

OCHA Access Monitoring & Reporting Framework

OCHA's Access Monitoring & Reporting Framework (AMRF) provides OCHA country office with a tool to collect and analyse data on the impact of access constraints on the humanitarian response. This note provides a brief introduction of the conceptual framework. Additional guidance for OCHA country offices on how to roll-out the AMRF, the corresponding access database and other tools for analysing humanitarian access – and using this information for advocacy and negotiation - is available from OCHA's Policy & Development Studies Branch (Protection & Displacement Section) as well as OCHA's Community of Practice on Humanitarian Access.

Section	What is being monitored and reported?
<p>Incidents where access has been constrained, and their impact</p> <p><i>See pages below for a breakdown of constraints and suggested indicators.</i></p>	<p>The AMRF consists of nine types (or categories) of access constraints. Country offices do not need to monitor all nine types of constraint, but select the most significant and relevant ones by developing context-specific indicators for each type of constraint (suggested indicators are provided). Indicators are monitored to establish trends over time as well as patterns within trends (for example, where are access constraints occurring, who is affected, what is the impact of the constraint, who is responsible).</p> <p>Data may be collected by OCHA staff or other members of the humanitarian community, including groups with specific expertise (e.g. UNDSS on security-related constraints, logistics cluster on restrictions due to physical environment, protection cluster on restrictions placed on affected communities or the presence of mines).</p> <p>To identify <u>patterns</u>, the following information is recorded for each event:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date of incident • Geographic location • Actor responsible • Type of agency affected • Sector affected • Impact of the incident on affected community or humanitarian activities • Donor affected (optional field, which can be useful for advocacy) <p>Data collected can be supplemented with other information (e.g. perception surveys, cluster/HCT contextual analysis) to describe the implications of constraints. This can be combined with population figures and gender disaggregated data such as morbidity/mortality rates and information on needs to describe the consequences of access constraints.</p>
<p>Formal or Informal Policies Affecting Access</p>	<p>Along with information on specific incidents that restrict access, the AMRF allows country offices to record information on <u>formal or informal policies instituted by State and non-State actors</u> to restrict access.</p> <p><i>For example, host government policies on issuing or renewing visas.</i></p> <p>In addition, it monitors policies, practices and measures within the UN system or by humanitarian organisations themselves which have an effect on access,</p> <p><i>For example, cancellation or rejection of field visits due to security policies.</i></p> <p>AND policies by other actors which affect the ability of humanitarian organisations to operate and to access affected populations</p> <p><i>For example, policies of donor governments which regulate or prohibit contact with non-State armed groups as a condition of funding</i></p> <p>Note: even if policies or other measures have been in place for some time, they should be recorded if they continue to have implications for humanitarian action</p>
<p>Action Taken and Outcome</p>	<p>Finally, the AMRF allows for monitoring of the steps taken to address constraints, and to establish or enhance humanitarian access.</p> <p><i>For example, HC negotiation with host government to simplify procedures on the movement of people and goods within the affected country.</i></p>

