

Supplementary material- Full search strategy

	Search #	Query	Date of search	# of results
CAB Direct (including global health)	1	((title:(("emergency relief" OR "Oxford Committee for Famine Relief" OR "relief" OR "disasters" OR "natural disasters" OR "non-governmental organization" OR "non-governmental agency" OR "humanitarian aid")) OR ab:(("emergency relief" OR "Oxford Committee for Famine Relief" OR "relief" OR "disasters" OR "natural disasters" OR "non-governmental organization" OR "non-governmental agency" OR "humanitarian aid"))) AND (title:(("exit " OR "closing" OR "withdrawal strategy" OR "withdrawal" OR "phasing" OR "handover" OR "transition") OR ab:(("exit" OR "closing" OR "withdrawal" OR "phasing" OR "handover" OR "transition"))	5 th Dec 2022	1852
PubMed	3	(#1) AND (#2)	5 th Dec 2022	869
	2	(((((exit [Title/Abstract]) OR (closing [Title/Abstract])) OR (withdrawal [Title/Abstract])) OR (phasing [Title/Abstract])) OR (handover [Title/Abstract])) OR (transition [Title/Abstract]))	5 th Dec 2022	577,660
	1	((("Disasters"[Mesh]) OR "Natural Disasters"[Mesh]) OR "Relief Work"[Mesh] OR "Non-governmental organization" OR "non-governmental agency" OR "humanitarian aid"	5 th Dec 2022	102,718
Web of Science		((((((((TI=("emergency relief")) OR TI=(disasters)) OR TI=("relief work")) OR TI=("humanitarian assistance")) OR TI=("Non-governmental organization")) OR TI=("Non-governmental agency")) OR AB=("emergency relief")) OR AB=("disasters")) OR AB=("relief work")) OR AB=("humanitarian assistance")) OR TI=("humanitarian aid")) OR AB=("humanitarian aid")) OR AB=("Non-governmental organization")) OR AB=("Non-governmental agency")) AND TI=("exit strategy")) OR TI=("exit guideline")) OR TI=("exit policy")) OR TI=("closing strategy")) OR TI=("closing policy")) OR TI=("closing guideline")) OR TI=("withdrawal strategy")) OR TI=("withdrawal policy")) OR TI=("withdrawal guideline")) OR TI=("phasing strategy")) OR TI=("phasing policy")) OR TI=("phasing guideline")) OR TI=("handover strategy")) OR TI=("handover guideline")) OR TI=("handover policy")) OR TI=("transition strategy")) OR TI=("transition policy")) OR TI=("transition guideline")) OR AB=("exit strategy")) OR AB=("exit guideline")) OR AB=("exit policy")) OR AB=("closing strategy")) OR AB=("closing policy")) OR AB=("closing guideline")) OR AB=("withdrawal strategy")) OR AB=("withdrawal policy")) OR AB=("withdrawal guideline")) OR AB=("phasing strategy")) OR AB=("phasing policy")) OR AB=("phasing guideline")) OR AB=("handover strategy"))	7 th Dec 2022	1107

		OR AB=("handover policy")) OR AB=("handover guideline")) OR AB=("transition strategy")) OR AB=("transition policy")) OR AB=("transition guideline"))		
Humanitarian organizations' websites	1	"Emergency relief" OR "disasters" OR "relief work" OR "humanitarian assistance" OR "Non-governmental organization" OR "Non-governmental agency" OR "emergency relief" OR "humanitarian aid" AND "exit " OR "closing" OR "withdrawal strategy" OR "withdrawal" OR "phasing" OR "handover" OR "transition" site:.org	10 th Dec 2022	193 (first 10 pages filtered by relevance)
Google scholar	1	"Exit strategy" OR "closing strategy" OR "closure strategy" OR "phasing strategy" OR "transition strategy" OR "withdrawal strategy" AND "humanitarian organization" OR "humanitarian assistance" OR "humanitarian aid" OR "relief aid" OR "disaster aid"	5 th Jan 2023	177 (first 10 pages filtered by relevance)
Direct contact with organizations (Médecins Sans Frontières)	NA	NA	11 th Dec 22	23

Total records = 4221

Records after deduplication = 4067