



OCHA

Geographical names and the work of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

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Who We Are

OCHA is the component of the **United Nations Secretariat** responsible for bringing together humanitarian actors to ensure a coherent response to emergencies.



Credit: OCHA/Tagaza Djibo

A brief History

1971

General Assembly Resolution 2816 created the role of Disaster Relief Coordinator and established the Office of the UN Disaster Relief Coordinator (UNDRO) in Geneva.

1991

General Assembly Resolution 46/182 designed to strengthen the UN response to complex emergencies and natural disasters.

1998

The Department for Humanitarian Affairs (DHA) became the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and its mandate refined.

2005

Secretary-General introduced a package of humanitarian reforms to ensure greater predictability, accountability and partnership in the international humanitarian response system.

2006

CERF upgraded to include a US\$450 million grant facility and renamed the Central Emergency Response Fund.

2011

OCHA is coordinating Consolidated Appeals worth nearly US\$ 8.5 billion to assist 50 million people affected by 14 of the world's worst humanitarian crises.

2009

General Assembly establishes World Humanitarian Day to be marked every year on 19 August. The Day is a way to increase public understanding of humanitarian assistance activities worldwide.





General Assembly Resolution 46/182

Creation of Emergency Relief Coordinator as a focal point and voice for humanitarian emergencies

Establishment of:

- Department for Humanitarian Affairs (which became OCHA in 1998)
- Inter-Agency Standing Committee
- Consolidated Appeals Process
- Central Emergency Revolving Fund

