



The Progressive Resolution of Displacement Situations

A toolset to support the development of an IOM response

A six-step process has been developed to guide and support staff in the systematic development of a comprehensive response to contribute towards the progressive resolution of displacement situations. The following section includes a set of tools to support the development of strategies and programming to support the progressive resolution of displacement situations.

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Step 1. Analyse the displacement situation within the wider migration context



Conflict and violence, persecution and extreme abuses of human rights as well as natural disasters such as typhoons, tsunamis and floods are all recognizable triggers that force people to flee their homes and seek safety. However, often a combination of factors lies at the core of displacement trends, often reflecting fragile underlying conditions¹ and highlighting the criticality of context analysis. Such analysis may reveal both barriers and opportunities for the resolution of displacement situations.

Comprehensive context analysis requires reflection of five key dimensions of context:

- ✚ Political dimensions (for example corruption, human rights and governance issues)
- ✚ Social dimensions (for example cultural and ethnic issues)
- ✚ Economic dimensions (for example development and poverty)
- ✚ Geographic dimensions (for example natural, environmental and locational issues)
- ✚ Peace and security dimensions (for example peace processes, physical security and humanitarian issues)

While recognizing the complexities of many current crises, IOM identifies four types of crisis², each of which offers potential challenges and opportunities which can contribute to or hinder the progressive resolution of displacement situations. Each example provided has been linked to the strategic objectives of the PRDS Framework:

- ✚ Objective 1: To identify and strengthen coping capacities weakened as a result of displacement situations
- ✚ Objective 2: To foster self-reliance by responding to the longer term consequences of displacement situations
- ✚ Objective 3: To create conducive environments by addressing the root causes of crisis and displacement

¹ Such as water scarcity, food insecurity, drought, environmental degradation, famine and natural disasters, as well as poverty and poor governance.

² Based on C/106/CRP/20 IOM's Humanitarian Policy – Principles for Humanitarian Action (2015), VI.5



Type of crisis	Likely affected populations	Examples of challenges to and opportunities for the progressive resolution of displacement situations and linkages with framework objectives
Human-made disasters with internal and cross-border movements ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Displaced populations: refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons, IDPs Other migrants: Migrants caught in crisis, those who have crossed an international border but do not qualify for or seek refugee status and other mobile populations Affected communities: trapped populations, hosting communities and communities of origin, transit and re-location / re-settlement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contexts of episodic violence may result in multiple and/or recurring displacement, further burdening already eroded coping capacities (Objective 1) Immediate and longer term consequences of lost earnings on migrants, as well as remittance-recipient households and home communities (Objectives 1 and 2) Displaced household members may take advantage of periods of calm to verify land, property or assets or to prepare for return (Objective 2) Political resolution of the cause(s) of crisis is often a pre-requisite for the achievement of safety and security (Objective 3) Participation in peace processes may provide opportunities for affected populations to address root causes of crisis (Objective 3) Mitigate potential risks of irregular re-migration options, for example through awareness raising and the promotion of regular migration opportunities (Objective 3)

³ A human-made disaster, such as internal violence, disorder or conflict, often results in desperate and chaotic internal movements that can ultimately lead to cross-border flows of people attempting to escape life-threatening situations. Such disasters can also create situations in which groups of people are stranded or trapped in danger zones and are unable to escape. (MC/2355 IOM Migration Crisis Operational Framework (2012), Annex I and C/106/CRP/20 IOM's Humanitarian Policy – Principles for Humanitarian Action (2015), VI.5)



Type of crisis	Likely affected populations	Examples of challenges to and opportunities for the progressive resolution of displacement situations and linkages with framework objectives
<p>Protracted crises with internal and cross-border movements⁴ often resulting from a complex combination of factors where solutions have stalled</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Displaced populations: refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons, IDPs • Other migrants: Migrants caught in crisis, environmental migrants, other mobile populations • Affected communities: trapped populations, host communities and communities of origin, transit and re-location / re-settlement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protracted situations may exhaust coping capacities , potentially increasing vulnerabilities (Objective 1) • Inefficient recovery leaves populations vulnerable to, and unable to cope with, future shocks (Objective 1) • Opportunities may develop towards de facto local integration, although de jure integration options could be explored (Objective 2) • Where assistance is insufficient, protection inadequate and/or access to livelihoods restricted, some may seek alternative safe havens offering better prospects. Opportunities may be limited, potentially resulting in higher risk mobility strategies, including multiple displacements, irregular migration (potentially including smuggling and trafficking) and/or mixed migration flows (Objective 2) • Early self-reliance initiatives can reduce aid dependence and mitigate tensions with local communities (Objective 2) • Diminishing funding over time is a common characteristic, limiting investments into self-reliance and creation of conducive environments (Objectives 2 and 3) • Investing in development in displacement settings and integrating approaches across humanitarian, development, human rights, peace-building and security actors to address root causes and consequences of crisis and displacement (Objective 3)

