

HUMANITARIAN ACCESS OVERVIEW

July 2023



INTRODUCTION

ACAPS' Humanitarian Access Overview provides a snapshot of the most challenging contexts for humanitarian access globally.

ACAPS analysts considered nine variables to rank and compare humanitarian access levels worldwide. Data was gathered per specific crisis at the national, subnational, and regional levels. Information was then aggregated at the country level, and a country score was provided as an indication of the humanitarian access situation.

The July 2023 analysis found that, between November 2022 and the end of June 2023, crisis-affected populations in more than 37 countries were experiencing high to extreme access constraints, making it challenging for them to meet their basic needs. Since the latest Humanitarian Access Overview from December 2022, four countries (Nigeria, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine) saw a score increase to 5, recording extreme access constraints in the November 2022 to June 2023 period. The deterioration of the humanitarian access situation was a consequence of the developments and aggravating humanitarian conditions in these countries. In line with previous reports, the indicators 'restrictions and obstruction to services and assistance' and 'environmental constraints' were the most common challenges documented throughout the countries, scoring the highest among the considered indicators.

TABLE OF CONTENT

| | |
|---|----|
| INTRODUCTION | 2 |
| HUMANITARIAN ACCESS TRENDS | 5 |
| SCORE MAP | 6 |
| PILLAR 1 | 7 |
| PILLAR 2 | 8 |
| PILLAR 3 | 9 |
| ACCESS INDICATORS | 10 |
| HUMANITARIAN ACCESS EXTREME CONSTRAINTS | 11 |
| HUMANITARIAN ACCESS VERY HIGH CONSTRAINTS | 15 |
| HUMANITARIAN ACCESS HIGH CONSTRAINTS | 21 |

In line with previous reports, the indicators 'restrictions and obstruction to services and assistance' and 'environmental constraints' were the most common challenges documented throughout the countries, scoring the highest among the considered indicators.

This report includes scoreboards for all the countries assessed (see page 10).



INTRODUCTION

HOW ARE ACCESS LEVELS CALCULATED?

ACAPS' methodology groups nine indicators under three dimensions::

PILLAR 1 Access of people in need to humanitarian aid

GO TO PILLAR 1

- Denial of existence of humanitarian needs or entitlements to assistance
- Restriction and obstruction of access to services and assistance

PILLAR 2 Access of humanitarian responders to people in need

GO TO PILLAR 2

- Impediments to enter the country (bureaucratic and administrative)
- Restriction of movement within the country (impediments to freedom of movement and/or administrative restrictions)
- Interference into implementation of humanitarian activities
- Violence against humanitarian personnel, facilities, and assets

PILLAR 3 Physical, environmental and security constraints

GO TO PILLAR 3

- Insecurity or hostilities affecting humanitarian assistance
- Presence of landmines, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), explosive remnants of war (ERW), and unexploded ordnance (UXO)
- Physical constraints in the environment (obstacles related to terrain, climate, lack of infrastructure, etc.)

For definitions and examples of the indicators used, along with details about the data model behind the methodology, please see [here](#).

The scoring model rates indicators on a scale of 0–3 and then combines them in pillars, where they get a final score on a scale of 0–5. The overall access score by country is ranked according to the following scale:

- Extreme access constraints
- Very high access constraints
- High access constraints
- Moderate access constraints
- Low access constraints
- No significant access constraints

Read more
about our
[methodology](#)



INTRODUCTION

WHAT ARE OUR SOURCES?

The Humanitarian Access methodology uses qualitative information sources together with relevant datasets. It collates these sources in a structured way to quantify the level of humanitarian access. ACAPS analysts collect information from a range of credible and publicly available sources, including UN agencies, governments, international and local NGOs, international and local media, and humanitarians working in the countries and areas analysed.

Some of the most relied-upon sources are:

- Aid Worker Security Database by Humanitarian Outcomes
- Aid in Danger project by Insecurity Insight
- Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project
- OCHA's Humanitarian Needs Overviews, Situation Reports, Humanitarian Snapshots, and Access severity mapping
- Landmine Monitor reports

LIMITATIONS

ACAPS' Humanitarian Access Overview faces the same limitations as all secondary data reviews. Information might not be available without physical presence in the countries analysed, and information by third parties might come with a certain degree of delay, especially in very volatile contexts. When possible, analysts cross-check available information with humanitarians working in countries of operation. ACAPS most often assesses contexts in the Humanitarian Access Overview at the country level, meaning some indicators might represent a sum of the crises present in a country. A more detailed granularity is available in the published dataset.

DISCLAIMER

The deterioration or increase in access constraints recorded in some countries might be the result of receiving new information previously not available rather than actual changes in the situation.



HUMANITARIAN ACCESS TRENDS

TRENDS

This overview compares the overall level of humanitarian access between the last Global Humanitarian Access Index published with the report in December 2022 (covering July–October 2022) and this latest ACAPS assessment (covering November 2022 to June 2023) published in July 2023. The trends are reported for all countries (with scores of 0–5). **The reporting period of the trends and narratives correspond to when the data was gathered for the index.**



Humanitarian access
has deteriorated

ARMENIA
AZERBAIJAN
BRAZIL
CHILE
CONGO (REPUBLIC OF
CONGO)
INDIA

ITALY
JORDAN
LEBANON
NAMIBIA
NIGERIA
PERU
POLAND

SUDAN
SYRIA
TANZANIA
TUNISIA
TÜRKIYE
UKRAINE



Humanitarian access
has improved

ETHIOPIA
CHAD
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
DJIBOUTI
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
LIBYA

MOZAMBIQUE
NIGER
THAILAND
PAPUA NEW
GUINEA
PHILIPPINES



Humanitarian access
has remained stable

AFGHANISTAN
ALGERIA
ANGOLA
BANGLADESH
BURKINA FASO
BURUNDI
CAMEROON
CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC (CAR)
DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF KOREA
(DPRK)
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF CONGO (DRC)
ECUADOR
EGYPT
EL SALVADOR
ERITREA
ESWATINI

GAMBIA
GREECE
HAITI
HONDURAS
HUNGARY
INDONESIA
IRAN
IRAQ
KENYA
MADAGASCAR
MALAWI
MALAYSIA
MALI
MAURITANIA
MEXICO
MOLDOVA
MONGOLIA
MOROCCO
MOZAMBIQUE

MYANMAR
NAMIBIA
NICARAGUA
PAKISTAN
PALESTINE
PANAMA
ROMANIA
RWANDA
SENEGAL
SLOVAKIA
SOMALIA
SOUTH SUDAN
SPAIN
SRI LANKA
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
UGANDA
VENEZUELA
YEMEN
ZIMBABWE



CRISISINSIGHT HUMANITARIAN ACCESS SCORE MAP

JULY 2023

Global access ranking

- Extreme access constraints
- Very high access constraints
- High access constraints
- Moderate access constraints
- Low access constraints
- No significant access constraints



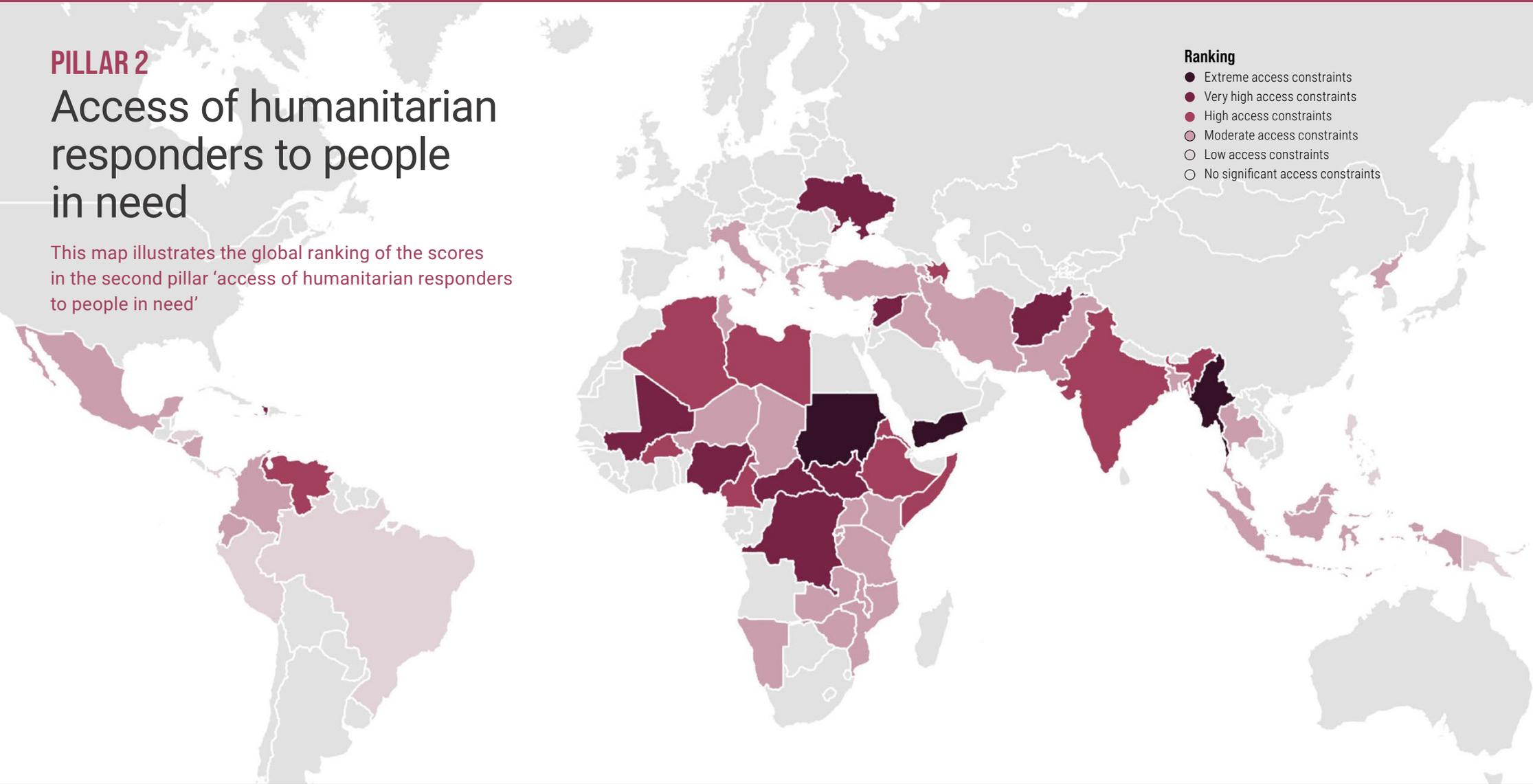
PILLAR 2

Access of humanitarian responders to people in need

This map illustrates the global ranking of the scores in the second pillar 'access of humanitarian responders to people in need'

