

## 2010 NGO Consultations

### *Protecting all IDPs*

*30 June, 9:00-13:00*

In many situations, IDPs are often “invisible” to international agencies, either by choice or as a result of particular type of displacement for which humanitarian organizations have not developed sufficient expertise. In these cases, it is challenging for UNHCR and NGOs to identify and locate IDPs, and develop interventions, which respond to the specific needs and vulnerabilities of each group whilst also taking into account the situation of host populations.

The aim of the session is to discuss the specific challenges of identifying IDPs as the majority are outside camps, to make concrete recommendations on how to provide effective protection and assistance to IDPs outside camps, including to groups with special vulnerabilities and needs. Partnerships, especially international – national, and UN – NGOs / CBOs will be given special consideration throughout the session.

### **Plenary session: Setting the scene**

#### **Introduction**

Loren Landau, Forced Migration Studies Programme, University of Witwatersrand

#### **Context overview: IDPs outside camps**

Marzia Montemurro, Country Analyst, IDMC / NRC

#### 1. Latest global displacement figures and regional trends

- In all regions, availability of disaggregated data on IDPs needs to be improved. In some cases, like India and Nigeria, it is impossible to have an exact estimate of the scope of displacement.
- It is even harder to have disaggregated data on IDPs outside camps, including in urban areas (IDPs located in town and cities in at least 48 out of 54 countries in 2009). This represents an even bigger challenge considering that most IDPs find refuge in urban areas (e.g. 93% in Colombia, more than 80% in Turkey) – link to urbanisation trends.

#### 2. Challenges – identification of beneficiaries (emergency and protracted displacement situations) and achievement of durable solutions

- Disaggregated data on IDPs outside of camps and their exact location is lacking thus hindering an equal delivery of assistance and protection. In DRC, for example, most IDPs lived with host families and information on them was not available in 2009. In Pakistan, estimates of IDP numbers were based on registration of IDPs in camps and self-identification by the large majority who had found refuge elsewhere.
- An updated profile of IDPs can help ensure that they participate in recovery and/or development programmes without facing de facto discrimination and receive adequate support in their search for durable solutions. In many countries, with the largest proportion of IDP populations in outside camps, IDP figures were based on profiling exercises carried out several years before, often shortly after the initial displacement. Ex of Côte d’Ivoire
- More specifically, IDPs in urban areas face opportunities (e.g. wider livelihood options and wider variety of services, promoting economic development - Bosasso) but also challenges (e.g. lack of skills to adapt to the local job market, lack of access to land for daily subsistence purposes, inadequate housing conditions, etc.) – how to support them?

#### 3. Conclusion – overview of current initiatives focusing on IDPs outside of camps

- A number of processes – both inter-agency and non – are focusing on IDPs outside of camps, with a particular focus on urban areas (UNHCR, Rio Conference, IASC Task Force on Meeting Humanitarian Challenges in Urban Areas): awareness of need to identify new approaches or adapt existing ones to intervene in non-camp settings and closer link with development partners
- Role of CBOs – local CBOs essential for effective targeting of beneficiaries and delivery of assistance and protection; humanitarian actors to explore partnerships with non-traditional partners (e.g. municipal authorities, faith-based groups, etc.) to ensure that IDPs are an essential part of decision-making processes and that affected populations at large are included in delivery of assistance and protection programmes.

### **Displacement outside camps: identifying IDPs and responding to their needs – experience from Kenya**

Laban Osoro, Advocate and Coordinator Forced Migration Programme, Kituo cha Sheria (Centre for Legal Empowerment)

#### **Kenyan Experience on IDPs**

Urban Internal displacement in Kenya is both complex and fluid in nature given the multiple causes that underlie the phenomenon. Displacement in the country has been occasioned by several key attributes that can be summarized as follows: politically instigated ethnic violence; climate change resulting in drought and floods; resource-based conflict; development programmes resulting in spontaneous evictions; insecurity; and uncoordinated resettlement and relocation programmes. Whilst the different displacement situations are distinct, they share common trends and manifestations.

