8%	55 28.8%	38 19.9%

Almost all also agreed or strongly agreed that humanitarian action would be required both at a **much greater scale** and with a **shift in focus from response to preparedness**. However, there was a markedly higher proportion strongly agreeing with the latter (57.5% vs. 49.6%).

Out of the 77 respondents that specified what kind of change was required, 48 (62%) specifically mentioned **changing the focus to preparedness or building resilience**, while few respondents expanded in their comments on the increased scale of response.

In the global humanitarian system, from a strategic perspective, we predominantly focus on prioritizing response to the most critical needs. The drivers of those needs are multi-faceted, with climate-change being a key driver. However, while we do not talk about addressing underlying issues of climate change (political), mitigating impact (DRR), we barely even prioritise strengthening rapid response modalities and minimum preparedness based on predictive analytics and models. This lack of preparedness results in increased needs, across all sectors, and heightened requirement for protection. Not only is a shift in strategic thinking required in terms of prioritising preparedness, we need to integrate protection throughout minimum preparedness activities and actions.

- Respondent based in Lebanon (UN or other intergovernmental organization)

Currently we are focusing on reacting to events as they happen, with not enough planning taking place. We must work with affected communities to ensure that people have the tools and funding they need to be sufficiently prepared, we need to ensure lines of communication are strong and that we are communicating effectively without jargon so that all understand the imminent dangers faced. We also need to ensure we are lobbying governments that are not sufficiently allowing for preparedness mechanisms and resources, and we need to increase our pressure on international corporations which are exacerbating the effects of global warming.

- Respondent based in the UK (International NGO)

Of these, 6 of the respondents specified that the change needed to be focused on strengthening the humanitarian-development nexus.

There is a need to work hand in hand with the development sector in order to tackle a global problem (climate change) which threatens the existence of human beings. Protection partners need to be part of the response to climate change in order to ensure the respect and protection of human rights in any kind of action carried out with the aim of mitigating/ adapting to climate change. One particular area concerns land related issues (e.g. land grabbing, land conflicts) which may increase, as indirect effects of climate change, if people's land rights are not protected.

- Respondent based in Italy (UN or other intergovernmental organization)

Only 8 (10%) mentioned mitigation measures as part of how humanitarian action was carried out. All the comments on this question can be found in *Appendix 1.1*.

A strong majority agreed or strongly agreed that climate change will both **increase existing protection gaps** (82.7%) and **create new serious protection gaps** (81.1%). In terms of balance between focus on assistance and protection, a considerably larger proportion agreed (48.7%) rather than disagreed (21.5%) that protection implications received more attention.

Adjusting approaches

The views of respondents on how different actors have already adjusted their approach in light of climate change are overall negative. 51.9% to 63.2% find that the **humanitarian coordination architecture, donor governments, UN agencies, INGOs, and National disaster response structures** have adjusted their approach **insufficiently or not at all**. The somewhat better figures for UN agencies can largely be explained by national/local NGO respondents being much more positive about this category of actors.

It is noteworthy that the adjustments of **national/local civil society** and **local communities** are seen as even more insufficient, with 71.9% and 74.9% respectively responding that they have not at all or insufficiently adjusted.

In general, to what degree do you think that the following actors have already adjusted their approach to disaster response in light of climate change?

	Not at all	Very little/insufficiently	Somewhat sufficiently	Sufficiently
Humanitarian coordination architecture				
Count	21	87	40	23
Row %	12.3%	50.9%	23.4%	13.5%
Donor governments				
Count	18	105	52	21
Row %	9.2%	53.6%	26.5%	10.7%
UN agencies				
Count	17	81	57	34
Row %	9.0%	42.9%	30.2%	18.0%
International NGOs				
Count	13	95	59	27
Row %	6.7%	49.0%	30.4%	13.9%
National disaster response agencies/structures				
Count	17	86	62	18
Row %	9.3%	47.0%	33.9%	9.8%
National/local civil society				
Count	25	111	43	10
Row %	13.2%	58.7%	22.8%	5.3%
Local communities				
Count	30	113	38	10
Row %	15.7%	59.2%	19.9%	5.2%

When turning to the respondents' views on how well actors are **taking into account protection concerns related to climate change**, the **results are similar**. The main exception is that traditional humanitarian actors (the humanitarian coordination architecture, UN agencies, and international NGOs) are seen as having taken this into account somewhat better than their overall adjustments to climate change.

As far as I can tell, actors have not really shifted their responses. Most efforts seem to focus on rhetoric - i.e. on making sure climate change language is included in proposals and reports to meet donor requirements but without any real action or willingness to translate into real action. NGOs seem to have been more agile at including climate change concerns into their projects than others, and some local actors are necessarily responding to the situation which requires adapting. Nevertheless, we should keep in mind that humanitarians should not be the main catalysts for adaptation to climate change. But it should be part of all considerations when designing a project, and should influence an increase in preparedness.

- Respondent based in Myanmar (International NGO)

In general, to what degree do you think that the following actors are taking into account protection concerns related to climate change?

	Not at all	Very little/insufficiently	Somewhat sufficiently	Sufficiently
Humanitarian coordination architecture				
Count	15	73	61	21
Row %	8.8%	42.9%	35.9%	12.4%
Donor governments				
Count	17	90	52	19
Row %	9.6%	50.6%	29.2%	10.7%
UN agencies				
Count	16	73	68	24
Row %	8.8%	40.3%	37.6%	13.3%
International NGOs				
Count	17	79	63	23
Row %	9.3%	43.4%	34.6%	12.6%
National disaster response agencies/structures				
Count	21	96	41	13
Row %	12.3%	56.1%	24.0%	7.6%
National/local civil society				
Count	34	99	30	12
Row %	19.4%	56.6%	17.1%	6.9%
Local communities				
Count	37	98	27	10
Row %	21.5%	57.0%	15.7%	5.8%

All the comments on this question can be found in *Appendix 1.2*.

Protection in preparedness work

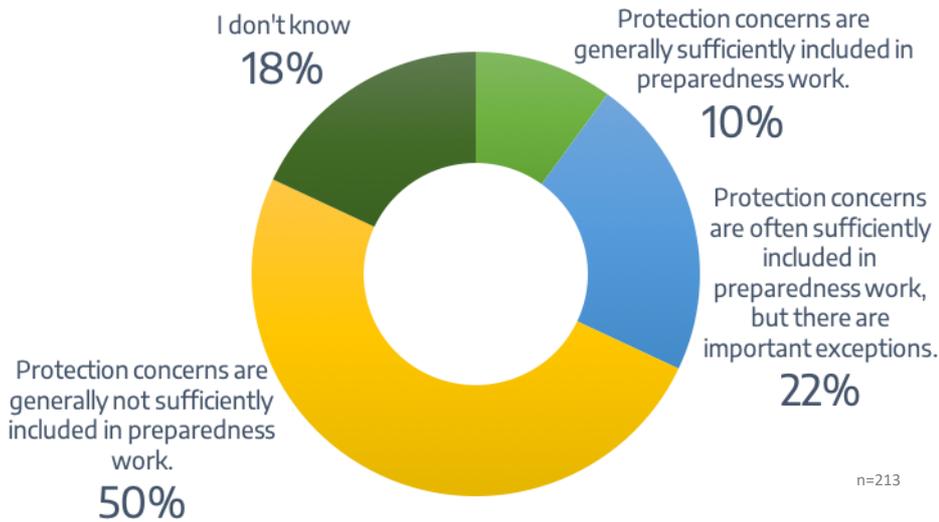
Half of the respondents thought that **protection concerns are generally not sufficiently included in preparedness work**. Another 22% found that while they are often sufficiently included, there are important exceptions. Two comments from participants are particularly worth highlighting in this regard (all comments available in *Appendix 1.3*):

Often a distinction is made between preparedness for protection and for natural hazards or other shocks, but this separation is gradually being broken down and more integrated preparedness is being conducted.
 - Respondent based in the UK (International NGO)

Protection concerns are difficult to include in preparedness work. Part of the reason is that many protection concerns will depend on what specific type of disaster affects which communities in which particular way ÷ this is very difficult to predict and it is impossible to run through every possible scenario. The other reason is that preparedness projects are not

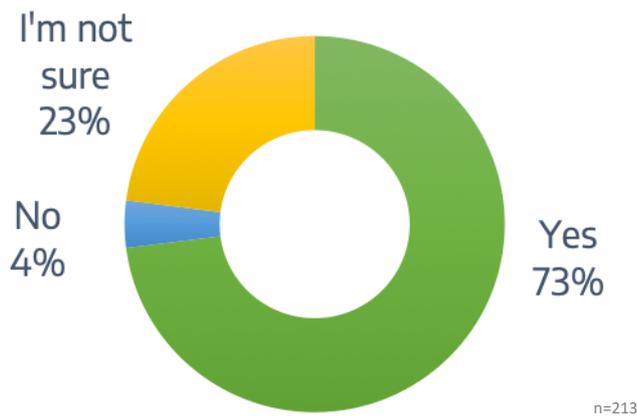
dedicated protection projects. Preparedness projects will not be written by protection actors because they concern other sectors, so protection concerns will either be or not be included depending on the ability and protection knowledge of the people designing the project.
 - Respondent based in Myanmar (International NGO)

Which of the following best describes how protection concerns are taken into account in preparedness work and related areas (disaster risk reduction, resilience, etc.)?



Skills or knowledge areas needed

Skills or knowledge areas needed



It was clear that respondents saw a need for additional skills or knowledge among those working in disaster response and protection. Close to three quarters answered yes, and only 4% answered negatively, with the rest not sure.

Skill/knowledge areas needed

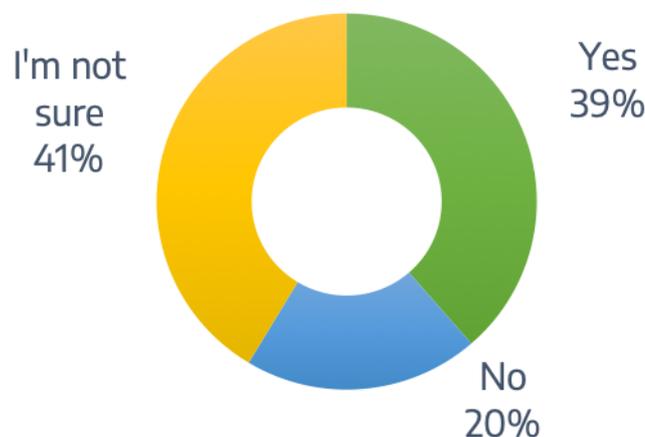


Respondents primarily identified **general knowledge and skill areas related to climate change and humanitarian action**. The largest category with 21 responses concerned understanding the impact of climate change on protection, and an additional 8 thought knowledge about how climate change affects disasters in general was the priority. Better skills and knowledge regarding preparedness were requested by 10 respondents. The responses are listed in *Appendix 1.4*.

Role of the GPC

Respondents to the survey were finally presented with the current mission statement of the GPC and were asked whether the role of the GPC should change in light of climate change.

Should the GPC's role change?



39% of respondents thought that it should change, but 41% were unsure. The proportion suggesting a change of GPC's role was somewhat higher than in the pre-event survey on the nexus (where 33% suggested it should change).

Among the proposed changes, several respondents suggested an **increased role in preparedness**.

A more in depth discussion should occur on the way the mobilization of the Cluster System – traditionally meant to address the more pressing humanitarian needs once the disaster strikes - can be assured in the preparedness phase and in longer-term DRR processes.
- Respondent based in the Switzerland (UN or other intergovernmental organization)

Advocate through the IASC to ensure guidelines for HCT's to place protection at the heart of preparedness to climate change and develop tools to measure protection in preparedness actions/activities.
- Respondent based in Lebanon (UN or other intergovernmental organization)

Other suggestions included explicitly **referencing climate change** and developing **guidance on how to lower environmental impact during humanitarian response**.

All suggestions have been categorized and are presented in *Appendix 1.5*.

Webinar summary



19 November 2019
15:00-16:30 (Geneva time)

PHAP Global Protection Cluster

Climate preparedness and community-based protection

Photo: ADB

Overview

The effects of a warming climate will likely be far-reaching and profound. In addition to warming and changed weather patterns, climate change will increasingly spark extremes in weather – a greater frequency and intensity of storms, heat, and cold. Critically, the effects of climate change exacerbate the scarcity of key resources, and hence contribute to armed conflict and impoverishment. To respond to these effects, humanitarian action needs to focus more on climate preparedness and response to slow-onset disasters – but how does humanitarian protection work fit into this shift?

On 19 November, PHAP and the Global Protection Cluster (GPC) organized a webinar organized on climate change preparedness and community-based protection. The discussion focused on how protection concerns can be better included in preparedness work and in slow-onset disasters to avoid protection gaps and include marginalized communities. What is the role of the Protection Cluster in this? Are structural changes for coordination and communication called for, especially as Protection Clusters are normally not activated for preparedness work?

The event dealt with a number of questions, including:

- Climate change, with an expected greater frequency and severity of natural disasters as well as increased risk for conflict, leads to an even greater importance of preparedness and disaster risk reduction. Are protection concerns sufficiently included in preparedness and DRR or is there a risk for protection gaps, especially of marginalized communities?
- Protection Clusters are normally not activated for preparedness. What should be the role of Protection Clusters and the Global Protection Clusters in preparedness? Are there structural changes needed?
- What effects on protection activities does a relative shift to slow-onset disasters have?
- Are there skills and capacities missing among cluster members to enable them to effectively respond to climate emergencies?
- Does climate change call attention to coordination and communication gaps that are affecting protection?

Speakers



Nina Birkeland, Senior Adviser on Disaster Displacement and Climate Change, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)



Michael Copland, Coordinator Global Child Protection Area of Responsibility



Denis McClean, Head of Communication, UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)



Yesica Serrano, Child Protection AoR Spanish Help Desk



Atle Solberg, Head of Secretariat, Platform on Disaster Displacement



Michelle Yonetani, Independent Consultant on Displacement and Migration, DRR, Climate Change Adaptation, and Protection

Co-hosts



Angharad Laing, Executive Director, PHAP



Paul White, ProCap Advisor to the Global Protection Cluster

Key takeaways

The following are the key takeaways from the dynamic discussions between panelists, co-hosts, and participants during the webinar.

