

# HUMANITARIAN ACCESS OVERVIEW

December 2021



# INTRODUCTION

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

ACAPS analysts considered nine variables to rank and compare humanitarian access levels worldwide. Crisis-affected populations in more than 70 countries are not receiving the humanitarian assistance they need because of access constraints.

No new countries have entered the ranking since the last [Humanitarian Access Overview](#) from July 2021<sup>1</sup>. In line with the previous report, the indicators ‘restrictions and obstruction to services and assistance’ and ‘environmental constraints’ are the most common challenges throughout the crisis, scoring the highest among the considered indicators.

This report includes scoreboards for all the countries assessed (see page [eight](#)).

Analytical narratives are provided only for countries scored between levels 3–5 (i.e. high, very high, and extreme constraints).

## Extreme Constraints ●

AFGHANISTAN  
CAMEROON  
ERITREA  
ETHIOPIA  
MALI  
NIGERIA  
PALESTINE  
SYRIA  
VENEZUELA

## Very High Constraints ●

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)  
COLOMBIA  
DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF KOREA (DPRK)  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)  
IRAQ  
MYANMAR  
NIGER  
SOMALIA  
SOUTH SUDAN  
UKRAINE  
YEMEN

## High Constraints ●

BANGLADESH  
BURKINA FASO  
CHAD  
HAITI  
HONDURAS  
INDONESIA  
IRAN  
KENYA  
LEBANON  
LIBYA  
MEXICO  
MOZAMBIQUE  
NICARAGUA  
SUDAN  
THAILAND  
TURKEY

## TRENDS

This overview is a comparison of the overall level of humanitarian access between the last report published in July 2021 and the current assessment:

  
Humanitarian access  
has deteriorated

ALGERIA  
CAMEROON  
COLOMBIA  
DPRK  
ESWATINI  
INDONESIA  
IRAN

KENYA  
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO  
UKRAINE  
VENEZUELA

  
Humanitarian access  
has remained stable

AFGHANISTAN  
AZERBAIJAN  
BANGLADESH  
BURKINA FASO  
BURUNDI  
CAR  
CHAD  
CONGO  
DJIBOUTI  
DRC  
ECUADOR  
EGYPT  
EL SALVADOR  
ERITREA  
ETHIOPIA

GREECE  
GUATEMALA  
HAITI  
HONDURAS  
IRAQ  
ITALY  
LEBANON  
LESOTHO  
LIBYA  
MADAGASCAR  
MALAWI  
MALI  
MAURITANIA  
MEXICO  
MOROCCO

NICARAGUA  
NIGER  
NIGERIA  
PALESTINE  
RWANDA  
SENEGAL  
SOUTH SUDAN  
SPAIN  
SYRIA  
TANZANIA  
THAILAND  
TURKEY  
UGANDA  
ZIMBABWE

  
Humanitarian access  
has improved

ARMENIA  
BRAZIL  
COSTA RICA  
INDIA  
JORDAN  
MALAYSIA  
MOZAMBIQUE

MYANMAR  
NAMIBIA  
PAKISTAN  
PERU  
PHILIPPINES  
SOMALIA  
SUDAN

TUNISIA  
YEMEN  
ZAMBIA

<sup>1</sup>. Countries assessed are those that are presently experiencing crisis and have met the criteria of the INFORM Severity Index. In this case, no crises have opened in a new country since July 2021.



# INTRODUCTION

## HOW ARE ACCESS LEVELS CALCULATED?

ACAPS' methodology groups nine indicators under three dimensions:

### PILLAR 1 Access of people in need to humanitarian aid

SEE THE MAP

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

### PILLAR 2 Access of humanitarian actors to affected population

SEE THE MAP

- 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 Security and physical constraints

SEE THE MAP

- Insecurity or hostilities affecting humanitarian assistance.
- Presence of landmines, improvised explosive devices, explosive remnants of war and unexploded ordnance.
- 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, please see [here](#).

**The scoring model rates indicators on a scale of 0–3, 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 constraints
- Very high access constraints
- High access constraints
- Moderate access constraints
- Low access constraints
- No significant access constraints

## WHAT ARE OUR SOURCES?

The Humanitarian Access methodology uses qualitative information sources together with relevant datasets. It collates these 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 and Situation Reports
- Landmine Monitor

[Read more about our methodology](#)

## LIMITATIONS

ACAPS' Humanitarian Access Overview faces the same limitations that all secondary data reviews are confronted with: 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.

Contexts in the Humanitarian Access Overview are most often assessed on the country level, meaning that some indicators might represent a sum of the crises present in the country. A more detailed granularity is available in the published dataset.

