

This Quarterly Update covers the activities of the Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) between 1 October and 31 December 2016. It is also available online here: www.internal-displacement.org

Feature article

IDMC's Africa Report on Internal Displacement: in 2015 alone, 3.5 million people were newly displaced by conflict, violence and rapid-onset disasters in Africa

The [Africa Report on Internal Displacement](#), launched on 9 December 2016 in Addis Ababa with support from the [African Union](#) and the [Norwegian Refugee Council](#), is the first IDMC report to focus specifically on internal displacement across a single continent. The report expands on data and analysis available in the [2016 Global Report on Internal Displacement](#) including new figures from the first half of 2016 for people displaced by conflict, violence and rapid-onset disasters across Africa. While exploring some of the root causes of broader displacement and migration patterns within and outside of Africa, the report also highlights the gaps in the data that policy-makers need and suggests ways forward for improving our collective understanding of the issues involved in efforts to bridge them.



Nigeria: Maryam and her children were displaced from their town and are now living in Bulabulin. Photo: NRC/Ingrid Prestetun

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Africa is facing a displacement crisis: in 2015 alone, 3.5 million people were newly displaced by conflict, violence and rapid-onset disasters in Africa. This is an average of more than 9,500 people per day uprooted from their homes. Preliminary figures for the first half of 2016 suggest that the displacement crisis will not improve. In future, climate change will only exacerbate this trend, with recurrent floods, drought, rising temperatures and environmental degradation amplifying people's exposure and vulnerability.

At the end of 2015, a total of 12.4 million people were living in ongoing displacement in 21 African countries as a result of conflict and violence. This figure is 30 per cent of the total number of people internally displaced by conflict globally (**40.8 million**) and more than twice the total number of African refugees (5.4 million) at 31 December 2015.

These estimates paint only a partial picture however. One of the most alarming aspects of internal displacement in Africa is how much is not known, because the data is lacking. The cumulative number of people living in ongoing displacement following disasters is unknown, although case studies suggest the total is significant. To further complicate matters, scarcely any data is currently collected on the number, situation and needs of people uprooted by drought and development projects although they are also major drivers of displacement in Africa. These blind spots hinder efforts both to measure the scope and severity of the problem and to provide effective protection and assistance to those displaced, let alone prevent their displacement from happening in the first place.

More and better data on internal displacement currently off the radar is needed to bring the 'invisible IDPs' into focus and to ensure they are better protected and lasting solutions are found.

Designated national bodies need increased capacity to collect credible, consistent and comprehensive data, drawing on wider sources of information. Computer modelling tools to map intervention scenarios can identify high-leverage entry points for policy decisions. Using these and other means, IDMC is committed to helping governments and other partners build a more comprehensive picture of internal displacement across Africa. The hope is that this will result in a more complete evidence base to inform effective prevention and response, and that more people in Africa will ultimately avoid the upheaval and distress of displacement.



Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD)'s Advisory Committee. Photo: Platform on Disaster Displacement

ACTIVITIES

October

On 5 October, IDMC presented its analysis of the challenges related to the systematic compilation of internal displacement data on a global scale at a conference and roundtable discussion on **"Improving Data on Global Forced Displacement"** convened by the German Institute for International and Security Affairs in Berlin. Participants included the primary institutions collecting and analysing global data on forced displacement data, including the International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNHCR and the World Bank, and representatives from the European Union and the German and Norwegian governments. Discussions notably centred on potential ways to bridge data gaps and harmonise existing data typically collected by different actors in order to paint a more accurate picture of internal and cross-border forced displacements.

From 6 to 7 October, IDMC was invited to attend an [expert meeting on Human Rights and Climate Change](#), organised by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Mary Robinson Foundation for Climate Justice at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. The meeting brought together government, civil society organisation and UN agency representatives to consider the implications of recent state commitments, including those associated with the Paris Agreement on climate change. As part of a panel session focused on migration and displacement, chaired by Mary Robinson and informed by a short [discussion paper](#), IDMC presented its [findings](#) on protection concerns regarding populations displaced by disasters. OHCHR presented recommendations from the meeting at the UN Climate Change conference (COP22) in Marrakesh (Morocco) in November.

From 10 to 11 October, IDMC joined the [Global Migration and Asylum Governance Symposium 2016](#) held in Geneva as a joint initiative by the Universities of Geneva and UC Davis in collaboration with the League of European Research Universities. IDMC participated in several expert workshops, giving presentations on

[regional approaches](#); [the role of knowledge in refugee and migration policy](#) and on [climate change and disaster displacement](#).

