



Quarterly Update

July - September 2011

This Quarterly Update covers the activities of the Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) between 1 July and 30 September 2011. It is also available to be read online or downloaded at www.internal-displacement.org.

IDMC, established by the Norwegian Refugee Council, is the leading non-governmental body monitoring internal displacement worldwide.

IDPs high on the agenda

Council of Europe Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population

At the request of the Council of Europe's Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, IDMC prepared a briefing note highlighting the main displacement-related challenges continuing to face IDPs in the North Caucasus. IDMC presented the main messages in this briefing note at a hearing on internal displacement in the Russian Federation, during a meeting of the Committee in Paris in September. The aim was to inform the visit of a Committee delegation to the Russian Federation. Following the delegation's visit, IDMC was invited to contribute to the drafting of the Rapporteur's report, which should be published in 2012.



Returned IDPs in their newly built home. After years of living in harsh conditions in a temporary settlement, this family was looking forward to living in a new home on their previous land built with assistance from the Danish Refugee Council. (IDMC, September 2011)

Disaster-induced displacement

In July, NRC/IDMC co-organised and presented at the UN's Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) 2011 Humanitarian Affairs Segment Side Event on Protection and Displacement in Natural Disaster Situations, together with UN OCHA and USAID/OFDA. The panel included NRC's Secretary General as well as the Director of the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance at USAID and OCHA's Chief of Policy Development and Studies Branch. The findings of IDMC's global research on displacement caused by sudden-onset disasters were presented, together with advocacy messages on the right of displaced populations to be protected. Around 90 people attended from UN member states and humanitarian and development NGOs.

IDP profiling in Burundi

Since July, the Joint Inter-Agency Profiling Service (JIPS) and IDMC have been supporting an IDP profiling activity in Burundi at the request of the Ministry of Solidarity, Human Rights and Gender. Led by Burundi's Thematic Working Group on Durable Solutions for IDPs, the exercise involves the collection of the quantitative and qualitative data needed to inform the development of a national strategy for durable solutions for IDPs. The project aims to collect demographic information on IDPs by site, including the number of households, and individuals disaggregated by sex and age. Socio-economic information on people living on the sites will also be collected, including information related to land issues and their settlement intentions. The viability of the sites themselves will be assessed, including the land situation, access to basic services and relationship between IDPs and host communities.

For more information on the methods employed in the project, see www.idp-profiling.org/idp-profiling-for-durable-solutions-in-bujumbura-burundi.html

Policy guidance

Promoting durable solutions

In September, IDMC made two presentations on durable solutions at the weekly Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) meeting in Geneva. Participants included OCHA, UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF, WHO, MSF, IOM, FAO and the Global Protection Cluster. The first presentation focused on the 2010 IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced People, while the second focused on the main conclusions from the seminar on protracted internal displacement which IDMC organised in early 2011 with UNHCR, UNDP and the Brookings-LSE Project on Internal Displacement. (For more on the seminar, see www.internal-displacement.org/thematics/durable-solutions/2nd-expert-seminar-on-protracted-internal-displacement)

A short segment of the documentary "Lives in Transit" about IDPs living in protracted displacement in a collective centre in Georgia was also shown. The presentations raised awareness of the Framework and its contents and highlighted the situation and the obstacles to the local integration of IDPs in protracted displacement. Participants agreed on the need to further disseminate the Framework to country offices and to overcome institutional barriers to IDPs' achievement of durable solutions. After the meeting, IDMC was approached to provide a short training session to IASC members on durable solutions.

Forced evictions

In September, IDMC took part in a conference on forced evictions in Nairobi, which was organised by UN HABITAT and gathered some 40 NGOs or coalitions of NGOs working on housing rights and forced evictions. The participants adopted a set of recommendations to UN HABITAT's Executive Director, encouraging the organisation to engage with governments and other national agencies in preventing and monitoring forced evictions and in promoting alternatives in line with international human rights standards.

At the initiative of IDMC, the participants recommended that UN HABITAT "engages with the humanitarian community and provides technical advice and expertise, notably through its chairmanship of the HLP group in Geneva" so that issues related to housing and forced evictions are brought to the group.

Internally displaced children

In September, IDMC published the case study on education and displacement in Georgia entitled *Moving towards integration, overcoming segregated education for IDPs*. The goal of the study was to inform policy makers, including governments of countries facing internal displacement and international actors supporting them, of good practices for education in internal displacement situations and the appropriateness of segregated education. It found that segregation could be appropriate in emergency situations, but was inadequate in the longer term. To download the report, see www.internal-displacement.org/publications/moving-towards-integration.