Ranking

- Extreme access constraints
- Very high access constraints
- High access constraints
- Moderate access constraints
- Low access constraints
- No significant access constraints



PILLAR 1

PILLAR 2

PILLAR 3

- Impediments to enter the country (bureaucratic and administrative).
- Restriction of movement within the country (impediments to freedom of movement and/or administrative restrictions).
- Interference into implementation of humanitarian activities.
- Violence against humanitarian personnel, facilities, and assets.



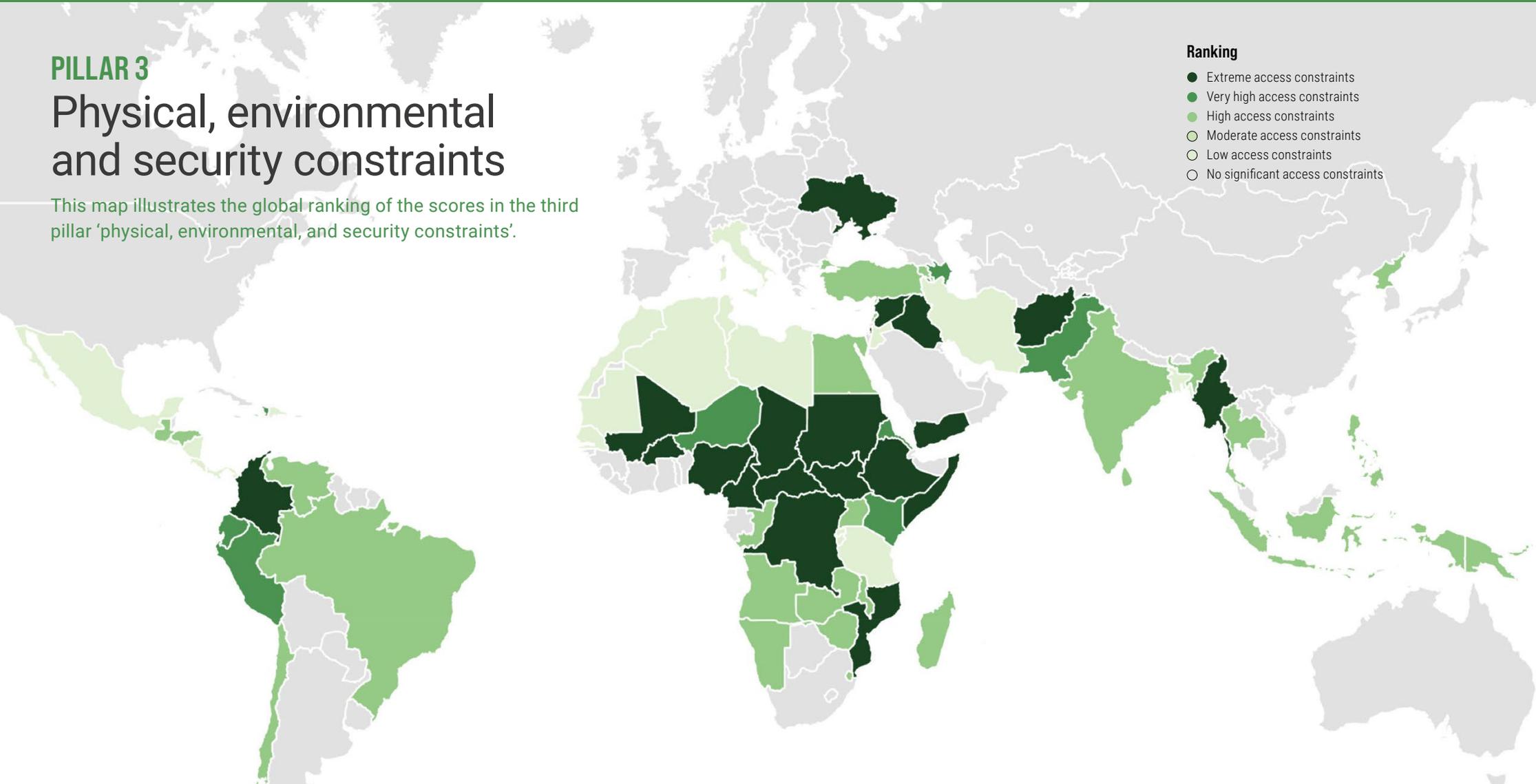
PILLAR 3

Physical, environmental and security constraints

This map illustrates the global ranking of the scores in the third pillar 'physical, environmental, and security constraints'.

Ranking

- Extreme access constraints
- Very high access constraints
- High access constraints
- Moderate access constraints
- Low access constraints
- No significant access constraints



PILLAR 1

PILLAR 2

PILLAR 3

- Ongoing insecurity or hostilities affecting humanitarian assistance.
- Presence of landmines, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), explosive remnants of war (ERW), and unexploded ordnance (UXOs).
- Physical constraints in the environment (obstacles related to terrain, climate, lack of infrastructure, etc.).



ACCESS INDICATORS

| | Afghanistan | Algeria | Angola | Armenia | Azerbaijan | Bangladesh | Brazil | Burkina Faso | Burundi | Cameroon | CAR | Chad | Chile | Colombia | Congo | Costa Rica | Djibouti | Dominican Republic | DPRK | DRC | Ecuador | Egypt | El Salvador | Eritrea | Eswatini | Ethiopia | Greece | Guatemala | Haiti | Honduras | Hungary | India | Indonesia | Iran | Iraq | Italy | Jordan | Kenya | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|------------|--------|----------|------------|------------|--------|--------------|----------|----------|------------|---------|---------|-----------|-------|------------|----------|--------------------|--------|------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-------------|----------|-----------|-------|-----------|----------|----------|---------------------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|-----------|-------|--------|----------|----------|---|
| Overall humanitarian access ranking | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| Denial of existence of humanitarian needs or entitlements to assistance | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| Restriction and obstruction of access to services and assistance | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| Impediments to enter the country | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Restriction of movement within the country | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Interference into implementation of humanitarian activities | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | | | |
| Violence against humanitarian personnel, facilities, and assets | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Insecurity or hostilities affecting humanitarian assistance | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Presence of landmines, IEDs, ERW, and UXO | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Physical constraints in the environment | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| Lebanon | Libya | Madagascar | Malawi | Malaysia | Mali | Mauritania | Mexico | Moldova | Mongolia | Morocco | Mozambique | Myanmar | Namibia | Nicaragua | Niger | Nigeria | Pakistan | Palestine | Panama | Papua New Guinea | Peru | Philippines | Poland | Romania | Rwanda | Senegal | Slovakia | Somalia | South Sudan | Spain | Sri Lanka | Sudan | Syria | Tanzania | Thailand | Trinidad and Tobago | Tunisia | Türkiye | Uganda | Ukraine | Vanuatu | Venezuela | Yemen | Zambia | Zimbabwe | Zimbabwe | |
| 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 2 | |
| 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | |
| 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | |
| 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | | |

[Access the full dataset here](#)



ERITREA



In Eritrea, humanitarian access continues to be extremely constrained. As access constraints have been ongoing for prolonged periods, it is difficult to establish exact timelines for recent events with significant access implications.

While some humanitarian organisations are present in the country, the Government seems to place more emphasis on long-term development programmes, limiting the number of humanitarian projects that can be implemented. UNICEF, WHO, UNHCR, and FAO are some of the few UN agencies allowed to operate in the country, albeit under specific restrictive conditions. In accordance with Proclamation No. 145/2005, INGOs are allowed to operate but only through state ministries or other government entities, depending on the programme/project.

There are considerable movement restrictions in Eritrea. The Government requires official permission for anyone seeking to travel from one region to another, affecting both the access of people in need to assistance and the access of humanitarians to people in need. At checkpoints, authorities continue to request travel permits and identification documents before authorising internal travel. The Government also restricts the access of humanitarians to refugees and asylum seekers, limiting their ability to provide services and aid.

