

Information Landscape Mapping

Enhancing Data-Based Decision Making
in Internal Displacement Contexts

A Technical Brief Based on JIPS' Country Support



Acknowledgements

Authors: Sarah Tarabishi (JIPS).

Particular appreciation goes to Oscar Rico, Svend-Jonas Schelhorn, Julia Litzkow, Corina Demottaz, and Wilhelmina Welsch (JIPS), who all reviewed this publication and provided important feedback.

Design and illustration: [Crimson Studio](#).

This publication was made possible through the generous support of the American people through the Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), as well as Denmark's Development Cooperation (Danida). The contents are the responsibility of JIPS and do not necessarily reflect the views of Danida, BHA/USAID or the United States Government.

Citation: JIPS (2023). Information Landscape Mapping: Enhancing Data-Based Decision Making in Internal Displacement Contexts. Technical Brief based on JIPS' Country Support.

© All rights reserved. The copyright for this material lies with JIPS. It may be reproduced for educational purposes (including training, research, and programme activities) and elements of this report may be quoted in other publications, provided JIPS is acknowledged as per the above-mentioned suggested citation.

JIPS is an interagency service set up in 2009 and dedicated to bringing governments, displaced persons, host communities, and subnational, national and international actors together to jointly produce data and analysis that can inform durable solutions to internal displacement. All our efforts are driven by our vision of a world in which internally displaced persons can progress towards durable solutions and live in dignity while doing so.

A globally recognised neutral broker, JIPS specifically provides technical and collaboration support to country partners, namely on profiling, and strategic advice on data; consolidates its expertise into quality guidance, hands-on tools, and tailored training; and advances global practice and discourse towards sound global action and standards. Field-focused and committed to enhancing local ownership and capacity, JIPS brings specific expertise on protracted displacement, durable solutions, urban displacement, and IDP statistics.

[Find out more about JIPS](#)

CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	2
List of Acronyms	4
Introduction	5
What is information landscape mapping?	5
Outcomes of Information Landscape Mapping in internal displacement contexts	6
Direct outcomes	6
Indirect outcomes	7
Case studies from JIPS' country support	8
Somalia: Mapping data sources within the humanitarian sector to collectively assess their suitability for the production of official statistics	8
Burkina Faso: Mapping the information landscape to inform the design of a durable solutions analysis	11
Ukraine: Identifying indicators in Luhansk relevant to adurable solutions analysis	13
Guide to Information Landscape Mapping: Steps and templates	15
Good Practices	23
Conclusion	24
Annex	25

List of Acronyms

OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
CONASUR	Conseil National de Secours d'Urgence et de Réhabilitation
ERP	Emergency Response Plan
GRID3	Geo-Referenced Infrastructure and Demographic Data for Development
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
HDX	Humanitarian Data Exchange
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
ILM	Information Landscape Mapping
MSA	Multi-Sector Assessment
MSNA	Multi-Sector Needs Assessment
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
NDP	National Development Plan

Introduction

This technical brief provides practitioners with a **step-by-step guide** [Figure 1] alongside practical templates needed to map and analyze the information ecosystem in internal displacement settings. It enhances their understanding of the use of such an undertaking and how to amplify its impact along the process, offering insights from JIPS' hands-on involvement in fostering Information Landscape Mapping (ILM) within collaborative initiatives in Somalia, Burkina Faso, and Ukraine.

This brief goes beyond the basics of what ILM entails by delving into the core reasons why it holds particular significance within the context of internal displacement. JIPS' emphasis on collaboration resonates throughout the step-by-step process we present, equipping practitioners with the knowledge and tools needed to navigate dynamic data ecosystems, build a common understanding of the information gaps and needs among different stakeholders, and promote data interoperability.

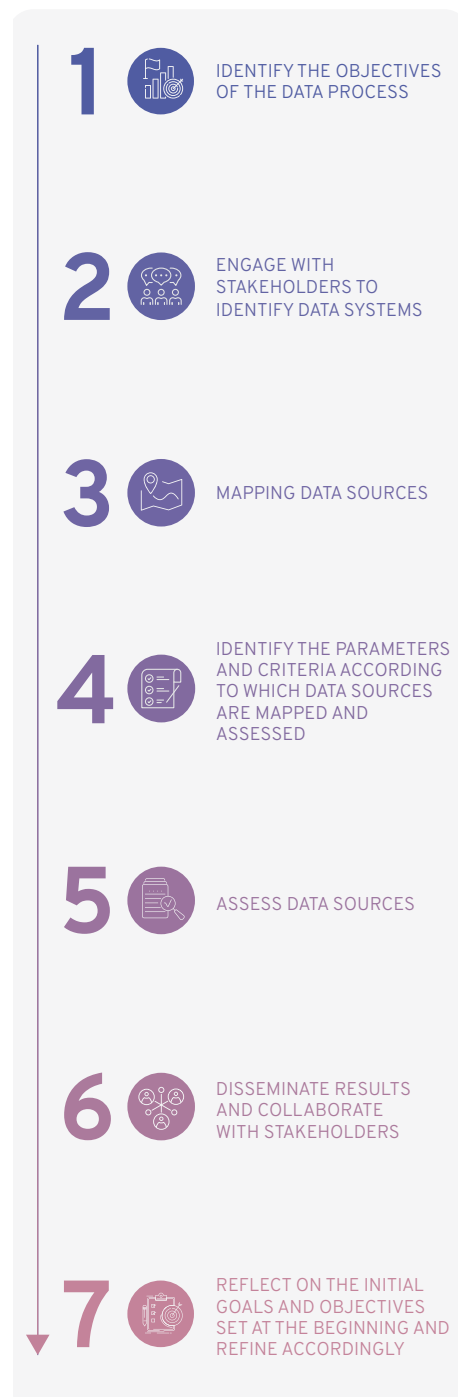
Aside from the hands-on templates, the brief also discusses the key criteria against which a data source can be assessed for suitability, completeness, comparability, and reliability. These tools can be used in conjunction with JIPS' other tools available on the [JIPS Essential Toolkit](#).

What is information landscape mapping?

ILM is a collaborative and data-driven process that aims to foster a comprehensive understanding of the information ecosystem surrounding a specific context. It involves identifying and analysing the various data sources and stakeholders within the context. The process facilitates the coordination and collaboration between different actors involved in data collection, management, analysis, and use.

In the context of internal displacement, the process of mapping the information landscape assumes a crucial role, given that practitioners often encounter two daunting scenarios: In a new displacement crisis they may face stark scarcity of relevant data, while in a protracted context they may find a great diversity of data sources and methodologies that are not harmonized, complete, and/or suitable. These challenges underscore the critical need for a systematic approach to navigate and make sense of the diverse data ecosystems in internal displacement situations. An ILM can assist practitioners in addressing these challenges by providing a structured framework for the comprehensive analysis of data sources from various stakeholders and their use against specific information needs. It contributes directly to building a robust, quality evidence-base that can inform sound decision-making and responses towards solutions for internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Figure 1: Overview of the different steps of an Information Landscape Mapping process



Outcomes of Information Landscape Mapping in internal displacement contexts

Ideally, an ILM is conducted at the very outset as part of the initial planning stages of a data collection process, whether it is a durable solutions analysis, a profiling exercise, a needs assessment, or another IDP data system.

The following section presents the key direct and indirect outcomes of ILM including some of the fundamental questions that such an undertaking can effectively tackle.

