

**TOWARDS BETTER REFUGEE  
PROTECTION AND  
RESPONSIBILITY-SHARING**

**MEASURING HOST COUNTRIES'  
CONTRIBUTIONS**

## OBJECTIVE

- The objective of the exercise is ***to provide data that can underpin discussions among Member States*** that could eventually lead to a better responsibility-sharing arrangement.

To that effect, the “measuring contributions” exercise would include three elements:

A measure of contributions by “**donor**” countries, with a consistent methodology

A measure of contributions by “**hosting**” countries, also with a consistent methodology

A metric that would measure ***the way contributions are distributed*** across Member States.

# CURRENT STATUS

## Contributions by donor countries

- Currently not available with no uniform methodology to calculate such expenses.
- OECD leading this effort and making substantial progress.

## Contributions by hosting countries

- Currently not available with no uniform methodology or even economic model to calculate such expenditure (direct or indirect costs, average or marginal costs, etc.).
- UNHCR coordinating this effort, with some technical support by the World Bank.

## Metric to measure distribution

- Could be built based on existing methodologies to measure distribution of incomes, etc.
- Will depend on availability of data.

# A PROPOSED WAY FORWARD

## Approach and data

- Define an homogenous approach across countries (vs. country-level economic studies)
- Use existing data (and proxies) as much as possible (vs. new data collection)
- Review approach over time

## Focus

- Focus on contribution of / costs to the host countries (i.e., not to aid community, to refugees, etc.)
- Focus on fiscal costs (including compensation systems to mitigate broader economic / social costs)
- Focus on additional costs linked to refugees' presence only (vs. broader costs of neighboring conflict)
- Distinguish between costs solely due to refugees' presence and those caused / potentially mitigated by government policies
- Focus on areas / sectors of highest impact

# PROPOSED PROCESS

**Objective:** Develop a methodology in a manner that key stakeholders see the resulting numbers as “legitimate” enough to provide the basis for a discussion on responsibility-sharing.

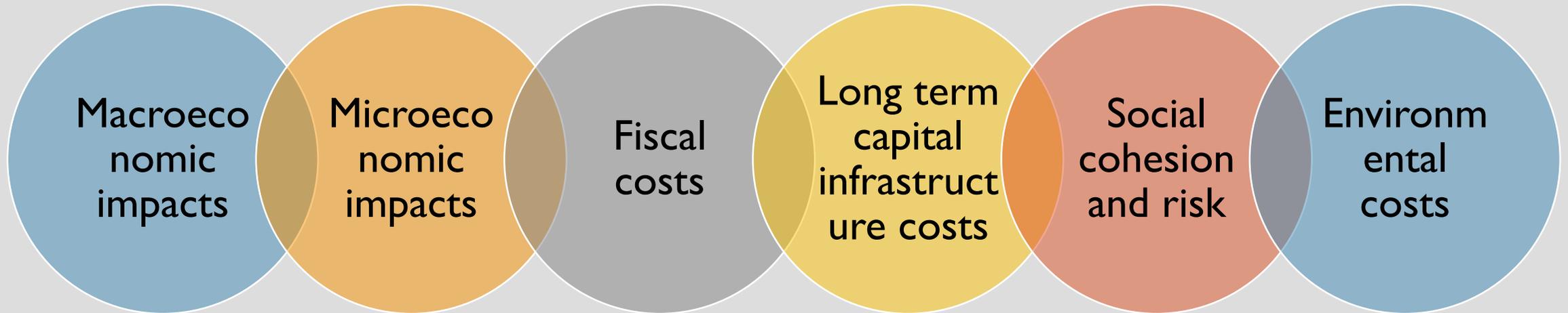
**Proposed approach:** Engage interested Member States (especially refugee-hosting countries) in developing such a methodology together through a consensus-building process – which UNHCR can host and for which the World Bank can provide technical support

## How would this work ?

- Several (three to four) two- to three-day workshops among technical experts to develop a consensus on a methodology, in January/February – June 2019
- Countries to provide corresponding data, in June – October 2019
- Aggregation and treatment of data, in November 2019
- First results available at the December 2019 Global Refugee Forum

**Note:** While a consensus on one methodology is desirable, it is not indispensable: there could be a consensus on two or more methodologies, used in parallel.

# ELEMENTS OF ESTIMATING IMPACTS



## A POSSIBLE WAY FORWARD

Parallel tracks, for different purposes and with different timelines:

1. To start informing discussions on how to improve financing the global public good – review fiscal contributions by sector & revenues (per annum)
2. To start accounting for unmet needs and helping enhance allocations and channeling of aid resources – use the same method to assess “what would it take to...” (eg put all refugee children in school)
3. To start informing policy discussions at country level and corresponding contributions – launch detailed impact or cost assessments in “volunteering” host countries – likely multiyear effort