Landmines are present in some areas, including Adi Keyh, Agordat, Arezza, Barentu, Dekemhare, Ghinda, and Nakfa towns, as well as the stretch between Setit and Mereb Rivers, located at the border with Tigray, Ethiopia. The stretch remains a disputed and highly militarised area and inaccessible for humanitarians, making it difficult for the people in need living there to receive aid or assistance. The telecommunications sector remains poorly developed given restrictions by the state-owned telecommunications provider. Landline, mobile phone, and internet networks are unreliable and often limited to major towns and to a few hours of service a day. The Government also controls the issuance of SIM cards, limiting the use of mobile phones. Some rural areas are inaccessible by road and could only be accessed by foot, camel, or donkey. Limited telecommunication services in these areas mean people in need typically walk long distances to facilities with telephones, where they receive information about upcoming humanitarian programmes, such as health interventions.

[READ MORE ABOUT ERITREA](#)



MYANMAR

Since November 2022, extreme access constraints have persisted in Myanmar. Armed conflicts and security measures (checkpoints, roadblocks, curfews) affect humanitarian access, especially in Sagaing region and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Rakhine, and Shan states. These regions face the heavy presence of anti-coup forces (People's Defence Force) or ethnic armed organisations fighting with the military junta. The junta's 'four cuts' strategy – meant to cut off opposition forces from accessing food, finances, intelligence, and recruits – has translated into indiscriminate air strikes, artillery shelling, the burning of villages, and the denial of humanitarian access. As a result, many people have fled violence to remote jungles and forests, such as in Sagaing region and Kayah state, where access to aid and services is very limited. Internet and power outages also reduce the smooth running of operations and information flow in these areas.

Around 600,000 Rohingya in Rakhine state continue to be denied citizenship and have limited freedom of movement and access to paid work, education, and healthcare. The closure of several IDP camps by the junta in Rakhine and northern Shan states are underway, raising protection concerns for IDPs who risk being left in insecure areas without viable alternative solutions. Cyclone Mocha also hit Rakhine on 14 May, damaging and destroying roads, power lines, and telecommunications infrastructure and hindering humanitarian assessments and operations. Although the junta initially approved the distribution of aid and additional travel for wider aid distributions in the state, as at 12 June, it had rescinded the approval and required new clearances.

The current reporting period (November 2022 to June 2023) saw a significant increase in the number of violent events against humanitarians, with 29 being detained or arrested in different events by the military junta or armed groups as compared to none in the past reporting period. The recent Organisation Registration Law enacted in late October 2022 introduced heightened restrictions and expanded registration requirements for national and international humanitarian organisations, adding to the already burdensome bureaucratic processes to operate in the country. The denial of and delays in travel authorisations, visa delays for humanitarians, banking restrictions, and a lack of issuance of tax exemption certificates, which constrain the import of nutrition and medical supplies, continue to affect the humanitarian response.

[READ MORE ABOUT MYANMAR](#)

NIGERIA

In Nigeria, humanitarian access has deteriorated, from very high constraints in November 2022 to extreme constraints in June 2023. Insecurity, political interference in humanitarian activities, and bureaucratic and administrative restrictions particularly constrain access in the BAY states (Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe) and North West region. In February 2023, the Adamawa state government suspended NGO and INGO activities for the whole electoral period until April to prevent interference in the state elections. This disrupted the provision of assistance to people in need across all sectors.

The Borno state government continues to close IDP camps and organise the relocation of IDPs to areas considered unsafe and inaccessible to humanitarians. Between the start of camp closures in May 2021 and November 2022, 10 of 34 camps closed, affecting over 200,000 IDPs. Despite the lack of public services in resettlement areas, the state government prevents humanitarians from providing support to newly relocated IDPs in Borno state.

Insecurity confines the delivery of assistance to garrison towns and their immediate surroundings in government-controlled areas, leaving IDPs outside these areas without assistance. Non-state armed group (NSAG) attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure also continue to hamper the access of people in need to assistance.

The registration process for humanitarian organisations remains complex, and visa restrictions for international staff and extensive clearance processes continue to be in place. The presence of NSAGs and illegal checkpoints along main supply routes also put humanitarians and cargo at risk of violent attacks, abductions, and the theft of assets. These often result in the temporary suspension of aid distribution or a reliance on military escorts, often driving people away from services, particularly in NSAG-contested areas in the BAY states.

Since early 2023, violent incidents have increased and resulted in deaths (including of humanitarians), kidnappings, thefts, and damage to infrastructure, particularly in Borno state and North West and Middle Belt regions. Some WASH and educational facilities remain non-functional because of damage by conflict and a lack of rehabilitation.

The use of IEDs has resulted in civilian casualties, particularly in Middle Belt region and most of Borno state. The extent of landmine contamination per square kilometre is difficult to establish because of movement restrictions by local authorities.

[READ MORE ABOUT NIGERIA](#)



SUDAN

Humanitarian access has largely deteriorated since the start of the conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) on 15 April 2023, mainly in Khartoum (the capital), Omdurman town, and Merowe city in Northern state. Fighting has rapidly spread to cities in other states, such as Ag Geneina (West Darfur state), Al Fasher (North Darfur state), Al Obied (North Kordofan), and Nyala (South Darfur state).

Fighting, aerial bombardments, and significant roadblocks and movement restrictions mainly affect the capital Khartoum. These constraints disrupt people's access to food, water, and healthcare, as well as the supply outside Khartoum, affecting access to services in non-conflict areas. Attacks have targeted healthcare facilities, resulting in the closure of more than 70% of hospitals and health centres as at 28 May, mostly in Khartoum.

The conflict between the SAF and the RSF have also increased intercommunal clashes in Darfur, adding to the spread of violence. This has resulted in the movement of people away from services to flee the violence. Some of the displaced face border closures and delays in crossing to neighbouring Chad, Egypt, or Ethiopia.

Insecurity has also resulted in the relocation of humanitarians to Port Sudan, where organisations have established new hubs. In Darfur region, the access of humanitarians to the affected population has significantly decreased after targeted attacks on humanitarians and humanitarian facilities and assets. An estimated 18 people, including health personnel and humanitarians, have been killed across Sudan since the start of the conflict, many of them in Darfur. The widespread looting of humanitarian aid and assets has led many organisations to suspend operations until both the SAF and the RSF guarantee a safe humanitarian corridor. In all conflict-affected areas, critical infrastructure damage has led to internet and electricity blackouts and fuel, water, and food shortages, creating logistical challenges for humanitarian operations.

[READ MORE ABOUT SUDAN](#)

SYRIA

Humanitarian access in Syria has deteriorated to extreme access constraints during the reporting period as a result of the major earthquakes that hit Syria and Türkiye on 6 and 20 February 2023, aside from the physical and administrative constraints resulting from the current conflict. The earthquakes caused severe damage to critical infrastructure, including transport and telecommunications, in northwestern Syria. The impact destroyed more than 10,000 buildings, including around 170 health facilities, disrupting access to housing and essential services and limiting the humanitarian response.

Since 2011, the presence of different authorities controlling different areas has constrained the access of people in need to humanitarian aid. The Syrian Government and various armed groups control the movement of civilians and humanitarians between the different areas of the country. The politicisation of aid and cross-border resolutions constrain cross-border movement and movement between different areas of control.

Many Syrians are without civil documentation (including identity documents, birth and death certificates, and marriage registrations), limiting their freedom of movement and access to services. This is the result of years of displacement, as well as the fact that various authorities across different areas of the country issue the much-needed documentation.

Difficulties in receiving approval from the Syrian Government and neighbouring countries Türkiye and Iraq for operating in the different areas in Syria seriously constrain the access of humanitarian organisations to people in need.

The US sanctions imposed on the Syrian Government (which controls 70% of the country) since 2011 challenge the transfer of funds to launch humanitarian programmes and activities. Although the US issued a 180-day exemption for disaster aid after the Syria-Türkiye earthquakes, sanctions continue to indirectly affect operations given the legal risks humanitarians face for doing financial transactions in Syria.

Security and physical constraints in Syria are very high given the infrastructure damage that has resulted from both the earthquakes and the continuing conflict. The widespread use of IEDs and ERW limit the use of land and roads in Syria, affecting movement and humanitarian operations.

[READ MORE ABOUT SYRIA](#)



UKRAINE

The humanitarian access situation in Ukraine has deteriorated, from very high to extreme for the November 2022 to June 2023.

The humanitarian access situation in areas under Russian control (parts of Donetsk, Luhansk, Kharkiv, Kherson, and Zaporizhzhia oblasts) primarily drive this deterioration. Humanitarian access to these territories is severely restricted, as there are no formal agreements for the facilitation of crossline humanitarian assistance. Russian forces have taken over civilian facilities, especially medical facilities, for their own use, cutting off civilians from essential services. At the same time, access to services such as pension payments, social assistance, public sector employment, and medical services in these territories is only available to people holding Russian passports. Russian authorities have removed the local currency, the Ukrainian hryvnia, from circulation, replacing it with the Russian rouble, potentially disrupting people's access to cash transfers and financial assistance from family members and organisations in other parts of Ukraine. Crossing between territories under Russian control and other parts of Ukraine via the only recognised checkpoint, Vasylivka (in Zaporizhzhia oblast), has been severely limited since the start of February.

In other parts of Ukraine, access constraints are primarily attributable to shelling and the contamination with mines and UXO of oblasts located along the front lines, challenging humanitarian deliveries and the resumption of farming activities. In communities nearest active conflict, small shifts in the front lines and military operations keep changing the accessibility of certain localities from day to day. Away from the front lines, Chernihiv and Sumy oblasts near the Russian border also face heavy shelling from Russian forces, limiting access for the local population and responders to receiving or providing aid or assistance.

