

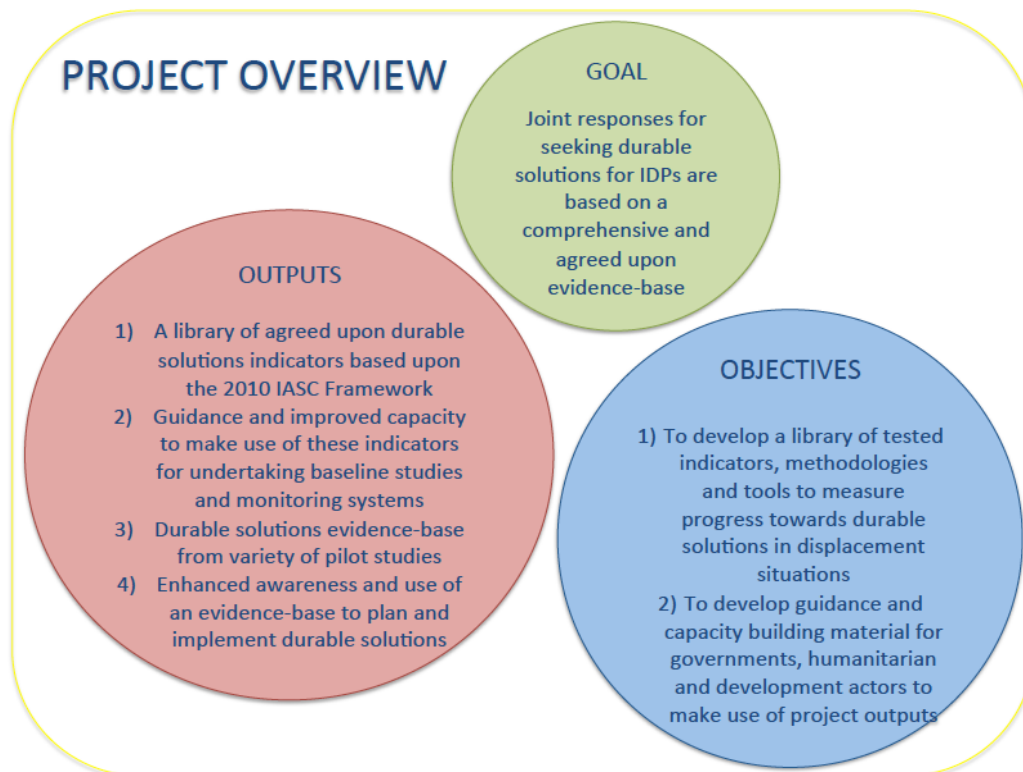
INFORMING RESPONSES TO SUPPORT DURABLE SOLUTIONS FOR IDPS

Project Concept Note

OVERVIEW

Durable solutions for internally displaced persons (IDPs) remain a global challenge. In many situations of protracted displacement the attainment of durable solutions has become stalled, or displacement has become cyclical. Mere return or attempted settlement elsewhere is not equivalent to a durable solution until a more sustainable (re-) integration has been achieved. Finding durable solutions is a complex process with significant humanitarian, development and peacebuilding challenges. How to support and particularly to *measure* progress towards durable solutions remains one of the most pressing questions.

The 2010 IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons (hereafter *IASC Framework*) is widely recognized as the internationally agreed benchmark to work towards solutions for IDPs. The IASC Framework identified eight criteria that can be used “to determine the extent to which a durable solution has been achieved”. This project will work with key stakeholders to operationalise these criteria through a set of agreed upon indicators, tools and guidance for their implementation in displacement contexts. Ultimately it aims to support Governments, humanitarian, development actors to pursue an evidence-based joint response to support displaced families and communities to achieve durable solutions.



