



SAVE THE DATE

ONLINE AFRICAN SCHOOL *on Migration Statistics*

2nd edition

8–10 June 2021



Outline of the presentation

1. Introduction to international frameworks on IDPs and Refugees
2. The establishment of the Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics (EGRIS)
3. The International Recommendations on Refugee and IDP Statistics (IRRS & IRIS)
4. Recommendations to improve census data on of IDPs and refugees
5. Key takeaways on the use of censuses and surveys for IDPs and refugees' statistics
6. Next steps

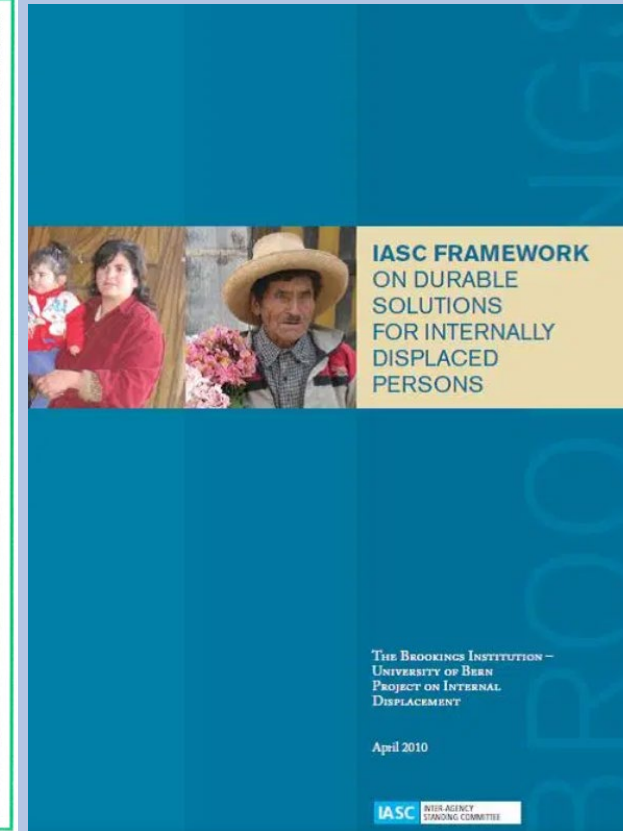
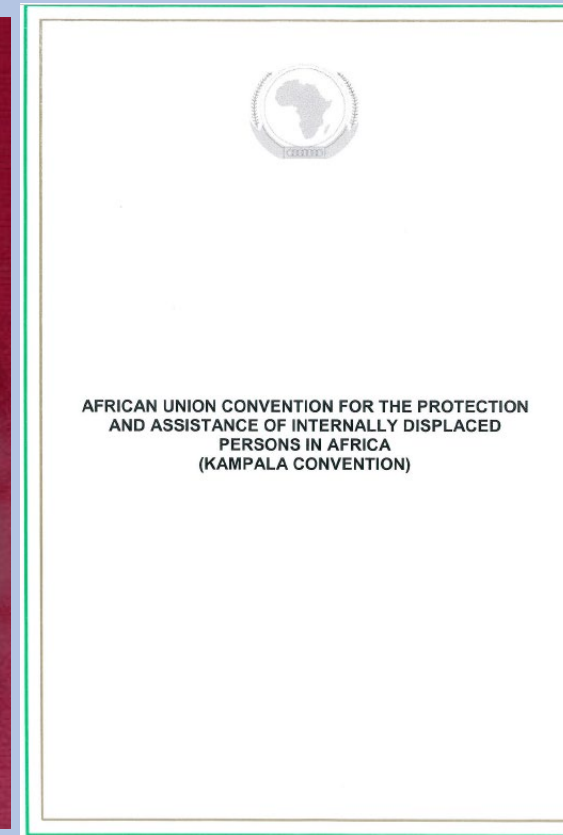
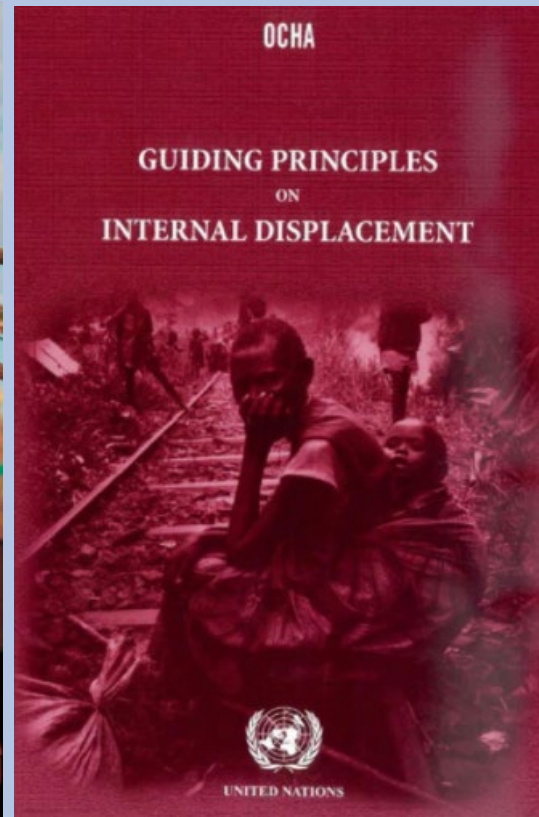
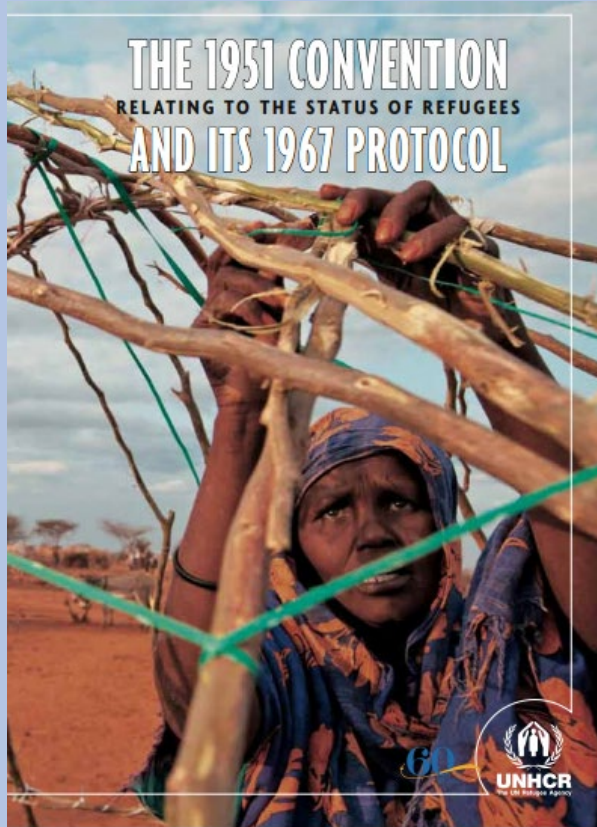
Current context