[READ MORE ABOUT UKRAINE](#)

YEMEN

Access constraints in Yemen have continued to impede the ability of humanitarian workers to reach people in need in a timely manner. In the first half of 2023, Yemen witnessed a moderate decrease in the number of incidents affecting humanitarian workers' safety and security, as well as in incidents affecting overall humanitarian access situations.

Bureaucratic impediments, including movement restrictions for humanitarian workers and commodities within Yemen, continue to drive most of the access constraints recorded. Denials or delays in the issuance of travel clearances or permits for humanitarian activities (the delivery of assistance, monitoring and evaluations, and assessments) delay aid delivery to those in need and require replanning that raises operational costs.

The de-facto authority in the north of Yemen (also known as the Houthis) continue to require a Mahram (male guardian) to accompany female Yemeni humanitarian workers while travelling, significantly limiting their capacity to move freely. This has reduced women and girls' access to services and aid. It has also reduced gender-sensitive programming and humanitarian workers' ability to understand women and girls' needs, vulnerabilities, and capacities.

Even though active front lines have decreased since April 2022, incidents deriving from the presence of mines and UXO continue to pose a significant challenge to accessing some areas in Yemen. Contamination severely affects movements and prevents farming and cultivation activities. In some areas, people do not have information about contaminated areas, only learning about the presence of mines and other ERW by observing the pattern of injuries and deaths in the area.

There also continue to be frequent reports of different Yemeni authorities interfering with humanitarian activities. These interruptions include the suspension and disruption of humanitarian activities, interference in project design and implementation, and arbitrary demands for information or documentation from humanitarian organisations. Attacks on humanitarian convoys, the abduction of humanitarian workers, and carjackings also continue to disrupt operations. Five UN staff remain kidnapped since February 2022.

[READ MORE ABOUT YEMEN](#)



HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

VERY HIGH

CONSTRAINTS

Humanitarian
access with

● Very High Constraints

AFGHANISTAN



Stability in the overall access score of the country is the result of a simultaneous deterioration, through increased restrictions on women by the Interim Taliban Authority (ITA), and improvement, through a reduction of security incidents and weaker effects of the physical environment on access.

The ITA decrees of 24 December 2022 and 4 April 2023 banned Afghan women from working in NGOs and UN agencies, respectively, limiting women and girls' access to jobs, services, and assistance and interrupting humanitarian operations. As at 26 March 2023, 14 humanitarian organisations had suspended activities following the ban, while 75 had reduced their operations.

The ITA continues to restrict women and girls' access to education, justice, and public spaces (e.g., parks, gyms, and baths) and their freedom of movement (by requiring travel with a close male relative). Girls' secondary schools have remained closed since September 2021, while women have been barred from accessing universities since December 2022. In Kandahar and Helmand provinces, all government and NGO educational activities have stopped since April 2023. Humanitarian programme approvals have been faster than under the Republic Government, but the ITA seeks more control over aid recipient selection processes and asks for detailed information about humanitarian staff and activities.

In the first half of 2023, there was a drastic reduction in armed attacks claimed by the Islamic State – Khorasan Province compared to the second half of 2022. Armed violence continues in certain locations but rarely affects civilians' access to services. In some areas, severe winter conditions and environmental degradation disrupted transportation, travel, and humanitarian access between December 2022 and January 2023. On 21 March 2023, a magnitude 6.5 earthquake hit nine provinces and killed 14 people, injured 80, and damaged 665 houses. Humanitarian access and infrastructure were not affected significantly.

[READ MORE ABOUT AFGHANISTAN](#)



BURKINA FASO



Humanitarian access constraints in Burkina Faso remain very high as a result of NSAG activity across the country. NSAG attacks and military operations by the Burkinabe army continue to generate insecurity, trigger displacements, and disrupt access to essential services and aid. NSAGs surround several communes in Est, Nord, and Sahel regions, causing severe movement restrictions. Of particular concern is Djibo town (Sahel), encircled since February 2022, where inhabitants have almost no access to essential services and aid.

NSAG attacks against supply convoys targeting military forces and the presence of explosive devices along supply routes lead to delays in aid delivery and the destruction of aid supplies. Military authorities continue to impose the use of armed escorts in Centre-Nord, Est, and Sahel regions despite the security risk for humanitarians of being associated with military forces. Air transport services, the only way for humanitarians to maintain regular food deliveries to the areas under blockade in Loroum (Nord), Soum, and Yagha (Sahel) provinces, remain very limited.

Since January 2023, targeted attacks by armed men in Boucle du Mouhoun region have killed two humanitarians, leading to a temporary suspension of Médecins Sans Frontières' activities across the country. Armed groups continue to target health facilities through attacks on medical personnel, ambulance seizures, and the destruction of health infrastructure. These incidents and the resulting insecurity often lead to the temporary suspension of patients' medical evacuations within and outside the most affected regions. In conflict-affected areas, a lack of medicine and biomedical equipment worsens the health situation of the population.

[READ MORE ABOUT BURKINA FASO](#)

CAMEROON



The humanitarian access situation has remained stable in Cameroon since December 2022. A very high level of access constraints persists particularly in Far North, Northwest, and Southwest regions. In contrast to areas affected by armed conflict, Adamaoua, East, and North regions, which host Central African refugees, present less access constraints. In conflict-affected areas, movement restrictions imposed by NSAGs continue to limit access to services. In Northwest and Southwest regions, the regular lockdowns imposed by separatist

forces, which can last several days, lead to the temporary suspension of humanitarian activities. In Momo division (Northwest), a five-day lockdown in February suspended movements and deprived more than 25,000 people of their monthly food ration.

For INGOs, customs procedures for humanitarian goods remain costly and lengthy, hindering aid delivery. Roadblocks and payment demands by all parties to the conflict, despite assurances and all required authorisations from authorities, cause delays and affect the safety of transported humanitarian goods. Local authorities sometimes require humanitarians to obtain written authorisations from the army or national authorities for the implementation of activities, hampering the smooth running of operations. Lengthy administrative procedures for obtaining visas for international staff contribute to delaying the deployment of humanitarians.

Armed groups in Northwest and Southwest regions accuse some humanitarian organisations of working for or supporting the Central Government. These suspicions pose persistent challenges to humanitarian access.

Insecurity and poor road conditions continue to limit the delivery of assistance in the most conflict-affected areas across the country.

[READ MORE ABOUT CAMEROON](#)

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)



The access situation in CAR has been more stable compared to the second half of 2022, but insecurity linked to armed violence and military operations have maintained humanitarian access constraints at a very high level in most areas of the country.

In the western prefectures of Mambéré-Kadéï, Nana-Mambéré, Ouham, and Ouham Pende, the presence and impact of explosive devices have increased significantly since 2021, when conflict intensified between armed groups and the army. Since the start of 2023, 44 incidents involving explosive devices have killed 20 civilians, higher than the 12 people killed in the whole of 2022. Recurrent landmine- and IED-related incidents restrict movements, limiting people's access to farmland, schools, and hospitals and delaying humanitarian operations. Recurrent interference in humanitarian activities by armed groups and state authorities, such as the searching of humanitarian bases and immobilisation of humanitarian vehicles, also continue to hamper humanitarian access. Illegal taxes continue to be imposed by armed groups on humanitarians when passing through certain checkpoints. Since the beginning of 2023, convoy robberies by armed men have killed one humanitarian and injured eight others. There have also been several reports



of attacks, looting during aid distributions, threats, and intimidation against humanitarians. Armed clashes continue to target public services. In February, armed men looted the Sikikede health centre in Vakaga prefecture after the staff fled. Regular periods of fuel shortages given supply difficulties lead to significant delays and additional costs in humanitarian activities. Poor road conditions remain a major humanitarian access constraint, making transport slow, difficult, and sometimes impossible, isolating communities in need of assistance.

[READ MORE ABOUT CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC](#)

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

Access constraints remain very high in the DRC, particularly in the east of the country. Attacks by armed groups against civilians and military operations against armed groups, such as the March 23 Movement (M23) and the Allied Democratic Forces, continue. The insecure environment hampers humanitarian access for both the people affected and humanitarian organisations.

Administrative constraints continue to delay the implementation of humanitarian activities. Obtaining the necessary authorisations to operate in the country, as well as customs procedures particularly for relief items, is often time-consuming. New measures from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, adopted in January 2023, also make it difficult for the international staff of humanitarian organisations to obtain visas. Some local or provincial authorities request additional authorisations or taxes, sometimes without legal basis, for access to their areas of control. In North Kivu province, several humanitarian organisations have halted their activities in Kitshanga and Mweso localities as a result of the suspension of road traffic between Goma and Kitshanga because of insecurity linked to M23 activity. In Ituri province, humanitarian activities were also postponed in Djugu territory in February following several incursions by armed groups. Two humanitarians have been killed, eight injured, and eight kidnapped throughout the country since the start of 2023. Most of the incidents are attacks by armed men.

In several territories in the east of the country, armed incursions also prevent people in need from accessing public services and aid. Armed groups have attacked more than 150 schools in North Kivu since January 2023, affecting the education of more than 62,000 children.

Multiple logistical constraints hampering aid delivery, such as the advanced deterioration of road sections because of heavy rains and violent winds during the rainy season (February–June), were recorded in February.

