



Quarterly Update

January - March 2012

This Quarterly Update covers the activities of the Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) between 1 January and 31 March 2012. 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

New online database facilitates profiling and assessment of IDP situations

IDMC participated in the launch and promotion of a new online database of practical tools and guidelines designed to assist humanitarian practitioners in planning, coordinating and implementing profiling of IDP situations and joint assessment activities. Initiated by the Joint IDP Profiling Service (JIPS) and managed jointly with the Assessment Capacities Project (ACAPS), the *Profiling and Assessment Resource Kit (PARK)* project was born out of their experiences in data collection in the field. The PARK database contains a compilation of the various existing guidelines, methodologies, tools and other practical resources used in previous profiling and assessment exercises, making them easily accessible at the following one-stop online address: www.parkdatabase.org

Promoting durable solutions for IDPs as part of development strategies

IDMC shared its expertise on some of the main challenges to resolving the complex issue of protracted displacement at a *Round Table Discussion on the Protection of IDPs*. The event was hosted by USAID's deputy administrator in Washington, alongside the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of IDPs and the vice president for humanitarian policy and practice at InterAction. As a priority, IDMC underlined the need to mobilize substantial resources, skills and expertise to tackle the problem. It also highlighted the following recent encouraging developments as evidence that progress can be and has been achieved in some areas:

- the guidance provided by the reviewed IASC Framework for Durable Solutions published in April 2010
- the increasing awareness of governments and UN agencies that return is neither the only settlement option in support of durable solutions, nor necessarily the one preferred by IDPs
- the increasing engagement with internal displacement of development actors such as the World Bank and UNDP
- the endorsement by the UN Secretary-General in October 2011 of the UN preliminary Framework on Ending Displacement in the Aftermath of Conflict, which aims to support a more coherent, predictable and effective UN approach to finding durable solutions for IDPs and returnee refugees

Arabic edition of 2010 Global Overview launched in Amman, Jordan

IDMC, together with the Amman Centre for Human Rights Studies, presented the Arabic edition of its 2010 Global Overview in Amman on 18 January. The presentation, delivered mainly in Arabic, helped raise awareness to the plight of IDPs in the region. IDMC also highlighted its role elsewhere in the world, citing its operations in Georgia and Uganda as examples. Participants included Jordanian lawyers, human rights advocates and members of civil society as well as ICRC, IOM, NRC, UNHABITAT and UNHCR representatives. The interactive discussion that followed the presentation focused primarily on IDP host communities and the politicisation of efforts to find durable solutions to IDP issues. Speakers demonstrated a sound understanding of these issues, notably with respect to the impact of displacement in urban and peri-urban settings, and were particularly sensitive to the plight of displaced Palestinians. Jordanian civil society representatives in attendance voiced a willingness to extend a helping hand to people displaced as a result of the social unrest in certain Arab countries. The Arabic edition of the Global Overview is available at:

<http://www.internal-displacement.org/global-overview/ar>



IDMC staff present the 2010 edition of the Global Overview in Amman (Digital Photo Service Studio Al aлезeh, January 2012)

IDMC joins Danish Refugee Council's Great Lakes civil society project

In January, IDMC became an associate of the Great Lakes Civil Society Project (GCP), a Danish Refugee Council programme implemented in partnership with civil society organisations in the region. The GCP documents and analyses specific displacement and conflict issues, and translates the findings into practical advocacy goals at the local, national and regional levels. It draws on existing legal and political frameworks for the protection of refugees and IDPs, such as the Great Lakes Pact on Security, Stability and Development, the African Union Kampala Convention, and national-level IDP and refugee policies and legislative tools.

In its capacity as an associate and in line with its own priorities, IDMC will offer technical support to GCP partners in their advocacy and training activities. IDMC presented its advocacy activities in Central Africa at a GCP workshop organised in January in Nairobi with partners from Burundi, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya and Uganda.

Photo-exhibition and expert meeting highlight Iraq's continuing humanitarian needs

A photo-exhibition entitled *Witnesses to Iraq*, organised by IDMC and Stichting Vluchteling in The Hague's city-hall on 16–18 February, attracted considerable public interest. Many of the 47 photographs shown depicted the continuing hardship faced by much of the Iraqi population, including large numbers of IDPs, as seen through the eyes of Iraqi photo-journalists.

