

# QUARTERLY UPDATE

April - June 2016

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RISK EXPERTISE INFORMED ACTION

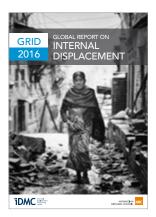
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# Feature article: Global Report on Internal Displacement 2016



On 11 May, IDMC launched the first edition of its flagship annual Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID) 2016. The report presents our estimates of internal displacement in a radically new way, for the first time combining figures on people displaced by conflict, generalised violence and disasters in a single publication. This was a first concrete step under our new strategic direction 2015-2016 towards providing a more holistic global

picture of displacement in all its forms, regardless of the cause. Released ahead of the <u>World Humanitarian Summit</u> in Istanbul, the report highlights the need to view displacement as a multidimensional challenge linked not only to disasters and conflict but also in the contexts of sustainable development, peace-building, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. The report was launched at Chatham House in London, hosted by the Royal Institute of International Affairs. Jan Egeland and Alexandra Bilak presented the report's findings to an audience of 120 policy and operational experts.

The report showed that in 2015 a total of 27.8 million were displaced by conflict, violence and disasters in 127 countries, roughly equivalent to every man, woman and child in New York City, London, Paris and Cairo being forced to flee their homes in search of safety with whatever they were able to carry with them. This staggering figure is a further illustration of how internal displacement associated with conflict and violence has continued to be on an upward trend year after year since 2003, with 8.6 million new cases recorded in 2015 – a daily average of 24,000. Approximately 4.8 million were newly displaced in the Middle East alone, significantly more than the total for the rest of the world combined. Iraq, Syria and Yemen accounted for over half of the total. Elsewhere, Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Colombia, Nigeria, South Sudan and Ukraine experienced the highest numbers.

In terms of total headcount worldwide, 40.8 million internally displaced people (IDPs) were displaced as a result of conflict and

violence at the end of 2015 – an increase of 2.8 million on 2014, and the highest figure ever recorded and twice the number of refugees in the world. Just ten countries accounted for over two-thirds of the total, or around 30 million people. Colombia, DRC, Iraq, Sudan and South Sudan and Sudan have featured in the list of the ten largest internally displaced populations every year since 2003. There were no total global figures for people still displaced by disasters, but a sample of cases in 2015 identified hundreds of thousands living in protracted displacement.

Disasters displaced around 19.2 million people across 113 countries in 2015, more than twice the number who fled conflict and violence. Over the past eight years, a total of 203.4 million, or an average of 25.4 million displacements induced by disasters have been recorded every year. As in previous years, South and East Asia dominated in terms of absolute figures, but no region of the world was unaffected. India, China and Nepal had the highest numbers, with 3.7 million, 3.6 million and 2.6 million respectively. The vast majority of this displacement took place in developing countries, with the populations of small island countries hit the hardest relative to their size. The devastation wrought by cyclone Pam on Vanuatu is a case in point.

The report also took our readers "inside the GRID" and IDMC's displacement data model, outlining efforts to improve the coverage and transparency of the global evidence base on internal displacement. In this report, where possible, we disaggregated displacement by age for the first time, highlighting the issue of improving the comprehensiveness of data and our efforts to encourage greater, and more frequent sharing of the latter by governments and partners alike.

As a priority, the report also explored displacement which until now has been "off the GRID". Global figures do not capture other contexts in which people flee their homes, and this year we looked at three often overlooked drivers – criminal violence, slow onset disasters such as drought, and development projects such as dam construction and natural resource extraction. In doing so, we discussed our initial efforts to determine to what extent these factors drive displacement. As the global monitor of internal displacement, we intend to expand our provision of knowledge with the aim of advancing global commitments to reduce the risks and impacts of displacement and find lasting solutions for the millions of IDPs worldwide. Our ability to do so will depend on the breadth and strength of our partnerships, and on states' continued commitment to support these efforts.



Director Alexandra Bilak presents the key findings of the Global Report on Internal Displacement 2016. Photo: IDMC/R. Natali, May 2016

# Launch of GRID 2016 in Geneva, 13 May 2016

The second launch event took place in Geneva and included a discussion by a high level panel of four speakers:

- | **Dr. Chaloka Beyani**, UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons
- Dr. Robert Glasser, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR).
- | Ambassador William Lacy Swing, Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Ambassador Pamela Hamamoto, Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva.