IDMC participated in the first meeting of the [Advisory Committee to the Platform on Disaster Displacement \(PDD\)](#) held in Geneva from 13 to 14 October (video available [here](#)). The meeting brought together around 80 stakeholders with relevant expertise to implement the Protection Agenda on people displaced across borders. The committee shared lessons learned, challenges and opportunities for further cooperation and action, discussed the Platform's Strategic Framework 2016-2019 and provided ideas for activities under a draft three-year work plan with the Chair of the PDD's Steering Group (Germany), other Steering Group members and the Envoy to the Chair (Mr. Achim Steiner). IDMC was invited to present a global stocktake of existing data and evidence on disaster-related displacement and the primary areas in which this evidence base can be strengthened through the platform and its partners.

On 24 October, IDMC gave a presentation at a **technical expert workshop on "Modeling and Analyzing Human Mobility Futures in a Changing Climate and Development Landscape"** organised by the World Bank. The workshop was convened by the bank's climate policy team to inform work on its forthcoming flagship report on climate change, migration and displacement. Researchers from Brown and Columbia universities and the University of Sussex also gave presentations on the most appropriate approaches to modelling future migration and displacement scenarios.

November

On 4 November, IDMC gave a presentation at an expert meeting on **the use of mathematical models for estimating the number of unaccompanied and separated children and minors in crises**. Organised in New York by UNHCR and Save the Children on behalf of the Global Protection Cluster's Child Protection Working Group, the meeting took stock of different modelling approaches and available data that could be used to anticipate how many separated and unaccompanied children and

minors there might be in different kinds of displacement crises. The aim was to better inform operational responses and reduce the protection risks of this vulnerable population in crises ranging from disasters to conflicts.

From 7 to 8 November, IDMC participated in the UN Statistical Division's **Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics Meeting** in Copenhagen. Hosted by UNHCR, the meeting was organised to facilitate the development of a handbook for refugee statistics and a report on IDP statistics, both of which were requested by the United Nations Statistical Commission at its most recent session in March 2016. Representatives from approximately 40 national statistics offices participated, along with IOM, UNHCR and the World Bank. IDMC, Joint IDP Profiling Services (JIPS) and Statistics Norway were tasked with coordination of the report on IDP statistics, which will be submitted in late 2017 in advance of the Statistical Commission's 49th session in March 2018.

From 15 to 18 November, IDMC participated in **UNFCCC's 22nd Conference of the Parties (COP 22)** in Marrakesh (Morocco) where it presented its latest evidence and decision-support tools on disaster and climate-related displacement at a side event with the Overseas Development Institute, IOM and UN Women. IDMC also participated in a press conference, in which it presented the most recent statistics on displacement linked to climate-related hazards and reminded Parties of the COP 21 decision to address the risk of future climate-related displacement.

From 15 to 18 November, IDMC participated in the third and final session of the **open-ended intergovernmental working group (OEIWG)** of experts nominated by states and established by the UN General Assembly in June 2016. The OEIWG completed its task to develop "a set of possible indicators and terminology to measure global progress in the implementation of the Sendai Framework [for disaster risk reduction] in coherence with the work of the inter-agency and expert group on sustainable development indicators". Despite the increased prominence given to displacement in the Sendai Framework and the support expressed by a number of states for a global displacement indicator under target B, consensus could not be reached on either a global indicator or displacement terminology in the updated disaster risk reduction glossary, and the related proposals were dropped. At the same time, an updated definition of disaster "affected" people in the glossary explicitly includes "displaced", "evacuated" and "relocated" people, and indicators of damage to housing stock, livelihoods and evacuations that may provide partial proxies or insights for displacement measurement. An IDMC policy briefing paper on this issue is forthcoming.

On 24 November, IDMC presented its data and analysis of disaster-related displacement and displacement risk in Brussels at a **European Commission InfoPoint conference on "Climate Change, Disasters and Human Mobility."** The event, which was open to the public and attended by 70 European Commission staff, researchers, and civil society representatives, also featured presentations by IOM, UNHCR, a German government representative, and the secretariat of the Platform on Disaster Displacement. Its purpose was to highlight the outcomes from two EU-supported projects to provide policy-relevant knowledge and evidence on displacement triggered by disasters and the adverse impacts of climate change. More information [here](#).

December

From 5 to 6 December, IDMC presented the latest findings of its work on disaster-related displacement risk at a **workshop on modelling climate change and disaster-induced migration and displacement** in Paris organised by Columbia University and Sciences Po-Paris. Other participating institutions included the World Bank, IOM, Oregon State University, Neuchâtel University, Shanghai University, and University of Liege. As a result of the workshop, IDMC plans to collaborate with the City University of New York's Institute for Demographic Research to transform its displacement risk model into an interactive decision-support tool that explores changes in future displacement risk based on different climate and development pathways. More information on the workshop, including the IDMC presentation can be found [here](#).