Direct outcomes

1. **Comprehensive and common understanding of the information ecosystem:** The mapping of the information landscape facilitates a thorough examination of the diverse available data sources relevant to internal displacement, such as government databases, UN and NGO data and reports, academic studies, and other sources. It also fosters clarity on the actors generating data and opens the floor for potential partnerships and complementarity in data approaches.
2. **Identification of trends, patterns, and information gaps:** An ILM unveils patterns and trends not only within individual data systems but also across the entire ecosystem related to internal displacement. For instance, the mapping might reveal areas that have been extensively researched and others that have not been examined yet at all. It can also show trends in displacement patterns, such as the prevalence of IDPs in urban areas. Additionally, it identifies information gaps, such as missing data on specific vulnerable groups or hard-to-reach areas. This comprehensive view helps to focus data collection efforts and address critical information gaps, making it a valuable tool for gaining insights beyond individual data systems.
3. **Guidance for methodology development:** At a more granular level, an ILM enables the thorough examination of the methodologies adopted in different data collection exercises. This sheds light on questions such as:
 - The type of population groups captured (e.g. IDPs, host communities, refugees, etc.) and whether a comparative analysis can be established;
 - The nature and scope of indicators utilized (e.g. SDGs, interagency durable solutions indicators, etc.);
 - The extent of thematic coverage (e.g., safety and security; housing, land and property; access to livelihood, etc.).
4. **Supporting the harmonization of indicators:** An ILM supports the contextualization and standardization of indicators at the country level. For instance, the mapping may reveal variations in how different stakeholders define and measure durable solutions outcomes. By harmonizing indicators, it becomes easier to compare data across different studies and ensures consistent measurements of progress over time and space.
5. **Enhancement of uniform definitions:** Through ILM, various actors' definitions of IDPs in data collection can be reviewed and improved, while ensuring relevance and comprehensiveness within their unique contexts. This fosters uniformity across diverse data collection practices, enhancing comparability and enabling more robust analysis of displacement trends. ILM not only uncovers diverse IDP definitions but also supports their refinement, improving the collective understanding and response to internal displacement challenges, addressing questions like:
 - How internally displaced persons are defined in different data systems;
 - What are the frameworks guiding the definition of IDPs in existing data systems;

Consequently, policymakers and decision-makers can confidently use data from multiple sources to make informed decisions and develop effective strategies for addressing displacement challenges.

Indirect outcomes

1. **Collaboration** is essential for the comprehensive and sound mapping of a data ecosystem. It requires that diverse actors, such as humanitarian and development agencies, government authorities, national statistical offices, and civil society organizations, come together to share their data and methodologies as well as good practices and lessons learnt. In this way, an ILM process makes space for partnership building and helps improve collaboration among diverse stakeholders. Through the process relevant existing coordination mechanisms can be identified, such as working groups, and an ideal forum for discussing IDP data with all involved actors can be chosen.
2. **Data responsibility**¹: An ILM can promote ethical data practices by enhancing harmonization, interoperability, and comparability of data sources.

A key principle of data responsibility is to reduce the amount of data that organizations collect, process, and store, to minimize data fatigue, and to support ethical data collection. By mapping out existing data systems in a given context, an ILM can help organizations to identify redundant data collection efforts and focus on collecting and processing only the data that is necessary to achieve their objectives. Moreover, the mapping process can enhance the prospects of achieving successful data interoperability. For instance, ILM can determine whether various stakeholders are adopting existing [interagency durable solutions indicators](#), assess alignment in methodologies, and explore the potential for establishing comparability either geographically or among different target groups within a specific context.

1 According to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (ISAC) Operational Guidance: Data Responsibility in Humanitarian Action, February 2021, data responsibility refers to the ethical and legal obligations of individuals and organizations to handle data in a trustworthy, secure, and responsible manner.

Case studies from JIPS' country support

SOMALIA | Mapping data sources within the humanitarian sector to collectively assess their suitability for the production of official statistics



CONTEXT

The Government of Somalia is actively working to enhance its national statistical capabilities and analysis on displacement, with the aim of finding durable solutions for those affected by forced displacement. The Somali National Development Plan 9 (NDP-9) 2020-2024 recognizes the significant impact of conflict and climate emergencies, which have led to large-scale forced displacement and insecurity as well as exacerbated poverty levels, and prioritizes durable solutions for long-term displacement in its strategy framework. In 2020, Somalia also endorsed the National Durable Solutions Strategy (NDSS) 2020-2024, aiming to achieve durable solutions through evidence-based analyses, a bottom-up and inclusive consensus building approach, and integrated and systematic programming. Despite the strong focus on longer-term solutions, the current internal displacement data ecosystem primarily relies on data designed to inform humanitarian responses and programming. Efforts are underway to strengthen and harmonize these data

systems, including through the implementation of the [International Recommendations on IDP Statistics](#) (IRIS) and the development of a national IDP statistics system led by the Somalia National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS) and supported by JIPS on behalf of the Expert Group on Refugee, IDP, and Statelessness Statistics (EGRISS).

OBJECTIVES

In August 2021, JIPS and EGRISS jointly organized a technical meeting in Nairobi to facilitate a hands-on and technical dialogue on the production of national statistics on internal displacement in Somalia. This included evaluating the existing IDP data landscape in-country and exploring how the international community can best support government-driven efforts to enhance internal displacement statistics. The event also served as a distinctive opportunity to bring various stakeholders engaged in IDP data together.

METHODOLOGY

Prior to the technical meeting, JIPS conducted a stakeholder mapping exercise to identify the various actors within the Somali context who contributed to the data ecosystem related to displacement. The analysis revealed that the ecosystem predominantly

depended on the involvement of UN bodies, international entities, and national non-governmental organizations to inform humanitarian responses and programming. The mapping process also highlighted the interconnectedness among stakeholders and their respective areas of focus concerning displacement data.

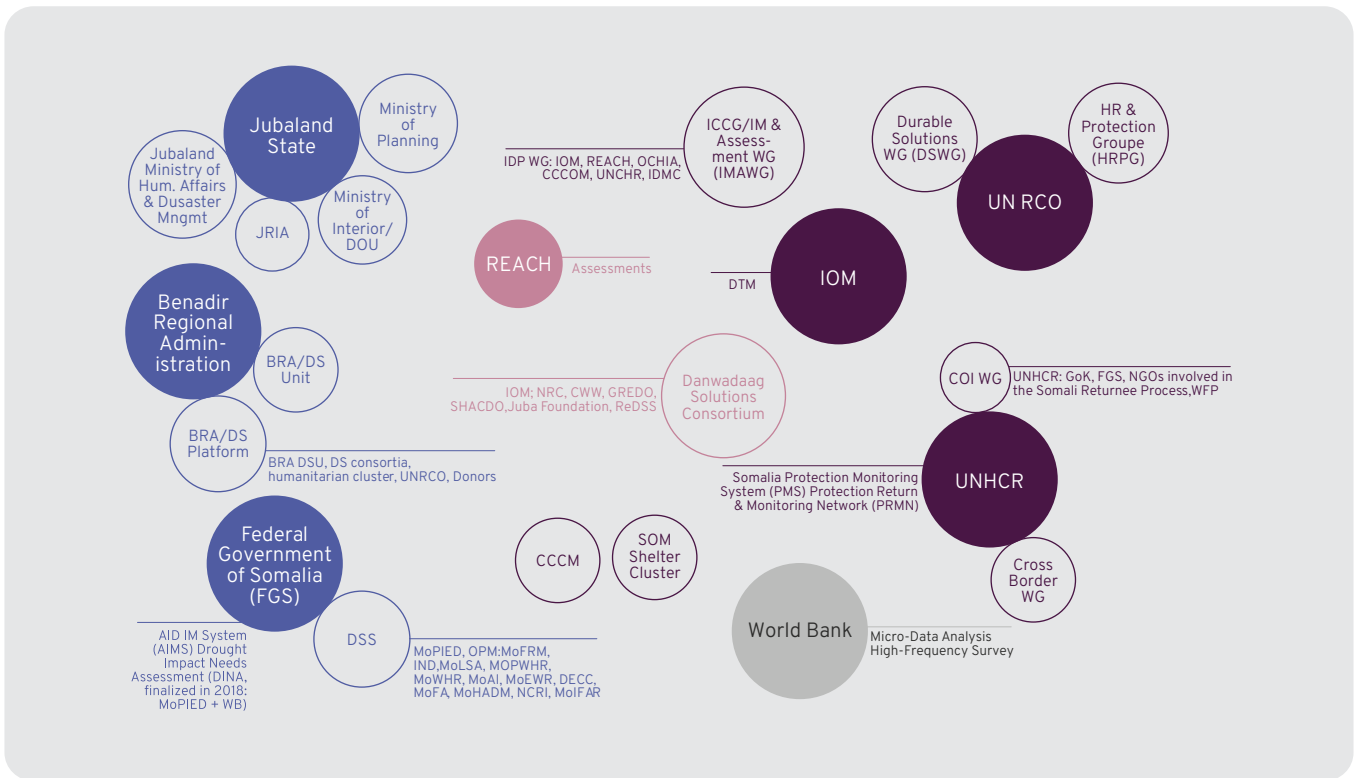


Figure 2: Map of Stakeholders within the internal displacement data ecosystem in Somalia

During the technical meeting, JIPS engaged participants in a detailed examination of data sources pertaining to internally displaced persons by completing the matrix provided below. Attendees also discussed different case studies to illustrate best practices and challenges related to data collection, and examined their suitability for official statistics, based on the IRIS and the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. The resulting mapping serves as a preliminary basis for the selection of potential sources for official statistics related to displacement in Somalia.