⁴ Protracted crises typically involve a combination of various elements of hardship, both human-made and natural, such as political and/or criminal violence, instability, lack of social services and employment opportunities, or drought, often leading to both cross-border and internal movements. Protracted crises therefore require a response that involves a combination of different and complementary sectors. (MC/2355 IOM Migration Crisis Operational Framework (2012), Annex I and C/106/CRP/20 IOM's Humanitarian Policy – Principles for Humanitarian Action (2015), VI.5)



Type of crisis	Likely affected populations	Examples of challenges to and opportunities for the progressive resolution of displacement situations and linkages with framework objectives	
Natural disasters with internal and cross-border movements ⁵	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Displaced populations: refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons, IDPs Other migrants: Migrants caught in crisis, environmental migrants, other mobile populations Affected communities: trapped populations, hosting communities and communities of origin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potentially short duration of displacement facilitates early return, mitigating potentially negative consequences of protracted displacement (Objective 1) Immediate and longer term consequences of lost earnings on migrants, as well as remittance-recipient households and home communities (Objectives 1 and 2) Appropriate preparedness measures can reinforce coping capacities and support self-reliance efforts (Objectives 1 and 2) Remittances may increase in the immediate aftermath of natural disasters, providing investments to rapidly re-build homes and livelihoods (Objective 1) Government-imposed or population preferences to relocate for safety reasons on a temporary or more permanent basis can necessitate the development of alternative livelihoods to foster self-reliance (Objective 2) Reconstruction efforts provide opportunities to integrate disaster risk reduction initiatives to build resilience to future shocks (Objective 3) Opportunities to develop adaptation strategies in anticipation of sudden-onset disasters, which may include livelihood diversification, seasonal migration and temporary or more permanent relocation, mitigating risks and building resilience (Objective 3) Mitigate potential risks of irregular re-migration options, for example through awareness raising and promotion of regular migration opportunities (Objective 3) 	Sudden onset

⁵ Sudden-onset natural disasters, such as floods, tsunamis or earthquakes, but also health crises (pandemics or epidemics) often cause significant destruction and loss of shelter, infrastructure and livelihoods. They result mostly in internal, but also potential cross-border flows of people attempting to access immediate assistance and protection. (MC/2355 IOM Migration Crisis Operational Framework (2012), Annex I and C/106/CRP/20 IOM's Humanitarian Policy – Principles for Humanitarian Action (2015), VI.5)



Type of crisis	Likely affected populations	Examples of challenges to and opportunities for the progressive resolution of displacement situations and linkages with framework objectives	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature of crisis can facilitate integration of disaster risk reduction initiatives and enable preparedness, reducing risk and strengthening coping capacities (Objective 1) • Slow stressors can gradually erode coping capacities leaving households more vulnerable to shocks (Objective 1) • Opportunities to develop (climate-related) adaptation strategies, which may include livelihood diversification, seasonal migration and temporary or more permanent relocation, mitigating risks and building resilience (Objective 3) • Mitigate potential risks of irregular re-migration options, for example through awareness raising and promotion of regular migration opportunities (Objective 3) 	Slow onset
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediate and longer term consequences of lost earnings, and potentially the health, of migrants, as well as remittance-recipient households and home communities (Objectives 1 and 2) • Movement restrictions may impact nomadic and other mobile lifestyles, delay family reunification or resettlement plans or limit labour migration opportunities and related remittances (Objectives 1 and 2) • Key events, such as elections, may be delayed, potentially impacting (political) transition (Objective 3) • Building health system capacity contributes to conducive environments and builds resilience to future health crises (Objective 3) 	Health crisis ⁶
Migration flows triggering a crisis situation ⁷	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Displaced populations: refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons, IDPs • Other migrants: Economic migrants, deportees⁸ • Affected communities: communities of origin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobility resulting from a complex mix of inter-related factors, potentially across multiple borders, may result in changing needs and vulnerabilities during the course of a journey (Objectives 1 and 2) • Differing frameworks and statuses may result in varying levels of assistance and protection in the immediate and longer term (Objectives 1 and 2) • Complex drivers require comprehensive context analyses and multi-stakeholder responses (Objective 3) • Mitigate potential risks of (irregular) onward migration, for example through awareness raising and promotion of regular migration opportunities (Objective 3) 	

⁶ Including epidemics and pandemics

⁷ Large and unmanaged migration flows can trigger crisis situations, irrespective of why those flows have occurred and in geographical areas of transit or destination that are distant from where they originated. IOM's approach to this type of migration crisis is based on the understanding that most migration flows consist of individuals with different reasons for migrating and different needs and vulnerabilities. Some of the migrants in those flows will not fit any particular label and will not be covered by a



Step 2 – Identify and engage with affected populations



IOM recognizes the impacts of migration crises and consequent displacement on three populations of concern: displaced persons, other migrants and affected communities. While existing durable solutions frameworks focus primarily on IDPs and refugees, securing their access to protection and assistance and right to durable solutions, other affected populations are often inadequately covered. The table identifies the related frameworks and highlights some of the challenges faced by affected populations.