From 5 to 7 December, IDMC convened a **meeting of a core group of senior international experts on displacement in the context of development projects.** These experts represented civil society, development finance institutions, the UN and academia, and provided insights based on their decades of experience on issues related to development-caused displacement and resettlement. Participants provided strategic guidance on data collection and the human impacts of development-caused displacement, as well as advice on related policy influencing opportunities. They also discussed ways to raise awareness of this type of displacement and the collaborative engagement needed to address the issue. IDMC will issue a full report on this meeting in early 2017.



(From the left) IDMC's Senior Strategic Advisor on Development Nadine Walicki and IDMC Director Alexandra Bilak presenting at the meeting on displacement in the context of development projects. Photo: IDMC

IDMC publications

During this quarter IDMC published the following products:

[Leaving no one behind: internal displacement and the New Urban Agenda](#)



This briefing paper was published in conjunction with the adoption of the New Urban Agenda at the UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) held last October in Quito (Ecuador). It recommends UN member states to:

- | Capitalise on the agenda to support integration of internally displaced people (IDPs) in urban areas;
- | Ensure that development work to implement the agenda does not displace people and respects their rights;
- | Address the drivers of urban displacement;
- | View IDPs as social and economic agents of urban development processes;
- | Collect and analyse data on urban IDPs to ensure they are not left behind.

[Seizing the momentum: Displacement on the global climate change agenda](#)

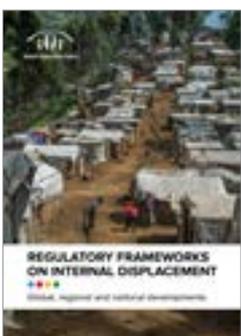


With global temperatures breaking new records and an average of at least 21.5 million people already being displaced each year by the impact and threat of climate-related hazards, it is time to ratchet up efforts to mitigate, adapt to and prepare for ever greater displacement risk.

This briefing paper summarises where the issues of displacement, migration and planned relocation stand in the UN

Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) agreements, decisions and discourse, and highlights opportunities and challenges inherent in turning knowledge and commitments into concrete action for people already displaced and those at greatest risk of becoming so.

[Regulatory Frameworks on Internal Displacement](#)



This paper, written by IDMC on behalf of the [Global Protection Cluster](#) (GPC), is based on a mapping exercise conducted by the GPC's Task Team on Law and Policy in 2015 that led to the launch of a [global database on laws and policies on internal displacement](#). Following an overview of the global framework for IDPs' protection and assistance, this study outlines lessons from national and regional processes such as the development and

adoption of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, known as the Kampala Convention, with a view to informing similar endeavours in the future.

[2016 Africa Report on Internal Displacement](#)



The Africa Report on Internal Displacement, is the first IDMC's report focusing on a single continent. The report expands on data and analysis available in our annual Global Report on Internal Displacement including new figures from the first half of 2016 for people displaced by conflict, violence and rapid-onset disasters. (More information on [page 1](#).)

[Ukraine: Translating IDPs' protection into legislative action](#)



More than 1.6 million people are registered as IDPs in Ukraine. Most have been forced to flee their homes over the past two years as a result of the political chaos sparked by anti-government protests in 2014, Russia's annexation of Crimea, the self-proclamation of the "people's republics" of Donetsk and Luhansk and intense armed conflict in the east of the country.

This paper provides an overview of issues that have emerged during Ukraine's development of a normative response to internal displacement, and the challenges inherent in implementing the regulatory framework that was established at the onset of the crisis.

[Internal Displacement Updates](#)

IDMC recently launched a new update service on internal displacement. The service is part of ongoing plans to increase the regularity of information provided by IDMC on internal displacement worldwide.

The updates published so far are available [here](#)

Blog Posts

The IDMC blog is a space to engage in the debate around IDP issues. In the last quarter we published the following blog posts:

| [New policy on durable solutions in Sri Lanka: the challenge of implementation](#)

In August 2016, Sri Lanka approved a “National Policy on Durable Solutions for Conflict-affected Displacement”. Guest bloggers Laurie Wiseberg and Mirak Raheem discussed the new policy and its implementation.

| [What does development-caused displacement look like in Africa?](#)

While internal displacement caused by conflict and disasters in Africa has been reported fairly constantly in the international media, development-caused internal displacement in the continent has yet to gain such prominence. Guest blogger Dr Romola Adeola explored the prevalence of this root cause of internal displacement in Africa and why it has largely gone unnoticed in discussions on humanitarian protection by regional and international agencies.

| [Making the invisible visible – and empowered](#)

To mark International Migrants Day on 18 December, Cecilia Jimenez-Damary, the new Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), talked about her new role and highlighted the need for a synchronised approach towards migrants, refugees and IDPs in order to assure effective and relevant policies as well as appropriate levels and allocation of funding.

