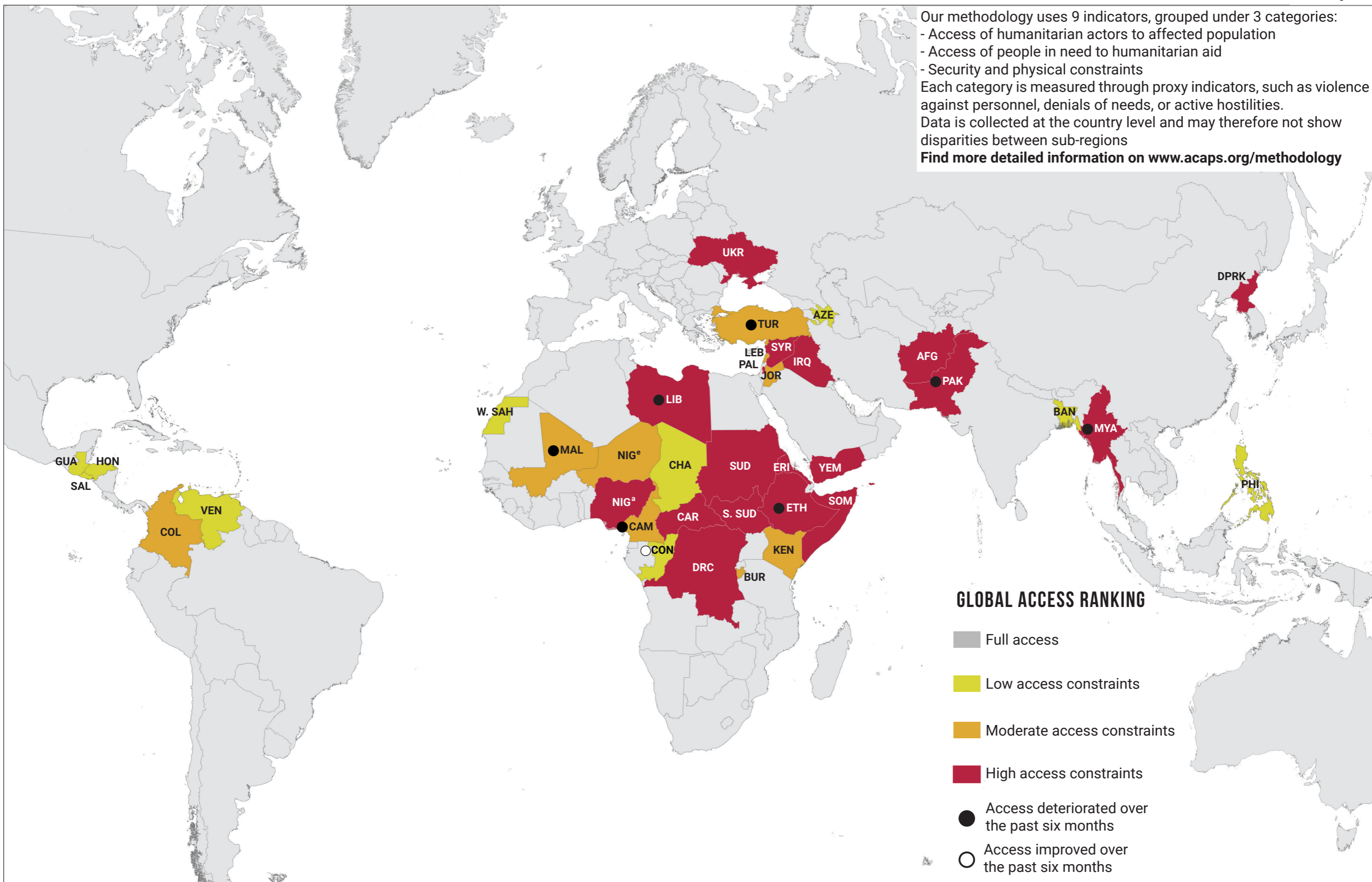


Our methodology uses 9 indicators, grouped under 3 categories:

- Access of humanitarian actors to affected population
- Access of people in need to humanitarian aid
- Security and physical constraints

Each category is measured through proxy indicators, such as violence against personnel, denials of needs, or active hostilities. Data is collected at the country level and may therefore not show disparities between sub-regions

**Find more detailed information on [www.acaps.org/methodology](http://www.acaps.org/methodology)**



## Methodology:

Our methodology groups 9 indicators under 3 dimensions.