- ✚ **Displaced populations:** Displaced populations includes existing categories such as refugees, asylum-seekers, stateless persons and internally displaced persons covered by dedicated international protection frameworks and norms
- ✚ **Other migrants:** Other migrants are often not or inadequately covered by dedicated international protection frameworks and norms, such as migrants involved in mixed migration flows, international migrants caught in crises in a country of transit or destination, environmental migrants and other vulnerable mobile populations
- ✚ **Affected populations:** Communities affected by a crisis but that are not displaced or communities hosting the above categories

specific protection regime, and their needs and vulnerabilities can change over the course of a journey. Although not all flows are necessarily related to a crisis, crises typically result in large migration flows consisting of a variety of vulnerable people in need of assistance and protection. IOM's objective is therefore to provide assistance to all those involved while meeting the different protection and assistance needs of the various groups involved. (MC/2355 IOM Migration Crisis Operational Framework (2012), Annex I and C/106/CRP/20 IOM's Humanitarian Policy – Principles for Humanitarian Action (2015), VI.5)

⁸ Notably among large scale deportations which may overwhelm reception capacities.



Affected Population	Potential Challenges	Related Frameworks
Displaced populations		
Refugees, asylum seekers, Stateless Persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite dedicated protection frameworks for refugees and asylum seekers, many countries derogate the right to work, limiting opportunities for self-reliance. • Stateless persons are often left in a legal limbo, with limited enjoyment of basic rights, often negatively impacting their access to protection and assistance, and limiting mobility strategies. • The specific needs of displaced populations may not be integrated within development planning, even in protracted situations, potentially leaving root causes of crisis and displacement unaddressed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol • Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (1954) • Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (1961) • UN Secretary-General’s Decision on Durable Solutions to Displacement and preliminary Framework for Supporting a More Coherent, Predictable and Effective Response to the Durable Solutions Needs of Refugee Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons (2009)
Internally Displaced Persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDPs are citizens, but also have specific needs not shared by the wider national population which may not be adequately addressed in policy or practice. • The specific needs of IDPs may not be integrated within broader development planning, even in protracted situations, potentially leaving root causes of crisis and displacement unaddressed. • As nationals, IDPs may be largely invisible⁹ to national and international actors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (1998) • UN Secretary-General’s Decision on Durable Solutions to Displacement and preliminary Framework for Supporting a More Coherent, Predictable and Effective Response to the Durable Solutions Needs of Refugee Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons (2009) • IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons (2010)

⁹ This may be as a result of choice to avoid actual or potential discrimination or lack of information or access due to dispersal within the hosting community.



Affected Population	Potential Challenges	Related Frameworks
Other migrants and mobile populations		
<p>Other migrants involved in mixed migration flows, international migrants caught in crises in their transit or destination countries or environmental migrants and other vulnerable mobile populations, forced returnees</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Migrants caught in crisis situations may face a range of challenges in escaping and recovering from crises, including loss of income and related remittances, limited language skills, lack of (access to) necessary documentation, limited access to support networks • Vulnerable populations fleeing crisis may seek alternative opportunities and, in contexts of relative impunity, be easy prey for traffickers and smugglers. • Reasons for moving may evolve during the migration process, which can complicate the assessment of protection needs and legal status, more so where migration flows are mixed. • Mass deportations can have de-stabilizing impacts on expelled migrants and on fragile receiving communities. Expelled migrants may require assistance to (re-)integrate, more when periods abroad have been extended or where families of mixed nationality have been separated. • As a result of crisis and displacement, borders may be closed or movement otherwise restricted, impacting the lives and livelihoods of mobile populations who move within and across borders such as pastoralists¹⁰, traders, truck drivers and seasonal workers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, both supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (2000) • The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), Article 13

¹⁰ For example, the potential inability of pastoralists to follow traditional migration routes at times of crisis may exacerbate conflict with local farmers due to competition over access to pastures, crop residues and water.



