General overview

About IDMC

The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) was established in 1998 as part of the Norwegian Refugee Council and is the world's definitive source of data and analysis on internal displacement. Our work informs policy and operational decisions that aim to improve the lives of the millions of people displaced within their own countries due to conflict, violence, and disasters, or at risk of becoming displaced in the future.

Background

This dataset compiles data collected across Cameroon, Niger, Mali, and Kenya using an original survey tool to assess the socioeconomic impact of internal displacement on both internally displaced people (IDPs) and non-displaced communities. To ensure comparability, the focus is on IDPs displaced by the same trigger within a specified time frame. The survey targeted the individual within each household with the most knowledge about household expenditure, expanding the data's representativeness beyond the sample size of respondents. Data collection took place in January and February 2023, aiming to inform ongoing or future humanitarian initiatives. It serves as a valuable resource for identifying effective interventions, addressing gaps, monitoring progress, and evaluating intervention impact. Similar assessments have been conducted in 10 countries using the same methodology, including Ethiopia, Nigeria, Somalia, Colombia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu.

Disclaimer

The findings that can be extrapolated from this dataset are not nationally representative of the national contexts wherein they were conducted but can be considered representative of the situation of people displaced by conflict and violence, or natural disasters, living in those sites.

Definitions used in the dataset

Internally displaced persons/ IDPs:

Persons or groups of persons who have been forced IDPs or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of 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, UN Doc E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2.).

For accounting purposes, we focus on the three key elements of this definition when determining whom to include in our figures:

1. The forced nature of the displacement
2. Displacement from the habitual residence (or the displacement trigger preventing the people or group concerned from accessing or remaining in said place)
3. The fact that those displaced remain within their country of origin or habitual residence.

Displacement type placeholder – i.e., Triggers of displacement
Conflict, violence, or insecurity

Refers to situations where people are forced to leave their homes or places of habitual residence as a result or to avoid the impact of armed conflict, communal violence, and criminal violence.

Armed conflict is understood here as an armed confrontation between the armed forces of states (international armed conflict) or between governmental authorities and organized armed groups or between such groups within a state (non-international armed conflict) ([ICRC](#)).

Communal violence is understood here as violence perpetrated across ethnic, religious, or communal lines that has not met the threshold of a non-international armed conflict. Communal, in particular inter-communal violence can overlap to a significant extent with political violence with one type of violence triggering the other (UNODC).

*In this dataset, a distinct displacement category was employed for Mali, namely, "Insecurity or intercommunal violence." The precise definition of this category aligns with the provided descriptions of communal violence.

Disasters

Refers to situations where people are forced to leave their homes or places of habitual residence as a result or to avoid the impact of hydro-meteorological, geophysical, or climatological natural hazards.

A disaster is understood here as a serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society involving widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses and impacts, which exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources (UNSDR).

*In this dataset, we examine two distinct types of disasters as displacement triggers: "Floods" in the Niger case study and "Drought" in the Kenya case study.

Type – i.e., Displacement status

IDP (Internally displaced people)

In this dataset, "IDPs" are further defined as individuals who are members of the population displaced from their region due to circumstances beyond their control, specifically by the displacement trigger under examination in the respective case study. Additionally, these interviewees must have experienced displacement within the timeframe under evaluation, and it's important to note that the sample excludes individuals who were displaced from outside the country.

HOST

Within this dataset, "HOST" refers to individuals confirmed as unaffected by the displacement trigger under examination. They have resided in the assessed area for at least four years, without experiencing involuntary relocations or uncontrollable moves. This category encompasses both those hosting IDPs in their residences and those who are not. To differentiate between these subgroups, the labels "HOSTS," "HOSTING," and "NOT-HOSTING" are applied.

Level of disability

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) recognizes that 'disability is an evolving concept' ([UNCRPD, 2006, p. 1](#)), and defines persons with disabilities as those who have 'long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others' ([UNCRPD, 2006, p. 4](#)).

The Washington Group (WG) questions, developed by the [Washington Group on Disability Statistics](#), represent a paradigm shift in understanding disability. Unlike the medical model that focuses on bodily impairments, these questions emphasize functioning in essential, universal activities. They are designed to yield comparable data across diverse cultures and economic contexts.

By combining data from the WG [Short Set on Functioning](WG-SS) with other census inquiries, such as education and employment access, we can analyse survey results based on respondents' disability status and household-level disability. This comparison between individuals and households with disabilities and those without underscores significant disparities tied to disabilities, impacting various aspects of the survey. It sheds light on differences in access, encountered challenges, and overall experiences, offering valuable insights into specific needs, barriers, and potential intervention areas. This approach contributes to a more inclusive and equitable understanding of the surveyed population's experiences and challenges. This disability approach aligns with the [UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#).