Credit: UN Photo/Mark Garten

What We Do



Coordination



Policy



Advocacy



Information Management



Humanitarian Financing



Credit: UNICEF/Shehzad Noorani

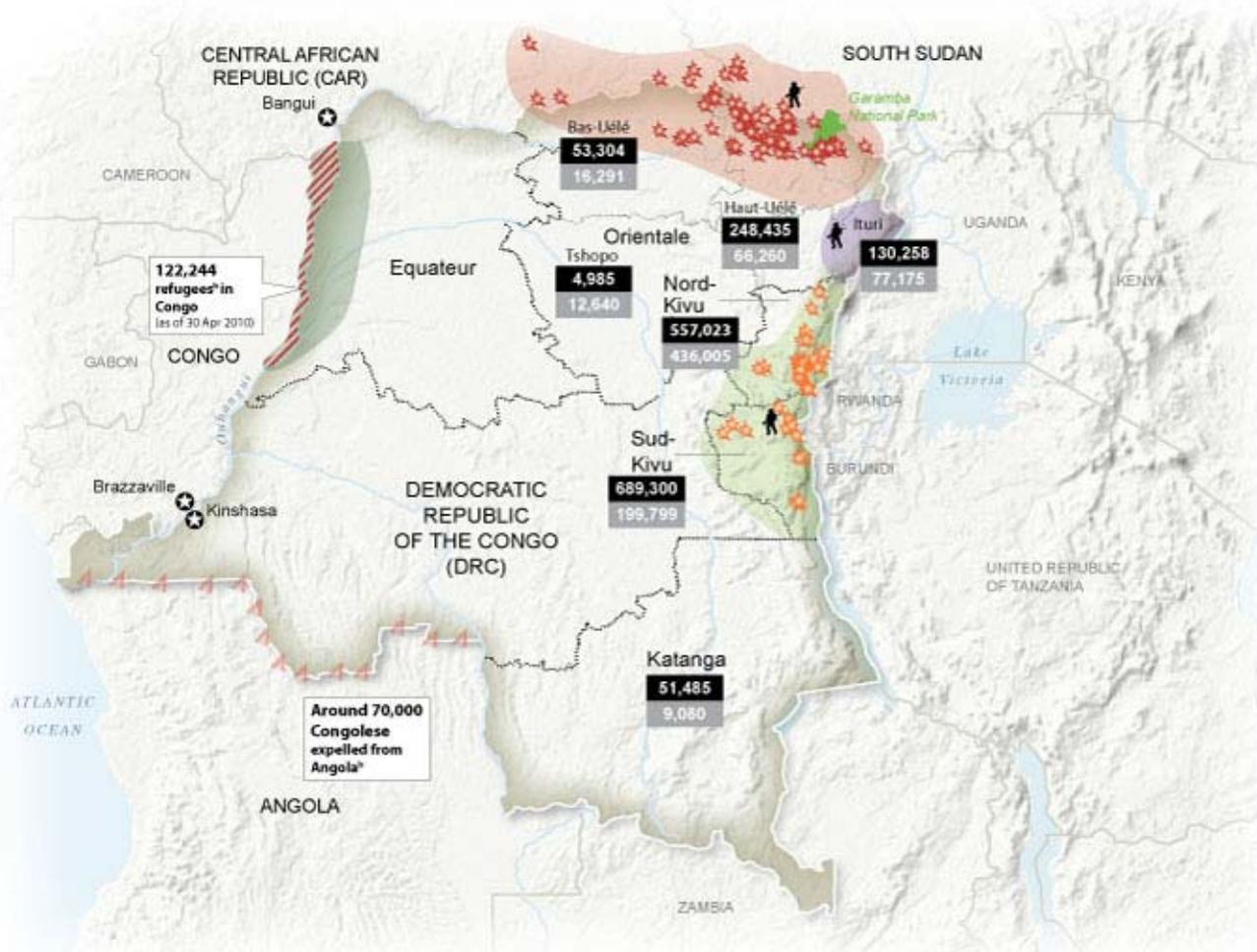
Coordination

OCHA plays a key role in:

- Assessing situations and needs
- Agreeing common priorities
- Developing common strategies to address issues such as negotiating access, mobilizing funding and other resources
- Clarifying consistent public messaging
- Monitoring progress



Credit: OCHA/Akiko Harayama



Information Management

OCHA collects, analyses and shares information about a crisis among the various organizations involved in the humanitarian response to ensure the coordination system runs efficiently.

Why we need...

Standardized geographic names

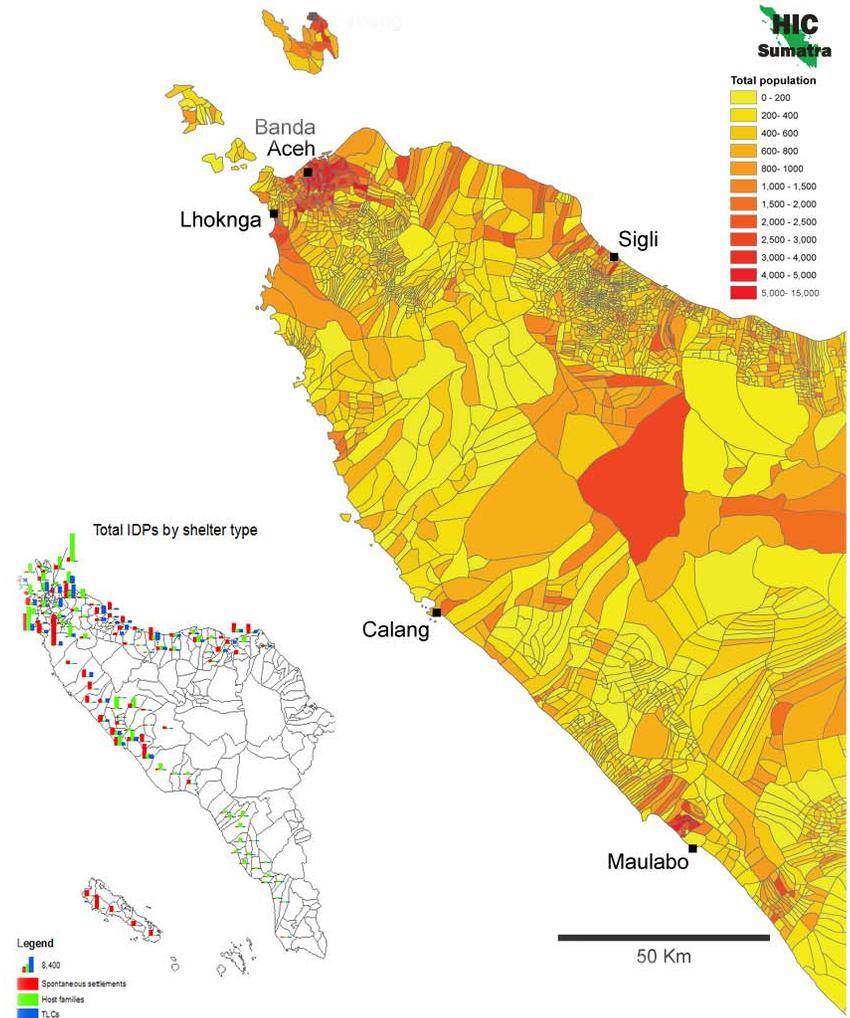
- Geography is the common language, the integrator to make sense of a crisis
- Standard names are need to coordinate the international with the host country

