A REGIONAL EXCHANGE SERIES

COMPARATIVE EXPERIENCES ON PREVENTING, ADDRESSING AND RESOLVING INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

EXPERIENCES IN SUPPORTING RESILIENCE AND DURABLE SOLUTIONS TO INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT IN THE IGAD REGION

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COVER PHOTO:
Fatuma, 30, poses in front of her hut that she shares with her four children at a camp for the internally displaced people. Photo: © FAO
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TO IGAD MEMBER STATES

Primary state responsibility

» Uphold the rights and freedoms of internally displaced persons in line with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa

» Enact national laws in line with the Kampala Convention and its African Union (AU) Model Law

Whole of government approach

» Establish clear responsibility for IDP matters by identifying a responsible authority with executive powers in line with the Kampala Convention AU model law article 48 and 49 that leads an inter-ministerial mechanism for governance of internal displacement

» Integrate internal displacement in national planning processes and institutions, including peacebuilding, reconciliation and social cohesion processes, development plans, disaster risk reduction strategies and national data collection systems in line with commitments under the Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development and the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction

Funding

» Ensure that adequate resources are made available through national and sub-national budgets and national development plans to prevent the conditions that lead to displacement, protect and assist IDPs, planning and achievement of durable solutions

» Advocate for and mobilize additional flexible and multi-year funding for programmes across the continuum of internal displacement from prevention to durable solutions

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations were endorsed by IGAD member states.

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Ethiopia. UNHCR responds to huge displacement with lifesaving aid
Kampala Convention

- Push for acceleration of ratification and/or implementation of the Kampala Convention and collaborate with international experts as required to support these processes
- Accomplish domestic implementation of the Kampala Convention through an inclusive process with all key domestic actors, starting with IDPs and host communities and required mechanisms using the AU model law where appropriate

Prevention

- Increase the focus on and investment in measures to predict, mitigate, prevent and eliminate the root causes of internal displacement through approaches that incorporate equitable development, human security, peace-building, disaster risk management and climate-change adaptation strategies

Response

- Strengthen the protection and resilience of at-risk and displacement-affected communities using an inclusive and participatory area-based planning approach and building all their relevant forms of capital—social, financial, human, physical and natural in line with Sustainable Development Goals
- Assess or facilitate the assessment of needs, protection risks, vulnerabilities, capacities and preferred settlement options of IDPs—return to their place of origin, local integration in their place of displacement or settlement elsewhere in the country—and host communities in cooperation with international organizations and agencies
- Ensure urban development plans include a consideration of the needs, capacities and preferred settlement options of IDPs and displacement-affected communities and urban renewal projects do not lead to further displacement

Data

- Integrate IDP statistics into national statistical systems and make the data available to relevant stakeholders with appropriate data protection and safeguard mechanisms

TO THE IGAD SECRETARIAT

Primary state responsibility

- Sensitize Member States on their primary responsibility for the protection of the rights and freedoms of internally displaced persons as enshrined in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, including but not limited to:
  - capacity strengthening;
  - experience sharing through the existing IGAD migration governance structure;
  - peer review mechanisms;
  - inter-regional consultation;
  - advocacy on ratification and implementation

Kampala Convention

- Support IGAD Member States on the ratification and domestication of the Kampala Convention’s AU model law and follow-up on implementation with each Member State as relevant
- Facilitate knowledge and experience-sharing among Member States on implementation of the Kampala Convention and catalogue replicable practices at the national and sub-national level for scaling up
- Encourage states in the Bureau of the Conference Parties to follow up on the State Parties Plan of Action for the implementation of the Kampala Convention (2017 Harare Action Plan)

Funding

- Support Member States in resource mobilisation for prevention, protection and solutions to internal displacement

Data

- Assist the Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics with dissemination of recommendations on IDP statistics to be published in 2020

Follow-up

- Ensure that there is a standing agenda item in the Regional Migration Coordination Committee of IGAD for an interactive exchange on the recommendations from this RCP meeting with the objective of ensuring their implementation in IGAD Member States
TO NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONS

» Conduct regular monitoring of and reporting on the human rights situation of IDPs and implementation of relevant national laws and policies and the Kampala Convention and advocate for implementation gaps to be addressed

» Advise IGAD Member State governments on the rights of IDPs and assist with the development of national laws, policies and action plans on internal displacement

TO THE AU

» Take up the recommendations generated on internal displacement through Project 2019

» Support IGAD Member States with raising external resources for implementation of the Kampala Convention as committed to in the State Parties Plan of Action for the implementation of the Kampala Convention (2017 Harare Action Plan)

» Conduct a review of implementation of the Kampala Convention for Member States that have ratified

TO DONORS

Response

» Invest with flexible multi-year funding in interventions that employ an all-encompassing approach (WOGA/WOSA, multi-sector) to reduce vulnerability of communities at risk of displacement, and address the protection and assistance needs and build the resilience of displacement-affected populations

TO INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL PARTNERS

Planning and programming

» Ensure a joined up and collaborative approach across humanitarian, development and peace actors on internal displacement based on the needs, capacities and preferred settlement options of IDPs

» Support a whole of society, multi-stakeholder approach to prevention, planning and resolution of internal displacement

Kampala Convention

» Continue to advocate for countries to sign, ratify, domesticate and implement the Kampala Convention as well as for the full implementation by countries that are a party to it

Data

» Support capacity strengthening of IGAD Member States on IDP data collection, analysis and use through the dissemination of the Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics recommendations on IDP data in 2020
INTRODUCTION


In this context, and also to mark the 20th anniversary of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (GP20), the GP20 global multi-stakeholder initiative and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) partnered to convene this exchange on supporting resilience and durable solutions to internal displacement in the IGAD region in October 2019. The current IGAD Chair, Ethiopia, hosted the event in Addis Ababa.

This exchange was held under the framework of IGAD’s Regional Consultative Process (RCP) on Migration established in 2008 by its Committee of Ministers. An open platform to discuss and advance migration issues in the region, this 12th RCP meeting was the first to focus exclusively on internal displacement. It attracted the highest number of participants yet, demonstrating keen interest in the topic.

The objectives of the event were to take stock, draw lessons and document practices on supporting resilience and protection of IDPs and achieving durable solutions to internal displacement. A background paper on experiences in supporting resilience and durable solutions to internal displacement in the IGAD region was prepared by IGAD ahead of the meeting to provide the basis for discussion.

