



# Quarterly Update

October - December 2015

This Quarterly Update covers the activities of the Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) between 1 October and 31 December 2015. It is also available to be read online or downloaded at [www.internal-displacement.org](http://www.internal-displacement.org).

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

## Climate Change: Displacement recognised in the COP 21 Paris agreement

Building up to the COP21 UN Climate Change Conference in Paris in December 2015, IDMC worked with fellow members of the inter-agency "Advisory Group on Human Mobility and Climate Change"; to increase the visibility and understanding of displacement and migration issues and push for their explicit recognition within the talks.

The participation of IDMC included the delivery of joint [Advisory Group recommendations](#) and [technical guidance](#) to party delegates, [presentations](#) at official [side events](#) at both technical and high level, a [press briefing](#), and engagement in targeted events throughout the course of the two-week conference. NRC and IDMC received good visibility in the international press, with IDMC evidence widely cited. The conference also provided a rich opportunity to develop new contacts for further research and partnerships with governments, UN agencies, academics and NGOs for follow up over the course of 2016.

The visibility of climate-related displacement and migration issues was higher than ever before, with explicit references to it made in the opening statements of many state leaders, including President Barack Obama and President Hollande. Concerns about displacement were also highlighted in the statements of vulnerable countries such as Kiribati and Chad. Human mobility issues were also cited frequently in State submissions of "Intended Nationally Determined Contributions" – appearing in 20% of them according to analysis by IOM.

The final [agreement](#) adopted on 12 December in Paris by 195 countries is the first universal, legally binding multilateral climate deal. It includes a section concerning "Loss and Damage" associated with climate change impact that promotes "integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change". It also calls for the creation of a task-force to provide recommendations to the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage due to meet in February 2016, to which IDMC will be contributing, as an immediate next step.



Left: Alfredo Zamudio, IDMC Director, presenting at COP21 (Photo: Erica Bower). Right: Justin Ginnetti, IDMC's Head of Data and Analysis, presenting IDMC's evidence and adaptation tools at COP21.



It's so heartening to hear that Fiji has undertaken to accommodate our people of Kiribati in the event that climate change renders our homes uninhabitable.  
*Anote Tong, President of Kiribati*



It is in the name of climate justice that we must take action. We need to take note of the seriousness of the threat to the world's equilibrium. Global warming heralds conflicts just as clouds herald a storm. It causes migration which throws more refugees out into the roads than warfare itself.  
*François Hollande, President of France*



This summer, I saw the effects of climate change firsthand in our northernmost state, Alaska, where the sea is already swallowing villages and eroding shorelines. [...] And it was a preview of one possible future [...] Submerged countries. Abandoned cities. Fields that no longer grow. Political disruptions that trigger new conflict, and even more floods of desperate peoples seeking the sanctuary of Nations not their own.  
*Barack Obama, President of the USA*

## IDMC, UNHCR and IOM: Heads of States recognise climate-related displacement, so should the COP21 agreement

On 2 December, IDMC, UNHCR and IOM called a [joint press conference](http://unfccc6.meta-fusion.com/cop21/events/2015-12-02-17-00-united-nations-high-commissioner-for-refugees-unhcr-prepare-and-adapt-climate-change-and-human-mobility-in-cop21-and-beyond) (video: <http://unfccc6.meta-fusion.com/cop21/events/2015-12-02-17-00-united-nations-high-commissioner-for-refugees-unhcr-prepare-and-adapt-climate-change-and-human-mobility-in-cop21-and-beyond>) on behalf of the inter-agency advisory group on climate change and human mobility. The press event:

- called upon governments to ensure that this concern is addressed in the final climate change agreement adopted in Paris
- highlighted how several Heads of State had mentioned the risk of climate change-induced displacement and migration on the first day of the climate negotiations.

## UK Met Office-University of Reading-NRC side event

At a COP21 side event organised by the UK Meteorological Office and the University of Reading, IDMC presented its models and decision support-tool as a way to demonstrate how governments can address livelihoods, food security and displacement risk simultaneously and in an integrated manner. The event was attended by approximately 80 people from governments, regional organisations, academia and civil society.