Governorate Capital	Kada Code	Kada	K-Capital Code	Kada Capital
Beirut	LBN11	Beirut		Beirut
Zahleh	LBN21	Baalbek		Baalbek
	LBN22	Hermel		Hermel
	LBN23	Rashaya		Rashaya
	LBN24	Western Beqaa		Jebjennine / Saghbine
	LBN25	Zahleh		Zahleh
Baabda	LBN31	Aley		Aley
	LBN32	Baabda		Baabda
	LBN33	Chouf		Beiteddine
	LBN34	Jbeil		Byblos
	LBN35	Keserwan		Jounieh
	LBN36	Metn		Jdeideh
Nabatyeh	LBN41	Bintjbeil		Bintjbeil
	LBN42	Hasbeya		Hasbeya
	LBN43	Marjeyoun		Marjeyoun

What we need...

In terms of Geographic data:

- We need standardized geographical names to exist
- We need such a list to be **authoritative**
- We need such information to be **available** before the onset of a crisis
- We need information to be **discoverable**
- We need the data to be **free** to all parties involved in humanitarian response



What if...

Standardized geographic names are not available:

- Efforts to standardize place names do not gain traction
- Different organizations/ clusters adopt different spellings, etc.
- Time and resources are then wasted cleaning non-matching data
- OCHA struggles to piece together the “bigger picture”

Abdullah		5		Abd Allah	ND35140001 SU1708	Sheiria
Abgaragil		5	ACF	Abgragel	NC35010008 SU1706	Nyala
Abkhamsa Shakshoko		5	GPS Points UNMIS Damazin Office May2007	El Gazira	NC36040074 SU0204	El Roseires
Absineth		5	UNJLC/MSF-	Abu Sneit Fal	ND35090009 SU1302	El Fasher
Abu Ajura		3		Abu Ajala	NC35010012 SU1706	Nyala
Abu Dangal		5	NGOs	Abu Dangal	ND35140005 SU1708	Sheiria
Abu Delieg	Abu Dylek	3	Security A/Assessment/VPI	Abu Delek	ND35140184 SU1708	El Fasher
Abu Duweimat		5		Umm Dwemat	ND35140184 SU1708	Sheiria
Abu el Fa		5		Abu Al Fahl	NC35050002 SU1702	Buram
Abu Gabra	Abu Jabir	3		Abu Jabra	NC35020012 SU1704	Ed Daein
Abu Gau Hila		5	VPI	Abu Gau Al Hillet	ND35060003 SU1302	El Fasher
Abu Gebiha	Abu Jubaiyah	2	Georef	Abu Jibaiha	NC36010003 SU1801	Abu Jubaiyah
Abu gedaf		5	GPS Points UNMIS Damazin Office May2007	Abu Gudaf	NC36040005 SU0204	El Roseires
Abu Guya		5		Abu Guja	ND34080003 SU2304	Kulbus
Abu Hashim	Abu Hasheema	5	UNMAS	Umm Hashima	NC36010005 SU1801	Abu Jubaiyah
Abu kartod		5	GPS Points UNMIS Damazin Office May2007	Abu-katod	NC36030004 SU0204	El Roseires
Abu Krenka		3	Merfin	Abu Karinka	NC35020016 SU1701	Adila
Abu Kulei		5		Abu Kulaywat	ND35140009 SU1305	Umm Keddada
Abu Matarik		5	OCHA	Abu Matarik	NC35060004 SU1704	Ed Daein
Abu Matarik		5	OCHA	Abu Mataroq - Dinka Cam	NC35060006 SU1704	Ed Daein
Abu Mina Ardeiba		5		Abu Mina	ND34110004 SU2301	El Geneina
Abu Odham		5	Adam - OCH	Abu Odam	ND35110004 SU1305	Umm Keddada
Abu Qulay		5		Abu Gileiha	ND35140007 SU1305	Umm Keddada
Abu Qussa		5		Abu Qussah	NC35060007 SU1702	Buram
Abu Rumeil		3		Abu Rumayl	ND34080005 SU2304	Kulbus
Abu Sella		5		Abu Selala	NC35010023 SU1706	Nyala
Abu Sharbak		5	VPI	Um Sherbak	ND35060206 SU1304	Mellit
Abu shendi		5	GPS Points UNMIS Damazin Office May2007	Abu-shiendi El Azaza	NC36040008 SU0204	El Roseires
Abu Shota	Abu Shatt	5		Abu Saيدا	NC35020020 SU1704	Ed Daein
Abu Shugeira	Eshbora	3	Medair	Abu Shajeira	ND34110005 SU2304	Kulbus
Abu Sorog	Abu Saroug	5	UNSECOORD 3	Abu Surug	ND34110008 SU2304	Kulbus
Abu Sufia		3	OCHA	Abu Sufyan	NC35020022 SU1305	Umm Keddada
Abugga		5	GPS Points UNMIS Damazin Office May2007	Abagona	NC36040010 SU0205	Geissan
Abungoro		5	UNMAS Feb08	Abang Kharu	NC36110003 SU0203	El Kurumuk
Abusda	Abu Saيدا	5	VPI, UNSECOORD, OCHA	Abusaida	NC35020026 SU1704	Ed Daein
Ad Du 'ayn	Ed Da'en	4		Al Deain	NC35020032 SU1704	Ed Daein
Adam Bosh		5		Adam Bawsh	ND34080006 SU1303	Kutum
Adiela		3	Merfin	Adilla	NC35020028 SU1701	Adila
Afifi	El Fifi	3	HIC	Al Fifi	NC35050010 SU1702	Buram
Agalhak		4	JLC/FAO	Al-galhak	NC36020023 SU2003	Renk
Agaru		5	GPS Points UNMIS Damazin Office May2007	Agaro	NC36080002 SU0205	Geissan
Agurra		5		Agoura	ND34120013 SU2301	El Geneina
Ah mar		5		Ahmar	ND35050011 SU1303	Kutum
Ahmad Abd		5		Ahmad 'abd Al	NC35020031 SU1701	Adila
Aidam		5		Idan	NC35010235 SU1702	Buram