	Joint Multi-cluster Needs Assessment	High Frequency Phone Survey	High Frequency Covid-19 Survey	DTM	PRMN	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey	Labour Force Survey	Aspirations Survey	Somali Health and Demographic Survey
Responsible agency									
Main external agency									
Is the National Statistical Office involved?									
Which other government agencies are involved?									
Geographical coverage									
Statistical representation: To what extent does the sampling methodology allow representativity?									
Target group									
Unit of analysis									
Last year conducted									

Figure 3: Somalia Information Landscape Mapping Matrix

INSIGHTS

This initiative had a significant impact by initiating a process that would improve data systems related to IDPs in Somalia, ultimately enhancing the quality of these data systems and their relevance for official statistics. The following insights resulted from the ILM exercise in Somalia:

- **Dedicated forum for official statistics:** The mapping exercise in Somalia identified pivotal actors within the internal displacement data ecosystem, revealing their roles and spheres of influence. This led to a key recommendation: creating a dedicated forum for official statistics. Recognizing these influential actors highlighted the importance of a holistic approach involving government authorities, national statistical agencies, humanitarian organizations, development stakeholders, and donors. This collaborative effort aims to efficiently coordinate data initiatives in internal displacement, ensuring comprehensive and reliable statistics, in line with international standards and best practices.
- **Cooperation to strengthen technical capacity on statistical rigor:** The mapping highlighted gaps and challenges between existing data sources within the humanitarian sector, and helped identify variations in data quality and rigor across stakeholders. It highlighted that a nationally-owned IDP statistical system requires coordinated capacity-development efforts from the international community, supported by existing donor coordination mechanisms.

- **Drafting a strategic plan for IDP Statistics:** The mapping exercise underpinned the recommendation for the Government to draft a strategic plan for IDP official statistics, to align different frameworks and laws addressing statistics and displacement in Somalia.
- **Standard definition of IDPs:** The mapping critically raised awareness of discrepancies in the definitions and methodologies used for IDP data collection. This supported the recommendation for the Government to endorse a standard definition of IDPs and classification criteria, aiming to align the various definitions and standards in use.

CONCLUSION

The information landscape mapping in Somalia has been instrumental in shaping strategies to address internal displacement in the country. It has resulted in several key recommendations, including the establishment of a dedicated forum for official statistics involving various stakeholders, highlighting the need for coordinated capacity-building, a strategic plan for IDP statistics, and a need for a standardized definition of IDPs. This mapping process is crucial for improving data systems and supporting Somalia's goal of finding durable solutions for those affected by forced displacement. It underscores the importance of collaboration and informed decision-making in enhancing data ecosystems.

BURKINA FASO

Mapping the information landscape to inform the design of a durable solutions analysis



© OCHA / Giles Clarke

CONTEXT

Following a request for support for a profiling exercise submitted by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) in Burkina Faso on behalf of the Rapid Response Mechanism Consortium (RRM)², JIPS undertook an initial mapping of the information landscape to create an overview of relevant existing data sources on IDPs in the country. While the information landscape mapping was successfully completed, along with the development of a story map, unfortunately, the subsequent phases of the exercise did not proceed as planned.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the landscape mapping was to provide a comprehensive overview of the data provided by the systems currently in place, and to inform the design of a durable solutions analysis in Burkina Faso. It thus served to define the specific objectives of the profiling process while relying on existing information and

aligning with established IDP definitions. Additionally, the mapping aimed to inform the development of the data collection methodology at a later stage.

METHODOLOGY

The analysis conducted by JIPS focused on aspects such as: (i) the representativeness of available information by population group and geographical area, (ii) thematic coverage in relation to durable solutions criteria, and (iii) the frequency of data collection. The mapping also looked at the existing data systems, their objectives and the data collection methodologies.

The landscape mapping, which was visualized in a digital story map, includes data such as population and IDP figures, administrative boundaries, urban areas, and capitals. Data was gathered from multiple sources using the Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX) platform, including OCHA, UNHCR, CONASUR, the Burkina Geographical Institute, and GRID3. The mapping examined 12 different information systems,

² Comprising Action Against Hunger (ACF), Humanity and Inclusion (HI), and Solidarity International (SI), and being approved by Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).

refined through consultations with nine stakeholders and with humanitarian country team (HCT) members. A consolidated matrix was used for detailed metadata analysis, focusing on data collection methods, thematic and geographical coverage, and target groups.

The story map was intended as a dynamic online platform that can be updated as more information becomes available. In this regard, partners were encouraged to provide additional information to refine and complete the mapping and JIPS' analysis thereof.

The landscape mapping served as a starting point for discussions on profiling objectives and the methodological approach, and as a reference point for the profiling task team to maintain an overview of the various types of systems in place and thus the available data and the decisions that such data can elucidate.

INSIGHTS

The ILM exercise in Burkina Faso has provided interesting insights that emphasize the significance of adopting robust methodologies and advocating for consistent, representative data collection approaches that enable comparability and ensure comprehensive thematic coverage.

The key insights from the ILM exercise are as follows:

- **Challenges in IDP Data Collection: Ad-Hoc Methods and Comparative Analysis:** This mapping revealed that information on IDPs was produced and made available on a regular basis, reflecting the dynamic situation in the country. However, it also showed that most data systems relied on ad-hoc approaches and non-representative methods like remote phone interviews and key informant interviews. While offering demographic data, only a few assessments included the host community. This is key to enable a comparative analysis and foster an understanding of whether needs and vulnerabilities are specifically linked to displacement or whether they are common across all population groups and thus require a comprehensive development response (a core element of a durable solutions analysis).

- **Geographic and thematic disparities in data:**

Furthermore, it pointed to uneven geographic and thematic coverage, including on key criteria as per the IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs. For instance, Kongoussi was well-covered while Djibo lacked data on social cohesion and governance. The area-based assessments by REACH and the multisectoral assessments (MSA) had the widest thematic coverage, followed by the profiling and the multi-sector needs assessments (MSNA). However, the data was mostly focused on demographic profiles, protection, sectoral needs, and access to services. Some also investigated intentions and social cohesion, but none of these existing sources provided information on access to documentation, housing/land/property issues, access to livelihoods and employment, family reunification, and access to justice.

CONCLUSION

The information landscape mapping carried out in Burkina Faso, despite the subsequent phases of the exercise not proceeding as planned, offered valuable insights into the existing data landscape, identified areas for improvement, and underscored the importance of aligning data collection with durable solutions analysis.

By focusing on key aspects such as data representativeness by population group and geographical area, thematic coverage related to durable solutions criteria, and the frequency of data collection, the mapping provided a comprehensive overview of existing data sources related to IDPs in the country to inform the design of a durable solutions analysis.

The mapping uncovered that while information on IDPs was regularly produced and available, most data systems relied on ad-hoc approaches and non-representative methods. This highlighted the need for more rigorous and systematic data collection methodologies. Additionally, the mapping revealed disparities in geographic and thematic coverage, emphasizing the importance of comprehensive data collection efforts that encompass various criteria, as per the IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs.