- **Growing numbers** of refugees, IDPs, and asylum seekers (REF numbers in the past 20/30 years)
- Increasing **need** at national and international levels in statistics on refugees, asylum seekers, IDPs and refugee related populations
- Acknowledged importance of a **harmonized statistical framework** on refugees and internally displaced persons statistics for **complete, accurate, timely** and **comparable** data within and between countries and international agencies
- Acknowledgment that **all data sources**, including population censuses, sample surveys and administrative sources, should be leveraged to obtain such statistics

STANDARDIZING QUESTIONS FOR IDENTIFYING IDPS AND REFUGEES

Lorenza Rossi & Aina Saetre

International conventions and framework of reference



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Core population groups covered by the frameworks



Internally Displaced Persons

persons ... 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 in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border. (Guiding Principles Article 2)



Refugees

A person who is outside his or her country of nationality or habitual residence; has a well-founded fear of being persecuted because of his or her race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion; and is unable or unwilling to avail him— or herself of the protection of that country, or to return there, for fear of persecution. (Refugee convention Article 1A(2))



Asylum seekers

Those who have applied for the right to be recognized as a refugee and receive legal protection and material assistance from another country, relying on the laws of that country. (Refugee convention)

Problem statement

- Existing statistical frameworks and recommendations on administrative statistics, population and housing censuses, and international migration statistics **do not include these population groups** (with some exceptions)
- Most of the available data are based on **operational data produced by humanitarian agencies**, rather than official statistics.
- The UNSC has expressed the need for **using an internationally agreed statistical framework for this population**, clear definitions of refugees, migrants and internally displaced persons.
- UNSC has also expressed the need for national statistical capacity-building to support member states in improving the quality and availability of statistics on refugees and internally displaced persons, and invited international and regional organizations to support member states in this regard, at their request, and
- Emphasized the need for better coordination of different data needs between the United Nations, Eurostat and other relevant international organizations'

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Expert Group on IDPs and Refugee Statistics



Original mandate from the UN Statistical Commission (March 2016) to develop:

International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics

Technical Report on Statistics of IDPs

Mandate extended (March 2018) to develop:

International Recommendations on IDP Statistics

Compilers' Manual

EGRIS is currently in its third phase of work, implementing the recommendations.