Over 100 representatives from partners, missions and donors attended the event.

### Washington DC launch of GRID 2016, 9 June 2016

The Geneva launch was followed by a roundtable meeting in Washington, D.C. co-sponsored by the Institute for the Study of International Migration (Georgetown University) and the Norwegian Refugee Council USA to discuss the report's main findings within a group of partners and experts working on displacement. The meeting resulted in a joint statement issued by participants calling for more global attention to the issue of internal displacement and better recognition of this issue at the UN General Assembly High-Level Meeting on Refugees and Migrants set to take place on 19 September 2016.

# Launch of the Global Internal Displacement Database

In conjunction with the release of GRID 2016, IDMC also launched its new interactive <u>Global Internal Displacement Database (GIDD)</u>. The database aims to provide comprehensive information on internal displacement worldwide. It covers all countries and territories for which IDMC has obtained data on situations of internal displacement, and provides data on internal displacement associated with conflict and generalised violence (1998-2015) and displacement associated with sudden-onset natural hazard-related disasters (2008-2015).

Since its launch, the GIDD has been visited by **7,000** viewers. This new publicly accessible platform offers viewers the possibility to use IDMC data to create customised and exportable plots and graphs. So far its displacement data sets have been downloaded **1,100** times. Various media outlets used GIDD infographics in their coverage of the GRID 2016 launch. This database will develop over time, providing increased levels of data as it expands.

# ALEXANDRA BILAK APPOINTED AS NEW DIRECTOR OF IDMC

IDMC is delighted to announce the appointment of Alexandra Bilak as its new Director. She will officially take up this role on 1st August 2016. As Director, Alexandra will lead IDMC towards achieving the objectives of its 2015-2020 strategy, and will consolidate IDMC's role as the leading source of data and analysis on internal displacement. In this phase, IDMC will work with new and existing partners to provide evermore compelling evidence of the drivers, scale, patterns and impacts of displacement across the world.

The full statement is available here.

# Ignoring the roots of Europe's refugee influx

To mark World Refugee Day on 20 June IDMC published an editorial piece arguing that the current refugee influx in Europe is a symptom of the failure to protect and assist displaced people in their own country. In September, the UN General Assembly will hold a high-level plenary session to address the phenomenon of large movements of migrants and refugees. However, despite several rounds of negotiations, the summit preparatory report dedicates only a brief section to internal displacement. IDMC views this as a missed opportunity to get to the root of the global refugee crisis.

### **IDMC** blog posts

**Nepal Earthquake:** To highlight the first anniversary of the Nepal earthquake disaster, IDMC wrote a blog on the challenges of achieving durable solutions for the more than 2.6 million people who remain displaced as a result of this disaster. The blog highlights the challenges of weak governance and institutions as well as high levels of corruption as obstacles to recovery and reconstruction.

**India Research:** Following IDMC's mission to India to research displacement in the context of development projects in the country, IDMC published a <u>blog</u> sharing some preliminary findings. These include the lack of adequate notice, the serious challenges of displaced communities in accessing livelihoods and issues relating to the protraction of displacement well beyond physical relocation. The blog highlights that both the authorities and the private sector need to do much more to live up to their obligations to those displaced by development projects.

**World Humanitarian Summit (WHS):** At the end of May IDMC released a <u>blog</u> post on the outcome of the WHS, which brought

together global leaders in a bid to improve the world's response to crises. As the summit explicitly acknowledged internal displacement as a "complex political and development challenge", IDMC used its blog to highlight the need to address its underlying drivers and called for better data collection.

