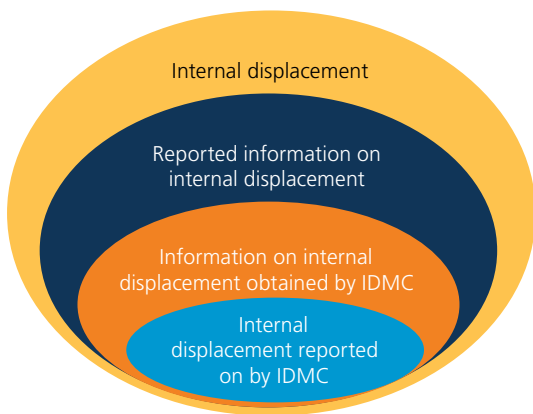


This Quarterly Update covers the activities of the Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) between 1 January and 31 March 2017. It is also available online here: www.internal-displacement.org

Detecting displacement data gaps through analysis of 'Big Data': IDMC's IDETECT challenge leads the way

In 2015 alone, we monitored conflict-induced displacement in 52 countries and obtained data on approximately 700 new incidents of disaster-related displacement in 127 countries. Despite our best efforts, however, we still do not cover all situations of displacement. At present, we are only able to cover what is inside the blue inner circle in the image below:



Even when displacement is reported, painting a comprehensive picture of the situation can be a serious challenge as the amount of information is often overwhelming. Moreover, the information may sometimes be tainted by significant reporting or media bias. Language barriers can be another impediment to determining the facts on the ground for we simply do not speak every language in the world.

On 31 January, as part of its drive to address these issues, IDMC and the UN launched [IDTECT](#), the “Internal Displacement Event Tagging Extraction and Clustering Tool” challenge, on the UN Unite Ideas crowdsourcing platform. This innovative tool is designed to analyse “big data” to detect disaster and conflict-related displacement reported in the news and on social media. After mining one or more huge datasets of news, such as [the GDELT Project](#), the [European Media Monitor](#) and social media platforms, IDMC will use Natural Language Processing to filter and extract displacement-related data for subsequent human validation and supervised machine learning. By using techniques that have already proven effective in addressing similar challenges, such as disease detection and surveillance, the picture of internal displacement can come into clearer focus.

IDTECT not only represents a way to explore how innovative technologies can enhance and improve data collection but also a significant shift in the way we approach projects. The Unite Ideas platform has brought together data scientists and innovators from around the world in a crowdsourcing approach that will allow us to evaluate and compare several potential solutions rather than just one or two. In addition, the open source code will be accessible to everyone as a public good.

IDTECT is part of a broader innovation effort we want to engage in. IDMC has already adopted a series of innovative tools and technologies to estimate future displacement risks, monitor displacement in near real-time and fill current data and monitoring gaps. In the coming years, IDMC will work with partners and use a range of techniques to detect displacement and estimate patterns from proxy indicators when no direct observational data is available. For example, by analysing satellite imagery, IDMC will estimate the scale of displacement based on the number of homes destroyed or the extent of land inundated by the construction of a dam. In other cases, IDMC may detect the scale, scope, patterns and duration of displacement based on analysis of anonymous mobile phone or (inter)national financial transaction data.

The challenge ended on 28 April and the winner will be announced mid-June.

ACTIVITIES

January

In 2016, IDMC began working on a new and improved version of its disaster-related displacement risk model. The new model is based on an analysis of hundreds of thousands of reported disaster events since the 1970s across 70 countries and territories, complemented with simulated displacement projections for approximately 190 countries concerning rarely occurring major hazards that must be accounted for but for which there is little or no existing empirical data. By combining these two approaches, IDMC can generate a number of metrics that paint a portrait – or “displacement risk profile” – for individual countries, country groupings by region or income level, and for the entire world.

On 24 January, IDMC presented the new version of its disaster displacement risk model during a workshop co-facilitated by Carlos Velasquez, IDMC’s consultant modeller on this project, Justin Ginnetti, head of IDMC data and analysis and Leonardo Milano, IDMC’s senior data scientist. Participants included experts from partner agencies such as: UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, International Organization for Migration, World Bank/GFDRR, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Platform on Disaster Displacement, ACAPS, and UNHCR. The participants posed questions on the methodology utilised, the reliability of the risk model and the strength of correlations presented, among others. The presentation concluded with an acceptance of the methodology by participants, on the basis of which a full analysis is currently being undertaken.

