

Summary

GP20 Webinar, 23 July 2020

IDP data and evidence to prevent and address internal displacement, including to ensure durable solutions

This webinar was organized by the GP20 initiative together with IDMC, IOM and UNICEF. It focused on how data available on internal displacement, generated from across the data ecosystem is guiding national and local governments in their response to prevent and address internal displacement, including the search and achievement of durable solutions.

Key points & Recommendations

Issues commonly identified across different contexts and obstacles to obtain comprehensive and quality data and evidence can be attributed to the lack of common data standards, coordination challenges, and the limited data interoperability. Strong collaboration with communities including IDPs themselves, reaching beyond borders and sharing between data providers, engaging government researchers, community-based organizations (CBOs) and other actors within the ever increasing and complex data ecosystem is crucial.

Youth perspective

Young IDPs can play a key role in addressing internal displacement, building resilience and finding solutions, including by improving data collection efforts in their camps or communities.

- Supporting families and communities: Young IDPs often provide financial assistance to their family, relatives and community after securing jobs
- Public health: Youth play a key role in community health efforts by disseminating health education messages to the community and supporting the fight against domestic violence and other antisocial behaviours in camp settings
- Education: Many educated IDP Youth volunteer to teach community members, including those who have poor access to education. Most teachers in Juba camp for displaced people (POC) are IDP Youths
- Building trust with communities: Young IDPs can support decision making processes and camp management by representing the voice of the people, including through established Focus Group for Young IDPs to brainstorm on possible measures to better address needs.
- Volunteering: IDP youth volunteer in registration of IDPs
- Data collection:
 - Youth are innovative and can support tech solutions – for example timely reporting by using synchronized smart phone tablets and data analysis.
 - Young IDPs can support baseline data collection as they have a strong commitment to IDP's welfare and can help access the hard to reach populations that would otherwise be invisible.
 - Young IDPs act as the bridge between UN Agencies, Government, NGOs and help build trust to collect more accurate data

Local government perspective on data collection for access to education

Working with the Mayor's office in Bamenda, Cameroon, the community organization COMSUDA, collects data using technology, trusted relationships (including with city leadership, community organizers, principals, youth, parents and teachers) and extensive fieldwork, to assess access to education for marginalized children and youth. Through our field work to date, we learned that 68.8% of IDP youth is out-of-school. Most IDP youth are girls who are orphaned or have been separated from families. The conflict has left women, leading families, in need of new skills to earn so that children can return to school, paying school fees and gaining independence and stable futures. The data collected has provided valuable insight about profiles of marginalized youth, including many IDPs, and resulted in the development of a roadmap to improve the learn-to-earn approach in Bamenda. The roadmap recommends data-driven policies that address the learning needs of the most marginalized first and creates challenges and campaigns to encourage youth to own and solve social problems using design thinking. It also engages employers to create the learn to earn connection through providing internships, awards, jobs and raising awareness amongst parents to help better prepare their children for employment.

The Philippines

Within the Philippines Department of Social Welfare and Development, the Disaster Response operational monitoring and Information Center (DROMIC) is the central repository of all disaster data and information of the department. It gathers disaggregated data (age, gender, pregnant and lactating mothers, disability) and information from different sources and agencies (such as meteorological and volcanic institute), including local sources and pre-existing network of social workers on the ground, on affected and displaced population, evacuation sites, damaged houses and humanitarian relief aid by geographical location and types of disaster. It uses predictive analytics for potential disaster events to prepare humanitarian response using mathematical theories, scientific processes and spatial technologies, including drones. It is used to calculate relief resources for repositioning based on existing social registry platforms of vulnerable population and rely on the local first responders. Baseline data and information is also used for durable solutions in the recovery and establishment of resilient communities.

Afghanistan

The Afghanistan's Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation (MoRR) leads the development of national IDP policies and implementation and provides and coordinates immediate and long-term support for IDPs. The implementation of national policies and planning is data and evidence led. The MoRR with other governmental institutions (such as DoRR), national and international partners (IOM DTM) provide data at various levels and causes (disasters vs conflict/insecurity, geographical approach). Registration of returnees is done through the ARIS system and verification through the IDP petition system. Needs assessment are coordinated with other government agencies and taken up through the cluster system. The coordination for planning and development of action plans is done together with DoRR offices and other relevant Ministerial counterparts at national (e.g. National Action Plan for SDG monitoring) and sub-national level (action plans with relevant stakeholders to implement the IDP policy). Following main challenges were identified: 1) access due to ongoing conflicts, 2) standards, with the need to agree on terminology, tools and indicators, 3) data currently not aggregated or compared easily, 4) data sharing and coordination, between the MoRR, partners and others. Agencies collect data multiple times in the same, accessible locations; communities show assessment fatigue and remaining resources are underutilized. The challenge related to the implementation of existing IDP policy are measuring durable solutions, host community relations, land/housing allocation, livelihood & agriculture opportunities.

Age disaggregated data

Almost half of all IDPs are children, yet only 20 per cent of countries and territories with conflict related displacement data disaggregate data by age. Limited age disaggregated data has a negative impact on IDP children's rights, education, access to services, well-being and long-term development. Without data, protection risks and vulnerability of children remain by and large unknown and interventions cannot be appropriately responsive. Collecting better data on IDP children is critical to inform better solutions for internal displacement.

Impact of Covid19

COVID-19 means there is even greater urgency to address the needs of IDPs, who are among the most vulnerable. Covid19 impacts not only data collection but also interventions, with the adoption of different approaches and strategies, e.g. design programs to engage local community to reach out to IDPs and provide assistance, coordinated by municipal and district level authorities.

Recommendations

- Increase efforts to collect disaggregated data on the most vulnerable and hard to reach population, with particular focus on IDP children.
- Collect disaster displacement data on pre-existing vulnerabilities and conditions before the event.
- Link and scale up local level efforts on data collection, assessments, programme development to the national level.
- Coordination between all actors within the data ecosystem and particularly also between humanitarian and development actors, particularly in view of achieving durable solutions.
- Support young IDPs to be part of the solution and to foster their potential.