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INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS: AN ANALYSIS OF PERILOUS CONDITION OF IDPS IN MODERN ERA

Dr. Rahul, Mr. Rahul Sharma

Assistant Professor, School of Law, Monad University, Hapur, UP, India

Ph.D (Research Scholar) Department of Law, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, UP, India

Abstract

The International Recommendations on Internally Displaced Persons Statistics were created by the IDP subgroup of the Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics, under the direction of the Joint IDP Profiling Service, with assistance from Statistics Norway, the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), and the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD). Experts from countries, regional bodies, and international organisations worked closely together to generate the suggestions, guaranteeing a variety of viewpoints. IDPs are defined as "people or groups of people who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalised violence, violations of human rights, or natural or human-made disasters, and who have remained living in the country's internationally recognised border." The International Recommendations on Internally Displaced Persons Statistics (IRIS) offer a number of detailed recommendations that nations and international organisations can use to enhance the creation, general quality, coordination, and dissemination of statistics on internally displaced people (IDPs). There was no internationally accepted statistical framework for gathering official data on IDPs up until this point. Over time, a variety of national and international practises have emerged, although they differ significantly in theory and application due to a variety of practical, technical, and policy realities across various contexts for displacement. Better forced displacement statistics are required to support national and international policy and action. They must also put into practise and keep an eye on a number of international agreements, such as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In order to track progress towards the UN Secretary General's ambitious goal of reducing new and protracted internal displacement by at least 50% by 2030, credible and thorough statistics on internal displacement are also required. Researchers want to introduce the purpose and parameters of the report as well as provide context for the recommendations. An overview of the background information, significant connections between these recommendations and other initiatives, such as the International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics (IRRS), and the recommendations' structure and development process will be given.

Keywords: IDPs, Human Rights, UN, Government

1. INTRODUCTION

Internally displaced people (IDPs) are characterized by UNHCR as "probably the largest group of vulnerable people in the world."(UNHCR, 2007). The numbers that are available would place the total number of urban IDPs worldwide at close to four million, despite the fact that doing so is practically difficult. But this group continues to be silent, is mostly unheard of, and has lost all hope for long-lasting relief from their condition. Urban IDPs frequently lack access to fundamental human rights; they live in squalor and are restricted in their freedom of movement and physical security. The national government abandons urban IDPs without documentation, leaving them vulnerable and unable to access food, water, healthcare, or education. Women and children who have been uprooted from their cities are at risk of sexual and gender-based abuse. Due to their limited access to sources of income and inability to become independent, urban people are not able to solve their problems.

There are many barriers that make it difficult to find solutions for urban IDPs. First off, it is challenging to identify this group, which makes it tough to collect correct data, conduct in-depth study, and formulate wise policies. Second, the dynamics of displacement can go through a number of phases and are highly complicated and linked. Thirdly, urban IDPs have unique, frequently unacknowledged demands and capacities. Finally, political issues around sovereignty and international law exacerbate their condition. As a result, urban people have been labeled as a "messy" recipient who receives support from donors and foreign relief organizations who would rather concentrate efforts on more obvious and reachable goals.

These elements have combined to leave this particularly vulnerable minority unprotected, unable to access the safeguards and help that are available to the majority of other people of concern. Thus, national authorities, international organizations, and civil society must pay quick attention to the plight of urban IDPs who are being disregarded.



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2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

We used secondary information data for this research report because it is based on an analytical analysis of the literature. The references provided in the Reference section include a variety of books, magazines, journals, newspapers, and websites from which the researcher gathered data.

3. VISIBILITY AND DEFINITIONS

Urban IDPs are a problem that lacks a precise definition. Designing and implementing efficient, long-lasting solutions is impossible without a clear understanding of the true aim for new policy. The ability of national and international authorities to analytically differentiate between rural and urban areas, as well as between forced internal displacement and typical rural-to-urban migration, is a prerequisite for their ability to give an effective aid to millions of urban IDPs. The phrase "urban IDP" has, in the past, been widely misunderstood and misused. Whether the adjective "urban" relates to the site of departure or arrival is the major point of contention. In truth, the phrase "urban IDP" has been used to describe both people who have been uprooted from their cities and forced to live in the countryside, as well as refugees who are returning after having become urbanized while living in a host nation. To be clear, a "urban IDP" is a person who has been uprooted from their usual domicile (whether it rural or urban, domestically or internationally) and relocated to an urban area inside their own nation. However, it might be quite challenging to locate urban IDPs.