February

IDMC Director Alexandra Bilak was invited to address the [2017 Camden Conference on “Refugees and Global Migration: Humanity’s Crisis”](#) held from 17 to 19 February. As part of a panel of experts chosen for their first-hand knowledge on migrant and refugee issues, the IDMC Director gave a presentation entitled “[At the heart of the problem: global scale and patterns of internal displacement](#)”. The panellists explored the varied causes of the current international refugee and migrant crisis and the unique challenges that come with accepting immigrants from particular countries, regions, and demographic groups. They also examined were the political, economic and social consequences of population flight for the countries left behind in the Middle East, Africa and Central America. Looking beyond the present crisis, conference speakers examined the factors that will likely drive migration in the coming decades — from dramatic demographic shifts to climate change, disasters and ethnic, territorial and political conflicts.

From 20 to 22 February, IDMC was in Manila to participate in the [IAIA Special Symposium on Resettlement and Livelihoods](#). The symposium gathered over 300 participants and featured over 53 presentations on displacement, resettlement and livelihood issues caused by development projects. IDMC’s senior strategic advisor on development, Nadine Walicki, gave a presentation entitled “A global picture of development displacement”. Several practitioners responded to her call for input, data and advice on IDMC plans to compile a global estimate of the number of people internally displaced by development projects, their patterns of movement and impacts, agreeing to share such data for inclusion in the IDMC database.

The full programme of the symposium is available here: <http://conferences.iaia.org/manila-2017/pdf/ManilaFinalProgram.pdf>



Leonardo Milano, IDMC’s senior data scientist, presenting the probabilistic disaster displacement risk model. Photo: IDMC/Rachel Natali



IDMC's Director Alexandra Bilak presents activities and research priorities for the next four years. Photo: IDMC/Rachel Natali, March 2017

March

On 23 March, IDMC hosted a partner consultation in Geneva to outline activities and research priorities aimed at expanding the scale and scope of our global data, research and analysis on internal displacement over the next four years and gather feedback from partners and donors. Presentations by IDMC staff members from different departments were followed by a dynamic Q&A session during which partners discussed more in depth different aspects of IDMC's strategy and expressed interest in further strengthening collaboration on current and future projects.

Dawn Vout, IDMC's business development manager, explained that IDMC is in the process of diversifying its funding base to ensure that we can continue our core work and be less affected by economic shocks, changes in governments and policy shifts.

Following the partner consultation, IDMC finalised its Appeal 2017-2020 which is available here: <http://www.internal-displacement.org/publications/2017/appeal-2017-2020>

From 29 to 31 March IDMC's senior strategic advisor on development, Nadine Walicki, was in Santa Fe at the annual meeting of the [International Network on Displacement and Resettlement](#), a network of professionals working on all aspects of displacement and resettlement caused by development around the world. Similar to its participation at the IAIA symposium in Manila, IDMC gave a presentation entitled "Mapping internal displacement: towards a global picture of the scale and impacts of development-

caused displacement". IDMC also sought feedback, advice and support on its plans to compile a global picture of the number of people displaced by development projects, their patterns of movement and the impacts they face following displacement.

The meeting brought together key experts such as Michael Cernea and Ted Downing and presentations included case studies on displacement and resettlement, exploration of conceptual issues, law and policy developments, and methodology issues. Following IDMC's presentation, the Inter-American Development Bank expressed interest in supporting IDMC's request for data. Experts also provided valuable advice on IDMC's plans for its work on displacement caused by development, including to take a pragmatic approach by first compiling the data that is most readily available, for example on displacement caused by dam project construction.

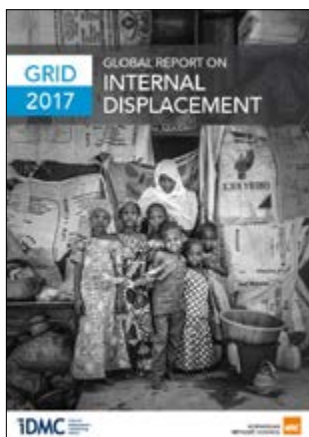
The full programme of the meeting is available here: <http://indr.org/>.

From 30 to 31 March IDMC attended the first All Members Meeting of the [Global Alliance for Urban Crises](#) in Brussels. The Alliance was conceived from an initiative that emerged from consultations for the World Humanitarian Summit during which a number of committed organisations led an urban expert group and developed a series of "Urban Recommendations". The Alliance is the vehicle through which these recommendations will be implemented, via a "network of networks" working to prevent, prepare for and effectively respond to humanitarian crises in urban settings.

IDMC is a member of the Alliance and will contribute to one of the four priority areas set out in the draft Alliance strategy: “To foster the strengthening of the evidence base on appropriate approaches to managing protracted displacement in urban areas”. IDMC will work with the Alliance to jointly invest in applying urban classifications of geo-referenced displacement data to existing global displacement data sets and reporting.

