

Durable Solutions Working Group (DSWG)

Terms of Reference

1. Background

In 2016, a number of high-level events took place to discuss the necessary changes to the international community's collective response to fragility, conflict and displacement. They all recognize that the response has to be based on longer-term strategies while recognizing the need for principled humanitarian assistance. The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) priorities for 2016-2017 include strengthening the humanitarian-development nexus in protracted crises and achieving durable solutions to displacement. The 2016 [World Humanitarian Summit](#) called for a shift in the way the international community provides assistance to the most vulnerable, including strengthening the humanitarian-development-peace nexus through multi-sector coordinated responses that work towards collective outcomes and durable solutions as well as highlighting as a core responsibility "change people's lives: from delivering Aid to ending need. This call was augmented by the recent recommendations from the High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing Report to the Secretary General that risk reduction is a collective responsibility by all actors.

In Sudan, the Government, the international community and UNAMID have recognised the need to collectively support durable solutions for displaced populations and host communities. Several efforts to address protracted displacement and to achieve durable solutions have been undertaken in the last years in Sudan and finding durable solutions for displaced is also a strategic priority under the 2017-2019 integrated Strategic Framework for Darfur. However, this has not always happened in a coordinated approach underpinned by collectively agreed macro situation analysis, strategies, plans and tools/methodologies.

2. Purpose

The DSWG will enhance the DS agenda in a coordinated way within the international community and UNAMID and with the GoS and the donor community by advising the decision making bodies in the aid community on the directions to be taken on the one hand, and through providing technical expertise (DS strategy / tools / methodology development) on the other hand. This should ensure a unified and integrated position of the HCT/UNCT on durable solutions for displaced populations, which will be guided by the relevant standards and good practices and implementation of which should be conducted through an inclusive process in line with the New Way of Working, in particular with a sustained cooperation with the GoS and donor institutions.

3. Key outputs

- **Advise and provide regular progress updates** to the RC/HC and HCT/UNCT members on durable solutions for IDPs and returning refugees in Sudan
- **Coordinate with the Joint Mechanism on Sustainable Solutions for IDPs** (Government of Sudan) in Khartoum; with state-level authorities; humanitarian and development stakeholders; and donors to clarify the concept of Durable Solutions (IASC Framework for Durable Solutions for IDPs).
- To facilitate the development of a commonly agreed evidence-base to inform durable solutions for IDPs through a comparative **macro situation analysis** of different target groups (IDPs and their non-displaced neighbours), the situations in which they are living, and learning from peace, early recovery and resilience programming, especially in the Sudan context.
- Through a consultative and participatory process with HCT, UNCT and other relevant stakeholders (e.g. government entities, international NGOs, civil society organizations, etc.), **support and guide the drafting of durable solutions strategies and regional implementation plans**. These should clearly define the situation

analysis, assumptions, priorities, operational strategy, coordination mechanisms, roles and responsibilities, time lines, and monitoring and reporting mechanisms;

- Support the standardization and development of **tools and methodologies** to inform Durable Solutions programming using conflict prevention, early recovery and resilience approaches

4. Composition

At a minimum, the DSWG will be composed of representatives from UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, OCHA, WFP, IOM, UNHABITAT, UNAMID, 2 INGOs, HD Nexus Advisor (RCO), and RRR as nominated by the Resident-Humanitarian Coordinator. The DSWG will be supported by a technical secretariat that will provide the administrative and coordination support for timely completion of the Durable Solutions strategies and dissemination of communication to the wider HCT-UNCT and donor community.

5. Responsibilities

Strategic framework and implementation plans

- Draft a **strategic vision and articulate strategic objectives** and determine interventions needed to achieve the changes required by the strategic objectives
- **Promote the development of regional durable solutions strategies and implementation plans, by developing guidance for and providing adequate support to the drafting of durable solutions strategies and regional implementation plans.** These strategies should clearly define the situation analysis, assumptions, priorities, operational strategy, coordination mechanisms, roles and responsibilities, time lines, and monitoring and reporting mechanisms;
 - The strategies will build on existing efforts by Government of Sudan (GoS) entities at the federal, regional and local level, humanitarian and development actors to support longer-term solutions for both IDPs and host communities.
 - The strategies will integrate early recovery and resilience approaches.
 - The strategies will contribute and support objectives of the National Plans (IDP Policy, etc.), Multi Year Humanitarian Strategy (MYHS), Integrated Strategic Framework (ISF), United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), and the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD) and the Darfur Development Strategy (DDS)
- Plan and oversee the development and implementation of the DS strategies by the adequate **sub-national coordination mechanisms**;

Data collection, analysis and learning

- Facilitate the development of a commonly agreed evidence-base to inform durable solutions for IDPs through a comparative **macro situation analysis** of different target groups (IDPs and their non-displaced neighbours) and the situations in which they are living
- **Supervise the collection and standardisation of information, tools and methodologies through the RRR IMWG:** Coordinate IDP profiling and intention surveys taking into account what has already been done by different actors in-country; Map where and to what extent existing programmes already contribute to DS; Mapping of IDPs (community level) and returning refugees: how many and where? Intention survey amongst Sudanese refugees in Chad; Mapping of IDPs that can return (if they would want to) and whereto and Joint needs assessments in places of return and places of integration: are the minimum conditions present?
- Support with the standardization and development of **tools and methodologies** to inform Durable Solutions programming
- **Ensure that a baseline is developed** for measuring progress towards achieving durable solutions
- Facilitate learning on sustainable solutions for innovation and improvements in program performance and impact, including learning events that bring together key stakeholders to capture and share lessons and experiences from relevant durable solutions programs

Advocacy

- Enhance awareness / dissemination among key stakeholders of core concepts, international principals and criteria to ensure a **common understanding/messaging on DS**;
- Draft an **advocacy strategy**, translated into languages of the different audiences, towards: national authorities, international actors, IDPs, returning refugees and host communities and donors;
- Assess and advocate to strengthen the capacity in country (national authorities and international actors) to clarify **Land, Housing and Property (LHP)** issues
- Produce practical tools and provide **training and coaching** to integrate durable solutions into the work of the international aid community.

6. Coordination

The DS WG, which reports to the RC/HC and UNCT/HCT and UNAMID, will perform its responsibilities in close coordination with the Joint Mechanism on Sustainable Solutions for IDPs (Government of Sudan) at the technical level in Khartoum; with state-level authorities; humanitarian and development stakeholders; and donors.

