Challenges in obtaining data on IDPS at the operational level Kim Roberson Chief, Field Information & Coordination Section UNHCR

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Overview



Where are IDPs?

- Logistical challenges
- Areas of conflict and insecurity



Poor statistical capacity

- NSS often weak
- Or not operational in region
- No population register and no registration of IDPs
- Definitional issues on who an IDP is (statistically)



Humanitarian situations

- Emphasis on rapidity
- Need to examine prolonged situation, integrate with development

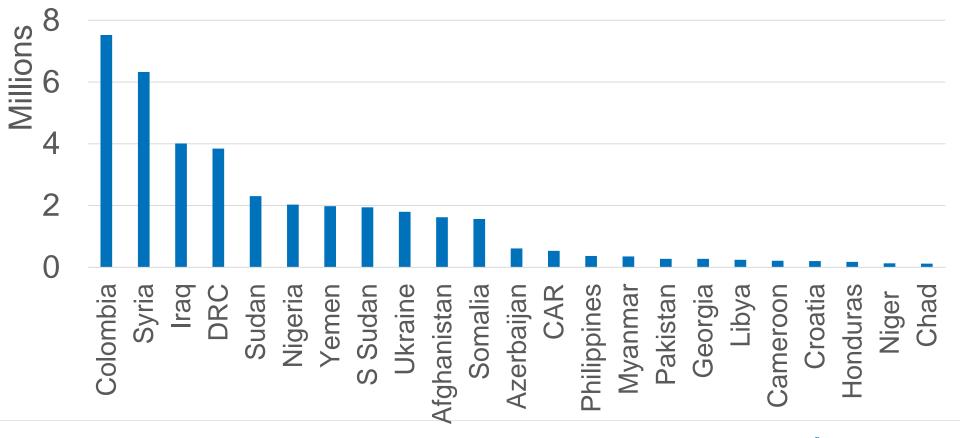


Internal capacity

- No standardized approach to population data management
- Expertise in data from registration
- Need interagency coordination



Countries with large IDP populations, mid-2017







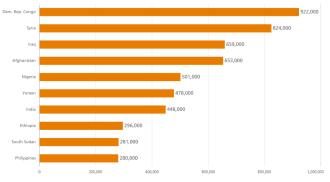
DRC example



Displacement in DRC

- As of Nov. 17 (Source: OCHA)
 - 4.35 million IDPs
 - 1.9 million (44%) newly displaced in 2017 (as of Nov. 17)
 - 1.8 million returned IDPs
 - 527,000 refuges in DRC
 - 622,000 refugees from DRC

Countries with most new displacements by conflict and violence in 2016

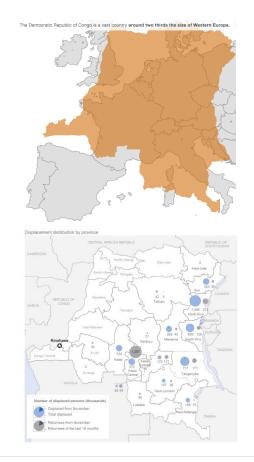


SOURCE: IDMC, with World Bank data



The displacement crisis

- Long and very acute crisis; multiple humanitarian crises
- Largest and most violent IDP crises; yet weak humanitarian presence;
- Complexity of the displacement patterns (*deplacement pendulaire*, multiple displacements; returns...)





Scale, complexity of the emergency and humanitarian access

- Vast country with very poor rood network; political instability
- Geographic scale: 15 out of 25 provinces affected; lack of humanitarian access to most of the affected areas;
- 1 in10 (13.1 million) need humanitarian assistance and protection;
- Most of the IDPs (96%) live in host family; only 4% in sites



Data challenges

- Expensive data collection needed vs lack of funding
- Non agreed/harmonized methodology and definitions
- Not timely; often collected through alerts on new displacements but not kept updated;
- Collection often linked to assistance distribution and only where there is humanitarian presence;
- Indirect, unclear statistical methods used
- Data not fit for purpose: do not allow operational intervention;



Way forward



Improved interagency coordination

- Leverage capacity
- Agree definitions and methodologies
- Share data and metadata
- Involvement of development actors



Data sources and triangulation

- Coverage what information is missing
- Identifying data collection methodologies nad tools
- Sources for triangulation



Data quality

- Timeliness in rapidly changing situations
- But not just timeliness
- Comparability
- Scope
- Compliance with future recommendations



Leveraging national capacity

- Ensure national actors involved
- Advocacy for inclusion of forced displacement in national plans, national priority