Affected Population	Potential Challenges	Related Frameworks
Affected communities		
Communities affected by a crisis but that are not displaced or communities hosting the above categories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population influxes or exoduses may deplete or divert available resources, impact basic services and/or raise un-/under-employment, potentially exacerbating localised tensions, discrimination and limiting self-reliance opportunities. • Similar challenges may be faced by displaced populations and urban poor, with difficulties in distinguishing between these groups. • Trapped populations, unable to flee crisis, may be particularly vulnerable and inaccessible as a result of instability. 	General lack of frameworks, some provisions in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons (2010)¹¹ • UN Secretary-General's Decision on Durable Solutions to Displacement and preliminary Framework for Supporting a More Coherent, Predictable and Effective Response to the Durable Solutions Needs of Refugee Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons (2009)¹²

¹¹ Reference to the importance of inclusive approaches to durable solutions to avoid neglecting the needs of populations and communities that (re-)integrate IDPs and whose needs may be comparable.

¹² Recognizes that the specific needs and circumstances of displaced persons need to be addressed in a holistic manner, considering also the needs of the wider community to prevent social disharmony.



Step 3: Identify coordination mechanisms and partnerships



IOM recognizes the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships to respond effectively and comprehensively to the complexity of contemporary displacement dynamics, impacts and drivers towards progressively resolving displacement situations. Effective partnerships at global, regional, national and local levels with humanitarian, peace-building, human rights, security and development actors, as well as non-traditional partners such as the private sector, diaspora and academia, strengthen the overall response, bringing together approaches, knowledge and resources towards shared objectives. Recognizing that States bear the primary responsibility to protect and assist crisis-affected persons residing on their territory, and where appropriate their nationals abroad, IOM strives to ensure meaningful government engagement at all levels.

- **States:** While primary responsibility rests with States, IOM works closely with relevant governmental partners at all levels to ensure initiatives are well-coordinated and appropriate, complementing existing government initiatives and often working with government counterparts to build capacity towards efficient and effective policy and practice.
- **United Nations / International Organizations:** The United Nations and international organizations, including IOM, can play a critical role in strengthening and supporting State-led efforts. IOM is an active participant in inter-agency efforts at strategic and operational levels, providing a unique mobility perspective which can strengthen links between humanitarian, development and peacebuilding actors to support the resolution of displacement situations.
- **Civil Society:** Recognizing the often specialized, grassroots level activities of national and international civil society actors, IOM often works with these partners at operational, but also strategic, levels. With close proximity and access to affected communities, civil society actors are often well positioned to reach out to, bring together and strengthen the voice of the vulnerable, including marginalized populations, ensuring that efforts are synchronized with the need and aspirations of those affected.
- **Academia:** In recognition of the growing requirement for evidence- and results-based programming, IOM is committed to greater strategic cooperation and involvement of academia and think tanks in programme design and evaluation, and in standard-setting.
- **Private Sector:** Beyond traditional engagement with the private sector as donors (notably as part of Corporate Social Responsibility) and implementers providing goods and services, private partnerships are increasing, recognizing the human and financial resources these partnerships can leverage, as well as the potential for innovative approaches, skills and technologies.



- **Diaspora:** There is a growing recognition that diaspora¹³ facilitate increased trade, investment and cultural linkages between the different countries that they are connected to, and that they are important development actors, either individually through financial support for their own families or communities or as groups for larger scale initiatives or to contribute to economic development by establishing networks between businesses in countries of origin and destination. Given the growing links between diaspora and their home communities, IOM engages when appropriate and possible with diasporas to maximize the benefits of their involvement, both directly and through their networks abroad and in the country concerned.
- **Regional bodies and financial institutions:** Regional bodies and financial institutions can play important roles in encouraging regional approaches, providing political and economic support and facilitating strategic dialogue to contribute to the resolution of displacement situations. IOM engages in such strategic and operational partnerships with a range of regional bodies and international and regional financial institutions.

¹³ Also known as transnational communities because they comprise people who are connected to more than one country.



Step 4. Integrate key principles



IOM applies a set of key principles throughout efforts to progressively resolve displacement situations. These principles are inspired by key international frameworks¹⁴ which set out rights and responsibilities upon which IOM's response is based.

- Recognize States as prime duty-bearers and, at their request, support States to fulfil their responsibilities to protect individuals and their rights in line with international law.^{15 16}
 - ✓ What are respective State's policies on progressively resolving causes and consequences of the displacement situation?
 - ✓ How are national/local authorities, State institutions and other relevant government actors leading the resolution of the displacement situation?
 - ✓ To what extent are national/local authorities, State institutions and other relevant government actors part of the response coordination?
 - ✓ How is IOM supporting the government(s) in resolving the displacement situation?

