

# History and overview of the Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics (EGRIS)

International Forum on Migration Statistics: Parallel session on '*Lessons from the Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics*'

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# Some central global challenges – international statistics on forcibly displace persons

- Historically, a weak link between the national statistical offices, migration authorities and international organisations that produce statistics on forcibly displaced persons
- A lack of consistent terminology, inadequate data sources and difficulties in comparing international statistics on forcibly displaced persons
- In most countries statistics on refugees are not an integral part of the regular migration and population statistics.
- Increasing number of humanitarian actors/organisations that are directly or indirectly involved in collecting and disseminating estimates on refugees
- Lack of (updated) comprehensive international standards/recommendations that can guide countries in producing statistics



# Establishment of EGRIS (1)

- Report by UNHCR and Statistics Norway presented to the 46<sup>th</sup> session of the UNSC in 2015 - how to better incorporate statistics on displacement into national statistical systems
- The report gave a broad presentation of the status of international statistics on refugees and IDPs
- First time in the 70 year history of the Commission that statistics on refugees was discussed.
- Asked for a mandate by the UNSC to hold a conference on international refugee statistics and to explore feasibility of developing international recommendations/handbook on statistical standards
- October 2015: conference held in Antalya, Turkey
- Report of conference presented to Commission in 2016. With a proposal from TurkStat, Statistics Norway, UNHCR and Eurostat, to establish an Expert Group on Refugee Statistics

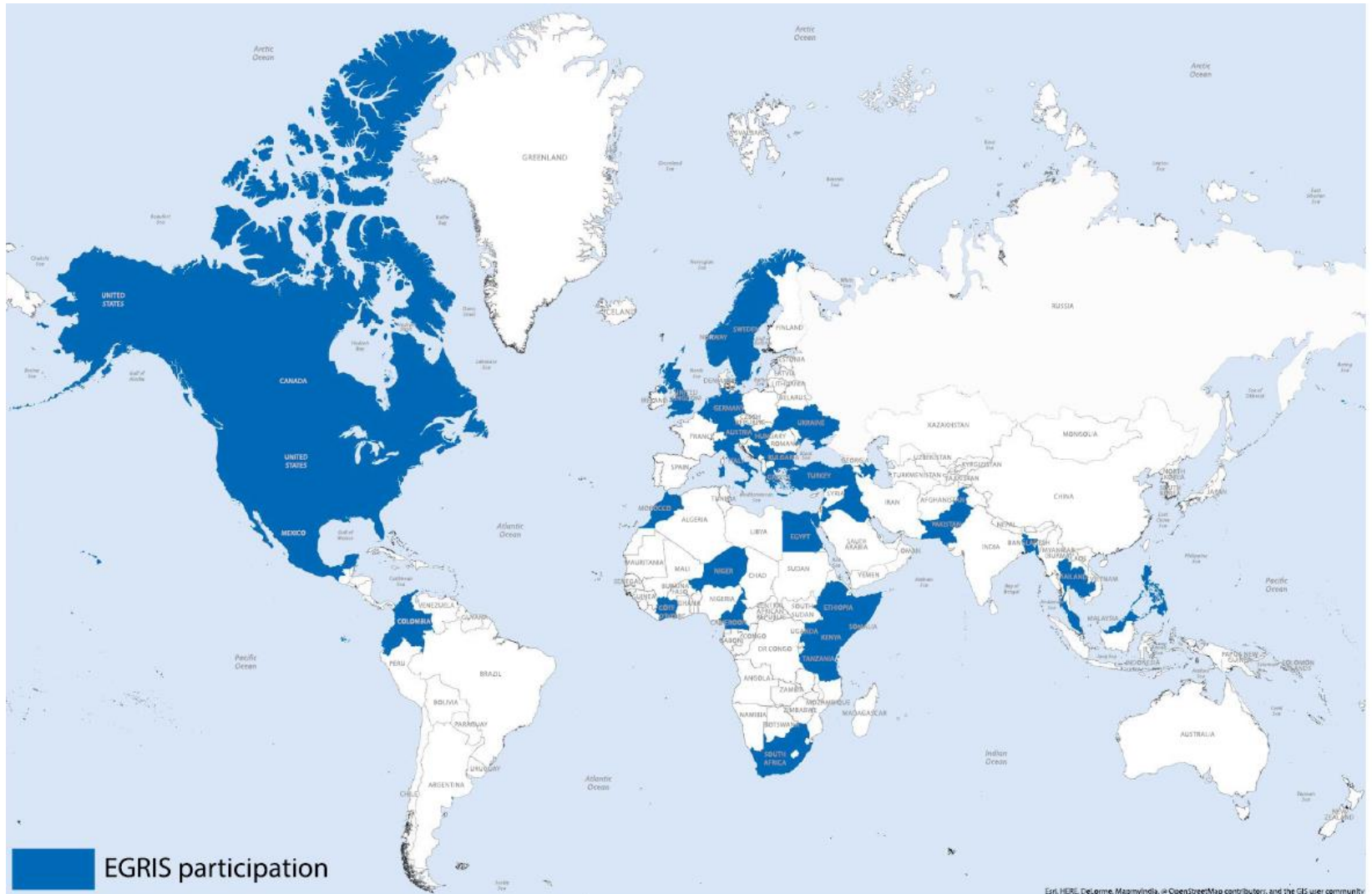


# Establishment of EGRIS (2)

- March 2016 the group was mandated by the UN Statistical Commission to develop:
  - **International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics**  
Reference guide for national and international work concerning statistics on refugees and asylum-seekers
  - **Technical Report on IDP Statistics**  
Report outlining a way forward for development of comparable international standards for statistics on IDPs
  - **Refugee Statistics Compilers' Manual (For consideration in March 2019 session)**  
Operational instructions on how to collect statistics on refugees and asylum-seekers
- Members: approx. 40 national statistical authorities and 15+ regional/ international organizations