IDMC presented its *Learning in Displacement* series, including the Georgia case study, at a conference in Oxford of the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE). The series, which also includes a briefing paper on relevant human rights standards and two case studies on issues of education for internally displaced children in Turkey and Uganda, was very well received.

At the conference, IDMC also spoke on a panel on the role of education in peace building. IDMC presented challenges to education that arise in the context of internal displacement, and informed a more academic presentation and a situation update from UNICEF in the Horn of Africa. www.internal-displacement.org/children

Property rights in natural disasters

Property rights and procedural issues have posed significant challenges to providing shelter solutions for people displaced by natural disasters whose homes have been damaged or destroyed. IDMC contributed expertise on housing, land and property rights to a meeting of the International Federation of the Red Cross / Red Crescent (IFRC/RC) Expert Group on regulatory barriers to meeting post-disaster shelter and settlement needs. This provided material for discussions of the representatives of the 194 States party to the Geneva Conventions at the November International Conference of

the Red Cross and Red Crescent. Meanwhile, property rights have also been identified by the Global Protection Cluster's Taskforce on Natural Disasters as an important area of work to engage in.

In July and September, in partnership with OHCHR, IDMC contributed to the drafting and provided comments to the report of the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing. The report focuses on the realisation of the right to adequate housing in post-disaster situations and underlines that the current focus of humanitarian actors on individual ownership in restitution and reconstruction programmes tends to exclude many disaster-affected people from assistance, as other forms of tenure security such as rental contracts or informal housing rights are not recognised or addressed by such programmes.

IFRC's report on implementing its policy on internal displacement incorporated IDMC's findings on disaster-induced displacement in 2009 and 2010

In addition, IDMC provided input to the draft internal report of the IFRC/RC on the implementation of its Policy on Internal Displacement, to be presented to the Federation's Council of Delegates in November. This incorporated the latest IDMC findings on disaster-induced displacement in 2009 and 2010.

Website and media

Website statistics July-September 2011

- Over 147,000 visits
- Almost 83,000 unique visitors
- Over 138,000 downloads of documents

Most visited pages

During the period from July to September, website traffic analysis shows these country pages as the most visited, in order:

- Colombia
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Sudan
- Pakistan
- Kenya
- Ethiopia
- Sri Lanka
- India
- Myanmar

News alerts

Seven news alerts including 33 stories were published between July and September, covering 200 countries. The alerts were delivered to all of the website subscribers.

Monitoring and advocacy

Country profile updates

The profiles of five countries were updated during the quarter:

- The Occupied Palestinian Territories** 5 July 2011
- Myanmar 19 July 2011
- Burundi ** 18 August 2011
- Colombia** 5 September 2011
- Democratic Republic of the Congo** 14 September 2011

** Translation available

All these and earlier updates are available on the IDP database at www.internal-displacement.org

AFRICA

Burundi

In August IDMC published an update of its profile on internal displacement in Burundi, with an overview in English and French. The update highlighted the situation of up to 100,000 IDPs in settlements in the north and centre of Burundi. The profile detailed how, in addition to the many difficulties shared by the rest of the population, IDPs lack security of tenure in the settlements they live in, and many are far from the land on which they depend for survival. It also focused on the latest government measures to foster durable solutions for IDPs in the country, including the adoption of a national strategy to reintegrate the people affected by the conflict, and the establishment of a technical group comprised of national and international members to guide its implementation. www.internal-displacement.org/countries/burundi/overview



Internally displaced children at the Minago IDP site are taught to build houses from scratch. (IDMC, November 2011)

The same month, IDMC helped JIPS develop profiling questionnaires to identify the settlement preferences of IDPs in Burundi. IDMC had organised a meeting between Burundian government officials and JIPS in January, which then led to formal cooperation between the two parties.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

In September, IDMC published an update of its overview on internal displacement in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), in English and in French. The update highlighted that as national and international attention was focused on the presidential elections scheduled for the end of November 2011, the security situation in the eastern part of the country remained volatile. Army units were removed from zones which were already prone to insecurity, so they could be brought together for training before their redeployment, leaving inhabitants of those areas unprotected. Non-state armed groups in the Kivus were thus able to retake old positions and carry out renewed attacks against civilians, which

Non-state armed groups in the Kivus carried out renewed attacks against civilians, involving the killing and rape of IDPs

involved the killing and rape of IDPs. There were an estimated 1.7 million IDPs in DRC as of July 2011, the vast majority of them in the eastern provinces of North and South Kivu. This included over 128,000 people newly displaced in the first quarter of 2011. www.internal-displacement.org/countries/drcongo/overview

The overview was distributed among national networks in DRC through humanitarian google groups, and published on the humanitarian information portal at www.rdc-humanitaire.net. The information provided in the overview was also quoted by a September USAID report on Complex Emergencies in DRC (see reliefweb.int/node/449890).