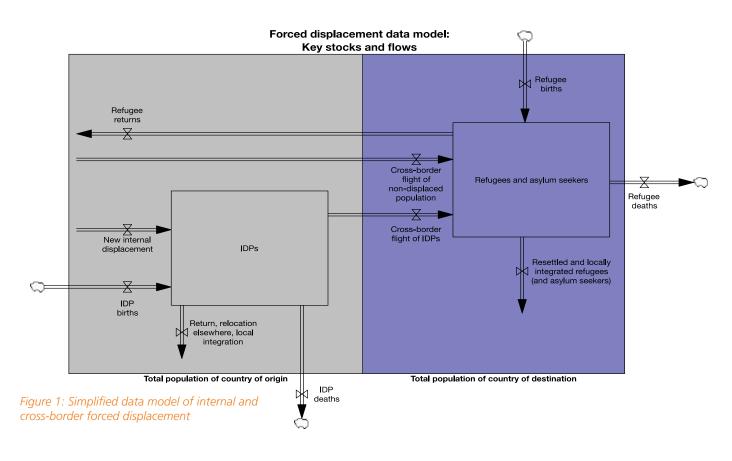
#### **IDMC** at events

# Preparations for the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-2)

On 4 April, IDMC was invited to present its work on disaster displacement at a special event held to prepare Geneva-based stakeholders for UNEA-2, including a session on "Environment and displacement: Root causes and implications". The event was organised by the Geneva Environment Network, the UN Environment Programme's Regional Office for Europe and the UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service (UN-NGLS).

# World Bank Displacement Data conference

On 19 April, IDMC participated in the Displacement Data Conference hosted by the World Bank's Global Programme on Forced Displacement in Washington, D.C. The primary purpose of the conference was to discuss a draft stocktaking report on displacement statistics. To address one problem highlighted by the participants regarding the incompatibilities between the way internal displacement and refugee data is collected, IDMC proposed a new data model encompassing both internal and cross-border population movements (*Figure 1*). This data model formed the basis for subsequent discussions with UNHCR about collaboration on data collection.



# Symposium on "Disasters and Displacement in a Warming World: A Legal Perspective"

In May, IDMC provided an expert perspective on the phenomenon of disaster-induced displacement to a group of legal academics discussing possible legal responses to this issue at a symposium hosted by the Lund/Uppsala Migration Law Network in Lund, Sweden. Participants were given a broad overview of the scope and patterns of displacement caused by disasters based on IDMC data and research focusing on its drivers and consequences. IDMC also highlighted the social dimensions of disasters and emphasised the need for legal efforts to focus attention on addressing issues of exposure and vulnerability to disasters.

# Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD) research programme workshop: Quantitative assessments of environmentally-induced migration

On 9-10 May, IDMC was invited to participate in a workshop organised by the Thematic Working Group on Environmental Change and Migration at the World Bank headquarters in Washington DC attended by more than 35 researchers and practitioners from various academic institutions and environmental and development organisations. The workshop focused on the current state of play in the quantitative assessment of migration and displacement related to declining environmental conditions, and its impacts. The workshop also provided an opportunity to discuss a forthcoming World Bank study on climate change, migration, and resilience. IDMC was invited to present its quantitative methodologies for estimating stocks and flows in the context of disasters

## Human Mobility and the Paris Agreement: What next? UN Climate Change Conference in Bonn

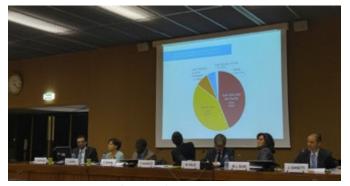
IDMC participated in the UN Climate Change meetings in Bonn, Germany from 17 to 20 May along with colleagues from the Advisory Group on Human Mobility and Climate Change. IDMC was a panelist at a side event convened to explore the current state of knowledge and the next steps following the Paris COP climate change event and decisions related to displacement and migration, including the creation of a Taskforce on Displacement. At this event, IDMC presented its latest climate-related data and findings alongside speakers from UN University, IOM and the University of Liege. The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change's newsroom published an article on the event, highlighting IDMC's findings and graphics. IDMC also delivered a statement from the Advisory Group to the Executive Committee of the Warsaw Mechanism on Loss and Damage at a first official side event on non-economic losses.

# World Bank presentation and collaboration

On 9 June, during its mission to Washington, D.C., IDMC presented its approach to analysing climate change-induced displacement using system dynamics models to 35 World Bank staff. The presentation was delivered in conjunction with a discussion of a concept note for the World Bank's planned 2017 *Climate Change, Migration and Securing Resilience* report. Following the event, IDMC peer reviewed the report's concept note and agreed to collaborate with the World Bank on its development and production in 2016 and 2017.