### 1. Access of humanitarian actors to affected population comprised of 4 indicators:

- Impediments to entry
- Restriction of movement
- Interference with activities
- Violence against personnel

### 2. Access of people in need to humanitarian aid comprised of 2 indicators:

- Denial of needs
- Restriction of population's access to aid

### 3. Security and physical constraints comprised of 3 indicators:

- Active hostilities
- UXO and mines
- Physical constraints

Countries where access has deteriorated (↘) have seen an increase in the number of access indicators marked, compared to August 2017, when the last ACAPS humanitarian access map was published.

Countries where access has improved (↗) have seen a decrease in the number of access indicators marked.

Countries where the overall number of indicators remains constant do not change their position in our ranking (→), although the different individual access indicators may have fluctuated during that period.

## High access constraints

### Afghanistan → No change

Humanitarian access is heavily restricted due to the ongoing conflict and IEDs significantly hinder populations' access to essential services. Aid workers and health facilities have been attacked multiple times in the last six months.

### CAR → No change

Widespread insecurity, frequent attacks on humanitarians, poor road infrastructure and inadequate funding are severely constraining access. The presence of armed groups along roads and increased levels of interethnic and intercommunal tensions continue to constrain access.

### DPRK → No change

Population movement is heavily restricted, entry is impeded and access of humanitarian actors to affected population is severely constrained. Economic sanctions further restrict the access to aid.

### DRC → No change

Access to people in need is limited by widespread insecurity, attacks on humanitarians, and poor road infrastructure. Multiple provinces face severe security constraints, including Nord and Sud-Kivu, Maniema, and Tanganyika. The recent deterioration of security in Ituri is driving displacement, and access remains limited.

### Eritrea → No change

Only a limited number of UN agencies operate in the country. Their mobility and access is restricted by Eritrean authorities. Information gaps on humanitarian needs are prevalent, largely due to access constraints.

### Ethiopia ↘ Deterioration

Humanitarian organisations are heavily regulated in Ethiopia. Complicated supply lines pose logistical challenges in Somali region, where insecurity has also interfered with the delivery of aid. Reaching nomadic pastoralists who are dispersed and highly mobile is often challenging. Protests, road closures and a state of emergency pose access constraints, particularly in Oromia region.

### Iraq → No change

Despite the government restoring control of IS areas, insecurity remains and limits humanitarian activities. Tensions continue between Baghdad and Erbil over disputed territory and Kurdish independence, and this is having a negative impact on humanitarian access. UXOs, ERWs, mines and IEDs pose major access constraints across Iraq and particularly in conflict affected urban areas.

### Libya ↘ Deterioration

Most of southern and eastern Libya remain either inaccessible or hard to reach, due to physical constraints and insecurity. The situation deteriorated in 2017 and early 2018, when direct attacks against UNSMIL and abductions of humanitarian workers were reported. Humanitarian access continues to be particularly constrained in besieged Derna, where population movement is restricted, and aid organisations face administrative barriers. Most humanitarian agencies have been operating from Tunisia since 2014.

### Myanmar ↘ Deterioration

The access situation overall in Myanmar has significantly deteriorated as impediments to entry and interference with humanitarian activities have worsened. Minority groups, particularly Rohingya, have had their access to aid constrained. Movement is heavily restricted, including in both government and non-government controlled areas.

### Nigeria → No change

Insecurity in northeast Nigeria is ongoing and continues to severely restrict humanitarian relief efforts. In the most affected local government areas (LGAs), access is mostly limited to major populated centres.

## High access constraints

### Pakistan

↘ Deterioration

Aid agencies struggle to deliver assistance because they lack government permission to operate in areas where humanitarian needs are high. In the second half of 2017 over 20 INGOs had their permissions revoked, indicating a deteriorating operating environment.

### Palestine

→ No change

Physical and administrative restrictions limit access and movement of NGOs. Delivery of materials is restricted, particularly in Gaza. Aid projects face limitations and interference; some have been demolished.

### Somalia

→ No change

Ongoing violence by armed groups and inter-clan conflict, restriction of movement, and administrative impediments severely limit humanitarian operations in most regions.

### South Sudan

→ No change

Ongoing violence, restriction of movement, and administrative impediments severely limit humanitarian operations, in addition to the rainy season. Frequent attacks against aid workers continued in 2017.