[READ MORE ABOUT DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO](#)

ETHIOPIA

The humanitarian access situation in Ethiopia has shown improvements compared to the previous reporting period (July–November 2022). This improvement can largely be attributed to the signing of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement in November 2022 between the Federal Government of Ethiopia and the Tigray People's Liberation Front. That said, some challenges during the reporting period, especially in northern Ethiopia, limited the ability of people in need to access services and restricted the movement of humanitarians. Woredas along the Eritrea-Ethiopia border, northeastern Amhara, and Western zone of Tigray recorded the main humanitarian access constraints. The temporary closure in February 2023 of a road connecting Amhara and Addis Ababa, combined with the presence of checkpoints and localised curfews, restricted movements and made it difficult for civilians to access services in these regions.

Undocumented refugees also face difficulties in accessing services, as they are unable to prove their status. IDPs have been forced to flee to safer places but away from services. For example, in February, gunmen attacked and killed IDPs in Ano city, Oromia region, forcing survivors into secondary displacement. Insecurity in Benishangul Gumuz, Gambela, western and southern Oromia, Somali, and Southwest regions continues to constrain humanitarian access and response. Violence continues to challenge humanitarian access in some zones in Benishangul Gumuz, Oromia, and Somali regions.

In Tigray, reports of food aid diversion have resulted in the suspension of aid distribution in May 2023, including for organisations providing food assistance, such as the WFP. Over the past six months, there have also been incidents of violence against humanitarians in Amhara, including two killings, eight kidnappings, and the looting of four UN trucks in Nejo town, West Wellega, Oromia region.

Heavy rains caused flash floods between March–May 2023 in various regions of Ethiopia, including Afar, Amhara, Oromia, Sidama, Somali, and Tigray. The floods destroyed roads and bridges, constraining humanitarian access for both humanitarians and affected people. Afar region remained inaccessible over the three months.

[READ MORE ABOUT ETHIOPIA](#)



IRAQ



Humanitarian access remained highly constrained across Iraq from November 2022 to June 2023. Discriminatory policies around accessing documentation, especially for displaced populations, constrain the access of people in need to humanitarian aid. Around 430,000 people lack civil documentation in Iraq, resulting in the denial of entitlements to assistance and access to basic services. The lack of documentation also puts certain groups at risk of statelessness, especially children. There are around 1.2 million IDPs in Iraq, including 100,000 who continue to live in informal settings with limited humanitarian services. The vast majority live in host communities and are unable to return to their areas of origin because of insecurity and a lack of rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure. This is the case for more than 200,000 Yazidis displaced from Sinjar town in Ninewa governorate. More than 590,000 returnees are estimated to live in highly insecure locations given the presence of armed groups, ethnic tension, and damaged infrastructure, among other issues.

The access of humanitarians to people in need has improved since January 2023 given increased security and reduced movement restrictions for people and goods. That said, administrative impediments continue to affect humanitarian activities. National and international NGOs often have to obtain additional authorisations for operating from regional authorities besides national ones. Many authorities request information on staff and programming to process the application. NGOs operating in Iraq also report interference in their internal structures.

Despite the improvement in the security situation in 2023, the presence of landmines and ERW in some areas of the country continues to hamper movements and recovery efforts. Sporadic attacks by armed groups and frequent air strikes against the Kurdistan Workers' Party also continue to target public infrastructure.

[READ MORE ABOUT IRAQ](#)

MALI



The humanitarian access situation remains stable, with very high access constraints in the centre and north of Mali. Clashes between the Malian armed forces and their allies on one side and NSAGs, who are strengthening their influence and control of supply routes across the country, on the other continue to hamper humanitarian access.

In Gao, Ménaka, and Mopti regions, threats, extortions, and attacks by armed groups against civilians are causing forced displacement to areas with very limited services and assistance because of insecurity. In Segou and Ménaka regions, movement restrictions imposed on civilians in areas under the control of armed groups further limit access to services. The threat posed by NSAGs has already suspended many services since January 2023.

Recurrent incidents at checkpoints, including attacks, kidnappings, robberies, and the intimidation of responders, limit humanitarian access to people in need. Armed groups continue to destroy and sabotage road and communication infrastructure, slowing the movement of humanitarians. They have kidnapped at least five responders since the beginning of 2023, while attacks have injured three others, mainly in the regions of Gao, Ménaka, and Mopti. These incidents have led to the postponement or cancellation of humanitarian field visits and operations in conflict-affected areas.

The postponements of humanitarian deployments are also linked to military operations against armed groups and the persistence of incidents involving explosive devices along main supply routes. People in need living in areas contaminated by explosive devices, such as the Ségou-Niono and Dogofry-Diabalay (Segou) routes, experience considerable delays in aid delivery. In Douentza (Mopti), several schools closed in February following attacks by armed groups, further limiting access to education in an area already heavily affected by school closures.

[READ MORE ABOUT MALI](#)



PALESTINE



The Israeli blockade of the Gaza Strip and the military occupation of the West Bank constrain the access of people in need to humanitarian aid. Travel in and out of both areas require the approval of Israeli authorities, who often deny even travelling permits for those seeking critical medical assistance. In the West Bank, people need permits from Israeli authorities to move, work, and continue living in their homes, especially in areas behind the separation barrier. There are also around 600 Israeli checkpoints and permanent road blockages in the West Bank that delay or block Palestinians from moving and accessing aid.

The access of humanitarians to people in need is also challenging. Restrictions on the import of essential products, relief items, and equipment that qualify as 'dual-use' items with potential military use constrain humanitarian activities, especially in Gaza. Local NGOs face administrative barriers, the closure of their accounts at Israeli banks, and the confiscation of material. NGOs working in East Jerusalem face a high financial and administrative burden to carry out their activities. Obtaining visas for international staff to access the Gaza Strip and the West Bank is also challenging, time-consuming, and sometimes impossible for certain nationalities. Security and physical constraints also severely limit humanitarian access in Palestine, mainly given the conflict between Palestinian armed groups and the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF). In the first half of 2023, the Israeli occupation demolished more than 365 structures that offered WASH, shelter, and livelihood services to people in need in the West Bank. The IDF also carries out frequent air strikes targeting civilian infrastructure, such as hospitals, schools, and public buildings. The latest of these air strikes occurred in May 2023, targeting a civilian neighbourhood that killed 13 people, including four children.

[READ MORE ABOUT PALESTINE](#)

SOMALIA



Access in Somalia remains highly constrained. Conflict continues to impede humanitarian access and service delivery, especially in Galmudug, Hirshabelle, Jubaland, and Southwest states, where the Government is conducting counterinsurgency operations against Al-Shabaab. The counterinsurgency operations are likely to continue, leading to large-scale violence and continued humanitarian access constraints.

In the past six months, insecurity along the main supply routes and fighting have restricted the access of humanitarians in Las Anod city and Bay, Bakool, Galmudug, Hirshabelle, Lower Shabelle, and Middle Juba regions and prevented civilians from accessing services and assistance. Tensions in December 2022 in Southwest state and the disputed Sool region also caused movement restrictions, preventing humanitarians from reaching people in need. Al-Shabaab is also preventing humanitarians from accessing areas under their control.

'Gatekeepers' continue to limit access to aid and assistance for minority clans (Banadir Swahili, Bantu, and Oromo speakers) in IDP sites in Baardheere, Ceelbarde, Diinsoor, Waajid, and Xud-dur districts. These gatekeepers are landowners, district officials, or businessmen, often from dominant clans, who control access to the land used by IDPs. They provide IDPs with some services, such as shelter or protection, in exchange for payments or the aid that they receive from humanitarian organisations. In the absence of government-run camps, some gatekeepers act as intermediaries between IDPs and humanitarian organisations.

Clans sometimes interfere in humanitarian operations, at times also through violence, as they aim to control humanitarian resources. This interference prevents the implementation of principled humanitarian action and occasionally leads to the suspension of programmes. The presence of checkpoints countrywide, particularly in Al-Shabaab-controlled areas in central and southern Somalia, restricts humanitarian access to people in need. Fees for the passage of goods continue to be imposed at legal and illegal checkpoints, increasing the reliance on airlifts, which are costly.

Flooding following the onset of the Gu rainy season (March–May) has damaged some roads and supply routes, affecting the availability of commodity stocks in markets such as in Harardhere town, in Galmudug state, and access to aid and assistance for IDPs in flood-affected areas (including in Adado district and Bardera town in Gedo region).

[READ MORE ABOUT SOMALIA](#)



SOUTH SUDAN



South Sudan continues to experience very high humanitarian access constraints. The April 2022 decree by the Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management remains operational, affecting humanitarian activities. The decree requires the international staff of NGOs to provide valid work permits and other documentation that can only be obtained in their countries of origin. Delays in providing the documentation attract fines. The registration process for humanitarian organisations and projects is complex and lengthy, with different requirements and processes at the national, state, and district levels.

Humanitarian cargo remains subject to taxes at all checkpoints across the country, even though UN agencies and NGOs are exempt from taxation. In December 2022, humanitarian organisations in Unity, Central Equatoria, and Western Equatoria states were requested to pay extra fees for safety inspection certificates.

The increased presence of illegal checkpoints along the major supply routes restricts access to people in need. In January 2023, humanitarians were prevented from traveling to Wau town from Kuajok town at the Tharkueng checkpoint because they lacked clearance documents.