- Be guided by the rights and needs of displaced persons, other migrants and affected communities, recognizing and supporting their aspirations and their self-perception of their needs related to the progressive resolution of displacement situations.¹⁷
 - ✓ Is there an understanding of the rights, needs and legitimate interests of displaced persons, other migrants and affected communities? Consider safety and security, food, shelter, water, sanitation, education, employment, livelihoods, documentation, family reunification, access to land and property, participation in public affairs, access to justice, and other considerations?
 - ✓ Have the rights, self-perceived needs and legitimate interests of displaced persons, other migrants and affected communities been taken into account in efforts to progressively resolve the displacement situation?
 - ✓ To what extent have responses supported and harnessed the aspirations and interests of displaced persons, other migrants and affected communities?

¹⁴ Inspired by the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (1998), the UN Secretary-General's Decision on Durable Solutions to Displacement and preliminary Framework for Supporting a More Coherent, Predictable and Effective Response to the Durable Solutions Needs of Refugee Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons (2009) and the IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Populations (2010),

¹⁵ All migrants are broadly protected under international law, regardless of their migration status, with States bearing the primary responsibility to protect and assist crisis-affected persons residing on their territory in a manner consistent with international law, as well as retaining obligations of protection and assistance towards their nationals abroad. However, in crisis situations, States may experience insecurity and/or a breakdown of national institutions, may refuse to uphold their obligations, or other States may sever diplomatic relations which can inhibit States from providing the necessary assistance and protection.

¹⁶ C/106/CRP/20 IOM's Humanitarian Policy – Principles for Humanitarian Action (2015), II.7 and IV.2

¹⁷ Ibid IV.3



- Recognize that affected populations are not homogenous. Different communities, households and individuals have differing needs and varying levels of vulnerability¹⁸ and so will achieve satisfactory thresholds of self-reliance, protection, human rights fulfilment and resilience at different times.
 - ✓ What are the main existing vulnerabilities of individuals, households and communities?
 - ✓ What are the main capacities of displaced persons, other migrants and affected communities? Are these capacities being re-enforced or under-mined?
 - ✓ What spoilers exist to impede the resolution of the displacement situation?
 - ✓ Have specific safeguards been introduced to ensure that the specific needs of vulnerable persons¹⁹ and capacities of affected persons are reflected in efforts to progressively resolve the displacement situation?
 - ✓ What is the actual or likely impact on the local population and what is their attitude and that of the local authorities towards migrants and displaced populations? Is this likely to change?
 - ✓ What is the condition of the local population relative to the displaced? If assistance is provided to the displaced and/or other migrants, should the local population also be assisted?

- Support the freedom of choice of affected persons to identify appropriate solutions, including those that embrace mobility and may not conform to existing mechanisms and structures, facilitating meaningful participation throughout the process.²⁰
 - ✓ To what extent have displaced persons, other migrants and affected communities been consulted on their needs, motivations, aspirations and priorities?
 - ✓ Are there adequate mechanisms to ensure participation of women, children and other potentially marginalized groups in planning and managing the progressive resolution of the displacement situation, including having their views heard at relevant government levels and in concerned fora?
 - ✓ Does the progressive resolution of the displacement situation capitalize on the potential mobility may offer and reflect the views and interests of affected persons that do not conform to existing mechanisms and structures?²¹
 - ✓ Have any potentially negative consequences of mobility be identified? Are appropriate safety-nets in place?
 - ✓ Are affected persons achieving a solution to displacement on a voluntary basis?
 - ✓ Is the decision for a particular solution based on an informed choice?
 - ✓ Do displaced persons, other migrants and affected populations have full information about the resources available to them to progressively resolve their displacement situation?
 - ✓ Have displaced populations experienced forced or coerced measures²² to ending their displacement? If so, by whom?²³

¹⁸ Including related to age, gender and diversity, Ibid IV.4

¹⁹ Examples include, but are not limited to, unaccompanied and separated children, elderly persons, disabled persons, single female heads of households and victims of trafficking.

²⁰ C/106/CRP/20 IOM's Humanitarian Policy – Principles for Humanitarian Action (2015), IV.6

²¹ Examples include, but are not limited to, pastoralists and migrants caught in crisis.

²² Included forced evictions

²³ Examples include, but are not limited to, State authorities, private land owners and aid workers.



- Recognize how individuals, households and communities transition from crisis to stability; support the modalities of this process, acknowledging that affected populations themselves are agents, enablers and drivers of their own resilience, recovery and development.²⁴
 - ✓ What mobility patterns and practices are observed among displaced populations, other migrants and affected communities?²⁵ Are these pattern and practices serving to progress towards, or regress away from, the resolution of displacement?
 - ✓ To what extent are displaced persons, other migrants and affected communities involved in resolving displacement? What opportunities for tangible engagement have been created by the government? Partners? IOM?

