

Humanitarian Protection Inside Syria



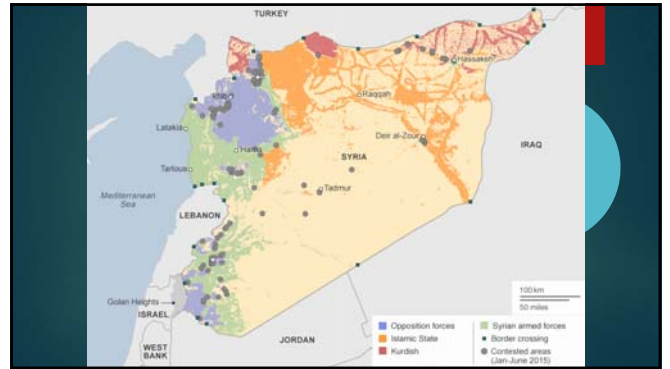
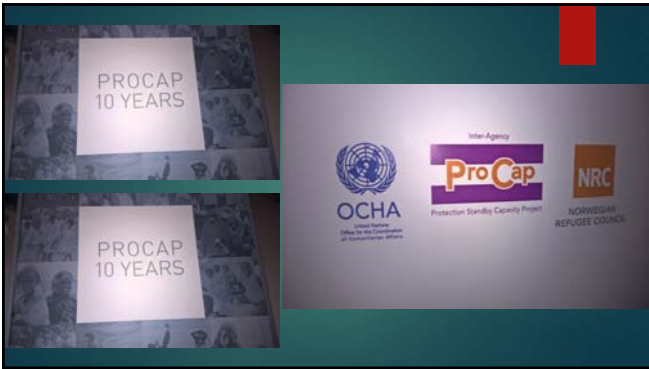
Paul White
Senior Protection Officer - ProCap
Advisor to Regional Humanitarian Coordinator
for the Syria Crisis

Hosted by UN OCHA

Hawke Centre, UniSA,
Adelaide, South Australia
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Role of the UN

- ▶ Prevent conflict.
- ▶ Promote sustainable development: prosperity and economic opportunity, greater social well-being, and protection of the environment.
- ▶ Establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from international law can be maintained.
- ▶ Promote and protect human rights.
- ▶ To achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character.



Statistics

- Registered refugees **4,841,406** (outside Syria)
- Estimated **6.5 Million** Internally displaced **13.5 million** need inside Syria
- 5.47 million** people are in hard-to-reach areas, including close to 600,000 people in 18 besieged areas.
- ▶ Development - regressed almost by four decades.
- ▶ Life expectancy - dropped by 20 years



A 'crisis of diplomacy'
in a country under military
dominance

Dealing with the Syrian
government and the
Assad regime



Operating environment

3. CHANGING HUMANITARIAN ENVIRONMENT

- > IHL & HRL ignored
http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/CoSyria/A-HRC-31-CRP1_en.pdf
- > Humanitarian principles reinterpreted
- > Children affected by armed conflict & counter terrorism complications
- > NGOs beyond humanitarian



Operating environment

1. FRAGMENTATION AND CHANGING ALLIANCES

- inside and outside Syria




Operating environment

4. LACK OF ACCESS FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE



Operating environment

2. POLITICAL CONTRADICTIONS OF ALL PLAYERS




Operating environment

5. SECTARIAN AND ETHNIC CLEANSING



Operating environment

6. MOVEMENT TO EUROPE



Confidence-building measures

Peacebuilding measures



Conclusions

Achievements

- PROTECTION STRATEGY AND ADVOCACY PLAN
- RAISE AWARENESS OF INTERNATIONAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS
- EMBED PROTECTION STANDARDS AND PROTECTION CONCERNS IN THE RESPONSE PLANS.
- ENHANCE NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND GAPS ANALYSIS TO IDENTIFY VULNERABILITIES AND RISKS.





Focus on access

More control to Syrian humanitarians and work in Arabic

State building ...not so much democracy

Not a blinkered anti-terrorism lens
Are humanitarians feeding the conflict?

Ending ISIS control must be a clear objective