BACKGROUND

The IASC adopted the Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs in 2010 after a nine-year process that included broad-based consultations and piloting of an earlier version. The former Representative of the Secretary-General on IDPs steered this process with the support of the Brookings Project on Internal Displacement and input from UN, NGO and civil society partners from humanitarian, human rights and development sectors, donors, Governments of countries with internal displacement, and IDP representatives.

The IASC Framework today has global recognition and is widely used. In 2011 it was complemented by the Secretary-General's Policy Committee decision on solutions for IDPs and returning refugees in the aftermath of conflict, which identifies an institutional framework to achieve solutions for IDPs and refugees after conflict. This proposed project supports and complements this institutional framework.

The problems inherent in a protracted displacement situation increase over time. Humanitarian support for durable solutions remains ad hoc and limited to organizations' mandates, priorities and funding. Durable solutions planning has often taken place at a late stage and driven by transition, exiting and funding considerations. Increasingly, there is recognition that attaining durable solutions is predicated on strategic planning taking place jointly with both humanitarian and development actors. However, a common evidence base for such planning is as yet slim and requests for support to operationalize the IASC Framework are frequent.

Throughout his tenure, the former Representative of the UN Secretary-General on IDPs urged that planning for durable solutions start early¹, and highlighted the need for a sound evidence base for such planning. Profiling and other forms of data capture, especially of protracted IDP situations in post-conflict and post-disaster contexts, are important to inform policy and planning, and to measure the extent to which a durable solution has been achieved.

PARTNERSHIPS & STRUCTURE

In keeping with the collaborative spirit of the IASC Framework and any meaningful durable solutions strategy or action plan, this project will bring together humanitarian and development actors. The project will be led by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs (SR-IDPs) and his Office², advised by a Technical Steering Committee comprising development and humanitarian actors, as well as relevant academic institutions. The Joint IDP Profiling Service (JIPS)³, in close collaboration with members of the technical steering committee, will undertake the coordination and implementation of the project.

¹ The SR-IDPs's report on durable solutions to the UNGA in 2013 recommended the systematic and early engagement of humanitarian and development actors to develop solution strategies and mechanisms to promote an integrated approach to solutions in the early stages of displacement.

² In line with the Mandate's two priorities for 2014-2016, which are: 1. Law and policymaking on internal displacement; 2. Durable solutions and transition from humanitarian to development.

³ The SR-IDPs and JIPS have standing MoU for collaboration since September 2012.

Project Structure



The envisaged process will be transparent and participatory. This project seeks to use existing fora, such as the Solutions Alliance's thematic group on Research, Data and Performance Management and the Technical Working Group on Durable Solutions of the Global Cluster on Early Recovery, and to support their work with this technical contribution.

This project will draw on existing expertise and data, particularly that of the Joint IDP Profiling Service.⁴ JIPS has extensive experience in developing methodologies and supporting collaborative profiling exercises informing durable solutions policy, planning and implementation. A key part of JIPS' approach is to facilitate consensus around indicators and data collection processes between actors in the field. Through this project, they will bring this experience to the global level. JIPS will support indicator development at the global level and field operations in specific country contexts, and will manage the project with the project coordinator (below).

The project will take on board the work already started on early recovery indicators by the various clusters as well as pre-existing and well-tested indicators used within individual agencies working in displacement settings (e.g. UNHCR and UNDP results frameworks, and WB M&E frameworks and core indicators for forced displacement). Further, this project will also provide UNHCR and UNDP with practical tools and materials that can feed into the discussions on including and collecting information on displacement in relation to the post-2015 agenda as necessary. Lastly, ad hoc and stand-alone indicator initiatives, such as those for urban development, will be consulted for technical input.

Under the auspices of the SR-IDPs, a project coordinator will be hired as the focal point for day-to-day management of the project. JIPS will host the project coordinator physically and administratively.

⁴ JIPS is an interagency Service overseen by UNHCR, DRC, IRC, NRC, IDMC and the SR-IDPs. JIPS also has a close working relationship with UNDP. JIPS has supported locally owned collaborative profiling exercises in displacement situations since 2009 (www.jips.org).