Preparations for Global Report on Internal Displacement 2017

Intensive work has been underway since the beginning of 2017 to develop the new Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID 2017) set to be launched in May in New York. The decision to launch this year’s report in the US has been made largely in response to last year’s exclusion of the issue of internally displaced people (IDPs) from the agenda of the UN Summit on refugees and migrants. In making this decision we hope to mobilise wider interest and support for internally displaced people to pave the way for better policy and action on internal displacement in 2017 and 2018.



Part I of the report, “*On the GRID*”, presents the latest figures and trends on the scope, scale and patterns of internal displacement worldwide. In complement to statistics on new conflict and disaster-related displacements during the year, the section will shine a spotlight on countries of particular concern in 2016. This part of the report will also explore how conflict, violence and disasters overlap as drivers and consequences of internal displacement.

Part II of the report, “*Off the GRID*”, responds to the 2016 policy events and discourse on large movements of migrants and refugees by drawing attention to the relationship between internal and cross-border displacement in the context of conflict and disasters. This section will explore assumptions and examine the evidence considering the extent and scale of internal to cross-border displacement, the circumstances under which this occurs and whether returning refugees, cross-border displaced people and migrants are at risk of continuing to be displaced or displaced anew internally.

Part III of the report, “*Inside the GRID*” presents some of the methodological and conceptual challenges faced in trying to paint as complete a global picture as possible, and what they mean for policy. A full description of IDMC’s accounting will be included in a methodological annex.

The report will be available online from 22 May at: www.internal-displacement.org

IDMC PUBLICATIONS

During this quarter IDMC published the following products:

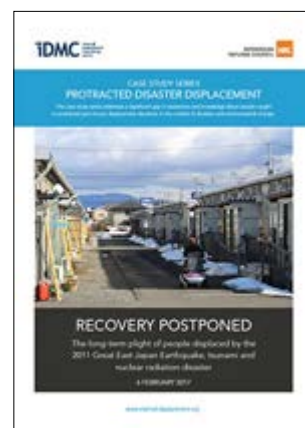
Examen du cadre normatif et institutionnel malien (in French)

Even though Mali ratified the Kampala Convention in November 2012, the country has still not formulated the legislation required to bring its national framework in line with the Convention. This publication was produced by IDMC in partnership with the EU (ECHO), the Global Protection Cluster, UNHCR and the office of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons. The document reviews Mali’s existing normative framework on the protection of IDP rights to verify its compliance with international legal standards and to highlight potential gaps or obstacles to ensuring that these rights are fully respected under the law of the land.



Recovery postponed: The long-term plight of people displaced by the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, tsunami and nuclear radiation disaster

2016 marked the halfway point in the ten-year timeframe for reconstruction set by the Japanese government following the devastating “Great East Japan Earthquake” disaster that struck on 11 March 2011. Recovery continues for approximately 134,000 evacuees who remain displaced six years later. This case highlights the importance of addressing the profound social and psychological consequences of displacement in order to reduce the impacts associated with prolonged and protracted displacement particularly for vulnerable older people.



This is the first in a series of case studies addressing a significant gap in awareness and knowledge about people caught in protracted and chronic displacement situations in the context of disasters and environmental change. This evidence is needed to inform policy commitments to “leave no-one behind” and “reach the farthest behind first” through sustainable development, disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and the protection of human rights.

A summary of the case study is available [here](#).

Positioned for action: Displacement in the Sendai Framework for disaster risk reduction

Displacement is both a major consequence and a driver of disaster risk. Between 2008 and 2015 disasters brought on by rapid-onset natural hazard events displaced 25.4 million people on average each year, equivalent to one person every second.



This briefing paper provides policy-makers, agencies, civil society and other stakeholders with a summary of how displacement is positioned in the [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 \(SFDRR\)](#) as a critical issue for reducing disaster risk. It provides analysis of the global indicator framework and updated DRR terminology endorsed by the General Assembly as key tools for measuring global progress. It also aims to clarify the terms “displaced”, “evacuated” and “relocated” in relation to the SFDRR’s priorities for action, targets and indicators, as governments have signaled is needed. Finally, it looks forward to the [Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction](#) in Mexico in May 2017 as a first opportunity for the international community to review progress since the SFDRR’s adoption.

Internal Displacement Updates

In 2016 IDMC 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: www.internal-displacement.org/internal-displacement-updates/

Blog posts

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

- | [A New Year resolution: making 2017 a year for IDPs](#)
Despite the obvious link between internal displacement and refugee flows, policymakers tend to focus mainly on refugees, while IDPs remain largely neglected. Guest blogger Ledio Cakaj shared his first-hand experience on why it is crucial to position IDPs high up on the global policy agenda.
- | [#IDETEECT: how technology and collaboration between innovators can help ensure “no one is left behind”](#)
As part of its innovation efforts, IDMC launched #IDETEECT, the ‘Internal Displacement Event Tagging Extraction and Clustering Tool’ challenge on the UN Unite Ideas platform (see also feature article).
- | [Painting a clearer picture with ‘flawed’ and ‘messy’ data](#)
IDMC’s head of data and analysis, Justin Ginnetti, explained why compiling global figures on internal displacement, refugee statistics or international migration is extremely complex and which concrete steps can be taken to improve the quality and interoperability of data and ensure it is used more responsibly by policymakers, the media and others.