In contrast to IDPs in rural camps, urban IDPs are not purposely kept away from the area or housed in locations that are clearly visible. They actually live with host families or are dispersed throughout cities. Urban IDPs typically rely on nearby businesses and social services, even whether they reside in specific homes or neighborhoods. Since they are effectively a part of urban environments, it is challenging to differentiate them from economic migrants and the urban poor. Urban IDPs may make it more difficult to find them since they are less inclined to come forward if their security is in danger. IDPs are less visible and photogenic in cities than they are in camps. Due to the abundance of other compelling images in the global media, the suffering of urban IDPs is frequently ignored. Effective protection is further constrained by the fact that both host governments and donors are frequently reluctant to assist IDPs in urban settings since many people believe that those who make it to cities can maintain themselves.

4. WHAT IS AN 'IDP'?

The specific definition of IDPs is very complicated; the UNHCR has criticized the abbreviation as a "soulless shorthand of bureaucracy." The organization states: "UNHCR has an interest in the protection and welfare of persons who have been displaced by persecution, situations of general violence, conflict, or massive violations of human rights: in other words, all those, who, had they crossed an international frontier, would have had a claim to international protection." It should be noted that this description does not cover IDPs who have been displaced due to natural catastrophes or construction projects (Landau,2004). However, the ensuing "overwhelming" opinion is that these people deserve attention as well, as they may also experience discrimination and human rights abuses while being displaced. Since their local government upholds their legal rights, the label "IDP" is merely descriptive and not legally binding. As a result, it might be challenging to classify children who are born to IDPs because they have never actually been forced to leave their home. This issue also exposes young people who are already at risk to serious protection gaps to the UNHCR's definition of IDPs (UNHCR,2000). Furthermore, there is controversy surrounding the veracity of internal displacement. Internally displaced individuals are frequently and casually referred to as "refugees," although remaining inside their national boundaries, which complicates the definitional issue (Cohen,2004).

5. DYNAMICS OF DISPLACEMENT

IDPs living in cities are a special, vulnerable, and underresearched demographic. The intricate dynamics of their relocation simultaneously spur new research and impediment to the scientific approach. For a number of reasons, people travel inside nations, between nations, and at different times. Urban settlement is not a permanent, unchanging state of affairs, and neither is a rural to urban transition for an urban IDP. After been displaced more than once, urban IDPs commonly arrive in towns and cities, and they have typically found refuge somewhere along the road. Additionally, IDPs' circumstances continue to change and adapt whenever they move to an urban area. In an effort to better their living conditions and work opportunities, urban IDPs move within towns and cities. Urban IDP settlements, like Kampala's "Acholi Town," are created by the urban displaced by arranging social networks and geographic proximity. Following forcible government evictions from several of these regions, previously uprooted people or groups were compelled to relocate once more. Thus, even after they have settled in a new urban context, the position of urban IDPs is incredibly unstable.



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6. CAUSES OF DISPLACEMENT

A limited view of urban IDPs displaced by armed conflict falls short of adequately capturing the needs and goals of this varied community. In practice, it can be challenging to pinpoint a single factor that causes forced internal migration, followed by the emergence of an urban IDP population. It is typical for a number of contributing elements to persuade people that moving to metropolitan regions will give them and/or their family a better life, even though there is typically a short-term trigger. The link between the short-term and long-term components is also unbroken. It is critical to realize that internal displacement causes are intricately related to one another and cannot be treated as independent factors. Urban IDP populations are displaced for a variety of reasons that vary by gender, age group, and ethnicity (Balikci, 2004). For instance, some people, such as children at risk of kidnapped in rural IDP camps in Uganda or women experiencing sexual or gender-based violence, may seek physical safety in cities. In search of paid employment, many young men who were unable to find work in the rural IDP camps relocated to Baku, Azerbaijan. Thus, this category eludes efforts by the majority of international relief organizations to discriminate between urban IDPs and de facto economic migrants. Since no urban IDP group is homogeneous, it is impossible to identify a single source of forced urban displacement. Nevertheless, there are some overall themes and characteristics in case studies that can be categorized, notwithstanding the challenges in attempting to quantify the relative impact of causal factors among distinct demographic groups.

