Nepal: Figures analysis

Number of people displaced by conflict as of 31 December 2016: approximately 50,000
New displacements associated with conflict in 2016: No new displacement reported

Notes and caveats:

Number of people displaced by conflict as of 31 December 2016:

IDMC estimates that the total number of conflict-related IDPs in Nepal is approximately 50,000 people. This figure, published by UN HCR, is decaying from 2012. These IDPs were displaced by conflict between 1996 and 2006 and remain unable or unwilling to return to their homes due to unresolved land and property issues, insecurity, and lack of assistance.

In 2013, the government announced that all IDPs were considered to have returned home. However, IDMC has not found any tangible evidence supporting this, nor managed to gather any new information. We are therefore basing our estimate on the same 2012 UNHCR report. The Ministry of Peace has granted IDMC access to its database of vulnerable populations; the data is however deemed to be non-comprehensive.

Primary source: the primary source is a review conducted by UNHCR in 2012 as a background for its operational planning for 2013.

Geographical and temporal coverage: the report used to produce this estimate covers the entirety of Nepal as of 2012.

Description of source’s methodology: The number of IDPs identified by UNHCR is based on a needs assessment of affected populations, primarily Bhutanese refugees seeking asylum in Nepal. Thus, the assessment that was carried out was not specific to IDPs and may not have accounted for all internally displaced people within Nepal at the time.