Incidents of violence against humanitarians and humanitarian assets have been reported since the start of 2023, including killings, arrests, and looting. In January 2023, armed men requesting an increase in the number of food items distributed in Buong, Ulang county, arrested the head of a humanitarian convoy in the area. In December 2022, the looting and destruction of humanitarian facilities was reported in Gumuruk town, Jonglei state, leading to the temporary suspension of operations and staff relocation. Fighting in Fashoda county, Upper Nile state, and demonstrations in Makpandu refugee camp in Western Equatoria state in December and November 2022, respectively, also caused the suspension of activities and relocation of staff. Insecurity and aid diversion restrict the access of people in need to aid. Aid diversion by local authorities and community leaders was reported in Juba, Rubkona, and Yambio counties.

Parts of South Sudan, including Unity state, remain largely flooded, with 80% of land still affected by the 2022 flooding. Because most roads are not paved, roads to areas in need of humanitarian assistance are often flooded and in disrepair.

[READ MORE ABOUT SOUTH SUDAN](#)



AZERBAIJAN



Humanitarian access in Nagorno-Karabakh deteriorated during the reporting period (November 2022 to June 2023), mainly because of restrictions on the movement of people and goods through the Lachin corridor. The Lachin corridor is the only land connection between Nagorno-Karabakh, populated mostly by 120,000 ethnic Armenians, and Armenia. Movement restrictions through the corridor have caused shortages in essential medicine and food, especially in early 2023. The Azerbaijani Government claims that the road is open for Russian peacekeepers and emergency services of the International Committee of the Red Cross, but transit is still limited for both trucks transporting supplies and stranded civilians trying to return to their homes. In April 2023, the Azerbaijani Government installed a formal checkpoint at the corridor, effectively formalising the blockade.

Complex registration procedures, which hinder both the formation and operations of national and international NGOs, constrain the access of humanitarians to the affected population. In 2021, the European Court of Human Rights found out that registration denials for NGOs violated the freedom of association in the country in more than 32 cases brought before the court.

Physical constraints also challenge people's access to services and ability to meet basic needs. Disruptions to the gas supply, electricity, and internet connectivity by the Azerbaijani authorities were reported in the first half of 2023, demonstrating the ability of the Azerbaijani Government to affect access to essential resources indispensable to the survival of the population in Nagorno-Karabakh.

NOTE: although the humanitarian access score is given at the country level, this reflects the access situation in Nagorno-Karabakh specifically, in relation to the crisis resulting from conflict in the region.

[READ MORE ABOUT AZERBAIJAN](#)



CHAD



Humanitarian access in the country has improved, from very high to high access constraints in the first half of 2023.

The access situation usually improves in the country during the dry season (November–March), as access constraints in Chad are closely linked to the status of road infrastructure, which worsens during the rainy season expected to start in June. Physical constraints in the flood-prone eastern and southern parts of the country are likely to hamper assistance to the Sudanese refugees who recently fled the violence in their country.

Despite some improvements in the access situation, clashes between the army and NSAGs, as well as intercommunal violence, have forced the internal displacement of populations in areas where access to services is very limited, such as the island areas of Lac province. The lack of civil documentation for some refugees, returnees, displaced people, and local populations also hinders people's access to basic services.

Security constraints also continue to hamper humanitarian access, particularly in Lac province, although no cases of physical violence against humanitarians have been reported in the reporting period (November 2022 to June 2023). Conflicts and military operations often lead to temporary suspensions of the movements of humanitarians to and in conflict areas. Aid delivery via the humanitarian air service to the east of the country is subject to several interruptions as a result of kerosene supply disruptions. The lengthy procedure for obtaining authorisations to travel to certain localities in the country, particularly in Lac province, is one of the main bureaucratic constraints for humanitarians' access to the affected population. Humanitarian organisations also report interference by the authorities in the recruitment process of staff and the selection of suppliers.

The eastern and southern areas of the country, which mainly host refugees, present less humanitarian access constraints, although there are several information gaps regarding access to services, bureaucratic impediments, and security constraints in these regions.

[READ MORE ABOUT CHAD](#)

COLOMBIA



Colombia faced high humanitarian access constraints in the first half of 2023, an improvement from very high constraints in the previous reporting period. Gustavo Petro's Government has established programmes to assist people in need and strengthened policies to guarantee the welfare of the Venezuelan population residing in Colombia, determining a consequent improvement of humanitarian access in the country.

Despite improvements in recognising the humanitarian situation in the country and people's needs, insecurity continues to constrain humanitarian access. The presence and activities of various NSAGs, such as the National Liberation Army (ELN) and dissidents of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, as well as paramilitary groups and drug cartels in some areas of Colombia continue to restrict humanitarian access, drive displacement, and hamper people's movement through confinements.

Armed violence particularly affect Afrodescendants and indigenous communities, as well as Venezuelans, confined or displaced mostly in remote areas far from humanitarian aid, such as the departments of Arauca, Chocó, and Cucuta. The national army, NSAGs, paramilitary groups, and cartels also set up checkpoints in different parts of the country, affecting the mobility of humanitarian organisations in reaching people in need. During disputes over the control of drug trafficking routes, especially in rural areas, armed groups close roads, hampering people's movement.

Explosive device contamination near schools, crops, and transit routes continue to limit people's access to farmlands and essential services.

In 2023, rains have caused floods and landslides mainly in the departments of Cauca, Cundinamarca, Neiva, and Santander. These damaged houses and crops, closed schools, and reduced access to important roads, such as the Pan-American Highway. Most rural areas in the country remain without paved roads, restricting people's mobility and access to services.

[READ MORE ABOUT COLOMBIA](#)



DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA (DPRK)

In the DPRK, the humanitarian access situation has remained stable since January 2023, with high constraints recorded. The Government's strict control over information and restricted entry to the country have resulted in a significant lack of data on the overall humanitarian situation.

The Government's response to the COVID-19 outbreak, including strict border closures and import halts, has aggravated the humanitarian crisis and further reduced humanitarian access in the country. It has prevented most UN agencies and INGOs from returning to the country since 2020 (OHCHR 21/03/2023). As a result, the DPRK is facing a significant decline in humanitarian aid. In 2022, UN humanitarian aid for the country decreased to 90% compared with 2021. Although the country has requested assistance from humanitarian organisations, the access constraints are preventing them from providing such assistance to people in need. The withdrawal of most UN agencies and INGOs from the country has left China as one of the DPRK's few remaining sources of external aid. Some trade has resumed between the DPRK and China, but the DPRK continues to face food and currency shortages and a lack of essential supplies. The country imposes strict restrictions on freedom of movement, with increased road checkpoints, travel restrictions between districts, and stringent regulations on travelling abroad without government approval. These movement restrictions have worsened following the COVID-19 pandemic.

The DPRK maintains a longstanding social and political classification system called songbun that favours groups loyal to the ruling party. This system creates significant discrimination against certain groups, from deciding their place of residence to limiting their access to employment, education, public services, markets, and domestic travel. Forced internal resettlement is routine, often involving the relocation of individuals to rural areas, further isolating them from essential services and possibly aid.

[READ MORE ABOUT DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA](#)

EL SALVADOR

El Salvador has continued to face high humanitarian access constraints since November 2022. Humanitarian and political issues overlap in the country. Since the state of emergency began on 27 March 2022, certain neighbourhoods have been closed and militarised, especially in San Salvador, to prevent suspected gang members from entering or leaving. These measures have made it difficult for the population to move, including for those in need of services or humanitarian aid.

The Bukele Government has also shown to categorise or stigmatise and denied assistance to people or groups with characteristics considered exclusively gang-related (such as tattoos). The continued prolongation of the state of emergency and the stigmatisation of these groups have increased the number of IDPs, as people who may be suspected of being gang-related move to remote areas for safety.

The rainy season is expected between May–October, during which flooding and strong winds are frequent, although they usually do not affect people's ability to move and responders' ability to reach those in need. El Salvador has generally good road infrastructure, including in mountainous areas, connecting remote rural and urban areas.

[READ MORE ABOUT EL SALVADOR](#)

HAITI

Haiti continued to face high humanitarian access constraints since November 2022. Although its ACAPS access score has remained stable, gang violence and territorial control by gangs have risen in several areas of the country, and people continue to experience heightened humanitarian needs. By April 2023, at least 80% of the city of Port-au-Prince was under the territorial control of gangs. Several humanitarian organisations have reported having to negotiate with gangs to move safely. Armed groups impose checkpoints in Port-au-Prince and demand payment from users travelling by car or motorbike, affecting the delivery of humanitarian aid. Checkpoints are present at seaports and oil terminals, making access even more difficult and increasing the cost of humanitarian operations.

Between October 2022 and February 2023, there have been at least 72 attacks, including fire-bombings, robberies, and the kidnapping and killing of teachers and students, up from 8



in the same period in the previous year. Attacks on medical facilities and on medical staff and patients have led to the closure of some hospitals and the suspension of humanitarian health programmes, although there is an information gap on the exact numbers.

Following the earthquake of 14 August 2021, the full reconstruction of road infrastructure has not yet been completed, restricting the passage of humanitarian aid into southern Haiti.

The blockade of the country's main fuel terminal by armed gangs between September–November 2022 limited mobility from the capital to other regions and generated a lack of fuel, aggravating the fuel crisis in the country for the following months. Fuel shortages have affected electricity production and the transport of medicine, oxygen, and medical equipment.

[READ MORE ABOUT HAITI](#)

INDIA



Humanitarian access in India deteriorated during the reporting period (November 2022 to June 2023), primarily because of the increased crackdown on NGO activities by the Government, along with frequent internet shutdowns and movement restrictions limiting people's access to basic services.