Access Constraints and Indicators

	Constraints	Description	Suggested indicator	Impact (suggested measurements)
1	Denial of the existence of humanitarian needs or of entitlements to humanitarian assistance.	<i>Refusal (normally by host government) to acknowledge humanitarian needs or the need for a humanitarian response (and/or appeal), AND/OR denial of assistance to certain communities (often based on a particular group trait, e.g. ethnicity, religion, or on their circumstances, e.g. having been displaced by a group/in a geographic area that is not recognised to be part of the conflict).</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public statements made on humanitarian needs ▪ Private statements made on humanitarian needs (e.g. official letters, verbal communication) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of affected people not receiving humanitarian assistance due to denial of need or exclusion of certain communities ▪ Number of days/weeks/months of delay in launching a humanitarian response and/or appeal due to denial of need
2	Restriction of movement of agencies, personnel, or goods into the affected country.	<i>Bureaucratic and administrative requirements for entry into the country of operation, such as registration for the organisation or visas and work permits for personnel, AND/OR constraints on import of equipment and relief items into the country.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Delays/denials of visas ▪ Delays/denials in official registration (permission to operate) of a humanitarian organisation ▪ Delays/denials for import of goods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of visas or official registrations pending/delayed/ denied ▪ Duration that goods are held back by customs ▪ Staff hours required to process administrative requirements ▪ Costs incurred to process administrative requirements ▪ Number of affected people not receiving humanitarian assistance, or suffering from delays
3	Restriction of movement of agencies, personnel, or goods within the affected country.	<i>Impediments to freedom of movement as experienced by humanitarian actors in-country in order to reach affected populations and transport essential relief. These could include either physical restrictions (such as security checkpoints) or administrative restrictions (e.g. restricted travel or project permits, arbitrary or illegal taxation, etc.)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Delays/denials of travel permits ▪ Delays/denials of project permits ▪ Cancellation/Postponement of field visit/work-related travel ▪ Demand for search of personnel and vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of affected people not receiving humanitarian assistance, or suffering from delays ▪ Number of days that affected population/geographic area inaccessible ▪ Staff hours required to process administrative requirements ▪ Cost of arbitrary fees/taxes imposed per incident or organisation ▪ Days relief goods are held back from transport and delivery
4	Military operations and ongoing hostilities impeding humanitarian operations.	<i>Implications of the military activities of the parties to conflict and other weapon bearers for the movement of people and goods. Absence of arrangements to facilitate the passage of emergency relief supplies during active hostilities.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Withdrawal of personnel ▪ Suspension of humanitarian activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Duration that affected population is inaccessible/number of affected people inaccessible ▪ Number of days that humanitarian activities were suspended
5	Violence against	<i>Politically or economically motivated violence as</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attacks against humanitarian 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Numbers of staff killed/injured

	Constraints	Description	Suggested indicator	Impact (suggested measurements)
	humanitarian personnel, assets and facilities.	<i>well as exposure to incidental violence directly affecting humanitarian personnel, equipment and facilities. This may include threats of violence, coercion, theft or looting of aid supplies.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> workers • Threats against humanitarian workers • Theft or looting of humanitarian assets (vehicles, relief items, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Numbers of staff abducted ▪ Amount and type of assistance stolen/looted and amount of beneficiaries therefore not reached
6	Interference in the implementation of humanitarian activities.	<i>Direct interference (usually by political or military actors) with humanitarian activities during or after their implementation. This may include pressure to work in specific geographic area or insistence to link humanitarian assistance to a specific political or military agenda.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interference or attempted interference into beneficiary selection ▪ Interference or disruption of humanitarian activity during implementation ▪ Interference into other operational modalities (transport, distribution, etc.) ▪ Post-distribution looting of relief items 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Numbers of affected population excluded from assistance due to interference ▪ Amount/type of assistance diverted ▪ Duration of delay caused to humanitarian activities as a result of interference (including any decision by humanitarian actors to suspend activities until interference is resolved)
7	Presence of Mines and UXOs.	<i>Mines, improvised explosive devices, cluster munitions and other unexploded ordnance inhibiting the movement of equipment, goods and personnel or otherwise impeding humanitarian activities.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Status of mines/ERWs per geographic area (including suspected presence, reported but not demarcated, demarcated area , defined hazardous area , cleared area) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Numbers of affected population killed/injured by mines or UXOs ▪ Numbers of affected population unable to receive assistance because of presence of mines
8	Physical environment	<i>Obstacles related to terrain, climate and lack of infrastructure, such as roads, bridges and airstrips</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ State of physical infrastructure ▪ Climatic or other event temporarily affecting infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of affected population unable to receive assistance due to physical environment
9	Restrictions on, or obstruction of, conflict affected populations access to services and assistance	<i>All events and practices which interfere with the ability of conflict-affected populations to access assistance and services. These may include forced population movement as well as physical or administrative restrictions that prevent affected populations (or specific individuals or groups) to access services and assistance.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Forced movement of population away from location of assistance ▪ Denial of population movement to location of assistance ▪ Restriction on population movement ▪ Involuntary return to country of origin ▪ Prevention of use of services/assistance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of affected population unable to receive or excluded from assistance