The full webinar transcript is available in *Appendix 2*. Recordings are also available at <https://phap.org/19nov2019>.

- As a first step, the GPC should clearly put the issue of climate change and preparedness on their agenda, update existing guidance, and make sure that their role in this area is widely understood.
- A clearer narrative on protection in preparedness is needed in order for the GPC to properly engage in preparedness functions and in the nexus, even where protection clusters are already present.
- The GPC should look into ways to work on national disaster response plans together with government authorities related to ensure that protection is taken into account, for example by influencing the displacement policies and standards and by making simulation exercises protection sensitive.
- It is important to link this with the localization agenda and focus the work on building and supporting national and local capacities whenever possible.
- Protection clusters are not, and will most likely not be, active in most countries at risk of major disasters. The GPC should, however, consider how it can provide experts and expertise in other contexts, in particular those most vulnerable to disaster displacement, to ensure that protection is taken into account in disaster contingency planning.
- The GPC should engage in preparedness and disaster risk reduction more widely, beyond preparing for disaster response, with national disaster management agencies and regional DRR mechanisms.
- When communicating about and building capacity on protection, preparedness, and climate change, it is important to avoid using “headquarters language” and instead use clear and straightforward language that can both be understood globally and be easily adapted to work well with local communities.
- There is insufficient disaggregated and granular data on disaster-related displacement, especially when looking beyond current displacement flows to “accumulated” displacement, which makes it difficult to monitor the protection situation globally.

Appendix 1: Free-text survey responses

1.1 How should humanitarian response change in light of climate change?

Advocacy

There should be more advocacy and enlightenment for the general public, especially, the industrialists and people in the grassroots whose daily exercise relates to effect of the climate change.

- *Based in Nigeria (National/local NGO)*

Anticipation is key, but long term global campaigning for rich countries efforts to help poor countries to adapt is essential for long term changes

- *Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)*

Analysis

Better understanding of what different/enhanced protection risks there will be.

- *Based in South Africa (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Community participation

The humanitarian assistance without participating the community creates aid syndrome which affects the natural resources around refugee camps. Therefore, humanitarian assistance related to the contribution of the beneficiaries by participating them in rehabilitation their surroundings can make a difference.

- *Based in Ethiopia (Government (civilian))*

We need more inclusive planning.

- *Based in Italy (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Involving local stakeholders and communities in preparedness.

- *Based in United States (National/local NGO)*

Conflicts

Humanitarian action needs to consider more the conflict issues around climate change and its impact. We also need to considering the impact on non-human actors - animals and insects - which are are neglecting at the moment. We should not be focusing on preparedness, as that should be the primary responsibility of governments, as part of their role in society.

- *Based in United Kingdom (Other)*

Contextualization

Focuses, where appropriate, on place-based analyses to support decision making in specific locations or regions, because the dynamics of both human and environmental systems play out in different ways in different places and decisions must be context-specific; and Supports

adaptive decision making and risk management in the face of inevitable uncertainty by remaining flexible and adaptive and regularly assessing and updating research priorities.

- *Based in South Sudan (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Cyclical onset

Humanitarian action will need to account for cyclical onsets of disaster, e.g. floods and droughts, and focus on DRR and pre-emptive action as much as on reactionary measures.

- *Based in Denmark (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Early warning systems

Better early warning detection mechanisms and coordination

- *Based in United States (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

-Systematic early warning system -Establishment of ecosystem facilities to mitigate further climate impacts -Restoration of disaster affected environmental areas -at-large and medium scale investments on climate change responses and resilience programs

- *Based in Somalia (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Adoption of community centred solutions such as early warning systems.early action is key

- *Based in Tanzania (Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement)*

Education

We need to educate every level of community of climate change and not just the policymaker. The change will only come with an education.

- *Based in Malaysia (International NGO)*

Environmental awareness

Environmental aware humanitarian assistance across the sectors, mainstreaming protection while designing and implementation of environmental projects

- *Based in Poland (International NGO)*

Financing

Preparedness measures which are currently under development and implementation will contribute to addressing protection issues linked to climate change. That said, I believe the fundamental changes needed in this are relate to the financial mechanisms used in the humanitarian sector (often short-term, little innovative financing) and limited diversification of partners.

- *Based in Costa Rica (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Change in funding to include preparedness, but more crucially to enable real localisation, enabling smaller national actors to access funds and implement programmes and projects

- *Based in United Kingdom (Other)*

Government policy

The fundamental change needs to be attitudinal and at the level of policy. Governments need to take active steps to implement climate-friendly policies

- *Based in Australia (International NGO)*

Humanitarian-development nexus

Humanitarian and Development sectors will have to work together to have lasting impact.

- *Based in Sri Lanka (International NGO)*

Humanitarian community needs to work better with development community to mitigate and to prepare for impact of climate change.

- *Based in Afghanistan (National/ local NGO)*

The shift required is more for humanitarian-development cooperation with a shift in collective actions based on climate projections and through supporting early actions at different levels to mitigate identified risks and to plan for responding to residual risks and associated needs.

- *Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)*

There is a need to work hand in hand with the development sector in order to tackle a global problem (climate change) which threatens the existence of human beings. Protection partners need to be part of the response to climate change in order to ensure the respect and protection of human rights in any kind of action carried out with the aim of mitigating/adapting to climate change. One particular area concerns land related issues (e.g. land grabbing, land conflicts) which may increase, as indirect effects of climate change, if people's land rights are not protected.

- *Based in Italy (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Significant focus is needed on preparedness. It means, humanitarian actors need to work closely with developmental, community and government partners.

- *Based in Jordan (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Allier urgence et développement

- *Based in France (International NGO)*

Legal frameworks

Humanitarian action will need to rely on a more specific legal framework that enables to protect those who have been forcibly displaced because of climate change e.g. recurring natural disasters, droughts, etc..

- *Based in Italy (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Livelihoods

The humanitarian approaches must be changed to livelihoods rather than response

- *Based in Ethiopia (International NGO)*

Local capacity

Enhancing local knowledge regarding preparedness and mitigation. Also, to link the consequences of CC with family structure and the impact/risk on children's life's

- *Based in Guatemala (International NGO)*

Longer timeframe

Humanitarian Organisations must forecast need for planning and response on longer time scales

- *Based in Australia (Academia)*

Migration

Recognising that without addressing the causes of displacement & increasing natural disasters as a result of climate change, we will not be able to meet increasing & exacerbating global needs & crises.

- *Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)*

More humanitarian assistance will be required including greater asylum/migration assistance in receiving countries.

- *Based in Switzerland (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Natural disasters caused by extreme weather will increase dramatically. Displacement and associated protection issues will rise with them. With increasing needs and disasters, setting priorities will become more acute.

- *Based in Denmark (International NGO)*

Humanitarian responses need to take the environment into account from the very beginning. For example, a move away from distributing NFI kits which create a lot of packaging waste, sourcing sustainable wood for shelter and integrating environmental protection into the response which many development projects are already focusing on

- *Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)*

Mitigation

There is a need to review whether protection can even be delivered in many of the locations where humanitarian emergencies have happened or where people have been displaced to; and a need to assess the sustainability of locations. Moreover, is the way we deliver protection actually environmentally sustainable, using airlifts, power generation exclusively through generators, etc.

- *Based in Nigeria (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

The fundamental change that is needed is to raise the advocacy and awareness of people especially the community and local government actors about the rapid increase of climate change due to human behavior/intervention towards caring the environment and nature. The advocacy must be carried out strong influencing/lobbying in the political arena to focus their development plans and programs on what activities must be done to contribute and make the "Earth green".

- *Based in Philippines (National/local NGO)*

The type of disasters we respond to will worsen with climate change and become more frequent. We also need to ensure that when we respond to disasters we do not worsen the situation, or

future situation through our impact on the environment - caused by the way in which we respond.

- *Based in Iraq (International NGO)*

The climate change will contribute to scarcity of natural resources around the globe. Some of the regions most in need of humanitarian response (e.g. Africa, MENA) is most vulnerable to effects to climate change. Humanitarian actors will need to include the environmental component in their usual response (camp management, post-conflict and post-disaster support etc.) and allocate more funds for environment-friendly solutions. In addition (and rather obvious), scarcity of natural resources caused by climate change will create a series of new economical/political/social crisis requiring humanitarian assistance.

- *Based in Montenegro (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

The fundamental change that is needed is first and foremost is the mitigation of climate change effects. Secondly, consider displaced people due to climate change reasons as people in need of international protection. Thirdly, answer in a more effective and rapid way human assistance

- *Based in Argentina (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Preparedness

Change in terms of approach is needed because we mostly focus on intervention rather than focusing on emergence and disaster preparedness

- *Based in Somalia (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

The climate change will never be managed in business as usual approach. And needs multi pronged approach with major focus on preparedness and protection for humanity from further aggravated effects at the onset.

- *Based in Ethiopia (National/local NGO)*

A scaledown on the investment in response efforts and instead shift to preparedness and resilience

- *Based in Kenya (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Preparedness, mitigation, increased scale

- *Based in Norway (International NGO)*

There is a need to focus more on preparedness, change in behaviour and response to humanitarian assistance. Climate change and protection should be embedded at the top of any response.

- *Based in South Africa (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

More change is needed in global south countries to prepare them for the negative affects of climate change and global heating

- *Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)*

In the global humanitarian system, from a strategic perspective, we predominantly focus on prioritizing response to the most critical needs. The drivers of those needs are multi-faceted, with climate-change being a key driver. However, while we do not talk about about addressing underlying issues of climate change (political), mitigating impact (DRR), we barely even prioritise strengthening rapid response modalities and minimum preparedness based on predictive analytics and models. This lack of preparedness results in increased needs, across all

sectors, and heightened requirement for protection. Not only is a shift in strategic thinking required in terms of prioritising preparedness, we need to integrate protection throughout minimum preparedness activities and actions.

- *Based in Lebanon (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Need for greater focus on preparedness, anticipatory financing, insurance schemes, resilience to extreme weather events. Greater understanding of and focus on conflict sensitive climate adaptation measures.

- *Based in United States (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

The fundamental change should reconsider the overall planning / building of humanitarian preparedness and response to face the climate change

- *Based in Cameroon (Government (civilian))*

The immediate effects of disasters and conflict will continue, and require humanitarian action. At the same time, activities that address preparedness, resilience and mitigation must be significantly increased, as must long-term recovery and the bridge to sustainable development.

- *Based in United States (International NGO)*

Encouraging preparedness measures at the community level by supporting the community led response . We also need to have institutional Emergency preparedness and response plan which need to be monitored and updated regularly

- *Based in Kenya (International NGO)*

Long-awaited shift from response to preparedness and prevention.

- *Based in Slovenia (Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement)*

Preparedness is key to take into account climate change. Infrastructures have to cope with climate changes effects before the expected consequences (floods, cyclones...)

- *Based in France (International NGO)*

I am particularly concerned about exposures, vulnerabilities and impact of climate change. I do not feel there is adequate understanding of exposures, vulnerabilities and impact. Even if understanding is there, it is not adequate to be incorporated in programming. the NorthEast of Syria has particularly suffered from climate change with floodings, fires, and man-made disasters and I think we did not have the measures in place to be adequately prepared, and to be adequately predictive of the vulnerabilities in certain hotspots. Al-Areesha camp is one example where the camp was built and flooding occurred without any serious attempt to predict for floodings. Additionally, the most recent Lancet issue published an excellent review linking climate change and health for which there is a total lack of recognition of humanitarian sector in addressing climate change challenges.

- *Based in Syria (International NGO)*

We need to develop and disseminate much-needed climate preparedness decision support tools and provide direct technical assistance to organizations in developing and evaluating climate change preparedness strategies and policies

- *Based in Pakistan (International NGO)*

More financial aid and Grants on Resilience and Preparedness in Agriculture and slow on set Natural disasters, expansion on the International Protection system to accommodate the victims of forced displacements who voluntarily left their countries for succour

- *Based in Nigeria (National/local NGO)*

Focus on preparedness and community-based resources

- *Based in Italy (International NGO)*

The fundamental change that is needed is a shift from response to preparedness, and in so doing reduce the impacts of slow-onset disasters whilst building the resilience of the affected populations.

- *Based in Tanzania (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Climate preparedness/climate change mitigation efforts need to be much more a "natural" part of the thinking in designing humanitarian response to sudden onset crises.

- *Based in Sweden (International NGO)*

Shift in protection relating to traditional humanitarian assistance into a robust preparedness to combat effects of climate change before they can cause protection concerns.

- *Based in Kenya (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Climate change is worsening the overall livelihoods and food security of the prone regions typically sub-Saharan countries and humanitarian organizations focus on disaster management aftermath of adverse effects. Thus, comprehensive DRR intervention coupled with disaster mainstreaming in all sectors is highly crucial to be able to mitigate the impact of El Niño induced adverse effects of all forms.

- *Based in Somalia (International NGO)*

Currently we are focusing on reacting to events as they happen, with not enough planning taking place. We must work with affected communities to ensure that people have the tools and funding they need to be sufficiently prepared, we need to ensure lines of communication are strong and that we are communicating effectively without jargon so that all understand the imminent dangers faced. We also need to ensure we are lobbying governments that are not sufficiently allowing for preparedness mechanisms and resources, and we need to increase our pressure on international corporations which are exacerbating the effects of global warming.

- *Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)*

New ways of designing humanitarian action and organisations need to be more serious in preparedness and prevention.

- *Based in Guatemala (International NGO)*

More training in preparedness. Best practice shown as examples (forestry co ops, growing veg, increasing tree growing, moving of cattle etc) work with local communities, gender balance

- *Based in Ireland (Academia)*

As humanitarian and development actors, we should prioritize preventive measures over response to crisis.

- *Based in Jordan (International NGO)*

Move to preparedness, rather than response. More community-based work - helping communities to help themselves. Focus on material assistance will reduce; may be need for fast-response cash; BUT need to ensure we do not dis-empower people.

