

GP20 Webinar
CONCEPT NOTE

**Financing / funding mechanisms available to prevent and address internal displacement,
including to ensure durable solutions**

28 May 2020

9.00-10.30 New York time/15.00-16.30 Geneva time/16.00-17.30 Nairobi time/Bangkok time 20.00-21.30

[Meeting Link](#) - Meeting number (access code): 976 072 953 - Join by phone: [Global call-in numbers](#)

Over 20 years after the publication of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, internally displaced people continue to be the largest group in need of humanitarian assistance. In addition to providing emergency support to a record number of newly internally displaced people, significant humanitarian and development resources and funding go to supporting people in situations of protracted displacement for years or decades, and increasingly so in urban and non-camp settings. It is recognised that addressing internal displacement demands a concerted, multi-faceted approach, where working at the “nexus” between emergency response and longer-term approaches is necessary in order to reduce people’s vulnerabilities and identify sustainable solutions.

Financing and funding mechanisms are crucial to realising these approaches, not only to providing funding for appropriate interventions, but to enable and incentivise collaborative and coherent working among different stakeholders. Yet, fragmentation of humanitarian and development funding streams within donor agencies continue to complicate joint action across the “nexus” in the pursuit of durable solutions. It remains difficult both to allocate humanitarian funds for resilience-enhancing programs if they are not immediately lifesaving, and to tap development funds in volatile emergency contests. Donors have therefore a central role in supporting the humanitarian-development and peace “nexus” (or triple nexus) and in encouraging the use of innovative financing approaches as they apply to internal displacement.

In the context of disaster-induced displacement, where stronger investments in resilience, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) work contribute to supporting community-based actions to prevent the conditions that lead to displacement, research continues to show a general lack of funding and donor interest, as compared to response work. This lack of funding, a common constraint for DRR and preparedness work, is linked to a perception that internal displacement due to disasters is a short-term issue, not suited to the longer-term community-based approaches of DRR, resilience and CCA, and also seen as a “marginal” issue in the wider context of risk reduction.¹

Today, this situation is exacerbated by the COVID19 pandemic, which raises concerns about further decreases in DRR and CCA funding. Additionally, IDPs may be disproportionately and negatively impacted by the economic repercussions of lockdown measures, given their already precarious circumstances and heavy dependency on external support from host communities and humanitarian actors. Adequate funding that supports alternative methods of delivering assistance (e.g. self-reliance programmes, increased use of cash etc.) and providing services to IDPs and host communities, should be identified.

The express inclusion of internal displacement within resilience and DRR programming may open up new and innovative avenues of funding to help scale up overall risk reduction work. For instance, early warning and

¹ <https://media.ifrc.org/ifrc/document/responses-internal-displacement-disasters-summary-report/>

early action measures such as forecast-based financing is proving effective to better anticipate and reduce displacement risks ahead of impact and should be further explored. Other risk financing instruments such as insurances and catastrophe (CAT) bonds can support more rapid and predictable funding for IDPs.²

When displacement becomes protracted, resources are placed under a greater strain and often result in the reduction or termination of some forms of humanitarian assistance, without necessarily being replaced by self-reliance models. During protracted displacement tensions with host communities may also grow, especially where their needs are not addressed through holistic and comprehensive programmes, hence the need for area-based approaches to funding that address the inter-related needs of both host and displaced communities.

Shortcomings in addressing displacement in urban settings are also an issue and are often attributed to the rigidity of planning and funding schemes as well as to the scale and complexity of urban environments where it may be challenging to coordinate action between multiple stakeholders.

Including activities that promote self-reliance of IDPs in emergency response plans and/or in longer-term development work do not only contribute to reduce aid dependency but may increase the chance to access alternative development funding streams. While it is recognised that livelihoods programmes are often deemed costly and time-consuming, such investments tend to pay off in the long run and help people regain their autonomy, making them less vulnerable to exploitation and abuse and protecting them from resorting to harmful coping strategies.

