



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL
PROTECTION
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR SOCIAL
PROTECTION & SENIOR CITIZEN AFFAIRS

Inclusive Social Protection Systems for Forcibly Displaced Populations

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Session Objectives

- Review the status of forcibly displaced populations globally and in Africa.
- Propose a business case for advancing inclusive social protection systems.
- Offer recommendations on the principles / strands of an inclusive Social Protection System.



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Accelerating Inclusive and Integrated Social Protection

**SOCIAL
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enhancing synergies, improving lives

Context



Who are forcibly displaced person(s) / population?

- This is a person or group of persons forced to flee their home or place of habitual residence, either across an international border or within a state, as a result of, or to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters (IOM 2019)



Context



- The number of forcibly displaced people especially children and young people uprooted by crises has reached unprecedented levels internationally.
 - **89.3M** forcibly displaced worldwide due to persecution, conflict, violence, human rights violations or events seriously disturbing public order (UNHCR 2022: 2)
 - **27.1M** refugees (21.3M under UNHCR's mandate, 5.8M Palestine refugees under UNRWA's mandate)
 - **53.2M** internally displaced people (IDMC)
 - **41%** of the world's displaced people are children. Many live in protracted displacement of more than five years, equating to at least a quarter of their childhoods – and often much more.
 - The number of refugees has skyrocketed from **10M** ten years ago to **20.7M** in 2020 and **21.3M** in 2021
 - East and Horn of Africa as well as the Great Lakes Region hosted approximately **4.7M** refugees in 2021.
 - **83 %** of globally displaced people are hosted by low and middle-income countries e.g. Uganda, Sudan and Ethiopia.





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- Internal displacement is at an all time high and will continue to proliferate;
 - Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) posits that approximately **23.7 Million** people were displaced within their own countries in **2021** due to sudden slow and sudden onset events such as floods, droughts and storms.
 - Estimation from the Groundswell report indicates that **216 Million** people could be internally displaced by **2050**.
- Impacts of climate change will continue to be adverse world over, including resource based conflicts but measures to support those affected are yet to be determined including, consistent access to essential services and other public goods.





Why invest in inclusive social protection for forcibly displaced persons?

- On average IDPs and refugees spend 10 years in displacement during which their right to essential services remains ambiguous and unreachable (OECD 2022).
- Forcibly displaced persons, especially children are most vulnerable but highly excluded from social protection programmes. This group of people face multiple vulnerabilities including movement restrictions, reduced access to services and reduced economic opportunities.
- Forced displacement is addressed via humanitarian responses but there is need to shift the approach towards long term and integrated development approaches.
- Normative human rights frameworks provide a solid legal basis for inclusion of refugees in social protection systems with the recent one being the **2016 New York Declaration on Migrants and Refugees** which requires that refugees have access to National Social Assistance Programmes and that host communities are included in refugee programmes.





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- Refugees have not historically had the right to social assistance in Kenya (UNHCR, 2021).
- Several initiatives are now underway through the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) and the Refugees Act 2021 for Kenya to enhance the inclusion of refugees. For example, the inclusion of refugees has been put forward in the new Social Assistance Bill and discussions are underway between development partners and the government for inclusion of refugees in future, subject to resourcing decisions (UNHCR, 2022 KII).
- There are plans to include refugees in the National Social Registry used to target social protection.



Benefits of Inclusive Social Protection Systems



<p>Promoting social cohesion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beyond the economic effects, the inclusion of displaced populations in social protection systems may also help to reduce tensions that may exist between displaced and host communities and support social cohesion both within and between communities. Studies have documented positive effects of humanitarian cash transfers received by refugees on relations with host communities, including more positive host community attitudes towards refugees as well as increased trust in the host community among refugee recipients (case study for SC Kenya-providing cash assistance to refugees in Dadaab)
<p>Protecting children and families</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is strong evidence from around the world that the delivery of regular and predictable social protection systems reduces poverty, smooths consumption and increases access to services. (Bastagli et al., 2016; Tripathi et al., 2019) Extending social protection systems to displaced children and families equally can increase their resilience and reduce poverty through ensuring income security and reducing social exclusion and vulnerability, particularly when provided in a sustained, regular and predictable manner.
<p>Boosting economies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While the inclusion of displaced populations in social protection systems inevitably entails upfront costs, extending social protection to displaced children and families has the potential to generate notable economic benefits by enhancing incomes and enabling recipients to accumulate productive assets and access credit. It can generate medium and long-term economic gains by building human capital, promoting women’s economic empowerment and supporting them to manage childcare and paid work responsibilities.



Looking Forward



- In order to achieve long-term solutions like voluntary return, resettlement or local integration, social protection programmes are one way to support the incorporation of refugees and IDPs in the socioeconomic fabric of the host country. Some of the recommendations are:
 - **Policy framework:** Social protection policies need to be modified for situations including displacement, starting with crisis preparation and moving through emergency response, protracted displacement situations and more sustainable solutions in the end. This will promote universal access to comprehensive and shock-responsive social protection that responds to children’s needs, recognising the important benefits that such investments can bring.
 - **Coordination :** Enhanced co-ordination across actors and sectors through a whole government approach including coordination with UN and NGOs towards coordinated responses etc.





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- **Financing:** Support innovative and long-term financing strategies to ensure social protection expansion strategies are reinforced with adequate prioritisation, sufficient and sustained financing such as advocating for budget allocations from the international funders based on existing international commitments to share the global responsibility of addressing displacement challenges as well as domestic resource mobilization e.g. **Public Investment in Children**
- **Data driven and evidence based:** Synchronized registration information, continuous evaluation of the impact of inclusive legislative and policy frameworks and generate learnings on what works for different sects of forcibly displaced populations especially children.



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THANK YOU!

ANY QUESTIONS?

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