- *Based in Ethiopia (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

It is the need to take a serious awareness to the focus on protection and shift from response to preparedness to serve life and properties

- *Based in Ghana (Government (civilian))*

Poner el enfoque en la capacidad previa a las emergencias.

- *Based in Colombia (International NGO)*

Based on studies already conducted and fore-seen consequences, it is important to have adequate preparedness to interventions that contribute to global warming/ climate change.

- *Based in Ethiopia (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Focusing more on preparedness, resilience and adaptation, and not so much on a reactive response. Also, always have environmental aspects in consideration when delivering humanitarian assistance and implementing projects.

- *Based in Switzerland (International NGO)*

Prevention

A focus on preventing crisis, preventing conflict caused by climate change and increasing climate change adaptations

- *Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)*

Preventive strategies are needed; ways in which food sector is managed; agricultures plans and approaches; disaster preparedness needs to be tailored and scaled up.

- *Based in Saudi Arabia (Other)*

Protection mainstreaming

1. More solid capacity to mainstream protection considerations in the humanitarian response to disasters (i.e. stronger capacity by protection actors to promote it but also commitment from other actors – including States - to consider those principles and consideration and fully integrate them in their programs) 2. More considerations on displacement as a product of climate change (internal and cross-border). 3. More attention needed on the interlinks between climate change and conflict

- *Based in Switzerland (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Regional response

More regional coherently policy and action; putting in place warning systems

- *Based in Myanmar (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Consideration of climate preparedness on regional humanitarian assistance and protection activities - integrate mitigation strategies in protection responses.

- *Based in Iraq (International NGO)*

Resilience

Integrated management of humanitarian management and climate change, including climate resilient development.

- *Based in Ghana (National/local NGO)*

Shifting of focus from response to climate change and resilience.

- *Based in Pakistan (International NGO)*

The fundamental change should focus on building resilience

- *Based in India (International NGO)*

Increased support in community, social and environmental planning; support and strengthen resilience and positive coping mechanisms; investment in both response and preparedness.

- *Based in Italy (International NGO)*

Resilience needs to be disseminated at a grass roots community level such that everyday people understand what it requires to be resilient and A) can be supported to insist upon that B) can have their own connections into those that can help them. Governments, even those with National Emergency Management Agencies, are often formed of private sector professionals for whom disaster management is new. It would be meaningful for each country and region to have a play book of what is needed, where and at what preparedness cost; and of what resources and funding is available relative to prevention, preparedness, mitigation, retrofit, hazard mapping, no build zones and contingency planning

- *Based in Bahamas (Other)*

Risk reduction

Climate change needs much greater scale of attention than humanitarian protection. There should be a pro-active action so as to minimize the humanitarian risk.

- *Based in Ethiopia (Government (civilian))*

1.2 Comments on whether actors have changed their overall approach to humanitarian action.

It is very difficult to comment on this because the climate change effect is still increasing instead of decreasing. Therefore, it shows all actors do not accomplish their responsibilities. So that taking our weakness in to account all organizations international, local as well as community have to fight this evil.

- *Based in Ethiopia (Government (civilian))*

My impression that for national actors this is varies considerably from country to country. Small Island States have taken this into account more than some other nations

- *Based in United Kingdom (Other)*

In developing countries, it often politician who has the say in every decision making the process. They acknowledge the approach, but it always been self-interest first

- *Based in Malaysia (International NGO)*

Lack of proper coordination mechanisms and insufficient capacities and human knowhow

- *Based in Somalia (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

We do have some DRR specialist agencies but funding is inconsistent

- *Based in Afghanistan (National/ local NGO)*

The German Government and the Red Cross are examples of those leading this change. The EU are behind but are beginning to change. Civil society is generally not yet provided with effective support or systems at the local level to enabled them to change, and this also applies to local communities.

- *Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)*

They should focus on Sustainable climate change impact mitigation

- *Based in Ethiopia (International NGO)*

I think the degree to which different actors have adjusted is very scattered and localised, so very difficult to generalise - for all actors.

- *Based in Nigeria (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Yes for example I am working with private sector financial catalyts for climate change sponsored fund for development. For example PFAN approach is one of the Sustainable approaches focusing on preventing than responding which is costly and inefficient.

- *Based in Ethiopia (National/ local NGO)*

The only discernible think I see is some acknowledgement that firewood collection is a protection risk. Otherwise I don't think there's been any real shift.

- *Based in Norway (International NGO)*

The United Nations agencies working on climate change do not assess or evaluate the national and local organizations support rates compare to the level at which disasters occurs.

- *Based in Nigeria (National/ local NGO)*

OCHA was the predominant force, with pressure from particular donors, to lead the coordination of preparedness plans to mitigate the impact of climate change related disasters on vulnerable populations. There is significantly less pressure and directive to undertake this. We are

seeing the impact of this all over the world. National disaster response structures still require the support of various UN entities to enhance their systems, tools and coordination mechanisms. This needs to be continued.

- *Based in Lebanon (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

They have allocated more resources, trained more personnel and in some case regional HUBs have been put in place

- *Based in Cameroon (Government (civilian))*

No. I am not quite familiar with any approach shifting in the Middle East, except for Jordan.

- *Based in Syria (International NGO)*

To much of the conversation is related to anticipating the effects of climate change as opposed to already seeing what is happening and how inappropriate our systems are to address them.

- *Based in United Kingdom (Government (civilian))*

Implement climate resilience at the local level through stakeholder capacity building, applied research, education, and training, while strengthening organizational sustainability. Mentor and increase capacity to apply community knowledge in an applied setting

- *Based in Pakistan (International NGO)*

UN agencies are beginning to see the intrinsic links relating to the humanitarian-development nexus and climate change poses a major threat to development programming in the short to mid-term. This is a most welcome shift as the effects of climate change are manifest in very vulnerable landscapes and settings.

- *Based in Tanzania (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

International agencies in particular look at how do people adapt to the climate changes that have ruined their livelihoods and encourage them to be resilience rather than how to prevent further disasters owing to climate change

- *Based in Myanmar (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

> Overall, there is more attention by humanitarian actors on protection mainstreaming and vulnerability considerations, but not yet sufficiently considered > Positive discussion on anticipatory humanitarian action (for slow-onset disasters mainly), but still challenges in articulating the possible actions for certain sectors, notably protection.

- *Based in Switzerland (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Actors should taking into account protection concerns related to climate change in every development and humanitarian works.

- *Based in Ethiopia (Government (civilian))*

Humanitarian architecture is far behind, we are looking at similar questions for health.

- *Based in Australia (Academia)*

Not focus on root cause

- *Based in Tanzania (National/local NGO)*

As far as I can tell, actors have not really shifted their responses. Most efforts seem to focus on rhetoric - i.e. on making sure climate change language is included in proposals and reports to meet donor requirements but without any real action or willingness to translate into real action. NGOs seem to have been more agile at including climate change concerns into their projects

than others, and some local actors are necessarily responding to the situation which requires adapting. Nevertheless, we should keep in mind that humanitarians should not be the main catalysts for adaptation to climate change. But it should be part of all considerations when designing a project, and should influence an increase in preparedness.

- *Based in Myanmar (International NGO)*

Though there has been shift in approach more still needs to be done.

- *Based in Kenya (International NGO)*

Different actors shifts their approach seeing how disasters, climate change, other triggering factors and global crises affects the protection of a population or community.

- *Based in Philippines (National/local NGO)*

Looking more at disaster preparedness, mitigation.

- *Based in Ethiopia (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

None of the laypersons working for all of the components of the system can envisage what they will be up against. We are generally in denial about the impacts and expecting a gradual shift in patterns that will allow "business as usual".

- *Based in Sweden (International NGO)*

Yes, Some actors used different mechanism to meet the needs of the civil population by awarding them with what they deserve the most

- *Based in South Sudan (National/local NGO)*

I am not aware of serious or sufficient shift.

- *Based in Kenya (Private sector)*

I do not think actors have really shifted focus from the usual humanitarian response by incorporating climate change components

- *Based in Nigeria (International NGO)*

A major shift in mainstreaming of climate change in all project interventions is 'need of the hour' and is currently happening at a very slow pace across all agencies/communities.

- *Based in Pakistan (Government (civilian))*

There is a general improvement in approach; but it is not reaching down to grass roots sufficiently; nor is it fast enough given the pace of climate issues that are being felt

- *Based in Bahamas, The (Other)*

UN Agencies are beginning to share information but more concrete action is needed.

- *Based in Uganda (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

1.3 Comments on whether actors have taken into account protection concerns related to climate change in their work

The preparedness to climate change should not be at organizational level but at grass root level of the community.

- *Based in Ethiopia (Government (civilian))*

Preparedness always starts with education within the community.

- *Based in Malaysia (International NGO)*

Based on the design level and need assessment conducted to obtain the most aligned needs of the communities

- *Based in Somalia (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

I don't think there is systematic inclusion of vulnerable people in the analysis

- *Based in Afghanistan (National/ local NGO)*

We only respond when crisis come but little we can safe when its degree is beyond controlled.

- *Based in Somalia (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Often a distinction is made between preparedness for protection and for natural hazards or other shocks, but this separation is gradually being broken down and more integrated preparedness is being conducted.

- *Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)*

As far as I know, in preparedness work there little attention is paid to the different protection issues that may be linked to disaster risk reduction.

- *Based in Italy (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

It must be at grass root level

- *Based in Ethiopia (International NGO)*

The level at which mitigating measure is taken is very low from the policy makers because about 75% of people in the grassroots are not enlightened on effect of climate change in Africa, especially Nigeria.

- *Based in Nigeria (National/ local NGO)*

It's rarely a core consideration, mainly cited as the work of the cluster or sector.

- *Based in Lebanon (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

There are not enough preparedness projects/ funding.

- *Based in France (International NGO)*

I have seen no evidence of any preparedness work is of the quality needed - for starters there are no comprehensive plans that are budgeted for. As a result donors don't have anything to fund even if they wanted to.

- *Based in United Kingdom (Government (civilian))*

All levels of government, communities, nonprofits, and the private sector must prepare for more extreme protection events

- *Based in Pakistan (International NGO)*

There needs to be more clarity for practitioners with regard to the importance of including protection concerns in preparedness work.

- *Based in Tanzania (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Communities in flooding areas or sinking shores can be prepared to change their residency; or communities facing desertification, but the latter are not prepared sufficiently on how to change the environment.

- *Based in Myanmar (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Positive improvement in protection mainstreaming (GPC) and in adequately considering vulnerabilities and capacities of affected communities (IFRC). Challenges remain in assessing the protection dimensions of disasters when occurring in conflict settings, also due to the inherent challenges in bringing such implications in the discussion with the affected States. A complex crisis, where the effects of disasters will aggravate existing tensions, social or other forms of community/ society fractures, may be continuously framed only in their "natural hazard" dimension (e.g. a drought, a famine) to maintain a good degree of cooperation with States.

- *Based in Switzerland (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Protection concerns should be aligned with preparedness work.

- *Based in Ethiopia (Government (civilian))*

In health, we (academics) are aware that there cannot be "health" without WASH and Protection - just not sure how embedded this is in humanitarian organisations response.

- *Based in Australia (Academia)*

Before coming disasters, preparedness and community awareness are needed.

- *Based in Somalia (National/ local NGO)*

Protection concerns are often taken into account but not by all actors nor in every circumstance.

- *Based in Haiti (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Protection concerns are difficult to include in preparedness work. Part of the reason is that many protection concerns will depend on what specific type of disaster affects which communities in which particular way - this is very difficult to predict and it is impossible to run through every possible scenario. The other reason is that preparedness projects are not dedicated protection projects. Preparedness projects will not be written by protection actors because they concern other sectors, so protection concerns will either be or not be included depending on the ability and protection knowledge of the people designing the project.

- *Based in Myanmar (International NGO)*

Protection concerns should come across all components/sectors to ensure the preservation and saving of lives especially the vulnerable ones like children, elderly, and persons with disabilities. A specific design in a plan or activity is incorporated/written on how to make them prepared and esp how to save them during the crises.

- *Based in Philippines (National/ local NGO)*

Safeguarding documentations - eg against rising water Setting up community-based protection/ safety committees against known risks; some of these are tasked with individuals to take care of persons with disabilities; evacuation centres built on higher ground; churches specifically built with evacuation centres above the level of rising water Walkways in villages Pacific Island Countries have been working on these issues for many years.

- *Based in Ethiopia (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Not enough is done to anticipate the risks that will arise and how they can be mitigated.

- *Based in United Kingdom (Other)*

Inclusion of vulnerable groups i.e. women, children, Persons with Disabilities etc. in community based preparedness activities, such as Community Based Disaster Risk Management and School Based Disaster Risk Management.

- *Based in Pakistan (Government (civilian))*

Its often after the fact by which time it can be too little too late - an attempt to steer the cruise liner after the fact, rather than to get it on course before it leaves

- *Based in Bahamas, The (Other)*

Refugees /migrants and climate change not always considered.

- *Based in Rwanda (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Most protection workers need to be aware of the implications of climate change and treat it as part of their work.

- *Based in Uganda (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Coordination of interventions

- *Based in Burundi (National/local NGO)*

1.4 What skill or knowledge areas are needed?

Advocacy

Advocacy

- *Based in Slovenia (Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement)*

Climate impact on disasters

Approaches on climate change and Human-induced climate change and its impacts.

- *Based in South Sudan (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

More knowledge in general on climate change and its effects

- *Based in Italy (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Better understanding of climate change / ability to foresee and understand where it will impact and how.

- *Based in Nigeria (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Climate change and its effects on protection! Climate change and policy.

- *Based in South Africa (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Have a holistic and tailored understanding of climate change drivers and results

- *Based in Saudi Arabia (Other)*

Concrete impact of climate change on a disaster

- *Based in France (International NGO)*

Global warming and its effects on society.

- *Based in Nigeria (International NGO)*

Learning more on climate change response in humanitarian setting

- *Based in Tanzania (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Community-based mechanisms

Local knowledge and coping mechanisms

- *Based in Sri Lanka (International NGO)*

Improved understanding of community-led protection in response to climate change developed through learning processes. Participatory conflict analysis with reference to climate projections.