Funding mechanisms that are multi-year and support “area-based approaches” have contributed to successful outcomes of situations of protracted internal displacement, benefiting both IDPs and host communities.³ This same approach is also relevant in the context of durable solutions. Funding mechanisms that support interventions⁴ that work “at the nexus” successfully address and reduce people’s unmet needs, risks and vulnerabilities and increase their resilience, while addressing the root causes of their displacement and tackling the conditions that enable durable solutions. Flexible funding is particularly needed in complex settings, where different phases of the displacement cycle may overlap with populations being affected in different ways with different needs.⁵

A strong consensus emerged at the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) in 2016 and the subsequent Grand Bargain process regarding the need for the humanitarian and development sectors to align more effectively around collective outcomes and work jointly on analysis and data collection, planning against multi-year planning frameworks and to collaborate at the country level and increase the coherence of aid deployment. However, the implementation of the “humanitarian development nexus” can be challenging. For humanitarian organisations already struggling to sustain their humanitarian programmes in the face of donor and organisational fatigue, mobilising the resources and capacities to tackle these much larger issues can seem impossible, and be seen outside their mandates. Therefore, strengthening partnerships with international and local humanitarian and development organisations is key to overcoming some of these challenges. The role of local actors in prevention, preparedness and durable solution contexts is particularly relevant and should be further supported.

Some donors like the UK (DFID) and Sweden (SIDA) have tackled this issue, and developed resilience funds for less pressing humanitarian contexts where development actors are not present; hired and placed multi-

² <https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/resource-documents/12581.pdf>
<https://start-network.app.box.com/s/fv0zlsyk661vtjv90cr6t48o8hr8bwc4>
<https://www.ccrif.org/sites/default/files/publications/Synopsis-How-Governments-have-used-CCRIF-Payouts-February2019.pdf>

³ UNOCHA. (2019). Reducing Protracted Displacement: A Snapshot of Successful Humanitarian-Development Initiatives. Occasional Policy Paper 20, June 2019.

⁴ Such interventions may include cash, recovery and livelihoods programme, resilience and DRR, promotion of social cohesion, document and scale up HLP work, protection and advocacy work.

⁵ E.g. in Rakhine State, Myanmar funding was earmarked for IDPs in camps, when a new conflict broke out and new communities were displaced, it was complicated for humanitarian actors to utilize existing funding to address the needs of the new IDPs, even where they were in the same areas and locations.

disciplinary teams at country level; introduced flexibility within budgets to allow contextual changes; and developed new checklists to prompt teams to do more joined-up assessments and programming.⁶

SIDA in particular has opened a specific window for multi-year humanitarian support aiming at avoiding humanitarian dependency; support durable solutions for displaced populations in Somalia, Uganda and the DRC; and support social protection in drought-affected food insecure contexts using cash transfers and access to social services.⁷

This webinar is part of the GP20 initiative launched for the 20th anniversary of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, which aims to bring additional attention to the issue of internal displacement and strengthen collaboration to prevent, address and resolve this issue in countries coping with internal displacement. It will focus on how humanitarian and development actors, working with governments and donors, can ensure that available resources are fit-for-context in preventing and addressing internal displacement, including ensuring durable solutions. In addition, it aims to feed into the deliberations of the High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement, which was tasked to look into new or creative financing solutions which can be built up or better utilized in enabling more effective responses to displacement and the achievement of durable solutions.

Possible key questions to be addressed during this webinar include:

1. Which gaps remain in the humanitarian and development response architecture and how can we enhance partnerships between humanitarian and development actors so that resources are optimised and shared to fulfil common goals? What financing modalities can be used to fund work across humanitarian-development-peace actors?
2. Looking at donor practices, where do we see successful approaches that have contributed to preventing the conditions that lead to internal displacement and have ensured durable solutions?
3. What new or creative financing solutions exist which can be built up or better utilized in enabling more effective responses to displacement and the achievement of durable solutions?
4. How have governments used funding on climate change to address displacement risk?
5. Where and how have insurance programmes helped people displaced by disasters?

Target audience

The target audience for this webinar are officials from relevant government agencies, NGO, UN and donor staff (HQ and field), academia, IDPs and other experts working on preventing, addressing or resolving internal displacement, and with an interest in sharing and learning from practical experiences

Logistics

GP20 will organize and host the webinar event via WebEx

⁶ <https://devinit.org/publications/questions-considerations-donors-triple-nexus-uk-sweden/>

⁷ <https://www.ghdinitiative.org/assets/files/workstream/humanitarian-development-nexus/Sample%20-%20Donor%20Specific-Sweden.pdf>