

Looking Ahead to the 2023 Global Refugee Forum

Development Cooperation Initiatives

2022 High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges: Development Cooperation

In the lead-up to the 2022 High Commissioner's Dialogue, stakeholders had the opportunity to propose and undertake a series of innovation labs to advance on key issues related to development cooperation in the context of displacement and statelessness. The innovation labs address key problems, catalyse partnerships, and cultivate and mobilize pledges related to development cooperation looking towards the 2023 Global Refugee Forum. The initiatives will be announced during the closing plenary of the Dialogue.

Initiatives are listed in alphabetical order, as well as their partners.

Better Lives Now

Description: The Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative and the Bureau of Population Refugees and Migration, U.S. Department of State, co-convened this innovation lab to explore challenges, alongside best practices and emerging approaches, to support refugee self-reliance.. To catalyze partnerships and new ideas, the initiative convened thematic discussions on: (i) Measuring the Impacts of Self-reliance: Data, Evidence and Research; (ii) Supporting Programming and Practices to Advance Refugee Self-reliance; and (iii) Fostering Policies to Promote an Enabling Environment in which Refugees and Host Communities Can Thrive. Each discussion brought together representatives from academia, foundations, NGOs, research organizations, refugee-led organizations, multilateral institutions, governments and the private sector to produce practical recommendations to inform pledging at the 2023 Global Refugee Forum. To learn more, please visit the [Better Lives Now: Self-Reliance Innovation Labs Learning Briefer](#).

Partners: Bureau of Population Refugees and Migration, U.S. Department of State and the Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative

Participants: Amazon, Banesco, Center for Global Development, Danish Refugee Council, EU/UNOPS Lives in Dignity Grant Facility, Fomento Económico Mexicano (FEMSA), Georgetown University, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ), Global Refugee Youth Network, Government of Nuevo Leon - Mexico, HIAS, Inter-American Development Bank, Intergovernmental Authority on Development, International Council of Voluntary Agencies, IKEA Foundation, International Labour Organization, InterAction, International Rescue Committee, Kiva, Loughborough University, Mercy Corps, MIRPS, Oxford University - Refugee Studies Center, Poverty Alleviation Coalition, RAIC Indonesia, Refugee Entrepreneurship Network, Refugee Integration Insights, Refugees International, Refugee-Led Research Hub, RefugePoint, Regional Durable Solutions Platform, R-Seat, Samuel Hall, Sharqi Shop, Stanford University - Immigration Policy Lab, Teleperformance, Thabyay Education Foundation, Tufts University - Feinstein International Center, Umbrella 500, United Nations Development Programme, United States Agency for International Development, Washington University in St. Louis, Women's Refugee Commission, World Bank, World Bank-UNHCR Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement

Global Peer to Peer Solutions Advisor Network

Description: This innovation lab aims to establish the Global Peer to Peer Solutions Advisor Network, which capitalizes on the strengths, knowledge and capacity of refugee youth leaders and contributes to local development by facilitating socio-economic inclusion of forcibly displaced persons. The Network will be composed of refugee advisors who have been successful in pursuing academic and professional goals, and who will support refugee youth to access education and employment opportunities. Refugee peer advisors will receive up-to-date information on opportunities, plans and processes and timely guide refugee youth throughout application processes and context-specific challenges, which will ultimately lead to an increased the number of displaced youth successfully transitioning into higher education and employment, and becoming self-reliant.

Partners: Duolingo, Elimisha, Kepler, Mastercard Foundation, Mosaik Education, Open Society Foundations, Tertiary Refugee Student Network, World University Service of Canada

Localization and Development: Effective Approaches to Promote Evidence-Based Policies and Refugee Inclusion

Description: This innovation lab aims to explore how stakeholders can support academics in low- and middle-income countries in leading the way to effective policymaking and sustainable development. This initiative reflects the spirit of Global Compact on Refugees to localize refugee responses by ensuring global and regional policies are rooted in knowledge produced locally and responsibility and is equitably shared globally. At the HC's Dialogue, a joint commitment to collaborate on a pledge for the 2023 Global Refugee Forum on localization of forced displacement and development cooperation research will be announced by development actors, private sector entities and academic institutions.

Partners: Connected Learning in Crisis Consortium (CLCC), Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, DAFI Scholars, De Mello Chair for Brazil, De Mello Chair for Costa Rica, Forced Migration and Refugee Studies: Networking and Knowledge Transfer (FFVT), Global Academic Interdisciplinary Network, Global Refugee-led Network (GRN), Government of Canada, IKEA Foundation, International Association for the Study of Forced Migration (IASFM), International Development and Research Centre (IDRC), InZone Programme at the University of Geneva, Local Engagement Refugee Research Network (LERRN), Open Society Foundations, Refugees Seeking Equal Access at the Table (R-SEAT), Sanremo International Institute for Humanitarian Law, United Nations Academic Impact, University of Guadalajara (IDRC Research Chair in Mexico)

Making Forcibly Displaced and Stateless Persons Visible in National Statistics

Description: This innovation lab aims to build a critical mass of stakeholders to advance the inclusion of refugees, internally displaced and stateless persons in national statistical systems. Governments and other actors are invited to form pledges in the lead-up to the 2023 Global Refugee Forum. The statistical inclusion of these vulnerable populations, alongside their hosts, will help produce socioeconomic data that can inform operations, development programs, and inclusive policies in an effort to achieve the aims of the Global Compact on Refugees and the #IBelong Campaign to End Statelessness.