7. CONFLICT AND PRIMARY MOVEMENTS

Conflict is frequently the most obvious and immediate reason for forced migration from rural to urban areas. Global trends point to a sharp rise in social conflict, with intrastate wars accounting for the majority of armed conflict between 1950 and 2005. Millions of people have been internally displaced as a result of the evolving nature of warfare and the encroachment of small-scale conflicts into residential areas. The real danger posed by oncoming rebels in Liberia in 2003 resulted in a massive flow of people into the nation's capital, Monrovia. Up to 200,000 IDPs, comprising both rural Liberians and people who have been displaced from rural IDP camps, reside in Monrovia. Some urban IDP populations are the outcome of deliberate initiatives (Lilly,2007). In certain instances, military action was started with the express purpose of relocating the local population. This is visible, for instance, in Southern Sudan's oil-rich regions, where the pastoralist Nuer and Dinka people were uprooted from their ancestral grounds (Human Rights Watch, 2003). Urban IDP populations have been created by secessionist movements, mainly in Eastern European nations. Due to conflict between separatists in the regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, a sizeable number of long-term IDPs were compelled to settle in Georgia's cities. According to the Ministry for Refugees and Accommodation (MRA), there are around 247,000 internally displaced individuals in the country, the majority of them live in the cities of Tbilisi, Zugdidi, and Kutaisi. International initiatives significantly increased internal displacement in Kosovo. The repatriation of Kosovo Albanians was made feasible by NATO air assaults and the subsequent deployment of UN forces, whilst many non-ethnic Albanians, particularly Serbians, were forced to relocate to urban centers to avoid bloodshed.

8. CONFLICT AND OTHER TYPES OF MOVEMENT

People are occasionally forcibly relocated from rural to urban regions. Due to the high frequency of killings, rapes, and mutilations in the camps, those who live in the remote IDP camps in Northern Uganda have been referred to as some of the most vulnerable people in the world. Children used to gather in urban areas in large numbers every evening at twilight in an effort to avoid being kidnapped or employed as child soldiers (Evans,2007). After comparing the respective levels of safety in the two, a large number of IDPs made the decision to leave the camps for cities. Urban IDPs who have migrated from rural IDP camps are now residing in huge numbers in the cities of Kampala and Jinja. East Timor experienced a spike in temporary urban IDPs in 2006 as a result of individuals fleeing the violence by spending the night in urban churches and schools and then returning to their rural homes during the day. Similar to how many Nepalis have been forcibly displaced into cities (Sohne,2006). To escape the mountains and seek safety in towns and villages for the night, they travel huge distances. The people who live in Senegal's Casamance villages frequently move from rural to urban areas. Three times, rebel raids forced Boutoute residents to flee into Ziguinchor town; they then returned when it was considered safer to do so. According to a 2003 World Food Programme assessment, there were more than 38,000 IDPs in the town.

9. CHALLENGES FACING URBAN IDPS

The national and international organizations in charge of offering protection and support to the internally displaced are significantly burdened when there is a large influx of IDPs into a metropolitan region. Lack of paperwork and insufficient or inaccurate census data make it even harder to meet the demands of new influxes



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of IDPs in urban areas. Urban IDPs typically rely on existing services, which might not even be adequate for the local populace. Further restricting the range of services available to urban IDPs is the notion that urban IDPs are primarily self-sufficient guys who do not require aid. The safety and wellbeing of the many subgroups of urban IDPs are actually threatened by a number of issues.

a. Accommodation

One of the most urgent and frequently unmet demands of the urban displaced is finding suitable housing. Urban IDPs can occasionally find shelter with relatives or acquaintances, but many of them are compelled to dwell in appalling conditions in abandoned buildings. Metropolitan IDPs in other regions are forced to build their own improvised home in slums and shanty towns in metropolitan or peri-urban environments, as in Baku, Azerbaijan, where it has been stated that "IDPs basically live on top of a cesspool." According to a recent study, 90% of the IDP families in Khartoum were routinely flooded at the beginning of November 2004 and over 80% of them were living in makeshift structures composed of plastic and paper.