The registration process for organisations, including humanitarians, can take up to a year and is subject to denial, suspension, or cancellation for non-compliance with regulations governing the functioning of NGOs in the country. Since September 2020, amendments to the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) have introduced additional administrative and practical hurdles both for local and international NGOs. These restrictive amendments preceded raids and investigations against NGOs, the imposition of limitations on foreign donations, the freezing of bank accounts, and the granting of power to national authorities to de-register organisations. Since 2018, the Indian Government has canceled FCRA registration for 1,827 NGOs as a result of law violations. Recently, the Government attempted to limit fundraising within India, as indicated by recent letters issued by government ministries requesting the termination of fundraising campaigns by certain organisations for childhood malnutrition, avoidable blindness, and disability rights. The letters stated that the Government was already addressing these issues.

India has also continued to implement internet shutdowns. More than half of these were recorded in Jammu and Kashmir. These shutdowns have limited access to crucial information and limited access to livelihoods, education, and health services for people in the union territory. Since May 2023, heightened security measures have been implemented in Jammu and

Kashmir to ensure the smooth progress of the G20 Tourism Working Group meeting, resulting in frisking, security checks, and search operations on the local population and school closures. Since January 2023, India's northern region has been facing severe weather events, including heavy snowfall and rain, landslides, and flash floods that have disrupted daily activities, damaging buildings, highways, and bridges. These have further resulted in road and highway blockages, restricting the movement of people to access services.

[READ MORE ABOUT INDIA](#)

INDONESIA



Humanitarian access constraints in West Papua region have remained high. The Government's militaristic approach to the insurgency in the region has continued. The low-intensity conflict with the West Papua National Liberation Army has persisted, with the number of armed conflict incidents and resulting fatalities increasing compared to the previous reporting period (July–October 2022). As a result, many people have fled their homes to escape the longstanding conflict and are living in remote areas, such as forests, where they lack access to food, sanitation, medical treatment, and education and do not receive any government aid. The displaced are unwilling to return to places of origin out of fear of security forces' presence and violence. The Government's disposition towards displaced Papuans indicates the downplaying of their needs. Access to information on the humanitarian situation in West Papua region remains very low given the access restrictions imposed on humanitarian responders and journalists, resulting in scarce information regarding the humanitarian situation of displaced people. Almost all international aid organisations and independent foreign journalists still do not have access to the region. The Government has rejected previous UN initiatives to monitor the human rights situation in West Papua region.

The country also has a law restricting internet services and authorises the arrest of journalists who publish content considered to be prohibited by the authorities. This law gives authorities the scope to control the narrative of conflict in West Papua region.

NOTE: although the humanitarian access score is given at country level, this narrative particularly focuses on the access situation in West Papua region, where most access constraints are recorded.

[READ MORE ABOUT INDONESIA](#)



KENYA



In Kenya, humanitarian access constraints remain high. A lack of legal documentation constrain the access of refugees to humanitarian assistance. The country hosts about 800,000 refugees and asylum seekers, of whom over 570,000 were registered as at January 2023. Over 80,000 asylum applications were pending in the Refugee Status Determination (RSD) process as at 31 March. The registration of refugees through the RSD process is a prerequisite for receiving assistance and accessing public services. Obtaining the required documentation may take months or years depending on the complexity of the RSD application and information required. The lack of such documentation impedes access to vital assistance, including medical services and education.

LGBTQ+ refugees in Kakuma continue to face discrimination and violence for their sexual orientation and gender identity and expression, particularly in accessing services in refugee camps. This hostility stems from the perception in the wider refugee population that most refugees in the camp are from restrictive cultural and religious backgrounds that reject people part of the LGBTQ+ community.

The Kenyan Parliament is currently considering a proposed Family Protection Bill 2023 (also known as the Anti-homosexuality Bill). If passed as law, it would prohibit same-sex marriage and allow for the imprisonment/expulsion from the country of anyone promoting LGBTQ+ activities, including refugees. Flooding following the March–May rainy season was reported in April in Mandera county, with road access restricted in areas around Kutulo. Flooding has also affected parts of Elgeyo Marakwet, Isiolo, Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu, Turkana, Wajir, and West Pokot counties.

[READ MORE ABOUT KENYA](#)

LEBANON



Humanitarian access in Lebanon deteriorated, from moderate to high access constraints, during the reporting period (November 2022 to June 2023).

The new policies adopted in 2023 by the Lebanese authorities aimed at coercing refugees to return to Syria hamper the access of people in need to humanitarian aid. This is despite the UN Human Rights Council declaring that Syria is not a safe place for returns. In April 2023, the

Lebanese authorities set up checkpoints in some areas of the country to review the documentation of non-Lebanese people and arrested Syrians without valid documents, with reports of hundreds being deported within 2023. Curfews for Syrian refugees only are being enforced in some areas of Lebanon, such as Bint Jbeil municipality in Nabatiye governorate. These curfews restrict their ability to move and conduct livelihood activities. Refugees in irregular situations are also unable to access formal employment and essential public services, including health-care or education.

The access of humanitarians to people in need is challenging given social unrest and sporadic violence. The presidential vacuum, delayed municipal elections, and political gridlock are contributing to the institutional paralysis of the country. This is worsening the humanitarian needs in the country and affecting the implementation of humanitarian programmes and activities.

Physical and logistical constraints are also reducing humanitarian access in Lebanon.

Restrictions on the import of relief items and equipment, besides challenges in accessing fuel and essential commodities resulting from hyperinflation, are preventing the smooth running of humanitarian operations.

[READ MORE ABOUT LEBANON](#)

LIBYA



Humanitarian access across Libya has slightly improved since November 2022, mainly because of a decrease in armed conflict. During the reporting period, there were no major clashes between armed groups that affected people's movement towards services or humanitarian operations.

That said, migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers continue to experience high humanitarian access constraints. The Libyan legal framework for the obtention of legal documentation is restrictive. Those who lack proper documentation, either because they entered irregularly or they needed to renew official documentation, often face exploitation, harassment, and gender-based violence by state and non-state entities. They are also exposed to other risks such as death, disappearance, and torture. For these people, access to basic services, aid, and assistance, including protection assistance, is very limited. Some refugees end up having expired documents and do not seek to renew them for fear of arbitrary detention by Libyan officials. Overall, many migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers are moved to official and unofficial detention centres, where humanitarian organisations are denied access, further limiting available services.



Humanitarian organisations in Libya face several restrictions and challenges, mainly related to money transfers and the issuance of visas for international staff. Bureaucratic and administrative impediments continue to hamper the funding of humanitarian programmes, with limitations on cash withdrawals and international transfers. About USD 1 million are still awaiting authorisation from banks to be transferred to INGO accounts. Since March 2022, no visas have been issued for international staff. This has led to the delay and cancellation of activities. The registration process for humanitarian organisations is complex and time-consuming, while increased scrutiny by national authorities continues to shrink humanitarian space.

[READ MORE ABOUT LIBYA](#)

MEXICO



Mexico has continued to face high humanitarian access constraints since January 2023. The situation has remained stable, and although the López Obrador Government acknowledges the humanitarian needs in the country generated from gang violence and/or mixed migration, there are still severe restrictions on the access to aid and services of people in need.

At the southern border, migrants and asylum seekers who enter the country without the required documentation must wait for the Mexican Commission for Refugee Assistance to resolve their case in the state through which they entered. Waiting times for the regularisation are very long, and the lack of legal documentation hinders their access to formal employment and essential services, like healthcare and education. This is also preventing them from moving to other states to access humanitarian aid.

At the northern border, the expiration in May 2023 of Title 42 generated crowds of people trying to cross into the US before the return to Title 8 became effective. Under Title 8, after deportation, migrants and asylum seekers are no longer allowed to apply for asylum for the next five years and risk criminal prosecution if they attempt to do so, unlike with Title 42.

The presence of armed groups and drug cartels continues to limit people's movement and drive displacement in Mexico, especially in the northern region. People in need often face confinements, which severely limit their ability to move and access humanitarian aid. Some people flee violence by displacing in remote rural areas that are difficult to access and far from humanitarian aid. Checkpoints set up by drug cartels, Mexican self-defence groups, and the armed forces also limit the movement of people in need towards humanitarian aid.

Mountain ranges make up more than 70% of Mexico's territory. Communities living in rural areas do not always have access to road infrastructure. 56% of the country's households also lack access to public transport infrastructure. These physical conditions make it difficult for humanitarian aid to reach remote areas.

[READ MORE ABOUT MEXICO](#)

MOZAMBIQUE



Humanitarian access in Mozambique has improved since late 2022, but the level of constraints remains high because of insecurity, particularly in Cabo Delgado province, bureaucratic impediments, and the overall physical environment.

In Cabo Delgado, armed violence and movement restrictions imposed by authorities prevent the access of people in need to services and aid. In April 2023, NSAG attacks in Miangalewa district forced people to move to Muidumbe district, driving them away from services and assistance. In December 2022, the chief of Nangade district required permits for any movements beyond 5km of the district. Insecurity and violence also significantly limit the access of humanitarian organisations to people in need in conflict-affected areas. Since January 2023, NSAGS have killed two humanitarians in Cabo Delgado province, and unidentified armed men have injured one during an attack in Nampula province. Although there were no road closures preventing access to conflict-affected areas during the reporting period (November 2022 to June 2023), checkpoints were present, limiting people's freedom of movement and triggering security incidents, such as altercations between humanitarians and police officers after the refusal to pay unofficial fines.

