United Nations Development Programme

INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGY ON DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS TO INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

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FOREWORD

The human instinct of flight or fight allowed our ancestors to respond quickly to dangers in their environment. Today, a series of new threats, including violent conflicts, persecution and disasters induced by climate change are leaving millions of people with no option but to abandon their homes in search of safety for themselves and their families. The majority of people forced from their homes remain displaced within their own countries in refugee-like conditions for years or even generations. These internally displaced persons (IDPs) are cut off from their communities, deprived of livelihoods and vital services. Many of them, despite being citizens or residents of their own countries, must rely on international aid for their food, health, education, protection, and other needs. They are often exposed to abhorrent human rights abuses. Women and girls, in particular, face the abject consequences of sexual violence and gender-based discrimination. As the number of IDPs reached an all-time high of 71.1 million people in 2022, more must be done to address the root causes of internal displacement and empower people caught in a cycle of crisis.

In tandem with critical humanitarian assistance, development and peacebuilding are the most viable means of conflict prevention; an essential component of crisis response, and the most sustainable way out of it. Therefore, the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) new *Institutional Strategy on Development Solutions to Internal Displacement* will assist countries in their efforts to recognize that IDPs are citizens with rights rather than just people in need; and to repair the social contract between an affected population and its government. First, it underscores the centrality of promoting a development solutions approach at the national-level, including through political economy analysis and national strategies. Second, it calls for focus on building national and local actors' capacity in rolling out solutions including poverty reduction, ensuring social cohesion, and empowering women and young people. Third, it outlines how UNDP will assist countries to unlock critical financing to prevent and tackle internal displacement, including through Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs). Finally, it outlines how the organization will deepen its support to governments at all levels and extend vital partnerships via UN Country Teams, NGOs, civil society, International Financial Institutions (IFIs), and the private sector to expand development-led solutions.

Given that over 50 percent of UNDP's programming is in fragile contexts, the organization can leverage its unique knowledge, networks, and trust to tackle internal displacement, which is leaving an indelible scar on families across the world and holding back progress on the Global Goals. This strategy also commits UNDP to support at least 15 countries -- which are home to the majority of IDPs -- to significantly reduce, resolve, and prevent further internal displacement by 2030. In line with UNDP's Strategic Plan and Crisis Offer, this will involve putting the UN Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement into action by rebuilding homes, livelihoods, and access to services.

Every day, thousands of people have no option but to make the excruciating decision of *flight*: leaving their homes to seek sanctuary, perhaps never to return. Yet, resilience, the ability to rebound from adversity, is a defining human trait that provides hope for the future. Through this new Strategy, our overarching aim is to help ensure that people across the globe will not have to make the decision to flee; those that do will be given the opportunity and resources to rebuild their lives as quickly as possible; and that communities who welcome displaced people will have the support and resources they need. All people, including IDPs, must be able to play an active part in investing in a peaceful, more sustainable, and more inclusive today to help prevent the crises of tomorrow.

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The preparation of UNDP's *Institutional Strategy on Development Solutions to Internal Displacement* was led by the Recovery Solutions and Human Mobility (RSHM) Team within the Crisis Bureau (CB). The process was coordinated by Luca Renda (Team Leader, RSHM) and with a drafting team composed of Patrick Keuleers, Peter de Clercq, David Khoudour, Henny Ngu, Catherine Osborn and Xin Tong.

Extensive consultations were held across the organization to support the design of the new strategy. An initial "Let's Talk" session on internally displaced persons hosted by the Resilience Community of Practice was held in September 2022. The session, moderated by Peter de Clercq, Senior Advisor on Internal Displacement, included Professor Walter Kälin, Envoy of the Chair of the Platform on Disaster Displacement, former Representative of the United Nations (UN) Secretary-General on Internal Displacement together with Country Office representatives of Colombia and Iraq. The session clarified for UNDP participants basic concepts of internal displacement, shared learning from UNDP's current programming and discussed UNDP's engagement on solutions from a development perspective.

The draft strategy was then the subject of an interactive discussion on the SparkBlue platform (October – November 2022) including with Country Office and Regional Hub colleagues. Internal briefings were organized with team leaders of the Global Policy Network. An updated draft that incorporated the recommendations of the organization-wide discussion was shared with the Regional Bureaux in December 2022. A follow up consultation with Deputy Directors of all Regional Bureaux was held in February 2023 facilitated the CB Deputy Director.

At the external level, UNDP in 2022 engaged through the UN Steering Group on Solutions to Internal Displacement in support of a development approach to solutions and through its various sub-working groups on financing and data. Engagement with humanitarian and development partners on our development approach to solutions included internal displacement-affected states, bilateral donors and international financial institutions. A draft of the strategy was also shared with Robert Piper, the Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement, in December 2022, and the wider UN Steering Group colleagues in March 2023.

The strategy builds on UNDP's thought leadership on how to implement development approaches to solutions put forward in the recent report in collaboration with the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, *Turning the tide on internal displacement: a development approach to solutions* (November 2022).

The RSHM team is particularly grateful for the contributions of the following colleagues during the strategy development process: Abdallah Al-Laham, Natalie Angkawijana, Thomas Beloe, Glaucia Boyer, Xiaodong Cai, Phillipe Clerc, Emily Davis, Lara Deramaix, Eduardo Shigueo Fujikawa, Anab Grand, Piper Hart, Erick Hernandez, Clare Henshaw, Marina LoGiudice, Stephanie Loose, Oxana Maciuca, George May, Celina Menzel, Alessandra Muto, Marcus Neto, Muyiwa Odele, Erika Paakkinen, Alejandro Pacheco, Zoe Pelter, Bastien Revel, Laura Rio, Samuel Rizk, Martina Salini, Dennis Schleppi, Dan Schreiber, Ben Slay, Lana Stade, Maria Stage, Kristina Helena Sterwe, William Tsuma, Chukwuma Ume, Ashraf Usman, Claire Van der Vaeren, Joost van der Zwan, Jairo Alberto Matallana Villarreal and Laura Wenz.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AU	African Union
ADSP	Asia Displacement Solutions Platform
BPPS	Bureau for Policy and Programme Support
CBi	Connecting Business initiative
CB	Crisis Bureau
CCA	Common Country Assessment
CoP	Community of Practice
DAC	Displacement-affected community
DSP	Durable Solutions Platform
EGRISS	Expert Group on Refugee, IDP and Statelessness Statistics
FAO	UN Food and Agriculture Organization
GCER	Global Cluster for Early Recovery
GPN	Global Policy Network
HDP nexus	Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus
HLP	High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IDMC	Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IFI	International Financing Institution
ILO	International Labour Organization
IICPSD	Istanbul International Centre for Private Sector Development
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INFF	Integrated National Financing Framework
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
IRIS	International Recommendations on IDP statistics
JIPS	Joint IDP Profiling Service

OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
KNOMAD	Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development
MDB	Multi-lateral Development Bank
OCHA	UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
ReDSS	Regional Durable Solutions Secretariat
SRF	Sub-Regional Facility for the Syria Crisis
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SFH	Sustainable Finance Hub
SOAS	School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London
UN	United Nations
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDCO	UN Development Cooperation Office
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN RC	United Nations Resident Coordinator
UN RCO	United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks
WHO	World Health Organization

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over 71 million people remained forcibly displaced within their own countries at the end of 2022 due to conflict, violence and disasters – an all-time high. That figure represents a 20 percent increase compared to 2021 with the higher numbers caused not only by the ongoing war in Ukraine but also due to a lack of solutions for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in (often protracted) displacement, entrenched conflicts and an increasing number of disasters in various parts of the world.

In 2022, some 80 percent of IDPs lived in fragile settings according to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) with displacement being both a cause and outcome of fragility. Moreover, a very significant part of the displacement has a highly protracted character. The World Bank predicts that by 2050, climate change could force more than 216 million people to move within their own countries.

Some progress has been made since the adoption of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (1998) to reduce displacement-related protection and assistance needs. Yet responses, including those related to durable solutions, remain largely implemented through humanitarian actors, programming and financing.

In 2021, a High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement (HLP), commissioned by the United Nations (UN) Secretary-General at the request of 57 member states, issued its report calling for a renewed approach that recognizes solutions as a development priority in which national ownership is crucial. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) actively contributed to this report, working with other development stakeholders. The HLP advocated for enhanced focus on internal displacement in national policies and strategies and concluded that achieving solutions to internal displacement requires much earlier and more predictable engagement of development, peace, climate change and disaster management actors complemented by sustained development financing.

To take forward the HLP recommendations in June 2022, the UN Secretary-General launched his Action Agenda on Internal Displacement, advocating for a fundamental shift from a humanitarian to a development approach to solutions. The Action Agenda outlines 31 commitments for the UN system to advance solutions to internal displacement, prevent new displacements and ensure that IDPs receive better protection and assistance. UN development, peacebuilding, humanitarian, human rights, and disaster risk reduction and climate change actors were requested to develop their institutional plans for how they will reinforce their internal capacities and engagement on solutions to internal displacement. The implementation of the Action Agenda is supported by a new time-bound Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement appointed by the UN Secretary-General and through a global UN Steering Group on Solutions, of which UNDP is a member.

UNDP'S PREVIOUS SUPPORT AND REMAINING CHALLENGES

In the last five years since reporting was done on specific target populations (2018-2022), UNDP disbursed US$2.99 billion on projects directly benefitting IDPs, compared to, for example, $884 million targeting refugees. By "staying and delivering" in crisis, UNDP has supported the return and/or (re)integration of millions of IDPs

and supported wider displacement-affected communities (DACs).

Many previous UNDP initiatives were funded from small, time-bound thematic projects. Others were part of larger programmes, especially those promoting stabilization (e.g., Iraq, Sahel). Few projects addressed internal displacement as the main target. Rather specific thematic projects (e.g., rule of law, local service delivery) had an indirect impact on IDPs and DACs. National UN and/or government strategies and plans to address internal displacement were often either unavailable or unimplemented. UNDP projects were designed without a clear corporate strategy that provided policy direction and programming guidance.

Learning by doing, some UNDP Country Offices – e.g., Colombia, Iraq, Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan, Syria – accumulated a wealth of experience on internal displacement. At the regional level, the Sub-Regional Response Facility for the Syria crisis (SRF), in particular, has provided significant contributions to the conceptualization of UNDP's development approach to internal displacement.

INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGY IN SUPPORT OF DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS

UNDP's comparative advantage lies both in its core mandate of crisis prevention and recovery, addressing the root causes of displacement whether conflict/violence or climate/disaster related, as well as in finding long-term solutions to displacement after population movements have taken place.

Advancing solutions to internal displacement is integral to UNDP's efforts to reduce inequalities and achieve the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In line with UNDP's Strategic Plan (2022–2025) and new Crisis Offer, the strategy will also fulfil UNDP's commitment in the Action Agenda on Internal Displacement to develop an institutional plan outlining where UNDP can lead and support its implementation.

The strategy will assist in developing the capacities at the individual and organizational levels (national and local) and these will, in the longer term, contribute to three main outcomes:

1. A renewed social contract exists between displaced citizens and the state at national and local levels (society).

2. IDPs, irrespective of age, gender and diversity, are treated equally to other citizens and enjoy corresponding human security and dignity (people).

3. Resilient institutions at national and local levels ae equipped to prevent, manage and implement inclusive and gender-responsive solutions to address internal displacement (state and non-state actors).

The strategy brings an integrated human development approach and will support building the agency of internally displaced citizens. To support this approach, UNDP's institutional strategy is built on four key transitions (strategic inputs):

1. **Promoting a development approach to solutions** – UNDP will engage in policy dialogue with national stakeholders on the need for development approaches to solutions, fostering national ownership of solutions to internal displacement that is translated into plans and strategies based on data and evidence.

2. **Integrated prevention and solutions programming** – UNDP will adapt and implement existing and new innovative programmes/projects as the building blocks of risk-informed, conflict-sensitive, and age, gender and diversity-responsive solutions that can support ending displacement and longer-term social cohesion and peace.

3. **Focused development solutions financing** – UNDP will promote more focused financing for medium to long-term solutions and play a

stronger role as convenor of more predictable and sustainable financing conditions.

4. **Extended engagement and partnerships** – UNDP will extend its trusted partnerships with national and local governments and DACs, as well as with human rights, humanitarian, development and peacebuilding actors. It will also support solutions platforms and coordination forums.

