



Launch event of the GP2.0 E-Learning Course on Durable Solutions for IDPs

28 October 2022 - [Registration link here](#)

Summary

On Friday 28 October 2022, GP2.0 held an event to launch the GP2.0 E-Learning Course on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons. This online course was the result of a collaboration by GP2.0 Core Group members at HQ and field level.

The event had 139 active participants and 249 viewers logging in from 46 countries. The event was opened by Mr. Robert Piper, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on Solutions to Internal Displacement. Ms. Barbara McCallin provided a presentation of the course content, an overview of the feedback received from field colleagues and of the partnership that supported these exercises. The event was closed by Ms. Cecilia Jimenez-Damary, outgoing Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Mr. Sebastian von Einsiedel, Senior Internal Displacement Advisor, OCHA facilitated the event and moderated the Q&A. Several organizations have already included the course as a key learning resource for their staff members and their partners.

Key messages:

- 1) This E-Learning Course is the first online training on durable solutions that addresses a large range of actors and was designed with the objective to enhance the collective understanding of basic concepts related to internal displacement and durable solutions for IDPs.
- 2) The durable solutions agenda needs to gain greater traction among Governments and development partners. A common understanding of durable solutions priorities and approaches is needed more than ever, as internal displacement has been increasing exponentially, reaching the staggering figure of 59.1 million Internally Displaced Persons.¹
- 3) As more stakeholders get involved in tackling internal displacement, it is critical that Internally Displaced Persons drive durable solutions processes. Governments and partners should also dedicate more resources to prevention of forced displacement and protection must be a central element in the delivery of durable solutions.
- 4) The course presents in three modules it covers what are durable solutions, who are the actors involved in delivering them, and it looks at ways to implement them in practice. While doing so it integrate key priorities identified by the GP20 Plan of Action, the UN SG Action Agenda on Internal Displacement and the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement.
- 5) The course has been adopted by several organizations as a resource to train their staff members and promote a common understanding on durable solutions among their partners. The course is currently available for free on [DisasterReady](#), [UNHCR Learn and Connect](#), and [IOM e-campus](#).

¹ Excluding Ukraine.

Summary:

Mr. Sebastian von Einsiedel, Senior Internal Displacement Advisor, OCHA.

In welcoming the participants Mr. von Einsiedel presented this training as a resource that serves the purpose of consolidating the knowledge of a broad range of stakeholders (in the UN System, NGOs, national authorities working on humanitarian, peace, climate and development issues). It is the first online durable solutions training of its kind, realized in collaboration with a large number of expert organizations at headquarters and field level. The course is already available on Disaster Ready.

Mr. Robert Piper, UN Secretary General's Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement

The exponential increase of internal displacement is putting pressure on States and on the international community to find durable solutions. With the launch of the UN SG High Level Panel report, the adoption of the UN SG Action Agenda and the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Internally Displaced persons there has been an unprecedented international attention on this issue. Across the board there is a call to improve the quality of the response and to step up the engagement on durable solutions. This means deepening and widening the constituency of stakeholders dealing with internal displacement, which was considered for far too long a humanitarian problem. Development partners need to support durable solutions and national governments need to own to the problem. Common knowledge on durable solutions is necessary to broaden the constituency. Over the next months the Special Advisor and his office will ensure that internal displacement receives higher visibility, a strong coordination on the Action Agenda is in place in a set of priority countries, and Durable Solutions remains a priority area for the UN.

Ms. Barbara McCallin, Consultant and Co-Author of the GP2.0 E-Learning on Durable Solutions

The course content draws on the four priorities identified by the GP20 Action Plan: inclusion of internal displacement in national plans and laws, participation of IDPs in decisions that affect their lives, strengthen collaboration on data on internal displacement and advance durable solutions. These are echoed and aligned with the recommendations of the UN SG High Level Panel report, and with the commitments of the UN SG Action Agenda.