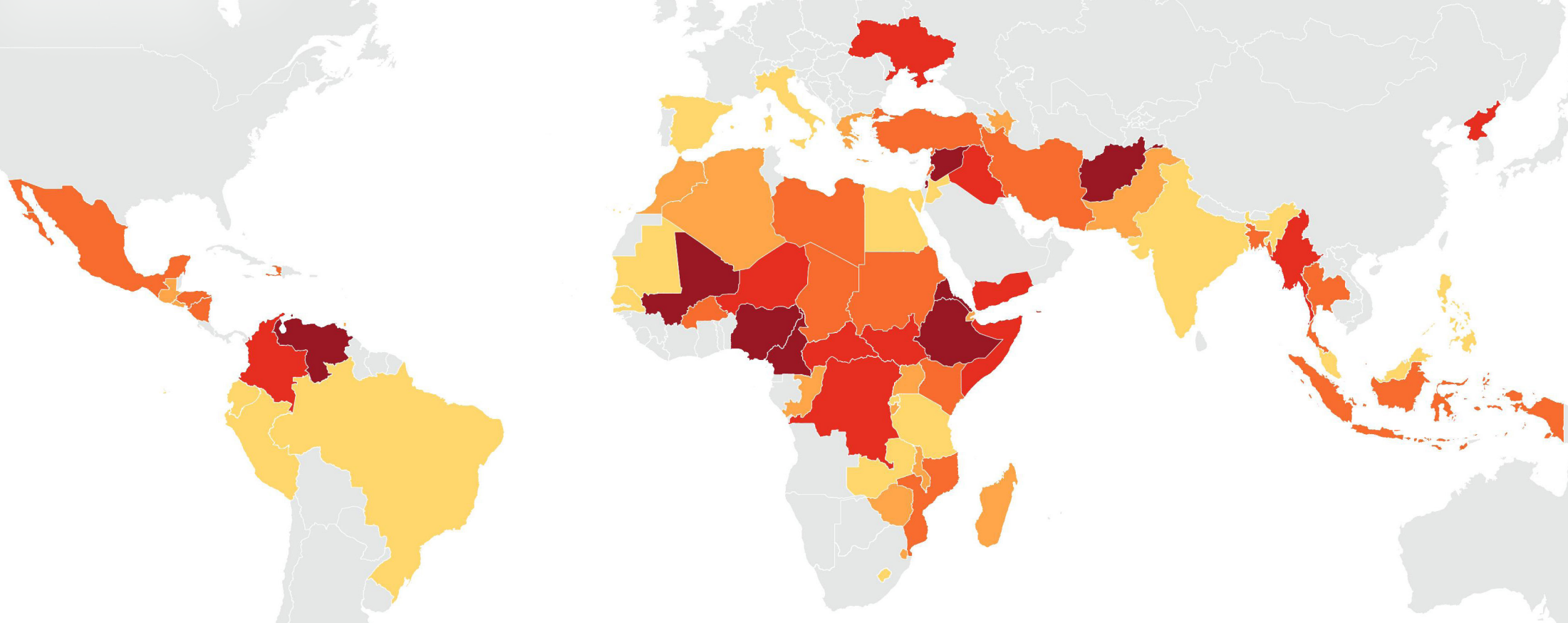
## DISCLAIMER

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



# CRISISINSIGHT HUMANITARIAN ACCESS SCORE MAP

DECEMBER 2021



### Global access ranking

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



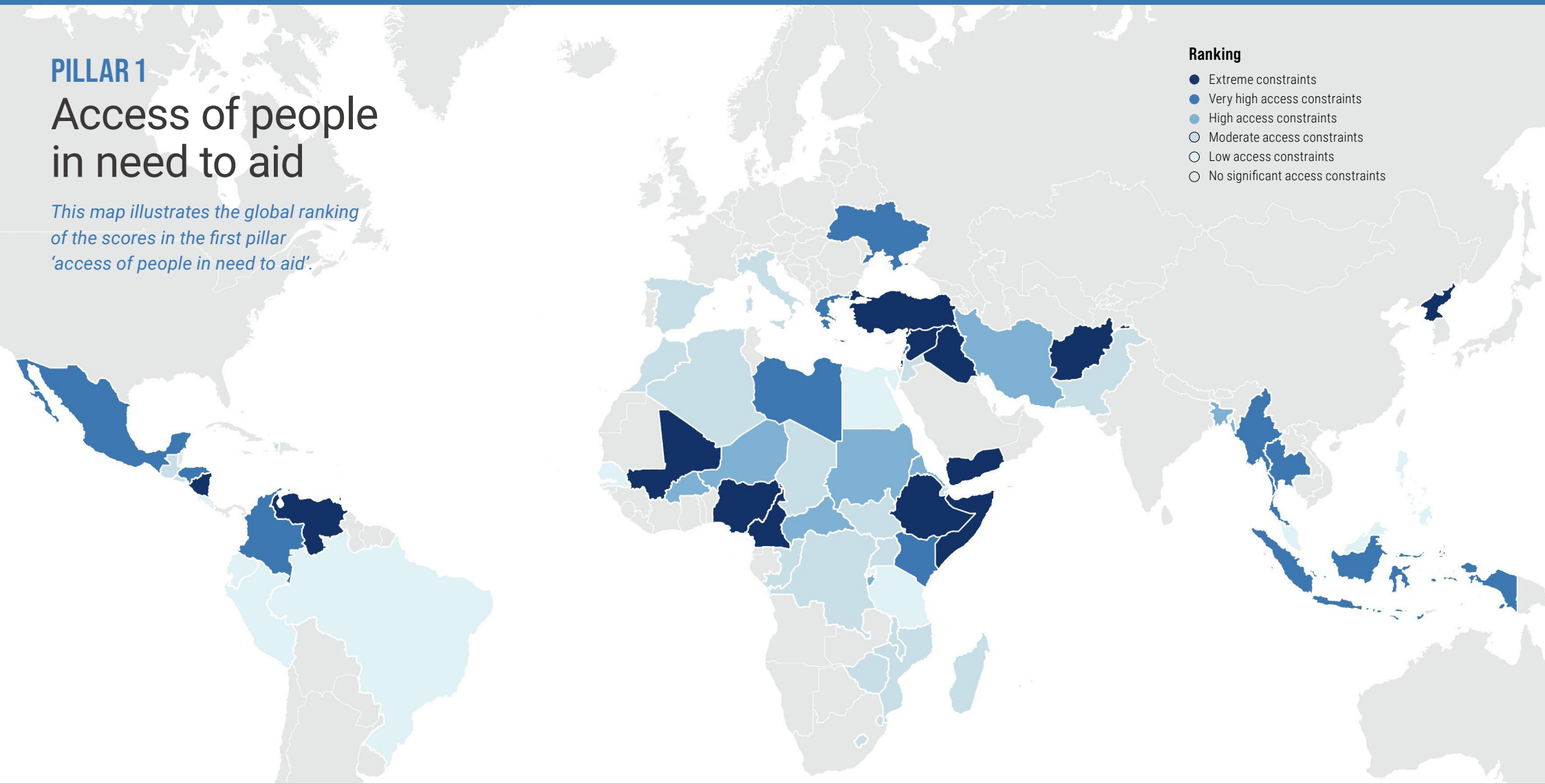
## PILLAR 1

# Access of people in need to aid

*This map illustrates the global ranking of the scores in the first pillar 'access of people in need to aid'.*

### Ranking

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



### PILLAR 1

### PILLAR 2

### PILLAR 3

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



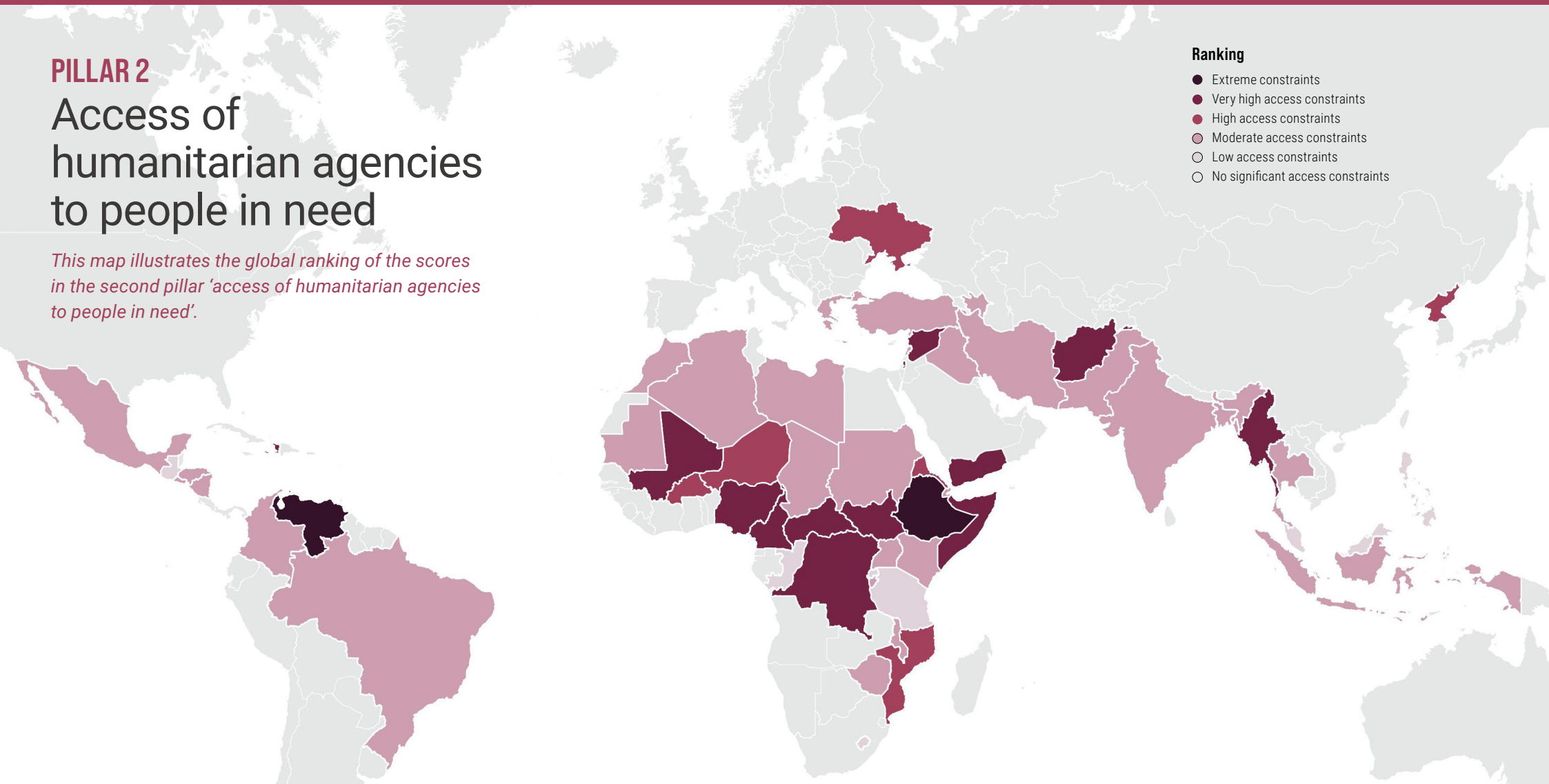
## PILLAR 2

# Access of humanitarian agencies to people in need

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

### Ranking

- Extreme 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.