#### **OHCHR** side event

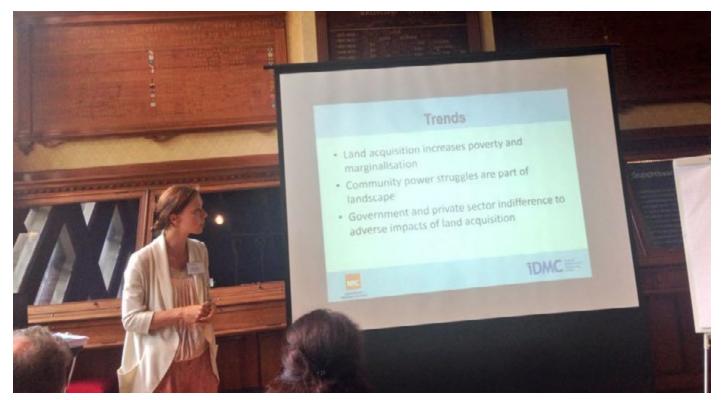
On 21 June, IDMC participated in a side event on internal displacement organised by the Government of Austria. This session of the Human Rights Council marked the last occasion in which Chaloka Beyani, the current Special Rapporteur on the human rights of IDPs, would participate in that capacity. His predecessor, Walter Kälin, also participated. Professors Kälin and Beyani presented an overview of how the internal displacement issue has evolved during their tenures, while IDMC evoked the GRID 2016 findings on how worldwide internal displacement and related normative frameworks have developed in recent years.



IDMC presenting key findings from the GRID 2016 at the UN Human Rights Council. Photo: Mourad Mahidi, June 2016

#### **ECOSOC** side event

On 27 June, IDMC participated in a side event on displacement data during the humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) meeting in New York. Chaired by René van Nes, Special Envoy for the World Humanitarian Summit and the Government of the Netherlands, the side event provided an opportunity for IDMC to showcase the current version of the Global Internal Displacement Database (GIDD) to Member States and reveal how it would be enhanced with more timely data over the coming months through partnership with fellow panelists IOM and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). The European Union also participated in the event, where it announced that it would provide resources to support IDMC, IOM and OCHA in this collective work.



IDMC's Senior Strategic Advisor on Development, Nadine Walicki, presenting the human impacts of land acquisitions in India at the Land Acquisitions Conference, Utrecht. Photo: Sara Vigil, July 2016

## Liechtenstein: International Humanitarian Development and Cooperation

In June, IDMC spoke at the <u>annual conference</u> on international humanitarian development and cooperation, hosted by the Principality of Liechtenstein's Office for Foreign Affairs in Vaduz, Liechtenstein. As the event focused on the current refugee influx in Europe, IDMC presented evidence showing that internal displacement is often the first experience for many people who eventually seek safety further abroad. IDMC concluded that governments should recognise displacement as a continuum, and acknowledge that the current refugee influx into Europe is a symptom of a broader failure to protect and assist IDPs in their own countries.

## Germany: Berlin Summer Dialogue 2016

IDMC participated in the 2016 Berlin Summer Dialogue, "Displacement and Forced Migration - Rethinking Prevention", hosted by the Development and Peace Foundation and supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. This year's dialogue provided a forum for debate about the underlying causes of displacement and forced migration and ways of tackling them, beyond short-term financial assistance and humanitarian aid. IDMC participated in a roundtable discussion dedicated to armed conflict and internal repression as causes of displacement, presenting its estimates on internal displacement for 2015, providing analysis on the need to tackle its root causes, and stressing the need for better data and information on displacement.

# IDMC presents on large-scale land acquisitions in the context of urban sprawl and climate change in India

In June, IDMC presented findings from its research in India on displacement caused by development in urban, peri-urban and rural areas at a conference on "Large-scale land acquisitions in the context of urban sprawl and climate change: Linking the rural and urban". Organised by the Netherlands Academy on Land Governance for Equitable and Sustainable Development, the conference brought together academics, NGOs, UN agencies and the private sector. The conference focused on land acquisitions in urban and rural areas and participants made frequent references to the adverse impact of land acquisitions in rural areas on displacement. IDMC's presentation provided evidence of impoverishment and marginalisation resulting from displacement due to land acquisitions in urban and rural-urban areas and called for improved collection and sharing of data and information on displacement caused by such action.