WHOLE-OF-UNDP APPROACH TO STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

While overall policy guidance and coordination of UNDP's work on internal displacement is vested in the Crisis Bureau (CB), policy and programming support will be provided by technical teams in UNDP Global Policy Network (GPN). Human Mobility Advisers in six Regional Hubs will support the Regional Bureaux in providing technical assistance to Country Offices, identifying opportunities, and promoting synergies. They will also contribute to extracting best practices lessons learned that can be shared at regional and global levels. UNDP will also create a pool of specialized internal displacement advisers and consultants, for rapid on-demand deployment.

A new time-bound Inter-Bureau Task Team on Internal Displacement has been created to ensure strategic, coherent, whole-of-UNDP engagement at all levels. A knowledge platform will be launched including a Policy Guidance Note that provides more detail on the "why", "what" and "how" of UNDP's engagement on internal displacement. Specific policy papers will be developed to respond to demands and informed by field experiences and lessons learned. In addition to the indicators in the UNDP Strategic Plan 2022-2025, UNDP will monitor its performance using the theory of change, internal targets adapted to national contexts as well as contribute to wider efforts to measure progress towards solutions to internal displacement including as a contribution to monitoring progress towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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RATIONALE

The global commitment of reaching the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has become seriously compromised due to conflicts, the impact of climate change, political polarization, challenged multilateralism and the COVID-19 pandemic. The global Human Development Index (HDI) value has declined two years in a row, erasing gains of the preceding five years. Over 90 percent of countries have endured a decline of their HDI in 2020 or 2021. The number of people living in poverty rose in 2020 for the first time since 1998 by an estimated 119-124 million. The global impact of the ongoing war in Ukraine adds to the challenges.

The growing number of IDPs are among the most marginalized, vulnerable and at risk of being left further behind. Yet the approach to internal displacement – including the search for durable solutions – is still largely led through humanitarian assistance and short-term humanitarian financing. The HLP on Internal Displacement Report (September 2021) concluded that achieving solutions to internal displacement requires much earlier and more predictable engagement of development, peace, climate change and disaster management actors.

As a follow up to the HLP Report, the UN Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement (June 2022) outlines 31 commitments for the UN system to advance solutions to internal displacement, prevent new displacement and ensure IDPs receive better protection and assistance. One of the commitments is for "UN development, peacebuilding, humanitarian, human rights, and disaster risk reduction and climate change actors to develop global institutional plans, by the end of 2022, for how they will reinforce their internal capacities and engagement on solutions to internal displacement." This strategy will also therefore fulfil this commitment.

In line with its mandate, this strategy clarifies UNDP's approach and organizational offer to meet the need for a stronger development approach to internal displacement. The strategy is an integral part of UNDP's 2022 Crisis Offer.

> "Crises, so often rooted in multidimensional development deficits, are ultimately development emergencies requiring integrated development solutions. Life-saving humanitarian assistance, and external peace interventions, while incontestably necessary, are insufficient to address the structural and underlying causes of this complexity. The nature of uncertainty and the magnitude of complexity does not lend itself to traditional forms of crisis response and recovery processes. Moving from crisis to crisis without addressing root development causes cannot meet the scale of crisis in the world today … All evidence demonstrates that investing in development is the best way to prevent crises, and that without development investments complementing humanitarian and peace responses, the sustainability of emergence from crises is seriously diminished."
>
> UNDP, Crisis Offer

PART I:
CURRENT CONTEXT OF INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

KEY CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Internally displaced persons: Persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border. (Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, 1998)

Durable solutions: A durable solution is achieved when IDPs no longer have specific assistance or protection needs linked to their displacement and can enjoy their human rights without discrimination resulting from their displacement. The specific needs and human rights concerns of IDPs do not automatically disappear when a conflict or natural disaster ends … Rather, the displaced – whether they return to their homes, settle elsewhere in the country, or try to integrate locally – usually face continuing problems, requiring support until they achieve a durable solution to their displacement. (Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons, 2010)

Development approach to solutions: Building on the definition of durable solutions, the approach consists of adopting mid- to long-term responses that support nationally and locally owned capacities and systems, allowing displaced people and displacement-affected communities to live in safety, dignity and contribute to peace and sustainable development as agents of change. (UNDP, 2022)

Displacement-affected communities: Includes anyone living in an area where displacement has taken place …or others whose living conditions have been affected by the presence of IDPs. This term encourages a more community-based and area-based approach to displacement. (UNDP & School of Oriental and Africa Studies (SOAS) University of London, 2021)

GLOBAL CONTEXT ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

The first global IDP estimate (1982) mentioned only 1.2 million people in 11 countries. At the end of 2022, according to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) there were 71.1 million people internally displaced: 62.5 million as a result of conflict and violence and 8.7 million as a result of disasters (IDMC, 2023).[1] These numbers include the 5.9 million people internally displaced in Ukraine at the end of 2022. However, they do not yet consider the rise in the number of IDPs as a result of the ongoing conflict in Sudan, the earthquake in Türkiye and Syria, and other developments in 2023. Annex 2 presents data on the countries with the highest number of IDPs at the end of 2022.

Women and girls make up over half of the world's IDPs, 5 million IDPs are living with disabilities and an estimated 2.6 million are elderly. Over 30.5 million are children and youth. Internal displacement also aggravates people's pre-existing vulnerabilities.[2]

Developing countries, with high poverty levels and fewer resources, witness the largest numbers of IDPs (and refugees). According to recent data from the States of Fragility Report of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), 80 percent of all IDPs live in fragile settings. Local context also matters – according to the World Bank, 72 percent of IDPs live in sub-regions where incomes *per capita* are below the national average.

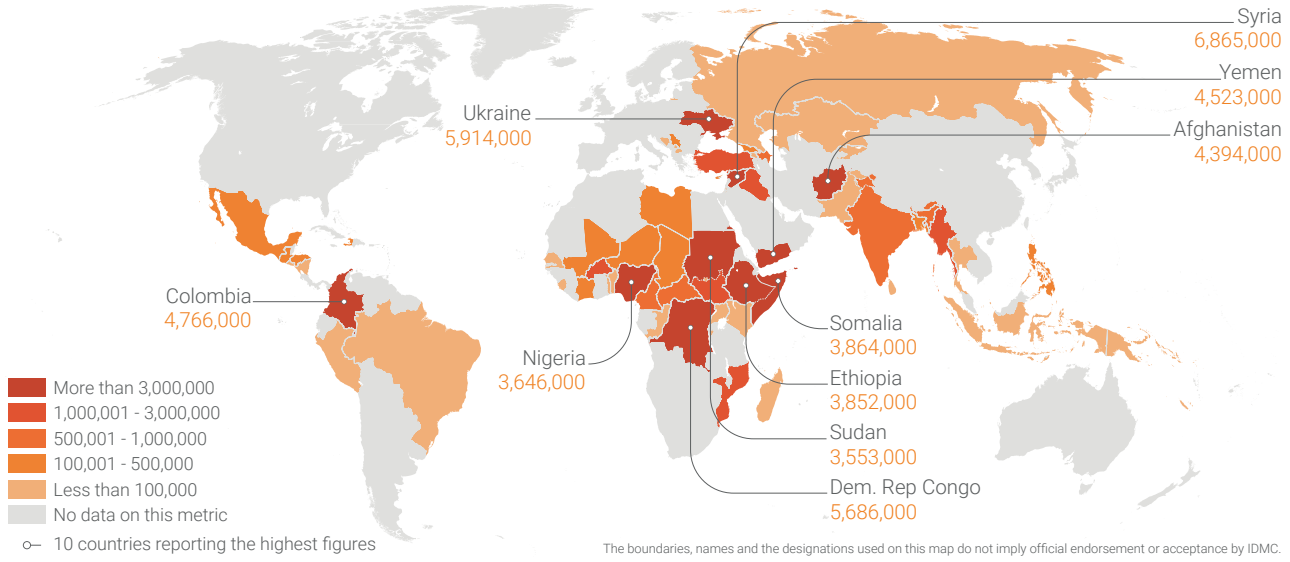
Internal displacement can have a significant impact on social, urban and environmental services, and the arrival of IDPs in host areas can pose an institutional capacity constraint at both national and local levels. The direct cost of internal displacement globally was estimated at over $21 billion in 2022. This figure, however, only represents the financial cost of providing every IDP with housing, education, health and security, and accounts for their loss of income for one year in internal displacement. It does not account for investments made by governments or development actors to address the longer-term consequences of internal displacement.

While not all IDPs are in vulnerable situations and forced displacement may also have certain positive economic implications – for example on the local commerce or employment market – the fact is that many IDPs remain trapped for years or even decades, in rural communities, urban settlements or camps. Leaving IDPs in a state of protracted marginalization is not only an economic and humanitarian challenge, but it can also become an obstacle to long-term peace, stability, recovery and reconstruction, with potential regional implications, especially in neighbouring countries.

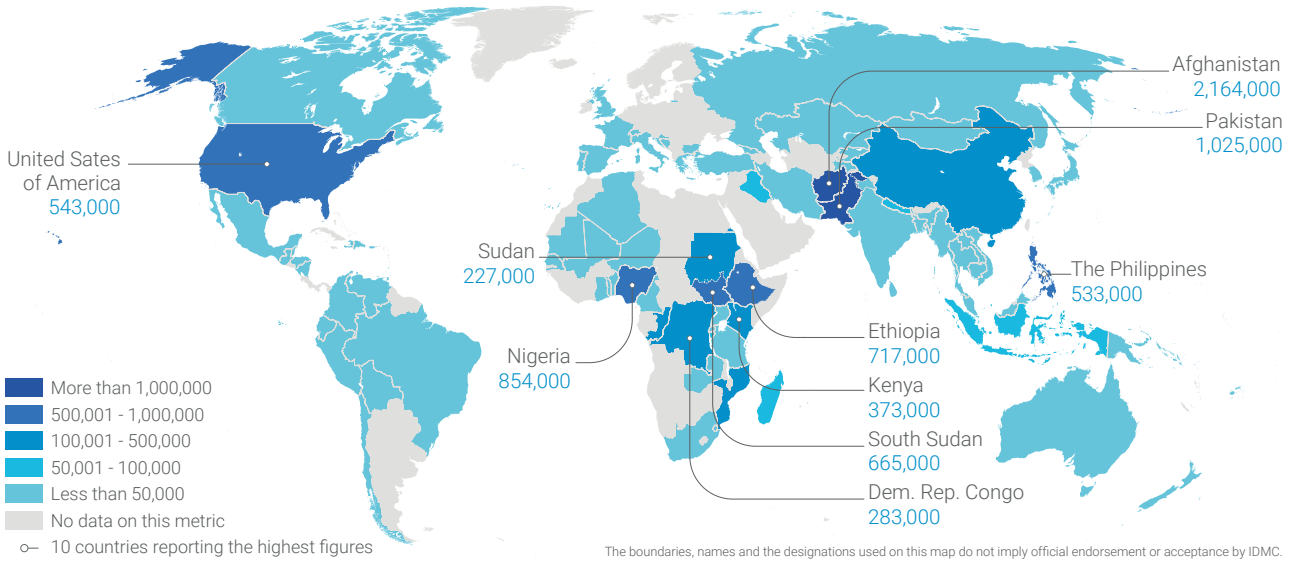
1 These numbers are very likely underestimated. The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) has noted that there are gaps in the figures, particularly relating to disaster-induced displacement but also relating to violence. For example, a survey in Colombia suggested that 51 percent of IDPs had not registered, whether because of fear for their safety, not knowing how to do so or the belief that it would not bring them any benefits.

2 Surveys conducted in Cameroon, Kenya, Mali and Niger in early 2023 show that IDPs from lower income groups, ethnolinguistic, religious or cultural minorities, or those living with long-term illnesses or disabilities are at higher risk of falling into extreme poverty and isolation (IDMC, *Global Report on Internal Displacement*, 2023).

Figures 1-2: Total numbers of IDPs at the end of 2022 according to the IDMC



62.5 million Internally displaced people as a result of conflict and violence in **65** countries and territories as of 31 December 2022



8.7 million Internally displaced people as a result of disasters in **88** countries and territories as of 31 December 2022

Most of the IDPs who remain displaced at the end of 2022 have fled violence and conflict, with the highest numbers reported in Syria, Ukraine, Democratic Republic of Congo, Colombia, Yemen, Afghanistan, Somalia, Ethiopia, Nigeria and Sudan. Most conflict-related movements in 2022 occurred in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, mainly as a consequence of the war in Ukraine, followed by sub-Saharan Africa.

Violent extremism is also an important factor in driving people from their homes, as witnessed in Iraq, north-east Nigeria and Syria. Evidence from countries like Pakistan, Somalia and Yemen also points to growing concerns that protracted displacement in camps may become fertile recruitment grounds for radicalization leading to violent extremism. Hence, a focus on development solutions to internal displacement can also become an essential component of efforts to counter violent extremism.

