

# EGRIS NEWSLETTER

## EXPERT GROUP ON REFUGEE AND IDP STATISTICS

The United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC), at its 47th session in 2016, decided to establish an international **Expert Group on Refugee and Internally Displaced Persons Statistics (EGRIS)**. The group consists of participants from national authorities, regional and international organizations, and other technical experts. Since its establishment, EGRIS has produced a set of International Recommendations on Refugee and IDP Statistics, which have been endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission. Following these achievements, the group is currently developing its third phase of work, which focuses on the implementation of the recommendations.

### *1<sup>ST</sup> IGAD WEBINAR ON FORCED DISPLACEMENT STATISTICS*

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of April 2021, EGRIS in collaboration with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the African Union Institute for Statistics (STATAFRIC), and Statistics Sweden organized a webinar on forced displacement statistics. About 55 representatives from national statistical offices, line ministries, IGAD and other regional and international partners attended the meeting and engaged in plenary and breakout session discussions. The Joint IDP Profiling Service (JIPS), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), World Bank, and World Bank-UNHCR Joint Data Center (JDC) supported the webinar as facilitators. The objectives of awareness raising around the



IRRS/IRIS, outlining synergies between forced displacement and migration statistics and information sharing on phase 3 of EGRIS were successfully met. The webinar strengthened the collaboration between EGRIS and the IGAD region, including Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda, and work is already underway to identify other capacity building activities with countries in the region.

## ***UNECE 5TH EXPERT MEETING ON STATISTICS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS***

EGRIS and UNHCR participated in the 5th Expert Meeting on Statistics for Sustainable Development Goals and contributed to the session on the “Impact of COVID-19 on SDGs – “Leave no one behind perspective” with a presentation focused on disaggregation of SDG indicators by forced displacement and the International Recommendations on Refugee and IDP statistics (IRRS & IRIS) developed by EGRIS. Successful stories from the region, such as Ukraine’s country level initiative to implement the

recommendations on IDP statistics, demonstrate the region’s engagement in the area of forced displacement statistics.

## ***AFRICA MIGRATION DATA NETWORK LAUNCH EVENT***

The EGRIS attended the launch of the [Africa Migration Data Network](#) on 28<sup>th</sup> of April, and would like to congratulate the partners behind and reiterate that we are looking forward to collaborating closely with this work as expressed by speakers in the opening remarks.

## ***UNSC SIDE EVENT***

EGRIS together with UNHCR and UNFPA convened a side event on the margins of the UN Statistical Commission to raise awareness of the need to improve statelessness statistics at country, regional and global levels. Speakers from the JDC, University of Cape Town, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UNHCR, WB, and Rwanda contributed to the event with their experience and knowledge on statelessness statistics. The event was an opportunity to raise awareness on the importance of improved data on stateless persons and the ongoing process



to develop International Recommendations on Statelessness Statistics (IROSS).

The event provided a chance for fruitful discussions and feedback on the work. It also provided an important platform for continued dialogue and support for the recommendations and their endorsement by the UNSC in 2022 as it brought together a diverse range of participants from governments, national statistical offices, humanitarian and development actors and

civil society. The recording of the event is available [here](#).

## *UPDATES ON EGRIS THIRD PHASE*

- **SUBGROUP 1: PROMOTION AND DISSEMINATION**

The subgroup is currently working on the development of an EGRIS website and a visual identity. This will be important for efficient communication around EGRIS in the future. As part of the initial steps, the group has developed a website concept note and a design brief, which will guide the development of both products. EGRIS secretariat and SG1 colleagues will further lead the work together with UNHCR's Digital Engagement Section.

- **SUBGROUP 2: CAPACITY BUILDING**

The subgroup is currently developing a position paper for the provision of capacity building and management of requests for technical support. The subgroup has received a request for technical support from Ukraine, which is currently working on a roadmap for the implementation of the IRIS and is in the process of supporting request development from two additional countries. In addition, SG2 has started conversations with the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) around the development of e-training materials on the IRRS and IRIS.

- **SUBGROUP 3: KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND REFINEMENT OF THE COMPILERS' MANUAL**

The subgroup has focused on the further improvement of the IDP "solutions measure" introduced in IRIS for assessing progress towards durable solutions and identifying whether IDPs have overcome key displacement-related vulnerabilities. It has worked on the editorial revision of EGRIS's Compilers Manual, with the objective to improve its user-friendliness.

## *UPDATES ON THE INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS ON STATELESSNESS STATISTICS*

EGRIS has developed the first draft of the International Recommendations on Statelessness Statistics (IROSS). It is a strong document, which addresses the complex interface between migration statistics, CRVS, legal identity and statistics on statelessness. Despite the progress achieved, more work and more contributions from country-level are needed. Considering this, EGRIS has

decided to postpone the submission of IROSS to the 54<sup>th</sup> UNSC in 2023. The new timeframe will enable the group to attract increased country level buy-in, improve country level contributions and ultimately deliver a stronger technical product to the UN Statistical Commission. In 2022, EGRIS will submit an updated Terms of Reference and a progress report to the UNSC to be discussed under the CRVS agenda item. The report will include background for the IROSS work, progress to date and key concepts and definitions including the statistical framework. EGRIS members are highly welcome to contribute to the development of the IROSS.

## *UPCOMING EVENTS*

- 10 MAY 2021: IDAC WEBINAR ON "MIGRANT AND DISPLACED CHILDREN: DEEP IN THE SHADOW OF COVID-19"

The International Data Alliance for Children on the Move ([IDAC](#)), jointly supported by UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM-GMDAC and OECD, is organizing a webinar on May 10, 10h00-11h30 EST to shed light on the emerging impact of COVID-19 on migrant and displaced boys and girls. The webinar will consider the findings of IDAC issue brief [A Web of Insecurity: Gendered risks and vulnerabilities for children on the move during the COVID-19 pandemic](#) to highlight areas of urgent concern for refugee, migrant and internally displaced children as they navigate life during the pandemic using available albeit limited evidence. Multi-stakeholder perspectives on the actual impact of COVID-19 on children on the move, as well as related data gaps, will be shared by the Government of Colombia, African Union, OECD and Internal Displacement Monitoring Center (IDMC).

- 19 - 20 MAY 2021: UNECE ONLINE MEETING OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS ON POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUSES

EGRIS has been invited to be part of the panel session “Leaving no-one behind: Equity and inclusion of minority groups in censuses” of the UNECE Online Expert meeting on Population and Housing Censuses. Colleagues are invited to contribute to the presentation and to share experiences and best practices. More information [here](#).

## *PUBLICATIONS*

- World Bank's ongoing engagement through the Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics (EGRIS), March 2021: <https://blogs.worldbank.org/opendata/world-banks-ongoing-engagement-through-expert-group-refugee-and-idp-statistics-egris>
- Home Again? Categorising Obstacles to Returnee Reintegration In Iraq, IOM Iraq, 2021: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5bbb4e4c29f2cc31b47ff50f/t/6036399ef9bd692e254bf897/1614166441657/Home+Again%2C+Categorising+Obstacles+to+Returnee+Reintegration+in+Iraq.pdf>
- The Impact of Government-Sponsored Refugee Resettlement: A Meta Study of findings from Six Countries, UNHCR, December 2020: <https://www.unhcr.org/603e5d344>