- Reinforce partnerships with a diverse range of stakeholders, including non-traditional partners such as diaspora and private sector, to seek strategic and operational synergies to increase opportunities for the progressive resolution of displacement situations.²⁶
 - ✓ What are the existing relevant partnerships and coordination mechanisms? Consider humanitarian, transition, development, peace-building, security, human rights and other relevant partners and mechanisms.
 - ✓ Have non-traditional partners such as diaspora, academia and the private sector been engaged in the progressive resolution of the displacement situation?

²⁴C/106/CRP/20 IOM's Humanitarian Policy – Principles for Humanitarian Action (2015), 1.8

²⁵ Consider seasonal, pastoralist and labour migration, for example.

²⁶ C/106/CRP/20 IOM's Humanitarian Policy – Principles for Humanitarian Action (2015), V.4

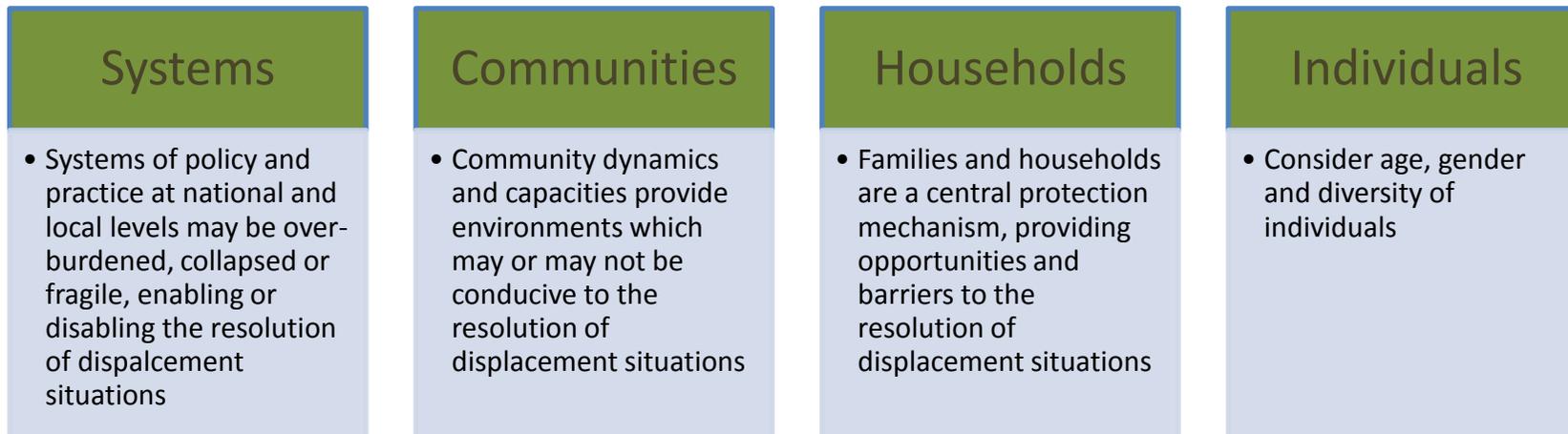


Step 5. Develop strategic objectives



The four levels:

Progressive efforts towards resilience integrate incremental steps in resilience-building at appropriate levels of intervention. A combination of different levels of intervention often provides the best results - from micro-level engagement with beneficiaries to macro-level programmes which strengthen relevant policy frameworks or support the reform of related institutions. As an example, individual/household-based and community-based (re-)integration support balance specific vulnerabilities with wider equity and cohesion. Similarly, institutional or legal reforms paired with outreach efforts can facilitate access to justice and reparations mechanisms.





Objective 1) To strengthen coping capacities weakened as a result of displacement situations

Key partners: humanitarian and early recovery actors

Coping strategies are the use of available skills and resources, to face and manage adverse conditions, such as during crises and displacement situations. At times of crisis, mobility may be a coping strategy, including fleeing pre-emptively or as a last resort, in order to minimise exposure and vulnerability.²⁷ The capacity to cope depends on a range of factors, such as the number and diversity of assets, income generating activities and social safety nets individuals, households and communities have and can mobilize, the opportunities they have access to, as well as the type, frequency, exposure and duration of crisis and displacement. For those with limited or weakened coping capacities, even small changes can be devastating.

Displacement situations, particularly when protracted or recurring, may undermine or exhaust existing coping capacities, with savings depleted, families and communities dispersed and livelihoods assets destroyed. Throughout the response, it is critical to consciously avoid interventions which may undermine existing coping mechanisms and mitigate against the adoption of harmful practices²⁸, which can have detrimental long term well-being consequences and undermine recovery. Mobility-related coping strategies may include: circular migration strategies or pre-emptive movement or displacement to specific safe havens based on actual or perceived opportunities²⁹.