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

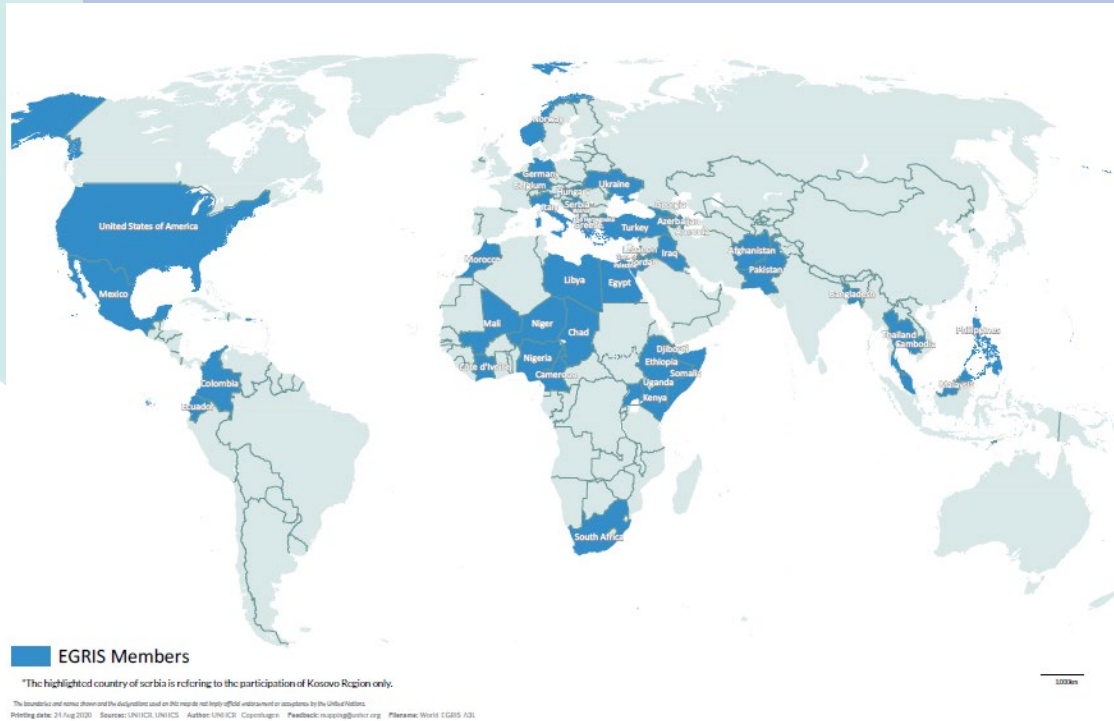
2020

2021

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EGRIS membership



45 Countries | 25 Regional and International Organizations

15 AU Members

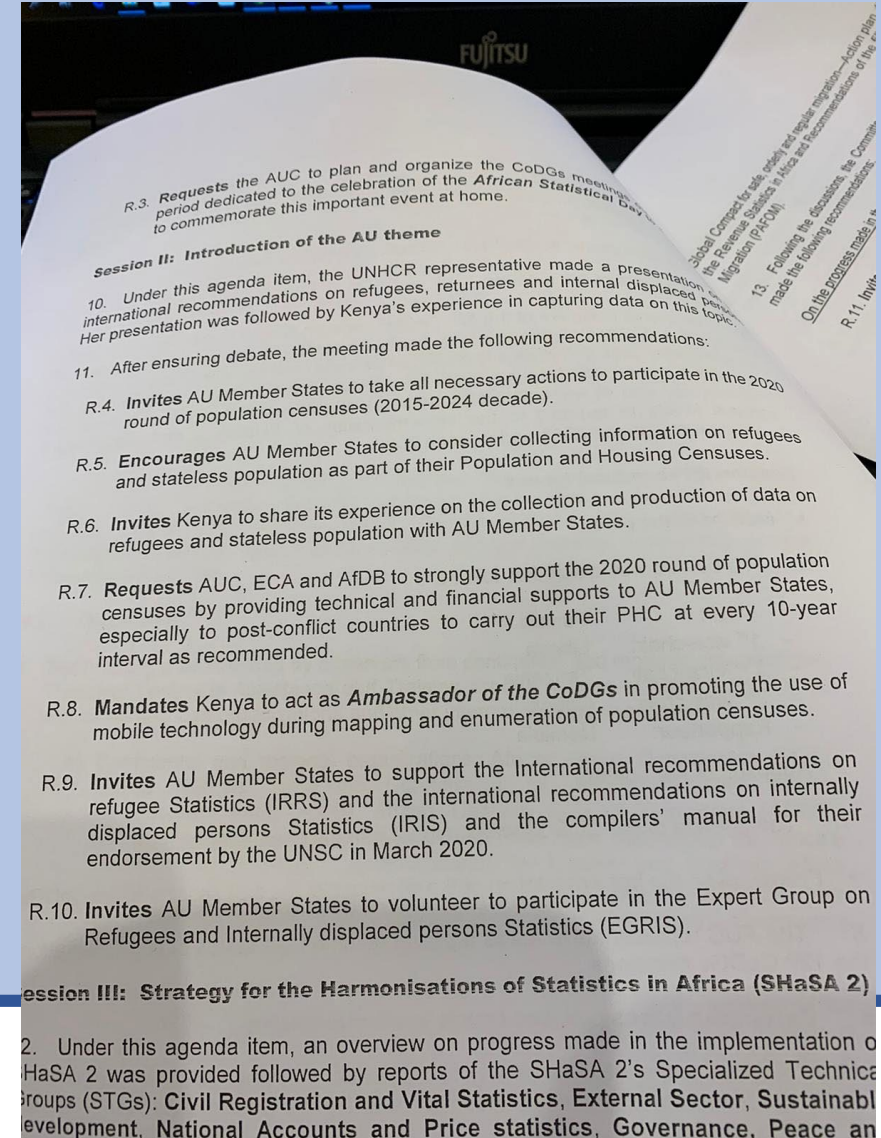
- South Africa, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Somalia, Uganda, Egypt, Libya, Mali, Chad, Cameroon, Nigeria, Niger, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Morocco
- Members from both NSOs and other national authority representatives

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Strong support from the AU

Committee Meeting of Director
Generals from National Statistical
Offices in Africa, 19th November
2020, Tunis.