UKRAINE | Identifying indicators in Luhansk relevant to durable solutions analysis



CONTEXT

In 2018, JIPS embarked on an ILM exercise in Luhansk, Ukraine, to gather indicators from existing international tools relevant to a durable solutions analysis: Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA), National Monitoring System (NMS), Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), and SCOPE.

OBJECTIVES

Apart from the primary goal of identifying relevant indicators within global-level tools for durable solutions, the ILM also sought to contextualise and test the indicators employed in these tools. This contextualization and testing process aimed to refine the methodology that served as the foundation for the subsequent profiling exercise supported by JIPS. The ILM was instrumental in facilitating future joint analysis of data from the profiling and other sources.

METHODOLOGY

The mapping process examined indicators that were already being employed in-country and had relevance to the profiling exercise. These indicators encompassed data collected by the national statistics office and governmental authorities, including those outlined in

the former IDP Action Plan. Subsequently, an evaluation was conducted on these identified indicators, assessing them against the eight specific criteria outlined in the IASC framework and operationalized into indicators in the [Interagency Durable Solutions Indicator Library](#):

1. Safety, security & freedom of movement,
2. Access to adequate standard of living,
3. Access to employment and livelihoods,
4. Access to mechanisms for HLP compensation or restoration,
5. Access to documentation,
6. Access to family reunification mechanisms,
7. Participation in public affairs,
8. Access to effective remedies

During this mapping process, it was essential to consider the following criteria: target population, geographic coverage, and representativeness of the data, including the scope and sampling methods used. Not all identified indicators could be included in the analysis due to issues around data availability and alignment with the planned scope of the profiling. Some indicators were specifically relevant for analyzing the

IDP population, while others were useful for analyzing the non-displaced population and comparing these two population groups.

INSIGHTS

The ILM exercise conducted in Luhansk offers valuable insights that underscore the importance of promoting data consistency, improving collaborative data analysis, and maintaining an ongoing indicator review process.

The following Insights stem from the ILM exercise carried out in Luhansk:

- **Foster data consistency:** To enhance the effectiveness of data analysis on internal displacement, stakeholders should continue to align indicators used in data collection tools with those relevant to durable solutions. This alignment should be maintained across humanitarian, human rights, peace-building, and development efforts.
- **Collaborative data analysis:** Joint analysis of data from various sources is encouraged, including profiling exercises and existing data systems, to

support evidence-based decision-making and policy development.

- **Ongoing indicator review:** Regularly review and update indicators to ensure their relevance in assessing the situations of both IDP and non-displaced populations, promoting a comprehensive understanding of durable solutions.

These recommendations provide a roadmap for stakeholders involved in addressing internal displacement to enhance the effectiveness of data analysis, support evidence-based decision-making, and maintain a comprehensive understanding of durable solutions.

CONCLUSION

Beyond producing a commonly agreed set of indicators, the ILM process in Ukraine laid the foundation for improved data consistency and collaboration among stakeholders, contributing to better informed decision-making and policy development in the context of internal displacement.

Guide to Information Landscape Mapping: Steps and templates

TEMPLATE 1: STAKEHOLDER MAP

Step 2

KEY OUTCOME OF THIS STEP:

Identifying the stakeholders operating in a specific ecosystem and their level of interest and relevance to the data process.

TEMPLATE 2: STAKEHOLDER MATRIX

Step 2

TEMPLATE 3: DATA SOURCES MATRIX

Step 3

KEY OUTCOME OF THIS STEP:

Identifying the relevant data sources produced by each of the stakeholders.

TEMPLATE 4: CRITERIA MATRIX

Step 4

KEY OUTCOME OF THIS STEP:

A clear overview of the existing stakeholders in a specific ecosystem, the data sources they produce, and the parameters against which those data sources are assessed.

Carrying out an ILM involves several key steps, which are outlined and detailed in this section, alongside hands-on templates that can support an effective mapping process.

It begins with identifying the specific information needs and objectives of the data process and engaging with stakeholders to identify relevant data sources (Step 1 and 2). Data is then collected and organized in a structured manner: the quality and credibility of each data source are assessed, and the mapping is analyzed

to generate actionable information and insights (Step 3, 4 and 5).

Throughout the mapping process, it is crucial to ensure traceability and credibility by documenting each step along the way. Stakeholder validation is sought to confirm the accuracy and completeness of the information mapped as well as to contextualize the findings. The results need to be disseminated to relevant parties to inform decision-making and support data-driven solutions (Step 6).



STEP 1:

IDENTIFY THE OBJECTIVES OF THE DATA PROCESS

The first step to embark on an ILM is to establish clear objectives that guide the entire process. However, it's essential to differentiate between the objective for the overall process and the specific objectives of the ILM.

For instance, imagine the objective of the entire data process is to “inform a national monitoring system to measure progress towards solutions”. At the highest level, the objective for the entire data process serves as the guiding force for all activities. It outlines the overarching aim, which encompasses a wide range of data-related activities, all with the ultimate goal of contributing to a comprehensive monitoring system that assesses progress towards durable solutions

for individuals and communities affected by internal displacement.

Within the scope of the broader data process objective, the ILM delineates specific objectives that provide clarity and direction to the mapping exercise. They are more focused, actionable, and tailored to the nuances of data collection, analysis, and use. One of the potential objectives for the ILM could be to “identify all available data sources related to IDPs in a specific country”. This specific ILM objective drills down into a particular aspect of the broader process objective. By doing so, it directly supports the overarching aim of enhancing the national monitoring system's capacity to measure

progress towards solutions by ensuring that all relevant data is accounted for.

Another objective of the ILM could be to “examine how IDPs are defined in various data systems”. This ILM would identify how IDPs are characterized within different data sources, aiming to create a harmonized understanding. Exploring the definitions of IDPs can reveal differences in the approaches adopted by various stakeholders. This examination opens the door

to improve harmonization of definitions, fostering comparability across data systems.

Another focused ILM objective might be: “Evaluating the level of data disaggregation within current data sources.” The purpose of this objective is to gauge the extent to which data sources distinguish details about diverse target groups for example. It facilitates a more nuanced comprehension of the distinct needs and challenges encountered by various subgroups.



STEP 2:
ENGAGE WITH STAKEHOLDERS TO IDENTIFY DATA SYSTEMS

To comprehensively map and analyze the information landscape, collaboration is key. This can be achieved through a “Stakeholder Mapping” approach and a multi-stakeholder process involving all relevant data users and producers.

Stakeholder mapping helps identify those involved in IDP data work, including local authorities, civil society organizations, displacement-affected communities, as well as entities beyond the humanitarian-development sphere like research institutions and think tanks. It also helps understand their roles, governance, and influence in a specific context. This analysis assists in

prioritizing engagement with stakeholders based on data type, operational areas, access, and other relevant factors.

Once stakeholders are identified, the information landscape mapping can begin. This step can be challenging, especially in unfamiliar contexts. Leveraging collective knowledge and awareness of existing data systems streamlines the process and prevents unnecessary duplication of efforts. Active engagement with pertinent stakeholders may involve meetings, workshops, or interviews to gather insights, inputs, and validate the resulting mapping.

TEMPLATE 1 - STAKEHOLDER MAP



The outset of the ILM process should involve posing critical questions: Who produces or uses IDP data? What is their interest in participating in the information landscape mapping? Who holds significance in this process?

It is essential to establish clear criteria for evaluating both interest and relevance among stakeholders. Interest pertains to a stakeholder’s eagerness and motivation to actively engage in the ILM process, often characterized by their willingness to collaborate, share data sources, and grant access to datasets. Relevance, on the other hand, centers around the alignment of a stakeholder’s work with activities related to internal displacement and whether they possess a distinct focus in this field. It is primarily gauged by assessing various factors such as mandate, mission, scope of work, contextual fit, and direct involvement in internal displacement-related activities.

