

FORCED MIGRATION review

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Recognising refugees / GP20: lessons and good practice on internal displacement

This **Editors' briefing** provides an overview of the content of *FMR* issue 65's feature theme articles on **Recognising refugees**, plus a second feature on lessons and good practice emerging from the 2018–20 **GP20 Plan of Action for Advancing Prevention, Protection and Solutions for IDPs**, with links to the relevant articles.

This *FMR* issue includes two features. The main feature on **Recognising refugees** (published in collaboration with the RefMig project at Hertie School/Refugee Studies Centre) explores a range of challenges and developments in Refugee Status Determination around the world. The second feature offers reflections on lessons and good practice emerging from the 2018–20 **GP20 Plan of Action for Advancing Prevention, Protection and Solutions for IDPs**.

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RECOGNISING REFUGEES

The standards of accessibility, fairness, adaptability and efficiency in Refugee Status Determination (RSD) systems around the world have immense implications for the protection and assistance of people of concern, and therefore merit close examination. The 21 articles in the **Recognising refugees** feature debate some of the shortcomings in the system, as well as the challenges faced by RSD actors – including States and UNHCR – and the consequences for asylum seekers and refugees. Authors also explore new developments and approaches.

Understanding asylum procedures

Recognition depends not only on the legal definition of 'refugee' but also, and most significantly, on the institutional processes that are used to recognise refugees. There exist considerable challenges, however, to studying some of those processes ([Costello-Nalule-Ozkul](#); [Song](#)). In exploring three key aspects of refugee recognition globally (group-based processes, the role of UNHCR, and refugee recognition processes in States that have not ratified or do not apply the 1951 Convention), authors from the RefMig project identify a **lack of transparency** as a particular challenge to evaluating RSD practices, taking multiple forms that include a lack of or difficulty in accessing data; the unavailability of information on how UNHCR takes its RSD decisions; and a paucity of detail relating to the definitions and selection criteria relating to RSD carried out for resettlement ([Costello-Nalule-Ozkul](#)). By exploring what is known about the current **mandate RSD** procedure (that is, where UNHCR carries out RSD on a State's behalf) in the People's Republic of China, one article highlights this lack of transparency, and identifies the challenges and opportunities relating to refugee protection. These include the practical difficulties caused by the requirement for asylum claimants to register in a single location; a lack of legal representation; and the very limited assistance that is available to refugees and asylum seekers in a country which remains sensitive to the topic of refugees ([Song](#)).

Some refugee systems are regarded as offering a template for fair, independent RSD. Nonetheless, one article argues, despite some progressive elements, Canada's so-called **model system** regularly produces rejections that are unreasonable, unfair and inconsistent. These stem from false assumptions made by adjudicators, and from a systemic failure to promote evidence-based reasoning – including, critically, in relation to how memories are formed. This world-leading decision-making model offers a good place to start a conversation about what good RSD looks like and how to address disparities in recognition rates ([EvansCameron](#)).

Having **accurate, complete information** about asylum procedures is, of course, critical to refugees and asylum seekers as well as to scholars. Asylum seekers make decisions about their claims based on the information and evidence they are able to obtain and based on their own assessment

of risks and benefits ([Ozkul](#); [Paynter](#)). Some Syrian refugees in Lebanon, for instance, have elected not to register with UNHCR, believing that refugee recognition will hinder their freedom to make return visits, disrupt access to humanitarian assistance, and prejudice the security of their data ([Ozkul](#)). In Italy, amid a changing political climate, asylum seekers have sought to identify patterns in order to make sense of an opaque system and changing regulations. They adopt certain behaviours during their period of waiting to demonstrate their **willingness to integrate**; rejection, therefore, is understood not just as a rejection of their claim but also a rejection of that commitment they had made to integrating ([Paynter](#)).