#### Written Submissions

In preparation for the visit to India by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing, IDMC provided a submission on housing conditions for people displaced by development projects. The submission was based on IDMC's key findings following a three-week research mission to India in March 2016, which highlighted that eviction processes for those displaced by development projects fall short of international standards and that resettlement conditions are inadequate. The submission included recommendations for the state of India to address shortfalls in human rights protection for IDPs.

On 16 May IDMC responded to a call for submissions from the Warsaw International Mechanism's Executive Committee Work Plan Action Area 6 on Migration, Displacement and Human Mobility. This joint submission with fellow members of the Advisory Group on Human Mobility and Climate Change shares and synthesises knowledge and data with links to various relevant IDMC reports to "Enhance the understanding of and expertise on how the impacts of climate change are affecting patterns of migration, displacement and human mobility; and the application of such understanding and expertise".

Also in May, IDMC was invited by OCHA to provide written inputs for a first draft of the 2016 edition of the Secretary-General's annual report on *International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development*. This report is prepared annually to the General Assembly and used as the basis for the annual resolution negotiations. This year's report takes into account the outcome of the humanitarian resolution negotiations in the General Assembly in 2015, the recent report of the Secretary-General for the World Humanitarian Summit and the summit deliberations.

At the beginning of June, IDMC provided written comments and recommendations on the 'zero' draft of the New Urban Agenda to interested UN Member States bilaterally as well as through its membership in the Global Alliance on Urban Crises. The New Urban Agenda will be the outcome document of the third UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development, also known as Habitat III, set to take place in Quito, Ecuador from 17 to 20 October 2016. IDMC commended the document for the "leave no one behind" principles underlined in the report and its direct links to the UN Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 that reflects the same guiding principle. IDMC also welcomed the agenda's acknowledgement that particular attention must be paid to the challenges facing IDPs. Its recommendations included profiling the displaced in cities to identify their needs and the skills and contributions they can offer to urban development. It also added text to the draft to ensure that efforts to improve city infrastructure and the living conditions of the poor do not result in displacement and that language on tenure security be strengthened.

IDMC submitted written comments and recommendations on the UN Development Programme's (UNDP) Draft Guidance Note on Social and Environmental Standards, Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement. This document provides guidance to UNDP staff in situations where UNDP projects require displacement of people from their homes, land and livelihoods. IDMC identified multiple positive elements of the document, including its human rights-based approach, and its acknowledgement of the imperative to prevent displacement and to prohibit forced evictions. IDMC furthermore recommended that resettlement sites should meet adequate housing criteria and be fully equipped before the displaced arrive; public information and consultation criteria should be more clearly defined; and that project monitoring should be regular and ongoing following project completion and include disaggregated data on the displaced, their patterns of movement and their protection and assistance needs.

### Communications

### GRID 2016 launch campaign

In May IDMC conducted a highly successful global media campaign for the launch of the GRID 2016 report. The communications team developed a variety of multimedia products including an interactive landing page with key messages, infographics, video and photo gallery, and a press release translated into several languages. The media launch of the report, attended by over 100 participants, took place at Chatham House in London.

The report has received wide media attention and was covered by many key international media outlets including Agence France Press (AFP), Al Jazeera, Associated Press (AP), BBC, CNN, Deutsche Welle, France 24, The Guardian, The Huffington Post, The Independent, Le Monde, National Public Radio (NPR), The New York Times, Radio France International, Radio TV Swiss, Reuters, The Telegraph, Voice of America and The Washington Times. A full list of our media coverage plus videos of our launch events in London and Geneva can be found at <a href="https://www.internal-displacement.org/globalreport2016">www.internal-displacement.org/globalreport2016</a> under "Media pack".