Guiding Questions for Assessing Interest:

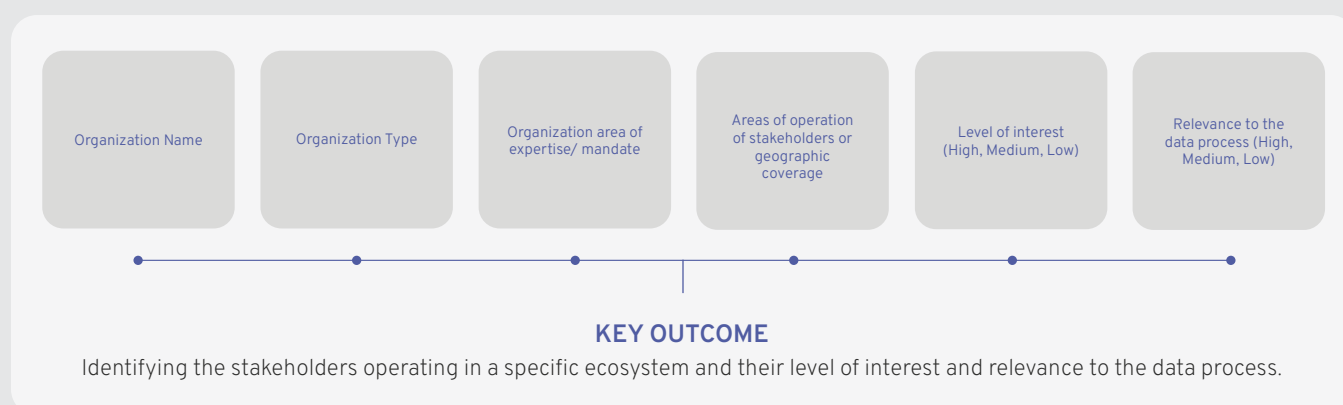
- Is the stakeholder willing to collaborate and actively participate in data-sharing efforts as part of the ILM process?
- Are they open to providing access to their data sources for analysis and mapping purposes?
- Are they motivated to enhance data-driven decision-making and policy development through the ILM process?
- Guiding Questions for Assessing Relevance:

- Does the stakeholder’s organizational mission or mandate explicitly address internal displacement?
- Do they possess expertise in areas relevant to internal displacement, such as policy and advocacy, research, data collection, or humanitarian assistance?
- Is the stakeholder actively engaged in activities directly related to internal displacement?

The stakeholder mapping establishes a visual representation across two dimensions: relevance and interest, both ranging from low to high. This template serves as an initial tool for plotting each stakeholder within this visual framework based on their interest level in participating in the mapping process, but also essential for recognising their relevance to the data process. It provides a foundation for tailoring engagement strategies with stakeholders to garner their support and involvement effectively. To facilitate the visualization of stakeholders on the map, it’s crucial to initiate the process by creating a comprehensive list encompassing all potentially relevant stakeholders. This step serves the purpose of ensuring that every stakeholder operating within the area is captured. It’s important to note that stakeholders can encompass a wide range, from local organizations to UN agencies and government actors.

TEMPLATE 2 – STAKEHOLDER MATRIX

Based on the stakeholder mapping, the stakeholder matrix can be filled in to create a blueprint of all the potential stakeholders that can support the mapping of data sources. Stakeholders identified in Step 2 can be organized as follows:





STEP 3: MAPPING DATA SOURCES

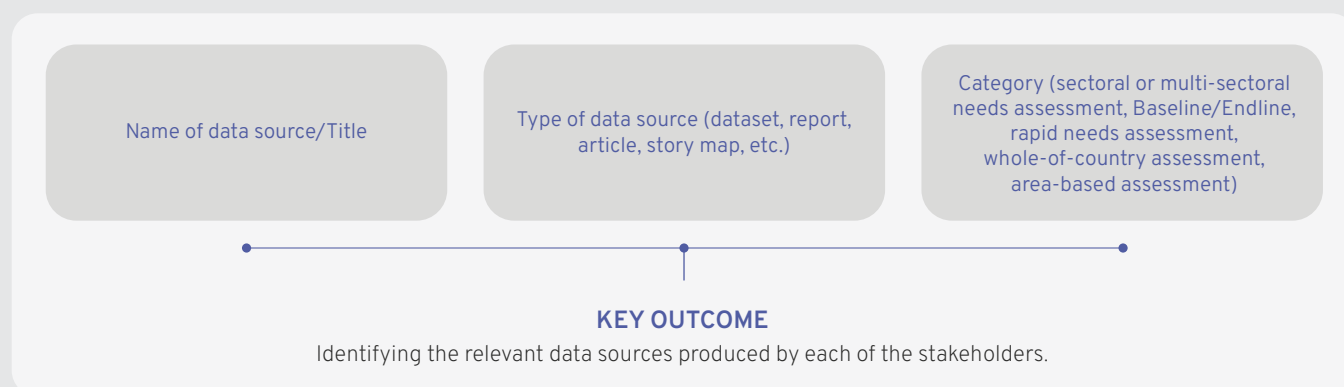
It is fundamental at this stage to focus the mapping efforts on stakeholders who are not only relevant to the ILM process but also those who demonstrate an interest in engaging and sharing their data sources. This ensures the establishment of productive collaborations with key stakeholders who can enrich the data analysis. However, it is essential to note that, at this stage, we refrain from delving into specific criteria such as the thematic areas covered by these data sources, the population groups they target, or the level of data disaggregation. We will explore these aspects more

comprehensively in Step 4, which follows, as we refine our data mapping process to gain deeper insights into the wealth of information at our disposal.

At this stage, it's vital to focus on mapping out data sources that are, on the surface, relevant to internal displacement without delving into intricate details. In other words, we're identifying data sources that have the potential to offer a contextual understanding of internal displacement or the surrounding environment, which can greatly benefit the overall exercise.

TEMPLATE 3 - DATA SOURCES MATRIX

It expands on the stakeholder matrix to map the identified data sources. It categorizes these sources according to the organizations responsible for producing them, providing a comprehensive overview of each stakeholder's specific contributions before delving into the assessment of these data sources.



STEP 4: IDENTIFY THE PARAMETERS AND CRITERIA ACCORDING TO WHICH DATA SOURCES ARE MAPPED AND ASSESSED

It is important during this stage that the key objectives of the information landscape mapping exercise come into play. Having laid out the key stakeholders involved (step 2) and generated a first overview of the data sources available (step 3), it is now time to take a closer look at the quality, relevance and usability of each data system in view of the jointly agreed objectives of the exercise (step 1). This entails evaluating each data source against predefined specific criteria, including but not limited to levels of disaggregation, geographic coverage, accessibility, data relevance for durable solutions analysis, data accuracy, inclusivity of IDP and other population groups, and methodology considerations such as sampling approaches, sample sizes, and target population groups, unit of measure. Additionally, these criteria can accommodate other

nuances such as the data source's intended purpose and the time period it covers, enabling evaluation of its relevance.

Let us illustrate the process with a concrete example: A research initiative is underway to assess food security and nutrition among urban and rural IDP households in a conflict-affected region of East Africa. The primary objectives of this research are to understand the factors influencing food security, identify the most vulnerable population groups, and inform targeted humanitarian interventions. The following criteria will be relevant to evaluate potential existing data sources and information gaps that may require additional primary data collection:

- **Geographic scope:** The data sources must cover the specific conflict-affected region under study, thus ensuring that the information from that data is directly relevant to the location of interest.
- **Data disaggregation:** Given the research’s focus on distinguishing between urban and rural households, data sources should provide disaggregated data for these two distinct areas. This criterion allows for tailored interventions based on the unique needs of each population. Furthermore, the disaggregation of data by specific target groups, encompassing the host community, IDPs, nomads, and various others, plays a critical role in assessing the situation