The *Witnesses to Iraq* photo-exhibition is on a world tour that aims to highlight Iraq's continuing humanitarian needs with a view to ensuring that they remain high on the agenda of the international community.

The promotion of *Renewed Attention to Iraq* was the theme of an expert roundtable discussion organised by IDMC and Stichting Vluchteling at Humanity House in The Hague on 16 February. Participants, who included representatives of NGOs working in Iraq, Dutch academics and a Dutch parliamentarian, noted that attention to Iraq had been decreasing, despite the precarious security and humanitarian situation still prevailing in the country. The panellists urged the Dutch government to engage with Iraqi authorities to encourage the regularisation of informal settlements, secure tenancy rights for IDPs and recognise their preference for local integration over return. They also exhorted private companies investing in Iraq to participate in its reconstruction, and called on the Dutch authorities to influence the Iraqi government to lift restrictions on NGOs, to ensure adequate protection of human rights workers, and to respect the right to freedom of expression in the country.

Further information on these two events is available at: <http://www.internal-displacement.org/events/witnesses-to-iraq>

Focus on housing issues in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT)

Adalah—the Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel—and IDMC jointly briefed the UN Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing during her visit to the OPT and Israel from 29 January to 12 February 2012. IDMC underlined the discriminatory nature of Israel's building and land planning policies. It recalled that communities considered illegal by Israel were unrecognized and non-existent entities in administrative terms, and as such were denied access to basic services and prohibited from carrying out any building activity. The Special Rapporteur was also reminded that residents in these communities remain under the constant threat of eviction and demolition orders, without any compensation or resettlement, in violation of the human right to adequate housing. Furthermore, they are subject to steep fines and even criminal prosecution in some cases. Adalah and IDMC stressed that cities and villages with predominantly Palestinian populations and a longstanding presence in the territory continue to lack adequate housing and basic services as a consequence of Israel's planning regime. The Special Rapporteur's subsequent public statement strongly reflected the points raised in the briefing. A summary of that statement is available at: <http://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=11817&LangID=E>

Promoting the right to adequate housing in disaster settings

IDMC was invited by the UN Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing to provide input for the resolution on adequate housing in disaster settings adopted by the UN Human Rights Council at its 19th regular session in March 2012. An address on this issue by the Special Rapporteur to the 66th session of the UN General Assembly last October and IDMC advocacy helped pave the way for the resolution. The resolution also reflected deliberations at a UN General Assembly side event held last November based on the theme *More than housing reconstruction: The right to adequate housing in Disaster Relief and Recovery*. IDMC information on natural disasters and displacement and the Special Rapporteur's report on the right to adequate housing—including IDMC input—were presented at the side event.

The Human Rights Council resolution (A/HRC/19/L.4) expresses the Council's concern at the frequency and scale of natural disasters and climate events, which have resulted in massive loss of life and homes, as well as displacement and other negative consequences in many parts of the world. It urges States to support voluntary return, relocation, and local integration, in accordance with international human rights law and standards, with explicit reference to the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and the Operational Guidelines on the Protection of Persons in Situations of Natural Disasters. It also urges that all affected people have equal access to adequate housing with all its components, without discrimination and regardless of their previous tenure status.

Protection in natural disasters

In its capacity as a member of the Global Protection Cluster (GPC), IDMC paid particular attention to ensuring that protection issues inherent to natural disasters were included on the agenda of the GPC's annual retreat in Geneva in February. It initiated, organised and participated in a panel discussion that focused on ways to ensure effective operational support to address protection issues at country level in natural disaster situations. Participants emphasized the need for greater investment in disaster-response preparedness. They also acknowledged that a better understanding of protection issues in natural disaster as opposed to conflict was needed to ensure the most appropriate operational response in a given context. Both UNHCR and the GPC Coordinator asserted the need for further consideration of protection issues in natural disaster environments.