OBJECTIVES

The overall goal of this project is to support governments and their development and humanitarian partners to seek durable solutions for displaced populations based upon comprehensive and agreed upon evidence. To achieve this goal, **this project aims to develop a library of indicators that can be used to measure progress towards durable solutions of IDPs in conflict and disaster contexts.** These indicators can be used through profiling or assessment methodologies – or integrated into broader monitoring and evaluation frameworks – **so the project will also produce accompanying guidance for the selection and use of these indicators in specific contexts.** Ideally, the results of this work will also be able to feed into efforts at the global level to include displacement-related indicators in the development goals of the post-2015 agenda.

At the heart of this project is the need to bring together experience from the development and humanitarian field to build upon good practice, exchange lessons learnt and generate consensus around the project's outputs to increase their impact overall. The project has two main objectives:

- 1) To develop a library of tested indicators, methodologies and tools to measure progress towards durable solutions in displacement situations, based on the IASC Framework
- 2) To develop guidance and capacity building material for governments, humanitarian and development actors to make use of project outputs in their specific contexts

These objectives will be achieved through the activities outlined below.

Objective 1: To develop a library of tested indicators, methodologies and tools to measure progress towards durable solutions in displacement situations, based on the IASC Framework	
Rationale	The IASC Framework provides the frame for policy as well as the planning for and implementation of durable solutions through contextual adaptation and specification of its content. As a rights-based framework it identifies the options to achieve a durable solution, sets out the process to support solutions, and identifies eight criteria and some indicators for determining the extent to which a durable solution has been achieved ⁵ . Challenges lie in the operationalisation of the criteria, however, necessitating the development of a library of indicators, which can be adapted for specific contexts and used to measure and evaluate progress towards durable solutions against the framework.

⁵ These criteria are: 1. Long-term safety, security and freedom of movement; 2. Adequate standard of living; 3. Access to employment and livelihoods; 4. Access to effective mechanisms to restore HLP or provide compensation. 5. Access to and replacement of documentation; 6. Voluntary family reunification; 7. Participation in public affairs; 8. Effective remedies.

Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compilation and review of relevant existing sets of indicators and other tools⁶ to operationalize the eight criteria of the IASC Framework 2. Synthesis of pilot set of indicators 3. Field testing the selection and use of pilot indicators using the suggested methodology in at least three countries 4. Revision of suggested sets of indicators based on pilot experience
Outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synthesized analysis and evidence base of data on progress towards durable solutions in the pilot countries (i.e. results from indicator-testing exercises) 2. Library of indicators to measure the extent to which durable solutions have been achieved, which can be adapted for particular country contexts and used in baseline studies or integrated into broader M&E systems 3. Field-tested methodologies and tools to operationalize the selected indicators

Objective 2: To develop guidance and capacity building material for governments, humanitarian and development actors to make use of project outputs in their specific contexts

Rationale	<p>The IASC Framework does not define the end of displacement as such but states: <i>“A durable solution is achieved when internally displaced persons no longer have any specific assistance and protection needs that are linked to their displacement and can enjoy their human rights without discrimination on account of their displacement.”</i> This indicates the complexity of the solutions process. In practice, this seemingly simple sentence is difficult to implement and requires guidance on its operationalization and evaluation using the library of indicators.</p>
Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of “how to” practical guidance on the selection, use and analysis of the indicators through profiling methodologies and/or integrated into broader M&E systems 2. Development and provision of training module and capacity building materials for practitioners on the selection and use of indicators and methodologies
Outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Guidance package as advised by the project’s technical steering committee 2. Training modules on the use of the indicators/methodology for practitioners complementing existing trainings on durable solutions

⁶ A number of indicators already exist, eg. the OCHA Indicators Registry. The desk review will be tasked to examine and capture all those relevant to measuring progress on durable solutions.