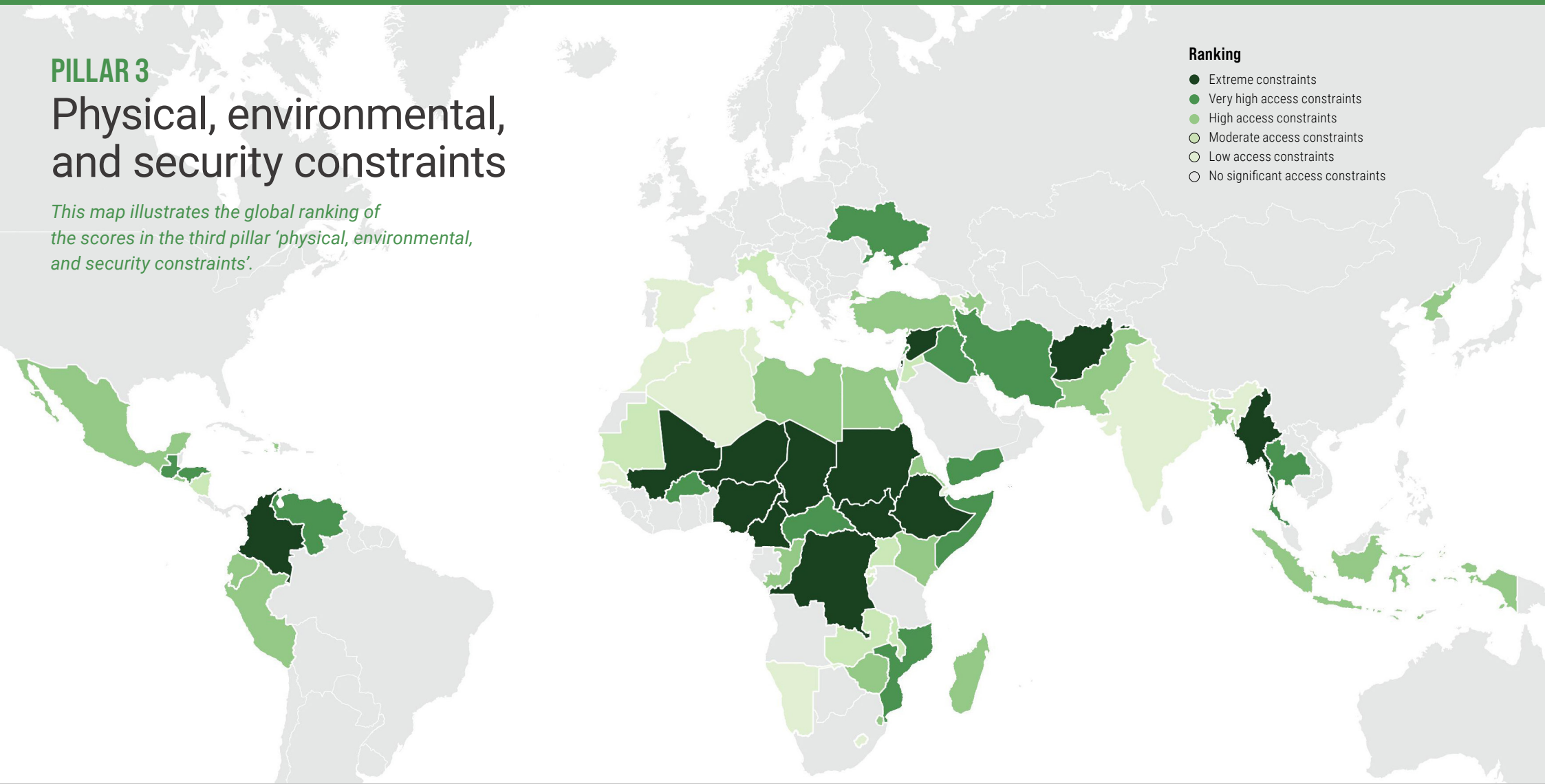
## PILLAR 3

# 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 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	Armenia	Azerbaijan	Bangladesh	Brazil	Burkina Faso	Burundi	Cameroon	CAR	Chad	Colombia	Congo	Costa Rica	Djibouti	DPRK	DRC	Ecuador	Egypt	El Salvador	Eritrea	Eswatini	Ethiopia	Greece	Guatemala	Haiti	Honduras	India	Indonesia	Iran	Iraq	Italy	Jordan	Kenya	Lebanon	Lesotho	
<b>Overall humanitarian access ranking</b>	5	2	0	2	3	1	3	2	5	4	3	4	2	0	2	4	4	1	1	2	5	2	5	2	2	3	3	1	3	3	4	1	1	3	3	1	
Denial of existence of humanitarian needs	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	2	0	0	2	0	2	2	3	0	0	2	2	0	
Restriction of access to services and assistance	3	2	0	0	2	1	3	1	3	3	2	2	2	1	2	3	2	1	1	2	0	2	3	2	2	2	2	0	2	1	3	2	2	2	2	2	
Impediments to entry into country	1	1	0	1	2	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	3	0	3	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	
Restriction of movement within the country	2	2	0	0	1	1	3	1	3	3	3	3	0	0	1	2	3	0	0	3	1	0	3	0	1	3	1	1	2	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	
Interference with humanitarian activities	2	2	0	1	2	1	3	2	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	2	0	3	2	0	3	1	1	2	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	
Violence against personnel, facilities and assets	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ongoing insecurity / hostilities	3	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	0	2	3	0	3	1	3	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Presence of landmines, IEDs, ERW and UXOs	3	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	3	1	2	1	3	0	
Physical constraints in the environment	3	0	0	1	3	0	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	0	1	3	3	2	0	1	1	1	3	0	2	3	2	0	1	2	1	1	0	1	2	1	

	Libya	Madagascar	Malawi	Malaysia	Mali	Mauritania	Mexico	Morocco	Mozambique	Myanmar	Namibia	Nicaragua	Niger	Nigeria	Pakistan	Palestine	Peru	Philippines	Rwanda	Senegal	Somalia	South Sudan	Spain	Sudan	Syria	Tanzania	Thailand	Trinidad and Tobago	Tunisia	Turkey	Uganda	Ukraine	Venezuela	Yemen	Zambia	Zimbabwe
<b>Overall humanitarian access ranking</b>	3	2	2	1	5	1	3	2	3	4	0	3	4	5	2	5	1	1	1	1	4	4	1	3	5	1	3	2	0	3	2	4	5	4	1	2
Denial of existence of humanitarian needs	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	1	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	2	0	2	2	0	2	0	2	3	3	0	0
Restriction of access to services and assistance	2	2	0	1	3	0	2	1	2	2	0	3	3	3	2	3	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	2	3	1	2	3	0	3	2	2	3	3	0	2
Impediments to entry into country	1	0	2	1	0	2	0	2	1	1	0	2	1	1	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	3	2	0	2
Restriction of movement within the country	3	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	3	3	0	0	3	3	2	3	0	1	0	0	3	3	0	2	3	1	1	1	0	1	1	3	3	3	0	1
Interference with humanitarian activities	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	2	2	0	1	2	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	1	1	2	3	3	0	1
Violence against personnel, facilities and assets	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Ongoing insecurity / hostilities	1	1	0	0	3	0	1	0	3	3	0	0	3	3	1	3	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	3	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	3	2	0	0
Presence of landmines, IEDs, ERW and UXOs	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	1	3	0	1	2	0	3	0	1	3	0	3	0	1	0	2
Physical constraints in the environment	1	3	2	0	3	0	2	0	1	3	0	2	3	3	2	3	2	0	1	0	2	3	1	3	3	0	1	1	0	1	2	1	3	3	2	2

Access the full dataset [here](#)





### AFGHANISTAN



Humanitarian access continues to be extremely restricted after the withdrawal of US troops and the Taliban takeover of the country on 15 August 2021. The security situation deteriorated between July–August, which hampered people’s movement to access humanitarian and non-humanitarian services. While the security situation has improved recently, sporadic violent attacks are still being reported. Taliban’s regulations and approach towards humanitarian organisations also remain uncertain despite assurances to allow their operations in the country. There are also reports of Taliban officers visiting NGO offices and questioning operations. Access to health services is challenging, as 87% of Afghanistan’s 2,300 health facilities have closed following the takeover and the suspension of international donors’ assistance. This temporary suspension of humanitarian funds and operations has affected people’s access to aid. Active humanitarian organisations also struggle with limited capacity and national staff, as well as a shortage of supplies. Insecurity, fear, and Taliban interference challenge people’s mobility and their access to aid, with women and girls, ethnic minorities, and undocumented people being the most affected. The safety of female aid workers remains a major concern for organisations still operating in Afghanistan. Insecurity around Kabul airport and border closures create more challenges for Afghan asylum seekers who attempt to flee the country. The operations of humanitarian organisations are also affected by movement restrictions and insecurity. Access to humanitarian services across the country is hampered by poor infrastructure, which is recurrently damaged because of conflict and natural disasters. Road closures and checkpoints also cause delays in the provision of aid and hinder humanitarian staff movement.