b. Forced evictions

Forced evictions in urban areas result in secondary or, in some circumstances, tertiary forced displacement of IDPs. This happens frequently in the shantytowns where urban IDPs reside. Examples are Zimbabwe, Kenya, Sudan, and Angola. Thousands of urban IDPs in and around Khartoum have been displaced as a result of urban development initiatives in Sudan (Geoffroy,2007). Detainees from Shikan camp were forcibly moved to Fateh III in August 2005. Over 13,000 homes, schools, and healthcare institutions were demolished in 2004, which led to a homelessness issue in the nation's capital. Numerous urban IDPs were compelled by this to look for temporary homes. The effects of forceful evictions on urban IDPs' life go beyond the obvious problems with housing and homelessness. Urban IDPs who experience many displacements face physical risks during each one in addition to suffering from the detrimental effects the change has on their current means of support, social capital, education, and healthcare.

c. Education

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that everyone has the right to an education, yet for many urban IDPs, the state bureaucracy has fallen short of meeting their needs. Due to low pay and the government's demolition of many institutions, teachers in Khartoum are hard to come by (Bekker, 2002). Urban IDP children frequently aren't allowed to attend school because their families can't afford the fees, the children must work to support the family, and the youngsters must be there to guard the shelter (Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children, 2006). In the IDP camps in Khartoum, more over 48% of school-age children were not enrolled in classrooms as of 2006. Additionally, teachers in the Khartoum camps have expressed dissatisfaction with their working circumstances, which include a shortage of desks and chairs, low funding, a lack of instructional resources, and the fact that kids frequently pass out in class as a result of a lack of food. In order to develop lasting solutions to the situation of urban IDPs, education is crucial. If at all possible, educational opportunities for urban IDPs should be created to give them the knowledge and abilities required to assist a smooth reintegration process should they choose to go back to their original places of residence. This is similar to how education is intended for refugees. However, the scant schooling offered to urban IDPs in the Khartoum camps is Islamic-based and instructed in Arabic. However, southern Sudanese Christians who speak English make up the majority of the city's internally displaced people (IDPs). Therefore, the education received by this group will neither encourage integration or return to southern Sudanese schools.

d. Food, health and nutrition

For IDP populations residing in rural camps with assistance from the local government and international organizations like the World Food Programme, food security is frequently a challenge. Without this help, urban IDPs' access to food might even be more sporadic. Less than 10% of school-age children in Khartoum reported eating three meals a day, according to a 2005 evaluation of urban IDPs. Thousands of urban IDPs continue to live in Monrovia and the surrounding areas despite an interagency operation that helped over 326,990 IDPs return to their original locations. The inflow of IDPs has put a great deal of strain on the city's meager infrastructure. The awful waste management situation has been made even worse by the rapid population growth, posing major health dangers to the general public. Due to their regular exposure to infectious diseases brought on by the biodegradation of the garbage, Monrovians continue to have environmental and health problems. In 2004 in Sudan, diarrhea was the primary factor in 37% of deaths among urban IDPs in Khartoum. Additionally, the crude death rates in the urban IDP camps in Khartoum city (Mayo and Soba Arradi) were almost at the 1/10,000/day emergency level, and 57% of households could not pay the clinic's fees for medical care.

Women and children

e.

While providing specific information on the gender and age of urban IDPs can be difficult, it is well-known that some parts of the world have young populations and relatively high reproductive rates. In light of their vulnerability and specific needs for safety, health, and education, a large portion of urban IDPs are women and children. Women and children are particularly at risk due to the hazardous circumstances that commonly accompany urban IDP settlement. They are susceptible to assault, rape, and kidnapping during times of war. Urban IDP While traveling, women and children are vulnerable to exploitation and abuse, and while in urban areas, women and girls may experience frequent sexual assault. Although both IDPs and refugees are impacted



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by these issues, urban IDPs are especially vulnerable. Due to an increased reliance on existing infrastructure, poor sanitary conditions are frequently seen in urban centers, raising concerns about the reproductive health of urban IDPs. For urban internally displaced women, a lack of income-generating activities leaves them exposed to prostitution or domestic abuse. Similar dangers also pose a risk to children.