Kenya has witnessed internal displacement with varying intensities in terms of magnitude, time scale and numbers of people affected. These have ranged from a few dozen people displaced for a few days due to a flash flood to more than 663,000 that were displaced as a result of post elections violence some of whom end up in the urban areas. Climate change resulting in recurrent drought has prompted movement of pastoralists away from traditional grazing lands in search of pasture and water. The competition for limited resources has yielded numerous resource based clashes that have subsequently and repeatedly displaced entire communities. The resultant loss of livelihood has deepened economic stagnation and inhibited social development, leading to chronic vulnerability that has lasted for decades. (OCHA 2010)

#### **Challenges**

- Lack of preparedness of state and non state actors to provide effective protection for displaced persons even on recurrent causes like floods.
- Coordination of response to the urban caseload
- Identification of the affected population who are often hosted by communities or appear at the makeshift centres at the time of providing material assistance
- Lack of legislative and policy framework
- Disentitlement to property of groups of IDPs who were structure owners/landlords in the informal settlement before displacement.
- Lack of sufficient information on the ongoing interventions and reforms that have a direct effect on the IDP's situation. Such include the resettlement programme, compensation (10,000/25,000) and humanitarian assistance.
- Non payment of the compensation to IDP's despite being registered by government officers; efforts to follow up on the payment have been futile. This mainly affects Mathare & Korogocho.
- Wrong application of the Humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons by the provincial administration. Allegations of sale, skewed distribution and oppression by chiefs tasked to distribute humanitarian assistance in Korogocho were cited as a key factor hampering the interventions.

- The integrated IDPs, either in the informal settlement or those who moved to the countryside perceive the government as being biased towards assisting encamped IDPs in offering assistance, resettlement and compensation.
- Limited public access to information regarding the IDPs situation in Kenya.
- The payment of the kshs 25,000 to some not-genuine IDP's was reported. Gaps in profiling done by the Ministry of Special Programmes were reported as a major cause.
- Many IDPs still alleged that they were not profiled during the profiling hence cannot benefit from any support being given to IDPs.

### **Milestone**

- New IDP policy
- Improved coordination by UNHCR (partnerships)
- Partnerships Kituo – IDMC building capacity
- Resettlement efforts ongoing.

### **Ensuring participation of IDPs outside camps in humanitarian decision-making**

Josep Zapater, Snr. Protection Officer, UNHCR

UNHCR will share the challenges of facilitating participation of IDPs outside of camps in decision-making relative to humanitarian policies, plans and programmes. The assumption is that this settlement option may pose a higher challenge for IDPs in forming representative and organizational structures and for humanitarian agencies and Governments in encouraging them to do so. At the same time, choosing to establish themselves out of camps may respond to a conscious strategy by IDPs to avoid being identified as such. In these situations, the protection risks at the root of these strategies will also naturally act as a disincentive to participation in decision-making, which demands a level of visibility from IDPs leaders.

Challenges, good practices and lessons learnt will be shared mostly from field experiences in Colombia and the Philippines. They refer, among other things, to the high cost in terms of time, resources and security that participation imposes on IDPs, and to the natural consequence that participation will tend to occur only when it is cost-effective for displaced persons, and not as a matter of principle or desire.

### **Concrete Examples of Profiling IDPs Outside of Camps**

Kathrine Starup, Policy Adviser, Danish Refugee Council (DRC)

Based on recent DRC profiling exercises of IDPs outside camps in Central African Republic (CAR) and South Caucasus, DRC will share the challenges, lessons learnt, and good practice on the following key issues:

- The main challenges of identifying and establishing a dialogue with IDPs residing outside camps/collective centres
- Lessons learnt on the approaches and tools that have proved relevant, appropriate and effective in identifying and reaching out to IDPs outside camps/collective centres
- The nature and characteristics of the partnerships that have been instrumental in ensuring that DRC and its partners can identify the IDPs; gain access to the IDPs residing outside camp settings/collective centres; and that this group of IDPs can engage in a dialogue and activities in a meaningful way.