While the overall number of IDPs at the end of the year caused by disasters is significantly lower than IDPs due to conflict and violence, the number of internal displacements due to disasters in 2022 (32.6 million) is higher than those internally displaced because of violence and conflict (28.3 million).[3] Around 70 percent of disaster-related internal displacements were recorded in East Asia and the Pacific and South Asia. As the impact of climate change intensifies, levels of displacement due to climate/disasters are expected to further increase. According to the World Bank, without concrete action, by 2050, climate change could force more than 216 million people to relocate within their own countries, mainly in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

More than half of all IDPs live in or near cities, often in hazard-prone informal and under-serviced settlements, disconnected from economic and social opportunities, and potentially subject to violence and crime. Many IDPs settle in areas where there are also other people in vulnerable situations, such as economic migrants, hence sharing similar socio-economic vulnerabilities. In addition, a proportion of IDPs are returning refugees who are unable, for security reasons or because of the lack of economic opportunities, to return to their areas of origin and must settle in new areas within their home countries. The link between internal displacement and rapid increases in unmanaged urbanization and related urban poverty (both of which are growing global realities) warrants significant changes in the current approach, amplifying the need for a dynamic process that requires pre-emptive management, rather than *ad hoc* humanitarian responses.

There is a complex interconnection between displacements related to disasters and now more frequently climate change and those prompted by conflict and violence. Climate and disaster-induced displacements can increase tensions over scarce natural resources and/or provoke growing discontent over government responses, hence exacerbating drivers of fragility and conflict. Reducing fragility and building resilience is therefore a critical component of a preventive approach to forced displacement.

A recent report of the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons also addresses development-induced displacement, which is affecting millions of people annually whose protection often falls short of human rights laws and standards. This potentially is the case with large-scale projects dealing with energy, transport, infrastructure, extractive industries, tourism and agribusiness. Indigenous peoples tend to be disproportionally affected. Development-induced displacement is less on the radar, and global figures or estimates are lacking. But it is estimated that during the last decade of the 20th century, about 10 million people each year were displaced worldwide by infrastructural development programmes. While a preventive approach (cost-benefit analysis, human rights due diligence, application of social and environmental standards, prior and informed consent, responsible, planned and concerted exit strategies) somewhat differs from other forms of displacement, the pathways to solutions after displacement occurred are valid, pending adaptation to the local context.

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3 The IDMC records the total numbers of IDPs (stocks) as a snapshot of all people living in internal displacement at the end of the year. It also records the total number of "internal displacements" (flows) which refers to the number of forced movements of people within the borders of their own country recording during the year. Flows figures demonstrate the full scale of internal displacement through the year and highlights that individual IDPs can be the subject of repeated movements, for instance when someone is forced to flee more than once.

AN INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE WITH LIMITED RESULTS

The rights of IDPs are guaranteed under international humanitarian and human rights laws on an equal and non-discriminatory basis with other citizens and residents. There is no global international legal instrument dedicated to IDPs and, unlike refugees, no UN agency with a dedicated mandate.

Some progress has been made in the last three decades to strengthen their rights and identify possible solutions:

- The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, prepared at the request of the Commission on Human Rights and developed by the then Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Internal Displaced Persons are 30 standards that outline the protections available to IDPs during all phases of displacement.

- The 2007 Basic Principles and Guidelines on Development-based Evictions and Displacement developed by the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of housing address the human rights implications of development-linked evictions and related displacement in urban and/or rural areas.

- The 2009 African Union (AU) Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (the Kampala Convention) remains the world's only legal binding regional instrument on internal displacement.[4] The Kampala Convention is a standard-setting instrument designed to be inclusive of all aspects of internal displacement, based on a combined framework of international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

- The 2010 IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons provides further guidance on how to determine the end of internal displacement.[5] It proposes eight criteria to help determine if durable solutions are achieved: (i) long-term safety and security; (ii) adequate standard of living; (iii) access to livelihoods and employment; (iv) effective and accessible mechanisms to restore housing land and property; (v) access to personal and other documentation; (vi) family reunification; (vii) participation in public affairs without discrimination; (viii) access to remedies and justice.

- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (launched in 2015) recognizes migration as a factor that can reverse development progress. But the outcome document of the UN Summit did not make any explicit reference to internal displacement, nor do any of the 16 SDGs focus on IDPs.[6]

- The 2016 New Way of Working between humanitarian, peacebuilding and development actors adopted at the World Humanitarian Summit, committed to meet immediate humanitarian needs while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability in line with the 2030 Agenda. The Secretary-General's report recognized the need to address growing

4 As of today, 33 out of 55 AU Member Stares were parties to the Kampala Convention.

5 It was developed based on earlier operation guidance including from the Global Cluster on Early Recover (GCER), *Durable solutions in practice – a Handbook*, 2017 and GCER and UNDP, *Durable Solution Preliminary Operational Guide*, 2016.

6 The only reference to displacement is in paragraph 29: "We will cooperate internationally to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration involving full respect for human rights and the humane treatment of migrants, regardless of their migration status, refugees and displaced persons".

internal displacement as a fundamental development challenge.

- The 2019 OECD Development Assistance Committee Recommendation on the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus requires a shared understanding of risk and vulnerability and an approach that prioritizes "prevention always, development wherever possible, humanitarian action when necessary". The concept was further developed through 2017 Guidance on how to address forced displacement through development planning and co-operation.

In 2015, an inter-agency process was established to operationalize the IASC Framework on Durable Solutions under the leadership of the Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights of IDPs and coordinated by the Joint IDP Profiling Service (JIPS). This process resulted in a solutions analysis guide and library of standardized indicators. In 2020, the UN Statistical Commission endorsed the International Recommendations on IDP Statistics (IRIS) developed by the Expert Group on Refugees, IDP and Statelessness Statistics (EGRISS). But the IRIS recommendations are a relatively new instrument so it remains to be seen how they can be operationalized by national governments. The challenge remains also how to carry this out at scale and in a standardized way to allow for comparative analysis and tracking progress towards durable solutions.

The issue of internal displacement also featured in other policy agendas and frameworks, including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the 21st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (2015), the New Urban Agenda adopted at the UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (2016) and the UN Secretary General's Agenda on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict, among others. However, much more needs to be done to translate these commitments into concrete progress on the ground.

Since the first national legal framework relevant for addressing internal displacement some three decades ago, as of 2022 there are 113 IDP specific national instruments in 46 countries (including laws, policies and strategies and action plans). This includes 29 laws on internal displacement adopted across 14 countries. Despite an increase in the development of legal policy and institutional responses to protect IDPs rights and find durable solutions, implementation in many cases is still challenging. Budgeting for prevention and solutions remains very weak and is largely outsourced to the international community.

THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL'S ACTION AGENDA ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

The growing number of IDPs and the protracted nature of their displacement led the UN Secretary-General to establish a HLP on Internal Displacement. The HLP report (September 2021) concluded that there is an urgent need to: (a) go beyond addressing internal displacement as a humanitarian crisis and understand that it is directly linked to broader challenges of governance, development, human rights and peace; and (b) link the internal displacement debate more closely to the interconnected realities of climate change, urbanization and fragility. The HLP recommended that development, peace and disaster risk reduction actors be engaged much earlier in finding durable solutions to internal displacement and that better use be made of the private sector and civil society. The HLP report also made a strong appeal for prevention.

As a follow-up to the HLP Report, the UN Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement (launched in June 2022) outlines 31 commitments for the UN system to contribute to three overarching and interlinked goals: (1) promote durable solutions to internal displacement; (2) better prevent new displacement crises – whether conflict or disaster and climate related – from emerging; and (3) ensure that those facing displacement receive effective protection and assistance.

Progress on this agenda will require new partnerships with IDPs, local communities, national and local authorities, donors and development finance actors such as international financial institutions (IFIs), civil society, the private sector and philanthropic organizations. The Secretary-General also requested UN development, peacebuilding, humanitarian, human rights, disaster risk reduction and climate change actors to develop global institutional plans by the end of 2022 to outline how they will reinforce their internal capacities and engagement on solutions to internal displacement, including how their operations will support UN Resident Coordinators (UN RCs) leadership and coordination role on finding development solutions to internal displacement.

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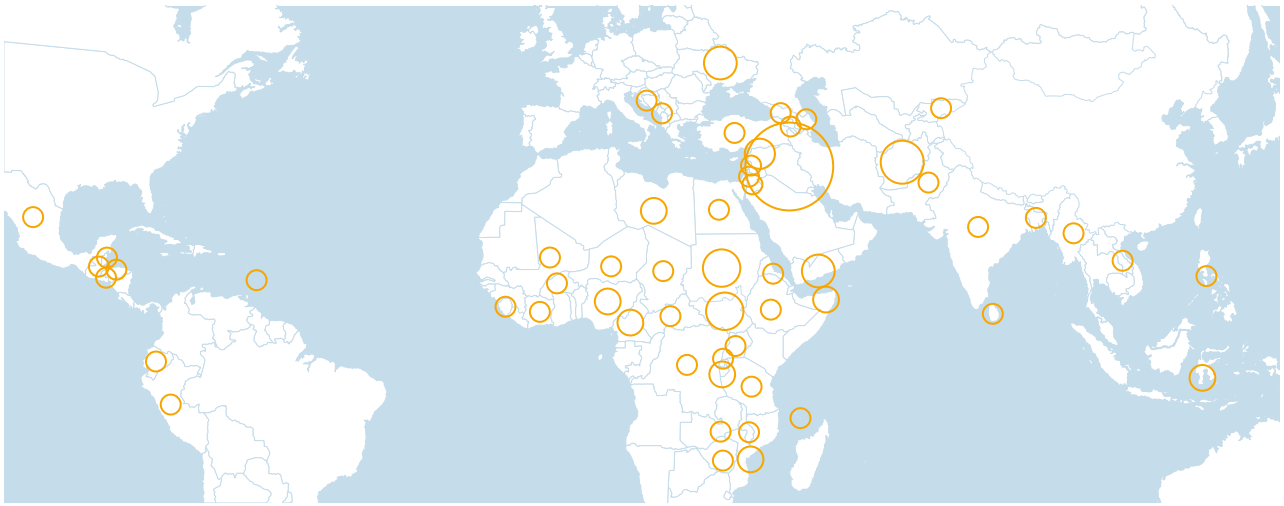
UNDP'S EXPERIENCE IN ADDRESSING INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

Support to fragile and crisis contexts is a key part of UNDP's portfolio. Over 60 percent of UNDP's programming and 9 out of 10 of UNDP's largest Country Offices are in fragile contexts, including those with large-scale displaced populations. By "staying and delivering" in crises, UNDP has already supported the return and/or (re) integration of millions of IDPs, built capacities that helped reduce the impact of disasters, and the risk of violence, in dozens of countries, and helped tens of millions of people retain their livelihoods, access basic social, security and justice services, and build better lives after crises. In the process, UNDP has empowered women and youth, promoted inclusive institutions, including for the rule of law and respect for human rights, and strengthened social cohesion for more peaceful, just and sustainable human development.

In the last five years since reporting was done on specific target populations (2018-2022), UNDP disbursed $2.99 billion on projects directly benefitting IDPs (710 project per year on average), compared to $884 million benefitting refugees (353 projects per year on average).

Most projects are in Africa and the Middle East, less in Asia or Latin America and the Caribbean. The largest portfolios are in Afghanistan, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Türkiye, Ukraine and Yemen. The map below shows where UNDP has the largest projects directly or indirectly benefiting IDPs in 2022.

Figure 3: Map of UNDP projects on internal displacement (2022)



A recent scan of UNDP activity in the countries most affected by internal displacement show a wide variety in the types of projects and programmes that identified IDPs as direct or (mostly) indirect beneficiaries, including: peacebuilding, reconciliation and social cohesion; stabilization, local governance and local development, integrated area-based

development; social protection, basic and social services and infrastructure rehabilitation; income generation and restoring livelihoods; climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction; peace, security, rule of law and human rights; preventing and countering violent extremism; social, economic and political inclusion; access to justice, mediation and dispute resolution; private sector development; and civil society capacity development.

Despite these investments by UNDP and many other actors, internal displacement has continued to grow and reducing the number of IDPs in many countries seems further away than ever. Many initiatives were thematic, and project funded (often with smaller and time-bound budgets). Others were part of larger programmes such as the stabilization efforts in Iraq, Libya, Sahel, etc. Still others were part of a humanitarian-peace-development (HPD) nexus joint intervention.

