

# PDES Projects in 2012-2013

## **Emergency response**

PDES undertook reviews of UNHCR's emergency response in [Ethiopia](#) and [South Sudan](#), and led a real-time review of UNHCR's response to the [Syria refugee emergency](#) in Jordan, Lebanon and northern Iraq.

## **Protection and solutions**

PDES published an independent global review of the [strategic use of resettlement](#) and has initiated an analysis of the labour market integration of resettled refugees. PDES undertook a global review of UNHCR's engagement with [assisted voluntary return programmes](#) and published reviews of [UNHCR's efforts to link humanitarian relief and development](#) over the last decade, and of [UNHCR's policy and practice on refugee repatriation](#).

## **Urban refugees**

PDES convened and co-chaired a steering group to oversee the implementation of UNHCR's urban refugee policy, which commissioned a [global review of UNHCR's urban refugee operations](#). The [Good Practices for Urban Refugees website](#) was developed by PDES and the UNHCR Division of Programme Support and Management to support practitioners to share information and tools relevant for urban programming.

## **Protracted refugee situations**

UNHCR and the World Food Programme undertook a joint evaluation of [the impact of food aid in protracted refugee situations](#), focusing on [Bangladesh](#), [Chad](#), [Ethiopia](#) and [Rwanda](#). As a follow-up, PDES has initiated a study of situations where refugees have successfully achieved self-reliance. In June 2013, PDES undertook an assessment of confidence-building measures between Sahrawi refugees in the Tindouf camps in Algeria and Sahrawi families in Western Sahara.

## **Refugee youth**

PDES published an independent global review of [UNHCR's engagement with displaced youth](#) and convened a roundtable for specialists in this field. PDES has also commissioned a study in Afghanistan to investigate the motivations and profile of unaccompanied children on the move.

## **Sexual and gender-based violence**

PDES supported a review by the Berkeley Human Rights Centre of [safe shelter arrangements](#) provided to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, focusing on Colombia, Haiti, Kenya and Thailand.

## **External relations and advisory functions**

PDES represents UNHCR in relation to the UN Evaluation Group and Active Learning Network on Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action. The service has acted as UNHCR's focal point for various external and inter-agency evaluation initiatives, including a review by the UN Office of Internal Oversight Services on strengthening the role of evaluation in UNHCR.

PDES sits on the advisory and editorial boards of several academic institutions and journals, including the Refugee Studies Centre (Oxford); the Centre on Migration Policy and Society (Oxford); the Forced Migration Review, Journal of Refugee Studies, Refuge and Global Networks.