f. Legal status and protection

After emphasizing some of the urgent dangers and material needs urban IDPs face, it is critical to avoid considering their demands exclusively in terms of help. First off, not all urban IDPs need assistance. Although the vast majority of displaced persons are impoverished, as noted by DFID, their vulnerability arises from their lack of access to physical, social, economic, financial, and political capital. The needs of many urban IDPs in terms of protection are unmet. Despite being theoretically protected by their national laws and assistance programs, the legal protection provided to urban IDPs is much less than that for refugees. In practice, many governments are either unable or unwilling to safeguard their citizens who have been internally displaced. In addition, urban IDPs are particularly vulnerable since national and international protection systems cannot identify them (Castles & Hear, 2005). The absence of documentation frequently causes issues for urban internally displaced people. When fleeing emergencies or later displacements, official documentation is sometimes lost or destroyed. It's estimated that more than 70% of tsunami survivors in Sri Lanka from December 2004 lost their paperwork. Without proper documents, urban IDPs may not be able to receive social services like healthcare and education. For instance, IDPs in Georgia have had their voting rights restricted, while IDP children in Nepal are unable to enroll in school because of a lack of documentation. This emphasizes how important protection is because gaps could preclude meeting material needs or finding longer-term solutions to the predicament of urban IDPs. The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement give IDP protection a crucial legal basis (Mooney & Jarrah, 2005). The recommendations' emphasis on rural, camp-based IDPs prevents them from adequately addressing the unique requirements of urban IDPs. Furthermore, in precise legal terms, states are not required to abide by the Principles. In order to ensure the status and protection of urban IDPs, national governments' and international relief organizations' responses are still essential.

10. WOMEN CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS IDPS

Despite the fact that they are sometimes overlooked, women have significant roles to play in times of displacement. In addition to their own efforts as mothers and caregivers, women frequently organize themselves, play a crucial role in refugee and IDP camps, and ensure that the most vulnerable people have access to relief. Afghan women's organizations have run programs for displaced people successfully in both Pakistan and Afghanistan. The Afghan Women's Resource Center has been providing services in the fields of health, education, earning money, developing skills, and humanitarian aid since 1987 (Turner & Simon.(2005). Another women's organization, Shuhada, has been providing health and educational services both inside and outside of Afghanistan since 1989. The Afghan Women's Education Centre has been providing homeless women with counseling, support, and programs for street women and children since the early 1990s. It also provides trauma treatment. The Afghan Women's Welfare Department provides assistance with health, generating revenue, developing skills, educating children, and distributing charity. Women's organizations in Colombia continue to promote safety and peace while offering social and medical services to displaced people and victims of violence. Some studies claim that this type of lobbying played a role in the 17% female leadership that perished or went missing in Colombia in 2002. In Tanzanian refugee camps, UNHCR urged women to form their own committees or participate in mixed committees in order to promote interaction between senior camp employees and local women. The women then worked together to connect the activities of foreign groups with individuals in need of support (such as the elderly, expectant women, and separated children). The NGO Assist Yourself in Georgia publishes a monthly for the displaced women from Abkhazia in an effort to close the information gap between them and the local women. Women's organizations are frequently skilled at developing novel strategies to express their perspective to other members and to outsiders. For instance, the Sri Lankan organization Suriya used participatory video projects to let women from different sides of the conflict express their suffering and document the ensuing reconciliation, and Isis-WICCE assisted a group of displaced women in Uganda create plays and dances about life in "protected villages." Every year, the Ashtar Theatre Company in Palestine performs plays to bring up issues like child marriage and sexual assault in lecture halls and among youth, women, and disabled people's organizations. Bosnian women's

sexual assault in lecture halls and among youth, women, and disabled people's organizations. Bosnian women's organizations, which also welcomed returning displaced and refugee populations into their places of origin and presented gifts of food and supplies to displaced women, were charged with supporting the returning refugees. They agreed to carry out this task as their contribution to establishing peace. ladies hosted "cultural days" when local and returning ladies swapped food and danced for one another in Burundi, another region where deadly intercommunal fighting caused displaced people. The local women helped the returning women settle by giving them land and labor for cultivation. IDP women and elections in Sierra Leone have been the subject of extensive research by Sierra Leonean Binta Mansaray, who has been involved in coordinating human rights and humanitarian organizations to speak out on behalf of Liberian refugees. Many of the programs that assist

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women who are refugees or internally displaced are designed by professional women from the community, who use their expertise in development and humanitarian work to enlist the support of the international community.