Ensuring procedural safeguards

Procedural protections are critical in the asylum process ([ZavalaFolache-Ritchie](#); [Fisher](#); [Imbosa-Maina](#)). Analysis of **age assessment** practices in Egypt reveals concerns about the incorrect processing of children's asylum claims as adults following age assessments, meaning that **child-specific vulnerabilities** are not considered during the RSD process, potentially affecting their chance of securing asylum. Useful lessons can be drawn from countries such as the UK where child applicants are kept informed about the reasons, method, consequences and result of the age assessment ([ZavalaFolache-Ritchie](#)).

For many refugees, access to RSD and procedural integrity are vital to access **resettlement** or **complementary pathways** (such as community sponsorship, scholarships, humanitarian visas and family reunification). UNHCR requires a positive RSD decision before it will refer an individual for the durable solution of resettlement. However, in many countries where UNHCR determines refugee status, group-based recognition is the norm and in those situations it simultaneously conducts RSD and assesses eligibility for resettlement. Transparency and procedural safeguards in this process are of vital importance to ensure trust in the system on the part of the individuals whose fates are being determined, to promote accurate decision making, and to set a positive example to States ([Fisher](#)).

Appeal processes act as a further form of procedural safeguard, yet refugees' and asylum seekers' ability to make use of these varies. In Kenya, opportunities to appeal RSD decisions are limited by restrictions on self-representation in court cases, by a lack of financial resources to engage legal representation, and by an under-resourced legal aid system. A number of steps could improve access: better financial resourcing for the Legal Aid Fund; raising awareness among registered lawyers about the fund and about refugee issues; and supporting legal aid NGOs ([Imbosa-Maina](#)).

Complex relationships: UNHCR and States

A trio of articles shines light on the often complex relations between UNHCR and States in matters of RSD ([Abdelaaty](#); [Shanker-Vijayaraghavan](#); [Ozkul-Nalule](#)). UNHCR may conduct RSD when a State is unable or unwilling to perform this task. Drawing on archival research relating to Egypt, Kenya and Turkey, one article identifies some of the complexities resulting from the arrangements established between

governments and UNHCR, which reflect the varying **motivations and challenges** of both parties ([Abdelaaty](#)). These are also apparent in the case of India where, in a rare **dual system**, RSD is divided between the government and UNHCR. India's **lack of dedicated legislation for asylum management**, however, has undermined both the legitimacy of the recognition awarded by UNHCR and the protection it offers to refugees ([Shanker-Vijayaraghavan](#)).

A significant degree of **handover of RSD** from UNHCR to States has taken place in recent decades. This is a complicated process, and its success depends on many factors. In analysing practices in Kenya and Turkey, one article explores some of the key questions about handover processes, concluding that handovers such as these need to be considered as works in progress, and require close monitoring ([Ozkul-Nalule](#)).

Evolving asylum policy in Europe

Three articles examine the direct and indirect outcomes of developments in asylum policy and practice on countries within Europe ([Tsourdi](#); [Nikolopoulou](#); [Hambly-Gill-Vianelli](#)). In Greece, a series of reforms addressing systemic deficiencies in the country's asylum system resulted in its 2010 National Plan on Asylum and Migration, which committed to establishing independent civilian asylum authorities to conduct RSD. The functioning of autonomous authorities resulted in a significant increase in recognition. Nevertheless, subsequent alterations to the composition of the independent Appeals Committees during the so-called refugee crisis of 2015 and the introduction of Greece's **'hotspot' approach** raise new questions about fairness and independence ([Nikolopoulou](#)). The indirect and direct implications of the deployment of teams from the **European Asylum Support Office (EASO)** to countries in the EU, including Greece, are also examined ([Nikolopoulou](#); [Tsourdi](#)). Significant shifts in EASO's role have led to the **joint processing** of asylum applications, and EASO's evolving role is bringing into sharp relief the challenges of accountability and fundamental rights protection. Forms of administrative integration between the EU and national administrations in RSD, which look set to continue, bring with them certain challenges, and care must be taken to maintain procedural guarantees ([Tsourdi](#)).