IGAD Member States and other important stakeholders on internal displacement such as the AU, National Human Rights Institutions, United Nations (UN) agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and academics exchanged experiences on preventing, addressing and resolving internal displacement, including challenges and successes. The good practices, challenges and recommendations summarized here were shared at the AU’s Project 2019 Continental Consultative Meeting (CCM) devoted to the Kampala Convention in December 2019 to further its promotion, ratification and implementation on the continent.
INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT IN THE IGAD REGION

Displacement in the IGAD region has risen significantly since 2014, mainly due to conflicts in South Sudan in 2013 and Ethiopia in 2018. At the end of 2018, an estimated 8,920,500 people were internally displaced in the region as a result of conflict and violence. During 2018, there were 1,470,600 new displacements caused by disasters in the region, mostly in Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia.\(^1\) There is no cumulative figure of the number of people internally displaced by disasters. Development projects, urban renewal, forced evictions and deforestation also continue to displace people in the region.

Disasters caused by drought, floods and landslides are currently the main drivers of displacement in Djibouti, Kenya and Uganda. While disasters also displace people in Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan, conflicts are currently the main drivers in those countries and the resulting internal displacement is largely protracted. There is no regional estimate of the number of IDPs who have returned, locally integrated or settled elsewhere in the country, or of the number who have achieved durable solutions.

Internal displacement in the IGAD region is mostly protracted. Many IDPs are unable to rebuild their lives on their own as their resilience is undermined by new vulnerabilities they face as a result of displacement and the corresponding loss of protection and access to rights. Some returned refugees unable to repossess their homes are now living in internal displacement-like situations, further contributing to the protracted nature of displacement. The resilience of host communities and social cohesion is also threatened over time with increased pressure on services. It is a humanitarian, human rights, development, peace and climate change adaptation challenge.

While there has been progress in the region on government leadership and law and policy-making on internal displacement and a lot of work has been done to address IDPs’ protection and assistance needs, numerous challenges remain. These include financial constraints, sub-national budgets being too dependent on transfers from the national budget, over-dependency on short-term and small humanitarian funding and donor fatigue. Political challenges include a governance deficit characterized by weak rule of law, limited government capacity and a gap between norm setting and norm implementation.

Other challenges include megatrends that are increasing the risk of displacement such as the adverse effects of climate change, urbanization, large-scale development projects, coupled with limited focus and support on managing these trends. Limited available land and ensuring competition, unemployment of IDPs and lack of unified and harmonized data that includes longer-term needs also obstruct durable solutions. Finally, a human rights-based approach and gender sensitivity are not consistently applied, and area-based approaches to building resilience can be improved.

IGAD’s work on internal displacement is rooted in several institutional initiatives focused more broadly on migration. First, its Regional Migration Policy Framework (RMPF) aims to reinforce the capacity of Member States to effectively respond to migration, including forced displacement. A number of recommended strategies to manage internal displacement are presented to Member States in the RMPF, including urging IGAD Member States to ratify and implement the Kampala Convention. Second, IGAD’s Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative aims to build the resilience of vulnerable communities to drought and other climatic shocks and includes measures for the prevention of displacement and the protection of the displaced.

IGAD has also established migration governance architecture at the regional and national level. This includes the Regional Consultative Process (RCP) on Migration established in 2008, the Regional Migration Coordination Committee established in 2014, and National Coordination Mechanisms (NCM) on Migration active in all Member States since 2016. The NCM is a governmental multi-sectoral coordination mechanism that coordinates stakeholders working on migration issues through a whole-of-government approach. NCMs aim to strengthen leadership in migration management, optimize the implementation of migration activities and facilitate the mobilization of resources to manage migration.

Establishment of the NCMs in IGAD Member States is in line with one of the main objectives stated in Article 2 of the Kampala Convention, which is to promote and strengthen regional and national measures to prevent, mitigate and eliminate root causes of and provide durable solutions to internal displacement. While the NCMs in IGAD Member States do not consistently include internal displacement in their work in the same way, the NCMs are well-placed to coordinate a whole-of-government approach to preventing and addressing internal displacement.

IN THE WORKING GROUPS AT THIS EVENT, THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS WERE MADE:

Recommendations to IGAD Member States:

- Ensure the NCMs have sufficient capacity and resources to include preventing, addressing and resolving internal displacement as a pillar of their work;
- Convene a meeting with the NCMs to review their Terms of Reference to ensure they are capacitated to coordinate across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus and facilitate horizontal and vertical government coordination on internal displacement.

Recommendations to National Coordination Mechanisms in IGAD Member States:

- Encourage and support the whole-of-government approach to preventing, addressing and resolving internal displacement.

Recommendations to the IGAD Secretariat:

- Encourage and support NCMs to include preventing, addressing and resolving internal displacement in their scope of work;
- Facilitate the sharing of experiences between NCMs on preventing, addressing and resolving internal displacement.
A durable solution is achieved when IDPs no longer have any specific assistance and protection needs that are linked to their displacement and can enjoy their human rights without discrimination on account of their displacement. This can be achieved through return of IDPs to their place of origin or habitual residence, local integration in areas where IDPs have sought refuge, or settlement elsewhere in the country.2 Consideration of the settlement preferences and capacities of IDPs, including the specific needs of vulnerable IDPs, and displacement-affected communities is paramount. Durable solutions should be voluntary, feasible, viable and enduring.

On the government side, a series of conditions need to be in place to achieve durable solutions. These include: a government-led process with strong political will; a whole-of-government approach with support from the highest levels, inter-ministerial coordination and budget support to sub-national authorities; an environment that is conducive to durable solutions with peacebuilding and reconciliation initiatives; and restoration of law and order with adequate normative frameworks laws, policies and strategies. Development plans and policies should include measures to prevent, address and resolve internal displacement.

At the operational level, area-based, community-owned and conflict-sensitive programmes targeting displacement-affected communities with multi-year funding are essential for achieving durable solutions. Humanitarian assistance is important, but insufficient. Solutions programming should be based on reliable, up-to-date, and agreed-upon, disaggregated data on IDPs’ capacities and needs but also the state of community infrastructure and local economies. Operational agencies should work across sectors towards collective outcomes rather than outputs or activities, and public-private partnerships should be encouraged.

Durable solutions entail not only a physical movement, but also a long, gradual and complex process. In areas with relative peace and stability, opportunities must be seized that facilitate durable solutions such as supporting local integration for IDPs who wish to stay where they are, demining, facilitating social cohesion, and strengthening law and policy frameworks. Proactively identifying possibilities to advance, policy, legislation, governance, planning and operations on durable solutions in specific locations is key, as is conducting a risk analysis as some areas may be too volatile for solutions.

A shift in the approach to achieving durable solutions is underway. In the past the focus was on humanitarian assistance, which has been and is still essential to helping IGAD Member States reach their objectives. A more long-term approach is being embraced in the region which includes helping IDPs regain their productivity, establishing peace dialogues for social cohesion, curbing conflict with improved early warning mechanisms, anticipating and mitigating the effects of natural hazards, developing IDP integration mechanisms through a dialogue with them, including women and youth, ensuring a focus on tenure security, and supporting communities that receive IDPs.