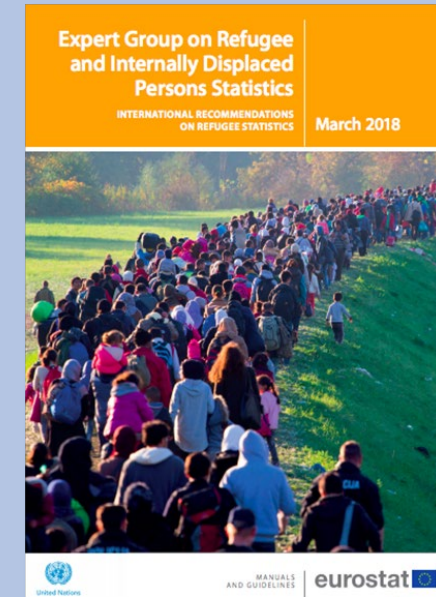


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International Recommendations on IDPs and Refugee Statistics

1. Creation of a **statistical framework** standardizing relevant **terminology** and **classifications**
2. List of **basic data tabulations** and indicators
3. Assessment of **data sources (including census)** and **methods** and ways to improve them
4. Identification of **socioeconomic indicators** for refugee integration and wellbeing/ and measurement of progress towards durable solutions and overcoming key displacement-related vulnerabilities for IDPs
5. List of recommended **SDG indicators** to be disaggregated by forced displacement
6. Steps to improve **statistical coordination** at national, regional, international levels



Statistical Commission
Fifty-first session
3 – 6 March 2020
Item 3(n) of the provisional agenda
Item for discussion and decision: Refugee statistics



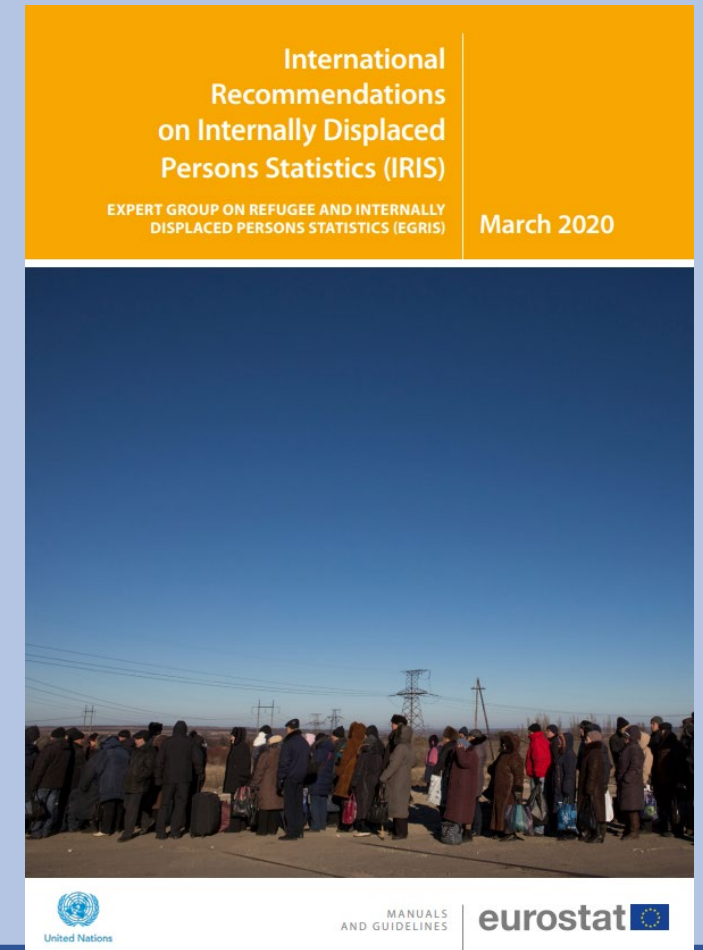
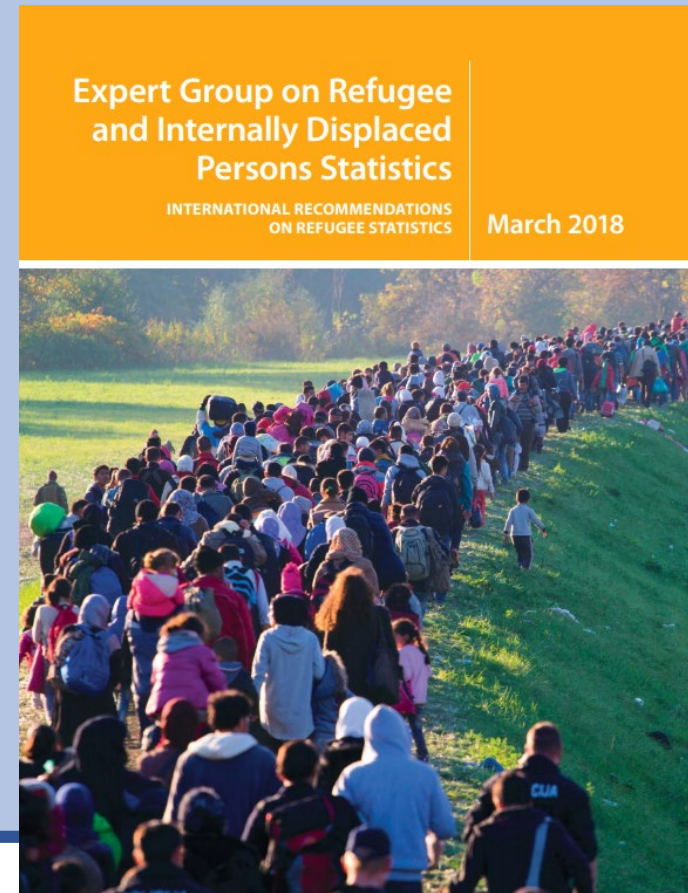
Compilers' Manual on Displacement Statistics