[READ MORE ABOUT AFGHANISTAN](#)

### CAMEROON



Humanitarian access is deteriorating considerably, particularly because of increasing restrictions on movement and violence against civilians in the northwest, southwest, and far north regions. Following a ban on the population’s movement imposed by armed separatist groups from 15 September to 2 October, about 200,000 people were denied access to food following the disruption of humanitarian activities in the northwest and southwest regions. This ban severely affected access to essential services such as health and education. Military operations are an additional constraint, forcing many humanitarian organisations to suspend their activities because of insecurity. The Government has suspended the activities in English-speaking regions of one humanitarian organisation accused of supporting armed separatist groups. There are also reports of attacks against humanitarian workers and their property. In the past six months, one humanitarian has been killed and four others kidnapped in the northwest region. Because of roadblocks by armed groups, some health facilities are running out of medicines and medical supplies, making the functionality of health services extremely difficult. Access to certain areas, especially in the far north, northwest, east, and Adamawa regions, is more difficult given the poor condition of the roads, especially during the rainy season in June–September.

[READ MORE ABOUT CAMEROON](#)



## ERITREA



Eritrea remains one of the most challenging countries for humanitarian organisations to operate in. The Eritrean Government has never publicly acknowledged the humanitarian crisis in the country and refuses or ignores any information depicting Eritrea in a negative light. There is very limited humanitarian presence: only a small number of UN agencies are mandated to operate in the country, over which the Eritrean Government exercises rigid control. There are considerable information gaps regarding the humanitarian situation in the country as a result of the suppression of free speech and the lack of independent media. This situation makes it difficult to obtain reliable information on the access situation.

[READ MORE ABOUT ERITREA](#)

## ETHIOPIA



Humanitarian access continues to be extremely restricted, particularly because insecurity and bureaucratic obstacles persist in northern Ethiopia.\* Since 2 November, a six-month nationwide state of emergency has been in place, but its implications on humanitarian access are still unknown. The security of aid workers, along with anti-UN and humanitarian sentiments, is an increasing concern, especially following the Government's suspension of several international humanitarian organisations in August, the expulsion of UN officials on 30 September, and the arrest of UN staff and contracted drivers in November. Despite improvements in access within the Tigray region since July, physical access into Tigray has been severely limited since the last access report, and there is only one accessible road for the transportation of humanitarian cargo. Truck movement has been sporadic because of insecurity and bureaucratic issues. Aid supplies, including fuel and cash needed for humanitarian operations, have been frequently blocked. In late October, the limited humanitarian flights between Addis Ababa and Mekele facilitating staff movement were temporarily suspended until late November. Electricity, communication, and banking services in the region are non-functional. Essential services are largely unavailable or limited. Since July, the conflict has spread to Afar and Amhara, where insecurity and communication blackouts increasingly affect access, including to newly displaced people. Conflicts unrelated to the northern Ethiopia crisis also limit access in other parts of the country, particularly in the Benishangul Gumuz and Oromia regions.

*\* Since mid-October, fighting in northern Ethiopia has been intensifying, resulting in a volatile and unpredictable security and access situation. Developments since November could not be considered in this report.*

[READ MORE ABOUT ETHIOPIA](#)

## MALI



Humanitarian access remains extremely constrained as a result of the activity of armed groups in the northern, central, and southern regions. The denial of access to essential services through the confinement and isolation of villages and the restriction of people's movements by armed groups have become particularly common in the Mopti and Ségou regions. The recurrent establishment of roadblocks, the sabotage of telephone networks, and the destruction of road infrastructure by armed groups, as in the case of the bridge connecting Dogofry commune and Farabougou village, block the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Some NGOs are unable to run activities related to gender-based violence and child protection as a result of the conditions imposed by armed groups in the implementation of humanitarian activities in areas under their influence. Attacks on humanitarian personnel and their equipment, which deprive thousands of people of essential items, are frequent. Over the past six months, at least 33 aid workers have been kidnapped, particularly in the regions of Gao, Mopti, Ségou, and Tombouctou.

[READ MORE ABOUT MALI](#)

## NIGERIA



Nigeria continues to experience extreme access constraints. Registration processes for humanitarian organisations at federal and state levels are ambiguous; states are allowed to implement independent local laws that result in additional conditions for humanitarian activities in specific areas. Between July–October, movement restrictions were enforced in some areas. In southeast Nigeria, the separatist group Indigenous People of Biafra issued stay-at-home orders on certain dates. In the Plateau, Sokoto, and Zamfara states, authorities instituted travel restrictions and curfews to curb insecurity. Throughout Nigeria, different government agencies and armed groups have also put in place both legal and illegal checkpoints. The violence inflicted by different armed groups, particularly in northern Nigeria, inhibits the movement of affected people from remote rural villages to areas where they can more easily access humanitarian assistance. A number of factors, including flooding in some regions during the rainy season (March–October), have led to logistical challenges for aid agencies and affected humanitarian cargo supply routes. Armed groups have also attacked and damaged key transport infrastructure such as railway lines. State authorities in northwestern Nigeria have authorised the disruption of telecommunication services starting from September as part of security measures against armed groups.

[READ MORE ABOUT NIGERIA](#)



## PALESTINE



Humanitarian access in the state of Palestine, and particularly in the Gaza Strip, continues to be severely restricted. Gaza has been under land, air, and sea blockade since 2006. The access of people in need to aid and of humanitarian organisations to people in need is hampered by movement restrictions to and from Gaza. People's movements require approval from Israeli authorities, who give or deny permission without justification. The import of goods into Gaza, especially 'dual-use' items (civilian items with potential military uses that require specific permissions from authorities), is complex, and delays are reported. Obtaining visas for international staff is challenging, time-consuming, and sometimes impossible for staff from specific countries. Various restrictions are imposed on the residents of the West Bank, creating challenges for humanitarian actors and for people to access aid. Bureaucratic and movement restrictions limit their mobility in general: people need permits from Israeli authorities to move, work, and continue living in their homes, especially in the Seam Zone or restricted areas behind the separation barrier. Obtaining such permits is difficult and time-consuming. The presence of checkpoints continues to limit people's movement inside the West Bank, blocking Palestinians who need to access aid and disrupting or delaying humanitarian organisations' assistance delivery. Settlement-expansion operations by Israeli authorities result in the demolition and confiscation of structures, which restrict people's access to basic humanitarian services, essential public services, housing, and land. Israeli authorities' demolition of donor-funded structures that offer WASH, shelter, education, and livelihood services to affected people in the West Bank continues to affect humanitarian operations.

[READ MORE ABOUT PALESTINE](#)

## SYRIA



Overall, humanitarian access remains severely constrained across Syria. Access requirements for humanitarian responders vary according to the different areas of control, and movement between these areas is constrained at crossing points by armed groups belonging to opposing sides of the conflict, often requiring further negotiation of access at the ground level. Checkpoints, insecurity, and the closure of the M4 highway limit the movement of people and vehicles, affecting the delivery of aid. Conflict between armed forces and armed groups and generalised violence still affect the population and humanitarians across the country. Access challenges for humanitarian agencies are compounded by operational bureaucratic impedi-

ments and COVID-19 restrictions. The lack of civil documentation for Syrians continues to be a major concern, limiting their freedom of movement and access to public services and humanitarian aid. Widespread destruction and damages to basic infrastructure in the areas most affected by conflict, particularly by airstrikes, continue to affect humanitarian operations and the functionality and capacity of facilities.