View IDMC's launch and GRID2016 videos online at https://vimeo.com/idmc. Photo: IDMC/R. Natali, May 2016

#### GRID 2016 key media coverage:

- Al Jazeera New IDPs: Report blames Syria, Yemen and Iraq wars
- Associated Press Report: 27.8 million people internally displaced last year
- La Croix Déplacés, « les plus vulnérables des vulnérables »
- Le Monde Les catastrophes naturelles provoquent deux fois plus de déplacements internes que les conflits
- National Public Radio They're The Invisible Ones: Refugees
  Who Aren't Officially Refugees
- Newsweek (US) Conflict and natural disasters displace record 4.8 million people: report
- Quartz The number of people forced to flee their homes in 2015 could fill New York, London and Jakarta combined
- Reuters Gangs, Crime and Slums: Growing Cities Present
  New Challenges for Aid Agencies
- | The Guardian Homeless at home: most displaced people found in Syria, Yemen and Iraq
- | The Washington Times <u>Number of new internal refugees in 2015 sets record</u>

The report was cited 482 times in the international media, reaching 1.3 billion people, and representing a total publicity value of €410,955.13.

#### **GRID 2016 launch statistics**

- IDMC website visits (week of 11 to 18 May 2016): **15,394**
- Number of GRID 2016 downloads (from 11 to 23 May 2016): **15,845**
- Number of visits to GRID 2016 landing page (from 11 to 23 May 2016): **6,187**

## GRID launch on Twitter (11-18 May)

- **1,500** tweets mentioning either the GRID or IDMC
- **1,104** contributors (this includes like, retweets, mentions)
- **165.8K** impressions
- Estimated reach: 7,871,850 accounts
- Influential followers who engaged with our content included: Devex, Irin News, ReliefWeb, Reuters, UN Refugee Agency, and OCHA.

#### **GRID** launch on Facebook

The GRID 2016 campaign on Facebook started in early May with teasers. The strategy successfully increased the number of followers (from 6,085 at the beginning of May to 7,100 on 18 May) and their engagement. The most popular post (announcing the GRID launch) reached almost 15,000 people.

#### **IDMC** blog posts

- Driving global efforts to reduce internal displacement: thoughts from Istanbul
- The people behind the dams, mines, riverfront 'development' projects
- Nepal: one year after the earthquakes, an end to displacement is still years away

### Publications and papers produced

- Workshop Report Kampala Convention: from ratification to domestication and operationalisation
- 2016 Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID 2016)
- From Kampala to Istanbul: Advancing global accountability for IDPs through law and policy making

# Web statistics (April - June 2016)

Home page: **36,000** 

IDMC Internal Displacement Database: **7,000**Global Report 2016 landing page: **14,000** 

GRID PDF Downloads: 26,000

#### **IDMC** on Social Media

**Facebook figures**: IDMC's Facebook community grew during the quarter, attracting almost 1,600 new fans. The page had 7,468 likes by the end of June 2016.

**Twitter figures**: the @IDMC\_Geneva account had 4,575 followers by the end of June. Tweets during this 90 day period garnered 800 retweets, 412 favourites, 35 replies and 391.9K page impressions.

### IDMC's financial situation

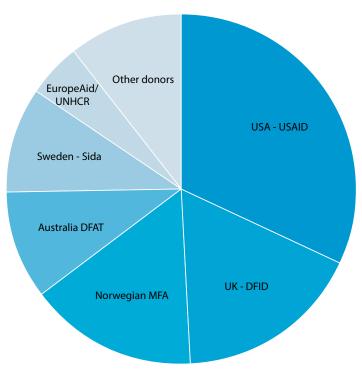
#### Financial Situation as of 30 June 2016

Funds contracted: 3,730,470.98 Expenditure: 1,429,200.90

Actual expenditure against received funds: 38%

#### Thanks to our donors!

We would like to thank our donors for their support in 2016: EuropeAid, Norway's MFA, Sweden's Sida, the UK's DFID, USAID, Australia DFAT and other donors.



#### **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 world-wide

#### 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

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FLEXIBLE IMPARTIAL INDEPENDENT BAILYAONNI
INNOVATIVE THE COLLABORATIVE
ACCURATE POWER IN BULL AUTHORITATIVE FLEXIBLE
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