## Media coverage around COP21 and climate change

- IRIN News - [Is migration the elephant in the room?](#)
- AlertNet - [Why Migration Must Be Central to Paris COP21 Climate Talks](#)
- Living on Earth (PRI's environmental magazine) - [How Will the World Address Loss and Damage From Climate Disruption?](#)
- Huffington Post - [Most Displaced Syrians Aren't Refugees. They're Trapped Inside The Country](#)
- Al Jazeera - [Where will the climate refugees go?](#)

## Nansen Initiative Global Consultation, 12-13 October

The State-led Nansen Initiative on cross-border displacement in the context of disasters and climate change culminated in a [global consultation event](#) on 12-13 October in Geneva that gathered over 360 participants from governments, international organisations, academic institutions and civil society. In a final statement from the conference, 110 delegations recognised disaster displacement as “one of the main humanitarian challenges of our time, affecting tens of millions of people every year.” The Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change ([Protection Agenda](#)) was endorsed by 110 governmental delegations. Many references were made to IDMC evidence and research reports that have informed the process of regional consultations over recent years, both in the Agenda document itself, as well as in opening statements by the Chair and the Special Envoy.

In a joint statement with NRC, IDMC expressed its continued commitment to the implementation of the Agenda, particularly with regard to priority areas for action in collecting data and enhancing knowledge on cross-border disaster displacement, managing disaster displacement risk, and addressing the needs of IDPs in disaster contexts.



Photo: [Nansen Initiative](#)

## IDMC participation in Expert Group on Disaster Statistics in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, October 28-30

In October, IDMC was invited by UN ESCAP to participate in the [Third Meeting of the Expert Group on Disaster Statistics](#) in Bangkok and in the [4th session of the UN ESCAP Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction](#) to which the expert group reports. Following participation in the 2nd meeting of the group in Sendai in March, IDMC continued to provide expert inputs on displacement to inform the development of regional guidelines for statistics on the occurrence and impact of disasters. The work of this regional group, composed of experts from Governments, regional and international organisations as well as research institutes in the field of statistics and disaster risk reduction in Asia and the Pacific is also feeding into the indicator development process for the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction and the Sustainable Development Goals.

## Causes of internal displacement presented at HC Dialogue



To coincide with the UNHCR High Commissioner's Dialogue in December 2015, a [briefing paper](#) was launched on the importance of why understanding the causes of displacement is critical to both prevention and solutions. The briefing paper provided a basis upon which participants at the dialogue could constructively engage on the topic of 'root causes' by clarifying key terminology and stressing the importance of nuanced contextual analysis of the drivers of displacement and their interlinkages.

As part of IDMC's ongoing efforts as the global leader on the provision of data and analysis on displacement, the paper called on participants at the dialogue for more accurate and comprehensive data across all phases of displacement. The paper argued that resolving displacement crises requires commitment to finding political solutions as the most common drivers of displacement are political, and finally, that better synergy is needed between global post 2015 policy processes to recognize

displacement as a cross cutting issue. The paper was disseminated a week before the Dialogue to representatives of states, intergovernmental organisations, UN agencies and non-governmental organisations to help inform their interventions at the event.

IDMC's director presented on a high level panel on the topic of "addressing 'new' causes of internal displacement including: urbanization, environmental degradation, food insecurity, water scarcity, natural hazards and climate change". The presentation highlighted the key messages of IDMC's [briefing paper](#) on root causes, which include a call for global policy processes to include displacement as a cross cutting issue and to address its drivers.

- [Press release](#) on IDMC activities at HC Dialogue
- [Opening Remarks by António Guterres United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees](#) (citing IDMC)

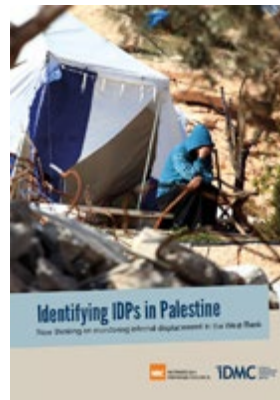
## Urban Displacement

IDMC presented at the symposium "Living with Insecurity: Planning Strategies for Dealing with Urban Displacement" held at the Massachusetts Institute for Technology's Displacement Research Action Network (MIT/DRAN) on 10 November 2015. The event brought together representatives from UN Habitat, the Feinstein International Center and MIT/DRAN to discuss humanitarian responses in urban areas with MIT faculty and students. IDMC presented findings from its report *Home sweet home: housing practices and tools that support durable solutions for urban IDPs* published in March 2015, as well as preliminary messages from its briefing paper *Understanding root causes of displacement: Towards a comprehensive approach to prevention and solutions* published in December 2015. Conclusions from the discussion served to inform IDMC's strategy for influencing the "New Urban Agenda" to be developed at [Habitat III](#) in October 2016.

## DRC

In November 2015, IDMC, NRC, International Alert and Climate Interactive published a thematic paper on the impact of repeated displacement on family composition, relationships and roles in DRC, as well as on how they evolve. A blog was also published with a specific focus on youth on the occasion of the Universal Children's Day.