Few projects addressed internal displacement as the primary target, rather there were often specific thematic projects and programmes (such as rule of law or local service delivery) that had an indirect impact on IDPs and DACs. National strategies and plans to address internal displacement were mostly unavailable or unimplemented. Funding was heavily project related and short term. A coordinated partnership approach was not always standard practice (the HDP Nexus approach was an attempt to correct that). Projects were designed without a corporate strategy that provided policy direction and programming guidance.

Nonetheless, Country Offices such as Colombia, Iraq, Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan and Syria accumulated a wealth of experience in dealing with internal displacement caused by disasters, conflict or a combination of both. At the regional level, the SRF for the Syria Crisis in particular, has provided significant contributions to the conceptualization of UNDP's development approach to internal displacement.

PART II:
UNDP'S INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGY

> **"Emerging from crisis depends on development. Development is the only way to prevent crisis and remain resilient when it strikes."**
>
> Achim Steiner, UNDP Administrator, Speech at the Executive Board, *(June 2022)*

FROM A HUMANITARIAN TO A DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

While swift humanitarian support is essential to save lives and stabilize crisis situations, it is not sufficient to help people become self-reliant and live dignified lives, which is a long-term process with sustainability being the primary goal. Preventing internal displacement happening in the first place also requires understanding, anticipating and addressing its root causes.

A development approach implies moving from an externally driven, protection-based, humanitarian-steered approach to one rooted in accountable national and local governance and rule of law, and that considers IDPs as equal citizens of the country and as important contributors to their economies and societies. It requires the systematic engagement of development actors prior to and during the early phases of a displacement situation, combined with a greater reliance on national and local delivery mechanisms when possible.

A DEVELOPMENT TO SOLUTIONS AND UNDP'S COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE

As the UN Secretary-General noted, "More of the same is not good enough" and there is a need to rethink the current approach to solutions through a development and rights-based angle.

A development approach to solutions instrumentalizes the shift in thinking of IDPs from beneficiaries to citizens with displacement specific needs within a sovereign and accountable state. It means moving from solutions as an exit strategy to solutions as an engagement strategy in the longer term.

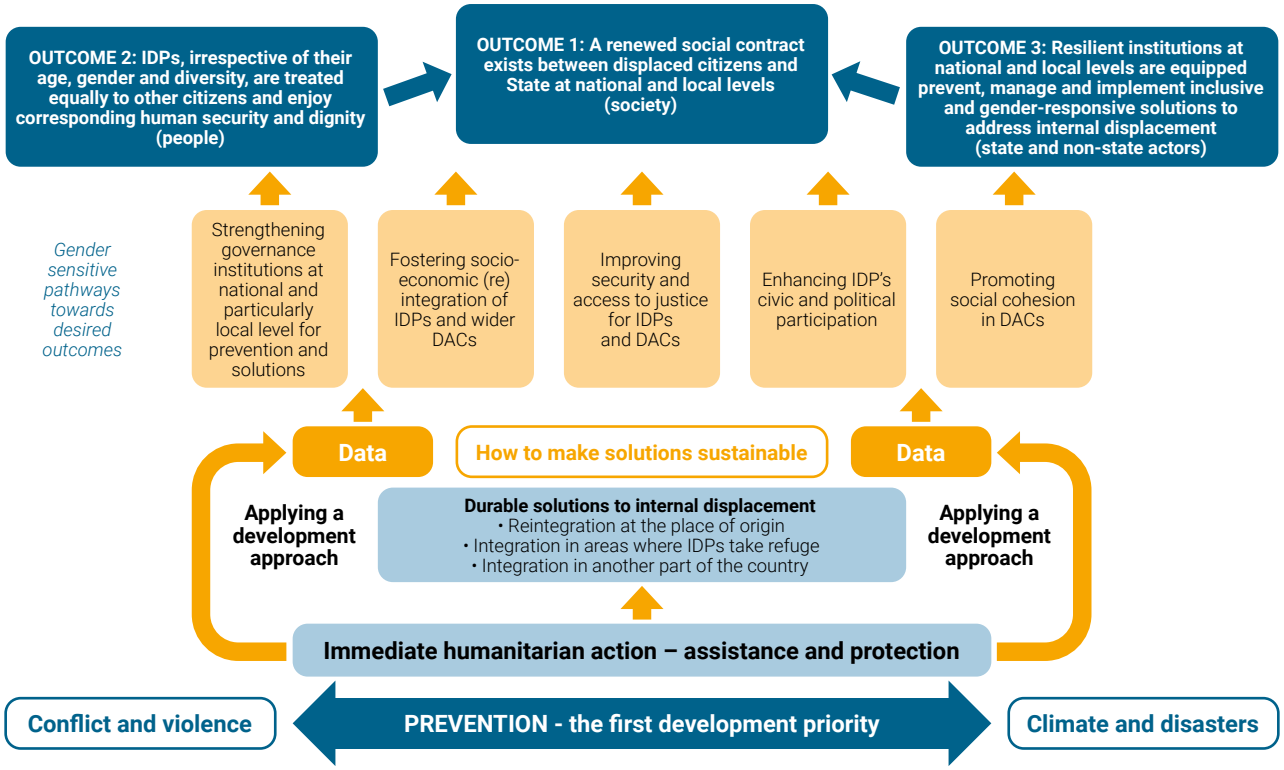
A development solutions response considers the broader political economy of forced displacement that places internal displacement in the context of broader societal processes such as climate change, urbanization and transformation of rural and urban livelihoods.

Building on data and evidence, development solutions programming promotes a strong governance and socio-economic integration focus. Linked with environmental sustainability, peace and state building processes, development solutions accelerate at scale nationally owned solutions, embedded in national and local development priorities, plans and strategies. Solutions should not be driven from external players, but by IDPs, communities and national and local governments.

UNDP's comparative advantage lies both in its core mandate of crisis prevention and recovery, addressing the root causes of displacement whether conflict/violence or climate/disaster related, as well as in applying integrated approaches to solutions after population movements have taken place. Advancing solutions to internal displacement is integral to UNDP's efforts to reduce inequalities and promote the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The UN Secretary-General's Action Agenda offer unique opportunities for UNDP to profile itself prominently as part of a collective approach driven by UN RCs at the field level and the Special Adviser at the global level, to be a central actor in the change management process that has been set in motion.

Figure 4: From humanitarian assistance to development solutions outcomes



A HUMAN DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

Human development is about increasing people's access to services and opportunities and enhancing their freedom to make the necessary choices to exercise their rights and better their lives. Internal displacement, whether caused by violence, conflict, natural or human-made disasters, hampers people's freedoms to make those choices. UNDP therefore takes a human development approach to internal displacement, creating the legal, political, economic, social and environmental conditions that allow IDPs and DACs to enjoy their rights and freedoms, to live with dignity and economic security, and contribute, as agents of change, to peace and sustainable development in their communities.

To support this approach, UNDP's institutional strategy proposes four key transitions (strategic inputs) through which the organization will support the much-needed focus on development solutions. These strategic inputs are also the pillars of change through which UNDP will promote a cultural change within the organization towards a widespread adoption of the development approach to solutions.

Figure 5: UNDP strategic inputs in support of a development approach to solutions

Rationale	UNDP Strategic Inputs
IDPs should no longer be seen as people with special assistance and protection needs, but as citizens or residents with "special needs due to their displacement" and with their own agency, who need to be integrated into national and local development policies and plans. An enabling legal and policy environment is required, supported by data and evidence, and a robust political economy analysis of the problems, challenges and opportunities.	**Strategic input 1: Promoting a development approach to solutions** Based on a solid political economy analysis, UNDP will engage in policy dialogue with national stakeholders on the need for a development approach to solutions to internal displacement, fostering national ownership and acknowledging the importance of investing in enhancing people's access to choices and the freedom to make those choices. The focus is on a national vision that is translated into plans and strategies and that needs to be built on nationally owned data and evidence to support a common agenda, collective outcomes, joint planning and priority setting.
A development approach to solutions is about addressing the multiple challenges and vulnerabilities (including environmental) faced by IDPs and wider DACs and enhancing their freedoms to make choices in terms of where they reside, access to livelihoods, decent jobs, care facilities, social protection, services, property rights, legal documentation, civic and political participation, and access to a safe and secure environment.	**Strategic input 2: Integrated prevention and solutions programming** Evidenced-based plans and strategies, and a contextualized theory of change at country level, will help address the root causes of displacement and identify pathways to development solutions that will guide UNDP's (joint) programming. UNDP will adapt and implement existing and new innovative programmes/projects as the building blocks of a risk-informed and age, gender and diversity-responsive development approach that can prevent displacement and support ending internal displacement, as well as longer-term social cohesion and peace. These will specifically focus on building national and local authorities' and other actors' capacities and service provision to prevent, respond to and support solutions to internal displacement. Depending on the context, each of UNDP's six signature solutions has a potential role to play in this integrated portfolio approach.
National and local governments' increased ownership over the development approach to internal displacement will require specific technical assistance on how they can best tap into a variety of existing funding and financing mechanisms (including own sources of revenue) to support the implementation of their plans and strategies to reduce vulnerabilities and prevent and address internal displacement.	**Strategic input 3: Focused development solutions financing** UNDP will promote more focused financing for medium to long-term development solutions and play a stronger role as convener of more predictable and sustainable financing conditions. UNDP will support governments with, for example, Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs) and budgeting processes linking development solutions and SDGs.
Building on the HPD nexus, partnerships to promote a development approach to solutions to internal displacement need to be reinvigorated and expanded.	**Strategic input 4: Extended engagement and partnerships** UNDP will extend its trusted partnership with national and local governments and affected communities, and will expand partnership with human rights, humanitarian, development and peacebuilding actors as well as civil society, IFIs, the private sector and academia. UNDP will support multi-stakeholder solutions platforms led or co-led by or with governments (where context allows). These partnerships will help foster the HDP nexus approach to explicitly pursue pathways to solutions to internal displacement.

These four strategic inputs will assist in developing the capacities at the individual and organizational level (national and local) and these will, in the longer term, contribute to three main outcomes:

1. A renewed social contract exists between displaced citizens and the state at national and local level (society).

2. IDP's, irrespective of age, gender and diversity, are treated equally to other citizens and enjoy corresponding human security and personal dignity (people).

3. Resilient institutions at national and local levels are equipped to prevent, manage and implement inclusive and gender-sensitive solutions to address internal displacement (state and non-state actors).

UNDP's approach is to ensure that vulnerable and fragile communities are strengthened before, during and after crises. Hence, UNDP will play a substantive role in all phases of displacement: prevention, early response and longer-term solutions. A more systematic focus on underlying causes, pre-emptive mapping of fragility/triggers and conflict drivers can reduce the vulnerabilities that ultimately can lead to forced population movements. Considering the interlinkages between climate shocks and conflict, UNDP will make all its conflict prevention and peacebuilding work climate-risk-informed, while also ensuring that climate mitigation and adaptation work is conflict sensitive.

Depending on each context, UNDP will prioritize its work along five pathways that can accelerate the achievement of the desired outcomes:

1. Strengthening governance institutions at the national and particularly the local level for prevention and solutions. The role of national and local institutions is key in identifying and mitigating risk factors that can cause displacement in the first place and/or build preparedness capacity to mitigate the impact of displacement in the short, medium and long-term. Early warning and early response (EWER) systems are equally essential.

2. Fostering socio-economic (re)integration of IDPs and wider DACs can help restore a nation's development trajectory towards equity, growth and prosperity, and prevent displacement from becoming protracted.

3. Improving security and access to justice for IDPs and DACs, as insecurity can breed protracted displacement and be one of the main barriers to fully ending displacement. Many of the underlying causes to internal displacement (and obstacles to sustainable solutions) are also due to a lack of security and access to equitable justice.

4. Enhancing civic and political participation of IDPs as the lack of participation of certain groups can feed grievances that can lead to and sustain internal displacement. It is therefore important as a pathway to development solutions to focus participation of all citizens, in particular IDPs, in decision-making on planning and budgeting, and in public life as a way to remedy and reduce inequalities.

5. Promoting social cohesion in DACs, from both a prevention and a solutions perspective, is essential to support the equitable delivery of services and address the inequalities, human rights violations and discriminations that feed tensions within societies. Inclusive dialogue and mediation processes, networks and infrastructures for peace, and promoting the important role of women and youth in conflict prevention can contribute to social cohesion and peaceful coexistence.

An essential condition for achieving these outcomes and progressing on these pathways is to improve national and local-level data collection and political economy analysis on the internal displacement challenges and needs of affected populations, including through data processes

that cover the more widely affected populations. Data collection and analysis will also help better differentiate between the different crises that are at the origin of internal displacement, from preventive fleeing of hazard-prone zones to displacement caused by disasters or violent conflict, and to programme interventions accordingly.