# Participating countries

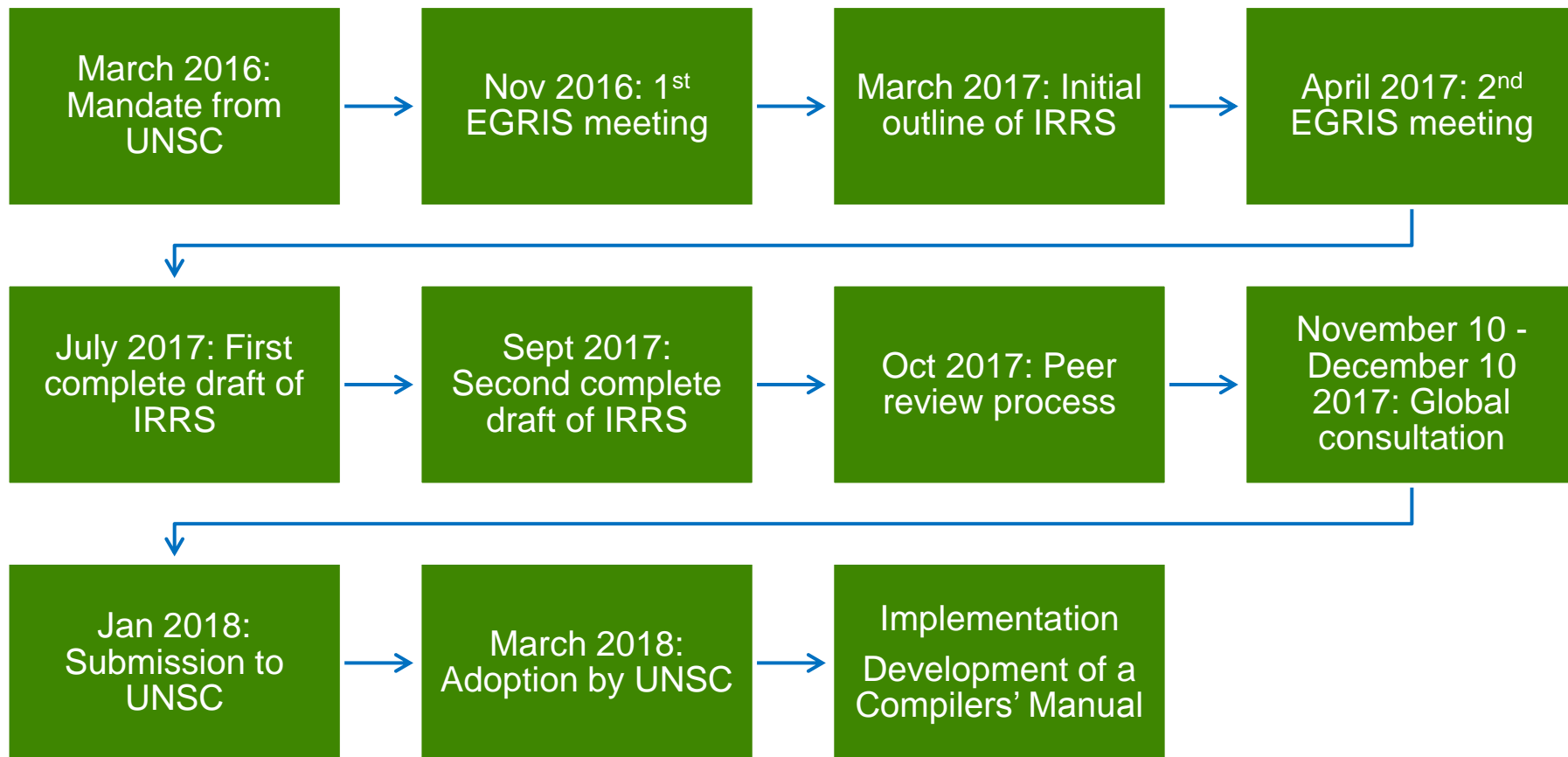


# International organisations

- European Commission (DG Home and DG Employment)
- EASO
- EFTA Statistical Office
- ESCWA
- Eurostat
- IDMC
- IOM
- JIPS
- OECD
- MED-HIMS/Medstat
- UNFPA
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- UNRWA
- UNSD
- WB
- WFP



# EGRIS/IRRS: timeline



# Chapter structure of the two reports

## International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics

1. Introduction and Background to the Guidelines
2. Legal Framework & Refugee Definitions
- 3. Defining Refugees and Asylum Seekers for the Purposes of Statistical Measurement**
- 4. Measuring the Number of Refugees**
- 5. Measuring the Wellbeing and Integration of Refugees and Related Populations**
- 6. Coordination and Strengthening Systems of Refugee Statistics**

## Technical Report on Statistics of Internally Displaced Persons

1. Introduction
2. Existing legal and policy frameworks/IDP definition
3. Defining IDPs for the purpose of statistical measurement
4. Sources of IDP data
5. Measuring numbers and characteristics of IDPs in official statistics
6. Coordination systems at national and international levels
7. Conclusion and next steps
8. Technical annex (terminology/definitions)