## Data Collection in the Occupied Palestine Territories



In November, IDMC and NRC Europe visited Brussels to present a report on "Identifying IDPs in Palestine" which underlines the gaps in data collection in the occupied West Bank including East Jerusalem. The report was well received by all interlocutors as it came at a time when the EU is looking for stronger data particularly on protracted conflicts and its humanitarian consequences. The main issues discussed were the lack of data or monitoring of displacement once it occurred beyond the housing demolitions and evictions, making it impossible either to estimate the scale and pattern of these displacements, or to assess the effectiveness of prevention and response measures.

## New IDMC staff

During the last quarter of 2015 there were various staff changes. The new list of staff can be found at: <http://www.internal-displacement.org/about-us/staff>

## Communications and publications

This quarter IDMC published five blogs:

1. [Facing eviction: Displaced urban women at increased risk](#) (Oct 7)  
Guest bloggers Laura Cunial, Information Counselling and Legal Assistance Adviser and Kirstie Farmer, Housing Land and Property Advocacy Adviser for the Norwegian Refugee Council discuss the daily struggles of displaced women in urban areas.
2. [From words to action: How IDMC will help governments as the Nansen Initiative shifts to its implementation phase](#) (Oct 15)  
More than 100 governments came together for the Nansen Initiative's global consultation to discuss what is needed to protect people displaced across borders in the context of disasters and the effects of climate change.
3. [IDPs' family cohesion at stake in eastern DRC](#) (Nov 20)  
Analysts for Central Africa had the opportunity to gather data on internally displaced people who have suffered repeated displacement and to hear about how displacement affects young people's family lives.
4. [The drivers that force people to flee](#) (Dec 18)  
As the world commemorates International Migrants Day, IDMC highlights that international responses to forced displacement should be informed by a sound understanding of the complex drivers that force people to leave their homes.
5. [A recipe for violence: The impact of Burundi's downward spiral on displacement](#) (Dec 22)  
An eye witness account on the current displacement situation in Burundi where thousands of people are fleeing their homes due to political unrest.

## Publications and papers produced

TITLE	DATE
<a href="#">Durable solutions for IDPs: challenges and way forward</a>	12 Oct
<a href="#">New humanitarian frontiers: Addressing criminal violence in Mexico and Central America</a>	22 Oct
<a href="#">Driven apart: how repeated displacement changes family dynamics in eastern DRC</a>	20 Nov
<a href="#">Human mobility in the context of climate change (co-published with Advisory Group)</a>	1 Dec
<a href="#">Understanding the root causes of displacement: towards a comprehensive approach to prevention and solutions</a>	8 Dec

## IDMC Website figures

### Visits:

63,741 (+13%) (Oct-Dec 2015)

### Page views:

136,713 (+19%)

## Facebook figures

IDMC's Facebook community grew by 14% during the quarter, attracting almost 700 new fans. The page had 5,336 likes by the end of December 2015. This quarter received more growth due to IDMC's coverage of the COP21 beginning of December.

## Twitter figures

The @IDMC\_Geneva account had over 3,770 followers by the end of September, an increase of 11%. Influential followers who engaged with our content and increased IDMC brand credibility included: The Atlantic, Foreign Policy Magazine, Voice of America, David Miliband, Relief Web and UN Radio. All users have well over 50K followers.

Overall tweets during this 90 day period garnered 445 retweets. 165 favourites, and 37 replies and 130.4K impressions.

## IDMC's financial situation

### Quarterly update Oct-Dec 2015 (interim)

Donor	2015 total Income USD *	%
UK - DFID	755'322.00	17.35%
Australia DFAT	586'795.47	13.48%
USA - USAID	900'000.00	20.67%
Norwegian MFA	725'937.50	16.67%
EuropeAid/UNCHR	178'410.60	4.10%
Sweden - Sida	345'150.00	7.93%
Swiss FDFA	226'063.45	5.19%
ODI	20'983.10	0.48%
CAF	38'143.53	0.88%
Other donors	91'660.83	2.11%
NRC own funds	485'232.56	11.15%
<b>Total income</b>	<b>4'353'699.04</b>	<b>100%</b>

### IDMC's financial situation (interim)

Funds committed: USD 4,353,699

Expenditure: USD 4,353,457

Percent 2015 actual expenditure against received funds : 100%

## Thanks to our donors!

We would like to thank our donors for their support in 2015:

Australia's DFAT, CAF, EuropeAid, Liechtenstein's MFA, Norway's MFA, Sweden's Sida, Switzerland's FDFA, the UK's DFID, UNHCR, USA's USAID and other donors.

## Funds received as of 31 December 2015

\* The final exchange rates to USD (here as reporting currency) from received contributions are yet to conclude