- *Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)*

Community based preparedness processes: how to focus on protection topics

- *Based in Italy (International NGO)*

The impact of Climate Change on human being and how to reinforce communities capacities for them to be able to react rapidly to this problematic

- *Based in Haiti (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Climate change awareness-raising and the local community engagement through focus group discussions

- *Based in South Sudan (National/ local NGO)*

Coordination

How to work with different & new types of actors that can address the effects of climate change; thinking about mitigation within protection programming (and at least do no harm in infrastructure / community dynamics); understanding inter-play between increasing scarcity of resources, changing power & financial dynamics nad community pressure - which can lead to different protection risks.

- *Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)*

Coordination with other intervenant for more efficacy

- *Based in Cameroon (Government (civilian))*

Disaster management

Disaster management climate change awareness

- *Based in Malaysia (International NGO)*

Early warning systems

Early warning system mechanisms through inclusive communities participations

- *Based in Somalia (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Floods preparedness, Surveillance system/ Alert mecanism

- *Based in France (International NGO)*

Climate information system / comprehensive early warning

- *Based in Ethiopia (International NGO)*

Environmental factors

Environmental DRR; knowledge bases exploring resource scarcity; latest developments in climate-efficient agriculture, as well as affordable and sustainable clean energy

- *Based in Denmark (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

How to align environmental protection with humanitarian works.

- *Based in Ethiopia (Government (civilian))*

Environmental studies

- *Based in Argentina (Academia)*

Gender

Gender equity and gender sensitive programs planning where effect is sensible and predictable.

- *Based in Ethiopia (National/ local NGO)*

Gender and protection mainstreaming

- *Based in Somalia (International NGO)*

Disaster Risk Reduction; sustainable food security & livelihood programs targeting women

- *Based in Iraq (International NGO)*

Woman empowerment

- *Based in Cameroon (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Mitigation

Prevention and combating effects of climate change

- *Based in Kenya (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Beyond climate change adaptation to mitigation

- *Based in Canada (International NGO)*

How to work/engage community in climate change sensitivity when they need some items that can destroy the climate positivity such firewood.

- *Based in Rwanda (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Mitigating approach for double burden on women and people with specific needs in the context of displacement induced by climate change including mitigating the shocks.

- *Based in Angola (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Preparedness

Disaster risk reduction training

- *Based in United States (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Effective climate preparedness and resiliency building will require new technologies, and new forms of planning, governance, and social resilience.

- *Based in Pakistan (International NGO)*

How to develop contingency plans in Preparedness and Resilience of the impact of climate change and also develop or review and expand the work frames and policies to guide the government and other local/National NGOs

- *Based in Nigeria (National/ local NGO)*

Preparedness and Improving the role of protection actors in longer term DRR processes

- *Based in Switzerland (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Preparedness to climate change

- *Based in Iceland (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Disaster risk reduction and humanitarian assistance

- *Based in Kenya (International NGO)*

General preparedness skills and knowledge, for programme planning and resource mobilisation, protection risk identification and mitigation specific to climate change

- *Based in Spain (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

DRR Disaster Risk Preparedness Vulnerability analysis

- *Based in Italy (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Disaster preparedness

- *Based in Niger (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Preparedness of Climate Change

- *Based in Bangladesh (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Protection and climate change

I think there is first need to identify all the different protection concerns

- *Based in Italy (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

General knowledge about protection

- *Based in Kenya (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Better understanding of specific protection issues arising from climate change-induced disasters and relevant protection response activities or improved mainstreaming etc.

- *Based in Lebanon (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Full understanding of all protection implications.

- *Based in United States (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

More analysis of which protection concerns will be exacerbated by climate change, and how the intersection of climate change and different risks will affect populations

- *Based in United States (International NGO)*

Climate change programming in humanitarian settings. Protection mainstreaming in climate change programming.

- *Based in Tanzania (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Not sure specifically, but that link between the two is not sufficiently emphasized i Think, and it's difficult to get donors to realize that climate change is an important part of not only slow-onset disasters or preparedness work, but also of sudden onset.

- *Based in Sweden (International NGO)*

Knowledge of key areas of protection that are exacerbated in an emergency and how to mitigate this.

- *Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)*

Protection concerns relating to climate change in emergency response.

- *Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)*

I need to know how to include protection considerations into all phases of the Emergency response

- *Based in Iran (International NGO)*

Studies on how past disasters have exacerbated or created new protection challenges, and how these were addressed (if any).

- *Based in Myanmar (International NGO)*

1. What could be the emerging trends and evolving contexts in reference to protection challenges related to climate change. 2. How may the new protection challenges make the existing approaches irrelevant and/or insufficient.

- *Based in India (International NGO)*

Integrating protection and climate change

- *Based in Indonesia (National/ local NGO)*

There is a need to have vulnerability, risk and needs assessments to include protection concerns together with socioeconomic and political/conflict/power relations. This will lead to understanding how different issues are connected and how vulnerabilities may underlie humanitarian and protection needs. This will inform integrated programming and enhance effectiveness of interventions

- *Based in Kenya (Private sector)*

Responding to climate change using protection lenses

- *Based in Nigeria (International NGO)*

In the area of protection itself and on climate adaptation

- *Based in Ethiopia (International NGO)*

An analysis toolkit of different protection concerns related to climate change and integrated approaches in addressing climate change.

- *Based in Pakistan (Government (civilian))*

Je veux comprendre la protection dans les mouvements provoques le rechauffement climatique

- *Based in Mali (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Skills in dealing with protections concerns related to climate change

- *Based in Mali (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

To clarify how protection fits into climate change.

- *Based in Uganda (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Knowledge on the relevant protection challenges and corresponding possible responses.

- *Based in Jordan (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Resource management

The natural resource management techniques.

- *Based in Ethiopia (Government (civilian))*

Strategic planning

Understand the needs that the next 20-50 years will bring and have an effective national action plan that donors, UN, NGOs and local communities can use (based on Sendai Framework)

- *Based in Afghanistan (National/local NGO)*

Integrating climate related protection risks in complex emergencies

- *Based in South Sudan (International NGO)*

Unclear

I am not sure what they are, but also not sure if they would be wildly different than standard protection concerns

- *Based in Norway (International NGO)*

Vulnerability analysis

Ability to measure and predict for vulnerabilities and how to incorporate them in programming.

- *Based in Syria (International NGO)*

1.5 Suggestions for changing GPC's role

Advocacy

Advocacy for climate refugees

- *Based in Bahamas, The (Other)*

Capacity building

Provide advocacy and training to every NGO, government agencies or any related humanitarian agencies.

- *Based in Malaysia (International NGO)*

Clarification

Example: a large urban population is hit by a (predictable) large-scale disaster and people are not displaced but have become very vulnerable. Is the GPC responsible? I am not sure according to the above. But it should be.

- *Based in Myanmar (International NGO)*

Climate change

Include climate change as a key focus on their role

- *Based in Kenya (International NGO)*

The description covers conventional reasons and situation of humanitarian crisis. There is no reference to reasons and results related to climate change scenarios

- *Based in Saudi Arabia (Other)*

Incorporate policy level/programmatic guidance for protection with regards to climate change effects.

- *Based in Pakistan (Government (civilian))*

GPC should mention climate change explicitly so that it can take action in this area

- *Based in Afghanistan (National/local NGO)*

Climate related protection mandate should be more visible.

- *Based in South Sudan (International NGO)*

Include guidance and tools on exposures, vulnerabilities, and impacts of climate change on protection, and on other sectors as well, including health, nutrition, food security, camp management and coordination, education, shelter to name a few

- *Based in Syria (International NGO)*

Coordination

The role may be to coordinate all actors world wide and can create a platform of experience sharing among actors.

- *Based in Ethiopia (Government (civilian))*

Environmental protection

Environmental protection should be part of the role

- *Based in Switzerland (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

IDPs/Refugees

The internally displaced are the most vulnerable to political bias so this area needs revision as whose mandate it should be.

- *Based in Ethiopia (National/local NGO)*

Consideration should be given to the external displacement (i.e. the people crossing the border) resulting from climate related events - not falling in 1951 Geneva Convention on refugees.

- *Based in Jordan (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Non-refugee: In future we will have to deal with refugees due to climate change, disasters etc. not only IDPs

- *Based in Jordan (National/local NGO)*

Why are refugees excluded? Legally they are different from IDPs or migrants, but are climate refugees - how to recognise such status under the UNHCR

- *Based in Myanmar (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Mitigation

Include the direct or indirect effects of climate change on the role of the GPC and propose solutions to have a lower impact on climate change during humanitarian disaster emergencies.

- *Based in France (International NGO)*

Nexus

Include development and sustainable solutions

- *Based in Denmark (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Preparedness

None of this statement relates to managing risk, preparedness and anticipating protection concerns. It is out of date and based on a fundamentally flawed humanitarian delivery model.

- *Based in United Kingdom (Government (civilian))*

Place more emphasis on preparedness as well as response in the natural disaster context

- *Based in Switzerland (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Include more preparedness

- *Based in Guatemala (International NGO)*

Only slightly, to include "preparedness" as well as "response" .

- *Based in Ethiopia (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

GPC needs to work actively on preparedness aspect not only at the response phase

- *Based in Jordan (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Protection related modules and standards on the climate community preparedness

- *Based in Somalia (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

...contributes to disaster preparedness and DRR through collaboration with key development and environmental stakeholders.

- *Based in Denmark (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Advocate through the IASC to ensure guidelines for HCT's to place protection at the heart of preparedness to climate change and develop tools to measure protection in preparedness actions/activities.

- *Based in Lebanon (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Prevention

The GPC should also advise on prevention of disasters

- *Based in United Kingdom (International NGO)*

Target population

The accent exclusively on IDPs in disaster settings needs to be changed and expanded to "affected population" (including IDPs, as this population may still have specific needs).

- *Based in Switzerland (UN and other intergovernmental organization)*

Appendix 2: Webinar transcript

Climate Preparedness and Community-Based Protection November 19, 2019

NOTE: This transcript may contain inaccuracies. For a complete recording of the webinar, please visit <https://phap.org/19nov2019>

Angharad Laing: Okay. We can get started then. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening and, I believe, good middle of the night. I see some of you joining at some challenging time zones today.

My name is Angharad Laing. I'm the Executive Director of PHAP. That's short for the International Association of Professionals and Humanitarian Assistance and Protection. It is my pleasure to be welcoming all of you today for this webinar entitled *Climate Preparedness and Community-Based Protection* organized by PHAP in partnership with the Global Protection Cluster.

I'd like to begin by introducing my co facilitator, Paul White, who's ProCap advisor to the GPC. Over to you, Paul.

Paul White: Welcome, colleagues, and thanks for joining. I'm co-facilitating from Sydney that's been surrounded by smoke today following bushfire. But I'm very much looking forward to this discussion.

Angharad: Terrific. Thanks a lot, Paul, and thanks also for co-facilitating at a challenging hour. Before we get started with the session, I will briefly explain a few technical aspects of the platform so we can all get the most out of this hour-and-a-half.

The first is how to submit questions. If you have any questions for the speakers at any time throughout the session, please submit them using the 'Ask a Question' box in the lower-right hand corner of your screen. And please note, if you would like to ask your question anonymously, you can mention this when submitting it. Otherwise, we may mention your first name and your location when we ask your question.

Next, you will be seeing some snap polls come up during the session. These are to gauge your views or experience throughout the discussion. You should now see to test polls displayed as an example. Just click on a response, or for free text polls as on the right-hand side, click in the textbox, enter their response and click 'Submit'. And note that for the polls, all of your answers are anonymous.

Finally, if you encounter any technical problems with the platform, particularly if your connection is feeling a bit slow or the audio is not coming through clearly, you may want to jump over to our backup live-streaming option. We have one video- and one audio-only live-streaming options for lower bandwidth connections.

These do use less bandwidth but they don't allow for the same interactivity with the chat, the polls and so on, so they really are a backup option. But to connect to them just follow the links you see now on your screen. And if you find that later in the event you're having trouble and you want to jump over to the live stream, you can mention that in the chat and my colleague will share those links again in the chat so you can easily jump over to the backup.

With that out of the way, we will turn to today's event. We have a lot of ground to cover in our discussions. But, first, a few words about the aim of this webinar.

So the idea is with the help of our panel of experts and, of course, with input from all of you as participants today, we will discuss how climate change is affecting humanitarian protection, in particular in terms of preparedness work.

For example, are protection concerns sufficiently included in preparedness and DRR or is there a risk of protection gaps, especially in marginalized communities?

Are there risks of communication and coordination gaps for protection in response to climate change? Are there particular skills and capacities missing among humanitarian workers?

We will then be looking more at the role of the GPC, the Global Protection Cluster in this context. Does the role of the GPC and the way it works need to change in the coming years in light of climate change?

We've had more than 800 registrants, I believe, for today's webinar, so it's a very good turnout. And several hundred responses to the pre-event survey, which is excellent. Those inputs you'll see coming up throughout the event. We'll also be sharing the complete results and analysis of the survey in the follow-up after the webinar.

Now, I'd like to turn back to you, Paul, to maybe say a few words about what to you and what your colleagues are the GPC hope to get out of this webinar today. Back to you, Paul.

Paul: Thanks a lot. The key thing we are looking to is what are your expectations of the GPC over the next 5 years in relation to climate and climate events and climate change? What do you expect us to do?

We particularly want to try and focus on marginalized communities and just see how the work of the GPC might need to change in order to incorporate the issues that are surrounding and becoming bigger and bigger relating to climate change.

So they are our objectives today, just to see exactly what your expectations are and perhaps help us plot the way ahead for the GPC over the next 5 years.

Angharad: Thank you, Paul. And to that end, I would really encourage everyone online today, both panelists and other participants in the event, to engage in the discussion through all of the channels they can, through the chat, through the Q&A.

We'll also be asking our panelists if they're willing to answer any questions that we don't have time to discuss, to answer those in writing after the event so we can keep the discussion moving even after our event is up today.