Many States are introducing reforms which mean retreating to single-judge **appeal procedures**. Research into three European asylum jurisdictions (Greece, France and Italy) indicates that appellants, legal representatives and judges appreciate multi-lateral teamwork in this complex area of law – and that asylum appeals improve the quality, accuracy and fairness of decisions when multiple voices are heard in the deliberations. To work effectively, however, panels require adequate resourcing and to be set within a wider dynamic professional culture of exchange and openness ([Hambly-Gill-Vianelli](#)). **Country guidance case law** with the right safeguards can be a valuable resource for lawyers, State decision-makers and judges; there are now over 300 country guidance cases relating to asylum seekers from more than 60 countries which are freely accessible online ([Joshi](#)).

Identifying statelessness

The importance of identifying statelessness or individuals at **risk of statelessness**, and the benefits this can offer for protection, is highlighted in two articles ([McGee](#); [Tiadjeu](#)). For the case of stateless Kurdish refugees from Syria in Iraq, which lacks a statelessness determination procedure, registration staff have concerns that registering these refugees differently from other Syrian refugees could render them ‘**second-class refugees**’ and/or create statistical difficulties involving **double counting**. However, including statelessness as a vulnerability criterion as part of the standard RSD process could improve protection; recording statelessness among refugee populations could also have far-reaching implications for refugee policy ([McGee](#)). For those being registered on a *prima facie* basis in eastern Cameroon, efforts to verify individuals’ link to the Central African Republic have exposed not just the complexities of RSD in the context of a porous border and lack of civil documentation but also the relation this bears to risks of statelessness. Addressing this requires a concerted, flexible approach between countries in the sub-region to develop birth registration and nationality laws ([Tiadjeu](#)).

Innovations and adaptations

Where governments have to respond to the arrival of large numbers of newly displaced people, this can create a pressing need for **innovations** in models of recognition and **adaptations** to existing asylum systems ([Jubilut-JarochinskiSilva](#); [Moore-Kortsaris](#); [Camino-Lopez](#); [CurrieRoberts-Savage](#)). In **Brazil**, group recognition has been used to grant refugee status to Venezuelans through a process that employs a business intelligence tool permitting more detailed assessment than is usually required or possible with group recognition practices. This has facilitated the recognition of more than 45,000 Venezuelans, and is said to shorten the RSD process by two years; questions have been raised, however, by civil society and academia about issues of transparency and data privacy ([Jubilut-JarochinskiSilva](#)).

The onset of the **COVID-19** pandemic has posed a number of challenges to asylum systems across the world, raising questions about the adaptability of these systems ([Moore-Kortsaris](#); [Camino-Lopez](#)). In **Peru**, lack of capacity to respond adequately to applications for asylum from Venezuelans has been compounded by the pandemic, with emergency measures for the most part failing to reach asylum applicants. The government’s distribution of food and cash support and its decree that medical care should be available to all regardless of nationality have offered short-term relief, but asylum seekers’ access to minimum guarantees still needs to be addressed ([Camino-Lopez](#)).

Elsewhere, the rapid, decisive steps taken by authorities in **Portugal** to protect asylum seekers’ rights and public health offer a useful lesson in adaptability and a protection model for other to consider. The temporary regularisation of the residency status of all foreign citizens who had filed a request for residence or asylum mean that asylum seekers have been able to access social services and a range of benefits, including

health care, yielding concrete, measurable protection and public health dividends ([Moore-Kortsaris](#)).

In the closing article of this feature theme, two authors reflect on what it is that makes an institution truly **adaptable**, and what ensures that such adaptability is **sustainable**. RSD systems were often previously required to adapt in the face of rising numbers of applications; the ability to do so was only possible because of existing adaptable institutional structures. There exist many good practice examples as to how to implement differentiated modalities, including *prima facie* recognition and triaging claims into simplified or other types of processing modalities. Some RSD systems have been unable to adapt; others have quickly implemented changes, primarily by moving in-person interactions and functions online. Although too soon to predict what impact this rapid period of adaptation will have on RSD systems in the longer term, it is vital that any adaptations be assessed to determine whether they enhance (or at a minimum do not have a negative impact on) the fairness, efficiency or integrity of the RSD system ([CurrieRoberts-Savage](#)).