[READ MORE ABOUT SYRIA](#)

## VENEZUELA



Humanitarian access constraints have deteriorated over the last six months in Venezuela as a result of additional restrictions on humanitarian workers. Despite the humanitarian crisis, the Government denies the severity of the crisis and the existence of needs. Shortages of food and drinking water, as well as limited access to health and education, are some of the sectorial needs of those affected that the Government does not recognise to their full extent. Political opposition is often persecuted by police forces, making the reporting and publishing of data on the conditions in Venezuela difficult and risky and limiting access to information essential for humanitarian responders. There are also new bureaucratic restrictions on humanitarian actors' access to the country. Since May 2021, the Special Automated Registry of Non-Domiciled Non-Governmental Organisations has been in force in Venezuela. The introduction of this regulation, which can deny access on the grounds of public order or sovereignty, was supposed to be a positive development for a formalisation of the presence of INGOs in the country; to date, its only partial implementation has turned out to be an impediment. There are reports of humanitarian aid being confiscated. The presence and clashes of armed groups on the Venezuela-Colombia border also add to access constraints. These conflicts increase confinement events for the affected population and their displacement away from services. Checkpoints controlled by armed groups or military forces restrict the passage of humanitarian aid. Natural disasters such as flooding and landslides are frequent in Venezuela (mainly during the rainy season from May to the end of November) and hamper access to the people affected in remote areas.

[READ MORE ABOUT VENEZUELA](#)



## CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

Access constraints remain very high because of growing insecurity in rural areas, with frequent clashes between non-state armed groups and the military, as well as attacks against civilians. People from rural areas usually flee into the bush after armed groups' attacks, losing access to essential services and humanitarian aid. In some areas, such as the town of Farazala in Ouham prefecture, residents of neighbouring villages have started visiting the health centre less often because of increasing insecurity. The authorities' restriction since January 2021 of the use of motorcycles, essential for transferring patients, to prevent their use by armed groups has further limited access to healthcare. Basic infrastructure continues to be destroyed, looted, or occupied by armed groups. Humanitarian workers are frequently threatened and attacked. In the past six months, at least three aid workers have been killed and six injured in the Haut-Mbomou and Ouham Pende prefectures. Movement restrictions are reported in several prefectures as a result of insecurity and roadblocks by armed groups. Many humanitarian organisations have had to temporarily suspend their activities in the Haute-Kotto, Ouaka, and Ouham prefectures for security reasons over the past three months. Administrative constraints and irregular taxation also hamper the implementation of humanitarian activities. There have been cases of harassment of humanitarian staff, particularly at checkpoints. The poor condition of the roads considerably limits access to certain areas, especially during the rainy season (April–October). The extent of the presence of improvised explosive devices and unexploded ordnance is unknown, but there have been reports of casualties in the last six months.

[READ MORE ABOUT CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC \(CAR\)](#)

## COLOMBIA

The access situation in Colombia has deteriorated over the last six months, mainly because of the increasing violence related to disputes over territorial control. The departments located on the Pacific Coast and the borders with Venezuela are the most affected by violence. The diversity and high number of armed groups contribute to the problematic access situation. Armed groups and drug trafficking cartels have checkpoints spread throughout the territories where they have a presence, constraining access for humanitarian workers. Movement restrictions resulting from the activity of armed groups limit people's ability to access services and humanitarian assistance. Some Venezuelan migrants are in high-risk areas with the reported presence of armed groups. Some affected areas in Colombia are in remote locations where the delivery of humanitarian aid might be difficult. Colombia is also prone to natural disasters, mainly in the rainy season (from March–May and September–November). During this period, landslides and floods are common, aggravating the access situation and the needs of the affected population in some municipalities, especially in the departments of Antioquia, Casanare, Chocó, and Cundinamarca.

[READ MORE ABOUT COLOMBIA](#)



## DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA (DPRK)

Humanitarian access remains highly constrained, particularly because of severe governmental COVID-19 containment measures in place since the beginning of the pandemic. The DPRK Government has not purchased nor accepted any COVID-19 vaccinations in the last six months, relying on strict border closures instead to contain the spread of the virus. This has resulted in disruptions to trade, the unavailability of essential goods and services, and restrictions on movement and humanitarian response. As at April 2021, most UN/INGO staff and many diplomats have left the country because of the difficult living conditions. The DPRK has acknowledged facing economic hardship and food shortages, but there are other persistent factors for the chronic food insecurity and the complex humanitarian crisis other than the pandemic, including highly centralised governance with the aim of a self-sufficient economy, international sanctions, and frequent natural disasters, including dry spells, floods, and typhoons. Access to essential health and WASH facilities in the DPRK remains constrained by weak infrastructure and the lack of qualified medical staff and equipment, particularly in rural areas. Equitable access to services and opportunities is limited by a sociopolitical citizen classification system called 'songbun' that favours groups labelled as more loyal to the ruling party.

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

## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

Access constraints remain very high after the intensification of the attacks of armed groups, particularly in the Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu, and Tanganyika provinces. People living in affected areas have been forced to flee several times, reducing their access to services and humanitarian aid. Medical facilities and schools are frequently looted or destroyed, depriving thousands of people of access to healthcare and education. Shortages of medicine have also been reported in some health centres in the eastern regions of the country. Humanitarian activities are often suspended as a result of insecurity. The authorities and armed groups impose conditions on the delivery of aid in areas under their control. In some areas, such as Nyunzu town in Tanganyika province, access to people in need remains limited because of insecurity, even though humanitarian actors have the capacity for a targeted response. Administrative procedures remain challenging for all humanitarian organisations, particularly because of delays in the registration process of NGOs and ad hoc taxes imposed by the authorities. Attacks against humanitarian workers and their equipment are frequent. In the past six months, one humanitarian has been killed, three wounded, and seven others kidnapped, mainly in the provinces

of North Kivu and South Kivu. Recurrent natural disasters, floods, and the rising waters in Lake Tanganyika have destroyed dwellings, essential utilities, and over 5,000 hectares of cultivated land in Tanganyika province, limiting people's access to services, aid, and source of livelihoods.

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

## IRAQ

Humanitarian access in Iraq remains challenging, mostly because of political and ethnic tensions and the presence of multiple armed groups and militias that impose movement restrictions and bureaucratic impediments, including the request for different documents. Such issues limit the delivery of aid and access of humanitarian actors to people in need. Military checkpoints, interventions, and administrative restrictions are the main impediments to humanitarian operations, particularly in the areas contested between the central and Iraqi Kurdistan governments in northern Iraq and areas controlled by different local authorities and armed groups. Insecurity, violence, and the presence of landmines and explosive remnants of war continue to hamper movements, limiting people's ability to access aid and causing the relocation of humanitarian staff or suspension of their operations, particularly in Baghdad, Iraqi Kurdistan, and southern Iraq. The lack of civil documentation and the existence of discriminatory policies around accessing documentation remain major protection concerns for displaced people, returnees, and other vulnerable groups, including people suspected to be affiliated with the Islamic State. These difficulties lead to limited access to basic services, humanitarian assistance, internal movements, and livelihood opportunities.

[READ MORE ABOUT IRAQ](#)

## MYANMAR

Humanitarian access in Myanmar has slightly improved in areas previously inaccessible, but it remains highly constrained by increased conflict and political unrest. Access to essential public services, particularly healthcare and education, has continued to be limited since the coup. Economic decline and currency depreciation have resulted in heightened prices of essential goods and fuel, as well as increased food insecurity for vulnerable households – including in areas not covered by humanitarian responders. Access to conflict-affected areas and areas not controlled by the Government remains complicated by checkpoints, road blockages, and restrictive travel authorisations; humanitarians are navigating these challenges mainly through



local partners. Conflict in the northwest has been worsening, particularly since mid-September, and access to the region is highly restricted. COVID-19 containment measures have further reduced people's access to humanitarian aid and livelihoods. Logistical constraints related to the disruption of banking services have reduced cash availability, affecting procurement activities and transportation and resulting in the suspension of cash assistance programmes. While access to some IDP sites in Rakhine state has improved, others remain inaccessible. New travel authorisations for Rohingya people are limiting their movement, including because of increased checkpoints following a rise in tensions in Rakhine in November. In the Kachin and Shan states, the conflict remains active, and access to displacement sites in areas under the control of armed groups remains blocked.