Complex registration requirements for NGOs remain a significant constraint, with the most challenging requirement being the need for at least ten 'founders' to register an organisation. The obtention of visa permits for international workers is complex, affecting humanitarian organisations' ability to respond. Fuel scarcity continues to constrain humanitarian movements, with recurring fuel price hikes throughout the reporting period. Some districts in Cabo Delgado and Nampula are hard to reach because of poor roads, limiting access to services for people in need.

The rainy and cyclone seasons that typically run from November–May have also affected humanitarian access. Floods and cyclone Freddy in February destroyed critical infrastructure and disrupted telecommunication services, hampering aid delivery to affected areas.

[READ MORE ABOUT MOZAMBIQUE](#)



NICARAGUA

Nicaragua has faced high humanitarian access constraints since November 2022. The situation has remained stable, although government policies have tightened the access of humanitarian organisations.

The Government of Nicaragua generally denies the humanitarian needs resulting from the socioeconomic and political crisis that has been escalating since 2018. The State denies protection and assistance for political prisoners, journalists, and, in general, opponents of the Government.

Since 6 June 2022, Nicaraguan authorities have passed laws and resolutions cancelling the legal registration of more than 7,000 NGOs and foundations. Humanitarian activities have been further restricted since 20 February 2023, with the entry into force of Presidential Decree 01-2023. Through this decree, the Government has imposed new restrictions on the right to assemble, introduced the possibility to cancel the legal personality of NGOs, and legalised the confiscation of NGO assets.

Humanitarian and political issues overlap in Nicaragua. The Government tends to close or suspend the operations of the humanitarian organisations that it deems to be opposed to it. Since January, at least 26 humanitarian organisations have closed, affecting humanitarian access and decreasing the effectiveness of assistance.

The rainy season in Nicaragua usually starts in mid-April and early May and lasts until the end of December. Although rainfall has been low so far, it is likely to increase in the coming months, affecting mobility and humanitarian access.

[READ MORE ABOUT NICARAGUA](#)

NIGER

Humanitarian access in Niger improved during the first half of 2023 thanks to a decrease in the intensity of armed group activity and weather events.

Although armed attacks are regularly reported, violence against civilians has considerably diminished, and humanitarian organisations have experienced less security constraints since January 2023. The dry season reduces the level of environmental constraints, although poor road conditions continue to challenge the supply of commodities. In Diffa region, certain logistical constraints linked to the movement of humanitarians decreased as the Komadougou

River receded during the first quarter of 2023. Despite these improvements, NSAG control over certain roads prevents people from reaching humanitarian aid in safer localities. Movement restrictions resulting from the state of emergency in Diffa, Tahoua, and Tillabéri regions also continue to limit people's access to services. Insecurity continues to limit the access of humanitarians to Malian refugees in need in Tillabéri region, slowing down needs assessments and the provision of assistance.

Temporary restrictions on the movement of motorcycles, as well as closures of gas stations and money transfer agencies, also hamper humanitarian activities in the country. The administrative procedures for obtaining authorisations to carry out humanitarian operations remain long, complex, and costly. Delays are attributed to the superposition of authorities that makes the procedures cumbersome. The military escorts required by the authorities in the regions of Diffa, Tahoua, and Tillabéri also challenge humanitarian organisations' principles of intervention and security protocols and increase operational costs.

In a number of instances, state authorities have interfered in aid delivery and tried to receive the list of aid recipients in certain areas.

[READ MORE ABOUT NIGER](#)

PAKISTAN

Since late 2022, the humanitarian access situation in Pakistan has remained stable but highly constrained.

In the provinces of Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the presence of armed groups, such as the Balochistan Liberation Army and Tehreek-e-Taliban (TTP), has persisted. Following the end of a ceasefire in November 2022 between TTP and the Government, there has been a notable rise in TTP attacks, contributing to a heightened sense of insecurity and tension in the region. The increase in militant attacks, coupled with military checkpoints and security operations, have limited people's movement and access to services.

Political instability within the country has fueled protests, prompting the Government to implement road blockages and mobile internet shutdowns at major cities. These have limited people's movement and access to healthcare, education, information, and livelihood opportunities.

Unregistered Afghan nationals lack protection and access to essential services. In March 2023, the Government implemented a policy requiring 3.7 million Afghans and Afghani-registered refugees in the country to register with the local police to be able to move freely within Pakistan.



The violence, coupled with bureaucratic obstacles, also pose difficulties for humanitarians attempting to reach people in need and is resulting in a slow recovery from the monsoon floods of 2022. In August 2022, the Federal Government allowed local NGOs to conduct flood relief activities without restrictions, but national and international NGOs faced significant restrictions in their ability to operate. These restrictions involved obtaining government permissions for travelling, planning, and implementing activities. The registration process lacks transparency and efficiency, leading to slow approvals. INGOs face additional challenges in fundraising, opening bank accounts, and obtaining tax-exempt status and visas for international workers. Local NGOs face strict regulations and the denial of permission to operate.

Since January 2023, the country has also experienced an unusually cold wave, causing heavy snowfall and rainfall, disrupting people's daily lives, and leading to communication and road closures, further challenging people's access to aid and services. In April, heavy rainfall in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa led to overflowing rivers and flash floods, resulting in landslides, casualties, property destruction, and crop damage. It challenged the access of flood-affected people to services.

[READ MORE ABOUT PAKISTAN](#)

PERU



Peru has faced high humanitarian access constraints since late 2022. The access situation in the country has deteriorated because of the political and social crisis affecting the living conditions of the 1.5 million Venezuelan migrants and refugees in the country.

The Government has on several times criminalised Venezuelans with an irregular status, as it considers their presence as fuelling the current political and social crisis and increasing insecurity. Since January, it has been common for migrants and refugees with an irregular status to be stranded at the border without the possibility of crossing into Chile or returning to Peru. In late April, Peru has also militarised its borders for 60 days to reinforce surveillance and address the insecurity that the Government associates with Venezuelan migration.

Since January, the presence of Colombian armed groups has limited mobility on the Colombian-Peruvian border, mainly affecting indigenous communities and Venezuelans. Social and political instability, protests, and the state of emergency have also restricted the passage of Venezuelan migrants and refugees, especially on the northern border and in Lima. Crime has also been another factor affecting the mobility of Venezuelans.

Peru has deserts and mountainous areas, where access is more complex and there is limited road infrastructure. Since March 2023, heavy rains have further deteriorated bridge and road infrastructure, making passage difficult, especially in Lima and the north, where there is a larger Venezuelan population in need of humanitarian assistance. Protests over social unrest have led to fuel shortages and road blockades, further affecting mobility.

[READ MORE ABOUT PERU](#)

TÜRKIYE



Humanitarian access in Türkiye deteriorated to high access constraints during the reporting period, mainly as a result of the major earthquakes that hit southeastern Türkiye on 6 and 20 February 2023 and killed more than 50,000 people, as well administrative constraints on NGO operations in the country.

The earthquakes displaced around three million people, with around 1.5 million displaced in informal settlements with underserved shelter and services. The impact of the quakes led to significant physical constraints for Türkiye in the first half of 2023. The earthquakes damaged more than half a million buildings, aside from roads, airports, and seaports, restricting the movement of goods and people and limiting the ability of humanitarians to deliver aid to affected people.

Southeastern Türkiye has also been the site of conflict between government forces and Kurdish armed groups for more than 35 years, destroying thousands of buildings and displacing up to 1.1 million people, with no information available on whether they are still displaced. There are large information gaps and very little information on the humanitarian impact of the Kurdish conflict and on the humanitarian access situation in southeastern Türkiye.

Administrative constraints have led humanitarians to face challenges in providing aid and assistance to the affected population in Türkiye. Registration processes for humanitarian organisations are considered complex, and the Government uses the laws combatting money laundering and financing terrorism to harass national NGOs. Although more of a concern for human rights organisations, these constraints also create obstacles for organisations wanting to address the humanitarian needs in the Kurdish conflict-affected areas.

[READ MORE ABOUT TÜRKIYE](#)



VENEZUELA



Venezuela continues to face high humanitarian access constraints since late 2022. The Maduro regime claims that conditions in Venezuela have improved, while humanitarian reports persist to acknowledge a crisis with high level of needs for protection, food, NFIs, livelihoods, health, WASH, and education.

The provision of aid in Venezuela remains politicised, and some existing laws – such as the Special Automated Registry of Non-Governmental Organisations Not Domiciled in the Country – allow for the denial of access to humanitarian organisations on grounds of public order or sovereignty. On 24 January 2023, the Government approved the first discussion of the draft of the Law on the Control, Regularisation, Performance, and Financing of NGOs and Related Institutions, which seeks to subject national and foreign NGO projects to state authorisation, further limiting humanitarian access.

People in need also face restrictions, especially because of armed violence. Clashes between the armed forces and Colombian and Venezuelan armed groups have led to cross-border displacement since January. People move to municipalities far from the capitals and with restricted access to services and aid. The confinement of populations by armed groups and the putting up of checkpoints in the border states of Amazonas, Apure, Táchira, and Zulia are also frequent, reducing the ability of people to move and access humanitarian aid.

Venezuela's geography presents mountainous, jungle, and desert areas that generate logistical impediments to humanitarian access. The presence of remote locations and lack of roads make movement difficult in certain regions, such as in Amazonas state. The population in Venezuela is confronted with deficient critical infrastructure when it comes to gas supply, transport, road safety, and telephone network.

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ACAPS

Avenue de France 23
5th floor
CH 1202 Geneva
+41 22 338 15 90
info@acaps.org