²⁷ Conversely, lack of mobility options, such as experienced by trapped populations who are unable to flee crisis, potentially results in greater stress on coping capacities, impacting vulnerability.

²⁸ Examples include selling productive assets, incurring debt, early marriage, reduced food intake, child labour, reduced expenditures on education and health.

²⁹ Beyond protection concerns alone, note those able to exercise choice of safe haven, may choose urban areas where greater opportunities are perceived, residence of family members who may offer support, nearby locations where trans-local livelihoods can be adopted or to camps offering protection and assistance.



System

- Wherever feasible, build capacity of existing institutions rather than establishing parallel structures
- Support preparedness and mitigation initiatives, particularly in disaster-prone areas

Community

- Partnering with local actors can strengthen capacities, promote sustainability and reduce dependence
- Preparedness measures can reduce material losses and save lives in the event of disaster
- Community coping capacities emanate from physical conditions, socio-economic situation and preparedness

Household

- Household coping strategies may be shaped by composition, wider communities and experience
- Erosive coping capacities have detrimental immediate and longer term consequences

Individual

- Individual coping strategies may be further shaped by gender, age and diversity.
- Humanitarian assistance should reinforce not undermine coping capacities



Objective 2) To foster self-reliance by responding to the longer term consequences of displacement situations

Key partners: Humanitarian, development and private sector actors

Self-reliance strategies are medium to longer-term strategies which enable individuals and households to meet their own daily needs and live in dignity. Income generation is at the heart of self-reliance, which provides opportunities for those affected by displacement to transition³⁰ from dependency to positive contributions to local economies and societies. Displaced populations and other migrants potentially bring a diversity of skills, talents, services and new markets as well as investment through remittances and development interventions. Mobility may play a contributing role.

Particularly when protracted, displacement situations can hamper the achievement of self-reliance, notably where access to livelihoods and employment opportunities is limited by policy or physical location, assets have been abandoned or destroyed, infrastructure damaged or freedom of movement is restricted, reinforcing dependency on external aid.

³⁰ In reality, many households and individuals are neither fully dependent nor fully self-reliant, but combine aid and economic self-reliance strategies, a balance which may change over time.



Systems

- Basic infrastructure and services may be damaged or disrupted
- Potential labour market inequality / discrimination
- Evidence to demonstrate the development opportunities of progressive policies and practice
- Understanding and capitalizing on market gaps and links into market chains

Communities

- Social and economic networks may be damaged or disrupted
- Community economic productive infrastructure may be damaged
- Investments in economic revitalization can demonstrate peace dividends

Households

- Participatory approaches promote relevance and sustainability
- Consider economic value of supporting pre-existing or new economic activities

Individuals

- Equitable access to economic opportunities, irrespective of age, gender and diversity
- Ensure economic participation does not overburden individuals with other responsibilities
- Ensure cultural appropriateness of economic activities



Objective 3) To create conducive environments by addressing the root causes of crisis and displacement

Key partners: Development, peace-building, security, human rights, environmental and private sector actors

Resilience-building efforts require a comprehensive understanding of the root causes of crises and resulting displacement, which is often both a cause and effect of fragile environments. Beyond the immediate triggers of displacement are frequently a range of contributing factors which are often diverse, inter-dependent elements of crisis, such as fragile underlying conditions related to governance, economic, environmental and/or social factors. Creating conducive environments can contribute to the resolution of displacement as well as to reducing the risks of potential future displacement.³¹ Processes often play as much of a role in building stability as the outcomes (such as the provision of basic services or rehabilitated infrastructure)

Systems	Communities	Households	Individuals
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Extent to which national institutions, laws and policies are aligned with national and international standards and norms to up-hold rights•Agreements, conditions and processes which enable / restrict freedom of movement•Support existing State structures, or build recognition of nascent structures and support legitimacy and accountability•National and regional processes such as those related to peace, security sector or political reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Employ conflict-sensitive approaches•Expand absorptive and receptive capacities by improving community conditions•Decisions or community leaders may influence individual and household decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Consider role of family diaspora links•Decisions of extended family may influence household decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Consider changed gender roles as a result of displacement, urban experience or time abroad•Age-related considerations such as access to education or health facilities, may influence individual decisions

³¹ Prevention of displacement is used in terms of not obliging people to flee crisis.



Step 6. Monitor and evaluate



Mere return, camp closure or attempted settlement elsewhere does not equate to the resolution of displacement situations as assistance and protection needs linked to displacement may continue, and displacement-related discrimination can undermine the enjoyment of human rights.³² Resolving displacement situations is a long and complex process with significant humanitarian, development and peacebuilding challenges. How to measure progress towards durable solutions and resolving displacement situations remains a pressing and multifaceted question.