KEY PRINCIPLES & CONDITIONS FOR ACHIEVING DURABLE SOLUTIONS IN PRACTICE

- Government-led process with whole of government engagement
- Adequate normative framework for protection of IDPs’ rights
- Principled approach that is voluntary, safe, dignified, feasible and enduring
- Considerate of IDP settlement preferences, capacities and needs
- Contextual analysis and reliable, agreed upon data
- National budget allocations to local level based on de facto population
- Environment conducive to durable solutions with relative peace and rule of law
- Area-based, community-driven and conflict-sensitive programming
- Sustained participation of displacement-affected communities, including vulnerable groups
- Cross-sector collaboration towards collective outcomes with local business community
- Long-term approach with continuous, flexible and multi-year funding

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IGAD Member States are in various phases of developing frameworks to address the needs of IDPs in their countries. All expressed political support in advancing the aims of the Kampala Convention on internal displacement. Of the seven Member States who attended this exchange, Djibouti, South Sudan, Somalia and Uganda are the sole states that have ratified the Kampala Convention. Uganda shared that implementing the Kampala Convention on IDPs offered an effective platform for resource mobilization and an accountability framework. Ethiopia has signed it, but not ratified, and Kenya and Sudan have not signed it. Representatives from Kenya and Sudan gave assurances that their states are working towards ratifying the Convention. Sudan is using the opportunity of a more peaceful context to advance on this and also appealed for support once ratification is complete.

GOOD PRACTICE

SOUTH SUDAN’S MULTI-DIMENSIONAL AND MULTI-STAKEHOLDER APPROACH TO DOMESTICATION OF THE KAMPALA CONVENTION

South Sudan is the first IGAD Member State to draft a law to domesticate the Kampala Convention. An initiative of the government of South Sudan that began in 2018, South Sudan GP20 Partners steered a participatory and inclusive process. Partners included the Ministry for Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management, the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, the Transitional National Legislative Assembly, UNHCR, UNDP, UNMISS Rule of Law, OCHA, IOM and UNICEF. These partners galvanized the participation of additional stakeholders ensuring a whole of society approach. The process included a review and analysis of relevant instruments relating to internal displacement, training workshops and awareness-raising on normative and institutional standards, countrywide consultations with IDPs and host communities on their priorities for the law, and activities for ratification of the Kampala Convention. The final draft law was handed over to the Transitional National Legislative Assembly in February 2019 in a seminar where the general public was also informed about the law.

While the IGAD region is lagging behind others on ratification of the Kampala Convention, IGAD Member States have taken other legal measures in line with their national responsibility to prevent and address internal displacement. Kenya, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda are party to the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region. This Pact includes a Protocol on the Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons as well as a Protocol on the Property Rights of Returning Persons. Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Uganda have policies on disasters, and South Sudan has a strategic plan that covers all phases of the disaster cycle. Uganda also has a National Climate Change Policy.

In addition, most IGAD Member States have national laws, policies or frameworks on internal displacement. Kenya is the only IGAD Member State to have adopted legislation on internal displacement. Sudan and Uganda have national IDP policies, while Somalia has several sub-national IDP policies. Djibouti has yet to enact national laws or policies to recognize IDPs under its national laws, though committed at this exchange to propose to the relevant Ministry to domesticate the Kampala Convention. Ethiopia’s Somali regional state and South Sudan have durable solutions frameworks. At the time of this exchange, South Sudan’s draft IDP bill and Somalia’s national IDP and refugee-returnees policy were nearing adoption, and Ethiopia was embarking on development of a national IDP law or policy.

All IGAD Member States have taken steps to address internal displacement in addition to adopting laws, policies and frameworks, including as follows:

- Djibouti adopted poverty reduction mechanisms and IDPs displaced by drought have received shelter and reconstruction assistance from the UN;
- Ethiopia launched a Durable Solutions Initiative, a platform for collective actions and cooperation to secure durable solutions to internal displacement;
- Kenya established a National Consultative Coordination Committee to coordinate responses to displacement and a set of measures were put in place to redress the needs of IDPs, including indemnities and amnesty processes; lessons learnt have been replicated in reforestation programs and development projects such as dams and roads;
Somalia instituted a widely consultative and whole of government approach to internal displacement crossing 14 ministries and other institutions and also included IDPs in decision-making processes;

South Sudan undertook consultations with IDPs for the development of its draft bill on IDP protection and assistance and highlighted the importance of integrating the specific protection needs of IDP women, children and youth in formulating IDP national policies and frameworks;

Sudan established a National IDP Centre under the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs to assist the displaced and support voluntary return;

Uganda conducted a hazard risk profile of the entire country, with a database at the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) with biometric registration of persons in landslide prone districts and villages.

Despite these important actions, implementation of the Kampala Convention, laws, policies and frameworks requires improvement. Challenges to implementation highlighted by IGAD Member States include security concerns, limited institutional capacity, lack of resources and land for allocation, donor fatigue, inadequate data on IDP and returnee profiles, limited commitment of government stakeholders and the paucity of partners and technology for the prevention of displacement.

While tackling these challenges, IGAD Member States can simultaneously take steps to implement the laws, policies and other commitments they have on internal displacement. These include consulting with IDPs, ensuring their protection and minimum living standards, including displacement in national development plans, and taking measures to prevent the conditions that lead to displacement. National Human Rights Institutions can also support, for example by identifying the root causes of displacement.

IN THE WORKING GROUPS AT THIS EVENT, THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS WERE MADE:

Recommendations to IGAD Member States:

- Sign, ratify, domesticate and implement the Kampala Convention, using the AU Model Law as appropriate regardless of any current, imminent or past IDP crisis or lack thereof;
- Entrust one national coordinating body with accountability for the IDP response to ensure progress reporting against the Kampala Convention;
- Build social cohesion and reconciliation objectives into national IDP frameworks which have multi-sectoral prevention, early warning, response and recovery components.

Recommendations to international agencies working on internal displacement:

- Continue to advocate for IGAD Member States to sign, ratify, domesticate and implement the Kampala Convention;
- Support IGAD Member States that are pursuing the Kampala Convention ratification process including capacity building, expert advice and legal audits of existing legislation.

Recommendation to the African Union:

- Audit the implementation of Kampala Convention with Member State engagement.