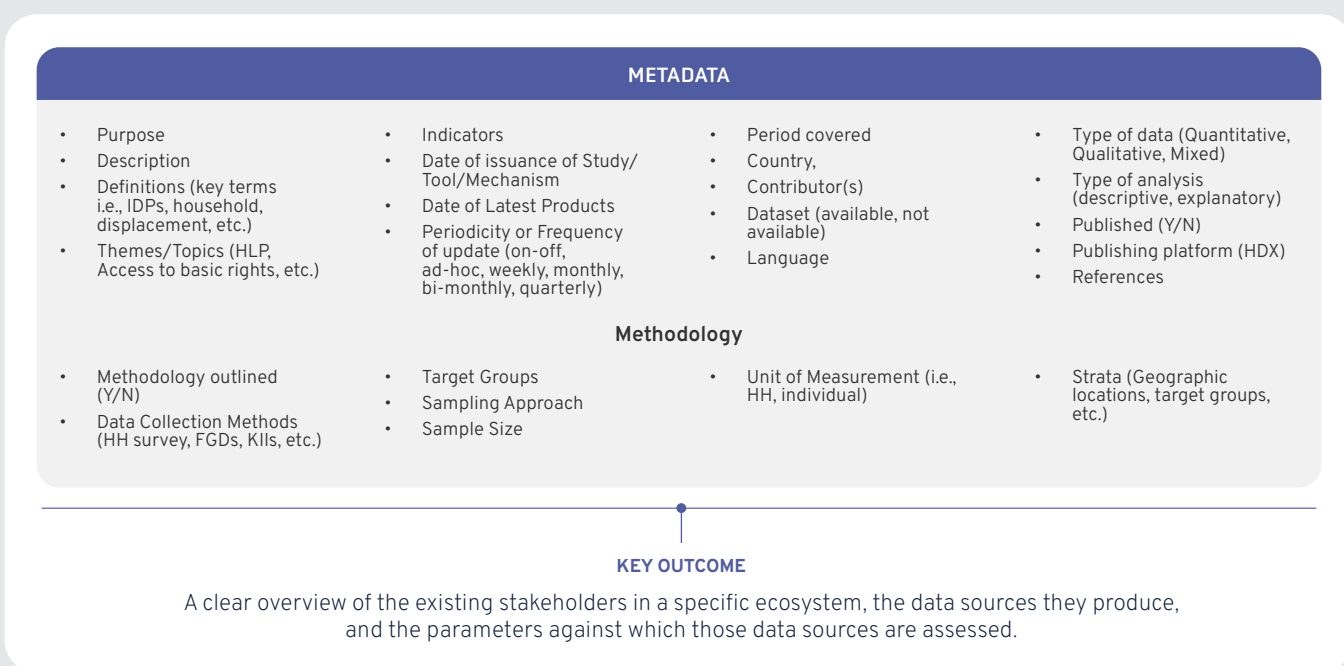
of IDPs in contrast to these other groups. This comparative analysis provides valuable insights into the vulnerabilities linked to displacement. Another noteworthy disaggregation could involve age groups, allowing us to examine the well-being of young IDPs concerning food and nutrition in comparison to other population segments.

- **Thematic focus:** The research centers on food security and nutrition-related indicators, such as food availability, access, utilization, and stability. It is therefore critical to assess whether data sources provide relevant information on these indicators.

TEMPLATE 4 – CRITERIA MATRIX

Expands once more on the matrix under step 4, and serves as a structured framework to map and assess data sources against set criteria. In this step, it is critical that these criteria are clearly identified and jointly defined to effectively guide the assessment of data sources for their relevance and suitability. It’s important to note that the criteria listed in the matrix are not exhaustive

and should be considered flexibly; they can be adjusted to align with the precise objectives of the ILM process. JIPS put together Template 4 based on a literature of existing data mapping matrices and systems, while also reflecting on JIPS’ previous experiences in Somalia, Burkina Faso, and Ukraine among others.



STEP 5:
ASSESS DATA SOURCES

The mapping is now completed and can now be analyzed in more detail to define whether existing data sources can support the overall research objectives, and if so, whether they can substitute primary data collection or simply serve to provide additional background on a certain topic or area, as well as to define current information gaps that would require primary data collection. An effective information landscape mapping exercise hinges on three key considerations:

1. The relevance of the data,
2. The completeness of data systems against the set criteria, and
3. The data systems’ reliability.

Below is a list of useful probing questions to critically test and assess each of these key considerations.

CRITERIA: RELEVANCE³

WHAT WAS THE ORIGINAL PURPOSE OF THE DATA?

The suitability of the data system for the data process is determined by firstly understanding why the data were originally collected. This might provide useful information about the population sample and demographics, the geographic coverage, and the methodology, among others. It is crucial to emphasize that the relevance of data sources is closely intertwined with the specific objectives of the data process or research being conducted. To illustrate, let's consider a scenario where the data process aims to gain deeper insights into the access to housing, land, and property (HLP) for both IDPs and nomadic communities in a given context. The assessment of relevance should revolve around key factors such as the geographic scope of the data, data disaggregation by target groups (IDPs and nomads), and the thematic coverage of HLP issues. To ascertain the relevance of data sources, it becomes essential to align them with the precise objectives of the data process and the established criteria that stem from those objectives. This alignment ensures that the selected data sources effectively contribute to achieving the intended research goals and objectives.

WHEN AND WHERE WAS DATA COLLECTED?

In the context of internal displacement, timely and up-to-date data is crucial due to the often- dynamic nature of displacement situations, for instance linked to population movements in conflict settings or due to sudden natural disasters. Outdated data may provide historical context but might not align with the objectives and needs of current research. Therefore, it is important to determine the data collection date for accuracy and relevance. On the other hand, historical data might be necessary for comparison, in which case ensuring data collection within a specific and appropriate time frame becomes essential. Identifying the geographical scope of the data is also critical, as geography can significantly influence the data process and results. Researchers need to ascertain whether the data represents the required geographical scope to address their research objectives effectively.

CRITERIA: COMPLETENESS⁴

IS THE METADATA OUTLINED CLEARLY?

Metadata is data that provides information about the data system at hand. It summarizes basic information about the data, particularly on what information was collected, when, where, by who and on whom. Metadata provides critical context to a dataset that assists data users in adequately interpreting the data. Relevant metadata dimensions typically include:

- Purpose
- Description,
- Definitions (key terms i.e., IDPs, household, displacement, etc.)
- Themes/Topics (HLP, Access to basic rights, etc.);
- Indicators;
- Date of issuance of Study/Tool/Mechanism;
- Date of Latest Products;
- Periodicity or Frequency of update
- Period covered;
- Country,
- Contributor(s),
- Dataset (available, not available);
- Language;
- Type of data (Quantitative, Qualitative, Mixed);
- Type of analysis (descriptive, explanatory);
- Published (Y/N)
- Publishing platform (HDX)
- References,

³ The questions mentioned do not alone suffice to assess the relevance of data sources. The initial assessment of data source relevance is based on the metadata, which includes aspects such as the indicators used and the themes covered. However, to comprehensively evaluate relevance, it is essential to delve deeper into the criteria outlined in the methodology, as established in template 4 such as target groups, geographic coverage, data collection method. For instance, this involves scrutinizing the target groups encompassed within a data source to determine if they align with the intended objectives of the exercise, such as understanding the situation of the displaced population concerning access to housing, land, and property (HLP), for example.

⁴ needs assessments released between 2005 and 2015. The metadata outlined along with the information needs is considered to cover all requirements for informing decision-making in emergencies. Below is the list of metadata: Year, Country, Disaster type, Report name, Coordination type, Number of sectors covered, Lead agency name and type, Disaster date, Report date, Use of secondary data, Support received, Questionnaire availability, Report length, Preparedness,

IS THE METHODOLOGY CLEARLY OUTLINED?

It is not enough to have a simple overview; it must be a clear breakdown of key elements such as: sampling strategy and sample size, target groups, geographic coverage. including justifications for the approach taken. A lack of transparency or solidity of the methodology impedes the appropriate use of the data, and calls into question the quality of the data.

ARE THE LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY CLEARLY SPELLED OUT?

The limitations of the research should be clearly stated as they allow the understanding of the research conditions and the challenges encountered during the research. The limitation statement can address anything from sampling to the methodology and is instrumental to demonstrating a comprehensive and holistic understanding of the research. Stating the limitations can also help improve the quality and validity of future research and emphasizes the principle of transparency in research to maintain and promote integrity. Limitations can include barriers to data collection, bias, and methodological errors.

IS DATA DISAGGREGATED, AND BY WHICH CRITERIA?