Central African Republic

IDMC used the findings of the joint Watchlist and IDMC report, *An uncertain future? Children and armed conflict in the Central African Republic*, to inform the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict. The Special Representative highlighted the essential work carried out by non-governmental organisations, both at the global and national levels, in her report to the UN General Assembly in August. She also made specific reference to the impact of advocacy efforts for the situation of children affected by conflict in CAR, including closer partnership with the authorities, increased international attention and operational commitments by child protection partners on the ground. The report can be accessed at daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N11/443/70/PDF/N1144370.pdf?OpenElement

Somalia

In July, IDMC participated in a workshop in London on *Somali Transitions* organised by Chatham House. The meeting was attended by agencies working on Somalia and members of Somali civil society, as well as diplomats and representatives of the British government and the government of Puntland State of Somalia. IDMC was invited because of its expertise on internal displacement in Somalia.

THE AMERICAS

Colombia

In September, IDMC published an update in English and Spanish of the situation of internal displacement in Colombia. The update highlighted the significance of the impending property restitution programme, and warned that it will take time to implement and faces no shortage of difficulties. Meanwhile, IDPs continue to struggle to integrate in their predominantly urban places of displacement. Using the latest data available from extensive surveys in the country, the overview described the negligible progress of IDPs in accessing housing, a steady income, and emergency support, but their better progress in accessing education, health care and food security.

www.internal-displacement.org/countries/colombia/overview

IDPs in Colombia continue to struggle to integrate in their predominantly urban places of displacement

Mexico

In this quarter, IDMC signed a partner agreement with UNHCR Mexico for a research project on internal displacement in the country. The aim of the research is to document the patterns and scale of displacement as a result of drug-cartel violence in Mexico and to identify protection needs.

IDMC's monitoring in Mexico prompted a member of the National Congress to press the government to report on displacement caused by drug cartels. Media articles referred to IDMC's reports on displacement, including one by the national newspaper *Reforma*.

EUROPE

Russian Federation

IDMC visited the Russian Federation in September, at the same time as the Council of Europe's delegation of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population (see www.assembly.coe.int/ASP/NewsManager/EMB_NewsManagerView.asp?ID=6929). IDMC's objective was to inform the delegation's meetings and scope of inquiry, while collecting information from government agencies, local NGOs, international organisations and IDPs on their current situation. IDMC visited North Ossetia, Ingushetia and Chechnya and concluded that access to housing, land and employment are still the main obstacles to durable solutions for IDPs in the region. With UN agencies leaving the North Caucasus by the end of 2011, only a small number of organisations will continue to assist IDPs. With government programmes delayed, underfunded or otherwise insufficient, the most vulnerable IDPs are at risk of being left in protracted displacement.

Turkmenistan

In September, IDMC made a submission to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the situation of people in Turkmenistan who have been forcibly relocated and forcibly evicted (www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cescr/docs/ngos/IDMC

[Turkmenistan_CESCR47.pdf](#)). The main concerns raised were that the government has not adhered to prescribed and international standards on forced evictions, with the result that all of those who were forcibly relocated have lost access to their homes, property, livelihoods, and social networks, and may be considered internally displaced as a result.

IDMC invited the Committee to recommend that the government refrain from forced relocations and evictions, assess the needs of the people forcibly relocated and use all appropriate means to ensure they can enjoy their rights on a par with their non-relocated neighbours. The Committee will review Turkmenistan's compliance with the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in late 2011.

THE MIDDLE EAST

Israel / Occupied Palestinian Territories

IDMC co-sponsored Activestills' exhibition on displacement in Israel and Palestine which was held in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Hebron and in the Negev. A photographic book and a multimedia show were also developed (see www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hrlw-uQJG_s).

There are over 160,000 IDPs in Israel and Palestine and the exhibition highlighted the three phases they underwent; communities at risk of displacement, the initial stage of displacement, and the conditions once displaced. The exhibition raised the awareness of the Israeli public on the situation of displacement in their country and the territories which Israel occupies. These events were part of IDMC's continued advocacy in Israel and Palestine, and across the Middle East, to promote a better understanding of internal displacement.