Recommendations to the IGAD Secretariat:

- Organize a high-level meeting on internal displacement to generate further political will for the ratification, domestication and implementation of the Kampala Convention;
- Report on IGAD activities in support of the promotion of ratification and implementation of the Kampala Convention;
- Support IGAD Member States on ratification of the Kampala Convention, in line with article 2 of the Kampala Convention.
Preventing displacement

IGAD Member States have the responsibility under the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction to develop national disaster risk reduction strategies, which can contribute to the prevention of disaster displacement. At this exchange, multiple IGAD Member states called for greater focus on disaster preparedness, monitoring and prevention. This includes building the capacity of communities on early warning mechanisms, for example through training on accessing higher ground in flood scenarios. In Somalia, seasonal recurrent displacement driven by flooding of the Shabelle river has been shortened in duration by building communities’ resilience and investing in infrastructure and services at their place of origin. The severity of flooding has been reduced due to satellite imagery monitoring, timely closure of river breakages and reinforcement of the riverbank. Communities identified the areas requiring attention with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. The government monitored and supervised this work. The South Sudanese government also facilitates and encourages people to move to dry areas before flooding. The consortium Building Resilient Communities in South Sudan facilitated climate change resilience and livelihoods in Jonglei. In South Sudan, seasonal flooding driven by heavy rains is a major cause of internal displacement, with communities facing challenges in accessing water and food. The government and UN agencies, including the South Sudanese Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization and the UNICEF, are working together to support communities and improve resilience. In South Sudan, seasonal recurrent displacement driven by flooding of the Shabelle river has been shortened in duration by building communities’ resilience and investing in infrastructure and services at their place of origin. The severity of flooding has been reduced due to satellite imagery monitoring, timely closure of river breakages and reinforcement of the riverbank. Communities identified the areas requiring attention with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. The government monitored and supervised this work. The South Sudanese government also facilitates and encourages people to move to dry areas before flooding. The consortium Building Resilient Communities in South Sudan facilitated climate change resilience and livelihoods in Jonglei. In South Sudan, seasonal flooding driven by heavy rains is a major cause of internal displacement, with communities facing challenges in accessing water and food. The government and UN agencies, including the South Sudanese Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization and the UNICEF, are working together to support communities and improve resilience.
Somalia (BRCiS) aims to improve the resilience of IDPs and other communities. Communities co-lead the design and implementation of the activities that provide a continuum of humanitarian and development assistance to improve short, medium and long-term capacities of communities and households to handle shocks and stresses. BRCiS monitors displacement as one way to measure success. During the drought of 2017, BRCiS-supported villages were not displaced. They were able to absorb and support IDPs displaced by the drought.

Uganda has also taken steps to improve preparedness, management, response and recovery with respect to disaster displacement. Political will is evident with two cabinet ministers and a directorate under the OPM focusing on disaster risk management that coordinate monthly disaster risk reduction platforms. Disaster risk reduction measures are being mainstreamed across sectors and measures to manage disaster risk and displacement have been included in the National Development Plan. Uganda is also drafting a law on disaster risk management.

Displacement caused by large-scale development projects can also be prevented. These projects continue to displace people in the IGAD region often with inadequate relocation assistance or reparations. This leads to impoverishment and inequitable development and undermines the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Development projects are planned by nature, and any displacement of people to make way for the project should also be incorporated into project planning and budget.

IN THE WORKING GROUPS AT THIS EVENT, THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATION WAS MADE:

Recommendations to IGAD Member States and international agencies working on internal displacement:

- Recalibrate investments in early warning, prevention, response and recovery to focus more on prevention than response;
- Ensure large-scale development projects are preceded by a social and environmental impact assessment, resettlement plan and adequate resources to prevent impoverishment of affected persons.

GOOD PRACTICE

UGANDA’S APPROACH TO MITIGATION OF DISPLACEMENT DRIVEN BY LANDSLIDES

Natural hazards have been driving internal displacement in Uganda since 2010. The eastern part of the country has been experiencing from 2 to 5 landslide disasters every year. In 2010, 7,000 people displaced by a landslide were resettled 300 kilometres from their place of origin due to the lack of nearby land. Cut off from their traditional way of life, the government received many complaints from those resettled.

Learning from this experience, the government later instituted a 10-year voluntary resettlement programme to relocate households from high-risk areas to safer areas in Bulambuli District close to their place of origin. This was based on hazard and risk profiling of landslide prone areas and at-risk populations in the Mount Elgon area. Within this programme, the government buys and develops land for settlement and encourages residents at high risk of displacement to voluntarily relocate.

The government provides resettlers with housing, infrastructure, services and income generating activities, and initially plows the land for the community. Housing titles are held in trust for 25 years by the government to eliminate the prospect of on-ward sale and resumption of displacement status. Resettlement is conducted in line with the 2004 IDP policy and the 2007 return and resettlement guidelines, and a resettlement policy is being drafted. The project has a whole-of-government approach, involving all relevant ministries, and all contracts for construction and service provision stay within the government.

Around 240 households have been resettled to date. This programme fulfills the government’s Sendai Framework and Kampala Convention obligations on disaster preparedness and prevention. While the budget of the humanitarian emergency response following disasters has been reduced, it is a costly venture with 10 million US dollars invested by the government and some households resist relocation. As the benefits outweigh the costs, the government is purchasing more land to continue the programme.

3 BRCIS members are the Norwegian Refugee Council, Concern Worldwide, CESVI, Save the Children and the International Rescue Committee. Donors are DFID and DEVCO, which have given multi-year funding.
Government leadership on durable solutions

Government leadership is essential to identifying, coordinating and implementing durable solutions. This includes initiating reconciliation and dialogue processes, ensuring respect for the rule of law, facilitating access of IDPs to their rights, providing safety and security and promoting inclusive economic development. Government support for durable solutions is required not only at the highest levels, but also horizontally down to the local level and vertically across relevant ministries and other institutions. This “whole-of-government” approach is compatible with an area-based approach to securing durable solutions which crosses multiple sectors and requires coordinated and joint activities.

All IGAD Member States employ a government-coordinated approach to addressing internal displacement, though they take different forms. In Djibouti, land was allocated to IDPs through the Ministry of Interior, which coordinates with UNDP and UNHCR, while the National Disaster Risk Management Commission leads on the response to disaster displacement. In Kenya, roles are distributed among different ministries of government, including the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Social Affairs and there is a partnership with the Red Cross. Kenya learned from the Solai dam collapse in 2018 that all government departments have a role in responding to disasters, ensuring protection of affected communities and rebuilding community resilience.

In South Sudan, the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management works with the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Justice and they convene regular meetings. In Uganda, the OPM is tasked with preventing, addressing and resolving internal displacement. Currently the focus is on disaster displacement led by a multi-stakeholder Disaster Risk Management Committee under the OPM. Sudan, Somalia and Ethiopia all have platforms that support the whole-of-government approach to achieving durable solutions to internal displacement and the authorities also participate in the Durable Solutions Working Groups that include UN agencies and NGOs. In Sudan, the Commission of Humanitarian Aid under Ministry of Social Affairs leads coordination and all government stakeholders are involved.

