

Measuring Progress Towards

DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Technical Steering Committee
Update – December 2016

Dear Technical Steering Committee members,

We hope that this message finds you well. As the year draws to a swift close, we take this opportunity to update you on the durable solutions project.

The indicator library is being field-tested in different contexts. This will allow for the indicators to be further refined in advance of final endorsement, consolidation of lessons learned and development of guidance and capacity building material to inform future use of the library.

Below please find an update on ongoing pilots, with an overview of what has been achieved as well as what is planned. You will also find a *reflection from Dr. Chaloka Beyani* on the need to establish a measure to when displacement ends, as well as a case study from the *piloting of cognitive testing in Kosovo*.

The project team welcomes the *upcoming study “Breaking the Impasse: Ending Protracted Internal Displacement Through Collective Outcomes”* commissioned by OCHA and written by Walter Kälin and Hannah Entwisle Chapuisat.

The connection between protracted displacement and durable solutions is important, since one is essentially a stalling of the other’s progress. In this regard, it is positive that the study used framework of indicators and we look forward to the final publication in 2017.

Finally and not last we would like to share the following interesting readings: i. on [social cohesion](#) from World Vision International, ii. on [early solutions planning](#) from IRC and ReDSS; and iii. on [durable solutions initiatives in Herat, Afghanistan](#) by UNHCR. If you have any articles for cross-learning on durable solutions that you would like to share, please send them through for the next update!

Season’s Greetings!
Sincerely,
JIPS team

The project team would like to welcome **Cecilia Jimenez-Damary** as the new Special Rapporteur for the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons. We look forward to the continued work with the Mandate on durable solutions.

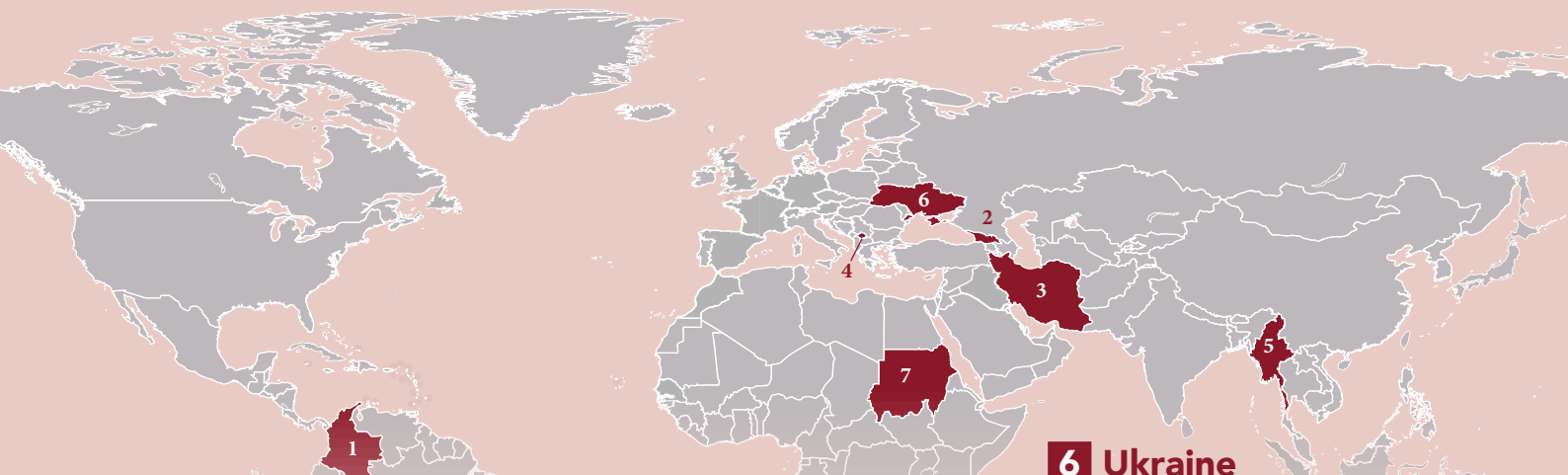
Save the date !

**24 January 2017 –
next Technical Steering
Committee meeting**

Tentative agenda:

- Emerging results from the pilots;
- Continuing discussions on measuring solutions with suggestions of methods to measure from the TSC members;
- Planning of the 2017 lessons learned technical workshop.

Piloting Update on ongoing and upcoming projects



1 Colombia

Scope Supporting the Victims Unit within the Government of Colombia, conduct durable solutions analysis based on existing registries.