In the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development⁵, UN member states pledged to leave no one behind. The commitment to eradicate poverty, end discrimination, and reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities cannot be achieved without an orchestrated effort to collect high-quality disaggregated data. Disaggregated data helps expose trends; it can also pinpoint challenges faced by specific population groups. It can inform appropriate decisions and support policymaking to create more effective and inclusive interventions. Identifying the extent to which data is disaggregated (by sector, geographic area, sex, age, population groups, and other diversity criteria as needed) can determine its completeness and relevance to the research.

ARE THE DATASET(S) AND QUESTIONNAIRE(S) ACCESSIBLE (I.E., ATTACHED TO THE REPORT)?

Accessing raw datasets is crucial for a comprehensive and in-depth exploration of data. While final reports provide summaries of main findings, they may lack the richness and granularity present in raw datasets. Accessing the raw data, along with the questionnaires used for data collection, is essential for researchers to utilize specific data for their current research activities. For instance, raw data may contain additional information not covered in the reports but relevant to the ongoing research. It is not sufficient to know that data exists; easy access to data is equally important. However, acquiring access to data can be a complex process, requiring multiple approval requests. Determining the level of accessibility to data systems is crucial, and researchers need to ask whether the data is published and made easily accessible. By ensuring data accessibility, researchers can enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of data-driven processes and support more informed decision-making.

CRITERIA: RELIABILITY**WHO COLLECTED THE DATA?**

Determining the “who” impacts the reliability of the data and whether or not it is to be trusted and utilised. Data from government agencies, national statistical offices, and well-known organizations and agencies will always have a trustworthiness not commonly associated with data gathered from less credible sources. It is worthwhile understanding whether the stakeholders are experts in the field. This question can help determine how thorough or qualified the stakeholders are and whether the data they generate can be trustworthy.

HAS THE DATA BEEN PUBLISHED IN EASILY ACCESSIBLE AND RELIABLE PLATFORMS (I.E. HDX)?

In general, a data system can be judged based on where it has been published. This might not be necessarily the case all the time, as some organizations do not invest in publishing their data and making it accessible to a wider audience.

⁵ <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>

HOW CONSISTENT IS THE DATA WITH OTHER DATA SOURCES?

Does the data match with any findings from other sources? If not, this does not necessarily imply that the data is wrong, but it does warrant closer inspection and careful consideration. Perhaps a different methodology was adopted or maybe the geographic coverage was not the same. Or perhaps outliers were not accounted for and hence are skewing the analysis. Identifying all these potential problems is essential. A flawed or biased dataset can still be useful but only if you know where its shortcomings lie.

Note. It is important to engage with stakeholders throughout the entire ILM process, with particular emphasis on steps 4 and 5. In step 4, it's crucial to collaborate with stakeholders to define the criteria for assessing data sources. In step 5, joint assessments are vital to evaluate data sources' relevance, completeness, and reliability. This collaborative approach enhances the value of the ILM process significantly. When stakeholders work together, they can reach a consensus on the primary findings and identify gaps that require collective efforts for improvement. For instance, if the ILM reveals discrepancies in IDP definitions across various data sources, stakeholders can collectively address the need for harmonization.



STEP 6:

DISSEMINATE RESULTS AND COLLABORATE WITH STAKEHOLDERS

Dissemination is an essential step following the completion of the ILM. The insights and information generated through the analysis should be shared with all relevant stakeholders in a clear and accessible manner. This dissemination of data and information promotes transparency and accountability and allows

stakeholders to make informed decisions based on the evidence presented. The findings can be presented in various formats to facilitate a common understanding and uptake of the results by different audiences. Formats may include interactive story maps or dashboards, a synthesis report, or presentations.



STEP 7:

REFLECT ON THE INITIAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES SET AT THE BEGINNING AND REFINE ACCORDINGLY

This step involves a comprehensive analysis of the ILM findings to assess the information provided and its alignment with the initial objectives. The aim of this reflective stage is to identify any discrepancies or gaps between the obtained findings and the research goals and then to refine the approach accordingly.

For instance, in the mapping process, one of the target populations of interest may be nomads. However,

upon reviewing the findings, it is revealed that none of the existing data collection mechanisms or systems capture data on nomads. This indicates a significant gap in the information related to nomadic communities. As a result, stakeholders may decide to modify the data collection process to include nomads as a target group in sampling, ensuring their representation in the data landscape and addressing the information gap.

Note. Ideally, the Information Landscape Mapping (ILM) should be conducted periodically to ensure it stays up-to-date with evolving data sources. However, given its resource-intensive nature, involving substantial collaboration and coordination to identify stakeholders, data sources, establish assessment criteria, and collectively analyze findings for potential enhancements, at a minimum an ILM should be conducted before embarking on any new data-related process to refine objectives.

Good Practices

Undertaking an ILM involves spending time and effort engaging with stakeholders to identify data systems, collecting, organising, assessing, and analysing the data to generate actionable information and inform decision-making processes. The process can be very lengthy depending on whether a given context is data-rich or data-poor. Being specific from the beginning is essential to narrow down the scope of the ILM to what is relevant to the data process and what most serves the objectives and responds to the data needs initially laid out.

The approach to conducting an ILM process is not universally uniform. As demonstrated in the case studies, the ILM can be applied to serve various objectives, ranging from harmonizing indicators to assessing data source suitability for official statistics production. The versatility of the ILM allows it to be customized to fit any research or data-oriented endeavour. Nevertheless, there are fundamental factors to bear in mind when undertaking an ILM that are applicable to any data process focused on internal displacement, regardless of specific goals.

Based on JIPS experience, here's a list of good practices when carrying out an ILM:

- Narrow the scope of the ILM:** In the context of internal displacement, it is always important to narrow the scope of the ILM by precisely outlining the research objectives. This conceptual clarity serves a dual purpose: it streamlines the identification of parameters or criteria for mapping data sources, and helps to easier assess relevance of data sources.
- Work in harmony with the wider context:** When conducting an ILM, it's vital to consider the broader political and economic context in which you are working. This means examining and understanding the existing national framework and national statistical systems that are in place. Imagine a country facing internal displacement due to a protracted conflict, but the government refuses to recognize the existence of IDPs. In this context, political and economic factors significantly impact the absence of harmonized definitions, which might come up as a finding from the ILM process. In the absence of a national definition, various organizations and agencies may adopt their own criteria for identifying IDPs leading to discrepancies and challenges for comparability.
- Turn data into actionable information.** Oftentimes, a great amount of time is spent on identifying, organising, and assessing the quality of data sources, but too little time is dedicated to analysing the data gathered. While data collection and organization are crucial steps in any data-related process, the true value lies in the analysis that turns data into actionable information. Analysis provides context, uncovers insights, and identifies information gaps, empowering stakeholders to make informed decisions and drive positive change.
- Ensure reliability and traceability of ILM process.** Using a clearly defined ILM template will ensure a well-documented process which will increase the reliability of the ILM process. A traceable ILM process increases the likelihood that the findings will be effectively used by various stakeholders in a given context. This includes not only those directly involved in the ILM but also external parties who may benefit from the insights and data. Clear documentation ensures that the mapping results are accessible, understandable, and actionable. When stakeholders have confidence in the process and outcomes, they are more likely to apply the findings to shape policies, strategies, and interventions. Traceability is closely linked to transparency. It involves documenting the entire ILM process, from data source identification to analysis and dissemination. Transparent documentation ensures that every step of the process can be traced and validated by external reviewers or auditors. This transparency fosters trust among stakeholders and allows for peer review, which can further enhance the process's credibility.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the ILM process serves as a foundational and dynamic tool for enhancing the long-term effectiveness of data-related initiatives. By following a systematic series of steps, from identifying the objectives of the data process to mapping out key stakeholders, data sources, and assessing their relevance and quality, the ILM equips stakeholders with valuable insights into the landscape of available data resources.

One of the key takeaways from the ILM process is its adaptability. It can be tailored to meet specific objectives and evolving data needs. As we have seen, this process is not a one-time effort but ideally a recurring exercise to ensure that data systems remain current and relevant.

