

Proposed Orientations for First GCR Indicator Report

In support to the follow-up and review of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), UNHCR will release the first GCR indicator report in December 2021 in connection with the High-Level Officials Meeting. The report will build on the GCR indicator framework published in 2019, in pursuance of the request made in the GCR to develop indicators to measure progress under its four objectives. The report will also inform further follow-up and pledging guidance for the next Global Refugee Forum. This note briefly recalls background information and outlines proposed general orientations for the scope and methodology of the report.

Background

On 17 December 2018, the UNGA affirmed the GCR, whereby the international community committed to do its utmost to mobilize support for the achievement of the four objectives of the GCR on an equal footing, through more predictable and equitable burden- and responsibility-sharing to: (i) ease pressures on host countries; (ii) enhance refugee self-reliance; (iii) expand access to third country solutions; and (iv) support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity. Follow-up and review under the GCR is to be conducted primarily through the Global Refugee Forums (every four years), high-level officials' meetings two years after each Global Refugee Forum, the biennial GCR indicator report, and annual High Commissioner's reporting to the General Assembly. Stocktaking should be informed by the GCR indicator framework, the tracking of implementation of pledges and contributions, and the results of the process coordinated by UNHCR aiming to measure the impact arising from hosting, protecting, and assisting refugees.

The GCR indicator framework is composed of 15 indicators identified under the four GCR objectives. The majority of indicators have an already established methodology and data collection process. It also includes indicators requiring further technical and operational work for populating them in view of preparing the report.

Proposed orientations

The report will aim to measure progress towards the achievement of the four interrelated and interdependent objectives of the GCR, applying a data-driven and evidence-based approach that builds on the agreed GCR indicator framework. In this context, it will seek to measure and report on the impacts of global efforts to implement the core principle of predictable and equitable burden- and responsibility-sharing to improve refugee situations. This will be key to sustaining momentum towards achieving the objectives of the GCR over the longer term.

¹ A/73/12 (Part II), para 102.

² A/RES/73/151.

³ A/73/12 (Part II), para 103.

More specifically, it is proposed that the report will:

- be based on already available indicators and on-going data collection efforts, starting with the 15 GCR indicators, so as to limit the data collection burden to the extent possible;
- rely on quality data, whose collection, validation, and compilation are in line with sound methodological practices to ensure the reliability of GCR indicators;
- integrate measurable elements from the tracking of implementation of pledges and contributions and from the measurement of the impact arising from hosting, protecting, and assisting refugees;
- consolidate analysis using complementary indicators, if relevant to GCR implementation, available, and methodologically sound;
- draw on agreed targets and other relevant benchmarks and indicator frameworks (e.g. SDG targets/indicators, Three-Year Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways targets, the Grand Bargain) to support assessment of progress;
- provide trend and cross-sectional analysis, primarily at global and regional levels, and covering the period 2016–2021, where the data permits, so as to capture efforts and impact since the first applications of the Comprehensive Refugee Response
 Framework (CRRF) (set out in the New York Declaration, September 2016);
- include personal stories and complementary analytical studies illustrating the human aspects behind data and aggregates and how efforts to meet the GCR objectives can positively translate and have an impact on the lives of refugees and host communities;
- align with existing and ongoing structures related to GRF follow-up at the regional, thematic, and stakeholder levels;
- provide links to existing data platforms, thereby providing access to more
 disaggregated data, including by countries, age, gender, diversity and other relevant
 characteristics, as relevant and feasible (for more details see GCR Indicator
 Metadata);
- include policy guidance, based on the evidence provided in the report and, in particular, recommendations to improve data collection, dissemination, and quality, in keeping with internationally agreed standards for refugee statistics; and
- be developed along a timeline and sequential approach consisting of clarifying methodologies and data collection plans (Q1); data collection, validation, and compilation (Q1/Q2); data analysis, visualisation, and report writing (Q2/Q3); and release of GCR indicator report (Q4).

For more information, please contact the GRF Coordination Team (hggrf@unhcr.org).