

Global Cluster on Early Recovery

Technical Working Group (TWG) on

Durable Solutions for Displacement

Terms of Reference

1. Rationale:

As the UN Secretary-General has pointed out, the international community has not been successful to date in providing durable solutions for displaced persons and displacement affected communities.

The main gap is the absence of a coherent approach and joint planning among humanitarian, development, human rights and peacebuilding actors, and predictable, multi-annual financing; the result being a lack of a commonly developed and agreed inclusive strategy at the country level.

Humanitarian Response Plans (HRP), UNDAFs, National Development Plans, etc. are developed to ensure aid efficiency and effectiveness. However, a strategic approach is not systematically put in place when it comes to finding solutions to end displacement.

Strategies for ending displacement should include protection, recovery, and development concerns alike. Therefore such strategies need to be jointly developed by humanitarian and development actors – including UN Peacekeepers if present -, authorities (national – local) and the people concerned.

2. Proposed process to contribute to ending displacement:

A commonly **agreed pattern / process** will enhance increased return on multi-million dollar investments to end displacement by:

- **Developing a consolidated country specific strategy for solutions for displaced people** in post-crisis situations (including displacement affected communities) based on (sector specific) needs, capacity, and gaps analysis, and informed by a profiling exercise (where relevant).
- **Developing and implementing programmes**, with the understanding that not all who participated in the strategy development will play a role in the implementation. This will depend on the situation and the pace required for moving from a humanitarian context to a recovery and development context.
- **Monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the strategy.** This might lead to **adjusting** the strategy in contexts where an UNDAF, National Development Plan, etc. have been developed in the meantime. Such instruments could also incorporate recommendations made in the strategy, as is the case in several countries.
- **Adapting the approach/strategy, guidance, tools, update indicators** to the specificity of the context.

3. Revamped structure of GCER's TWG on Durable Solutions

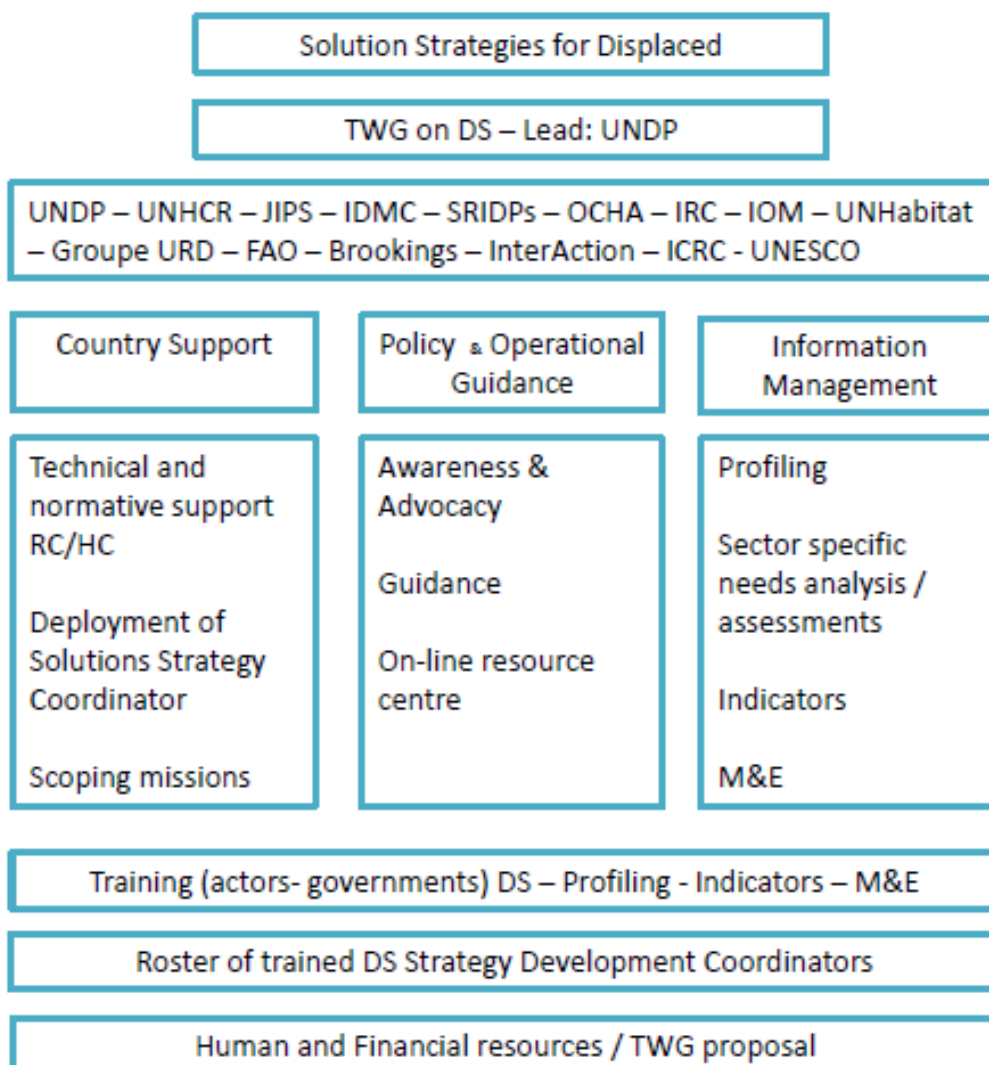
In February 2013, GCER established the TWG on DS to support the roll-out of the SG’s Policy Committee decision that endorsed the preliminary Framework on “Ending Displacement in the Aftermath of Conflict” (SG Decision on Durable Solutions, 4 October 2011).