2 Georgia

Scope Developing durable solutions monitoring framework and analysis of current situation to support IDP policy reform with government, DRC and UNHCR.

Completed Scoping mission to support project planning in November 2016.

Upcoming Secondary Durable Solutions data review.

3 Iraq

Scope A longitudinal study to analyse Iraqi IDPs' access to durable solutions to displacement, monitoring change over the next two years, including tracking movement and access to durable solutions qualitatively and quantitatively by IOM.

Completed Developed tools and scope of the exercise using the indicator library.

Upcoming Debrief with Iraq colleagues in December to gather feedback on the use of library.

4 Kosovo

Scope Durable solutions profiling exercise led by the Serbian and Kosovar authorities, the Kosovo Statistics Agency, DRC, IOM, UNDP and UNHCR with JIPS support.

Completed Using the indicator library, developed an analytical framework and tools, including cognitive testing and subsequent amendment to the questionnaire. Completed data collection and analysis workshop.

Upcoming Final report expected early 2017.

5 Myanmar

Scope Solutions-oriented profiling in IDP camps in Rakhine state in collaboration with CCCM and Protection Clusters, DRC and UNHCR with JIPS support.

Completed JIPS mission in May-June 2016 supported agreement on development of objectives, methodology outline and indicators.

Upcoming Data to be collected end of December. Will also support analysis and development of recommendations.

6 Ukraine

Scope Assessing IDPs' access to durable solutions and monitoring changes in the socio-economic characteristics of beneficiaries residing in 7 eastern oblasts of Ukraine most affected by the conflict through a monthly assessment by IOM.

Completed Developed tools and scope of the exercise using the indicator library.

Upcoming Debrief with Ukraine colleagues in December to gather feedback on the use of library.

7 Sudan

Scope Scoping mission to support the Government, humanitarian and development actors on identifying potential gaps in durable solutions analysis based on the indicator library. Mission to consolidate existing information and agree on a way forward for filling gaps.

Upcoming Area-based profiling planned in 2017.

Potential future pilots:

Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia, Djibouti.

We would welcome to pilot the indicators **in disaster contexts**, an area not yet covered by the project. Please let us know of opportunities in this areas.



Guidance note

from the former Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons, Dr. Chaloka Beyani

Do we need to create a measure to establish when a durable solution has been achieved?

The quest for the attainment of durable solutions for internally displaced communities is complex. How to concretely measure if and when durable solutions have been achieved is especially challenging.

This project recognizes the increasing need for a measure that allows governments, humanitarian, and development actors to be able to ascertain if and when durable solutions have been achieved.

While keeping this end goal in mind, the complexity of durable solutions requires an incremental approach. This project seeks first to explore existing and developing evidence to assess the relevance of such a measure. This involves systematically applying the durable solutions indicator library to various contexts in order to identify the most relevant indicators for informing a comprehensive analysis. This will facilitate the creation of a set of core indicators that can illuminate the conditions necessary for achieving durable solutions. The outcomes of this project will in this way advance the needs of governments, humanitarian and development actors.

The 2010 [IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons](#) (hereafter IASC Framework) determines that “a durable solution is achieved when IDPs no longer have any specific assistance and protection

“This project recognizes the increasing need for a measure that allows governments, humanitarian and development actors to be able to ascertain if and when durable solutions have been achieved.”

needs that are linked to their displacement and such persons can enjoy their human rights without discrimination resulting from their displacement”. It further outlines three routes to durable solutions – sustainable reintegration, local integration or integration in another part of the country.

According to the IASC Framework, a mere physical movement does not, on its own, constitute a durable solution. The Framework identifies the core principles that should guide the search for durable solutions. It furthermore outlines eight criteria that can be used “to determine the extent to which a durable solution has been achieved”.

As a rights-based framework, the spirit of the IASC criteria advocates for complete freedom from all displacement-related vulnerabilities, needs and discrimination. By this definition, a “durable solution analysis” needs to be comprehensive and look into all the IASC criteria that are relevant in any given context. Critical to this is the extent to which IDPs may suffer from discrimination on account of their displacement. Each one of the IASC criteria is complex, and thus requires consideration of the policy environment and legislation, institutional arrangements, law enforcement, community relationships, access to services, and living standards.

“Many factors affect the conditions needed for the attainment of durable solutions. This includes political, legal, and social dimensions and, importantly, the perceptions of displaced communities themselves.”