GP20: LESSONS AND GOOD PRACTICE ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

The second feature in this issue offers reflections on lessons and good practice emerging from the 2018–20 **GP20 Plan of Action** for Advancing Prevention, Protection and Solutions for IDPs. This complements previous issues of FMR on the Guiding Principles of Internal Displacement marking their launch in 1998 and their 10th and 20th anniversaries. The Foreword to this feature is contributed by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs, who highlights the significant achievements that have been made under the GP20 Plan of Action. The three years of multi-stakeholder collaboration, she writes, have brought forth a wealth of experience ([JimenezDamary](#)).

With an increase in the number, length and lethality of armed conflicts around the world, a growing number of climate-related disasters, and the reality that displacement is becoming increasingly protracted, levels of **internal displacement** seem discouragingly high. The GP20 Co-Chairs reflect, however, on new opportunities that have emerged for a **collective effort** to make progress in addressing internal displacement. These include commitments made as part of the Sustainable Development Goals; the growth in the number of displacement-affected States developing laws and policies on internal displacement; the reaffirming of commitments by UN agencies to IDPs; and promising practices and innovations by displacement-affected governments, local authorities, UN agencies and others, often working together. Initiatives such as GP20 have a role to play in fostering **collaboration** across regions and in identifying **good practices** to engender and support solid commitments to enhance prevention, protection and solutions for IDPs ([Cheung-vonEinsiedel](#)).

Progress towards **State-led** laws and policies is one key success to emerge as part of the work of the GP20 initiative ([Beyani-Kulang-Mwebi](#); [Obila-Pop](#)).

In **South Sudan**, where protection challenges for IDPs reflect complex, overlapping drivers of conflict, the recent evolution of its **national IDP law** reveals the supportive role of the GP20 Plan of Action in providing coordination mechanisms for stakeholders and enabling the participation of IDPs as part of the law's drafting process. The draft law innovatively adapts international protection benchmarks to suit local conditions, such as establishing special measures to safeguard housing, land and property rights for women and children. Recognising the challenges of achieving durable solutions in the current context, the law provides pragmatic approaches such as area-based programming, transitional solutions, and the use of cash assistance to strengthen community resilience. Having been key to galvanising a multi-stakeholder commitment to developing a national law, the GP20 Plan of Action remains an important forum to support the enactment of the draft legislation ([Beyani-Kulang-Mwebi](#)).

Internal displacement in the **IGAD region** (eastern Africa) has grown significantly since 2014 and is a major concern. A regional exchange held by IGAD in 2019 in collaboration with the GP20 Initiative and with the support of the Global Protection Cluster, the Government of Switzerland and the African Union Commission facilitated a State-to-State exchange of experiences in supporting resilience and durable solutions. One of the most encouraging outcomes of this exchange was the general acceptance of the importance of adopting and implementing laws, policies and decrees addressing internal displacement. States also identified shared challenges to implementation, including security concerns, limited institutional capacity, lack of resources and land for allocation, donor fatigue, inadequate data on IDP and returnee profiles, limited commitment of government stakeholders, and limited access to technology. Greater effort is now needed to follow up with each Member State to address these challenges and build on good practice ([Obila-Pop](#)).

Understanding and responding to the scale, severity and diversity of internal displacement situations requires comprehensive, accurate data. Examples from the Central African Republic (CAR) and Somalia illustrate how collaborative approaches can be used to set **data standards** in order to inform work on addressing the causes and impacts of displacement and securing durable solutions. Tools such as those developed by the Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics (EGRIS) provide an internationally agreed framework for IDP definitions and statistics. Drawing on these, a range of actors in CAR in 2019 agreed on an action plan to improve the quality of data on internal displacement in the country. In Somalia, a profiling exercise in 2014–15 has contributed to the Somali IDP Durable Solutions Initiative and to the inclusion, for the first time, of internal displacement in the country's National Development Plan. Governments and international actors now need to enhance collaboration on refining and implementing standardised methodologies and approaches, engaging affected communities throughout the process and dedicating the necessary resources to produce comprehensive,

good-quality IDP data for use by different stakeholders ([Levakova-Valderrama-Wathum-Jusselme](#)).