GOOD PRACTICE

SOMALIA: WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT APPROACH INSTITUTIONALIZED

In order to support a whole-of-government approach, the Durable Solutions Unit of the Ministry of Planning, Investments and Economic Development in coordination with relevant line ministries and Office of the Prime Minister established a Durable Solutions Secretariat. It comprises 14 government institutions that provide technical expertise and high level strategic guidance and oversight to ensure that durable solutions initiatives are prioritized and implemented in line with the National Development Plan, National Social Development Road Map and other relevant government frameworks and policies.

The 14 government institutions are:

1. Office of the Prime Minister
2. Ministry of Planning, Investments and Economic Development
3. Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation
5. Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs & Disaster Management
6. Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs
7. Ministry of Public Works, Reconstruction & Housing
8. Ministry of Women and Human Rights
9. Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
10. Ministry of Energy and Water Resources
11. Ministry of Fishery and Marine Resources
12. Ministry of Foreign Affairs
13. Directorate for Environment – Office of the Prime Minister
14. Immigration

The Ministry of Interior leads vertical coordination while the MoPEID coordinates horizontally. The Durable Solutions secretariat has a mainstreaming role and attempts are being made to have coordination at the sub-regional level with a reporting mechanism to cascade up to the national level.
IGAD Member States expressed appreciation for partnerships on internal displacement with UN agencies, NGOs, civil society organizations, local communities and the diaspora. Private-public partnerships are also important and could be utilized more. Uganda and Kenya both regretted the early departure of some partners, explaining how they had largely left by the time return and resettlement elsewhere in the country became possible for IDPs.

In the context of return in Sudan, close coordination of the response to internal displacement is important since, if not, it can undermine the sustainability of solutions. For example, aid distribution continued in IDP camps when other partners were supporting return areas.

Partnerships are essential for durable solutions and each step along the durable solutions process may require different partners. Especially when it comes to displacement linked to disasters and adverse effects of climate change, partnerships between humanitarian and development agencies are key and the bridges need to be built to increase resilience of communities and manage risk. Somalia agreed that it is important to have mechanisms in place that make the connection between humanitarian and development partners, and also include the displaced with a participatory approach that is inclusive and bottom-up. Flexibility is required to allow for a bottom-up approach since for locally tailored community-based programs to be effective, they need to respect IDPs’ wishes.

GOOD PRACTICE

SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA: EXHIBITING LEADERSHIP WITH DURABLE SOLUTIONS INITIATIVES

Somalia

The Durable Solutions Initiative (DSI) in Somalia is centred on three components: normative, institutional and operational. The normative component has led to the inclusion of durable solutions for IDPs as a key development priority in the National Development Plan (NDP), which has provided the impetus for coordinated government action. The institutional component, established a Durable Solutions Secretariat, that provides government-led oversight and coordination of durable solutions efforts. The operational component has witnessed a progression from humanitarian support to new waves of displacement, to longer term solutions, eg. through the allocation of land, construction of housing and provision of basic services, and now to a more scaled-up durable solutions approach currently being developed. The DSI is based on vertical and horizontal joined-up action of the government supported by humanitarian and development actors.

Ethiopia

Learning from Somalia’s DSI experience, Ethiopia recently launched its own DSI. It is a platform for cooperation and collective government-led and area-based action along five pillars: policy, legislation, institutions, planning and operations. It brings together the federal government, UN, NGOs and donors. It’s comprehensive multi-sectoral, area and community-based approach will be cascaded down to regional and local levels to address root causes of displacement, as well as the risks and needs of IDPs, including the most vulnerable. It represents a paradigm shift from managing a crisis to managing risk and targeting root causes. The humanitarian response and development programmes will join where possible and run in parallel. The aim is to strengthen the resilience and protection of IDPs, avoid secondary displacement, guarantee law and order, improve early warning systems as well as efforts on social cohesion and peace.
Data collection and analysis to foster and measure durable solutions for IDPs

Gathering quality data on IDPs and displacement-affected communities for durable solutions planning remains a challenge in the IGAD region. The data required for operational responses and the data required for planning and fostering durable solutions is different in scope and substance. The challenge is not the lack of displacement-related data, but the lack of disaggregated data suitable for long term solutions planning as well as the lack of harmonization and accessibility of this data. It is critical to transition to systems that provide for longitudinal and longer-term information needs in order to better understand IDPs’ profiles and issues through a multi-stakeholder data system.

The available data is inadequate for durable solutions planning and measurement for several reasons. First, data collected on displacement is mainly tailored to informing humanitarian responses and data systems are shaped accordingly. Second, at the operational level, organizations conduct assessments for their own rather than joint purposes with different methodologies and quality. Third, there is also a lack of joint tools and harmonised processes to ascertain the contribution of durable solutions and other programmes to broader collective outcomes. Low ownership of existing data by governments was also identified as a major gap. Finally, data is rarely being collected in remote areas. The result is a fragmented and incomplete understanding of internal displacement, including the protection and assistance needs of IDPs.

There are nevertheless efforts in the region to improve the data availability and use for work on durable solutions to internal displacement. Ethiopia and Sudan are coordinating with IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix to share and jointly compile displacement data including multi sectorial seasonal assessments. Somalia is developing registration data for IDPs in partnership with stakeholders, and has included displacement indicators in its National Development Plan III in line with SDGs. In 2017, the World Bank included displacement in its poverty index assessments hence providing disaggregated data on displacement-affected communities to inform policy and programming.

Various indicators of IDP resilience were shared at this event: diversification of family income streams, elevation of employee status (e.g. from beggar to written contract), improvement of housing tenure, increased food security, evolution of assets and access to services over time, hosting of IDPs rather than being displaced, and perceived ability to cope with stresses and shocks. Separate resilience monitoring is not always required, as existing mechanisms such as the Humanitarian Needs Assessments could be better used for this purpose. The UN Food and Agriculture Organization in Uganda uses the Resilience Measurement Index Assessment where data of the displaced and host communities on their assets and access to services is reviewed 18 months later. South Sudan, Sudan and Somalia are planning to also adopt this tool.
GOOD PRACTICE
SOMALIA: WORKING TOWARDS COMMON METHODOLOGY AND ANALYSIS ON DURABLE SOLUTIONS

UN agencies, NGOs, the private sector, and local civil society organizations have agreed to use the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Framework on Durable Solutions criteria to measure collective outcomes on internal displacement and support joint accountability. This has led to greater commitment to developing and operationalizing joint analyses based on the IASC criteria. Furthermore, in 2018, they endorsed seven core programming principles for common approaches to durable solutions, which the Federal Government also endorsed. Now, the Danwadaag Consortium together with partners is developing a local integration index to measure integration based on a common set of indicators on legal, physical and material safety covered by the IASC indicators.