NEW HEAD OF POLICY AND RESEARCH DEPARTMENT AT IDMC

In March, [Bina Desai](#) joined IDMC as the new head of the policy and research department.

Bina’s strong background focuses on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, international agricultural development, development economics and social theory of knowledge.

Before joining IDMC, Bina worked for the German Ministry for Development, the Aga Khan Development Network, Christian Aid and UNISDR. Since 2010, she has served as UNISDR’s policy and research coordinator and has co-authored and led the production of the Global Assessment Reports (GARs) since 2011.

In her new role, she is responsible for heading IDMC’s team of senior advisors and researchers, working closely with the data & analysis and communications teams, as well as the NRC family on displacement-related policy and evidence building.

The full list of our staff can be found [here](#).

COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA COVERAGE

Tackling Internal Displacement through the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Conflicts, disasters and uneven development force millions of the world’s most vulnerable people from their homes every year. If the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development seeks to leave no one behind, how can it help to solve the complex problem of internal displacement?

Article written by Nadine Walicki, IDMC’s senior strategic advisor on development.

This quarter IDMC achieved coverage in 134 media outlets, including CNN, France 24, Irin News, Medium, ReliefWeb, Reuters, The New York Times, The Wire (India) and Vice News.

Media coverage highlights:

- | CNN International
[Nigeria’s fight against Boko Haram is going to be long and messy](#)
- | Gulf News
[Joseph Kony no longer a threat](#)
- | Irin News
[Climate change and mass migration: a growing threat to global security](#)

- | Reuters
[Indian families uprooted by dam win compensation after decades-long battle](#)
- | New York Times online
[Hunt for Joseph Kony, No Longer Seen as a Threat, May Shrink](#)
- | Vice News
[20 million people on brink of famine as Trump prepares major cuts to U.N. aid](#)

FINANCE UPDATE

Financial Situation as of 31 March 2017

Funds received: 883,388.33
 Expenditure: 858,388.33
 Actual expenditure against received funds: 97%

Website traffic (1 January – 31 March)

Visits: 63,503
 Page views: 131,208

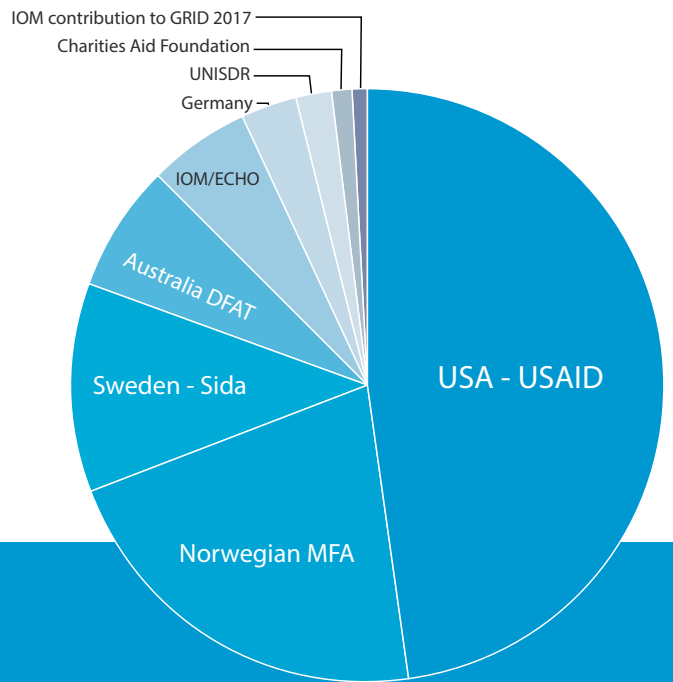
Social media

IDMC's Facebook page had 8,900 likes by the end of March 2017. The community continues to grow, with 350 new followers who joined us in the last quarter.

IDMC's Twitter account had 5,770 followers by the end of March. Overall tweets during this 90-day period garnered 499 retweets and 173.8K page impressions. Influential followers who engaged with us on Twitter include ACAPs, JIPs, Medair, Place, SciDev.net, The Pulse, Thomson Reuters Foundation and UNICEF.

Thanks to our donors!

We would like to thank our donors for their support in 2017: Australia DFAT, CAF, Germany, IOM/ECHO, IOM, NMFA, SIDA, USAID, UNISDR



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