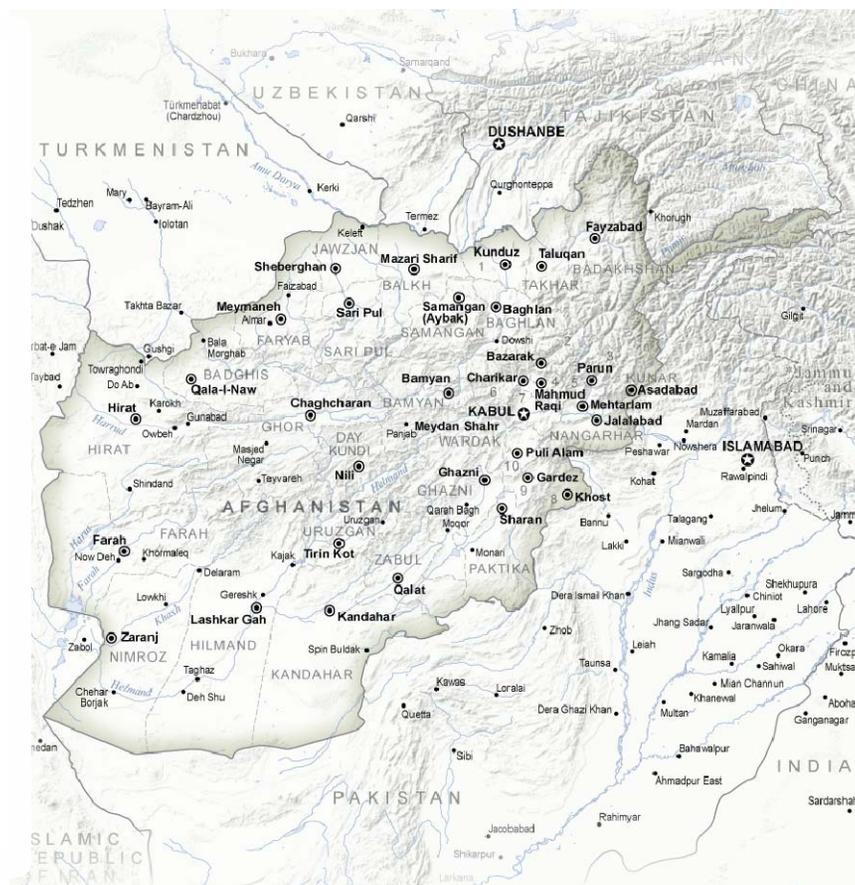
What we do: COD/FOD

Geographic data:

- Administrative boundaries
- Populated places
- Transportation infrastructure
- Water bodies, rivers, etc.
- Relief, terrain

Tabular data:

- Baseline demographic data
- Humanitarian data (affected people, displaced people, etc)



Disclaimer: The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu & Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu & Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

cod.humanitarianresponse.info

The screenshot shows the website's header with the title "HumanitarianResponse" and subtitle "Common And Fundamental Operational Datasets Registry". A navigation menu includes links for Home, Country/Region, About the COD/FOD, Share, Terms of Use, Contact Us, and Search. Language options for EN, FR, and ES are also present. Below the navigation, a breadcrumb trail indicates "You are here: Home" and links for Register and Login are visible.