Prepared by Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics (EGRIS)

Developing a statistical framework

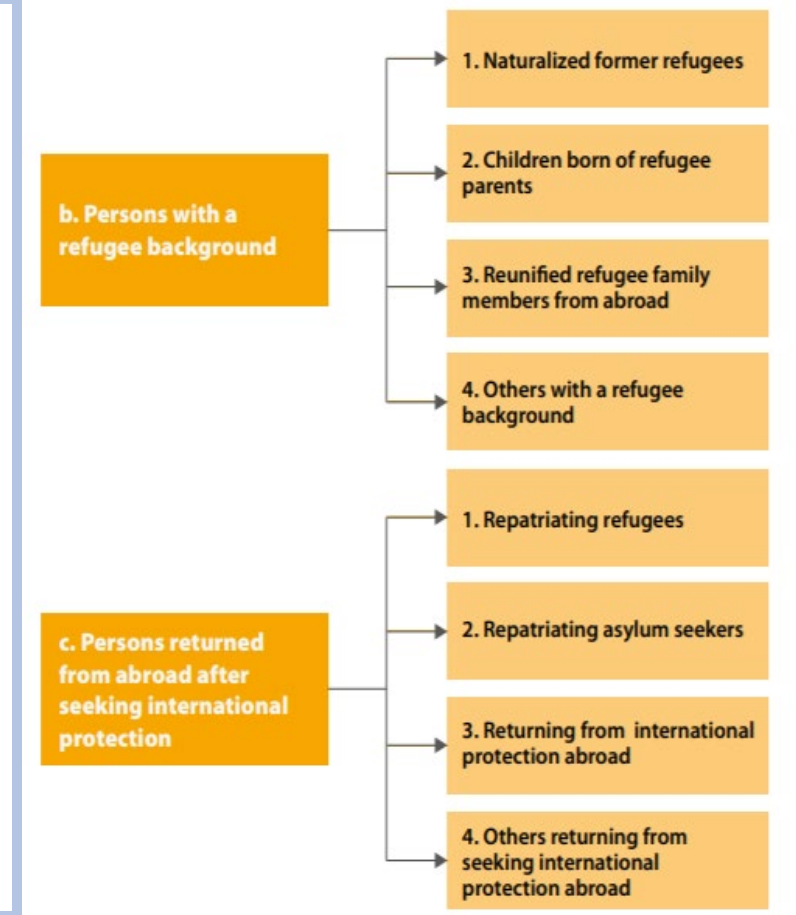
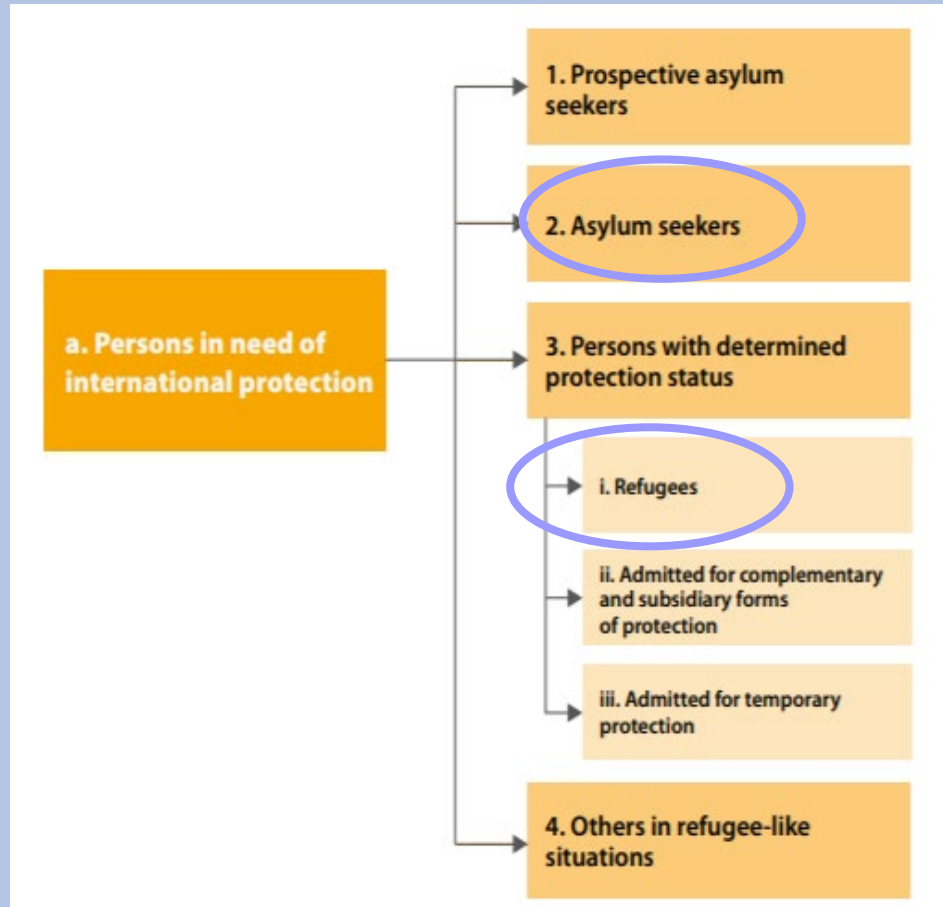
International
Recommendations on
IDPs and Refugee
Statistics

