

What is humanitarian access?

- Ability of humanitarian actors to reach conflict-affected populations
- Ability of the affected population to claim humanitarian assistance and services

What is a humanitarian access incident?

An access incident or constraint is any restrictions on your ability to deliver assistance freely and safely, restrictions on communities' access to assistance, or interference with your humanitarian assets, supplies or premises. Includes incidents committed by both state and non-state actors.

Examples of access incidents include:

- Impediments to entry into country
- Restrictions on movement within country (ex. checkpoints, cancellation of flights)
- Active hostilities and insecurity
- Violence against humanitarian personnel, both physical and verbal
- Detention of humanitarian staff without charge
- Looting and theft of relief supplies and humanitarian assets
- Occupation of humanitarian premises
- Commandeering of humanitarian vehicles/flights
- Aid diversion
- Interference into humanitarian activities
- Denial of need or denial of entitlements
- Restriction or obstruction of population's access
- Presence of mines or UXOs
- Physical environment

Physical/environmental constraints:

Please report physical/environmental access constraints to the Logistics Cluster.

Land mines and unexploded remnants of war:

Access constraints imposed by landmines or UXOs to UNMAS.

Occupation of schools:

Schools occupied by the military to the Education Cluster.

ALL other types of incidents should be reported to OCHA.

OCHA Access Support Hotline*

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OCHA South Sudan Access Team provides 24/7 support to UN and INGO staff facing access problems, providing advice, conducting advocacy and working with relevant authorities to resolve access incidents.

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