UNDP'S STRATEGIC INPUTS

UNDP's commitment to a human development approach to internal displacement is integral to the organizations' efforts to reduce inequalities, realize a just and sustainable world, and achieve the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. UNDP's mandate thus provides the organization with a clear license to operate when it comes to preventing and applying a development approach to solutions to internal displacement.

UNDP, in strong support of the efforts of the UN RCs towards a collective approach, will work with national and local governments, and national and international development actors to turn the Secretary-General's Action Agenda into homes, livelihoods, access to services, inclusive participation in community life and secure futures for people at risk tomorrow or in need today. A people-centred approach will be essential to enhance affected populations access to choices that will enable them to turn their humanitarian challenges into sustainable development opportunities.

STRATEGIC INPUT 1: PROMOTING A DEVELOPMENT APPROACH TO SOLUTIONS

UNDP will engage in policy dialogues at the national and local levels to promote solutions that recognize IDP's as rightful citizens and support state institutions to take full ownership over the process that should also include the perspectives of the displaced populations and affected communities. The role of local and urban governance is essential in finding local solutions that can enhance the trust between DACs and government authorities.

UNDP will collaborate closely with national statistical offices and partners and share the results of political economy analysis and research with the local, national and international community. An essential condition to a human development approach is the collection and analysis of disaggregated data and nationally owned development statistics that can help national governments design, measure and invest in an evidence-based manner in solutions. Detailed profiling that can reveal the complex dimensions of the displacement experience and essential indicators to monitor progress towards development solutions are required. Building on ongoing research in the Asia-Pacific region, UNDP will also use predictive analytics and qualitative foresight models to anticipate and prepare for future human mobility patterns, especially those caused by climate change.

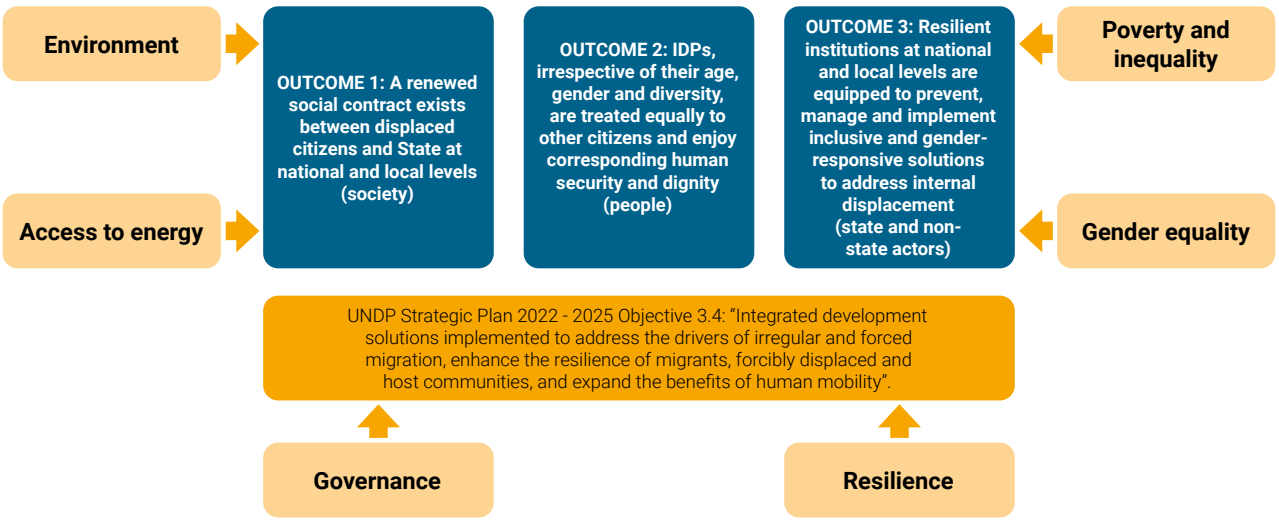
Each context is different, and UNDP will develop clear strategies and theories of change on development solutions at the country level. Strengthened strategic communication – with national, sub-national and local governments, the international community, donors, local communities and civil society – will position UNDP as the lead development agency on solutions to internal displacement, capitalizing on the organization's comparative advantage, knowledge and expertise on governance, resilience, climate action, social cohesion, sustainable human development and development financing mechanisms.

STRATEGIC INPUT 2: INTEGRATED PREVENTION AND SOLUTIONS PROGRAMMING

UNDP's overall approach is on people-centred interventions that increase their agency and opportunities, strengthen resilience and capacities, and help lay the foundations for sustainable recovery and towards transformative – greener, more inclusive and gender-responsive – pathways to address the multi-dimensional risks that threaten progress towards the SDGs.

Preventing internal displacement and pursuing solutions to internal displacement requires multidisciplinary long-term efforts. UNDP focuses its interventions on governance and rule of law, conflict prevention and resilience-building, poverty reduction and socio-economic integration, and climate change adaptation and mitigation. Equally important are the needs and vulnerabilities of specific categories of populations taking into account age, gender and diversity, and their contributions – as agents of change – to finding development solutions to internal displacement. These are the mainstays of UNDP's work as captured in UNDP's six signature solutions.

Figure 6: A development approach to solutions and the link to UNDP six signature solutions



Each context is different and will require UNDP to:

a. Adapt some of its existing sectoral projects and programmes so they can better contribute to preventing internal displacement and promoting solutions.

b. Develop targeted programmes to address internal displacement in a comprehensive manner – in partnership with other UN agencies, IFIs/multi-lateral development banks (MDBs), civil society, or the private sector.

UNDP is shifting its approach from single-issue projects towards a portfolio approach to bring innovation and systems thinking into how we work. UNDP's six signature solutions collectively will contribute, through a portfolio approach, to achieving the three desired outcomes included in the theory of change.

- **Governance** is central for understanding and addressing the development challenges that IDPs and affected communities face. It is a key driver of national and local-level empowerment strategies. It is also to be considered the "missing link" in earlier attempts towards an area-based approach as pursued under durable solutions. Local/urban governance systems and rule of law institutions in particular play a crucial role in this endeavour, ensuring the equitable delivery of services to IDPs and host communities, but also contributing to social cohesion and peaceful coexistence, while promoting stability, security, justice, as well as restoration of political, social and economic rights: all elements of a robust social contract. Informal governance actors (both champions, gatekeepers and spoilers) also play an important role, and their presence needs to be acknowledged, especially at the local level.

- **Resilience:** Resilient communities are better prepared to prevent and address recurring and cyclical displacement caused by a wide range of shocks and threats, including conflict, climate change, disasters and epidemics. UNDP applies a systems approach that is: (a) conflict sensitive and risk informed; (b)

grounded in a deeper understanding of the multi-dimensional nature of the challenges; (c) focused on programmes and initiatives aimed at rebuilding social cohesion and climate resilient infrastructure; and (d) considering the needs of the furthest left behind, especially women and young people, from an empowerment perspective, reconciling individuals with institutions and other groups, and building trust between citizens and national/local authorities. UNDP will also integrate mental health and psychosocial support into its programming to reverse or mitigate the devastating consequences that crisis and related displacement can have on the mental well-being of individuals and communities.

- **Poverty and inequalities reduction:** UNDP support focuses on local economic development and measures to improve the livelihoods of DACs, as well as their social and economic inclusion and integration, supported by appropriate social protection and social insurance mechanisms for particularly vulnerable segments of IDPs and host communities. These conditions have a direct influence over their decisions on where to locate or relocate. Attention will also be paid to the informal economy in which many IDPs are trapped – women in particular.

- **Environmental sustainability:** Effectively preventing and addressing climate/disaster-induced internal displacement requires investments in understanding and identifying environmental risks and reducing climate vulnerability. National disaster laws and policies, together with institutional coordination mechanisms, can instigate action from the national to the local community level. UNDP will bank on its rich experience working on environmental conservation, climate adaptation and mitigation, and disaster risk reduction, which are all key to prevent displacement and build back better.

- **Access to clean energy:** Both as a preventive measure and creating the conditions for a sustainable return, local integration and relocation of IDPs. It is also an essential enabler for displaced and host communities to access information, connect with families, conduct online cash transfers, access digital health and education, etc. Access to clean energy can also contribute to improved security. In many informal settlements where IDPs and other vulnerable groups reside, lack of energy indeed results in poorly lit communal spaces and exposes women and girls to heightened risks of violence.

- **Gender equality and women's empowerment:** More than half of IDPs are women and girls. They usually experience displacement differently from men and boys, and face specific challenges that must be well understood, including the particularly high exposure to risks of physical and sexual violence, abuse, kidnappings, early and forced marriages, partner violence, as well as gender-based discrimination and labor exploitation. Special attention is needed to ensure their social and political participation, their access to land and property rights, civil documentation and services, including care facilities, and their economic inclusion, through enhanced access to livelihood opportunities and decent jobs. Cultural, social and religious traditions and norms that hinder women's empowerment also need to be well understood.

Depending on the context, UNDP Country Offices may adopt various modalities – such as early recovery, stabilization[7], resilience and area-based programming – to ensure a fully integrated portfolio of activities within a geographical area.

7 UNDP's stabilization approach focuses on: (1) contributing to minimum security conditions through liaison with security forces and local authorities and supporting their deployment; (2) rehabilitating social and productive infrastructure and enhancing state-provided basic services delivery; and (3) boosting local economies through immediate livelihood opportunities, such as emergency employment and cash grants. See UNDP, *Issue Brief Stabilization*, January 2021 and UNDP, *Guidance Note on Stabilization Programming*, June 2022 (draft).

STRATEGIC INPUT 3: FOCUSED DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS FINANCING

Responses to internal displacement have traditionally been resourced through humanitarian funding sources – in particular Humanitarian Response Plans (HRP), hence steering resources in the direction of humanitarian actors, both national and international. This has impeded sustainability and hindered a strong drive towards national ownership and enhanced state accountability, both key elements in the change management process.

Large movements of IDPs and protracted displacement can entail significant economic impact and public spending. Access to international financing – both concessional finance and multi-donor trust funds – is important not only for national governments but also for city authorities and local actors. While national and local governments should dedicate their own resources to support solutions to internal displacement, the HLP report highlights that international financing is invaluable**.** It urges development actors to adapt their financing policies, mechanisms and criteria to more systematically advance solutions.

UNDP is well positioned to support governments' ability to finance solutions to internal displacement. Through its Sustainable Finance Hub (SFH), UNDP is leading United Nations system-wide efforts to help countries develop Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs). Explicitly designed to bring together actors to formulate financing strategies for national priorities, INFFs are currently underway in over 80 countries. Many of these also include commitments on local financing (e.g., reforming intergovernmental fiscal transfers, reviewing laws on revenue generation, etc.), which will be critical in allowing local and municipal governments to deliver local development solutions.

UNDP is deepening its engagement with IFIs/MDBs and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), including regional and national development banks and the OECD, as well as with commercial banks, businesses and

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ministries of finance to build consensus on how best to finance development solutions to internal displacement. UNDP offers a comprehensive package of methods and tools that complement and support IFIs' efforts to accelerate financing. Examples of this include SDG aligned fiscal planning and expenditure management, raising public finances – SDG aligned bond issuances, supporting an enabling policy environment for SDG investments, public sector systems for tracking public and private finance towards SDG impacts, delivering risk-informed financing strategies.

A large part of this financing will be destined indirectly to prevention of internal displacement by targeting climate adaptation in those (mainly lower income) countries that are most prone to climate change and disasters.

UNDP's work with governments to articulate public investment priorities will be complemented by a broader and deeper engagement with the private sector to develop investment opportunities in support of solutions to internal displacement. Digital technologies can also unlock new sources of finance such as crowdfunding and matchmaking.

STRATEGIC INPUT 4: EXTENDED ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

Adopting a development approach to internal displacement implies timely and coordinated engagement with different actors across human rights, humanitarian, development and peace-building spheres. Government authorities and counterparts at the national and local levels should be supported to meaningfully lead those platforms. UNDP will extend its trusted partnerships and engagement with national and local governments, affected communities and key stakeholders.

Coordination with national/local authorities, different UN entities and programmes, IFIs and with civil society and the private sector will be essential.

- **At the country level:** UNDP will support the UN RC's Office responsible for coordinating the United Nations Country Teams (UNCT) response to promote solutions to internal displacement and integrating internal displacement in Common Country Assessments (CCA), UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCF) and Post-Disaster and Conflict Recovery Assessments. UNDP will promote strong collaboration with national and local state and non-state actors. Where appropriate, UNDP will also engage with and co-lead solutions working groups, while promoting national and local coordination structures in support of whole-of-government and whole-of-society solutions to internal displacement. UNDP will also offer its expertise in managing trust funds.