[READ MORE ABOUT MYANMAR](#)

## NIGER

Humanitarian access constraints are still very high in Niger. The presence of non-state armed groups in the Tahoua and Tillabéri regions (in the border area with Burkina Faso and Mali), Diffa region, and Maradi region (at the border with Nigeria) makes these areas particularly difficult to access. Access to services for the population remains very limited in affected areas. The looting of health facilities and ambulance thefts, in addition to threats against health workers, have led to the closure of many health centres and hospitals. Measures restricting freedom of movement related to the state of emergency imposed by the national authorities mainly in the Diffa, Tahoua, and Tillabéri regions continue to limit access to services. In Tillabéri, the ban on the use of motorcycles by local authorities in certain departments and communes remains a constraint for both the population and humanitarian organisations. The presence of armed groups influences the movement of humanitarian staff, who oftentimes need to pay fees to access territories. Local authorities do not allow access to certain communes of the Diffa region (Bosso, Gueskerou, Toumour) given numerous attacks by non-state armed groups, considerably reducing humanitarian access in the Lake Chad Basin. Humanitarian activities are often suspended by local authorities, who restrict access to certain areas because of military operations against armed groups. The requirement for humanitarian organisations to be escorted by the army on all movements outside urban roads sometimes leads to the suspension of certain activities. Humanitarian access becomes particularly hampered during the rainy season (June–September) as a result of recurrent flooding, especially in the Maradi and Tillabéri regions.

[READ MORE ABOUT NIGER](#)

## SOMALIA

The unstable political situation and complex conflict dynamics complicate humanitarian operations in Somalia. Conflict driven by interclan rivalry and attacks by Al-Shabaab and militia groups such as Ahlu Sunna Waljama'a has continued throughout Somalia in the past six months. Conflict often leads to the displacement of people and sometimes hinders their access to humanitarian aid. It also makes travel in certain areas dangerous for both civilians and humanitarians. There are considerable administrative and bureaucratic barriers to humanitarian operations because the extent of the Federal Government's control and influence varies across regions. Humanitarian organisations often have to negotiate with different authorities to access affected areas. Checkpoints that slow down the transportation of aid cargo are present throughout the Galmudug, Hirshabelle, Jubaland, Puntland, and South West states. In some instances, armed actors in different localised conflict situations impose restrictions on road travel, affecting humanitarian operations in these areas. Humanitarian access in Somalia has improved slightly since July 2021. While the Deyr seasonal rains (October–December) are underway, they have not resulted in disruptive floods like the earlier Gu seasonal rains (April–June). Violent attacks against aid workers from July–October 2021 also decreased compared to the first half of the year.

[READ MORE ABOUT SOMALIA](#)

## SOUTH SUDAN

Humanitarian access in South Sudan remains highly constrained. Violence and clashes in some parts of the country, such as Tambura county in Western Equatoria state, have affected the population and hindered humanitarian efforts. Roadside ambushes and attacks by armed groups also make it dangerous for people to travel to areas where they can access humanitarian assistance. Humanitarian organisations often face fines at checkpoints located all over the country, particularly when transporting humanitarian cargo. The rate of violent incidents against humanitarian workers remains high. From July–October 2021, ten humanitarian workers were killed, ten were injured, and five were abducted. Local aid workers are specifically targeted for various reasons, such as ethnicity. In some areas, such as Pibor county in the Greater Pibor Administrative Area, youth groups have issued threats of violence against humanitarian organisations, leading to the suspension of humanitarian efforts and relocation of staff. Some agencies have also suspended their operations in Tambura town because of the conflict. Logistical constraints, including extensive flooding during the rainy season (May 2021



to February 2022) and very poor road networks, are making operations particularly challenging in some areas and further complicate the transportation of aid cargo. These challenges have necessitated the use of air transport, which is also limited because of funding shortages.

[READ MORE ABOUT SOUTH SUDAN](#)

## UKRAINE



Humanitarian access in Ukraine has deteriorated and become very highly constrained during the past six months because of increasing security incidents and recorded ceasefire violations. People living in non-government-controlled areas (NGCAs) need to cross to government-controlled areas (GCAs) to access services and pensions and maintain the validity of their IDP certificates. Mobility restrictions in the NGCAs implemented to stop the spread of COVID-19 have further limited humanitarian access. Humanitarian agencies are not allowed to work in NGCAs, making it challenging to deliver aid. Only two border-crossing points are open: Stanytsia Luhanska, between Luhansk's NGCA and GCA, and Novotroitske, between Donetsk's NGCA and GCA. Five other crossing points have been closed since March 2020; this has meant a significant decrease in the number of people being able to access essential services. Aid organisations are still not authorised to operate in NGCAs and continue to face complex bureaucratic registration and administrative requirements from government and non-government authorities. The presence of landmines and explosive remnants of war, mainly within the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts in the east of Ukraine, hinders people's movement, prevents IDPs from returning to their areas of origin, and adds security and physical constraints to the access or delivery of humanitarian assistance.

[READ MORE ABOUT UKRAINE](#)

## YEMEN



The improvement observed in Yemen in the violence against aid workers indicator should be analysed with caution as it could be the result of information gaps or delays in reporting. Overall, humanitarian access continues to be challenging across the country as a result of conflict, insecurity, bureaucratic impediments, and civil unrest. Insecurity and conflict have increased in Marib governorate between the Internationally Recognised Government of Yemen and the Houthis, displacing over 29,000 people between July–October and affecting the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Poor road infrastructure in Marib affects access to markets, medical supplies, and the delivery of aid to people in need. Checkpoints and marketplaces are increasingly becoming flashpoints for violent incidents in Lahj, affecting the safe movement of civilians and humanitarian organisations. Daily protests in areas under the Internationally Recognised Government and the Southern Transitional Council since January 2021 have escalated in September, leading to the blockage of main roads by burning tires and attacking public property. Security forces have met protests with aggression, including the use of tear gas and open fire with live ammunition to disperse protesters. Such violence has led to the closure of markets and shops for several days in the Aden and Hadramawt governorates, which has disrupted livelihoods, access to commodities, and the ability of humanitarian organisations to access people in need. In Houthi-controlled areas, a range of bureaucratic impediments have been reported, including travel permits, the request to share aid recipient lists, and the requirement for national female aid workers to travel with a male guardian, particularly in the Al Hodeidah, Hajjah, and Sadah governorates. These requirements affect the humanitarian response, particularly for women and girls, as there might not be enough female humanitarians to meet with or deliver aid to them. Publicly available data on access constraints and the number of people affected in Yemen continues to be outdated or unavailable, slowing aid delivery and affecting its analysis.

