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ATTRIBUTABLE TO INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT MONITORING
CENTER, IDMC

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Internal displacement is commonly addressed as humanitarian problem, but it is also a sustainable development challenge.

Displacement undermines the eradication of poverty. It is as simple as that. Those who are displaced within their countries of residence are among those most likely to be excluded from social and economic opportunities for development.

In 2014, around 11 million people in 60 countries fled their homes as a result of conflict and violence.

An average of 26.4 million people have been newly displaced by disasters each year since 2008.

As a result, the number of people forced to leave their homes by conflict and disasters is rising – inexorably.

The data of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Center, IDMC, shows that displacement is closely associated to either Poverty, Inequality, or lack of Governance, Insecurity, Environmental Degradation, and people's exposure to hazards, and the vulnerability of the affected populations.

Furthermore, when displacement happens to people, it is very likely that it will be a long lasting situation. In 54 of the 60 countries we monitored for conflict, many have been displaced for more than 10 years.

Does protracted displacement has a negative impact on development? IDMC sees from data available that there is a strong correlation between uneven development, lack of coping mechanisms and displacement.

Our data shows that it is possible to address displacement. But what is needed to be done?

IDMC's recommendations

1. Support durable solutions to displacement. Concrete actions must be taken to avoid leaving displaced people behind, through development policies. These must reduce the risk and address the needs of the displaced.
2. Pay particular attention to people facing long term and repeated displacement.

When implementing the SDGs, care should be particularly taken on these vulnerable groups with special needs for assistance and protection.

3. Ensure that development projects minimize displacement and protect people who are displaced from impoverishment and marginalization. Protection of people's human rights and humanitarian needs must be a priority.
4. Improve national data collection and develop indicators to ensure the inclusion of IDPs and vulnerable communities – and GUIDE the allocation of resources through national budgets and development plans.

Why do we need to act? And why now?

We know the risk for displacement is increasing. As a matter of fact, disaster risk has doubled since 1970. Risk for displacement by conflict and violence is also increasing. More people are affected, for a longer period of time, because they are at risk. We can change the exposure to risk, we can change their vulnerability to these risks and we can reduce the risks.

The social cohesion of the future depends on how we prevent people from being displaced and help those who already are. Thank you.

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