IN THE WORKING GROUPS AT THIS EVENT, THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS WERE MADE:

Recommendations to the IGAD Secretariat:

» Convene a regional workshop to publicize the international standards for IDP statistics developed by the Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics and other relevant tools and frameworks to strengthen the capacity of governments and harmonise data collection;

» Lead a discussion on possibilities for a joint framework against which stakeholders can jointly assess progress towards durable solutions in the region.

Recommendations to IGAD Member States:

» Develop specific indicators to mainstream displacement and durable solutions into national and local development plans linked to SDG indicators;

» Ensure the national statistical system is accessible to relevant stakeholders and includes data on internal displacement, with appropriate data protection and safeguard mechanisms;

» Adopt innovative methods to collect data in inaccessible regions by harnessing modern technology, which could include satellite remote sensing methodologies.

Recommendations to international agencies working on internal displacement:

» Support governments to ensure their national statistical system incorporates data on internal displacement;

» Adopt common data collection and analysis tools across actors working with displacement-affected communities, including joint monitoring and joint information-sharing mechanisms, and a displacement and longitudinal lens.
Operationalizing the humanitarian-development-peace nexus

Durable solutions are a long-term process that carries displacement-affected communities from a humanitarian crisis to full protection and renewed enjoyment of their rights. A community affected by conflict requires different levels and types of support at any given time. This lends itself to humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) nexus programming with humanitarian, development and peace actions running in parallel rather than sequentially. The first step is to understand how people are coping and then respond with tailored area-based approaches that enhance their coping mechanisms.

Humanitarian work tends to be guided by principles of protection and human rights, while development work is guided by a human development approach and the SDGs. The HDP nexus needs to ensure protection and adherence to human rights principles throughout all phases. Unless human rights issues are addressed, humanitarian and development actions will not lead to peace. In Ethiopia, for example, the Protection Cluster’s housing, land and property working group includes development actors who are being encouraged to invest in stabilization programmes in less stable areas.

Working across the HDP nexus requires coordination at the national and project level. Coordination of activities, in turn, requires good information on who is doing what where, and not only in relation to durable solutions programming, but in other related areas, such as infrastructure development. This helps align durable solutions programming with other areas of development assistance to leverage scaled results. It is important to collect and analyze data in a way that integrates sectors and the elements of HDP nexus. This also requires a joint analysis and understanding of the context and local systems of governance.

Current UN global and agency reforms require the UN to work in more joined up way. At the country level, the empowered Resident Coordinator system brings together humanitarian, development and peace actors. UN coordination through the Resident Coordinator Office has been effective in Somalia where NGOs are also closely engaged. The recent introduction of a Durable Solutions Coordination Unit in the Resident Coordinator Office Ethiopia is also building significant momentum around the issue. The Ethiopia Disaster Risk Management working group is chaired by the government and OCHA and also brings together development and humanitarian partners.

GOOD PRACTICE

SOMALIA: THE HUMANITARIAN-DEVELOPMENT-PEACE NEXUS FOR LOCAL INTEGRATION OF IDPS

The Office of the Mayor and the South West State (SWS) are working on providing land with tenure security to resettle IDPs in Baidoa. The new settlements will accommodate both IDPs and vulnerable host communities. Consultations on durable solutions planning, land laws and city extension to integrate the IDP settlements brought together key stakeholders of the project to discuss the land law framework, which was endorsed by the SWS parliament in March 2019.

Based on the successes of Somalia’s MIDNIMO programme, durable solutions partners are working with the SWS and Baidoa municipality authorities on inclusive community planning. A key priority at the moment is to work with the Mayor of Baidoa and SWS authorities to consolidate the various Community Action Plans into a district-level community action plan that outlines the priorities of displacement-affected communities and that aligns with the SWS authorities strategic plans.

The Office of the Mayor with the support of durable solutions partners is seeking to establish a Durable Solutions Unit. This Unit will seek to relocate the first phase of 4000 IDP households to the new settlement. The relocation of 1000 IDP households at risk of eviction started on 16 June 2019. The remaining 3,000 households will be relocated to the public site which was granted by the Baidoa Municipality. The planning process should also bring about peace through an inclusive, gender-sensitive process that integrates different groups.

A Regional Exchange on Durable Solutions to Internal Displacement
A strong message in the HDP nexus discussions was on the importance of cash assistance. Cash-based programming from the outset helps prevent a culture of dependency, which is counterproductive to achieving durable solutions. It empowers people to make choices for themselves and stimulates community action. The private sector also has a role here with microfinance, as IDPs have had access to through banks in Sudan. The private sector could also work more closely with development actors to prevent and mitigate disasters and improve access to energy sources for displacement-affected communities.

There are several challenges to fully operationalizing the HDP nexus. Competition between organizations persists and is a barrier to coordinated action needed for HDP efforts. Securing funding for livelihoods is difficult since it is not seen as a lifesaving intervention. This gives rise to high youth unemployment and idleness. Funding is still mostly short-term and where multi-year funding is given by humanitarian donors it on one hand provides flexibility for longer term programming, but also risks perpetuating a culture of humanitarian assistance and dependency and thus risks being a barrier to supporting longer-term development solutions.

IN THE WORKING GROUPS AT THIS EVENT, THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS WERE MADE:

Recommendations to donors:

1. Develop funding instruments that support longer term HDP nexus interventions;

2. Humanitarian and development donors should work in close collaboration in fragile and protracted displacement contexts, hence fostering collaboration between humanitarian, development, human rights, peace and security actors and their activities.

GOOD PRACTICE

SUDAN: ONE UN AND WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT APPROACH

National and local government, national and local civil society, the private sector, and the international community, including the UN, development banks, donors and international NGOs are engaged on durable solutions in Sudan. The State Liaison Functions (SLF) concept advances the Secretary-General’s ‘whole-of-UN’ agenda based on the recognition that transitions require an inclusive strategy. It plays a catalytic role in building peace, focusing the work of the UN to preserve and build upon peacekeeping gains, and offers an opportunity for development partners to invest in Darfur’s development through a joint UN conflict analysis and planning.

The SLF framework ensures a joint and overarching strategy between UNAMID, national actors and the UN country team (UNCT) that seeks to optimize the capabilities and comparative advantages of relevant actors, while serving as an entry point for enhanced national ownership. The SLFs form part of the action plan and are implemented under the programmatic lead of the UNCT in close cooperation with national actors. They are financed through UNAMID assessed programmatic funding for which UNAMID is accountable in the following five substantive areas: rule of law; human rights; durable solutions; livelihood for displaced populations; immediate service delivery for internally displaced persons.