IRIS & IRRS



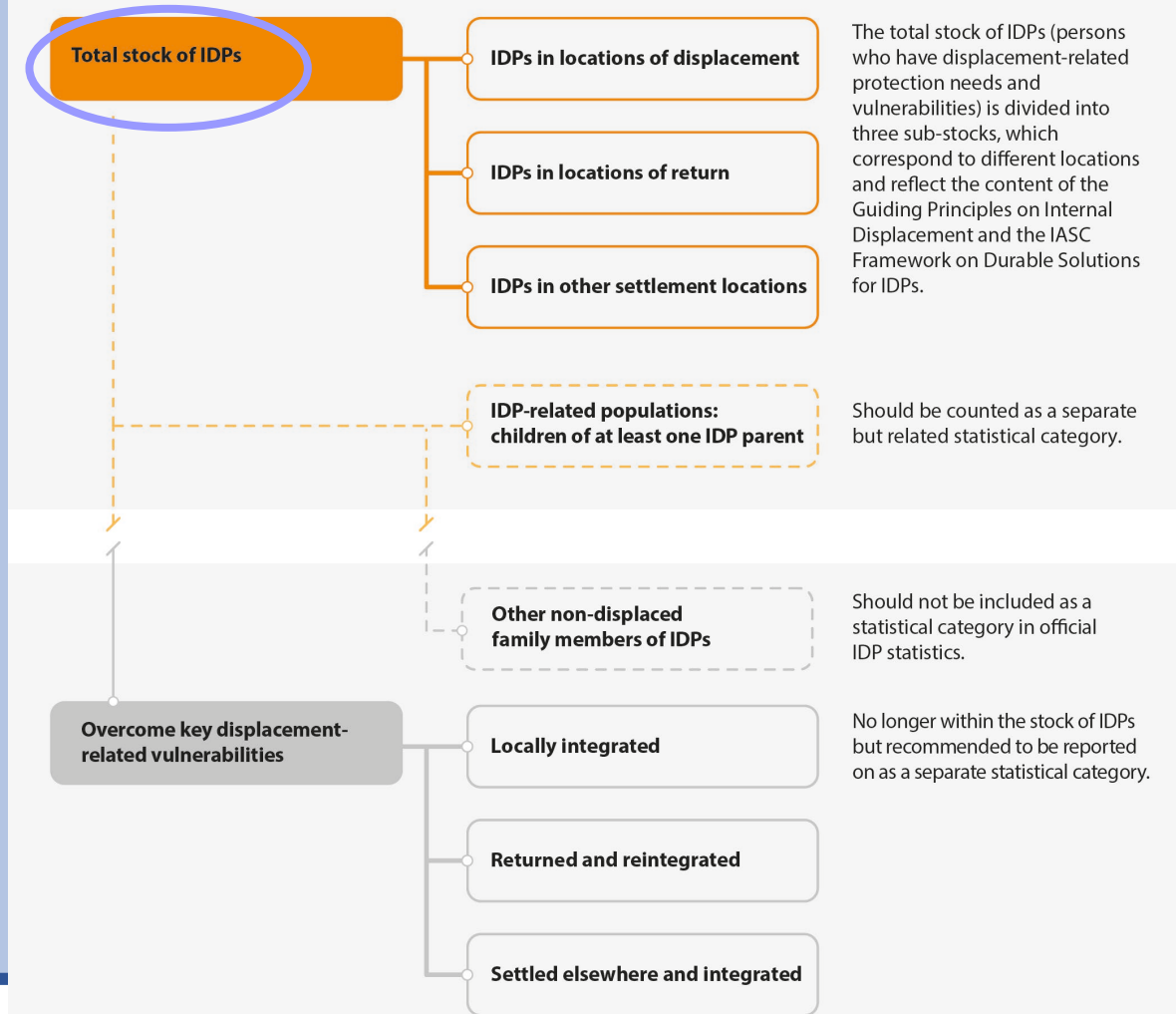
International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics

