

DPPA has an important role to play at both the political and operational level to support durable solutions to internal displacement. This is particularly important as almost 90 percent of IDPs reside in countries or regions that host a Special Political Mission or a Peacekeeping Operation, and with many more in non-mission settings supported by Resident Coordinators and often discussed in the meetings of the Security Council and the Peacebuilding Commission. While conflict remains the main driver of displacement, climate- and disaster-related displacement is also on the rise, with differentiated impacts on women, youth, Indigenous Peoples and Afro descendants. This agenda is therefore closely linked to the Department's prevention and peacebuilding mandate as well as its work on climate, peace and security.

DPPA is part of the Steering Group convened by the Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement and, together with DPO, has signed up to eight commitments, which fall under four groups under the Secretary-General's Action Agenda,¹ namely: i) commitments related to Solutions Strategies (Group 1); ii) commitments related to prevention of displacement crises, focusing on conflict and human rights violations (Group 7); iii) commitments related to prevention of displacement crises, focusing on climate change and disasters (Group 8); and iv) commitments on understanding risk intersection, planning and financing (Group 9). DPPA also chairs the Peacebuilding Contact Group, which has made commitments on forced displacement and migration in line with the decisions of the Global Refugee Forum.

The Special Adviser has identified 16 pilot countries² to build a model where the UN, across the three pillars, can support a solution strategy under the leadership of national authorities. Out of these 16 pilot countries, 11 have in-country SPMs or fall within the political mandates of DPPA regional offices or envoys³, and 8 have Peace and Development Advisers⁴ jointly deployed with UNDP: Afghanistan, Chad, Colombia, Ethiopia, Iraq, Libya, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Somalia, Sudan, Vanuatu and Yemen. DPPA and DPO have jointly encouraged special political missions and peacekeeping operations to lend political leadership to the Secretary-General's Action Agenda, in close cooperation with DSRSG/RC/HCs in mission settings and Resident Coordinators in non-mission settings. Since 2016, Member States, DSRSG/RC/HCs and RCs have increasingly requested support to the Peacebuilding Fund to promote durable solutions and address root causes of internal displacement, including in some of the pilot countries such as CAR, Chad, Iraq, Libya, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Yemen.

This note outlines the institutional plan for DPPA (2023-2026) to contribute to facilitating the coordination of solutions to displacement from both a prevention and a peacebuilding perspective. This institutional plan is aligned to the DPPA Strategic Plan (2023-2026)⁵ and specifically strategic objective 1 (longer-term prevention and peacebuilding support) and outcome 3.1 (enhanced DPPA support/political advice for conflict prevention, dialogue, institutional strengthening, social cohesion and implementation of peacebuilding strategies). The focus of the light institutional plan will be in the 4 areas highlighted below:

1. POLITICAL ANALYSIS AND CONFLICT PREVENTION

Conflict and insecurity remain key drivers of internal displacement worldwide. At the end of 2022, there were 71.1 million internally displaced people because of conflict and violence, the highest number on record.⁶ The number of IDPs resulting from conflict has more than doubled since 1990, when it was

¹ [Action-Agenda-on-Internal-Displacement_EN.pdf \(un.org\)](#)

² [Microsoft PowerPoint - country progress handout_dec23.pptx](#)

³ [DPA OUSG 4561 R15 July 2023 \(un.org\)](#)

⁴ [Peace and Development Advisors - Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention | Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs](#)

⁵ [Dppa_strategic_plan_2023-2026.pdf \(un.org\)](#)

⁶ IDMC, Global Report on Internal Displacement 2023. Available at: <https://www.internal-displacement.org/global-report/grid2023/>

estimated at 21.3 million. Finding durable solutions therefore requires addressing the root causes of conflict and investing in prevention and peacebuilding. Through its work on prevention and peacebuilding, DPPA could therefore contribute to finding durable solutions for internally displaced persons by advocating for political solutions that address the underlying causes of a conflict. The focus on advancing political objectives is central to all UN engagements across the peace and security pillar, including the leading role it plays in some mediation processes; its efforts to support local, national and regionally-led mediation; the deployment of the Secretary-General's good offices in preventive diplomacy engagements; and efforts to strengthen electoral and constitution-making processes, security sector governance, accountability and the rule of law, as relevant. Given the persistent challenges associated with internal displacement and the limitations of humanitarian responses, finding sustainable political solutions is not only important for the prevention and resolution of conflict, but essential for addressing the underlying causes of internal displacement.