COMPARATIVE EXPERIENCES ON PREVENTING, ADDRESSING AND RESOLVING INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT
Funding durable solutions to internal displacement

Budgetary allocations are the most visible measure of Member State commitment to tackling internal displacement. Uganda’s Public Finance Management Act (Part IV, Art. 26) establishes a national emergency fund to finance the response to disasters among other, and totals 1.5 percent of the appropriated annual government budget of the previous year. Kenya and Ethiopia also have government funds for IDPs. South Sudan approved a 2019/2020 budget for peace that will benefit returning IDPs. While these are markers of governments’ acknowledgement and commitment to address displacement, these funds are insufficient to cover all the needs.

The non-cash contributions received and costs that countries bear in catering to internally displaced populations should also be calculated. Costs include the economic, social and environmental costs of upheaval and hosting of the displaced, including land allocation. In-kind contributions include, for example in the case of Uganda, donations of solar energy panels to 140 houses for IDPs by a telecommunications company in 2018 as part of their corporate social responsibility efforts, and 50 houses built by Habitat for Humanity for IDPs displaced by landslides in 2010. The Zakat system⁴ also provides funding and in-kind assistance for IDPs, in Djibouti and Sudan for example.

These and other sources of financial and in-kind support should be explored. This includes private sector institutions that are active within at-risk and displacement affected communities and informal resilience-building and coping systems. Diaspora, crowdsourcing and public-private partnerships could also be explored. In Sudan, a public-private partnership linked farmers at the agricultural input level and at the market level for output.

Several challenges remain. More money needs to be directed to the local level with accountability to the national level, and donors should not face obstacles to fund local governments. Micro-investment does not help in building long-term resilience, securing IDP protection or achieving durable solutions. Longer term, multi-year development funding and approaches are required to achieve durable solutions. A promising development is that the Norwegian Refugee Council is receiving multi-year and multi-sectoral funding from humanitarian donors for its work in the region.

GOOD PRACTICE

UGANDA: FUNDING RESETTLEMENT OF COMMUNITIES AT RISK OF DISPLACEMENT

The government is leading a resettlement programme to resettle households from the Mount Elgon area that faces recurring landslides. The government purchases land closeby and installs infrastructure with funds from the government budget. The budget from the affected government district is redistributed to the receiving government district for basic services. A whole of government approach is employed to reduce costs following a cost-benefit assessment. The military and police construct the houses, the water and electricity agencies provide those services as do all other relevant ministries. Durable solutions are mainstreamed within the ongoing government programmes and budgets.

IN THE WORKING GROUPS AT THIS EVENT, THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS WERE ADOPTED:

Recommendations to IGAD Member States:

- Explore alternative sources of funding such as crowdfunding platforms, diaspora, private sector and traditional mechanisms;
- Establish or strengthen local level funding mechanisms and public-private partnerships.

Recommendation to international agencies working on internal displacement:

- Plumb the vertical relationship between national and lower levels of government to ensure funding reaches local governments.

Recommendations to donors:

- Increase multi-year funding and flexible, non-earmarked funding for durable solutions to internal displacement avoiding gaps between short and long term funding;
- Development partners to review their funding arrangements particular on the recurring displacement;
- Take more risk on development and long-term work required to achieve durable solutions.

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⁴ A mandatory charitable contribution for Muslims who meet the criteria for wealth.
Access to housing, land and property rights

Housing, land and property issues encountered during displacement are a significant protection gap that can erode the resilience of IDPs and drive protracted displacement. IDPs in Sudan, for example, face food insecurity since it is too dangerous to access their land for farming during displacement. In Somalia, many IDPs have been forcibly evicted from the accommodation they reside in during displacement, though this trend appears to be decreasing with the government adopting forced eviction guidelines and international partners conducting regular evictions risk mapping.

If access to housing, land and property rights is facilitated, the risk of secondary displacement can be eliminated and livelihoods can be practiced, laying the foundation for durable solutions. Housing, land and property rights are therefore a core element of humanitarian, development and peace planning and programming. This includes vulnerable groups across all age, gender and diversity categories such as ethnic minorities, women, child-headed households, persons with disabilities and elderly persons.

IGAD Member States have facilitated IDPs’ access to housing, land and property rights during displacement. In Djibouti, the government allocated land to urban IDPs to enable them to interact with the host community. In Somalia, the government requested clan elders in Puntland to provide land for their IDP clan mates on which they built housing with international assistance. In Uganda, IDPs were given titles for land that they were relocated to. In Sudan, nomads were provided land with social amenities while the land that they used for cattle grazing was outfitted for accommodation of IDPs. These efforts required time for advocacy and negotiation of land.

In Uganda, the government put in place projects such as tree planting in IDPs’ areas of origin to minimize reocurrence of natural hazards and the proceeds of the projects were enjoyed by IDPs allowing them to earn an income from their land left behind. Ethiopia has progressive laws in terms of property rights for women, however there are some cultural barriers to implementation. Sudan has a new policy that is inclusive of women and child headed household property rights. Trainings on security are also ongoing to build the capacity of the local leaders to facilitate return if IDPs choose to do so.

IGAD Member States did not report formal mechanisms to account for lost housing, land and property in the area of origin. Ethiopia commented that lost livestock is accounted for within the community, and Sudan reported that the land commission that had begun its work under the previous constitution had stopped its work and has not resumed.

GOOD PRACTICE

SOMALIA: HOUSING AND LAND ALLOCATION FOR LOCAL INTEGRATION OF IDPS IN BOSSASSO AND BAIDOA

In Bossaso, UN Habitat, working together with the local authorities, set up programmes to construct low-cost housing for long-term displaced communities. Small community-based businesses receive training and supply locally available building materials. A certain percentage of houses were allocated to vulnerable local residents, identified in cooperation with the local authorities. The local authorities grant tenure security to all residents, the right to pass the housing on to lawful dependents, and the right to transfer, sell or mortgage the property after fifteen years of continuous possession.

In Baidoa, consultations with local authorities held in 2018 gave rise to three options for IDP resettlement: status quo, resettlement within municipal limits, relocation outside the municipality within a 15 kilometre radius. All options were rejected and an alternative option was arrived at. Public land for relocation along a north-south axis of Baidoa city was identified and subdivided in to 20 metre by 30 metre plots supplied with public utilities and services including police stations. Around 3000 families will be resettled and phase I with the resettlement of 500 families is in progress. Tenure is held by the municipality in trust.