[READ MORE ABOUT YEMEN](#)



### BANGLADESH

While the overall access situation in Cox's Bazar has remained stable in the last six months, there have been several changes. On 9 September, all humanitarian activities in the Rohingya refugee camps, except for education, were authorised to resume by the Office of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner. On 22 September, Temporary Learning Centres were allowed to reopen in line with the national reopening of schools. Protection activities, which had been on hold given COVID-19 restrictions, have also resumed. In July–August, the monsoon season resulted in flooding and landslides in refugee camps, killing ten people, displacing 25,000 refugees, and resulting in barriers to the accessibility and availability of essential assistance and services. The security situation in the camps continues to deteriorate, with increasing concerns of armed criminal activity, petty crimes, inter and intracommunal disputes, and human trafficking. On 29 September, the Chair of the Arakan Rohingya Society for Peace and Human Rights was killed by unidentified gunmen in Kutupalong camp. On 22 October, six people (including some under 18 years of age) were killed in an attack on a madrasa (religious school) while preparing for prayer. Attacks of this kind and scale are uncommon. Both events resulted in widespread fear in the camps, with reports of the displacement of people away from services and families going into hiding out of fear that they might be targeted

[READ MORE ABOUT BANGLADESH](#)

### BURKINA FASO

Attacks by non-state armed groups continue to hamper humanitarian access, especially in the Cascades, Centre-Nord, Est, Nord, and Sahel regions. Access to humanitarian aid for the affected population is severely reduced by the activity of armed groups, which, in the Sahel region, also targets military convoys used for the movement of civilians in areas of high insecurity. The presence of armed groups isolates some villages from the rest of the country, creating shortages of essential items and increasing humanitarian needs while reducing the areas accessible to humanitarian workers. Schools and health centres are regularly destroyed or damaged in armed attacks. Many teachers and health workers have been leaving their workplace because of threats and intimidation from armed groups. Aid organisations need formal, time-consuming administrative permissions from local authorities to set up activities in certain areas, especially in the Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Est, Est, Hauts-Bassins, Nord, and Sahel regions, which delays the delivery of aid. In September 2021, authorities suspended the activities of a humanitarian organisation accused of discrediting the Government. The suspension was lifted four weeks later. Attacks targeting aid workers and their equipment, on the same levels as during the first semester of the year, have been reported, with the persistence of kidnappings especially in the province of Gourma. Access to areas where armed groups are present remains very difficult because of clashes between non-state armed groups and the army supported by the militias. The poor state of road infrastructure





hampers access and the delivery of humanitarian aid. Storage capacity in the regions affected by the conflict remains uncertain, especially when medical services need additional logistical resources to support the activities of the response to the COVID-19 outbreak. During the rainy season (May–October), access to some main roads remains difficult, and appropriate logistical capacity is required to deliver humanitarian aid.

[READ MORE ABOUT BURKINA FASO](#)

## CHAD

Humanitarian access continues to be constrained as a result of multiple attacks and incursions by armed groups, particularly in Lac province, and intercommunal violence in eastern provinces. Existing basic infrastructures are often destroyed or damaged by armed groups or in intercommunal conflicts, leaving thousands of people without access to WASH, healthcare, and education. Restrictions on movement related to military operations and insecurity, particularly in Lac province, prevent those affected from accessing humanitarian aid. Administrative constraints include time-consuming visa and work permit procedures and taxes imposed on humanitarian organisations. The presence of checkpoints and searches of personnel and vehicles also delay the delivery of aid. Interference in the delivery of aid from local authorities and armed groups has also been reported. Suspensions of humanitarian activities by the authorities, with the withdrawal of personnel, are frequent and are often the result of military operations. The obligation to travel with an escort delays the delivery of assistance, especially in cases when the escort is not available. The poor conditions of roads and bridges further increase access constraints in certain areas, especially during the rainy season (July–October), which affects the Mandoul and Tandjile provinces in particular.

[READ MORE ABOUT CHAD](#)

## HAITI

Haiti has remained in the same classification for access constraints over the last six months, but the ways in which access is limited have varied. Since July 2021, criminal violence has increased mainly in Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital. The most affected neighbourhoods are Delmas, Fontamara, and Martissant, where gangs have carried out looting, armed clashes, and arson to infrastructure. The situation has led to displacement and limited humanitarian access to clean water, food, personal hygiene items, healthcare, and protection assistance for the af-

ected population. The assassination of President Jovenel Moïse on 7 July 2021 has increased the territorial control of the gangs, affecting the ability to implement humanitarian activities. The constant blockades and retention of trucks by the gangs have impeded the transportation of fuel, affecting the movement of humanitarian aid throughout the country. Over the last six months, the security of humanitarian personnel has been an issue. There have been reports of humanitarian workers being kidnapped. The 14 August earthquake caused severe damage to infrastructure (including highways, schools, and hospitals) in southern Haiti, especially in the towns of Jérémie, Les Cayes, and Saint-Louis-du-Sud. The calamity increased the number of people in need and affected the movements of both people in need and humanitarians because of road infrastructure blockades.

[READ MORE ABOUT HAITI](#)

## HONDURAS

Humanitarian access has remained stable over the last six months in Honduras. Although the Government does not deny the number of people affected and the humanitarian crisis, the presence of criminal gangs and drug cartels limits humanitarian access for the affected population. Their control over territories impedes the passage of the population to areas where humanitarian aid is available. Armed gangs are often reported to impose quotas on the passage of staff and humanitarian aid items. Along with difficulties faced by humanitarians, the internal displacement of the population aggravates the situation and the possibility for IDPs to easily access services. The municipalities located in Choloma, La Ceiba, San Pedro Sula, and Tegucigalpa have the highest number of displaced people. 43% of the population lives in rural areas with limited road infrastructure, making humanitarian access difficult. In the last six months, there have been reports of floods and storms, mostly in rural areas such as La Mosquitia and the eastern and western regions, which contribute to the further deterioration of the conditions of road infrastructure that is essential for aid transportation and provision.

[READ MORE ABOUT HONDURAS](#)

## INDONESIA

Humanitarian access in West Papua is overall constrained and has deteriorated. The low-level conflict has been slowly worsening since 2018, and in the last six months, it has spread to Maybrat, Pegunungan Bintang, and Yahukimo regencies. The region has been contested between the



Government and the separatist West Papua insurgency since the 1960s. The Government continues to apply a heavy militaristic approach in response to increased armed group attacks, which causes unnecessary displacement and prevents returns. Nearly all international aid agencies and independent foreign journalists do not have access to West Papua, and the UN's requests for visits to monitor human rights have never been approved. Clashes between government forces and the insurgency continue to cause displacement. Although local humanitarian response is present, direct NGO response can be constrained by the presence of security forces and may require the further negotiation of access to the displaced people in need. At the same time, according to local observers, the Local Social Affairs Department does not seem to provide sufficient humanitarian aid to those displaced by the clashes. IDPs often hide in the forest, without access to services and humanitarian response, out of fear of security forces' abuses, including arbitrary detention and torture. These access constraints and the lack of timely information make it hard to determine the clear scope and scale of the crisis, along with the needs of those affected – particularly after a court's ruling on the lawfulness of internet shutdowns and subsequent restrictions on conflict-related journalism.

[READ MORE ABOUT INDONESIA](#)

## IRAN



Humanitarian access in Iran has deteriorated following an influx of Afghan refugees into Iran after the Taliban took control of Afghanistan in mid-August 2021. Nearly 3,700 refugees entered Iran between August–October. Most Afghan refugees enter irregularly and lack the proper documentation to fully access essential services. Even though healthcare services and education in Iran are available for everyone, including undocumented refugees, access to those services remains challenging because the fear of deportation leads to the decision to not approach health centres or enrol children in schools. Administrative requirements and processes pose access constraints for documented refugees: document renewal is costly, and the economic situation in Iran limits refugees' ability to regularly renew the needed documents to access services, including education, livelihood, and shelter assistance as provided by the Iranian Government. The economic sanctions imposed on Iran since the 1980s affect the humanitarian operations of the limited number of organisations in the country. Challenges in transferring cash and importing goods are reported, resulting in delays in the provision of aid. Sanctions also affect the import of certain medical equipment and medicines by the Government.

[READ MORE ABOUT IRAN](#)

## KENYA



The access situation in Kenya has deteriorated in the last six months, with the emergence of a drought crisis. All refugees in the country need to be officially registered and obtain identification documents before being able to receive humanitarian assistance. Refugees from certain ethnic groups still face significant problems in gaining identification documents and are often required to provide additional evidence of their refugee status. In some drought-affected areas, there is an obstruction to the access of basic services for the population as some areas are besieged by resource-based conflicts between communities. It is also a challenge for aid workers to access and deliver aid to these areas. Humanitarian organisations have had to put in place extensive safety and security measures before delivering aid. These conflicts also prevent the affected population from moving freely and safely to where humanitarian assistance is available.