Partners: Brazil (Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística), Chad (Institut National de la Statistique, des Etudes Economiques et Démographique), Colombia (Departamento Administrativo Nacional de Estadística), Ecuador (Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos), Iraq (Central Statistical Organization), Kenya (Kenya

National Bureau of Statistics), Philippines (Philippine Statistics Authority), Rwanda (National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda), Uganda (Uganda Bureau of Statistics), Bureau of Population Refugees and Migration – U.S. Department of State, European Commission Directorate General for International Partnerships, Government of Denmark, UN Economic Commission for Africa, UN Economic Commission for Asia-Pacific, UN Economic Commission for Europe, UN Economic Commission for Western Asia, UN Statistical Division, World Bank.

Shaping the Future, Living as Neighbours

Description: This innovation lab aims to advance efforts and programmes to meaningfully enable faith actors, as well as humanitarian and development actors, to better support displaced people and host communities. The initiative will convene diverse perspectives of faith and secular actors, development agencies, governments and displaced people - forging and promoting wider interfaith alliances across the cycle of displacement. Kicking off the development of pledges in the lead up to 2023 Global Refugee Forum, the initiative will also discuss ways to advance faith-sensitive assistance within early action and strengthen inclusion and solutions by improving joint advocacy among faith and non-faith actors to address xenophobia and anti-immigrant discrimination.

Partners: HIAS, Islamic Relief Worldwide, Lutheran World Federation, International Catholic Migration Commission, Caritas Internationalis, World Vision, International Council of Voluntary Agencies, Religious Leaders, Affected Communities.

Statelessness and Development: Tool for Programming and Advocacy

Description: During this innovation lab, partners are contributing towards developing a practical tool for preventing and reducing statelessness through development cooperation and related programmes. Development cooperation can contribute to all four dimensions of efforts to address statelessness: identification and protection of stateless persons, as well as the prevention and resolution of statelessness. Addressing statelessness therefore needs to be considered in programmes relating to poverty reduction, governance and rule of law, legal identity, gender equality, and social protection, among others. This goal is best achieved if statelessness is considered during all phases of programming – design, situation analysis, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.

Partners: Bureau of Population Refugees and Migration, U.S. Department of State, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, United Nations Development Programme, International Development Law Organization.

Shifting Power to Children and Youth in Displacement Situations

Description: The resilience, adaptability and creativity of displaced children and young people is an enormous opportunity to catalyze solutions and contribute to development. However, for this to be realized, they must be able to influence decision-making and hold governments and development actors accountable for their rights. This innovation lab maps practical solutions that can facilitate displaced youth's meaningful participation and ability to influence and enforce duty-bearer accountability, with the overall goal of strengthening youth engagement in local development planning and programming. The outcome of the innovation lab will be a 2023 roadmap for testing and refining practices that enforce accountability between governments and displacement-affected populations in development cooperation initiatives.

Partners: Global Refugee Youth Network, Migration Youth and Children Platform, Save the Children, United Nations Children's Fund. The initiative will also include consultations with national and regional refugee-led organisations and networks, practitioners from NGOs and UN and international organisations, as well as local governance experts.

UN Common Pledge 2.0

Description: At the 2019 Global Refugee Forum, pledges were made by the UN Secretary-General and the UN's Emergency Relief Coordinator, which committed UN entities to systematically include refugees into their analyses and plans, and to work with refugee-hosting governments and communities to facilitate the inclusion of refugees into national systems. In the lead-up to the 2023 Global Refugee Forum, over 20 UN entities have come together to co-create a successor pledge, the [UN Common Pledge 2.0](#). As part of the UN Common Pledge 2.0 and following a series of preparatory meetings, all stakeholders will come together for a 2-day in-person meeting in January 2023. During the 2 days, each component of the UN Common Pledge 2.0 will be discussed and advanced. The aim of this initiative is to build on the diversity of stakeholders – from UN entities and UN Country Teams, to donors and refugees – to advance future commitments on refugee inclusion into national systems, to ensure the commitments are complementary, and to avoid gaps between global-level engagement and on-the-ground realities.

Partners: Public donors and foundations, refugee-led organizations, UN Country Teams, UN entities

UNDP – UNHCR: Lessons Learned and Working Towards More Joined-up Development Approaches to Forced Displacement

Description: This innovation lab aims to build on promising practices from the UNHCR-UNDP partnership and expand multi-stakeholder approaches to strengthen development cooperation from the onset of a displacement crisis. As a first step, the innovation lab convened an online webinar to share concrete examples of innovation and where combining UNHCR and UNDP's knowledge and technical capacity can strengthen development cooperation approaches in forced displacement and statelessness contexts. Concretely, the webinar's recommendations will result in a structured roadmap towards defining new pledges for the 2023 Global Refugee Forum. The roadmap will be presented at the December 2022 High Commissioner's Dialogue.

Partners: The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) of Germany, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNDP Sudan, UNDP Afghanistan