Now, before getting into the depth of the discussion, I will introduce our guest panelists. Today, we will be joined by six speakers who are bringing a variety of perspectives on climate preparedness.

Just a note to our speakers, we will be unmuting all of you so you can say a brief hello after I introduce each of you. Also a good way to just confirm that the audio connections are working.

First of all, Nina Birkeland, Senior Adviser on Disaster Displacement and Climate Change with the Norwegian Refugee Council. Welcome, Nina. Glad you could be here.

Nina Birkeland: Hello, everyone. Thank you for organizing this. It's so encouraging that the GPC is eager to cover these issues.

Angharad: Thanks a lot. And Atle Solberg, Head of Secretariat of the Platform on Disaster Displacement, the follow up to the Nansen Initiative, currently connecting to the event from Vanuatu. A big welcome to you, Atle, and thanks also to you for dealing with the challenging time zone.

Atle Solberg: Thank you so much and good morning, good afternoon, good evening to everyone. I'm very excited to be part of this discussion, calling in from Vanuatu in the Pacific Ocean. Thank you.

Angharad: Terrific. Thanks a lot. Michelle Yonetani, Independent Consultant on Displacement and Migration, DRR, Climate Change Adaptation and Protection based in the UK at the moment. A big welcome to you, Michelle.

Michelle Yonetani: Hello, everyone. Thanks very much. I'm very much looking forward to the discussion.

Angharad: And then we have two colleagues joining today from the Child Protection Area of Responsibility, which has been carrying out quite a lot of work in this area. First of all, Michael Copland, Coordinator Global Child Protection Area of Responsibility. Welcome, Michael.

Michael Copland: Thank you. Thanks so much and thanks for organizing. We are very much happy to be here to share our experience and also how, hopefully, CP AoR within the protection cluster. It's great to be here.

Angharad: Our pleasure. Thanks for joining, Michael. And colleague Yesica Serrano, Child Protection AoR Spanish Help Desk. I think normally based in Colombia, if I'm not mistaken, but connecting today from Hungary. Welcome, Yesica.

Yesica Serrano: Hola. Hey, everyone. Thank you so much for the invitation and we're very excited about sharing some examples from the Latin America and the Caribbean region. Hope this is okay.

Angharad: Excellent. Thanks so much. And last but not least, Denis McLean, Head of Communication, UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, UNDRR. Welcome to you, Denis.

Denis McClean: Thank you very much. I didn't have far to come. I just work around the corner and it's great to be here. What a great turnout, over 800 participants.

Angharad: Absolutely. And thanks so much for coming even if it wasn't a long walk in this case. Thanks to all of our participants and all of our panelists for being here.

Now, we will set the stage for our discussions. To do that, I will turn once again to my co-facilitator. Paul, you have been carrying out a lot of face-to-face consultations already this year. First question to you, how has climate change come up during those consultations?

Paul: It's been an issue that's come up without any prompting. It's something that many of you have raised with me in the face-to-face discussions about the strategic framework. It's one of the first issues that people raised and it's also come up very consistently that's why we decided to flesh it out in this webinar series.

So it's a pressing concern to many of you. You said in the consultations that we've not done enough, that we respond often in emergencies but sometimes the problems relate to slower onset of disaster. And are we doing enough there, was the question that kept coming up.

Often, as the protection clusters and Global Protection Cluster are not there at the outset of a disaster and in some situations, the community needs to take a lot of action to protect themselves. So this is the other theme, I guess, that that kept arising is that how can GPC help our protection clusters to make sure that people protect themselves. That's why we've added this element of community-based protection to the discussion.

Back to you, Angharad.

Angharad: Great. Thank you. A follow-up question to that, prior to starting this process of the consultations and looking at this strategic review with the view 5 years out, how has the GPC approached climate change to date? What's the status quo in that regard?

Paul: Well, it's been very much linked to the work on natural disaster, and a lot of this was done some years back. There's a lot of guidance on the GPC website about natural disaster, how we as a cluster, how as protection actors we need to engage in relation to natural disaster. And a lot of this is very relevant today to climate issues.

But many people raised issues about feelings that we needed to look a bit more carefully at our engagement with authorities in relation to climate events. That we perhaps should guide our protection clusters a bit more in terms of working more closely with communities. That we need to analyze better the connection between displacement recruitment trafficking and issues like that that we are already working on and their relationship with climate events. That perhaps we are not linking things as best we can.

And we need to just articulate the impact of conflict and climate because, in several of our operations, both these things are almost hand in hand.

So the other area that people are keen for us to look at is how do we mitigate the breakdown of traditional conflict resolution structures that can often be devastating in a community where there's displacement after a climate event and structures completely breakdown. That's another area.

So many of these issues have come up. We've got bits and pieces on them but I think putting it together in a climate framework is the problem. And that's one of the reasons we want to work on this today, to try and understand better how these things link within the climate framework.

Angharad: Very good. Okay. Thanks a lot for that, Paul.

So now we're going to start the discussion with our panelists looking at the effects of climate change on humanitarian protection. And Denis, I'd like to start with you. So working with the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, you engage with questions related to climate change on a daily basis. Paul mentioned some of the issues that have come up during his consultations.

I wonder if you could expand a bit on how changing climate will affect and perhaps is already affecting disasters. Are we looking at a change primarily in the quantity and severity of disasters or is it fundamentally changing the type of disasters that we're seeing as well? Over to you, Denis.

Denis: Thank you. Well, the first thing I would like to say, with all due respect to Paul, is that we may be fighting a losing battle, but we do insist that there is no such thing as a natural disaster. You have natural hazards but the disasters themselves usually ensue from man-made actions, whether it's failing to abide by building codes or safe land use or, in the case of climate change, greenhouse gas emissions. That's the first point I would like to make.

And, yes, it is true that we are seeing a significant rise in the number of extreme weather events. If you look at the last 20 years, we've seen double the number of extreme weather events by comparison with the previous 20 years. And, of course, that means that more and more people are exposed to these events, particularly people living in low and middle income countries and particularly among vulnerable groups there who are often not included when it comes to consultations on national and local strategies for disaster risk reduction.

I would also say that there's some very obvious changes that we've noticed over the last 20 years in the nature of these events, particularly when it comes to longer fire seasons, more vulnerability and exposure to heat waves. It's becoming a particularly serious problem for people living in Asia, I would say. And Pakistan and India are doing a lot of good work to try and protect more vulnerable sections of the population from the impact of these events, but it's certainly not enough.

I would also say that because of climate change and the impact it's having on precipitation levels and intense heavy rainfall that we're seeing quite bizarre circumstances by comparison with the long-term past, we're seeing a lot more landslides, such as the tragic landslide that occurred in the middle of the night in August 2017 and swept away the homes and lives of over a thousand people in the middle of the night without any warning.

So they're just some examples of what I think are the growing exposure and vulnerability, especially of low-income communities to the impacts of climate change, which is interacting and amplifying other drivers of disaster risks such as poverty, as I've mentioned, but also environmental degradation and weak and often non-existent governance when it comes to managing disaster risk.

Angharad: Thanks a lot, Denis. I'd like to come back to you when we start talking more specifically about preparedness.

Now, turning to Atle. Atle, before the program on disaster displacement, I understand that you were previously working on the Nansen Initiative. So you've been closely following discussions on displacement and climate change for a long time.

Now, big picture, how would you say that humanitarian protection of displaced people is impacted by climate change? Over to you, Atle.

Atle: Thank you so much. I was going to talk a little on the big-- but let me start like this. First of all, I am very happy that you started this discussion and also to look at protection needs that exist within disaster and adverse effects of climate change.

And I remember when we started the Nansen Initiative in 2012 and started consultation, very often we got the question that people didn't really understand the problem. It was primarily related to disaster. As we know that disaster can also be linked to the effects of climate change.

But the point was that the argument we heard was that what is the problem? And this disaster they come and go. The people may be displaced for a short period of time. If they are displaced, they very often stay with their families and, when the disaster is over, they can move back.

And the problem, of course, is that it is not that simple. For example, that disasters do tend to discriminate. It's not that disasters are colorblind. They tend to affect people that are already vulnerable. They tend to affect people that are already at risk of displacement. So disasters tend to also affect the most vulnerable segment of the population.

It's also that effect of being displaced in this context also generate a wide range of protection concerns: being away from your house, being away from your family. And certain groups are more vulnerable. So it's important to bring the protection sensitivity into the disasters.

And another assumption which is-- or very often, which is not crazy, but disasters come and go and then people can return back. Did you also know that many disasters will permanently displace people and that the solution can be protracted and not easily be resolved. And then in itself it will generate a range of problems if people cannot return back.

The adverse effect of climate change will also add a complexity to many of these processes. One of them is of course when the climate change already undermined resilience. And then there might be an effect on climate change on the hazards itself, so they get more frequent and more intense disasters.

So what we see very often that both the sudden-onset events in a very negative way is very often combined with the more slow-onset events. So you can think of a tropical cyclone or a hurricane that is already affecting areas where you have seen sea level rise and, for example, saltwater intrusion, and then also generating protection concerns.

I think one of the biggest challenges we will have in the future from our protection community is to highlight those movements that we see in the context of the more slow-onset events and processes. These may lead to permanent planned relocation of people. It might be a permanent planned relocation of communities. And fundamental questions around self-determination, consultation, participation, cultural rights and identity will be affected in this situation.

So in the big picture of things, which I was asked, is that we already have a huge number of people that are displaced in the context of disaster. Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre estimates 25 million people in average by the sudden-onset events.

What we do not know is a lot of displacement that happens in the smaller event. We know very little about solutions and the protection needs of these people. These are very aggregated data. And one problem is very often that people's protection needs and the number of displacement is not collected in disaster settings. It's more numbers related to damage of infrastructure and mortalities. It's all about breaking down these numbers.

Of course if people are permanently forced to move, we are then, as I mentioned, faced with some major challenges in terms of finding solutions to today's situation.

These are just some initial reflections on the big picture.

Angharad: Excellent. Thank you very much. To follow up on that, considering that you are currently speaking to us from Vanuatu, an island state, looking at the situation there, how do you see protection concerns playing out in that context?

Atle: I think just a quick data on Vanuatu. It's a country that is comprised of 82 islands. It has a population of 280,000 people. Roughly 75% are rural population.

In March 2015, Vanuatu was hit by what was called tropical cyclone Pam. Almost 100,000 people were displaced. So that suggests the fundamental vulnerability and exposure of these islands and the population to a tropical cyclone.

Of course that particular tropical cyclone may not be directly linked to the adverse effect of climate change but we know that Vanuatu is already negatively affected of sea level rise, coastal erosion and coral reef degradation.

So on the top of a process of environmental degradation and climate change, they are heavily hit by a disaster, more of a sudden-onset nature. This disaster overwhelmed the capacity or the national capacity to respond. It also clearly overwhelmed all preparedness and disaster risk management structure on the island.

So it's a least-developed country. It is one of the countries with weaker institutional capacity. And, in this situation, it was completely overwhelmed.

There is still today people that have not been able to return back after tropical cyclone Pam. The event has also generated several processes on urbanization from the outer island.

I think the good news of Vanuatu is that they do have a national policy on climate change and disaster displacement. There are institutions and political willingness to address these issues. Their policies are very much aligned with the guiding principle on internal displacement so the tools or the protection tools are in place.

But there is clearly a fundamental lack of institutional capacity to deal with, for example, the magnitude of the tropical cyclone Pam.

So there are, despite a very active civil society, despite a government that has in place mechanism and institution to reduce risk, manage risk, adapt to climate change and be better prepared for the next optical cyclone, when these events hit these places, local or national capacities very often are overwhelmed.

And to add to the complexity of Vanuatu, it's also at risk of geophysical hazard. So in 2017, there was also a volcanic eruption that cost more than 11,000 people to be displaced. Again, many of these individuals have yet to find a doable solution to their displacement.

So in short, there is a lot of work for the protection cluster to support the government and the population of Vanuatu to prepare for the next one and to be resilient and adapt to the adverse effects of climate change.

Angharad: Absolutely. Thank you. And I'll note, we have a number of questions already coming in from participants. I see a couple of them I think particularly linked to your expertise, Atle. So if you don't mind, I'll pose one or two of them to you already now.

This is from Azra who's connecting from Bosnia and Herzegovina. Azra is asking, "Are we going to face the challenge of distinguishing between climate refugee and climate migrant? What is the difference and, if it is important, why?" Over to you, Atle.

Atle: It is a very complex question. I think the more we know about people either being displaced or compelled to moving in the context of the adverse effects of climate change is that we know that there is a multiplicity of factors that determine that the people move or stay.

One challenge is to label, for example, a movement, a climate movement or a climate displacement. There is a recognition that there is a multiplicity of factors.

And I think that's a little related to what my colleague from UNDRR said earlier, there is no such thing as a natural disaster. You know that a disaster will-- or the risk of disaster or the risk of displacement is when people are exposed to hazards and they are too vulnerable to withstand the effect of the hazard and exposure.

So there is then a set of factors which determine whether people stay or move, whether people are vulnerable to exposure to the hazard and the type of hazard itself.

When it then comes to whether people are refugees or migrants, it's better to try to understand what specific needs will they have. For example, if they are permanently displaced, not being able to move back in a slow-onset event or whether there are opportunities to return back and recover.

The notion of refugee is complicated in the sense that there is a legal category in international law. A person that meets the criterion of the Refugee Convention. And that's a reason we may will not avoid the use of the term 'refugee' in order not to confuse the legal obligation that states have to protect those that meet the criterion of the Refugee Convention.

And one tool we often try to use is that, in general terms, it's more about human mobility. Then maybe break it down to whether human mobility, particularly in the context of climate change, is predominantly voluntary then we may talk about migration. Is it predominantly forced or there is less element of choice? Then it's closer to displacement. And a third category is planned relocation that can either be involuntary or forced.

But, again, maybe less focus on the terminology and more about the specific needs that people have in specific situations. I think one criteria is whether we are facing a sudden onset or slow onset event and whether, for example, displacement is likely to be permanent or temporary. This will determine very much the specific protection needs. In addition to whether-- we all know that there are specific groups of people that will be more vulnerable regardless.