11. **INTERNATIONAL RESPONSES**

The primary duty of protecting and helping its citizens and residents rests with national governments. However, it is the role of the international community to safeguard individuals in need when the state is unable or unwilling to uphold its responsibilities. Internally displaced people no longer require as much international protection as they formerly did. Numerous factors have prompted and made it possible for the international community to have a larger role in aiding and defending IDPs. Urban IDPs, meanwhile, continue to receive little international attention. Francis M. Deng, who served as the UN Secretary General's Special Representative on the problem of internal displacement from 1992 to September 2004, was succeeded by Walter Kälin. The Representatives have visited many nations with sizable urban IDP populations and provided reports on their conditions. They have been able to advance IDPs' visibility on the international scene, create and distribute a normative framework for their protection and support, and encourage additional research into the situation of IDPs around the world. The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement were developed under the supervision of the Special Representative. The Principles have received overwhelmingly favourable attention from international and intergovernmental organizations. The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the OSCE, the African Union, and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe have all expressed fervent support. The UN has also urged States to uphold the Principles. In contrast, the urban IDPs have mostly gone undetected. About 70% of the internally displaced people (IDPs) in southern Cote d'Ivoire live in the city of Abidjan. Recently, UNHCR admitted that "the fact that most IDPs are not in camps has made their plight less visible to the humanitarian community and has made it more difficult to reach them and assess their situation." In Mogadishu, severe outbreaks of violence have made it very difficult for international humanitarian agencies to reach urban IDPs. Furthermore, because a significant number of urban IDPs live with host families and become socially assimilated as a result, they are almost invisible to foreign organizations. Due to this, efforts by the international community to assist urban IDPs are severely hampered, and as a result, most urban IDPs are left on their own. In their 1998 book Masses in Flight, Roberta Cohen and Francis Deng described the flaws of the international response to IDPs. The status of IDPs in urban areas has improved greatly since that time in terms of inter-agency cooperation, institutional accountability, and response to IDP needs; yet, it still receives less attention than that of IDPs in camps. In the past ten years, institutional and international responses to IDPs have become stronger, and a collaborative strategy has made it possible for numerous UN agencies and NGOs to contribute while cooperating with governments. The Emergency Relief Coordinator was given ultimate responsibility by the UN in 1997, and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) quickly began keeping an eye on internally displaced people. OCHA established an internal displacement unit in January 2002; it is currently known as the internal displacement division. In 2006, three urban IDP pilot projects were launched by the Norwegian Refugee Council's Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre in the cities of Kartoum, Cote d'Ivoire, and Santa Maria. Colombia. In order to better serve these populations, the study set out to assess the number of urban IDPs, identify their humanitarian needs and protection concerns, and then come up with specific recommendations for improved action. The final report should be made public in 2008.

CONCLUSION

Urban internally displaced people frequently encounter exceedingly perilous circumstances and little to no chance for a long-lasting resolution to their dilemma. Uncertainty about the demography, coping strategies, and needs of urban IDPs has so far prevented effective policy responses on both the national and international levels. Due to their lack of exposure, urban IDPs also have fewer alternatives for getting assistance. Governments, non-governmental groups, and the general public must all concur that urban IDP populations merit protection. First off, IDPs outnumber refugees two to one in terms of sheer numbers, but they receive much less public attention. Second, especially in post-conflict settings, urban IDPs have a crucial function to play in strengthening peace building, security, and development. This group won't be able to become independent and productive citizens unless they are protected and long-term solutions are found. Of course, it must be recognized that not all urban IDPs require protection or support, and while developing and implementing initiatives for the urban displaced, it is necessary to take into account the requirements of the urban poor, local hosts, and national development strategies. Millions of urban IDPs are today dispersed over at least 27 countries of the world, but there is a great chance to help and protect them through efficient coordination, cooperation with governments, and the beneficiaries themselves. Advocacy will also prove to be a crucial component in bringing attention to a group that has so far mainly gone unnoticed.



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