- **At the UN corporate level:** UNDP will support the UN Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement and his Office, including with dedicated capacity on secondment and managing a UN Solutions Adviser Facility for the deployment of Solutions Advisers to select UN Resident Coordinator Offices (RCOs). UNDP will also work closely with the UN Development Coordination Office (UNDCO) and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to ensure corporate coherence in terms of support to UN RCs in the field.

- **At the regional level:** UNDP will work with regional collaborative platforms, under the chairmanship of the UN Deputy Secretary-General, with UNDP regional directors and the heads of regional economic commissions as co-chairs.

UNDP will continue its engagement in key global and regional platforms, including:

- **The UN Steering Group on Internal Displacement:** UNDP will support the implementation of the Action Agenda and engage in consultation with member states and other stakeholders.

- **JIPS:** To increase data capacity on development solutions, UNDP will continue to expand its engagement with JIPS both as an Executive Committee Member and through its extended partnership outlined in 2022. This includes leveraging JIPS role on supporting solutions to internal displacement through whole-of-government, whole-of-society and gender-responsive approaches, capitalizing on its facilities at country level and exploring critical gaps in solutions analysis on key topics.

- **IDMC:** UNDP through its Advisory Group membership (currently the CB Director) will continue to engage with IDMC to build the evidence base for assessing the impact of internal displacement on development. In 2022, UNDP's *Turning the Tide on Internal Displacement – a development approach to solutions*, was developed in collaboration with IDMC.

- **Regional Durable Solutions Platforms:** UNDP will expand its engagement and partnerships with NGO regional durable solutions platforms, including the Regional Durable Solutions Secretariat (ReDSS), covering the East and Horn of Africa, the Durable Solutions Platform (DSP), covering Middle East, and the Asia Displacement Solutions Platform (ADSP), covering Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

- **Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD):** Coordinated by the World Bank, UNDP will continue to engage in the working group on Forced Displacement and Development, and the one on Internal Displacement and Urbanization. UNDP is particularly engaged in two special initiatives on youth, migration and development and on transit migration.

UNDP operates fully in the HDP nexus space with strong commitments to development approaches that address underlying causes of humanitarian and peacebuilding needs. UNDP will work proactively, under the leadership of UN RCs, with UN partners early in the process to ensure there is coherence and coordination across the HDP nexus to ensure that limited resources are used as effectively and efficiently as possible. UNDP will plan for complementarity and programme coherence between humanitarian assistance and development solutions. Joint programming and inter-agency collaboration will continue to be a key priority and will provide the opportunity for UNDP to co-lead and co-facilitate joint programming and implementation at the country level. However, joint UN action, no matter how important, cannot happen in isolation from the promotion of national ownership. It needs to be in support of locally driven initiatives, not as a form of parallel action.

UNDP will continue its collaboration with key UN humanitarian agencies, in particular with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and with multi-mandated organizations like the International Organization for Migration (IOM), as well as intensify its work with other agencies, in particular UN-Habitat, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UN Women, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), in an effort to reinforce the "critical mass of development actors". UNDP will also strengthen its links with peacebuilding agencies like the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO). UNDP will also collaborate with the World Health Organization (WHO) and actors in the mental health sectors to ensure that interventions with IDPs are trauma-informed, which is a highly under-estimated aspect of the displacement reality.

Using the internal capacities of UNDP's International Centre for Private Sector in

Development (IICPSD) in Istanbul, and its connections with the Global Compact[8], UNDP will strengthen partnerships with the private sector to expand and diversify the market opportunities available to IDPs and affected communities. The UNDP-OCHA "Connecting Business initiative (CBi)" also engages the private sector in disaster management.

UNDP will foster its partnerships with the IFIs, development banks, as well as with the OECD, bringing these actors together behind common development platforms (such as the INFFs), identifying how it can play complementary roles and apply respective instruments, tools and investments more specifically to internal displacement.

Given the crucial role of local and municipal governments and their capacity constraints, UNDP will also capitalize on its partnerships with decentralized cooperation actors and peer networks at national, regional and local levels (associations of local governments and municipalities) that can provide mutual peer support in terms of technical assistance and learning.

Acknowledging the fact that national ownership does not necessarily only mean government ownership, UNDP will also work very closely with civil society (including national and local NGOs), faith-based and grass-roots organizations – including those led by women and young people – that can play a key role both in advocating for the rights of IDPs and DACs, and in delivering key services to affected communities. UNDP will also work with academia and think tanks to advocate for evidence-based research and policies on internal displacement, including impact evaluation of development solutions.

8 The UN Global Compact is the largest voluntary corporate responsibility initiative in the world, with more than 16,000 corporate participants in 161 countries plus 4,000 non-business members from more than 145 countries.

KEY PRINCIPLES OF UNDP ENGAGEMENT IN PREVENTION AND SOLUTIONS

Building on the principles of engagement outlined in the Secretary-General's Action Agenda, UNDP will adhere in its approach and operations to the following 10 principles of engagement and programming:

1. **Prevention as the first development priority:** Prevention is at the heart of UNDP's development mandate. Prevention entails risk-informed programming, conflict prevention, early warning and early response, disaster risk management, and climate adaptation and mitigation. Preventive measures must focus on addressing the conditions that lead to displacement. In settings of extreme poverty and marginalization, this means acknowledging and addressing the multidimensional nature of root causes, social grievances and inequalities contributing to crisis and conflict.

2. **National ownership and whole-of-society:** A robust social contract between state and society cannot rely on international assistance. It is built on the trust that people have in their government's ability and political will to provide them with protection, services and opportunities. National ownership is not the exclusive realm of national governments. That space is also occupied by local governments and non-state actors. A whole-of-society approach is needed. Particularly in challenging political environments where UNDP is not able to work with government counterparts, opportunities exist to work with other national and local constituencies, in particular through area-based development programmes.

3. **Context-specific interventions:** Based on disaggregated data analytics and political economy analysis, to understand the political, economic and security conditions that need to be in place for a development approach to solutions to succeed and be sustainable.

4. **Early engagement in all phases of the displacement process (prevention, early response and long-term solutions):** UNDP's core mandate helps ensure that vulnerable and fragile communities are strengthened before, during and after crisis.

5. **People-centric, inclusive and rights-based[9]:** A development approach to solutions needs to have people at the centre: not only the displaced populations in all their diversity (women, children, youth, persons with disabilities and minority groups), but also the communities of origin and host communities and families who share the burdens of displacement. It is about increasing people's agency and opportunities and strengthening their capacities and resilience. The rights of IDPs and DACs (as citizens and rights-holders) are at the centre of the process of finding development solutions and a central element in UNDP's work. This is an important added value for UNDP in engaging with protection actors and constitutes a bridge from a strictly humanitarian towards a nexus-based approach.

9 The last report of the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights of IDPs highlights the needs of adopting an IDP person centered approach that would allow the full and meaningful participation of IDPs and affected population in the decisions affecting them. She highlighted the need for their political agency, especially as citizens of the state. See Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons, *Human rights of internally displaced persons*, A/77/182, July 2022, para 8-9.

6. **Attention to local and area-based approaches:** Subnational and local authorities and non-state stakeholders (civil society, private sector) who are more closely interacting with affected constituencies (displaced and host communities) are a more likely successful starting point for solutions. Local and urban governance can play a key role in finding local solutions that can enhance trust through participatory processes, budgeting, transparency and accountability. Area-based programming use the collective agency of all population groups and actors within a given socio-economic context or location to find localized development solutions.

7. **Conflict-sensitivity:** Understanding the multi-dimensional nature of conflict sensitivity, including local conflict dynamics, the role of positions and power, importance of institutions (including informal ones) during the entire programme cycle, from development to implementation (including staff recruitment) to evaluation and closing. The aim is to ensure that interventions do not lead to unintended negative consequences, while maximizing opportunities to ensure sustainability of results, for example by using existing capital and agency of affected populations, especially women and youth. It allows UNDP to go beyond "do no harm" and introduce programmatic elements that will contribute to conflict prevention, mitigation and resolution.

8. **Long-term vision and commitment:** As a development actor present before and throughout protracted crises and fragility, UNDP brings a long-term view towards the governance and socio-economic conditions necessary for countries to address the root causes of fragility, prevent internal displacement from happening and work on long-term solutions towards achieving the SDGs, in support of the UN RC and the implementation of the UN Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement at the country and local levels.

9. **Prioritizing coordinated UN interventions:** As a practical example of operationalizing the HDP nexus, UNDP will work in support of UN RCs and UNCTs to deliver against the Action Agenda on Internal Displacement at the national and sub-national levels.

10. **Applying innovative digital solutions:** Adapted with minimal effort to provide digital access to internally displaced and affected populations and help protect and restore their rights. Information technology can also be used as an instrument to track IDPs and better capture their needs. Technology can also help in conducting predictive analytics and qualitative foresight to forecast the impact of climate change-related migration on key social, political, economic, spatial, environmental and other variables in (mainly) urban areas based on different scenarios.

STRENGTHENING OUR INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY – A "WHOLE-OF-UNDP" APPROACH

Reflecting on our previous work on migration and forced displacement, and current involvement in 76 countries and over 750 projects dealing directly or indirectly with IDPs as target beneficiaries, UNDP has taken the necessary measures to galvanize its organizational capacities to deliver on the UN Secretary General's Action Agenda. A "whole-of-UNDP" approach will ensure that the strategy is owned by all layers of the organization. UNDP will ensure internal capacity at the corporate and regional levels, but the bulk of UNDP's capacities will be deployed at the country level.

Human resources

Overall policy guidance and coordination of UNDP's work on internal displacement is vested in the CB within the Recovery Solutions and Human Mobility (RSHM) Team. The team also deploys regional Human Mobility Advisers to six regional centres – Amman, Bangkok, Dakar, Istanbul, Nairobi and Panama – providing support to Country Offices. The CB also hosts the Risk Anticipation Hub, which will foster our capacities to anticipate trends and will help UNCTs better understand and address the root causes of internal displacement.

Technical teams across the UNDP GPN – including Governance; Rule of Law and Human Rights; Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding; Disaster Risk Reduction; Climate Hub; Inclusive Growth; Gender – will provide programming support.

A new time-bound Inter-Bureau Task Team on Internal Displacement has been created to ensure strategic, coherent, whole-of-UNDP engagement at global, regional and country levels.

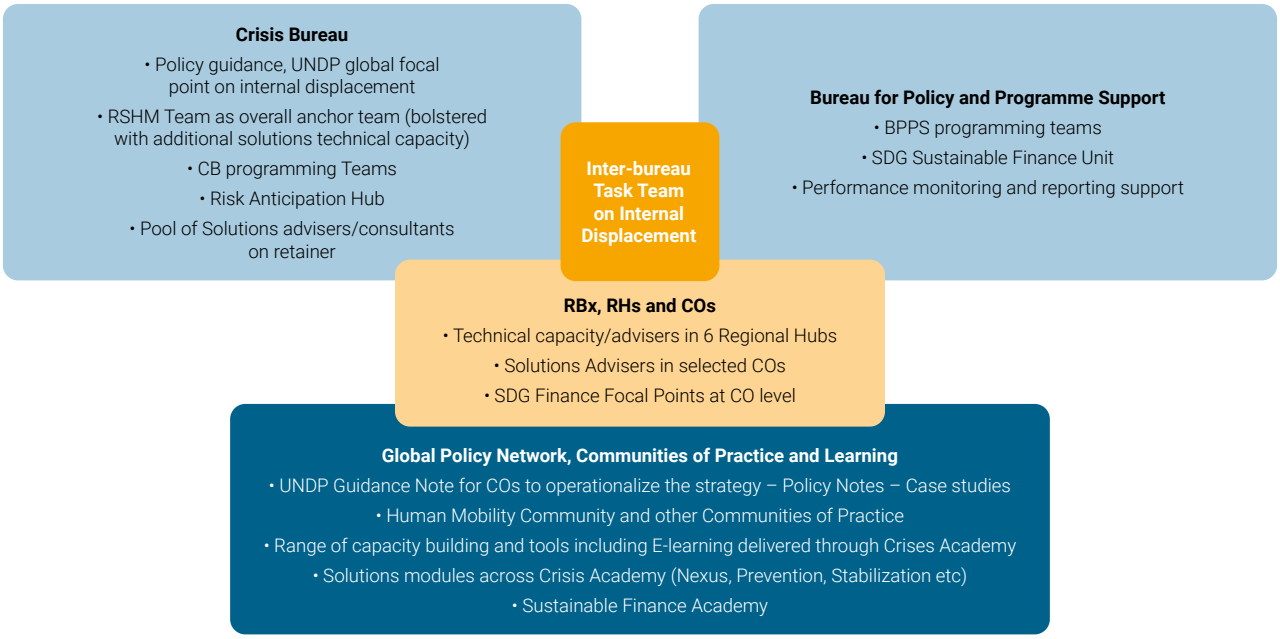
As the demand for policy and programming support increases, UNDP will create a pool of specialized internal displacement advisers and consultants for rapid on-demand deployment to Country Offices The organization can also use the deployment of UN Volunteers with diverse expertise and language skills to support the delivery of the strategy in displacement-affected countries. UNDP has SDG Finance Focal Points in all Country Offices and manages a roster of experts and a community of practice to sustain support to UNDP Country Offices as they scale up their SDG finance engagements and support governments in developing their INFFs.