### Sudan

→ No change

SPLM-N controlled areas of South Kordofan and Blue Nile are inaccessible. Access in Darfur has slightly improved in 2017, but volatile security situation continues to hamper humanitarian assistance, particularly in North Darfur, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile. Access can also be hindered during rainy season.

### Syria

→ No change

Humanitarian access to populations affected by the conflict continues to be severely restricted by insecurity, as well as by physical and bureaucratic constraints. 2.9 million people live in besieged and hard-to-reach areas.

### Ukraine

→ No change

Ongoing conflict limits access. Humanitarian operations in non-government controlled areas are strictly limited. In recent months the government has introduced additional controls on movements across the contact line.

### Yemen

→ No change

Restricted sea, air, land supply lines, ongoing fighting and movement restrictions for humanitarian actors, severely limit access to affected populations. In the last six months, access through key ports has been variable, with the blockade on Hodeidah port enforced then temporarily lifted.

## Moderate access constraints

### Burundi

→ No change

Information on humanitarian access in Burundi is limited. Some UN agencies and NGOs operate in the country but a strict law from 2016 tightened authorisation requirements and administrative fees on NGOs, which makes access more challenging.

### Cameroon

→ No change

Humanitarian access remains difficult in the Far North due to insecurity and the presence of ERWs. Curfews, check-points and violence constrain access in the Anglophone regions where the security situation has worsened over the past six months.

### Colombia

→ No change

Conflict and mobility restrictions imposed by armed groups affect populations' access to services and humanitarian assistance. The presence of mines poses an additional constraint.

### Jordan

→ No change

Movement restrictions affect refugees in Jordan. The border with Syria remains tightly controlled, and access to vulnerable populations at the Berm remains limited.

### Kenya

→ No change

Humanitarian access is limited due to insecurity. Inter-communal violence and sporadic attacks by Al Shabaab are among the main sources of insecurity.

### Lebanon

→ No change

The undocumented status of many Syrian refugees restricts their movement and limits their access to services, including health and education. Recurrent clashes in the Palestinian refugee camp of Ain El Hilweh hinders humanitarian aid provision.

### Mali

↘ Deterioration

Insecurity, the presence of ERW and IEDs, and targeted attacks on humanitarians and UN peacekeepers restrict operations in northern and central regions. 133 incidents including carjackings, robberies and aggression of aid workers were reported in 2017, more than double the previous year. Violence has been increasing, and a ban on vehicles in Mopti, Timbuktu, and Segou regions has been recently renewed, further limiting access.

### Niger

→ No change

In some parts of the Diffa region, humanitarian access is constrained due to the persisting threat of Boko Haram, and most movement requires a military escort. In some parts of Tillaberi and Tahoua departments, insecurity constraints humanitarian access.

## Moderate access constraints

### Turkey

↘ Deterioration

International, national, and local NGOs have been denied access to areas of southeastern Turkey where conflict between the government and PKK is ongoing. The state of emergency, ongoing since 2016, remains in force. International NGOs responding to the Syrian refugee crisis remained concerned about expulsion, after the government closed down some major operations earlier in 2017.

## Low access constraints

### Azerbaijan

→ No change

Continued active hostilities and the presence of UXO and mines limits humanitarian access.

### Bangladesh

→ No change

Physical access is a challenge in dense Rohingya settlements in Cox's Bazar, where poor infrastructure constrains aid delivery. Movement outside of the camps is limited, while within the camps, movement of women and girls is restricted due to protection concerns. Some 5,000 Rohingya are trapped in "no man's land" near the border unable to enter Bangladesh nor return home.

### Chad

→ No change

Around Lake Chad islands, humanitarian access remains difficult due to Boko Haram attacks.

### El Salvador, Guatemala & Honduras

→ No change

High levels of violence and gang activity limit humanitarian operations in the Northern Triangle.

### Philippines

→ No change

Insecurity on Mindanao island means access to some areas is limited, compounded by physical constraints.

### Republic of Congo

↗ Improvement

Despite the end of hostilities in Pool department following the 23 December ceasefire, access remains difficult.

### Venezuela

→ No change

Administrative impediments and denial of needs by the government restrict humanitarian operations.

### Western Sahara

→ No change

Restricted movement of the population, interference of the Separist Polisario Front in aid delivery, and heavily mined areas from past conflict limit humanitarian access.