I hope that was useful or a good answer to that very complicated question. But I'm very happy to follow up on that bilaterally also.

Angharad: Okay. Very good. And that's much appreciated. Now, I'm afraid before I move on and let you rest, I want to take up one more question that's come in, because I think it does follow well again on your expertise. Again, it may be a bit large question, but if you have any brief reflections, I know they would be appreciated.

So this is coming in from Evalyn who is connecting from Rwanda today. She asks, "What is the effect of climate change on the international refugee protection regime and, specifically, how does it impact on food security and/or contribute to mixed migration issues?"

So, again, a big question, but any brief reflections you have, much appreciated. Back to you, Atle.

Atle: I think it's hard to say that climate change has such as an effect on the international refugee regime. I think we all know that the Refugee Convention as such, when it spelled out the

grounds for international protection, climate change is not mentioned there. We also know that the Global Compact on Refugees is also quite timidly referring to the adverse effect of climate change. So I think that is still to be seen, the effect.

What we do know that there are, beyond what we can maybe say is the refugee regime in a strict sense or a narrow sense of the word, there are of course a wide range of protection opportunities. For example, in regional refugee framework but also in the way that states are addressing protection concerns, for example, in mixed migration situation. So that's what just I can say on that.

And I think on food security, yes. Clearly that will probably be one of the clearest examples where adverse effects of climate change will have an effect.

And just a quick reference to something that people may want to read is that the World Bank, in something called The Groundswell Report, predicted the number of people that will be forced to migrate in the context of the adverse effects of climate change in the future. One of the factors they looked at is lower agricultural production and to the extent that is also related to the food security.

These factors, together with water scarcity and sea level rise, would generate millions of people being forced to move within their countries, unless drastic mitigation and adaptation and development efforts are implemented.

We can also think of several other direct links between climate change. For example, sea level rise, saltwater intrusion into groundwater and agricultural production that has a direct effect also on food security.

And we generally know that many processes are associated with adverse effects of climate change have very concrete effects on agriculture production, for example through less water or too much water or desertification and so on.

Angharad: Thank you for that, Atle. Now, moving to Michelle.

Michelle, having heard now from Denis and from Atle, looking at humanitarian protection, what would you say are the effects from climate change that you would highlight from your experience and expertise? Are there other areas, apart from displacement, that you would highlight as being of particular concern? Over to you, Michelle.

Michelle: Yes. So building perhaps on what Atle was saying, he's mentioning there already some of these very diffuse effects of climate change issues which are very well known of course to humanitarian actors, such as water stress, food insecurity, livelihood insecurity.

Another term which we use very much in this area these days is 'habitability'. So the whole location of where communities are living, whether in those areas as the climate changes and has effects on the different ecosystem services available to them, the frequency, the intensity of natural hazard events and so on, that the impacts on a whole range of their rights, from right to life to adequate food, health, housing, self-determination and so on. All these things it's very difficult to pin down, even prioritize something in general because of those very broad and diffuse effects, all of which may, of course, contribute to the risk of displacement also happening.

So trying to figure out like what I could highlight here, I thought, well, actually one of the perhaps most important issues is this issue of predictability or increasing unpredictability for humanitarian actors but of course the communities themselves who are facing this variety of complex effects.

The whole issue of unpredictability, of course, perhaps is why we're here with such a great turnout today talking about preparedness. So for me, therefore, one of the key issues that we need to be talking about is actually, first of all, access to information and knowledge.

Very rightly, we often hear a lot in terms of rights, is the importance of also respecting traditional knowledge. But because the scenarios are changing under the changing climate, and because those changes are not always so gradual, sometimes they can be very, very, very much the normal kind of shocks or extreme events, but also tipping points that communities may be reaching as their coping strategies are eroded over time.

So for me I think one of the key issues that we need to be talking about is access to information knowledge, firstly for the communities themselves so that they can also adapt their traditional knowledge to be able to deal with these new situations. Knowledge as well for local actors who the international humanitarian actors are working with.

So this very general theme across the board, I think, which is around information and knowledge, understanding risk.

And coming back to protection more specifically, understanding who is actually vulnerable in those specific situations. Which communities but also which individuals or groups of people have characteristics which, in different contexts, are becoming of greater and greater concern.

And also becoming of greater concern, because it's typically the case I think from my own experience, is that as we talk about leaving no one behind under our post-2015 agendas about prioritizing the marginalized, etcetera, actually what we-- we don't know what we don't know much of the time in these contexts. The invisibility of populations is really critical.

And I think because our normal assumptions - and Atle was using the word 'assumptions' a lot and I think that's another keyword here - because the assumptions have to change, it means that our information and our knowledge is definitely going to be out of date in many situations where the most extreme effects are already being felt.

Another issue other than displacement of course is the flip side of that. Is that if displacement can be perhaps understood as an indicator of crisis, in a sense, of people who have been able to move as well as people who've had to move in those kind of situations. What about those who don't have those options, who don't have the resources to be able to move even though their situation is life-threatening or they're really increasingly suffering under the current situation?

So the language which is rather clunky and awkward that is often used is 'trapped population'. I don't particularly like that language but I think at least it reminds us better when we're doing any kind of risk analysis and we're thinking about not just population movements but those who aren't able to move, I think that under these scenarios, especially slow-onset scenarios which tend to get less attention, this is a really critical point.

Angharad: Okay. Thank you so much for those reflections, Michelle, and highlighting a number of other important areas. I'd like to come back to you but, for just a moment, I'm going to turn

over to Denis who would like to come in with a word on early warning systems. Over to you, Denis.

Denis: Thank you. While I was listening to Michelle there, it came to mind that I was in Beira just over a month ago. I met with a group of about 90 women in a protection space in one of the resettlement camps there. I asked how many of them had actually received an early warning about the cyclone and only twelve hands went up among the 90 women. And of those twelve, only two of them actually did something to get themselves out of harm's way.

So I think an awful lot of work has to be done at a very, very basic level in terms of communicating risk, even early warnings to vulnerable populations.

A similar situation arose in the case of typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines in 2013 where many of the people who died or who did not leave their homes or left it to late simply did not understand what the term 'tidal surge' meant. There was no phrase for it in the local language and none of them had ever experienced such a thing.

And the Deputy Mayor of Tacloban at the time told me that if there had been a warning that a tsunami was coming then everyone would have reacted because of the drama and the threats associated with that word. But of course that's not what they were facing. They were facing something called the tidal surge.

So I think a lot more thought has to go to very basic-- in terms of protection a lot more thought has to go into how do you ensure that early warnings reach people who are most vulnerable to these events and who may not have access to traditional forms of communication, such as televisions and radios. That's a very important issue highlighted by what happened across several countries in Southern Africa this year that were affected by a very active cyclone season.

Angharad: Thanks, Denis. But turning back to you, Michelle, we have a question that has come in from Trish. Trish observes that, in her view, it seems that humanitarian engagement in climate change, the mitigation to adaptation, advocacy is largely ad hoc, uncoordinated and under-resourced. She's wondering is there an agency who is leading or is meant to be leading this work? What are the most useful frameworks or guidelines for humanitarians? Do you have any thoughts to share with her, Michele?

Michelle: I guess the challenge here is that in humanitarian context, I think when you're talking about climate change, you're talking about time frames that go from the very short, immediate, urgent needs that need to be addressed to much longer-term issues of risk.

So I appreciate the question because, indeed, this is something that actually requires a lot of collaboration and joint analysis, joint thinking, joined-up action. We've heard all of these terms before. I think that is indeed the real issue.

Of course, under the UN system, we have the UNFCCC who are very much looking at the policy and the political level of these issues. To date, at least, even though adaptation is talked about more and more and with increasing urgency, it has been largely focused on mitigation.

So thinking from the point of view humanitarian action, I think I'm not sure if the issue of lead agency overall on climate change when we're thinking about the action side, if you like, I don't know if that's what is perhaps the most important thing to be thinking about. It's more about how we're bringing the different knowledge, competencies, capacities together to address the different issues.

Angharad: Thanks for that, Michelle. On the same question, I'd like to turn to Michael. Do you have anything to add?

Michael: Just checking if the sound is okay.

Angharad: Sounds good now.

Michael: Great. Thanks so much. I think the point on the implications for the protection cluster on this question are very, very significant because we've heard today about different settings and a lack of predictability. This is one of the reasons we have clusters, to be predictable.

So I think one of the challenges is being clear that this is a function and a role of clusters to work on preparedness. And, by implication, this means working in settings where clusters have not been active. Because, by implication, if we wait for this to happen, we're too late.

So I think considering, I think Paul mentioned potential coordination gaps, we need to internalize this work, reaching out and being proactive in supporting countries which are not clusterized and doing that through our regular mechanisms in a cohesive way across the clusters is really important.

Angharad: Thank you. I'd like to move on now to look specifically at preparedness and turn back to Denis.

So preparedness in the context of climate change, there is some confusion with the different terms used. For example, Diego, one of our participants connecting from Zimbabwe is wondering how climate preparedness relates to resilience. Then there's also clearly the concept of disaster risk reduction.

Denis, if you wouldn't mind, could you help us out by clarifying what do these terms mean and what types of activities are we actually talking about in practice? Over to you, Denis.

Denis: Well, Disaster Risk Reduction encourages a multi-hazard approach to managing disaster risk, because you will find that in many low and middle-income countries they lack the wherewithal or the expertise or the institutional strength to set up separate agencies to deal with floods or to deal with earthquakes, etcetera, etcetera. So we see that a multi-hazard approach does play benefits in terms of best use of available resources.

That's what we encourage through implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Of course, we're coming up to a key milestone next year in 2020 when one of the targets of the Sendai Framework, which was adopted in 2015, one of the targets is to have in place a substantial increase in the number of national and local strategies for disaster risk reduction by next year. And to also do it in a way that's coherent with the objective of the Paris Agreement on Climate to have national adaptation plans in place. These two things should be complementary where if you do have separate plans for adaptation and risk reduction, they should at least complement each other in terms of how they enable vulnerable populations to be better prepared for extreme weather events.

This is also an opportunity to reflect deeply on the issue of protection, to ensure that when these national and local strategies are drawn up that no significant groups of people are overlooked.

I would cite, for example, the situation of people living with disabilities who are about 15% of the global population. We did a survey a number of years ago and we got over 5,000 responses. We were very surprised with the high number of responses, which I think is an indication of what a blind spot this has been in terms of disaster risk management over the years.

And of those 5,000 or so people who responded, only 20% of them could evacuate immediately without difficulty in the event of the sudden disaster event. The remainder could only do so with some degree of difficulty, and 6% would not be able to do so at all. So I suspect that the situation has not improved greatly since that survey was carried out in 2013.

So I think there's an opportunity for people on this call who are concerned about protection issues to ensure that they are engaged in the discussions that are taking place at national and local level, to ensure that comprehensive, inclusive strategies for disaster risk reduction are in place by next year. That, I think, will lead to further improvement in terms of reducing loss of life and reducing the numbers of people affected by the growing number of extreme weather events that we are seeing around the world, at least partly linked to climate change.

Angharad: Thank you. We have a question for you, Denis, that's come in from Margarita. Margarita asks, "What can be done to promote DRR/resilience and the mandate of UNDRR more?" In her view, UNDRR is still invisible and the Sendai Framework still unknown. Any thought for Margarita?

Denis: Yes. I mean, I would agree. I always tell people that when I was Head of Press at the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the phone never stopped ringing from the BBC, CNN, etcetera, etcetera. And switching to trying to get journalists interested in disaster risk management it's been quite a shift in terms of getting attention.

I think we just have to keep plugging away in our advocacy using opportunities, like the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction on October the 13th, World Tsunami Day and the various regional platforms to take place around the world, to continue to try and engage with groups who can bring about change and how disaster risk is managed, and to get journalists more interested in the topic.

One of the things that we've done is we've set up an Africa-wide network of journalists who are specifically interested in disaster risk management. We're hoping to do the same thing in other regions too, particularly in Asia. And we're talking all the time to the broadcasting unions about how we can educate and improve how journalists cover disaster events. That they don't just cover the day-to-day breaking news element but that they also look at what are the drivers behind these events.

And I would say that this year on International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, we managed to reach about 2 million people with our advocacy online which was quite a quite a high for us in terms of if you compare it with previous years.

So I think because of the visibility of extreme weather events, there is more and more interest among the general public in understanding better what is disaster risk and what's driving it.

That it isn't simply about the weather but there are also issues around governance, being better prepared, ensuring that people know what steps to take when they are threatened by a flood or a storm, etcetera. Very basic stuff that can be done and can be done much better. And working with organizations that have a strong local presence, like the National Red Cross and National Red Crescent Societies.

Angharad: That makes a lot of sense. Thank you. And one more follow-up question for you. This is not a follow-up question but a different question from Elvira connecting from Sweden who asks, “How do you motivate having a preparedness/climate DRR perspective in the humanitarian response when you relate to humanitarian donors who mainly emphasize the very emergency phase of humanitarian crises? I.e. what are strong arguments that climate preparedness and community-based perspectives in protection are actually part of humanitarian action?” Back to you.

Paul: Well, there are many examples of why it makes good economic sense to invest in disaster risk reduction. One is that we simply cannot meet the humanitarian needs that we're seeing in the world at the moment. It's beyond the willingness or the capacity of donors to respond to all the needs that we're seeing.

And we know, for example, it's 49 years now since Bangladesh was devastated by the great cyclone of November 1970 which killed possibly half a million people. That will never happen again. Why? Because of the investment that has been made over the last 50 years in ensuring that vulnerable and exposed people along the Bangladesh coastline do get the early warning systems and that they do have a safe place to go when those warnings are issued.

The last time we saw a major loss of life in a cyclone of that magnitude was in Myanmar where 138 thousand people died about 10 years ago. That was a vivid contrast with what was going on in its next door neighbor, Bangladesh, because the Myanmar government simply had not made the investments required in disaster risk reduction and early warning systems and very basic things that could have been done to ensure that people in harm's way were evacuated in good time and that they had good forewarning of what was about to happen.