The Regional Bureaux and Hubs will play a key role in supporting Country Offices, identifying concrete opportunities and promoting synergies, while sharing lessons learned.

Access to global knowledge and expertise

Country Offices and programme countries will be able to connect with available knowledge and resources through UNDP's GPN. Operationalization of the GPN is facilitated by UNDP's Communities of Practice (CoPs), distributed networks of thematic experts and practitioners who collaborate to define, recognize and solve specific development challenges. The Human Mobility Community, launched in March 2023 as part of the CoP on Resilience, also contributes to sharing knowledge and practices across regions on UNDP's work on migration and forced displacement.

Figure 7: Whole-of-UNDP response to internal engagement



Developing staff's skills and knowledge

To ensure that staff has easy access to personal training and development, UNDP has launched a new Knowledge and Learning Strategy, with links to local and global streams of experience and expertise. UNDP staff will have access to the following resources:

- The Crisis Academy that delivers people-centred knowledge and learning to enhance readiness of country-level leadership and practitioners to deal with the complexity of high-risk crisis contexts.
- The Nexus Academy, an OECD DAC dialogue initiative, powered by UNDP's Crisis Academy that aims to forge a common understanding of nexus approaches.
- The Sustainable Finance Academy through which UNDP delivers targeted training to staff and partners on various financing solutions and approaches.
- An Internal Displacement E-learning module on IDP guidelines and solutions that will be delivered through the Crisis Academy.
- A joint UN training course, to be developed in collaboration with other UN agencies and delivered through the UN Staff College.
- Courses from other actors, some of which were developed jointly with UNDP (including from GP 2.0: Global Platform on Internal Displacement) and from JIPS, which also has a course on collaborative leadership that specializes on data processes).

Policy guidance

To provide staff in the field with practical information on how to operationalize the strategy and engage with governments and partners, UNDP has developed a Policy Guidance Note for UNDP County Offices. The Guidance Note provides more detail to explain the why, what and how of UNDP's engagement on internal displacement.

Special policy papers will be developed on demand, on such topics like gender considerations of internal displacement, climate-induced displacement, or to support Country Offices that operate in politically challenging environments, where working with government authorities may be compromised. These policy papers will be developed based on practical experiences shared through the CoP platforms.

MONITORING RESULTS

Applying a development approach to solutions to internal displacement is a long-term, multi-dimensional process of addressing root causes of displacement, gradually diminishing the needs of IDPs, strengthening their capacities and the resilience of affected communities, and ensuring they can enjoy their rights without discrimination related to their displacement, while also paying full attention to the needs and concerns of the affected communities. A single organization will not be able to claim success in addressing internal displacement, but each can monitor the worth of the contributions they make to the process of making solutions to internal displacement sustainable.

UNDP STRATEGIC PLAN RESULTS AND RESOURCES FRAMEWORK

UNDP has a specific output on human mobility in the Strategic Plan 2022-2025, which includes forced displacement:

> Under signature solution 3 "Resilience" there is a strategic objective 3.4. "Integrated development solutions implemented to address the drivers of irregular and forced migration, enhance the resilience of migrants, forcibly displaced and host communities, and expand the benefits of human mobility".
>
> Results are measured by two indicators, one focusing on institutions (Indicator 3.4.1: Number of institutions that have mainstreamed human mobility into their development policies and plans – national and local governments as well as the private sector) and one focusing on people (Indicator 3.4.2.: Number of people on the move (IDPs) and people in host communities benefiting from integrated and targeted interventions, including on strengthening social cohesion.

In addition to the Strategic Plan indicators, UNDP will monitor its performance using the outputs and outcomes of the theory of change, and its internal targets. UNDP will also contribute to wider efforts to measure progress towards solutions from a development perspective, including through a planned 2023 exercise in partnership with the JIPS.

DELIVERING ON UNDP'S PROMISE – TARGETS TO BE ACHIEVED BY 2030

Overall goal: By 2030, 25 countries most affected by internal displacement[10] sustainably reduce, resolve and prevent further internal displacement through nationally owned solutions that restore the political, economic and social rights of IDPs to benefit from and contribute to development progress and prosperity.

Short-term corporate commitment: Over the next two years, and not withstanding attention to other affected countries, UNDP will provide support in line with the four strategic inputs identified in this strategy, to the joint UN intervention in the pilot countries selected jointly with the Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Internal Displacement. In addition to these pilot countries, UNDP will also continue or launch pilot operations in other impacted countries, which will allow to further test the UNDP conceptual framework that underpins the development approach to internal displacement.

10 See Annex 2: List of 40 countries with highest numbers of IDPs at the end of 2022.

UNDP commits to achieving the following targets by 2030.

Promoting a development approach to solution

- At least 15 countries have designed and are on track in implementing national solutions strategies, through a participatory process involving IDPs and affected communities, with particular attention to the perspectives, needs and aspirations of displaced women and young people.

- At least 15 countries have improved their data collection on internal displacement through large-scale disaggregated profiling of internally displaced and host communities, and perception surveys, using digitally enabled approaches, where feasible.

- At least 15 counties have improved their policies and regulations on solutions aligned with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, relevant regional conventions and the Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement.

Integrated prevention and solutions programming

- In at least 15 countries, UNDP has been supported on the implementation of national/local solutions strategies through integrated programmes and projects, implemented jointly with other partners.

- UNDP has implemented at least 30 development solutions "innovations", especially targeting gender-responsive, community-led and driven actions aimed at preventing/resolving internal displacement.

On focused solutions financing

- UNDP supported at least 15 affected countries in developing their internal displacement solutions financing plans, in line with INFFs.

- Additional financing has been mobilized to help bridge the solutions financing gap, leveraging this amount to additional public/private co-finance.

On extended engagement and partnerships

- At least 50 percent of UNDP internal displacement-related programmes/projects implemented jointly with other UN agencies.

- At least 40 percent of UNDP internal displacement-related programmes and projects involve civil society actors.

- At least 30 percent of UNDP internal displacement-related programmes and projects involve the private sector.

- At least 75 percent of UNDP's work on INFFs is done in partnership with IFIs.

- UNDP will organize or co-organize at least one global event bi-annually and annual events in at least two regions to showcase results/achievements, lesson learnt and promote cross-fertilization between countries.

©UNDP Central African Republic

ANNEX 1: THEORY OF CHANGE

Overall goal: Nationally owned and locally led development solutions to internal displacement create the legal, political, economic, social and environmental conditions that empower IDPs and DACs as full citizens to enjoy their rights and freedoms allowing them to live in safety and dignity, and contribute as agents of change to peace and sustainable development in their communities.

Development Solutions Outcomes

OUTCOME 1: A renewed social contract exists between displaced citizens and the state at national and local levels (society).

IDPs and DACs live in a safe, healthy and secure social, economic and political environment, are protected from environmental risks and contribute to and benefit from local economic development in ways that promote individual and community resilience.

OUTCOME 2: IDP's, irrespective of their age, gender and diversity, are treated equally to other citizens and enjoy corresponding human security and personal dignity (people).

IDPs and DACs have increased trust in their national and local government's ability and willingness to provide them with legal and physical protection, and economic, political and cultural choices and opportunities, allowing them to contribute to the resilience of their communities and to the sustainable development of their country.

OUTCOME 3: Resilient institutions at national and local levels are equipped to prevent, manage and implement inclusive and gender-sensitive solutions to address internal displacement (state and non-state actors).

National and local institutions have increased resilience to shocks and crises and have data and evidence to address the root causes of displacement, to create and maintain social cohesion and peaceful coexistence.

Solutions outputs (building capacities of IDPs, affected communities, state and non-state actors as building blocks / pathways towards development solutions)

OUTPUT 1: Strengthening governance institutions

National and local state and non-state actors (civil society, private sector) are better equipped with data, tools and knowledge to manage the risks and the governance of the prevention of and development solutions to internal displacement.

OUTPUT 2: Socio-economic (re)integration

Socio-economic (re)integration of IDPs in DACs (in host and origin communities) is prioritized and poverty and inequalities reduced through local economic development and access to livelihoods and jobs, allowing IDPs to exercise their social and economic rights and to contribute to the social and economic life of their communities.

OUTPUT 3: Security and access to justice

IDPs and DACs benefit from improved security and are provided better protection, access to justice and legal aid to ensure they can enjoy their rights as lawful citizens.

OUTPUT 4: Inclusion and participation

The civic and political participation of IDPs and their CSOs is promoted allowing them to exercise their civil and political rights and to contribute to the development of their communities as agents of change.

OUTPUT 5: Social cohesion

An enabling environment is in place to manage the impact of displacement on affected populations, ensure the peaceful resolution of disputes and pro-actively promote social cohesion in DACs.

UNDP Strategic Inputs - The four pillars of UNDP's strategy to support development solutions to internal displacement

PROMOTING DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS

Policy dialogue: Dialogue on development solutions and integration into national and local development policies and plans, enabling policy and legal frameworks.

Data and evidence: Produce and share comprehensive area-based profiles on structural vulnerabilities and opportunities. Political economy analysis. Risk assessments.

Communication: Strengthen UNDP identity on solutions to internal displacement through focused national and international communication and advocacy.

Research and learning: Codification of experiences and sharing through the GPN.

INTEGRATED PREVENTION AND SOLUTIONS PROGRAMMING

Integrated portfolio of prevention and solutions programmes

Poverty: Inclusive growth policies and programmes. Livelihoods and access to services. Promoting social protection and insurance schemes.

Governance: Human rights, access human rights, access to justice, legal documentation, civic and political participation, access to information, institution building of local governments.

Resilience: Expand social cohesion and area-based return and reintegration approach to prevent further conflict driven displacement.

Environment/disaster risk management: Expand disaster management and disaster risk reduction interventions to address climate induced displacement risks and mitigate the environmental impact of human displacement.

Energy: Access to energy as a means of prevention and an enabler of choices for solutions, prevention of conflict and environmental degradation.

Gender: Targeted responses to address context specific gender roles, identities, and power dynamics of IDPs and host communities.

FOCUSED SOLUTIONS FINANCING

Integrated National Financing Frameworks: Align plans and strategies with budget allocations.

Access to international financing for prevention and solutions.

Financial partnerships: Engage in renewed partnership with IFIs (MDBs and IMF, etc.).

Private sector financing

EXTENDED ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

National and local governments

UN partnerships: Enhance partnership and cooperation with UN entities and programmes. Better articulate the D in the HDP nexus.

Support coordination mechanisms: The Special Adviser at the UN corporate level; the UN RC at the country level.

IFIs: Strengthen strategic partnerships with the IFIs (MDBs and IMF).

Private sector: Scale-up private sector partnerships across UNDP programmes.

Other actors: Civil society, faith-based organizations, academia.