- Statistical Framework defining refugee and refugee-related population groups



International Recommendations on IDP Statistics

- Statistical Framework defining IDPs and IDP-related population groups



STANDARDIZING QUESTIONS FOR IDENTIFYING IDPS AND REFUGEES

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Classificatory variables recommended for collecting and compiling IDP statistics

- a) age or date of birth (head of household/individual);
- b) sex (head of household/individual);
- c) place of birth;
- d) household size;
- e) date of first displacement;
- f) date of most recent displacement;
- g) main reason for initial / most recent forced displacement:
 - i) armed conflict;
 - ii) generalized violence;
 - iii) violations of human rights;
 - iv) natural or human-made disasters; or
 - v) other forced evictions or displacements;
- h) number of forced displacements;
- i) district/administrative area of place of habitual residence
- j) district/administrative area of current place of usual residence (i.e. IDPs in locations of displacement, IDPs in locations of return and IDPs in other settlement locations);
- k) whether or not one or both parents are/were IDPs;
- l) type of habitation (camp/settlement/own home/rented accommodation/hosted by friends/relatives).

Classificatory variables recommended for collecting and compiling refugee statistics (1)

- a) Age or date of birth
- b) Sex
- c) Country of birth
- d) Country of citizenship (including stateless, undetermined status and multiple citizenship)
- e) Date of arrival in country
- f) Reason for migration
- g) Country of previous or last residence (for both refugees in the country and refugees returning to the country of citizenship)
- h) Date of first displacement/leaving previous country of habitual residence
- i) Parents' refugee statuses
- j) If an unaccompanied child (underage of 18 years and separated from both parents or legal guardian)
- k) Legal residential/international protection status as applicable to the national context

Classificatory variables related to the three groups of the IRRS

Persons in need of international protection

- i) prospective asylum seeker
- ii) asylum seeker
- iii) individual refugee status
- iv) prima facie refugee status
- v) subsidiary or complementary protection status
- vi) temporary protection status refugee resettled in a third country
- vii) refugee-like (state form of protection granted)

Persons with a refugee background

- ix) naturalized former refugee
- x) child born of refugee parents without own refugee status
- xi) reunified family member
- xii) others with refugee background

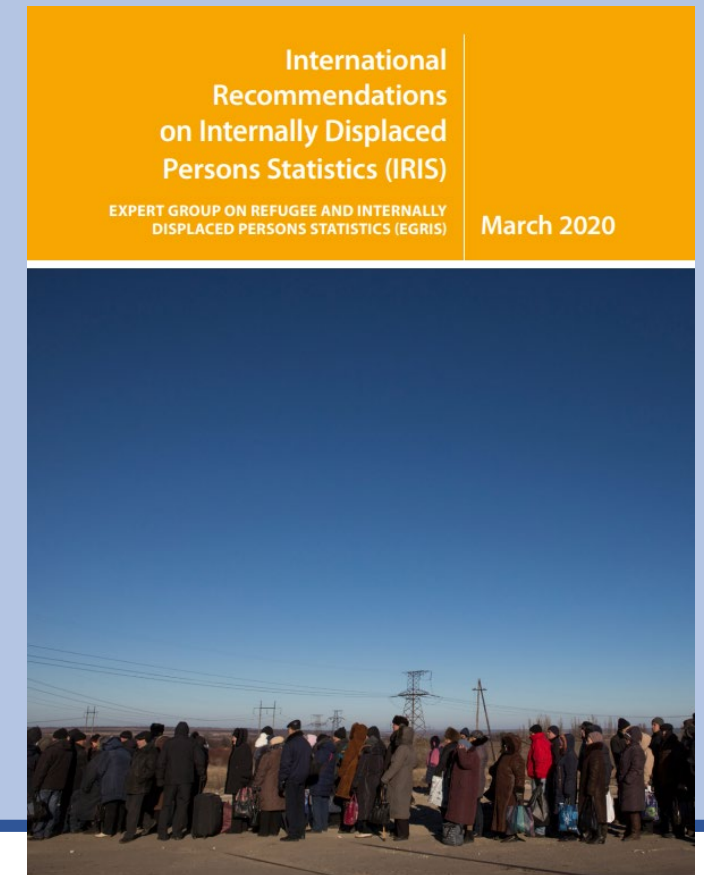
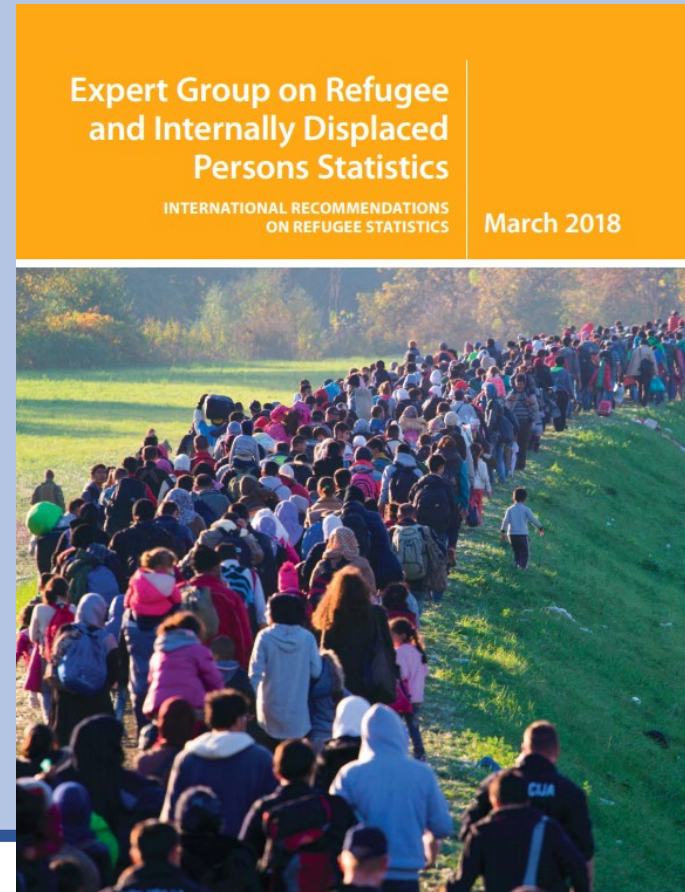
Persons returned from abroad after seeking international protection