So it's remarkable that anyone in this day and age could not understand the benefits of investing in disaster risk reduction. And, yes, we see that there is a huge imbalance between the money that goes towards response by comparison with the money that goes towards preparedness and disaster risk management. It's a huge gap. We're trying to, through our advocacy and lobbying, we're trying to get donors to change their minds on this and to invest more in disaster risk management, disaster risk reduction.

I hope that goes some way towards answering the question.

Angharad: Absolutely, yes. And Paul, I think you were going to come in here.

Paul: Denis, I was just wondering, it sounds to me like DRR are actually doing some of the protection analysis. But who do you see when you're working in different countries as the key protection people, especially when a cluster is not present?

Denis: Well, Paul, I think it should be the National Disaster Management Agency. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction is very clear. The primary responsibility for disaster risk management rests with the government of the country concerned because it's their obligation to protect their citizens from the threat of loss of life and their homes in these situations.

And we've seen remarkable improvements in many parts of the world in terms of reducing loss of life from these events.

Another good example recently was Odisha, the province of Odisha in India where 10,000 people lost their lives just over 20 years ago in a hurricane of equal magnitude to one that threatened them earlier this year. By evacuating something like a million people, they brought the

death toll down to double digits. It's still not acceptable, any loss of life in an event like that, but it shows that with sufficient investment and strengthening your institutions, strengthening your early warning systems and your channels of communication to exposed populations, you can drastically reduce loss of life in this context.

In terms of reducing the numbers of people affected by these events, a lot more needs to be done in terms of applying building codes, land use regulations, protecting the environment, etcetera.

So there's a lot that can be done in the domain of disaster risk reduction to protect vulnerable and exposed populations. But I think the key one is to ensure that any national or local strategy for disaster risk reduction explicitly identifies actions which can be taken to protect women and girls, children, the elderly, disabled persons, people living in very exposed locations on marginal land, etcetera, etcetera. These are all boxes that need to be ticked and addressed when it comes to drawing up these national adaptation plans and national and local strategies for disaster risk reduction.

And they will be very severely reviewed and examined next year when we have a series of regional platforms for disaster risk reduction taking place in all regions of the world. I would encourage protection clusters to engage in those debates and to hold national disaster management agencies to account when these plans are published. If they are overlooking any of these vulnerable groups.

Angharad: Thank you for that, Denis. I'd like to turn now to Nina next regarding protection gaps and preparedness.

So if we take a look at just a few of the results of our pre-event survey for today's event. Those are coming up in a moment, we'll see that over 80% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that climate change would both amplify existing protection gaps and create new serious protection gaps.

Furthermore, 50% responded that protection concerns were generally not taken into account in preparedness work with another 22% saying that while they are generally taken into account, there are important exceptions.

Nina, from what you've seen in your work, are there currently any gaps in terms of humanitarian protection in how preparedness work is carried out? Over to you, Nina.

Nina: Thank you. I'll try to be concrete, even though that's a bit difficult with these complex questions. But when we look at the disasters and the effects of climate change, we know it's both making the protection issues for those displaced in conflict situation worse but it's also creating more new displacement.

If you look to the statistics that have been produced over the years, this instance the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre started to make statistics on the disaster displacement in 2008. The numbers every year have been bigger than people displaced primarily from conflict and violence.

So it's creating more protection issues because more people are that's also changing the protection issues.

I think when we look to preparedness we need to remember that, very often, as humanitarian organizations we come in when the crises have hit. We are not doing much preparedness work partly because it's not what we should do because we are responding to a crisis and not doing preparedness work.

But what we have experienced as NRC and the many partners that we work with, UNDR, and trying to get the UNDR or the DRR managers to include protection and prevention of displacement in their work is that we must always talk in the same language but the actions are there.

So when we speak with the colleagues who work on disaster risk reduction in our country, they wouldn't use the same language as we often will do from the humanitarian space in the organization. That doesn't mean they're not doing the things but we need help to try to make this more systematic.

I also think when we look at this is that working in disaster displacement situations we have much more space to be prepared because we know which areas are most at risk. We know where climate change hit the hardest.

There are lots that we have worked on, which officials, which populations are most at risk linked to disasters in climate change, but we don't need to wait until it's happening. We can do preparedness.

I think that also changes the way we need to work on protection because, ultimately, it is the governments that are responsible to protect the internally displaced people space and the refugees. Whereas in the humanitarian crisis situation, they are often not in a position to do it. Whereas in disaster displacement situations, they can and should do much more both during crisis but also to prevent it.

I thought maybe it could be an idea to show a small figure we often use when we work with the people working on the disaster risk reduction and disaster management space on how to include protection issues linked to displacement in their work. What we have outlined there, and it's on the screen now, is that this is a 6-Step process.

But the first one, which is part of the preparedness, is very much how to avoid displacement and strengthening resilience. Which means that we need to work on mapping what have been the previous displacement situations and identify which populations are at risk. And then we work with the disaster risk reduction people to increase resilience and reduce exposure.

But also, from the more political, is that one of the most effective ways to reduce displacement is make sure that people can move before they need to flee. So consider migration and also planned relocation measures. And this is all part of longer-term planning and more developments first than the humanitarian work.

DR is very much there. How do we then get the DR people to also include protection concerns in their work? They need to do it. We can't do it for them. But we can help them and ask the right questions and think of the right set of actions.

The next step we put in is to prepare for unavoidable displacements, because there will be situations where you can't move people away, they can't move in time. How do we then make sure that within the DR community access there are focal points that know about displacement?

And very much this is work that needs to be done on the local level. So there are both local responders assisting displaced people. And also how do we then try to make sure that the risks that they will be exposed to are minimized?

This next step we put in is the response. And then we need to ensure that every actors also protects the rights of people during this crisis. What we often see is that the gender-based violence and trafficking increases in this situation. These are classical protection concerns we all meet in conflict situations and it's the same actions we need to take but we need to work with different people than we traditionally do on conflict displacement.

The next step we put in is the support resilience of both the displaced and the host population. Then, quickly, we need to ensure that they have access to the basic services and then facilitate that they can have access to documentation so they can access the services that are there. Again, a lot of its classical protection issues that comes up, access to livelihoods and also make sure that the people can access health, kids can go to school, etcetera.

Next step, doable solutions. Again, classical language within the humanitarian displacement response. Also, here it's not just about governments making sure that people are moved somewhere but this is through consultations with both those people who are displaced but also the host communities to make sure the doable solution strategies can be developed and then put in place, and part of the reconstruction and recovery plan.

Then the last step in this figure, this needs to be assessed over time. And this goes on. This is not a one-off. But how to always think the different steps and really focus on how to prevent displacement and strength and resilience in the pre-crisis space, but not closing the eyes at many locations that are very exposed and they'll be hit.

Finally, on the question about protection concerns were generally not taken into account, I think yes and no. I don't think you'll find the word 'protection' often in these DR strategies, but if you look at the actual actions that a lot of the national disaster risk agencies have put in place, there's a lot of protection there but it's not framed as that.

I think we, from the protection world need to learn to work with people who use different terminologies and make sure that it's not just about saving people's lives but people also need to live through this crisis and that we are at the core of protection issues.

Angharad: Thank you for that, Nina. We're going to come back to you, but before we do that, I'd like to jump over to our colleagues from the Child Protection AoR.

First to Michael. The Child-Protection AoR has been working on preparedness initiatives globally. How have these been designed to take into account protection concerns stemming from climate change? Over to you, Michael.

Michael: Thank you so much and thanks again for the opportunity. I'll present a couple of examples and then quickly what we've learnt from this work.

The most recent example is from Malawi and this is part of a multi-government regional process. There's a couple of things that happens there. So this is bringing government together so that, as mentioned previously, we can learn more about their systems, including which departments are responsible. As a colleague mentioned, getting disaster management ministries involved, but then also looking at the coherence across governments, which parts of governments are important when we think about child protection-specific issues, and this includes those responsible.

For example, I'm looking at children's care arrangements and the statutory status that children would have. Children being separated for different purposes implicates child protection is not really a question of whether we will work with authorities but how we can change children's legal status. And to see children moving has to be done with authorities.

The process in Malawi also involved the development of plans in government. It involved partnerships with IFRC, who'd been mentioned here today given their critical role. And also learning for governments to understand humanitarian coordination, hoping to bridge that gap which is very much linked to the earlier Nexus discussions.

We've learnt that there are implications in terms of the skills of our coordination staff. And actually having a mixture of Human Resources staff who've worked themselves with governments is very important as well as providing government guidance and support to coordinators on how better to analyze and be skilled in their engagement with government, which will grow by virtue of global warming, climate change.

Apologies. I grew up with the term 'global warming'. It's more familiar to me.

The other good practices I would refer to is the use of long-term trend data from child protection and overlaying this with data, for example, that's been referenced from food security. So working across clusters. This can help us understand, for example, patterns of child recruitment or also issues that were referenced, such as child marriage.

How do we use this data to better predict the kinds of violations that will happen, who they may happen to in order to be prepared and to and to prevent I think is really important. I'll stop there.

Angharad: Thank you for that, Michael. If I could turn to your colleague, Yesica. Yesica, working on supporting the implementation of preparedness initiatives in Colombia as well as in the broader region, how has this played out for meeting protection concerns there? What can you share with us from that context? Over to you, Yesica.

Yesica: Well, first of all, there is no doubt that preparedness is becoming more relevant worldwide. However, the experience helps show us that preparedness is more centered in natural disasters which often is more focused on addressing basic needs and most immediate solutions. This mostly refer to supplies and logistics, as we have seen in practice.

This approach actually has ignored the protection as a basic need and life-saving which, as any other needs, has to be addressed with the same urgency, like shelter or food security, for instance. This situation basically has resulted in protection and, in our specific case, child protection being overlooked most of the time in preparedness.

Sure, we have come a long way with all the practice that we have acquired, and we are now more focused in activities and mechanisms that respond to operational implementation for more effective and suitable actions as well as on the sense of urgency in the response time by bringing, for example, more attention to detail analysis on concerns, such as priority intervention sectors that leads to most affected areas, capacity of local actors and the relationship with the affected population.

However, this approach still requires time and needs to be broadly distributed and accepted, especially in the national and sub-national teams. We have seen how while in the global level we

have all these concepts and we talk the same language. When we come to the field, there are huge differences.

From the work that we have developed in Latin America and the Caribbean, for example, what we have seen is there's a huge increased interest in preparedness, especially from countries that were not keen to request support from us. Yes, it's a lot of focus on the creation of a contingency plan and preparedness actions that do not respond to holistic and protection mainstream approach. Not realistic, effective and protection-urgency driven preparedness actions.

For instance, we have seen how certain actors have difficulties in understanding the importance of including in their national disaster preparedness plan responses that as well as the increase of pre-existing risks of sexual violence against children and other harmful practices shared. Well, we have seen, for example, child marriage as coping mechanism. Families adapt to a natural disaster emergency.

Just to give you an example, we were recently in El Salvador and we have noticed that, just like any other country in the world, they have been experiencing climate change challenges. Well, they have created a great preparedness and response mechanism to natural disaster. They even have like a coordination-- I mean, like their response and coordination and response in sectors had shelter, watched with the security is amazing.

Together with the government, with the deployment capacity to easily reach any department of the conflict, the departmental and municipalities team. However, we still see how they face some challenges when addressing protection issues that it pre-exists from armed violence that they have in the country.

In this case, for example, we had a training this year in San Salvador and we noticed that preparedness actors don't give relevance to the inclusion of prevention and response to child recruitment by armed forces. They don't see how a child who has been displaced with the landslide, for example, is in risk of recruitment.

So for them, I want to raise the point here and coming back to what Paul was saying at the beginning, is they don't see how there is a correlation between a risk originated from violence and a natural disaster. They don't see how this risk might be exacerbated during this type of emergency.

So here, I think that's one of the few challenges we have when in a mainstream they're not including protection and preparedness.

Another example that I could give you is in Haiti. This year, we supported a training requested by the team on CPF preparedness. We noticed that while they have developed great capacities and strategies in preparedness, their government has their own specialized mechanisms to coordinate preparedness action and response to emergency.

There is still-- they've got huge and relevant gaps in having more detailed analysis of the specific protection risk, coordination with national and international NGOs, collaborative preparedness efforts with communities, the strategic planning of actions that correspond to the local capacity and resources, upgrade of procedures for the national standards. They really don't know these new national standards and how to apply them. And their understanding of preparedness that can go beyond contingency planning. So, for them, preparedness is having a heavy document or a computer plan a document.

So in this case, there still remains the importance of directing preparedness towards the support to and engagement of governments in creating preparedness plans that contain strategic and feasible protection activities responding to the real capacity. And here it's important the real capacity of the humanitarian actions. And especially strengthen the role of local actors to affected populations, communities, local NGOs, governments in the coordination and implementation process.

What we have known from this experience is that while at the global level, again, we have different preparedness guidelines and mechanisms, there is still a huge need to sensitize all actors both in the national and international level, in divisional level in this case, in governments about the importance of holistic understanding of preparedness as indeed all the different components as well as the importance of including protection responses and preparedness plans.

We still need to fight against the imaginary of preparedness being just about international and humanitarian actors working insulated and the creation of impressive and long contingency plans that are not of use or they are not known by the local actors.

And start turning our attention towards the inclusion of local actors, especially governments and communities, in the coordination of different preparedness action plans, protection risk analysis, monitoring first of all the reporting early warning mechanisms and all the other components.

Here in this specific point, I would like to raise the importance of working with the governments and community-based protection, and the relevant role that these actors play in preparedness. As humanitarian actions, we need to engage more consistently with communities not only in the consultation process, when planning a response, but also as participative actors in the analysis, evaluation and implementation of their own protection and preparedness.

Angharad: Thank you so much for that, Yesica. I'd like to turn one more time back to you, Michael, for a quick word on community-based structures. Back to you.