Climate change and migration in the Asia-Pacific region

IDMC input on displacement caused by sudden-onset disasters in Asia featured in a landmark report on *Addressing Climate Change and Migration in Asia and the Pacific* published by the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The report, widely regarded as the first significant study to develop policy recommendations to address the phenomenon of climate-induced displacement at regional level, was launched at the 2nd Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum in Bangkok on 13 March. Drawing on IDMC global data requested by ADB, the report notes: "For now, the only robust estimates of people displaced by environmental changes are those related to natural disasters." It contains IDMC quantitative evidence, including preliminary data for 2011, of the scale, location and type of hazards that have triggered displacement in relation to sudden-onset disasters in Asia in recent years. IDMC input furthermore highlights the need for policy-makers to address displacement not just as a threat, but as an already present global concern. The ADB report also draws on the findings of a series of expert meetings held last year to which IDMC contributed by putting forward challenges to monitoring disaster-induced displacement and the need to increase knowledge of the patterns and cumulative impacts of repeated displacement caused by small as well as large-scale disasters. Key IDMC data was relayed in several ADB public communiques marking the launch of the report.

The Asia-Pacific region is highly exposed to climate and weather-related hazards. It has by far the highest population density of any continent, especially along its coastlines, and is home to the largest number of people living in poverty. Six of the 10 countries most vulnerable to climate change in the world are located in the region. Consequently, climate-induced displacement is a major concern in some parts of the region.

The ADB report is available on the ADB website at: <http://beta.adb.org/publications/addressing-climate-change-and-migration-asia-and-pacific>.

Policy guidance

Housing, Land and Property

An IDMC article on Housing, Land and Property in Conflict and Displacement Settings featured in the University of Deusto and its Pedro Arrupe Institute of Human Rights (Bilbao, Spain) 2011 Yearbook on Humanitarian Action and Human Rights published in February. The article was based on an IDMC presentation at the 7th Human Rights Meeting on Solutions to Forced Displacement in a Global World hosted by these two institutions, in partnership with the Regional Council of Gipuzkoa, Spain, in April 2011. The Yearbook provides a platform for reflection and exchange of experiences and research among academics, students and field actors on humanitarian action and human rights.

The IDMC article is available at : http://www.idh.deusto.es/servlet/Satellite/Generico/1328107445894/_ingl/%231116406939966%231116406939986%231297358523720/0/c0/UniversidadDeusto/comun/render?tipoColeccion=Page

Challenges to Pastoralism Development in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries

IDMC participated in a briefing on challenges facing pastoralism development organised jointly by the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) - a joint international institution of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States and the European Union (EU) - and the African Union. More than 150 ACP-EU policy-makers and representatives of EU member States, civil society groups, research networks and development practitioners, and international organisations based in Brussels attended the February briefing. Its aim was to improve information sharing, promote networking and provide a platform for dialogue to feed into policy debate on pastoralist issues.

Briefing panellists reviewed the main policy frameworks supporting pastoralism as well as best practices and experiences from the field. IDMC urged policy-makers and donors to closely monitor the situation of pastoralists driven from their land by conflict or natural disasters with a view to preventing or mitigating such displacement.

CTA, the EU Commission (DG DEVCO), the EU Presidency, the ACP Secretariat, Concord (the Platform of European Development NGOs), Euforic (a social network engaged in international cooperation and development), IPS Europe, as well as various media partners, organise regular briefings in Brussels on key issues and challenges for rural development in the context of EU/ACP cooperation.

Developing dialogue with non-State armed groups

IDMC participated in a conference on *Engaging with Non-State Armed Actors in the Broader Middle East on the Protection of Civilians* organised in Lebanon by the Permanent Peace Movement and Geneva Call on 30-31 March 2012. Participants included representatives of the Governments of Norway and Switzerland, UN agencies and various international and local organizations engaged in such activities.

Discussions focused on how to develop dialogue with non-state armed groups in Afghanistan and the Middle East to advocate for the protection of civilians, including IDPs, in conflict zones, as prescribed under international humanitarian law and other applicable legal norms. Participants shared relevant practical information based on field experiences in countries such as Afghanistan, Lebanon, Somalia and Yemen as well as in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Information was also shared on the legal frameworks applicable to the conduct of hostilities by all parties to armed conflicts. A number of recommendations emerged, most notably on the need to develop new strategies to improve communication with non-state armed groups to advocate for stricter adherence to such legal frameworks as a means of improving the safety of civilians caught up in the turmoil of war zones.

