

INCLUSIVE DATA CHARTER WORK PLAN

INTRODUCTION

The internal displacement of millions of people every year is a human tragedy, as well as a development, security and economic issue for states. Failure to resolve protracted displacement crises, and to reduce the risk of future displacement, undermines the wellbeing of internally displaced persons (IDPs), and the communities and countries in which they live. In order to prevent and reduce internal displacement, States, UN agencies, civil society and other actors need accurate, robust data and evidence to inform and reinforce their policy-making, development planning and crisis prevention and response.

The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) is the authoritative source of data and analysis on internal displacement. Since our establishment in 1998, as part of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), we have offered a rigorous, independent and trusted service to the international community. Our work informs policy and operational decisions that improve the lives of the millions of people living in internal displacement, or at risk of becoming displaced in the future.

We monitor all forms of internal displacement. Our coverage and mandate is global, and we are the only organisation to hold centralised, accessible global data on internal displacement over time. We use multiple sources of evidence, validate our data and are transparent about its limitations. We constantly seek to improve sources and methods to get the most accurate and objective information possible. Along with our data innovations, our research is instrumental in building a deeper understanding

of internal displacement, and shaping new thinking on this issue. We partner with leading experts and institutions to expand our research agenda and improve our data analysis. More information on our work can be found in our [2017-2020 Appeal](#).

The main challenges IDMC faces in getting comprehensive and timely information on internal displacement are a lack of:

- interoperable data that takes into account the links between internal displacement and cross-border movements by refugees, asylum seekers and migrants;
- time series data on people displaced by disaster;
- consistency in the methodologies used by data collectors;
- data on IDPs in hard to reach areas;
- data disaggregated by age and sex, different abilities and other relevant characteristics;
- data on specific flows, such as secondary displacement and returns, and limited connection between stock and flow data;
- data on all displacement phenomena (e.g. displacement associated with criminal violence, development projects or slow-onset disasters);
- systematic and longitudinal information on the wider impacts of displacement on IDPs, host communities and socioeconomic development;
- data needed to assess the severity of displacement;
- consistent information-sharing and access to data, whether it is collected by humanitarian and development organisations or governments.

CURRENT WORK AND COMMITMENTS

IDMC works to address the need for inclusive data on internal displacement by:

- Monitoring and analysing the data on all forms of internal displacement. This includes aggregating, validating and analysing data from multiple sources, pursuing technological innovation and disaggregation, and working to make our data open and accessible
- Building a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of internal displacement. We do this by producing quantitative and qualitative research on the drivers, trends, patterns and impacts of internal displacement, analysing key displacement situations, and pursuing innovative research to investigate emerging issues and unpack complex phenomena
- Providing advice, tools and support to countries, humanitarian and development actors and other partners to ensure internal displacement is addressed and the needs of IDPs are considered in national and international policy-making, planning and responses.

Our flagship publication, the **Global Report on Internal Displacement**, is published annually, bringing together global data on internally displaced people and advancing analysis on internal displacement. It is relied upon by governments, international institutions and agencies, civil society, the media and researchers.

WHAT IS NEW OR DIFFERENT?

IDMC welcomes the development and launch of the Inclusive Data Charter. Its five principles are an important distillation of the key data priorities which must be pursued and implemented in order to ‘leave no one behind’. They all clearly align with IDMC’s core mandate and objectives. By becoming a champion, we aim to contribute to greater collaboration among diverse stakeholders to improve data for sustainable development.

PLAN

IDMC is pursuing several activities that align with and are complementary to the principles of the Inclusive Data Charter:

- We will extend access to our displacement monitoring platform to more partners, while increasing the amount of data and the number of sources available on it. This will allow us to capture more affected populations, triangulate figures reported by multiple sources and provide more temporal and disaggregated information about situations of internal displacement. **We also commit to enhancing the accessibility and usefulness of our [Global Internal Displacement Database](#), which is the only global database on internal displacement, and which serves as a reference point for countries, humanitarian and development actors and researchers**
- We will collaborate with partners, including UNICEF, to improve our understanding of the needs and vulnerabilities of internally displaced children, youth and women. Our joint work will include the disaggregation of data on internally displaced people by age and gender, for displacement caused by conflict and disasters. We also aim to estimate internal displacement’s impact on children’s long-term development, through qualitative and quantitative research. Our ultimate objective is to provide evidence that can inform the development of sustainable solutions for internally displaced children and their families. More broadly, we will seek to access and use displacement data from a wider range of actors, with the aim of promoting greater inclusion by capturing more fully the experiences of different displaced populations
- Where we do primary data collection and in our other qualitative empirical research, we commit to disaggregating our data, and situating our findings within broader conversations on sustainable development to highlight the specific needs of particularly vulnerable groups of internally displaced

persons, including children, women and older persons.

CONCLUSION AND COMMITMENT

We reaffirm our commitment to generating data that is inclusive, accessible, disaggregated, and drawn from diverse sources, and contributing to a stronger evidence base to inform policy-making on internal displacement and sustainable development. We look forward to engaging with other signatories to the Inclusive Data Charter to promote and uphold its principles.