The initial focus of the TWG was to:

- Design a guidance for the development of durable solutions (DS) strategies;
- Provide support and input during the process of strategy development for DS;
- Facilitate support to durable solutions in countries of concern.

Kyrgyzstan, Côte d’Ivoire, and Afghanistan were identified as pilot countries. As the interest among the different stakeholders to make progress on ending displacement has increased, durable solutions strategies are currently being developed in other countries as well, such as in Mali and Burundi.

In order to increase its efficiency as an inter-agency platform coordinating the support to the development of DS strategies at country level, the TWG has adapted its *modi operandi*.



3.1. Membership

- The TWG on DS is chaired by UNDP under the GCER.

- The membership includes humanitarian and development actors, UN and NGOs, partners at country level, research institutions and independent experts. It is not excluded that donors also will join the TWG.

3.2. Areas of focus

The 3-pillar structure reflects the three components needed for supporting a coherent and solid strategy development: technical support – policy and operational guidance – knowledge management. Training on all the components cuts across the three pillars.

- The **first pillar** focuses on the technical support at the country level

This can be remote and / or by providing technical support in-country through the deployment of technical experts in a particular domain (e.g. Housing Land & Property, youth employment, Rule of Law, Protection, etc.) or through the deployment of a DS Strategy Development Coordinator to support the RC/HC and the actors in-country with the strategy development.

Such deployments could be conducted with a ‘TWG’ hat.

- The **second pillar** focuses on policy and operational guidance.

This implies ongoing awareness raising in global, regional and country contexts, e.g. IASC policy work, integrating the DS concept in HRPs, relations with donors and donor fora. More concretely, an open source on-line resource centre will be developed by the TWG to allow different actors at global, regional, and country level to consult existing tools, background material, guidance, training modules, best practices and lessons learned, etc.

- The **third pillar** focuses on data related issues (information management)

Where and when it has an added value for the strategy development, the TWG can advise to conduct a profiling exercise to inform the development of the strategy. A proposal to consolidate existing indicators and to develop additional ones when needed, as well as to enable M&E of strategy implementation is currently being developed through JIPS.

This pillar also includes sector specific assessments if required.

The activities conducted under the third pillar will be complementary to those conducted under the Solutions Alliance Thematic Group on data. There will therefore be no duplication.

3.1. Capacity-strengthening

- **Training**

Through a range of existing training modules, the TWG can co-facilitate training of stakeholders concerned on DS, the different solution frameworks, M&E, strategy development, etc.

- **Roster of experts in DS Strategy Development**

In order for the TWG be able to deploy Experts in DS Strategy Development Coordinators (DSSDC), the TWG will promote the cross-training of selected ERAs and ProCap Officers. More concretely: some ERAs

will attend a ProCap training or other protection training, and some ProCap Officers will attend an ERA training. This will allow the TWG to deploy DSSDCs that are sufficiently acquainted with the protection aspects of DS as well as with the Early Recovery and Recovery aspects.

- **Resources**

The TWG will require adequate resources to develop the tools and guidance to provide the support required to the countries that require or request a DS strategy; to organise required training, to deploy technical support and DSSDCs, and to support M&E when necessary.

The TWG will develop a joint proposal (that can be composed of several more specific proposals) endorsed by its members and approach donors.

4. Link with Solutions Alliance

DS strategy development is a prerequisite for ensuring a coherent approach amongst the different stakeholders concerned to end displacement or at least to find solutions for displaced people and displacement affected communities and countries. This was recognised during the Copenhagen Conference in April 2014 and has been recognised under the Solutions Alliance (SA). Given the importance of the collective effort required, it is suggested that the activities of the TWG remain under the cluster structure for the time being. The TWG will contribute to the objectives of the SA as well as to the activities of the SA National Groups through information-sharing on activities and developments between the TWG and the SA.

It is not excluded that the TWG will also serve as a thematic group under the SA at some point in time.