- xiii) repatriated refugee
- xiv) repatriated asylum seeker
- xv) returning from other form of international protection
- xvi) returning from international protection other than categories xiii-xvi

Identification questions for census and household surveys

International
Recommendations on
IDPs and Refugee
Statistics

IRIS & IRRS



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The UN Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, revision 3, do not include questions for identifying IDPs among the recommended core topics.

They propose the following core topics for identifying geographical and internal migration characteristics:

- (1) place of usual residence (paragraphs 4.52–4.57);
- (2) place where present at time of census (paragraphs 4.58–4.63);
- (3) place of birth (paragraphs 4.64–4.71);
- (4) duration of residence (paragraphs 4.72–4.74);
- (5) place of previous residence (paragraphs 4.75–4.76);
- (6) place of residence at a specified date in the past (paragraphs 4.77–4.81)

Add question on reason for the move, with forced displacement given as an answer option

Identifying IDPs in Census

- Has (NAME) ever been forced or obliged to flee?
- If yes; when was this?
- If yes; where did you move from? / Where did you reside before you were forcibly displaced?
- If yes; where did you move to (Within country borders/abroad)?

Identifying Refugees in Census

- a) Country of birth
- b) Country of citizenship
- c) Acquisition of citizenship
- d) Year or period of arrival in the country.

In addition, it is recommended to include as a core census question:

- a) Reason for migration, with response categories:
 - i) Employment (including military service)
 - ii) Education and training
 - iii) Marriage, family reunification or family formation
 - iv) Forced displacement (refugees, asylum seekers, temporary protection status, others)
 - v) Others

Identifying IDPs in national surveys

- The IRIS provides no directly applicable suggestions for the time being, although there is a working group tasked with this and with identifying a sampling frame.
- The current draft of the *Compilers Manual* that accompanies the IRIS (also developed by EGRIS), mentions case studies / examples, where surveys identified IDPs through
 - **Self-identification** (“Does the household include IDPs due to insecurity in parts of Cameroon?”).
 - **No identification** as the sample was drawn from an IDP population already identified
- While self-identification of IDPs is relatively widespread in current national survey practice, the IRIS acknowledges self-identification / self-declaration merely as an exceptional last resort. It should therefore not be considered best practice, and – if at all – be used only to complement a more objective measurement practice.

Identifying Refugees in national surveys

- a) Country of birth
- b) Country of citizenship
- c) Acquisition of citizenship
- d) Year or period of arrival in the country
- e) Reason for migration, with response categories:
 - i. Employment (including military service)
 - ii. Education and training
 - iii. Marriage, family reunification or family formation
 - iv. Forced displacement (refugees, asylum seekers, temporary protection status, others)
 - v. Other

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Recommendations to improve census data on IDPs and refugees

- ✓ Encourage censuses to include
 - three core migration topics (country of birth, country of citizenship, and year or period of arrival).
 - “reason for migration” with response categories including forced displacement (refugees, asylum seekers, temporary protected status, other) as an additional core topic in the international census recommendations and censuses.
- ✓ A question on current residence is usually included in all censuses and can be used in combination with the above questions to identify movements and current situation.
- ✓ Sampling frame: Include persons living in refugee camps, reception centers, temporary structures and collective accommodation in all census enumerations.
- ✓ Exploit other data sources, such as registers, other administrative sources and sample surveys, and combine with census data to produce more extensive and detailed refugee statistics.
- ✓ Use individual census data to update the sampling frames for socioeconomic surveys to ensure coverage of forcibly displaced populations.

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EGRIS PHASE III - Implementation

Disseminate & promote the Recommendations & Compilers' Manual

Strengthen statistical capacity (national, regional and international level)

Knowledge Sharing & refinement of the CM



Refinement of Recommendations and Compilers' Manual



SDG
Gender disaggregation
Sampling
Solutions measure
Identification
Progress measure

Support from regional statistical and political/ inter-governmental bodies is crucial across all areas of work

Reach out to EGRIS and ensure your country is a member
Reach out to EGRIS when you are preparing for the next census to consider the possibility to including the identification questions.
Reach out to EGRIS for capacity development needs

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Thank you!

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