ANNEX 2: 40 COUNTRIES WITH HIGHEST NUMBERS OF IDPS AT THE END OF 2022 (IDMC, 2023)

Country	Total No. of IDPs (end of 2022)	UNDP support to INFF
Syria	6,865,000	**X**
Afghanistan	6,558,000	
DRC	5,969,000	**X**
Ukraine	5,914,000	**X**
Colombia	4,808,000	**X**
Ethiopia	4,569,000	
Yemen	4,523,000	
Nigeria	4,500,000	**X**
Somalia	3,864,000	
Sudan	3,780,000	
South Sudan	2,140,000	**X**
Burkina Faso	1,882,000	**X**
Myanmar	1,501,000	
Iraq	1,238,000	
Mozambique	1,157,000	**X**
Türkiye	1,099,000	
Pakistan	1,046,000	
Cameroon	1,010,000	**X**
India	663,000	
Azerbaijan	659,000	
The Philippines	635,000	**X**
United States	543,000	
CAR	516,000	
Bangladesh	435,500	**X**
Mali	412,000	**X**
Kenya	403,000	**X**
Mexico	389,600	**X**
Niger	377,100	
Georgia	339,000	
Côte d'Ivoire	302,000	**X**
Chad	300,000	
Honduras	250,900	
Guatemala	249,900	**X**
Cyprus	246,000	
Congo	228,000	
Haiti	195,000	**X**
Serbia	195,000	
China	146,000	
Indonesia	140,000	**X**
Libya	135,000	

ANNEX 3: COMMITMENTS MADE IN THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL'S ACTION AGENDA ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

Nr.	Action Agenda Commitment	UNDP involvement	Link to UNDP strategic plan result
UN engagement on solutions at global and country levels			
1	Redouble efforts to ensure meaningful participation and systematic inclusion of IDPs and local community members of all ages, genders and diversities in decision-making on solutions, including by scaling up community-based planning, and advocate with states to put in place measures to ensure IDPs are heard and included in solutions planning.	Part of UNDP's strategy under strategic inputs one and two and integral to UNDP's work on area-based planning and local governance.	Result 3.4. Integrated development solutions to address forced migration and enhance the resilience of displaced and host communities. Result 6.2. Women's leadership and participation.
2	Support states to develop and implement whole-of-government solutions strategies with measurable progress indicators that are guided by the views and capacities of IDPs and local communities, and to embed solutions within national and local development plans.	Central to UNDP's strategy under strategic inputs one and two.	Result 1.1. Inter-governmentally agreed frameworks integrated in national and local development plans and progress assessed using data-driven solutions. Result 3.4. Integrated development solutions to address forced migration and enhance the resilience of displaced and host communities.
3	Advocate with states and international actors for stepped-up attention to urban displacement and for support to local and city authorities in responding to the needs of urban IDPs and host communities.	As the lead UN development agency with a strong track record on local and urban governance and urban resilience, UNDP will support the advocacy efforts of the Special Adviser (at global level) and of the UN RCs and UNCTs (at the country level). UNDP will increase its collaboration with UN-Habitat.	Result 2.3. Responsive governance systems and local governance. Result 3.4. Integrated development solutions to address forced migration and enhance the resilience of displaced and host communities.
4	Strengthen UN leadership and accountability on internal displacement by appointing a time-bound Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement to work in concert with an inter-agency steering group.	UNDP has seconded a staff member to the Office of the Special Adviser and is part of the UN Steering Group on Solutions to Internal Displacement	
5	Designate UN RCs to serve as the UN's lead on solutions at the country level, including to proactively engage governments on this issue; ensure solutions are reflected in UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (SDCFs) and Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs); ensure a dedicated and costed solutions strategy is developed as needed; and ensure relevant and inclusive coordination mechanisms are in place.	As a member of the UNCT and Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and with a presence in 177 countries and settings, UNDP is well placed to support the UN RCs to ensure that internal displacement is well reflected in the UNSDCFs.	
6	Provide additional support to UN RCs through ensuring they can draw on advice and support from the global and regional levels and—where relevant—dedicated capacity at the country level.	UNDP's strategy includes an explicit commitment to support the UN RCs at country level. UNDP is also administering a new UN facility for the deployment of Solutions Advisers to priority RCOs at the request of the Special Adviser.	Result 3.4. Integrated development solutions to address forced migration.
7	Task UN development, peacebuilding, humanitarian, human rights, and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and climate change actors to develop global institutional plans for how they will reinforce their internal capacities and engagement on solutions to internal displacement.	The current strategy is UNDP's institutional plan on internal displacement.	Result 3.4. Integrated development solutions to address forced migration.
Financing for solutions			
8	Work with development financing partners to ensure solutions are pursued proactively and systematically as part of development financing, based on analytics including socio-economic data, and incentivize the inclusion of action on internal displacement within national and local development plans and associated budgeting.	With the SFH, and its connections with the IFIs, UNDP has a strong internal capacity to contribute substantively to this commitment through INFFs and public finance support to governments.	Enabler 3: Public and private financing expanded.
9	Convene an *ad hoc* forum of relevant development finance actors and affected states to explore how catalytic financing could be made more readily available for solutions and agree on the most appropriate model and expedite its establishment.	UNDP co-lead with UNHCR the working group on financing development solutions to internal displacement and remains committed to support the Special Adviser in search for the most appropriate model.	Enabler 3: Public and private financing expanded.
10	Host a dedicated thematic window for solutions to internal displacement within the UN Joint SDG Fund that supports joint, solutions-focused programmes identified by UNCTs.	As the key development agency most present in the field, UNDP will play an active role in the design and implementation of joint UNCT programmes.	Result 3.4. Integrated development solutions to address forced migration.

Nr.	Action Agenda Commitment	UNDP involvement	Link to UNDP strategic plan result
Engaging the private sector on solutions			
11	The UN will work with relevant partners to identify three to four contexts where there are opportunities to pilot means of strengthening engagement with the private sector, working with UN RCs.	UNDP is fully committed to contribute actively to these pilots and will bank on the capacities of its International Centre for Private Sector in Development (IICPSD), based in Istanbul and its connections with the Global Compact	
Data for solutions			
12	Support states to put in place relevant mechanisms to collect, manage and use internal displacement data in line with the International Recommendation on IDP Statistics and other relevant international standards.	UNDP is already supporting countries to build their capacities for data collection and analytics and will work with partners to ensure national ownership of internal displacement related data that go beyond humanitarian statistics.	Result 1.1. Inter-governmentally agreed frameworks integrated in national and local development plans and progress assessed using data-driven solutions.
13	Convene a time-bound task force of relevant data actors that will examine opportunities and barriers to more effective use data for solutions and put forward a proposal for a fit-for-purpose process or coordination model to address data-specific issues and gaps.	UNDP is an active member of the working group on data.	
Reducing conflict and violence as drivers of displacement			
14	Work with governments, regional organizations, local communities and civil society to address the root causes of displacement and to promote peacebuilding, social cohesion and mediation that considers displacement risks (and, where present, includes IDPs).	UNDP's Prevention Offer (2022 – 2025) articulates UNDP's work on prevention and peacebuilding through a development lens to address the root causes of internal displacement. The newly established Risk Anticipation Hub together with the Crisis Risk Dashboard in the CB will help UNCTs in prevention by addressing the root causes of internal displacement.	3.4 Integrated development solutions implemented to address forced migration and enhance the resilience of forcibly displaced and host communities. Result 3.2. Capacities for conflict prevention and peacebuilding.
15	To reduce risks of displacement associated with human rights violations and conflict, drive forward implementation of the Call to Action for Human Rights and address displacement specifically in my forthcoming Agenda for Protection.	UNDP works closely with the OHCHR and through its Global Programme for Strengthening Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development.	Result 2.2. Rule of law and human rights. Result 6.3. National capacities to prevent and respond to gender-based violence.
16	When there are early signs of conflict, renewed violence or threats to civilians, mobilize rapid action to support de-escalation, political negotiation and conflict resolution, and systematically address internal displacement as part of these efforts.	UNDP's Prevention Offer (2022 – 2025) focuses on stabilization, mitigation of risks and building institutional and community resilience to sustain peaceful development pathways.	Result 3.2. Capacities for conflict prevention and peacebuilding.
17	Advocate with governments to put in place policies and measures to promote the protection of civilians in situations of conflict and violence and reduce displacement risks in line with international humanitarian law.	Part of UNDP's mandate on conflict prevention and resilience building including work on inclusive local governance and sustaining peace.	Result 3.2. Capacities for conflict prevention and peacebuilding.
Reducing the displacement risks posed by climate change and disasters			
18	Advocate strongly for states to deliver on the $100 billion climate finance commitment to support developing countries and to dedicate at least half of these funds to climate change adaptation and resilience.	Under the Climate Promise, UNDP is continuing to assist countries to identify their financial requirements, and to plan for and mobilize resources, including from innovative mechanisms such as green bonds and carbon markets.	Result 4.2. Public and private investment mechanisms mobilized for climate solutions.
19	Address displacement proactively and systematically as part of the UN's work on climate change, including by supporting the work on the Task Force on Displacement under the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage.	As part of both the Prevention Offer and the Climate Promise, UNDP focuses on climate-proofing prevention and peacebuilding, ensuring that nature, climate and energy-related efforts contribute to positively to peace and promoting integrated solutions to climate action and sustaining peace.	
20	Support governments to ensure climate risks are integrated into policies and investment decision-making, and to ensure that displacement risks and associated protection needs are systematically considered within policies, strategies and plans relevant to DRR, climate change action, urban planning and development, including by assisting in drafting or revising the policies in line with the state's commitments under the SDGs, the New Urban Agenda, the Sendai Framework and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.	As part of UNDP's disaster early warning and preparedness to support countries and communities to reduce risk, prepare for disasters and shocks and use foresight to inform development planning and investment.	Result 3.1. Institutional systems to manage multi-dimensional risks and shocks.
21	Advocate for donors and development finance actors to utilize data and analysis to dramatically scale up investments in forecast-based financing and anticipatory action while continuing to support broader early warning, DRR, humanitarian assistance and community resilience programmes, and to ensure countries can access this finance.	UNDP co-lead with UNHCR the working group on financing development solutions to internal displacement and remains committed to support the Special Adviser on financing.	Result 4.2. Public and private investment mechanisms mobilized for climate solutions.

Nr.	Action Agenda Commitment	UNDP involvement	Link to UNDP strategic plan result
Addressing intersecting threats that contribute to displacement			
22	UN agencies and entities with expertise on DRR, climate change, human rights, humanitarian affairs, development and peacebuilding will work within their organizations and together to promote holistic understanding of displacement and risk intersections, including on the intersection of conflict and the impacts of climate change, and they will support UNCTs and HCTs to reflect this in their work.	Part of UNDP's mandate on climate mitigation and risk reduction management and with the newly established Risk Anticipation Hub in the CB, UNDP has intensified its internal capacities to understand the intersection of various risks.	Result 3.1. Institutional systems to manage multi-dimensional risks and shocks.
Ensuring better protection and assistance for IDPs and host communities			
23	Call on states to protect the rights and respond to the needs of their displaced citizens and residents in line with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and relevant laws and policy frameworks, such as the Kampala Convention.	UNDP has a joint initiative with UNHCR: Rule of Law and Local Governance Joint Programmatic Framework (2020-2023)	Result 2.2. Rule of law and human rights.
24	Advocate for states to work proactively to ensure IDPs of all ages, genders and diversities have access to public systems and services.	Part of UNDP's work on promoting inclusive delivery of services.	Result 1.3. Access to basic services.
25	Strongly advocate for unimpeded humanitarian access, and continue to provide neutral, impartial and independent protection and assistance to crisis-affected populations when governments are unable or unwilling to respond.	Part of UNDP's mandate on social protection systems and services.	Result 1.2. Social protection services and systems. Result 3.3. Risk informed and gender-responsive recovery solutions, at regional, national and sub-national levels – including improved livelihoods.
26	Work with donors and UN agencies on strengthening the effectiveness of financing modalities, including in implementing Grand Bargain commitments.	Linked to UNDP's support to commitments 8 and 9.	
27	Complete in early 2023 the independent review of humanitarian response to internal displacement currently being commissioned by the IASC and act on its findings and recommendations.	UNDP is an active member of the IASC.	
28	Promote understanding of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement within the UN and among its partners and ensure that the Guiding Principles are the foundation upon which our protection and assistance activities are carried out.	UNDP will actively support the UN's efforts to advocate for a broader understanding of the Guiding Principles and will include them in its internal training programmes on internal displacement.	
29	Continue strengthening accountability to IDPs and host communities, including by redoubling efforts to deliver on the Participation Revolution promised in the Grand Bargain.	Inclusion is a core principle of UNDP's engagement.	Result 2.4. Democratic institutions and processes
30	Work with and through local systems, local authorities and local civil-society actors as much as possible, supporting locally led responses and avoiding the creation of parallel structures.	Local governance and local development will play a key role in finding development solutions to internal displacement. Localization of solutions is an essential component of UNDP's approach. UNDP has a joint initiative with UNHCR: Rule of Law and Local Governance Joint Programmatic Framework (2020-2023).	Result 2.3. Responsive governance systems and local governance for socio economic opportunity, inclusive basic service delivery, community security and peacebuilding. Result 6.1. Inclusive economies and economic empowerment of women.
31	Take steps to lay the foundation for solutions earlier in responses by incorporating pathways to solutions into HRPs and recognizing solutions-enabling programming as a priority, while simultaneously working to understand and mitigate future displacement risks.	As the lead development agency in the field, and member of the HCT, UNDP will play a key role in ensuring early attention to development solutions in HRPs.	Result 3.1. Institutional systems to manage multi-dimensional risks and shocks.

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