The course promotes a nexus approach, and it is structured around three simple questions: what are durable solutions? Who are the actors involved in delivering them? And how is it possible to implement durable solutions in practice? Under these three sections the course describes what is internal displacement and its main drivers, it presents durable solutions as defined by international standards and it introduces ways to measure them, based on the IASC criteria and the SDGs. The course delves on notions regarding the primary responsibility of States to create enabling environments for durable solutions and provides examples of broad partnerships and coordination initiatives to support these efforts. Finally, the course provides an overview on the tools and approaches to foster joint analysis, collective outcomes and complementary action among humanitarian peace and development partners during the implementation of durable solutions.

Examples were drawn from more than twenty countries and from several resources. The review process has involved the GP2.0 Co-Chair and Core Group organizations, as well as a variety of other experts, at HQ

and field level. This was done through regular coordination meetings, ad-hoc exchanges and a test run of the final modules with colleagues in the field. The feedback was broadly positive, and recommendations will be taken account for future editions of the training or potential spin-off modules.

Questions and answers and interventions from the floor

Several organizations who participated in the development of the course have adopted it as a learning resource. UN Habitat plans to make it available to its staff and partners on the platform UN Habitat Learn. During the development of the course, it paid particular attention to the aspects of the local response and to featuring the role played by local authorities.

UNDP reiterated its role in supporting the implementation of the UN SG Action Agenda. Highlighting that there is a need for development actors to step up their engagement on development-led solutions, the course is a helpful tool to support this momentum and it has been included in several of the UNDP's learning platforms.

JIPS noted that the course has presented in an inter-connected way resources and tools that existed already, enhancing their visibility. JIPS provided inputs in three different areas related to measuring durable solutions, on participatory data analysis and on area-based approaches to implement durable solutions.

IOM mentioned that the release of the course was timely, in light of the call for a greater inter-agency response to internal displacement. It is important that all stakeholders speak the same language and for this reason IOM has plans to upload the e-learning on IOM e-Campus, a platform for all IOM staff and partners. This course complementing an already existing IOM learning module on solutions, particularly as far as Accountability to Affected Populations is concerned.

UNHCR mentioned that GP2.0 in a policy brief on the 10th year anniversary from the adoption of the IASC framework on durable solutions had documented how the framework was a useful tool to advance durable solutions. However, the fact that durable solutions notions and frameworks were not widely known by practitioners operating in displacement affected countries continued to be an issue. This training was developed with the intention to fill this gap. It provides an opportunity to lift our common knowledge and understanding of durable solutions, while making it available to new constituencies. Development solutions are about addressing the needs of displacement affected communities, and ending specific protection and assistance needs and that link to displacement which do not automatically disappear just because a conflict or a disaster is waning. UNHCR colleagues from the Global Learning and Development Centre mentioned that this was an example of swift, fast, and effective inter-agency collaboration.

A listener asked a question about how gender equality and diversity were addressed in the course. Gender equality is main-streamed and is part of tools to define socio-economic profile on the population, and community-based planning. There is no specific part on gender equality, could be part of an update, or another module.

Ms. Cecilia Jimenez-Damary, Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons

Noted that this e-learning course is a good elaboration of the IASC Framework on DS for IDPs but there is a need for further dissemination and implementation of international standards on internal displacement and durable solutions at national and local level.

The collaboration on the development of this training demonstrates the importance of multi-stakeholder approaches and networks like GP20 and GP2.0. Multi-stakeholder engagement continues to play a key role ensuring that internal displacement is tackled holistically, that inter-sectional discriminations against IDPs are addressed and that a growing number of actors is involved in adopting a human-rights based approach as part of the IASC framework on DS. The IASC framework criteria are all normative Human Rights standards, which emphasize the essentiality of human rights in humanitarian, development and peace initiatives. In announcing her departure, she introduced her successor Ms. Paula Gaviria, who will start her mandate on November 1st. The Special Rapporteur left the audience with three recommendations on how to implement DS: 1) IDPs must be the drivers and protagonists of the solutions on any decisions that protect their life 2) Prevention of displacement is an area that requires support and attention 3) the centrality of protection must underline all approaches to DS.

These recommendations that are in line with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and are also reiterated in a [video series](#) which was recently launched. The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement are a major framework and one that hopefully will be advanced next year on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.