Internally displaced children sleep on their couch in Sheikh Jarrah, East Jerusalem. (Activestills/Anne Paq, February 2010)

Training

Pilot training courses on the Framework for Durable Solutions

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Location | Uganda and Georgia |
| Dates | July and September, respectively |
| Participants | UNHCR members of the protection clusters, officers of the national human rights institutions, staff of other UN agencies such as UNDP, UNICEF and UN Women, as well as representatives of NGOs implementing durable solutions. In Georgia, officials from State ministries also attended. |

As part of the development of IDMC workshop modules on durable solutions, two field-testing workshops were implemented in Uganda and in Georgia. The workshops focused on the application of the principles and criteria for the achievement of durable solutions within the contexts of Uganda and of Georgia, and produced analytical conclusions and recommendations for the participating organisations, including how they should work together. Half-day sessions on housing, land and property (HLP) resulted in a better understanding of the importance of resolving HLP issues in enabling durable solutions and their links with IDPs' enjoyment of other rights. In Georgia, participants further explored property restitution issues.

The field testing of the modules laid the practical ground for the finalisation of IDMC's training modules on durable solutions, which are scheduled to be rolled out in 2012.

Training the Public Defender's Office of Georgia as trainers on IDP protection

| | |
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| Location | Georgia |
| Dates | September |
| Participants | 15 participants from: Ministry of IDPs, Accommodation and Refugees; Public Defender's Office / Ombudsman; UNHCR Georgia; NRC Georgia; Danish Refugee Council |

IDMC implemented a five-day training of trainers' workshop for the Public Defender's Office / Ombudsman, the national human rights institution of Georgia. The initiative, delivered in partnership with the Council of Europe, enabled the PDO to establish a pool of trainers on IDP protection. Participants reviewed the Guiding Principles as a basis of the work of their institutions, using IDMC's training modules on the protection of the rights of IDPs. In addition, the workshop provided theoretical and practical sessions on adult training methodology, particularly on the design, implementation and evaluation of training courses.

The participants practised IDP protection training as adapted to Georgia and produced specific modules relevant to their organisations. During the workshop, they also received feedback from other participants and the facilitators, to help improve their skills in training on internal displacement.

IDMC's financial situation

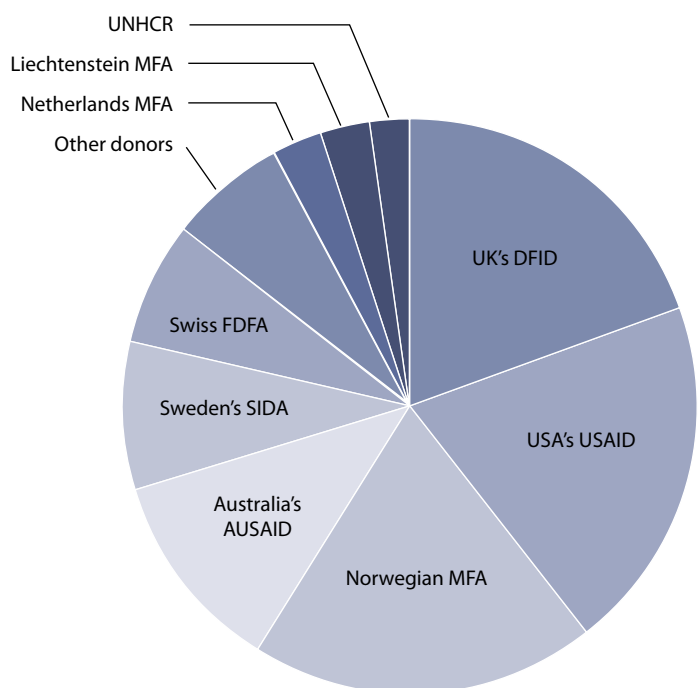
Financial situation as of 30 September 2011

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Funds received | \$ 3,833,705 |
| Funds received and funds pledged: | \$ 4,200,000 |
| Expenditure | \$ 3,201,050 |
| 2011 budget | \$ 4,200,000 |
| 2010 budget pledged/received | 100 per cent |

Thanks to our donors!

We would like to thank our donors for their support in 2011 so far: Australia's AusAID, ECHO, Liechtenstein's government, Norway's MFA, Sweden's SIDA, Switzerland's FDFA, UNHCR, the UK's DFID, the Netherlands MFA and USA's USAID.

Funds pledged or received as of 30 September 2011



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