The questionnaire assesses difficulties in six functional domains: seeing, hearing, walking, cognition, self-care, and communication. Each question offers four response categories: (1) No, no difficulty, (2) Yes, some difficulty, (3) Yes, a lot of difficulty, and (4) Cannot do it at all. These responses establish a continuum from mild to severe functioning. In this dataset, individuals indicating "3) Yes, a lot of difficulty" or "4) Cannot do it at all" for any task within any domain were classified as having a disability. Respondents were asked if they or any household member faced challenges in these functional domains. Those who responded with "a lot of difficulty" or "cannot do it at all" to at least one question was categorized as having a disability, facilitating data disaggregation and international comparisons. This method provides the percentage of displaced respondents self-identifying as disabled and the percentage of households with at least one member having a disability.

Dimensions

This dataset presents the responses of survey participants across five key assessment dimensions: livelihoods, housing, health, education, and security. The specific questions corresponding to each dimension are outlined in the 'Questionnaire' sheet of the dataset. To provide a concise overview, here is a summary of the pertinent information within each of these dimensions:

Livelihood:

The livelihood dimension within this dataset encompasses various facets of individuals' economic well-being before and since displacement. It assesses income levels and sources, highlighting any changes following displacement. Moreover, it investigates the extent of work disruptions attributable to displacement, including instances of unemployment, the duration of such unemployment periods, and shifts in income-generating activities. Financial support from sources like family, friends, government, or institutions is evaluated both prior to and after displacement. Additionally, this dimension examines the accessibility of employment opportunities for both IDPs and non-displaced community members, with a particular emphasis on gender-related disparities. Furthermore, it assesses the capacity of both IDPs and the non-displaced community to fulfil their fundamental needs and aspirations.

Housing:

The housing dimension within this dataset analyses several crucial aspects related to individuals' living situations in the context of displacement. It examines changes in housing conditions, encompassing factors such as homeownership, tenant status, or living arrangements with non-displaced individuals before and after displacement events. Additionally, it delves into property values, estimating them for both former and current residences. This dimension assesses the financial burden of hosting IDPs and evaluates the satisfaction levels concerning housing conditions before and after displacement. Moreover, it provides a comprehensive understanding of the types and quality of housing accessible to IDPs, comparing these aspects to those available to the non-displaced community. Lastly, it sheds light on housing costs for IDPs compared to their non-displaced counterparts.

Security:

The security dimension within this dataset focuses on critical aspects of safety in the context of displacement. It begins by examining individuals' perceptions of safety both before and after experiencing displacement events, providing insight into their evolving sense of security. Additionally, this dimension assesses how the arrival of IDPs impacts the overall security landscape, investigating perceived changes in security conditions within the affected area. Moreover, it identifies the primary security concerns in the non-displaced area, offering a comparative analysis in relation to security concerns in other regions.

Education:

The education dimension within this dataset provides a comprehensive examination of the impact of displacement on the educational experiences of children. The questionnaire includes questions related to housing and children's education. Respondents provide information about the number and gender of their children. The education section begins by referencing "boy" or "girl" based on the respondent's child's gender. If the household has both girls and boys, the questions are asked for both genders, with the respondent answering on behalf of the child who most recently celebrated their birthday. It begins by assessing access to education for children both before and after displacement, shedding light on any changes in their educational opportunities. Moreover, it investigates the barriers children face in accessing education, both prior to and after displacement events. This dimension also delves into the financial aspects, including education-related costs before and after displacement, offering insights into the economic implications of displacement on education. Furthermore, it considers the disruption of schooling due to displacement, including the duration of such interruptions, and measures satisfaction levels with children's education before and after displacement. A comparative analysis is conducted, contrasting the access and quality of education for internally displaced children with those in the non-displaced community. Additionally, it explores the formal and informal education costs for both internally displaced children and children in the non-displaced community. Finally, the dimension evaluates the existence of educational support programs specifically designed for internally displaced children.

Information sources

This data was collected on behalf of IDMC by and external provider, Ipsos Group S.A. Ipsos is a multinational market research company.

Geographical coverage

This dataset provides data from the following locations:

- Farn North Region of Cameroon
  - Bogo camp and surrounding areas, including:
    - Bongorowè
    - Silatarè
    - Marouare
    - Arjani
    - Ouro Djouklè
    - Ouro Maddjeré
  - Louggol camp and surrounding areas, including:
    - Louggueo
    - Kongoré
    - Kakataré
    - Laïnde

- Garissa County, Kenya
  - Balambala sub-county
  - Lagdera sub-county
- Bamako, Mali
  - Centre Mabilé
  - Faladiè
  - Senou
  - Niamana
  - Cité des enfants
  - Garantiguibougou
  - Missira
- Diffa, Niger
  - Diffa Koura and Zaria
  - Kangar dangou
  - Festival onaha
  - Chétimari Gremah Artori