Michael: Thank you. And in line with Yesica's sentiments, a couple of considerations. One, our support to coordination groups is increasingly based in multiple languages, given that the majority of service providers and, even more so, in a number of preparedness contexts are local. So using local and language-specific help desks but also, as Yesica is alluding to, how local partners are involved in coordination mechanisms and planning is critical given their role in the response. We've already mentioned IFRC in that process as well.

Also, to consider in terms of those community links with civil society, the important role of municipal councils is critical. This, for example, we've seen in the Ebola prevention work in South Sudan and then in subsequent response.

What's happening at municipal level in terms of access to children understanding community-based messaging? Also for children who are living and working on the streets who are particularly vulnerable to some of the violations we've talked about. And in a climate emergency, they become most at risk to some of those challenges.

Finally, when we're thinking about community-based mechanisms, and we've got I think good lessons to learn from Pakistan, thinking in the longer term on how these are actually connected with government institutions so we can link the investment.

Often, in humanitarian settings, we'll go in and set up the community-based mechanisms without thinking about the transition and how these, where it's possible, could and should be linked to government institutions.

The last point is really looking at sharing of information, which is critical with local partners, but also amongst ourselves across borders and across sectors, as we've heard today. This involves the development of protocols, for example, in advance on who has access to which information and so on.

This is beyond a particular country, so we also need to start thinking about mobility, generally, in terms of the work at country level of help desks. Thank you so much.

Angharad: Thank you, Michael. Now, we're starting to run short on time but I would like to bring in one more participant question. This is from Clea and directed to Nina.

Clea's question is as follows. "I wonder if there are any reflections around politicization of climate change and whether that is likely to create tension with states or armed actors around getting access to vulnerable groups?"

And apologies, Nina. We have very little time. But if you have any brief reflections on Clea's question, it would certainly be appreciated.

Nina: Thank you, Clea. And what I think is happening now is that the climate change has always been political. I assume you realize that this is not just happening. This is something we as people are responsible for. It becomes a political question.

Particular to be seen in the last year or two years is that, very often, it becomes framed as a security issue. I think that will be a big challenge to our community because this is about people's rights. We are in a situation where we know people both need to move and some are displaced. And if you make it into a security question then you get security solutions and not protection solutions.

I think what is important there is that this is about people's rights. They know what's happening in countries when we have internal displacement. But I think the big protection gaps we haven't really touched much upon here, but I think also is part of this conversation. If those people have to leave their home countries to go to another country because of the effects of climate change and disasters, and how do we make sure this continues to be a protection discussion and not a security discussion.

Angharad: Thanks very much, Nina.

Now, given all that we've heard so far today, I would like to wrap up this session by focusing specifically on the role of coordination, the role of the GPC. And looking again at part of our pre-event survey results, we saw that when participants were asked about the GPC's role in light of climate change, there was a lot of uncertainty with over 40% feeling unsure about this question. About the same number of people, however, also thought that the GPC's role should change.

Now, I'd like to go around our virtual panel here and ask each of our experts on the line what would you recommend to the GPC for the coming 5 years? And I'll begin with Michael. Over to you, Michael.

Michael: Thanks so much. I think there needs to be a clear directive and narrative which is across the protection cluster on the protection, and that includes the Child Protection AoRs on the need for greater engagement with preparedness which, as I mentioned, is consistent with the cluster functions at country level preparedness being there.

I think having a clear narrative implicates us to work more effectively in the Nexus. It implicates us to have better learning material for coordinators. We've heard today on how to engage with government as an example.

So I think looking ahead, we certainly see the value underneath, as has been referenced today, to step up our work on preparedness. I think that should be really across the clusters.

Angharad: Thank you, Michael, and thanks once again for being with us today. It's been terrific to have you part of the discussion.

I'd like to turn now back to you, Nina, and to ask what would be your recommendation to the GPC for the coming 5 years?

Nina: First of all, to do what they're doing now, to post it on their agenda. As Paul said in the beginning, if you look on the website, there are some guidance that are very old. This needs to update and then pick up the speed with what's happened both on climate change, on disasters and also the policy development since this guidance was done.

But that can be done easily. I think what is maybe more important is if the GPC can help to make sure that, in preparedness, it's the same as GPC in securing that experts are deployed to crisis, that also GPC can help to make sure that experts on protection, disaster displacement are deployed to the countries that are most vulnerable to disaster displacement. Because then they will also be better prepared when the crisis hits.

So instead of waiting until it's happening, governments and also civil society, NGOs, whether national or international in those countries or with those regions can be prepared and has thought through this before it's happening. I'm sure Atle can maybe say a little bit more about what the PDD is doing on this, but getting those experts in to help those in power to make those changes.

I also think it's important that the GPC is the place where we can go for guidance. Most countries are not clusterized, as Michael reminded us. Most countries that disaster hits, you will not have a cluster. They should give more protection clusters in disaster situations but you will not have a protection cluster in all disaster situations.

But how can still GPC be the go-to place to find guidance on how to secure protection for them. I think I'll stop there.

Angharad: Thank you, Nina, and thanks so much for your inputs today. It's been terrific as well to have you part of the discussion. We really appreciate your help.

Now, turning to Atle, what would be your recommendations that you can share with the GP?

Atle: Thank you. I think I have three very key and very short comments. One is that I think data on risk and data on displacement is very poor, and we need much more granular data and disaggregated.

Sometimes I'm not sure whether people are aware that the numbers that the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre is operating with at international level only talks about flows, meaning the movement that happened in the previous year and not about, for example, accumulated or consolidated data. That suggests that we do have very little information on the protection situation of people.

And this is not to put IDMC on the spot, in a negative way because this is a reflection in the entire data chain. So we have the same at local level. And we need much metadata and we need much better understanding of how risks will change and put more people at risk, for example, of displacement, how also most the urban or the big mega cities will be very dangerous places to live in.

The good news is that many of the hazards are either seasonal. For example, the South Pacific cyclone season starts in November, so some of the hazards are seasonal or geographic. For example, Vanuatu sits on a tectonic plate.

So data, and I think that's the key protection activity to make sure that the system has better data. And to be very honest, disaster displacement data or risk assessment data is very poor. And I think that's a key role to play for the protection cluster.

I think also, as I say very often when people ask me what could the protection cluster do in a cyclone like Idai or you can even think of a cyclone planning in Vanuatu, is that when the disaster strikes it's probably too late for having any meaningful impact from a protection point of view. You must have started much earlier.

So I think these are important roles for a protection cluster at national and global level to support early warning or the action preparedness. Contingency planning is very often absent. For example, engagement simulation exercises. I think that is important to also make sure that the simulation exercises are protection sensitive.

And I think the third area, which is very interesting and maybe a little being the extreme of the success of highlighting that climate change hazards, disasters do move people. People are moving. There is now a much larger or higher recognition between the link of hazards and displacement.

And one of the pros is that there's a lot of national policies and guidelines now being drafted. Just in the area where I've been on mission the last couple of weeks is that Fiji and Vanuatu they have national displacement policies being drafted, they have national planned relocation plan that's being drafted, and there's, as you say, in the managers there is room for improvement in terms of standards in these two.

I think that's a manageable job for protection. Just to do, try to engage in these processes where policies and guidelines are developed at national level. And this is very often got enough preparedness as well. So these three areas of work.

And before I conclude, just also to congratulate having this conversation. And compared to maybe 10 years back, the discussion around this is much stronger today, including in the protection clusters, so congratulations.

Angharad: Thank you, Atle. Much appreciated and it's really been a pleasure having you on the line.

Before I move to our next panelist, I just want to note we're getting some great inputs from all of our participants sharing their own thoughts regarding recommendations for the GPC. Please do keep those coming in. And I don't know that they will be taken into account in the report of this event but also in the broader process that GPC is undertaking with respect to its strategy for the coming years.

So now turning to Yesica, Yesica, what recommendations would you have for the GPC? Over to you.

Yesica: I will have two recommendations. The first one will be in the preparedness process to engage more communities, local actors, government and development actors. We often do not include the development actors and I feel like this is a good practice to start implementing the Nexus between humanitarian and development.

And also in focusing or, yes, even more focus to preparedness on the need to look at and understand more the seasonability of child protection.

Angharad: Thanks so much. Thanks for your inputs today and for all of the specific examples you were able to share from your work. Very much appreciated.

Now, Denis, over to you for those recommendations. What would you have to share?

Denis: Well, the first thing I would say, I think from some of the discussion, disaster preparedness seems to be viewed quite narrowly as being about response. Of course that's not really what it's about at all. It's just one element of your overall disaster risk management which has to take in a lot of the broader protection issues that have been raised in this discussion.

I think in a practical level, there's a very good opportunity for the GPC to engage with national disaster management agencies through the mechanisms of these regional platforms on disaster risk reduction which will be taking place over the next 12 months. I think it's important that those sessions which bring together government representatives, community representatives, NGOs and civil society in general to discuss these issues and progress on implementing the Sendai Framework is important that you raise the flag for protection at those events, whether it's through contributions to the plenary sessions or organizing side events. Whatever it might be, or launching some new analysis or insight into the issue, I suppose it might be relevant to a particular region.

I think it's very important to bring that up because, fundamentally, disaster risk reduction is about protection. The word may not be used that often or in the sense that we've heard in this debate over the last hour-and-a-half but, certainly, it is at the core of the intention of that document which was drafted by UN member states after 3 years of consultation. It has very heavy emphasis on the importance of engaging with local actors, engaging with community-based organizations, ensuring that civil society is alive and aware of the role that it can play both in holding their own governments accountable and also in ensuring that people in their own communities that their needs are not overlooked. Thank you.

Angharad: Thank you, Denis. Points well taken and appreciated. And thank you. It's been really a pleasure as well to have you on the line.

Now, last but not least, over to Michelle. What final thoughts would you have as far as recommendations for the GPC? Over to Michelle.

Michelle: Thank you. Yes, maybe just echoing what I see coming up in the chat quite a lot as a comment, and which I strongly agree with, is linking to localization as an agenda in itself and not a new one as we know, but still lifting up those local capacities, those local voices in terms of protection. Recognizing that they are, more often than not, those best able to identify pockets or the most vulnerable among marginalized-type groups of people who are always getting neglected.

It's typically the case in any emergency of any scale that I've ever understood through reading or been in the field and experienced for myself. I just think it can't be said enough. That means actually making that very explicit and very concrete in preparedness plans as well as in humanitarian advocacy, perhaps with a small 'A'. Certainly with international agencies' ability to engage very directly and bilaterally with national and local authorities, like being able to highlight the importance of both issues that while people may be particularly may not be a majority or may be a residual caseload, to use a very horrible expression but still I think relevant from an operational point of view, that those people are very much those that we have to sometimes prioritize and actually not forget about as humanitarian actors. That there's something around the transition there to where the responsibilities are absolutely with the local community, the local actors and the national actors themselves, and really to emphasize that at whenever it's possible to include that into planned strategies, policy and discussions and so on.

Angharad: Thank you, Michelle. Very much appreciate your inputs and your time today. It's been a pleasure as well to have you in the events.

So now we've had an extremely rich discussion. A lot of points coming up and my co-host, Paul, has been following everything very closely. I'd like to turn to you now, Paul, as our last move before we wrap up this event, to see what are your reflections following the discussion. Any key points that came out and reactions that you have from your side? Over to you, Paul.

Paul: Thanks a lot. So it's been a fantastic discussion, from my perspective, because it's been full of ideas, a lot of new information and a wealth of suggestions, I think, the things that the GPC can pick up in on the next 5 years.

I think the key message that Denis raised right at the start, we need to mind our language. Yesica also raised is that we need to be a bit careful about adopting headquarters' language that doesn't fit with local community. So I think there are things like that that have come out.

I won't repeat the suggestions that some of the other panelists have mentioned because I agree very much with what's been said, but I think looking at things like language, working in unpredictable circumstances and how we tackle that better.

Issues that perhaps our housing land and properties should look up where there was mention of building codes needing to be enforced and land issues and landslides and things like that that come up. So there were quite a few things that are very much outside the box and outside of our traditional thinking.

But I guess the key messages were very much that we need to collaborate a lot with authorities. We need to work intensely on these national plans to make sure that protection is incorporated into them, because if we miss that opportunity I think we will miss out for a long time. And we need to communicate carefully with the most marginalized, or often those most affected.

So they're some of the key messages that I've picked up and I'd be very keen to incorporate into our strategic framework for the next 5 years.

So thank you very much to PHAP and to all the participants and panelists. Thanks a lot.

Angharad: Well, thank you, Paul. It's really been a pleasure working with you, putting together today's event, and really glad to hear that it's been useful for the process and can be incorporated into it.

We're wrapping up now. Thanks again to Paul as co-host. Thanks once again to all of our panelists for their terrific inputs, to all of the participants joining from across the world. Thank you for joining and hope that you will join us for the next event coming up. I'll mention the date in just a moment.

The recording for today's events, in case you'd like to share it with a colleague or review yourself as a resource in the future, that will be available both in video and in audio-only podcast formats in the coming days. We'll have a link to that from the event page and we'll also mention the link in the follow-up email to the events.

We'll also be posting the complete pre-event survey results once those have all been compiled. And a note about that. In case you did not have a chance to complete the survey before the webinar, you have one final opportunity today. If you complete it before tomorrow, we will be able to include your input as well in the final report.

So please do that if you haven't had the time yet to complete the survey. Everyone's inputs are very much appreciated on those questions.

As mentioned, we will have another event as part of this partnership between PHAP and the GPC that will take place next week on the 26th of November. The topic being *Coordination and Collaboration with the Global Protection Cluster*. Hope that all of you can join us. And do mention it to colleagues as well who may be interested.

I'd also like to briefly mention another upcoming event that we'll be organizing here at PHAP. This is together with ICVA on Risk Management for Humanitarians that will also take place in the coming days. That's on the 21st of November. So another one you may wish to join us for.

With that, I'd like to once again thank everyone, panelists, participants for a very interesting discussion, and all of the team here at PHAP behind the scenes for putting everything together. Look forward to joining you once again soon in this online space.

For now, this is Angharad Laing signing off from Geneva. Thanks. Good night.