Expanding the whole-of-government approach, ensuring local ownership and adequate financing to the Global Compact on Refugees

Sub-theme 3.1 Inclusion of Refugees in national/local development planning

Sub-theme 3.2 Coordination at central and local levels
Best Practices – Theme 3.1 Inclusion in planning (1)

• Importance of having a focused and concrete approach, mainstreaming issue of durable solutions encompassing both IDPs and refugees; aligning with regional development plans
• Stakeholders consultations held for National Plans at district and national levels
• Importance of data and evidence, studies and data have contributed to inclusion and budgeting (scoping study, household survey); enabling national statistics agency to include refugees will provide sustainable approach
• Financial tracking tool (esp. to manage off-budget resources)
• Whole of society approach: Refugee engagement forum; Private sector advocacy tool

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Best Practices – Theme 3.1 Inclusion in planning (2)

• National guidelines for planning and budgeting, adapted into district development plans – implementation at local level but center as ‘catalyst’

• Refugees included in national vision document, leading to integration in sectors – education, health, social protection, livelihoods, wash, energy

• Using vulnerability mapping, include refugees in national registry of ‘poorest of poor’ for health and social protection targeting

• Recognition of non-registered refugees also being supported by national services

• Legislation, polices and political will - also very important to take issues forward
Best Practices – Theme 3.2 Coordination (1)

• From central to local government: District chairpersons, county officers and refugee representative under Steering Committee, involved in all planning. National level will be mirrored in regions (but has cost implications).
• A Durable solutions Secretariat has brought together strategy, stakeholders, and coordination, as well as government alignment.
• Wadajir Forum: multi-stakeholder approach with a focus on Social healing, peace dividends, civic dialogue, local governance, including displaced – approach to social cohesion
Best Practices – Theme 3.2 Coordination (2)

• Common projects between host and refugees communities, opens space for inclusion
• Framework established by government matters greatly and makes approach possible
• Support beyond short-term one-off training to institutions building
• Holistic approaches for refugees, IDPs and returning populations
Challenges and lessons learned

• Alignment of development partners to national/ local development plans; difficulty to have overview of off budget resources; uncoordinated follow up and monitoring.
  ➢ Government led planning
  ➢ Mapping of interventions necessary
  ➢ On plan; joint assessments (SOPs)

• Line ministries not taking on responsibility, or mandated institutions claiming sole responsibility (resistance of national institutions to change); need for sensitization among decision-makers.
  ➢ Use inter-ministerial/centrally located government institutions to coordinate, e.g. MoP, OPM, MoF
  ➢ Refugee windows in development programmes

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Challenges and Lessons Learned

• Awareness raising is important across government and among population; use of existing civic engagement mechanisms, radios.
• Inclusion vs. integration; latter is long term and has implications
• Peacebuilding; has to be at sub-regional level as well as national
Opportunities

• Area-based approaches which holistically consider hosts, refugee, IDP and returnees
• Focus on host communities; therefore consider refugees in larger response esp. towards youth and most vulnerable, urban/rural poor
• Refugees part of national statistical collection, household surveys, vulnerability mappings
• Adaptation of humanitarian responses...
• Strengthening national systems of protection is key if refugees are to be included
• Expansion of existing successful projects/programmes
Thank You!

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