

## ***Internal Displacement: Global Overview of Trends and Developments in 2009***

### **KEY FACTS AND FIGURES**

#### **Record high number of IDPs worldwide:**

- 27.1 million people were internally displaced by conflict or violence worldwide as of December 2009. This is the highest number of internally displaced people (IDPs) recorded since 1994.
- Since 1997, the number of IDPs has steadily increased from around 17 million to over 27 million in 2009. The number of refugees has remained fairly stable, fluctuating between 13 million and 16 million in the same period.
- The six countries with the largest internally displaced populations: Sudan (4.9 million), Colombia (3.3 - 4.9 million), Iraq (2.76 million), Democratic Republic of the Congo (1.9 million), Somalia (1.5 million) and Pakistan (1.2 million).
- The region most affected by internal displacement is Africa, with 11.6 million IDPs in 21 countries. The region with the largest relative increase in number of IDPs is South and South-East Asia, with a 23 per cent year-on-year increase from 3.5 million in 2008 to 4.3 million in 2009.

#### **Massive new displacement during 2009:**

- At least 6.8 million people in 23 countries were forced to flee their homes as a result of conflict and violence during 2009. This is far higher than in 2008, when 4.6 million people were newly displaced.
- The eight countries with the largest reported new displacements in 2009: Pakistan (3 million), DRC (1 million), Sudan (530,000), Somalia (400,000), the Philippines (400,000), Colombia (290,000), Sri Lanka (up to 280,000) and Ethiopia (200,000). These eight countries accounted for 90 per cent of all new displacement.

#### **Reported returns in 2009:**

- The number of people who reportedly returned during 2009 was also higher, around 5 million in 2009 compared to 2.6 million in 2008.
- Countries where at least 200,000 people returned during 2009 (in order of scale): Pakistan, DRC, Uganda, Sudan, Kenya and the Philippines.

#### **IDPs in camps, with host families and in urban environments:**

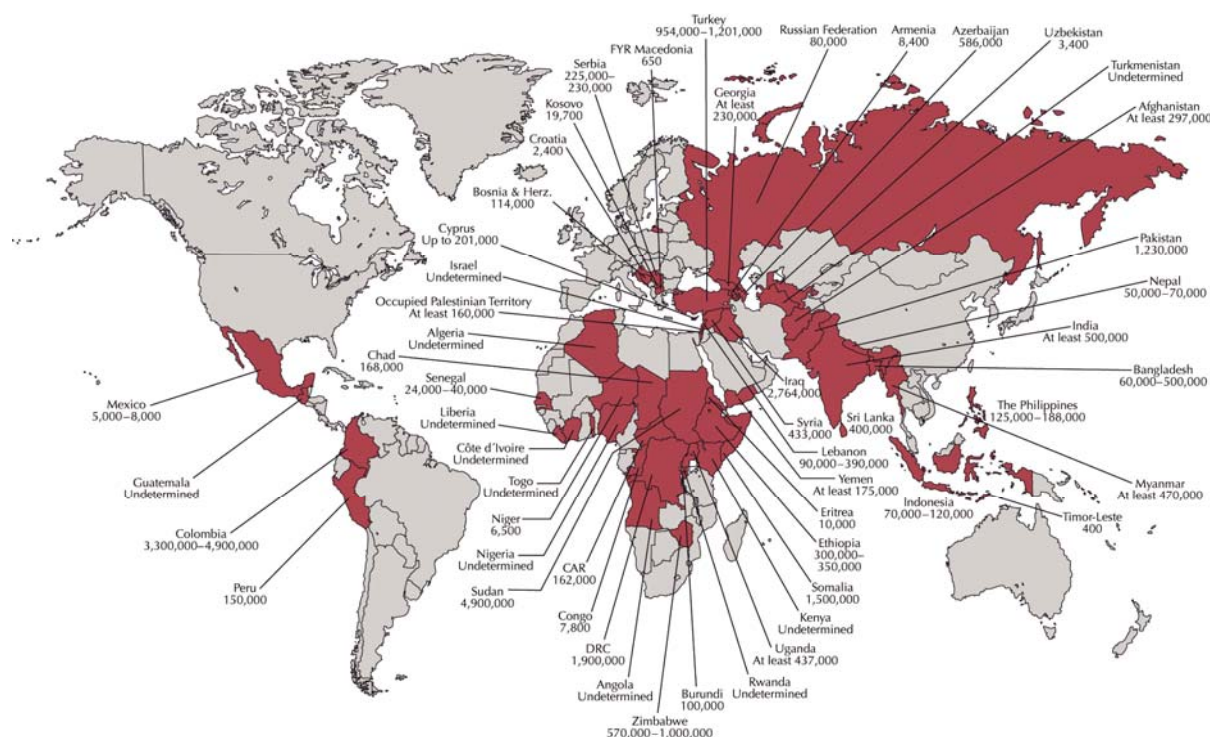
- In only three countries do almost all IDPs live in identified sites: Burundi, Chad and Uganda
- IDPs live in urban environments in at least 48 countries

#### **Protracted displacement**

- In 34 countries with a significant proportion of IDPs living in protracted displacement, IDPs were marginalised as a consequence of lack of protection of their human rights.
- In 21 countries people were born and grew to adulthood in displacement.

#### **Legislation to protect IDPs:**

- 16 countries have legislation or policies specifically addressing internal displacement



**The six largest internally displaced populations**

Country	IDPs at end of 2009
Sudan	4.9 million
Colombia	3.3 million – 4.9 million
Iraq	2.76 million
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1.9 million
Somalia	1.5 million
Pakistan	1.2 million

**Countries with the largest reported displacements in 2009**

Country	New displacement reported
Pakistan	3,000,000
DRC	1,000,000
Sudan	530,000 (390,000 in Southern Sudan)
Philippines	400,000
Somalia	400,000
Colombia	290,000
Sri Lanka	Up to 280,000
Ethiopia	200,000
Yemen	150,000
OPT	100,000–200,000

The report **Internal Displacement: Global Overview of Trends and Developments in 2009** is the leading annual summary of the humanitarian and human rights situations of people internally displaced by conflict and violence. The report offers detailed figures and global, regional and national analysis of the more than 50 displacement situations which IDMC monitors. The report is available at [www.internal-displacement.org](http://www.internal-displacement.org).

The **Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)** was established by the Norwegian Refugee Council in 1998, upon the request of the United Nations. It is a leading source of information and analysis on internal displacement caused by conflict and violence worldwide.

**For further information on the report and media requests, kindly contact:**

- Kate Halff, Head of IDMC: +41 795 518 257 or [kate.halff@nrc.ch](mailto:kate.halff@nrc.ch) (English and French)
- Siri Elverland, NRC Media adviser: +47 93 21 82 19 or [siri.elverland@nrc.no](mailto:siri.elverland@nrc.no)
- Kaja Haldorsen, NRC Media adviser: + 47 99 72 20 09 or [kaja.haldorsen@nrc.no](mailto:kaja.haldorsen@nrc.no)