

**Oral update on Internal Displacement
Standing Committee - 07 – 09 July 2020
Presented by the Principal Advisor on Internal Displacement**

Ladies and Gentlemen, in this oral update, I will share with you a progress report on the *UNHCR Initiative on Internal Displacement*.

As you will recall, the IDP Initiative was launched at the March 2020 Standing Committee as a further expression of UNHCR's commitment to be predictable and effective in situations of internal displacement. The launch followed the update of the *Policy on UNHCR Engagement in Situations of International Displacement*, released in September 2019, which now guides our work in 33 IDP operations. The IDP-Initiative has four main objectives around which I will provide an update of our operational engagement.

The first relates to the generation of good practices between countries and across regions which inform the continued operationalization of UNHCR's IDP policy across its IDP operations. On this I would like to specifically highlight our work in cash, which is critical also in the context of the pandemic. We are currently implementing cash in **13 IDP** operations, a significant increase as compared to past years, and with important controls in place related to targeting and post-distribution monitoring. More than **fifteen million USD** has been distributed in just three months, a vital lifeline which brings also choice and empowerment.

The second concerns UNHCR's contribution to visibility and advocacy on the impact of internal displacement on affected populations. This is enabled in multiple ways including stepping up on our inter-agency coordination leadership commitments. We now have protection cluster coordinators at national level in **32** locations, CCCM coordinators at **14** locations, and shelter coordinators in **16** locations. As examples, we have stepped-up in Sudan, co-leading the camp/site (CCCM) response in the context of COVID19, and in Mozambique, where we have newly strengthened the Protection Cluster in the Northern Cabo Delgado region. All of these are active in highlighting the impact of forced displacement. Linked to this, we appreciate in particular, statements made by regional bodies, including by the African Union Peace and Security Council related to the importance of including IDPs in the COVID response, and efforts by numerous States to ensure that vulnerabilities faced by IDP men, women and children, are addressed in national response plans. I should note that we intertwine our coordination leadership with operational engagement and leverage our field presence with investments in local community engagement, local partners and government authorities – national and local levels.

The third concerns ways in which we can better inform resource mobilization strategies and equitable resource allocation. Towards this end, we are undertaking to improve the analysis of data collected during protection monitoring, and to form a clear link between that analysis and our revised results monitoring framework. This evidence-based approach will guide our resource allocation and mobilization efforts for 2020 and beyond. I take note in particular that the Pillar IV unmet needs for 2020 are estimated to be in the range of 700 million USD, or approximately a 54% shortfall.

The final objective concerns the need to facilitate focused support to the nine IDP-Initiative target operations on specific thematic, strategic and operational issues. While there are several examples, I would like to mention our work in Resilience and Solutions, with important new initiatives for IDP solutions underway, including in Ethiopia and Somalia, in cooperation with Government and other stakeholders. We recognize the importance of partnership with development stakeholders and others in driving solutions, including through early action, and evidence-based, integrated programming. Driving durable solutions in the context of the 2030 Agenda is central to our approach. I thank you.