In an article marking the 10th anniversary of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons, authors explore what can be learned from the application of the IASC Framework provisions in Somalia and Sudan. Profiling exercises in these countries highlight the importance of a common understanding of definitions and principles when embarking on durable solutions processes, and the overarching importance of focusing on the **non-discriminatory, voluntary nature of solutions** ([DSWGSomalia-DSWGSudan-LundkvistHoundoumadi-Ketabchi](#)).

Elsewhere, authors from the GP20 Initiative in Colombia emphasise the importance of prioritising the **participation of IDPs** in driving the achievement of durable solutions. A series of events in 2018 and 2019 provided a platform for IDPs to raise awareness of their protection risks and discuss what steps should be taken to address these. Participating IDPs were able to make concrete contributions to local development plans. Enhancing the participation of communities and individuals affected by conflict in turn helps provide more effective support to the government in its efforts to guarantee adequate and successful responses to internal displacement ([GP20Colombia](#)).

Examples of good practice relating to how to prevent or mitigate **disaster displacement** have been a key part of GP20 discussions. Authors discuss examples that highlight the importance of reliable data collection, early humanitarian action, integrated policy approaches and the engagement of communities at risk of displacement. Forecast-based financing (FbF), which works by automatically releasing pre-approved funds for pre-agreed humanitarian actions once a specific threshold is reached, is one such innovative tool, while the Sister Village 'twinning' programme in Indonesia demonstrates how a community-initiated project can help the community prepare for disaster displacement. The Philippines has established a repository for disaster data, and uses predictive analytics to prepare humanitarian responses. As a cross-cutting issue, disaster displacement also requires a coordinated policy approach that integrates disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and human mobility, in addition to human rights, development and humanitarian action; Vanuatu's 2018 National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-Induced Displacement provides a good example of just such an approach. Finally, it is important to understand how communities can themselves better anticipate, prepare for and reduce the impact of disasters, and vital to ensure that affected communities are included in discussions that affect them and are empowered to respond ([Essig-Moretti-PDD](#)).

Finally, a collection of four short case-studies on Uganda, Colombia, Yemen and El Salvador offer examples of positive developments in the areas of disaster mitigation, disaggregated use of data, allocation of land, and a new law on IDP protection ([case-studies](#)).

RECOGNISING REFUGEES

Recognising refugees: understanding the real routes to recognition

Cathryn Costello, Caroline Nalule and Derya Ozkul (Hertie School / University of Oxford)

Refugee status determination procedures are the gateway to refugeehood and as such are profoundly important. Various challenges arise, however, in studying these practices.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/costello-nalule-ozkul

The failures of a 'model' system: RSD in Canada

Hilary Evans Cameron (Ryerson University)

The Canadian refugee system is often regarded as a model for refugee status determination. While there is much to learn from what it does well, there is just as much to learn from what it does badly.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/evanscameron

Shedding light on RSD in China

Lili Song (University of Otago)

Although UNHCR processes all individual refugee status claims in China, public information about this mandate RSD has been sparse. Shedding light on the current procedure helps to identify the current challenges and opportunities relating to refugee protection in China.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/song

Age assessment for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in Egypt

Clara Zavala Folache and Beth Ritchie (Clinique Juridique Hijra Rabat / Saint Andrew's Refugee Services)

Incorrectly processing a child's asylum claim as an adult's as a result of an age assessment fails to give due weight to child-specific vulnerabilities and may affect the integrity and outcome of the RSD process.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/zavalafolache-ritchie

Conducting RSD for resettlement: the need for procedural protections

Betsy L Fisher (International Refugee Assistance Project)

Procedural protections are vital in all aspects of refugee status determination (RSD). Shortcomings in operations conducting RSD for purposes of access to resettlement and complementary pathways call for greater clarity and transparency.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/fisher