<http://www.ppm-lebanon.org/content/143>

Monitoring and Advocacy

AFRICA

Burundi

In January, as part of its work to promote implementation of durable solutions for IDPs in Burundi, IDMC shared its insights with the Joint IDP Profiling Service (JIPS) and UNHCR. It also offered comments on the content of the JIPS draft report on the profiling exercise, notably concerning the need to contrast analysis on IDPs with analysis on the general population, especially in rural communities. The final version of the report took these considerations into account.

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)



In March, IDMC and NRC published a joint report on the long-term settlement options for IDPs in four camps in North Kivu. Entitled *What does the future hold for IDPs living in camps in Central Masisi?*, the report details the causes of displacement and the living conditions of IDPs in the four camps in North Kivu, a territory severely affected by displacement. It offers concrete suggestions to the DRC authorities as well as to international and Congolese organisations providing

assistance and protection to the camp IDPs and that are supporting efforts to find durable solutions for them. The report was launched

in Goma, North Kivu in the presence of some 30 UN, government, INGO/NGO, NRC and National Refugee Commission representatives alongside two IDPs from the Central Masisi camps. It was distributed to humanitarian networks and donors in North Kivu and Kinshasa, and to IDMC partners and contacts worldwide.

Full report in French available at:

<http://www.internal-displacement.org/publications/quel-avenir-pour-les-personnes-deplacees>

English summary of report available at:

<http://www.internal-displacement.org/publications/what-does-the-future-hold-for-idps>

Radio Okapi interviews in French and Swahili highlighting the report findings available at:

<http://radiookapi.net/actualite/2012/03/01/nord-kivu-des-conflits-fonciers-font-obstacle-au-retour-des-deplaces/>

The recommendations of the IDMC-NRC joint report on the long-term settlement options for IDPs in four camps in North Kivu were taken into account in the revised draft UN Camp Management Strategy for North Kivu 2012-2013.

Central African Republic (CAR)

The report entitled *An uncertain future? Children and armed conflict in the Central African Republic* published jointly by IDMC and Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict (Watchlist) in May 2011 continued to influence humanitarian programming in CAR in early 2012. This is reflected in UNICEF's decision to focus its activities in CAR on providing comprehensive support to demobilized and vulnerable children affected by the armed conflict in the country, as outlined in the organization's 2012 Humanitarian Action for Children programme.

The IDMC-Watchlist report found that four of the six grave violations monitored under UN Security Council Resolution 1612 were still being committed against children in CAR: the abduction of children; the recruitment or use of child soldiers; attacks against schools; and denial of humanitarian access to children. These violations were being committed by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), the Convention of Patriots for Justice and Peace (CPJP), and community self-defense militias.

Horn of Africa

In March, IDMC participated in a high-level roundtable convened by the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) under the theme *Development Frontiers in an insecure world: International Security and the Implications for Development*. Participants included representatives from the UK Department for International Development, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the UK Ministry of Defense, the European Commission, think-tanks, academics, and INGOs. IDMC impressed on this forum the importance of building mechanisms and supporting institutions committed to providing durable solutions for vulnerable communities, including displaced populations, from the onset of a humanitarian emergency.

Somalia

At the request of the UK government, IDMC contributed to the preparation of the February 2012 International Conference on Somalia by sharing substantial analysis on current challenges facing displaced populations in the country.

IDMC expertise was also solicited at an Expert Round Table on Somalia's Protracted Displacement Crisis, jointly convened in March by UNHCR and the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies. The event brought together international organisations, donors, UN agencies, human rights groups and NGOs. Discussions drew largely on an overview of global policy on protracted displacement and a case study from Somalia—both the result of research conducted by Oxford University's Refugee Studies Centre in collaboration with the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, NRC and IDMC. The roundtable was a key event in a process that UNHCR has launched to assist the international community in its efforts to address Somalia's protracted displacement crisis.

Mali

IDMC has introduced a webpage on Mali that is regularly updated with news alerts. It has continued to follow the situation in Mali since fighting broke out between a secessionist group and the army in the north of the country last February. As the hostilities continue, IDMC is maintaining contact with humanitarian and development actors in Mali, and is endeavouring to gather information on displacement in northern areas of the country where humanitarian access remains difficult.