The main content area features two featured dataset entries, each with a blue header and a question mark icon:

- Most Recent Changes To Common Operational Datasets**
 - Humanitarian Caseload**

Humanitarian situation in Colombia. Information about Internally Displaced People, affected people by natural disasters and internal conflict victims.
Country/Region: [Colombia](#)
Post date: 1 day 24 min ago
 - Lakes, rivers, and islands**

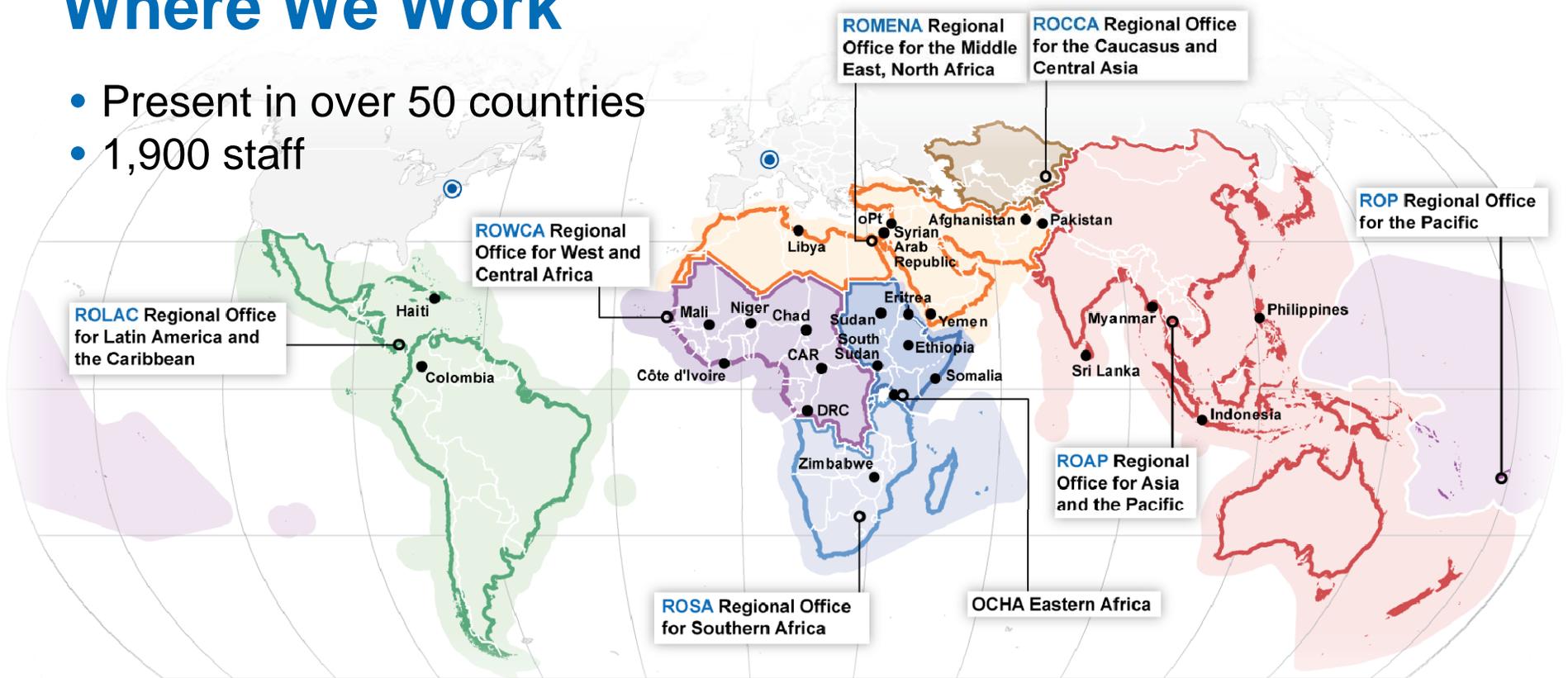
Lakes, rivers, and islands of Tajikistan. Datasource: GSDI. Scale approx 1 million.
Country/Region: [Tajikistan](#)
- Most Recent Changes To Fundamental Operational Datasets**
 - Lebanon Hospitals**

Lebanon Hospitals, this data sets from 2006 and it needs updates.
Country/Region: [Lebanon](#)
Post date: 1 week 6 days ago
 - Lebanon schools and universities**

Lebanon schools and universities, this data sets from 2006 and it needs updates.