Monitoring and evaluation at activity, programmatic and strategic levels all contribute towards context scanning, particularly critical in fluid environments, feeding back into the context analysis which forms the basis of all planning. Resolving displacement situations requires multi-sectoral support, lending itself to coordinated monitoring and evaluation initiatives across stakeholders. This approach allows for optimized sharing of resources, access to areas that a single organization may not cover, collective problem solving and crisis mitigation of unforeseen issues and shared analysis of displacement situations.

What can monitoring and evaluation offer?

- Assessment of programme or project impacts
- Assessment of protection standards, such as safety and security or housing, land and property
- Support accountability to donors, affected populations, States and partners
- Support advocacy around successes or continuing needs
- Inform the development of relevant law, policy, strategy, framework or programming by providing an evidence base
- Assess the impacts of relevant law, policy, strategy or framework (including as a baseline and to monitor progress)

³² Reference to definition in IASC Framework



Sample means of verification³³

- *Return Intention Surveys* (RIS) are conducted to verify intentions and identify potential opportunities and barriers, most often targeting displaced populations. Such surveys are one approach to engaging with, and enabling the participation of, affected populations, in the identification of potential solutions.
- *Displacement Tracking Matrix*³⁴ (DTM) is widely used globally by IOM to conduct flow monitoring, track displacement and other mobility trends as well as gathering a wealth of other relevant information.
- *Registration* processes, increasingly including biometric registrations, entail detailed collection of personal information, which can provide relevant data and information contributing towards baselines.
- *Post-return, relocation monitoring*: There is increasing focus on monitoring conditions in communities after return or settlement elsewhere, often including verification of general conditions, access to basic services, protection risks and response mechanisms, livelihoods opportunities, amongst others. This monitoring process often engages with communities and supports (re-)integration, as a mechanism to reduce potential renewed displacement.

Sample indicators

Indicators enable the comprehensive analysis of a displacement situation (baseline indicators) and the extent to which it has been resolved (outcome indicators). The IASC Framework identified eight criteria that determine the extent to which a durable solution has been achieved. A number of sample indicators are included in the Framework and IOM is currently contributing to a global initiative to develop standard global durable solutions indicators, promoting shared baselines, analysis and measurement towards solutions.

- General profile information relating to demographics, household composition, geographic information
- Migration and displacement profile to assess general mobility dynamics and displacement history, context and causes of displacement (triggers as well as root causes)
- Plans and actions to resolve displacement situation, including consideration of access to reliable, timely and accurate information, possible discrimination and social cohesion challenges

³³ Often include quantitative and qualitative, formal and informal methods.

³⁴ For more information see: <http://www.globaldtm.info/>



Long-term safety, security and freedom of movement	Target population who has reported security incidents in the past xx months (% of total target population who experienced security incidents)
	Target population who accessed formal or informal/traditional justice mechanisms last time they needed it by type of mechanism
	Target population facing restrictions to their freedom of movement by type of restriction (% of total target population)
Enjoyment of an adequate standard of living	Target population by current residence type (camp, temporary settlement, host family, private accommodation, other)
	Target population with daily access to an appropriate amount of safe drinking water (% of total target population))
	Primary school net attendance ratio in target population or non-attendance , by reason (% of children of primary school age in target population)
Access to employment and livelihoods	Unemployment rate, by main (perceived) obstacles / constraints (% of total labour force in target population)
	Target population with no access to (formal / informal) financial institution, by institution type and reason (% of total target population)
	Distribution of target population not able to access assistance over the past x months by reason
Effective and accessible mechanisms to restore housing, land and property	Available effective restitution and HLP dispute resolution mechanisms at the state and community level by type of mechanisms
	Target population with no access to restitution and compensation mechanisms by obstacle
Access to personal and other documentation	Target population not in possession of key documentation as a result of displacement (% of total target population)
	Target population who have not been able to replace key documentation by obstacle
Voluntary family reunification	Target population with separated household members, by reason for separation (% of total target population)
	Target unaccompanied and separated children by access / barrier to assistance services
Participation in public affairs	Target population who did not vote in the last national/local election held by reason
	Target population participating in community or social organization (% of total target population)
	Target population involved in local reconciliation and confidence-building initiatives (% of total target population)
Access to effective remedies and justice	Available effective mechanisms to provide remedy at state or community level by type of mechanisms, awareness and use of mechanisms
	Target population who consider that a sense of justice has been restored (% of target population who accessed mechanisms to provide remedies)

Figure 1 Example indicators based on global indicator development initiative