The IDMC Mali webpage is available at:

<http://www.internal-displacement.org/countries/mali>

EUROPE

Georgia

In March, IDMC published an update of its profile on internal displacement in Georgia, with an overview in English and Georgian. The report highlights both the current situation of over 257,000 IDPs and returnees in the country who fled conflict in the early 1990s and in 2008 and the Georgian government's steadfast commitment to durable solutions to their plight through a variety of initiatives aimed at their integration. It notes, however, that despite the improved living conditions of many IDPs attributable to government action, the majority still live in inadequate housing and depend on government aid as their main source of livelihood, while returnees face insecurity that undermines their economic prospects. The update was shared with the Government of Georgia, humanitarian and development organisations working in the country and donors funding programmes for IDPs there.

The report is available at:

<http://www.internal-displacement.org/countries/georgia>

Photos from Georgia courtesy of Daron D'Souza:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/idmc-nrc/sets/72157628678402605/with/6619178731/>

Azerbaijan

In March, IDMC made a submission to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the situation of IDPs in Azerbaijan. The main concerns it raised were:

- unequal enjoyment of IDP status for internally displaced men and women
- disproportionate unemployment of IDPs compared to overall population
- inadequate housing of IDPs
- increased risk of eviction for some IDPs
- IDPs' limited access to health services and education
- the poor quality of education for internally displaced children

IDMC invited the Committee to request the Government of Azerbaijan to provide information on these issues. The Committee plans to review Azerbaijan's compliance with the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in 2013.

The report is available at:

[http://www.internal-displacement.org/8025708F004CE90B/\(httpD ocuments\)/7B03D237B35FAF18C12579E200405B8B/\\$file/IDMC+-+CESCR+Azerbaij#C5796E.pdf](http://www.internal-displacement.org/8025708F004CE90B/(httpD ocuments)/7B03D237B35FAF18C12579E200405B8B/$file/IDMC+-+CESCR+Azerbaij#C5796E.pdf)

MIDDLE EAST and NORTH AFRICA

UN anti-racial discrimination body deliberates on situation in the OPT

IDMC oral and written representations to the 80th session of the UN Committee for the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination on Israel on 14 February 2012 demonstrated a clear practice of deliberate discrimination by Israel against Palestinian communities living under its occupation. The IDMC report to the Committee underlined that Israel's discriminatory policies were causing the forced displacement of Palestinians in the OPT. It noted that the effects of these policies were particularly evident when examining the consequences of settlement growth on the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem and Area C, where the forced displacement of Palestinians impacts on a range of fundamental human rights and humanitarian needs. The report called on the State of Israel to:

- cease construction of Jewish settlements, national parks, and the wall barrier in the OPT
- review all cases in which areas designated as 'state land' have been used for the construction of illegal Jewish settlements
- ensure that planning decisions in Area C are made by a purely civilian body that provides for genuine consultation, participation and representation of the local Palestinian communities
- eliminate any policy of 'demographic balance' from its Jerusalem master plan to ensure that non-Jews and Jews are afforded equal treatment by the city's municipality
- immediately cancel and cease issuance of all stop-work, demolition and eviction orders pertaining to Palestinian homes and structures in the OPT as such orders violate international human rights and humanitarian laws and have a devastating and disproportionate impact on Palestinian communities

Further information available at: <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/cerds80.htm>



From left to right: Johan Meyer (Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs) presenting his concluding remarks, Sara Pantuliano (Humanitarian Policy Group), and Roger Zetter (Refugee Studies Centre). (IDMC, March 2012).

Policy responses to Iraqi displacement

In March, IDMC and the NRC collaborated with the Refugee Studies Centre (RSC) and the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) to host a workshop in Amman (Jordan) on current and future policy responses to the plight of displaced Iraqis. The workshop drew on the findings of a case study on Iraqi regional displacement that was the fruit of a collaborative research project by RSC, NUPI, NRC and IDMC, as well as of ongoing IDMC work on internal displacement in Iraq. It provided a forum for discussion on how policy-makers, practitioners and researchers can contribute to 'unlocking' recurrent and protracted Iraqi displacement. Although the workshop covered recent developments in Syria and their possible impact on the Iraqi crisis, it focused primarily on longer-term strategies to address the protracted nature of much Iraqi displacement in areas such as:

- building on the reality of 'transnationalism' and the 'mobility strategies' of displaced people
- preserving the rights of displaced people by facilitating 'local accommodation'
- promoting synergy between humanitarian assistance and development programmes
- addressing poverty and state fragility to facilitate gradual return

Training

Principles to guide humanitarian responses to internal displacement

Location	Gaza City
Dates	5 - 6 March 2012
Participants	26 participants from: NGOs including NRC-OPT, international organisations and donors
Partners	NRC-OPT

Capacity-building training in Gaza

IDMC, in collaboration with NRC-OPT, conducted a capacity-building training workshop on applying the UN Guiding Principles to the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip. The workshop enhanced

participants' understanding of international standards as a basis for responding to internal displacement and protecting internally displaced persons. It also explored ways to prevent forced displacement and examined durable solution concepts to address displacement issues in the OPT.

Training and protection

Workshop on IDP protection

Location	Mexico City, Mexico
Dates	5 - 6 March 2012
Participants	60 representatives from Mexican National Human Rights Commission, civil society organisations and government agencies
Partners	Mexican National Human Rights Commission; Brookings-LSE Project on Internal Displacement

IDMC organised and conducted a training workshop on IDP protection in Mexico, together with the Mexican National Human Rights Commission and the Brookings-LSE Project on Internal Displacement. The workshop aimed at providing participants with key information regarding standards for the protection of IDPs that they can use in their day-to-day work. The event was extensively covered by the Mexican media, including newspapers and television stations.



Workshop participants take part in a role play exercise. (IDMC, May 2012)

Website and Media

Website statistics October-December 2011

- Over 163,454 visits in the period
- Almost 95,383 unique visitors
- Over 137,754 downloads

Most visited countries:

- Colombia
- Sudan
- Pakistan
- Uganda
- Kenya
- Afghanistan
- Iraq
- Somalia
- Georgia
- Sri Lanka

News alerts:

IDMC published 5 news alerts during the quarter, which included 12 stories covering 9 countries.

IDMC's Financial Situation

Financial situation as of 31st March 2012

Funds received: CHF 500,609.56 , USD 547,490.52

Funds pledged: USD 1,837,768.82

Expenditure USD 851,445.62

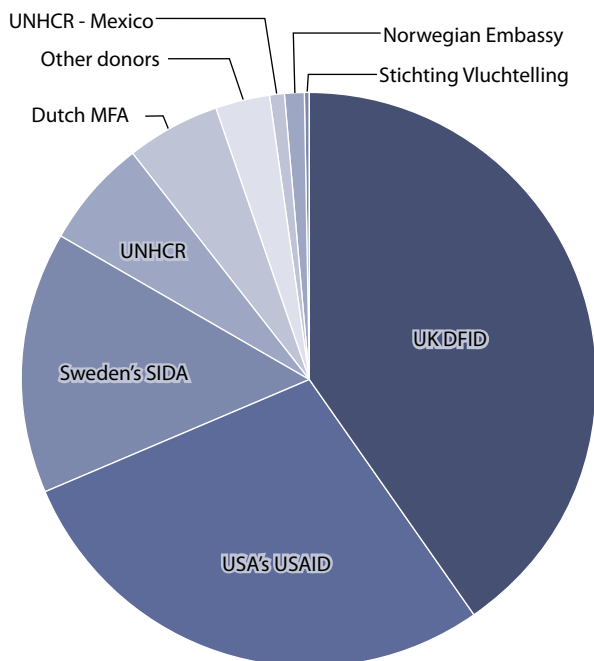
% 2011 budget pledged/received 53.07 per cent

Thanks to our donors!

We would like to thank our donors for their support in 2012 so far:

Australia's AusAID, the Canton of Geneva, ECHO, Liechtenstein's government, Luxembourg's MFA, the Netherlands MFA, Norway's MFA, the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI), Sweden's SIDA, Switzerland's FDFA, UNHCR, the UK's DFID and USA's USAID.

Funds pledged or received as of 31 March 2012



For further information, please contact
Kate Half
Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
Chemin de Balexert 7-9, CH-1219 Châteline
Geneva, Switzerland
Phone: +41 22 799 07 03
Fax: +41 22 799 07 01
E-mail: kate.half@nrc.ch