In 2022, disaster-related internal displacement accounted for more than half of all new displacements. Climate change, which is contributing to more frequent and severe extreme weather events, is increasingly recognized as one of the causes driving both instability and internal displacement. Between 31 million and 72 million people across sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean are expected to be displaced by 2050 due to water stress, rising sea levels, and crop failure. Scarcity and degradation of natural resources, limited access to sustainable livelihoods and basic services, are already creating tensions between host communities and IDPs in a number of contexts. Due to existing political, economic and social inequalities, internal displacement can put women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, persons of African descent and other marginalised groups at particular risk, including of food insecurity and sexual and gender-based violence. Conducting analyses on the inclusive conflict prevention and peacebuilding needs of IDPs and host communities in climate vulnerable contexts would help the Department prepare better understand risk intersection, for anticipated increase of support in this area in collaboration with relevant UN agencies, as part of the UN's work on climate change. It would also help the Department in promoting holistic understanding of displacement and risk intersections, including on the intersections of conflict and the impacts of climate change on diverse communities.

DPPA will prepare a policy brief on how the Department has incorporated analysis of conflict dynamics resulting in displacement and the needs of IDPs in joint planning instruments, peace agreements and peacebuilding needs, highlighting those related to women and youth peacebuilders and other groups.

2. SUPPORT TO SPECIAL POLITICAL MISSIONS AND RESIDENT COORDINATORS

Special Political Missions are important tools for advocating for solutions for internal displacement. This is particularly important in contexts where the UN supports political processes. Analysis of issues related to displacement caused by conflict, organized crime, climate change and disasters strengthens the position of DPPA to better advise mediators and UN senior officials leading special political missions. Climate, peace and security advisors deployed in a growing number of special political missions offer additional capacity for DPPA to analyze and mitigate climate-induced risks for IDPs and seek opportunities for environmental peacebuilding between IDPs and host communities. This plan, therefore, aims to strengthen the capacity of DPPA staff to analyze to what extent language on internal displacement issues and risks is included in ceasefires and peace agreements, the level of participation and systematic inclusion of those displaced in these processes, and their impact on internal displacement. This would in turn better prepare DPPA and its field presences to support parties through good offices, dialogue facilitation and inclusive mediation by advising on inclusion of language that includes recognition of protection of internally displaced people (including women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, Afro descendants, and other groups that are often marginalized), as well as measures to ensure their more meaningful participation and systematic inclusion.

This analysis will ensure that all actors are cognizant of the risks related to internal displacement and look into the links mediation efforts, with a focus on good practices and lessons. This would ensure the visibility of these issues in crafting political solutions in these contexts. It will also ensure that internal displacement is included in country and conflict analysis including in reports from Special Political Missions to the Security Council.

DPPA provides support to Resident Coordinators through political advice including through Peace and Development Advisers deployed by the Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention. In this regard, a key component of the DPPA institutional plan to advance solutions to displacement is to ensure that conflict analysis in support of Common Country Analysis and Cooperation Frameworks take into consideration durable solutions for internal displacement. DPPA will also continue to promote inter-agency engagement and support for the Action Agenda and its implementation through existing mechanisms such as the EC/DC, ITFs and IATFs, Regional Monthly Reviews (RMRs), the Peacebuilding Contact Group, the inter-agency Climate Security Mechanism the Peacebuilding Strategy Group. DPPA will also leverage its role as co-chair of the reconfigured Joint Steering Committee for Humanitarian-Development Collaboration (JSC) to champion humanitarian-development-peace collaboration on solutions to displacement in this important forum.