Limitations to accessing legal representation in Kenya's RSD processes

Eileen Imbosa and Andrew Maina (Refugee Consortium of Kenya)

Opportunities for asylum seekers in Kenya to appeal refugee status determination (RSD) decisions are restricted by limited access to legal representation.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/imbosa-maina

RSD by UNHCR: difficulties and dilemmas

Lamis Abdelaaty (Syracuse University)

The arrangements established between governments and UNHCR in relation to conducting RSD reflect the varying motivations of, and challenges for, both parties.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/abdelaaty

Refugee recognition challenges in India

Roshni Shanker and Hamsa Vijayaraghavan (Migration and Asylum Project)

India has repeatedly signalled its continued commitment to refugee protection and yet its dual system of refugee recognition presents a complex protection picture.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/shanker-vijayaraghavan

Exploring RSD handover from UNHCR to States

Caroline Nalule and Derya Ozkul (University of Oxford)

Handing over responsibility for refugee status determination from UNHCR to States is a complicated process that is rarely speedy or smooth. A successful handover – and the ability to meet the overarching goal of providing adequate protection for refugees – depends on many factors.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/nalule-ozkul

Refugee recognition in the EU: EASO's shifting role

Evangelia (Lilian) Tsourdi (University of Maastricht)

EASO has recently seen an expansion of the scope of its activities and – as a consequence – its potential to influence national refugee status determination.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/tsourdi

The use of country guidance case law in refugee recognition outside the UK

Makesh D Joshi (Refugee lawyer)

Country guidance case law should be perceived as one source of open-access information.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/joshi

Using multi-member panels to tackle RSD complexities

Jessica Hambly, Nick Gill and Lorenzo Vianelli (Australian National University / University of Exeter / University of Luxembourg)

Research across a range of European jurisdictions suggests that the use of multi-member judicial panels at appeal stage improves the quality and fairness of RSD.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/hambly-gill-vianelli

Recognising refugees in Greece: policies under scrutiny

Angeliki Nikolopoulou (Thessaloniki Bar Association)

Reforms to Greece's asylum system initially improved the fairness and independence of RSD but subsequent reforms are raising questions once again.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/nikolopoulou

Refugee recognition: not always sought

Derya Ozkul (University of Oxford)

Some Syrian refugees in Lebanon have chosen not to register with UNHCR, believing – often with good reason – that refugee recognition will hinder their freedom and their family's access to humanitarian assistance.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/ozkul

Group recognition of Venezuelans in Brazil: an adequate new model?

Liliana Lyra Jubilut and João Carlos Jarochinski Silva (Universidade Católica de Santos / Universidade Federal de Roraima)

Brazil has used group recognition to grant refugee status to over 45,700 Venezuelans. The practices and technologies involved may well represent a landmark in refugee protection but there remain concerns over limitations and inattention to vulnerabilities.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/jubilut-jarochinskisilva

Recognising stateless refugees

Thomas McGee (Melbourne Law School)

The experiences of stateless Kurdish refugees from Syria in Iraq highlight the importance of identifying statelessness during RSD, and the benefits this can offer for refugee protection.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/mcgee

The registration of refugees in eastern Cameroon

Ghislain B Tiadjeu (UNHCR)

Prima facie recognition of refugees claiming to be from the Central African Republic depends on establishing their link to the Central African Republic. This is a difficult task, and one that also highlights the vulnerabilities of those who are at risk of statelessness.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/tiadjeu

Seeking asylum in Italy: assessing risks and options

Eleanor Paynter (Cornell University)

In Italy, uncertainties inherent in the asylum system affect asylum seekers' motivation, decisions and well-being.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/paynter

Adaptable asylum systems in the context of COVID-19

Angela Moore and Periklis Kortsaris (UNHCR)

COVID-19 has provided a new entry point for conversations about the adaptability of asylum systems. The swift, constructive approach taken by Portugal to ensure the rights of asylum seekers during the pandemic offers a protection model for others to consider.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/moore-kortsaris