IN THE WORKING GROUPS AT THIS EVENT, THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS WERE MADE:

Recommendations to IGAD Member States:

- Take measures to facilitate IDPs’ access to housing, land and property rights during displacement as well as safeguarding their housing, land and property in their place of origin in line with the Pinheiro Principles on Housing and Property Restitution for Refugees and Displaced Persons;
- Address housing, land and property, safety, security and social cohesion issues in an integrated manner through a multi-stakeholder, multi sectoral approach cutting across the HDP nexus.

Recommendations to donors:

- Offer predictable funding to support housing, land and property interventions at national and sub-national levels, including capacity development activities such as training and expertise secondment to support relevant line ministries develop housing, land and property policies and interventions.
Rebuilding the peace

Peacebuilding is essential for reconstruction and rebuilding lives following conflict. While early investments in bringing communities together at the national and sub-national levels for talks, dialogue and interaction are key for social cohesion and peace, other activities are equally important. These include participatory planning processes, resilience and livelihood opportunities for marginalized groups, youth and women, political participation of marginalized groups at all levels, community-based protection monitoring, and preventing, mitigating and resolving inter-communal violence in a timely fashion.

Disarmament was a key first step to building the peace in Uganda. The Turkana would migrate to the Karamoja area during the dry season. In turn, the Karamojong would go to Teso areas, which resulted in cattle rustling, conflict and displacement. The government of Uganda disarmed the Karamoja region, which was the key to securing peace, bringing development and building the resilience and ensuring the protection of these communities.

Early investments in bringing communities together also improves peaceful coexistence. In Uganda, traditional justice is practiced where the perpetrators and victims sit together, reconcile and move on. In Ethiopia, peace is being supported through inter-religious councils, a peace dialogue, youth training for peace building, and working with traditional leaders. Food, housing and social infrastructure are also provided since meeting basic needs also fosters social cohesion.

SUDAN: SUPPORTING VOLUNTARY RETURN AND RESILIENCE IN DARFUR

The NGO Catholic Relief Services conducted a study with Tufts University to better understand livelihoods in return areas in Darfur and how to encourage voluntary return without putting people at risk. The study found that livelihoods are based on livestock and agriculture, which require land, water and healthy soil and management of conflict over these natural resources. Catholic Relief Services then developed a natural resource management programme together with the government and line ministries. The return support programme started with hosts and a few returnees, and eventually encouraged people out of the camps once they saw that it was feasible to do agriculture in their home areas. This was complemented by disarmament, which also improved the peace. In parallel, the Humanitarian Affairs Commission of the government of Sudan adopted a resilience programme several years ago that is now in the third phase. Workshops have been conducted with NGOs, IDPs and hosts to create a participatory process and programming. DFID was the donor and programmes like these require long-term funding to prevent a stop-and-go approach, which can undermine resilience.

Improving social cohesion contributes to building the peace. Social cohesion building measures must be integrated into planning and programming interventions from the onset. In Uganda, the government is providing livelihood projects and affirmative action which are key for reintegration and social cohesion between the host community and the IDPs. In Somalia, the land allocation process served to improve social cohesion between IDPs and their neighbours. In both cases, the government negotiated with the local authorities or host community to provide land for IDPs. The Somalia MiNIMO project was a good example of community-based planning inclusive of women. Host communities in South Sudan benefit from interventions for IDPs hence fostering social cohesion.

Risk analyses done in consultation with partners and local elders and communities are also important for keeping the peace, particularly in the context of return. In Kenya after the 2007 election violence the government took a lead role in the Rudi Nyumbani Project by starting grassroots peace engagement programmes. Community dialogues involved community organizations, faith based organizations, religious leaders and their elders from IDPs’ place of origin. These community members supported the processes of returns and ensured social cohesion was maintained. Attention should also be paid to ethnic dynamics when considering relocation of IDPs to avoid creating more conflict.

GOOD PRACTICE

SOMALIA: ENGAGING IDPS AND OTHERS ON DURABLE SOLUTIONS THROUGH THE RADIO

Africa Voices Foundation and the Regional Durable Solutions Secretariat launched radio discussions in Baidoa and other cities with IDPs and other displacement-affected communities on what their main challenges around displacement are and what can be done to overcome them. This interactive approach opened a space for IDPs to share their priorities and audience opinions were also gathered via mobile phone text messages. This was part of the Regional Durable Solutions Secretariat’s Common Social Accountability Platform, a platform to engaged displacement-affected communities in Somalia to support social accountability and inform durable solutions planning and programing through an inclusive and participatory process. A feedback session was organized with the Commissioner and the municipality where the community decided how to use funds based on most voted issues.
Ten years ago, the response to internal displacement was largely siloed, fragmented and ineffective. However, concepts that were not articulated as such a decade ago, such as the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, whole-of-government approach and one UN, are now accepted and increasingly put into practice in the IGAD region. These approaches will be essential as we tackle displacement associated with megatrends such as the adverse effects of climate change and urbanization. The IGAD region is especially exposed to these issues and the search for solutions should start now with protection and participation of affected communities at the centre of the response.

It is critical for all IGAD Member States to ratify and implement the Kampala Convention, which will allow citizens to claim their rights to protection, assistance and solutions with State parties held accountable. A follow-up meeting to this event to review the implementation of the recommendations and share additional experiences will build further traction and momentum for the achievement of durable solutions in the region. IGAD’s continued assistance with resource mobilization and capacity strengthening will also be key. Achieving truly durable solutions to internal displacement is a way to prevent renewed displacement and also ensure IDPs and other displacement-affected communities not only survive, but equally thrive.
ANNEX 1 – LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

IGAD
Member States: Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda
IGAD Secretariat

KEY RESOURCE PERSONS
• Professor Walter Kaelin, Special Advisor to the UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator in Somalia and Ethiopia on Internal Displacement
• Professor Maya Sahli Fadel, African Special Rapporteur on Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons
• Dr. Mehari Maru, Robert Schuman Fellow and Lead Consultant to IGAD, AU and GIZ

LOCAL / REGIONAL NGOS
Kaalo Aid and Development, Somalia; Regional Durable Solutions Secretariat, Kenya; Uganda Red Cross Society

INTERNATIONAL NGOS
Catholic Relief Services, Danish Refugee Council, Norwegian Refugee Council

International Organization for Migration
Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UN Development Programme
UN Food and Agriculture Organization
UN Habitat
UN High Commissioner for Refugees
UN Resident Coordinator Offices

OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
International Committee of the Red Cross
Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
Joint IDP Profiling Service
Office of the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of IDPs
Protection Clusters

DONORS
ECHOC, Italy, Switzerland

OTHER
Abdirahman Ahmed
Great Lakes Secretariat
National Human Rights Institutions

Displaced women make fuel efficient stoves at the UNHCR centre for women in Riyad camp in Sudan’s Darfur region in 2005.
### ENGLISH RESOURCES ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

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