COMMUNICATIONS

This quarter IDMC achieved coverage in 288 media outlets, including CNN, Newsweek, Quartz, Reuters, The Daily Mail, The Huffington Post, and The New York Times.

IDMC opinion pieces, statements and press releases

| [Displacement during the Trump era: four priorities for policy-makers](#) - opinion piece by IDMC Director Alexandra Bilak published by Reuters.

| [The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre congratulates Cecilia Jimenez Damary on her appointment as the new Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons](#) (statement).

| The launch of the **Africa Report on Internal Displacement** on 9 December was covered by 115 international and African outlets (total reach: 393,535 people, total publicity value of €195,081.30). Additionally, the opinion piece written by the report's author was posted on the [Reuters' Foundation website](#).

Africa Report's key media coverage

- | Quartz
[More people are being displaced from their homes by environmental change in Africa than we thought.](#)
- | Reuters/The New York Times
[African governments urged to help 3.5 million people uprooted from their homes in 2015](#)
- | Voice of America
[African governments urged to help 3.5 million people uprooted from their homes in 2015](#)

Website traffic (1 October – 31 December)

Visits: 70,390
Page views: 150,036

Social media

Facebook

IDMC's Facebook community grew by six per cent during the quarter, attracting more than 500 new fans. The page had 8,552 likes by the end of December 2016.

Twitter

IDMC's Twitter account had almost 5,400 followers by the end of December. Overall tweets during this 90-day period garnered 580 retweets, 21 replies and 197.5K page impressions. Influential followers who engaged with us on Twitter include Africa Center, Devex, Europa Press, Humanitarian Dispatches, JIPs, Oxfam, Reuters and USAID.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



www.facebook.com/InternalDisplacement



www.twitter.com/IDMC_Geneva

Finance update

IDMC's financial situation as of 31 December 2016

Funds contracted:* 3,127,624.00
 Expenditure: 2,997,322.56
 Actual expenditure against received funds: 96%

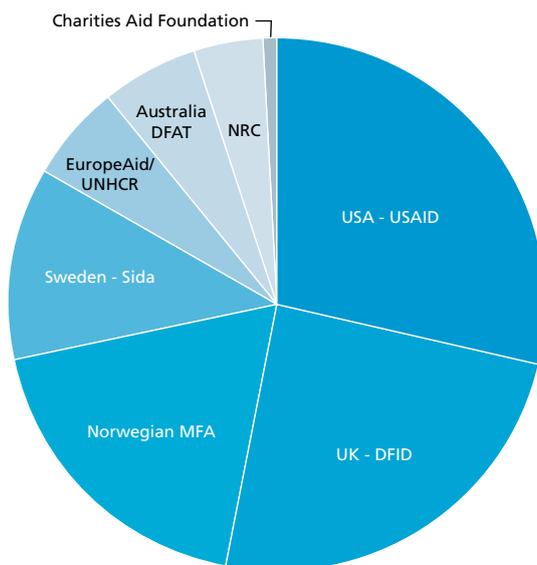
Thanks to our donors!

We would like to thank our donors for their support in 2016:

EuropeAid/UNHCR, Norway's MFA, Sweden's Sida, DFID, USAID, Australia's DFAT and CAF.

Funds received as of 31 December 2016

* The final exchange rates to USD (here as reporting currency) from received contributions are yet to be concluded.



IDMC MISSION

To lead on the provision of information and analysis on internal displacement and to inform policy and operational decisions that improve the lives of IDPs

Strategic Objective 1

To provide comprehensive data and information on internal displacement worldwide

Outcome 1

Selected methodological and conceptual gaps that underpin current limitations of humanitarian and development approaches to displacement are addressed

Outcome 2

Data and information on the scope, scale and patterns of displacement and the location and protection of IDPs worldwide is available online and accessible to our partners and to the broader public

Strategic Objective 2

To inform and influence policy and operational decision-making on internal displacement

Outcome 3

Internal displacement is positioned as a cross-cutting issue in key global and regional policy processes and debates

INNOVATIVE ACCURATE AUTHORITATIVE
 FLEXIBLE IMPARTIAL INDEPENDENT
 INNOVATIVE THE COLLABORATIVE
 ACCURATE POWER
 RELIABLE OF FLEXIBLE
 IMPARTIAL ACCURATE INFORMATION
 INDEPENDENT INNOVATIVE IMPARTIAL RELIABLE
 AUTHORITATIVE FLEXIBLE COLLABORATIVE
 RELIABLE ACCURATE