Asylum under pressure in Peru: the impact of the Venezuelan crisis and COVID-19

Paula Camino and Uber López (PUCP Law School / Bullard Falla Ezcurra)

The continuing crisis in Venezuela has generated a significant increase in applications for asylum in neighbouring Peru. This has exceeded the government's capacity to respond adequately and in a timely manner – difficulties that are exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/camino-lopez



Institutional adaptability in the time of COVID-19

Elise Currie-Roberts and Sarah-Jane Savage (UNHCR)
The ability of an asylum system to adapt its processes is important and plays a key role in ensuring sustainability over time. Adaptation, however, must never come at the expense of other vital elements of a strong and just asylum system.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/currieroberts-savage

GP20: LESSONS AND GOOD PRACTICE ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT



Foreword: Prevent, protect, resolve – reflecting on the GP20 Plan of Action

Cecilia Jimenez-Damary (UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons)

At the end of the three-year GP20 Plan of Action, I applaud the significant achievements made by States and other actors, and look forward to our continued, shared engagement on enhancing protection for IDP rights.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/jimenezdamary



Internal displacement: reflections on prevention, protection and solutions

Samuel Cheung and Sebastian von Einsiedel (UNHCR / OCHA)

With record numbers of people internally displaced, the urgency of the situation has triggered greater international attention and a stronger imperative for States and the international community to act. The GP20 initiative has highlighted a number of opportunities to allow much-needed progress to be made in finding bold, concrete solutions.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/cheung-voneinsiedel



The potential of South Sudan's national law on protection and assistance to IDPs

Chaloka Beyani, Gatwech Peter Kulang and Rose Mwebi (LSE / Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management of South Sudan / UNHCR)

South Sudan faces significant and complex humanitarian challenges but the recent drafting of a national IDP law reflects a renewed commitment to and vision for protecting its citizens.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/beyani-kulang-mwebi



Using collaborative approaches to improve internal displacement data

Devora Levakova, Adrián Calvo Valderrama, Jacques Ajaruwva Wathum and Damien Jusselme (JIPS / IDMC / UNHCR / IOM)

The magnitude, severity and diversity of internal displacement situations cannot be understood – and much less be adequately responded to – without comprehensive and accurate data. Initiatives such as the GP20 Plan of Action offer examples of good practice for the way forward in this complex area.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/levakova-calvovalderrama-wathum-jusselme



Case-studies from Uganda, Colombia, Yemen and El Salvador

Four short case-studies offer examples of positive developments in the areas of disaster mitigation, disaggregated use of data, allocation of land, and a new law on IDP protection.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/case-studies



Prioritising the participation of IDPs in driving solutions

GP20 Colombia

Participatory spaces – like those organised as part of the GP20 initiative in Colombia – must be maintained and expanded so that IDPs can work directly with local and national decision-makers in order to identify and take up opportunities to achieve durable solutions.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/GP20Colombia



Reflections on State experiences in the IGAD region

Charles Obila and Ariadna Pop (IGAD / Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs)

State-to-State exchanges in 2019 focused attention on what more is needed if governments in the IGAD region are to respond more effectively to high levels of internal displacement.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/obila-pop



Preventing and preparing for disaster displacement

Barbara Essig, Sebastien Moretti and Platform on Disaster Displacement Secretariat (IDMC / IFRC / PDD)

Examples of good practice relating to preventing, mitigating and preparing for disaster displacement, discussed as part of the GP20 initiative, have revealed valuable lessons on early action, data, laws and policies, and community engagement.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/essig-moretti-PDD



The application of the IASC Framework in Somalia and Sudan

Durable Solutions Working Group Somalia (DSWG), DSWG Sudan, Margharita Lundkvist-Houndoumadi and Jasmine Ketabchi (DSWG Somalia / DSWG Sudan / JIPS / UNHCR)

Analysing how the IASC Framework has been used over the decade since its launch in 2010 provides some useful reflections for those working to achieve durable solutions to internal displacement.

www.fmreview.org/recognising-refugees/DSWGSomalia-DSWGSudan-lundkvisthoundoumadi-ketabchi

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