Key achievements and recommendations from the Expert Group on Refugee and IDP statistics

EGRIS

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Outline of presentation

– Current state of refugee and IDP statistics
– Establishment of EGRIS
– Key achievement and recommendations
– Way forward
Tentatively:
25.4 million refugees at end-2017
EXPERT GROUP ON REFUGEE AND IDP STATISTICS (EGRIS)
Establishment of EGRIS (1)

• First time refugee on statistics discussed was in 2015 at 46th session
• October 2015: conference held in Antalya, Turkey
• Proposal from TurkStat, Statistics Norway, UNHCR and Eurostat, to establish an Expert Group on Refugee Statistics
Establishment of EGRIS (2)

March 2016 the group was mandated by the UN Statistical Commission to develop:

• International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics
• Technical Report on IDP Statistics Report national statistical authorities and 15+ regional/ international organizations
SESRIC countries in EGRIS

- Azerbaijan
- Bangladesh
- Cameroon
- Cote d’Ivoire
- Egypt
- Iraq
- Jordan
- Lebanon
- Malaysia
- Morocco
- Niger
- Pakistan
- Palestine
- Somalia
- Turkey (steering committe)
- Uganda
# International and regional organisations

- European Commission (DG Home and DG Employment)
- EASO
- EFTA Statistical Office
- ESCWA
- Eurostat
- IDMC
- IOM
- JIPS
- OECD
- MED-HIMS/Medstat
- UNFPA
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- UNRWA
- UN special rapporteur (HR/IDP)
- UNSD
- WB
- WFP
IRRS and the technical report on IDP statistics come up with specific recommendations to tackle challenges and gaps from the statistical viewpoint.
Key achievements of IRRS (1)

- Creation of a **statistical framework** standardising relevant **terminology**, concepts, definitions and classifications

- A. Persons in need of international protection
  - 1. Prospective asylum seekers
  - 2. Asylum seekers
  - 3. Persons with determined protection status
  - 4. Others in refugee-like situations

- B. Persons with a refugee background
  - 1. Naturalised former refugees
  - 2. Children born of refugee parents
  - 3. Reunified refugee family members from abroad
  - 4. Others with refugee background

- C. Persons returned from abroad after seeking international protection
  - 1. Repatriating refugees
  - 2. Repatriating asylum seekers
  - 3. Returning from international protection abroad
  - 4. Others returning from seeking international protection abroad

- i. Refugees
  - ii. Admitted for complementary and subsidiary forms of protection
  - iii. Admitted for temporary protection
Key achievements of IRRS (2)

- List of basic **data tabulations** and **indicators**
- Assessment of **data sources** and **methods** for producing refugee data as well as recommendations for their improvements
- Identification of **socioeconomic indicators** of refugee integration
- Recommendations how to improve
  - **coordination** at national/regional/international level
  - **data quality**, **legal frameworks** and **capacity building**
Towards a statistical framework on internal displacement

- Legal framework
- Statistical categories
- Different data sources (censuses, surveys, registers and civil registration) to find the number of IDPs and describe them
- Data protection and data confidentiality
- IDP data in line with other official statistics and SDGs
- Coordination within NSS and with other actors
- Dissemination of statistics
Clarifying definitions

Figure 7.2 Statistical categories to be included in official IDP statistics
Why is the work important?

- Huge potential: Data for improved policy and practice, visibility of vulnerable groups in development planning and SDGs, enhanced comparison of data
- Country-led and experience-informed process to develop solid report with realistic and tangible recommendations
The UN Statistical Commission:

“Welcomed the report of the Expert Group on Refugee and Internally Displaced Persons Statistics,

Appreciated that the Expert Group conducted global consultation involving all national statistical offices before the finalization of the documents and endorsed them and

Supported the development of a compiler’s manual to provide hands-on guidance to collect statistics on refugees and internally displaced persons……..Expressed the need for national statistical capacity-building to support Member States in improving the quality and availability of statistics on refugees and internally displaced persons….”

(UNSC, New York 5 March 2018)
Next phase: Initiating cooperation to...

- Refine recommendations for IDP statistics
- Develop a compiler’s manual
- Measure durable solutions and end of displacement
- Develop a training strategy and related implementation plan
- Continue working more with National Statistical Offices

Hargeisa, Somalia. IDP settlement. 2014.
THANK YOU!


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