Where We Work

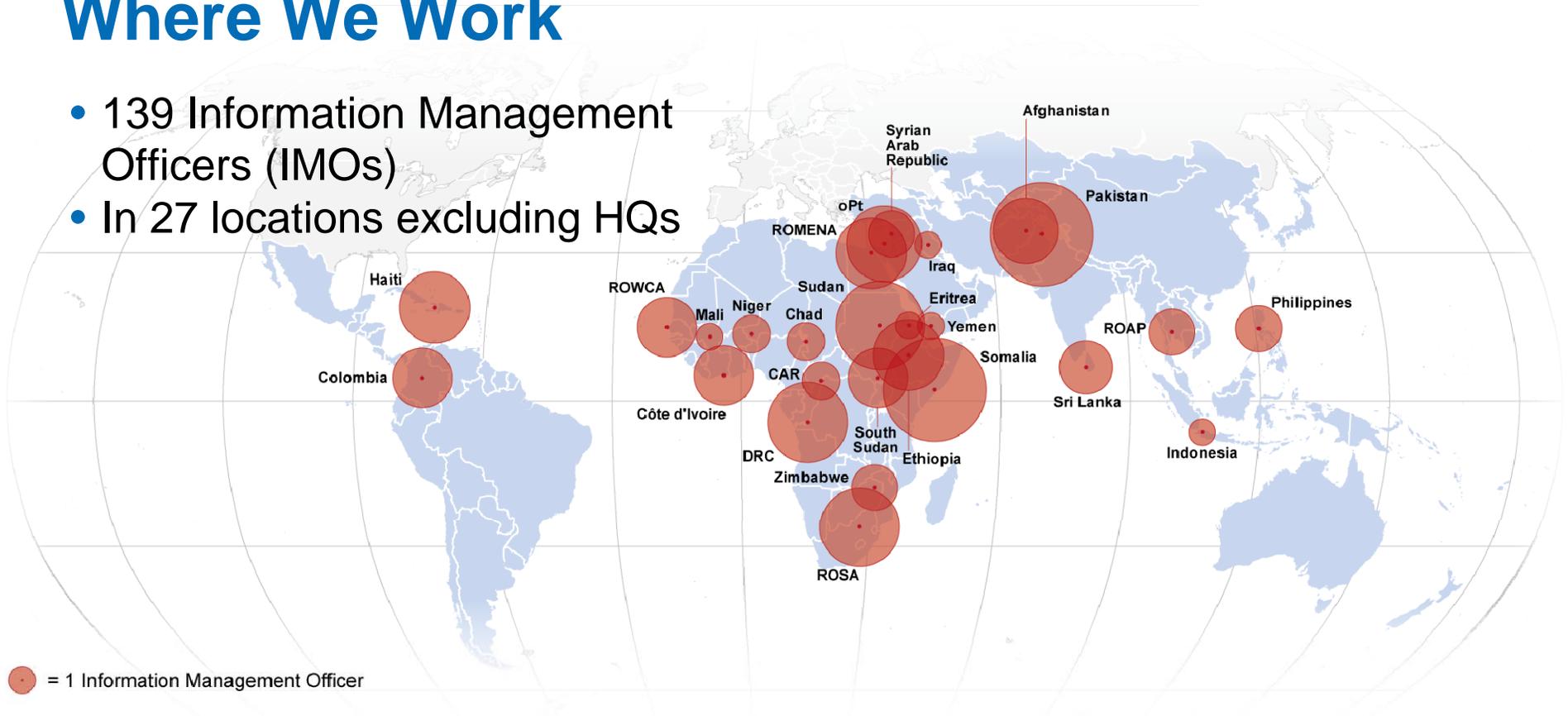
- Present in over 50 countries
- 1,900 staff



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Where We Work

- 139 Information Management Officers (IMOs)
- In 27 locations excluding HQs



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OCHA

United Nations Office
for the Coordination of
Humanitarian Affairs

Coordination Saves Lives

La coordination sauve des vies

La coordinación salva vidas

Координация спасает жизни

بالتنسيق نُنقذ الأرواح

致力协调，挽救生命

www.unocha.org