[READ MORE ABOUT KENYA](#)

## LEBANON



Humanitarian access in Lebanon continues to be constrained by the disruption of essential services, inflation, currency depreciation and protests and riots. In addition, basic infrastructure affected by the Beirut blast is still not fully functional. Undocumented refugees and migrants can access humanitarian assistance but lack freedom of movement and face the risk of detention and deportation. Refugees and migrants without civil documentation are unable to access essential public services, including healthcare, education, and formal employment. Events of social unrest and sporadic violence also challenge the access of humanitarians to people in need and of the people to services and aid. Logistical constraints on importing relief items and equipment, inflation, and limited cash availability affect humanitarian operations in the country, including cash-based programmes. Although the Government of Lebanon officially controls the national territory, some specific parties or groups have de facto control over some areas and limit humanitarian operations and access. The presence of explosive remnants of war and mine contamination is also reported.

[READ MORE ABOUT LEBANON](#)



## LIBYA



Humanitarian access in Libya remains constrained and operationally challenging. Refugees and migrants, especially those undocumented, continue to be vulnerable to detention, exploitation, and harassment, with their lack of documentation hampering their ability to access justice. Detained migrants are also cut off from humanitarian aid. Access to aid of people in need is constrained, and humanitarian actors face challenges in rolling out their operations: the registration to operate is burdensome, and the process to obtain visas for international staff is complicated. There is strict governmental regulation on operations and funding, and humanitarian agencies report some degree of interference from the local authorities, with some staff interrogated to be allowed to continue their operations. Libya is not entirely under the control of the same authority, which makes the access landscape more complicated. After the Libya ceasefire agreement in 2020, no violence has been heavily affecting civilians or humanitarians except for some attacks reported on water infrastructure. There are landmine contamination and casualties reported, but the extent is unknown.

[READ MORE ABOUT LIBYA](#)

## MEXICO



Violence and the dispute for territorial control by armed groups is one of the main impediments to accessing basic services and humanitarian aid in Mexico. Clashes, killings, and fear of kidnapping also affect the freedom of movement of people and humanitarian aid. The territorial control exercised by some armed groups in the country hampers the smooth rollout of humanitarian operations. The presence of drug trafficking organisations and cartels also constrains the ability of humanitarian responders to reach the affected population. Mexico is subject to various weather phenomena, mainly during the rainy season. Floods, landslides, droughts, and cyclones have occurred in the past six months. Areas affected by climatic events are subject to severe infrastructure disruption, limiting physical access to affected areas. Some areas with vulnerable populations, such as migrants and asylum seekers heading to the US, are also peripheral and remote and are not easily reachable because of the lack of or limited road infrastructure. The increased flow of migrants makes it impossible to register the exact number of migrants and asylum seekers, restricting access to information and slowing down humanitarian aid.

[READ MORE ABOUT MEXICO](#)

## MOZAMBIQUE



Humanitarian access constraints in Mozambique are high and mainly refer to the situation in Cabo Delgado, where violent insurgency continues to obstruct the effective delivery of and access to humanitarian aid in the province. Aid agencies that wish to operate in Cabo Delgado need to go through a complex approval process. This impediment has limited the number of agencies operating there since many do not obtain clearance. Mozambican security forces have enforced travel restrictions into some dangerous areas of Cabo Delgado, such as Palma district, with harsh penalties for those who do not adhere to the restrictions. Because of attacks by insurgents, residents of Cabo Delgado cannot move freely within the province. Civilian facilities, such as schools and hospitals, have been targeted since the insurgency escalated in 2017. There have been instances where aid agencies temporarily suspended their operations given the volatile security situation. Military intervention by the Rwandan and Southern African Development Community Military Mission troops, which began in July, has led to reduced insurgent attacks. This situation has contributed to an improvement of the security situation and humanitarian access. The Government has regained control of some areas, such as Mocimboa da Praia town. As the security situation has improved, the Government has allowed aid agencies to access and deliver aid to Palma for the first time in six months in September.

[READ MORE ABOUT MOZAMBIQUE](#)

## NICARAGUA



The political situation, which has substantially remained the same over the last six months, is one of the main triggers for the lack of humanitarian access. The Government frequently imposes restrictions and sanctions on humanitarian responders. Bureaucratic requirements, including complex registration processes, make it difficult for people to access humanitarian aid. The practice of withholding passports has been used to prevent citizens from leaving the country, which restricts asylum-seeking. Any form of the opposition has been labelled by the Government as 'enemies of the country', and at least 15 NGOs have been outlawed for their denunciations on behalf of the affected population. NGOs that are not Nicaraguan or that receive funding from international sources are required to file a Register of Foreign Agents, in which they report their funding sources and other provisions under penalty of being sanctioned or closed if they fail to do so. In the last six months, because of the rainy season from May to mid-November, Nicaragua has experienced various natural phenomena, including tropical storms, floods, and landslides. When these phenomena occur, access becomes even more constrained as a result of damages to infrastructure.

[READ MORE ABOUT NICARAGUA](#)



## SUDAN

Some aspects of humanitarian access in Sudan have improved, as no incidents of violence against aid workers were recorded to date compared to the three killings reported during the previous reporting period. Despite this, overall access constraints in Sudan persist. The situation has been volatile since the military takeover and the announcement of a nationwide state of emergency on 25 October, as well as the reinstatement of the prime minister on 21 November.\* Despite lifting all COVID-19 restrictions in July, the movement of people and goods has remained restricted because of widespread protests. Demonstrations between 16 September and 1 November caused the shutdown of roads and ports in Port Sudan city. As a result, shortages in medicine, wheat, and fuel were reported in Khartoum. The suspension of activities in Port Sudan has also hindered UN aid delivery as a result of shortages of fuel and delays in importing goods. Following the military takeover, demonstrations have also been affecting access, as the presence of checkpoints and roadblocks has increased along main roads in Khartoum and neighbouring cities. The general deterioration of the situation has led to a lack of security and communication blackouts, causing delays in the delivery of humanitarian aid. Tribal clashes in the North Darfur, South Kordofan, and West Darfur states increased in October and November, deteriorating security for humanitarian workers and civilians in the area. Floods affected the majority of states in Sudan between August–September, caused damage to infrastructure, hindered transportation and supply chains, and resulted in an increase in item prices.

*\*The situation has been volatile since mid-October, and access constraints are increasing. The humanitarian access status in Sudan at the time of publication of this report might not be reflected in the narrative.*

[READ MORE ABOUT SUDAN](#)

## THAILAND

The access situation in Thailand has remained stable over the last six months. Refugees have restricted access to livelihoods and services outside camps and depend on humanitarian assistance, even though some have been in the country since 1980. Thailand classifies refugees and asylum seekers as illegal immigrants, undermining their access to humanitarian aid and protection. COVID-19 restrictions have further constrained freedom of movement for camp residents, adding to the existing access challenges posed by the remote locations of the camps in mountainous areas and limited electricity. Asylum seekers and other vulnerable population groups such as Lao Hmong, Rohingya, and Uyghur people living outside camps are at risk

of indefinite detention in immigration centres that are overcrowded and have inadequate sanitation and hygiene facilities. Southern Thailand faces a different type of constraint: the insurgency conflict level remains low, but attacks on the military continue to result in civilian fatalities and affect public space. Security forces and checkpoints are heavily present in the conflict-affected southern region. Although the main armed group Barisan Revolusi Nasional allowed humanitarian access and medical response to COVID-19 in 2020, it announced the resumption of the insurgency in September 2021

[READ MORE ABOUT THAILAND](#)

## TURKEY

Humanitarian access in Turkey has remained constrained in the past six months. Refugees, asylum seekers, and migrants face difficulties in gaining access to services and assistance. Without official documentation, refugees cannot access essential services such as health-care. Undocumented migrants and refugees are also at risk of detention and deportation. There are considerable delays in the registration process, particularly in applications for international protection. The registration process for aid organisations is considered complex and time-consuming. Humanitarian agencies face interference by the Government in the implementation of humanitarian activities: government-appointed trustees closely monitor humanitarian organisations, and any efforts to raise funds from donors need government approval. Access of aid organisations to people in need in the Kurdish region is limited because of checkpoints, active fighting, and movement restrictions. The presence of explosive remnants of war and mine contamination, especially in the east near the borders with Armenia, Iran, Iraq, and Syria, creates a hazardous environment for accessing and delivering humanitarian assistance.

[READ MORE ABOUT TURKEY](#)



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**ACAPS**

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