

**Webinar: Housing, land and property (HLP)
in the context of climate change, disasters and displacement
Launch of global policy brief with experiences from Somalia and Mozambique**

Date: 12 July 2023, 14:00 – 15:30 CET (Geneva time)



A family displaced by the drought. Photo: NRC Somalia

Concept Note

Housing, land and property (HLP) issues are closely intertwined with displacement. The global experience of NRC and the HLP Area of Responsibility indicates that HLP issues arise, in one form or another, in all humanitarian and displacement contexts and during every phase of the response. NRC has found that the **breadth and complexity of HLP risks arising from conflict, disasters and climate change are often intrinsically related and mutually reinforcing.** HLP risks vary and affect people differently. However, all displaced families are uprooted and disconnected from their lands, livelihoods and communities, and suffer various types of HLP violations in which tenure insecurity perpetuates their vulnerability. In post-disaster situations, displaced individuals' ability to return to their homes and land is often prevented by rising and remaining water (for instance, historic floods in South Sudan) and debris or rubble (Afghanistan post-earthquake). Due to climate change's slow onset impacts, land may have disappeared completely (Bangladesh) or become uninhabitable due to coastal erosion (Mozambique), repeated droughts (Somalia, South Sudan and Iraq) or desertification (Somalia).

Displaced women are often not able to claim and enjoy HLP rights due to restrictive custom and practice (Somalia and South Sudan).

The **United Nations Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement** (Action Agenda) establishes that addressing internal displacement is a key priority for development, peace and climate change to advance solutions for the millions of internally displaced people (IDPs). The Action Agenda recognizes the **essential role of securing tenure of housing, land and property (HLP) in the design and delivery of solutions**. As part of this effort, a Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement has been appointed to mobilize required expertise within the UN system and lead collective efforts on solutions.

A critical belief driving NRC's experience is the notion that **HLP is a priority area in advancing solutions to displacement** and should become central to the discussions and actions on the intersection of climate change, disaster and displacement. Addressing HLP issues in a thoughtful and systematic way, reduces individuals' and families' vulnerability and contributes to mitigating the impact of climate change and disasters on displacement-affected people and the achievement of durable solutions. **HLP considerations can enable better planning and preparedness, address the loss of HLP and livelihood due to disaster and climate change, contribute to access to justice and conflict resolution, enhance the capacity of governance institutions at national and local level, and promote women's socio-economic well-being and their ability to recover from shocks.**

This webinar will bring together donors and field practitioners to discuss ongoing challenges and opportunities to address HLP issues in the context of climate change and disaster displacement and to share best practices with a focus on Somalia and Mozambique. The webinar will also mark the launch of the NRC and HLP Area of Responsibility global policy brief on this emerging issue.