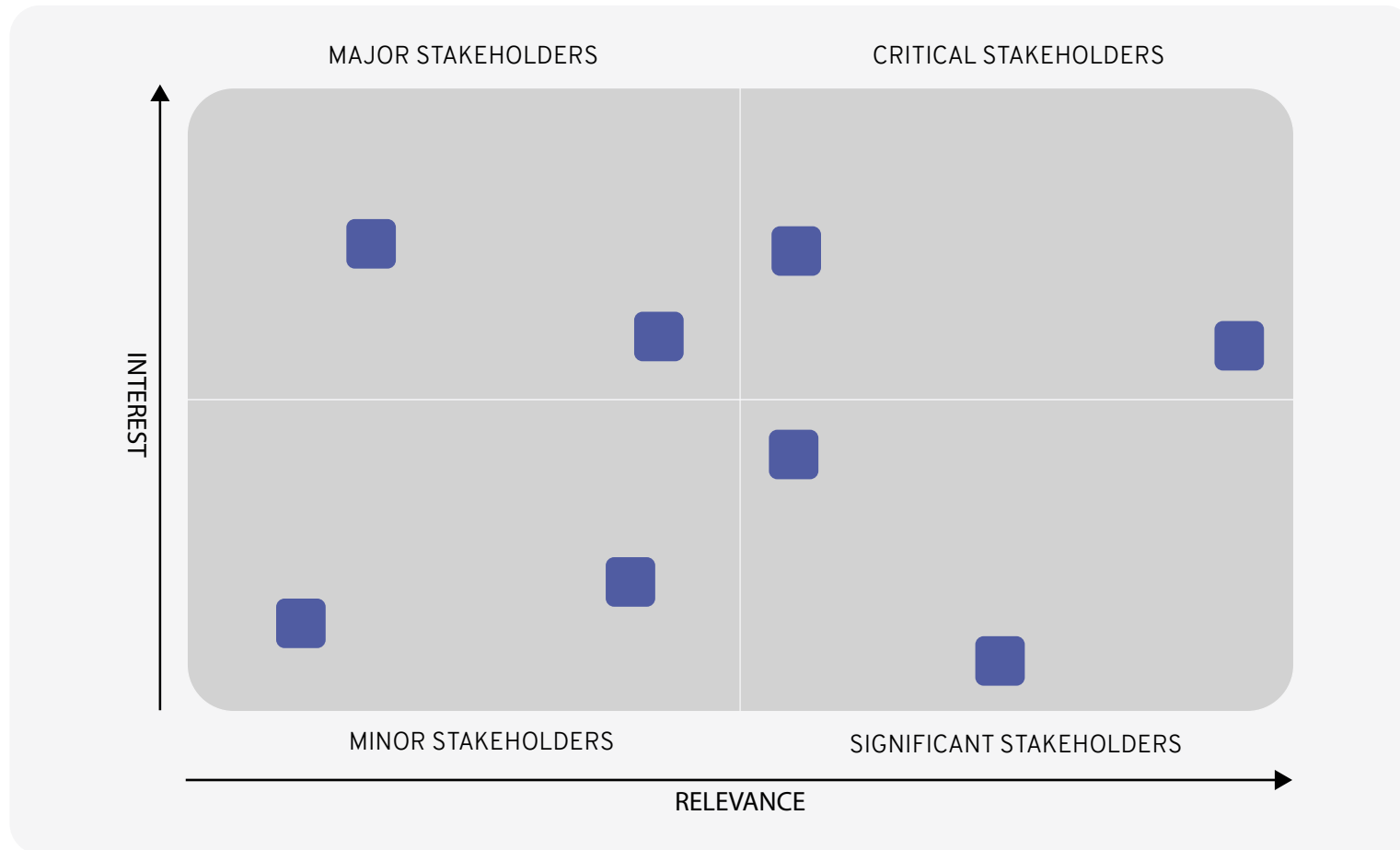
Moreover, the collaborative nature of the ILM fosters partnerships among stakeholders, promoting information sharing and cooperative data-driven decision-making. This collaboration extends to

harmonizing definitions, refining methodologies, and addressing data gaps that may hinder comprehensive analysis.

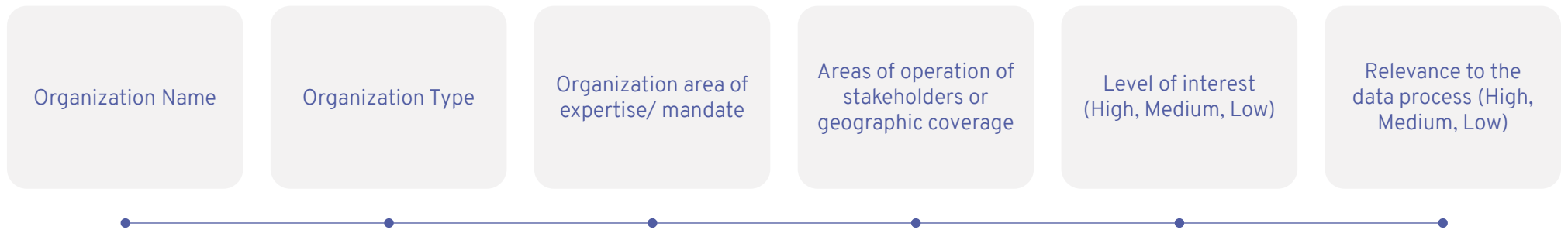
Ultimately, the long-term value of the ILM extends beyond its immediate application. It empowers stakeholders to make informed decisions based on robust data, contributes to agreed-upon data for policy development, and supports the optimization of resources to monitor durable solutions for IDPs. Regularly revisiting and updating the ILM ensures that the data landscape remains responsive to emerging challenges, providing ongoing support for evidence-based strategies and actions. In an ever-evolving landscape, the ILM offers a structured and adaptable approach to navigating the complexities of data sourcing, analysis, and utilization. Its longevity as a valuable tool lies in its capacity to holistically inform, empower, and drive collective positive change for IDPs and the broader community.

Annex

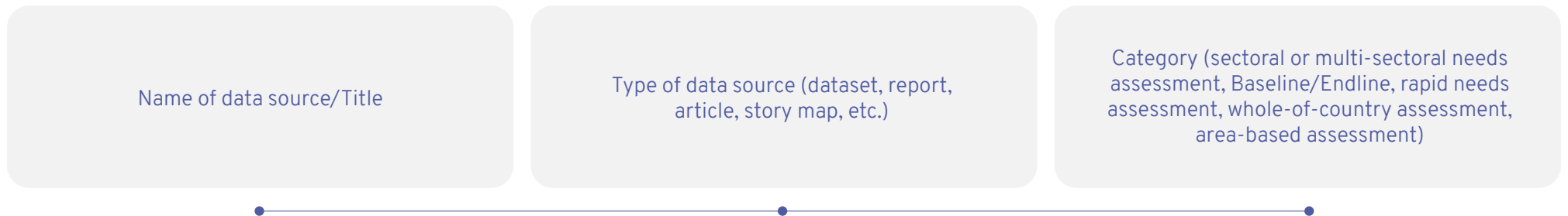
TEMPLATE 1 – STAKEHOLDER MAP



TEMPLATE 2: STAKEHOLDER MATRIX



TEMPLATE 3: DATA SOURCES MATRIX



TEMPLATE 4 – CRITERIA MATRIX

METADATA			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose • Description • Definitions (key terms i.e., IDPs, household, displacement, etc.) • Themes/Topics (HLP, Access to basic rights, etc.) • Indicators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date of issuance of Study/Tool/ Mechanism • Date of Latest Products • Periodicity or Frequency of update (on-off, ad-hoc, weekly, monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly) • Period covered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country, • Contributor(s) • Dataset (available, not available) • Language • Type of data (Quantitative, Qualitative, Mixed) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type of analysis (descriptive, explanatory) • Published (Y/N) • Publishing platform (HDX) • References
Methodology			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methodology outlined (Y/N) • Data Collection Methods (HH survey, FGDs, KIIs, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target Groups • Sampling Approach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sample Size • Unit of Measurement (i.e., HH, individual) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strata (Geographic locations, target groups, etc.)