



Towards Development Solutions to Internal Displacement: A Political Economy Approach

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Cover photograph: livelihood support for displaced people and host communities in Sudan. *UNDP/Ala Eldin Abdalla Mohamed*

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Acronyms

ATM	Automatic Teller Machine
CIREFCA	Conferencia Internacional sobre Refugiados Centroamericanos
CMDPDH	Mexican Commission for the Defense and Promotion of Human Rights (Comision Mexicana de Defensa y Promocion de los Derechos Humanos)
CRRF	Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework
DAC	Displacement-Affected Community
DSWG	Durable Solutions Working Group
ECHO	European Commission's Humanitarian Office
FARC	Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia)
HDP	Humanitarian-Development-Peacebuilding
HLP	Housing, Land and Property
IASC	InterAgency Standing Committee
IDMC	Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
JIPS	Joint IDP Profiling Service
JPA	Juba Peace Agreement
MIRPS	Marco Integral Regional de Protección y Soluciones para las América

ACRONYMS

MoPIED	National Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development
NSMDCIID	National Strategy for the Management of Disaster—and Climate—Induced Internal Displacement
NGO	Nongovernmental organisation
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
QUIPS	Quick Impact Projects
RLP	Refugee Law Project
TGOS	Transitional Government of Sudan
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
WFP	World Food Programme

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Executive Summary

Internal displacement represents a major global challenge which raises serious implications in terms of sustainable development. In 2020, 40.5 million people were newly displaced in 149 countries and territories, bringing the total population living in displacement globally to 55 million (IDMC 2021a). This report considers the ways in which political economy analysis can be used to understand the drivers, dynamics, and implications of displacement for development processes. It argues that political and economic interests guide political will, including commitments to uphold the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, the Responsibility to Protect, and the InterAgency Standing Committee Framework on Durable Solutions. Asking who stands to gain or lose from maintaining the conditions that lead to displacement, and from working towards comprehensive solutions, helps to arrive at practical and promising promotion of development-oriented durable solutions.

The report provides a synthesis of empirical research carried out through four case studies in Bangladesh, El Salvador, Iraq and Sudan, as well as interviews with UNDP teams in Central African Republic, Colombia, Somalia and Syria and consultation of available literature on displacement, durable solutions, and the humanitarian-development-peacebuilding triple nexus.

The report argues that an early and proactive approach to anticipating displacement and integrating the needs of displacement-affected communities into national development plans, strategies and laws is needed to achieve fully durable solutions. Political economy analysis is essential in this process, as it forms the basis for leveraging political will and promoting the restoration of displaced persons' rights as citizens.

This report and its associated case studies form part of the UNDP submission to the High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement. It presents ten recommendations, which may be briefly summarised as:

1. Development actors must engage early and systematically on displacement issues, preferably using political economy analysis to scan the horizon for displacement before it happens.

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