Although the IASC Framework defines durable solutions in a certain way, people’s perceptions of having achieved a durable solution also matter. In fact, their perceptions are integral to determining whether they themselves feel they have attained certain criteria (e.g. sense of justice restored). As they are agents of their own solutions they have the right to prioritize the criteria relevant for their own situations until they feel that they are no longer displaced, even if all the benchmarks of relevant durable solutions criteria have not been fully achieved. At the same time, this will not remove the duty bearers’ responsibility to create conditions conducive to the achievement of durable solutions in line with the IASC Framework.

Many factors affect the conditions needed for the attainment of durable solutions. This includes political, legal, and social dimensions and, importantly, the perceptions of displaced communities themselves. With more guidance on how to undertake a comprehensive durable solutions analysis, we better capture progress towards durable solutions as well as the barriers that prevent their attainment through the set of prioritized indicators this project seeks to develop.

Case study Cognitive testing of indicators and tools in Kosovo

Background

In 2013, the Ministry for Communities and Return (MCR), UNHCR, and the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) initiated a comprehensive profiling exercise of the situation of internal displacement in Kosovo. The collaborative exercise aims to assess the extent to which displaced persons have achieved durable solutions.

JIPS, with Statistics Norway, has been supporting the project since the beginning with a series of support missions as well as technical expertise throughout all the preparatory phases of the profiling, particularly on the development of a methodology and tools.

The piloting of the draft IDP profiling questionnaire was executed in June 2016, as part of the development process towards a final questionnaire to inform the data collection phase that took place in October 2016.

Why cognitive testing ?

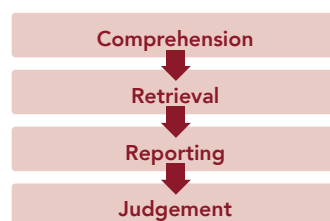
Cognitive testing is an important aspect to inform how durable solutions questions are understood by the communities; if people don't understand the questions that are asked, the data quality is compromised. It brings together the disciplines of cognitive psychology and survey methodology. Through a range of methods it aims to capture people's thought processes and understanding in responding to questions. The cognitive response model serves as theoretical basis for reviewing the quality of the questionnaire (see Figure 1). Proposed by Tourangeau, Risk and Rasinski (2000), it illustrates the cognitive step respondents need to process before reaching a response to a single survey question.

In the "comprehension" phase, the respondent interprets what the survey question is about. The



"retrieval" phase is where the respondent gathers relevant information, before assessing the adequacy of the retrieved information relevant to the question in the "judgment" phase. In the "reporting" phase, respondents report a response to the question selecting the preferred response option. The cognitive response model suggests that the potential for measurement errors begins with comprehension of the survey question. By accepting this complex cognitive response model, one also has to accept that there is an equal high risk of errors in respondents' replies to questions.

Figure 1: The cognitive response model (Tourangeau, Risk and Rasinski, 2000)



Process

In Kosovo, volunteer IDP household members were selected and interviewed in private locations. The respondents were selected from different demographics and backgrounds.

Main findings

Issues regarding the households' financial situation, such as receiving social assistance, were found to be sensitive for two reasons: i. social benefits were linked to social stigma; ii. benefits are received from both Kosovo and Serbian authorities. The latter is a politically sensitive topic and has to be asked about and analysed carefully. *Certain questions are of emotional nature*, i.e. respondents tend to get upset when describing their situation pre-war and post. This requires specific attention during training of enumerators.

Different displacement experiences of Albanian and Serbian IDPs meant they had different reactions to being interviewed. Serbian IDPs have been assessed numerous times by NGOs and Serbian authorities, whereas Albanian IDPs have received less attention. This resulted in Serbian IDPs being more reluctant to respond.

Different approaches were tested in order to elicit the generational differences in perspectives around future intentions. This proved to be a challenge as the interview respondents were not able to convey these differences, as future intentions are taken at the household level (regardless of diverging wishes). It was agreed to address this topic during the qualitative data collection, where youth and adults can be targeted separately.

The questions on future intentions proved to be very challenging, due to their hypothetical nature. It was decided to approach the topic from different perspectives: i. concrete plans to move within the immediate future; ii. consideration to return and to stay in current location under certain conditions prioritized by the respondent; iii. preferred location of future residence.

These issues were addressed in the questionnaire revision process and the lessons documented.