DPPA will organize at least one meeting per quarter within DPPA and with SPMs to raise awareness, socialize and disseminate the knowledge products with the goal of increasing the visibility of durable solutions for IDPs in DPPA's broader prevention and peacebuilding work.

3. SUPPORT TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES

The Peacebuilding Support Office supports the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) in development and implementation of its programme of work. It does this through identifying strategic opportunities for engagement on country or regional situations or thematic issues; assisting the PBC in strategic advice to the General Assembly and the Security Council and its interactions with other intergovernmental bodies; planning and organizing meetings at expert- and Ambassadorial-level; facilitating interaction and coherent engagement of partners such as IFIs or regional and sub-regional organizations; providing in-depth analysis and recommendations on thematic policy and organizational issues; and communicates and promotes UN peacebuilding activities and coordination

In this capacity, DPPA could propose to Member States for their consideration, cross-regional quarterly PBC discussions on durable solutions for IDPs during which countries from the five regions could share their experiences and good practices; DPPA could also propose organizing of regional/country visits by the PBC with Principals from the Joint Steering Committee and IFIs to countries that are on the PBC agenda and are among the 16 pilot countries with a view to further raise awareness, create synergies and mobilize support towards inclusive and durable solutions for IDPs.

4. ADVOCACY FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Since 2016, Member States, DSRSG/RC/HCs and RCs have increasingly requested support to the Peacebuilding Fund to promote durable solutions and address root causes of internal displacement while promoting environmental peacebuilding, including in some of the pilot countries such as CAR, Chad, Iraq, Libya, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Yemen.

These initiatives, mostly still under implementation, are supporting Governments' priorities and based on their demands, including for peaceful cohabitation and reconciliation efforts, (re)integration, protection and

human rights, as well as addressing issues related to housing, land and property. In total, between 2020 and 2023, more than \$50 million have been allocated by the Peacebuilding Fund to UN and International NGOs, with IOM and UNHCR being the partners in the majority of cases, followed by other UN entities such as UNFPA, UN Habitat, UNDP, UN Women, FAO and UNESCO (in order of allocations received).

As part of this institutional plan, DPPA will advocate with Governments, the UN Country Teams and civil society organizations (including women-led, youth-led and indigenous civil society organizations) in pilot countries to prioritize their Solutions agenda as part of their peacebuilding and conflict prevention efforts, including in their planning with bilateral and multilateral technical and financial partners.

For example, for those pilot countries that are eligible under the Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility of the Peacebuilding Fund this advocacy could be done through the existing Peacebuilding Steering Committee, co-chaired by the Government and the Resident Coordinators and as part of eligibility processes that are driven by the country needs and demands. In addition, for those pilot countries that have an ongoing Prevention and Resilience Allocation by the World Bank or are eligible for the prevention envelope of the Transition Support Facility of the African Development Bank (or through other IFIs), advocacy could be done with Governments and partners to consider milestones and investments related to the advancement of this agenda.

DPPA will encourage pilot middle-income countries that have expressed the need and interest, to consider blended financing, including the Global Concessional Financing Facility (GCFF), to promote their solutions to internal displacement.

At the request of Resident Coordinators and Special Political Missions following their engagement with the national counterparts, DPPA could also facilitate strategic discussions with the IFIs and donors on strengthening the alignment of programming behind shared analysis and broadly owned inclusive national priorities across humanitarian, development and peace interventions.

In addition, DPPA could draw from the past and ongoing initiatives promoted by Governments and national counterparts and supported by the UN, including through Special Political Missions and Resident Coordinators, the UN Country Teams and the Peacebuilding Fund, to showcase the peacebuilding impact of those initiatives and the lessons learned (for example, through the Peacebuilding Impact Hub). Showcasing impact for those diverse local populations who are directly affected and national ownership in the promotion of the solutions agenda will be necessary to advocate with Member States and donors for increased financial and technical support.