KENYA

Displacement associated with Conflict and Violence

Figure Analysis – GRID 2020

CONTEXT

Cattle rustling, conflict over resources, and land disputes caused new displacements in Kenya in 2019. Compared with the previous year, however, new displacements decreased, from a reported figure of nearly 10,000 in 2018 to 1,800 in 2019.

The highest number of new displacements was reported along Elgeyo Marakwet and West Pokot counties, where about 700 people were displaced in May as a result of armed attacks to steal cattle. The attacks have been on the increase in recent months, hindering local people's economic activities and negatively affecting education through school closures. More than 780 people were displaced in September and about 150 people in May in Kitui county because of a conflict between pastoralists and the local population over water and pastureland. Another 200 people were displaced in Nakuru when their houses were demolished as a result of a more than 20-year-old land dispute.

Escalating violence is also reported in Marsabit county as ethnic clashes between the Gabra and Borana communities spill over from southern Ethiopia to northern Kenya. The violence is also thought to be connected to the 2022 elections in Kenya as both the Borana and Gabra communities are trying to forge alliances with minority ethnic groups. IDMC was not able to obtain any figures for displacement related to these events.

New displacements that occurred in 2019	Total number of IDPs as of 31 December 2019 (Year figure was last updated: 2018)	Partial Solutions and Unverified Solutions		
		Number of IDPs who have made partial progress towards a durable solution*		Number of IDPs whose progress towards durable solutions cannot be verified**
		Flows (1 January – 31 December 2019)	Stocks	Flows (1 January – 31 December 2019)
1,800	162,000	-	-	-

*This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2019 and for whom the evidence obtained by IDMC suggests that progress toward durable solutions is only partial given their living conditions. In a few instances, this number may refer to movements having taken place in 2019 (flows) rather than a total number of people (stock).

**This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2019 but for whom there is no available evidence to corroborate progress toward durable solutions. In a few instances, this number may refer to movements having taken place in 2019 (flows) rather than a total number of people (stock).

NEW DISPLACEMENTS THAT OCCURRED IN 2019

This corresponds to new instances of internal displacement that occurred in 2019.

IDMC figure and rationale
IDMC's estimate is based on several sources, including the country's National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) and local media. The final figure is a sum of all instances of displacement in 2019.

Sources and methodologies
IDMC's estimate for new displacements is based on data from several sources including NDMA and the local media outlets The Star and Standard Media.

We have medium confidence in the sources because of the lack of clarity regarding their methodologies.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges
There has been no systematic assessment of displacement as a result of inter-communal violence, cattle rustling, armed attacks or other triggers since 2015. As a result, IDMC's 2019 estimate of the number of new displacements is based on information from several sources, including the media. Because of a lack of comprehensive reporting and data collection, this figure is likely an underestimate.

For example, for cases in which the sources indicated that communities, households or families were displaced, but for which no exact figures could be obtained, IDMC used a value of at least two households, or about eight people. This conservative accounting is likely an underestimation of the real scale of displacement. In other cases, IDMC has used destroyed houses as a proxy to estimate displacement. This also might have led us to underestimate, as people whose houses were not destroyed might also have fled during clashes.

Significant changes from last year
The decrease is mainly a result of decreased inter-communal violence.

TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPS

This corresponds to the total number of individuals living in internal displacement as of 31 December 2019.

IDMC figure and rationale
IDMC's estimate is based on the International Organization for Migration's Displacement Tracking Matrix (IOM DTM) assessment, as well as other sources, including NDMA and local media.

The biggest portion of IDMC's figure, 138,000 people, comes from the IOM DTM assessment and represents approximately 64 per cent of the 216,000 IDPs identified in seven counties by the IOM DTM as displaced by clashes. IDMC also used its figures from 2017 and 2018 because we did not have any evidence that those people returned home.

We did not include all displacements in 2018 and 2019, however. That is because we recorded several instances of displacement in the same or very similar locations and could not verify whether these were the same people moving several times or different populations each time.

Sources and methodologies
IDMC's estimate is based on data from IOM DTM as well as other sources. The biggest component of IDMC's figure is outdated and comes from a preliminary IOM DTM report from June 2015. The IOM DTM assessment was conducted in seven of Kenya's 47 counties: Garissa, Lamu, Mandera, Marsabit, Turkana, Uasin Gishu and Wajir. It also included Elgeyo Marakwet county, because it borders Uasin

Gishu and IDP sites spread across the counties' common border. IOM conducted the DTM assessments at site level using key informant interviews and focus group discussions which were subsequently verified by direct observation of available services and living conditions.

IDMC also used recently conducted research by Amnesty International on violent evictions of indigenous people in Embobut Forest between 2014 and 2018. These displacements were triggered by a land dispute between different communities as well as more recent forced evictions by the Kenya Forest Service. IDMC's figure also draws upon information from media articles, as well as NDMA reports.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

IDMC's figure reflects the limited geographical coverage of the IOM DTM data and the ad hoc reporting on displacements in other locations. Some of this information is now several years old and increasingly unreliable. Some sources say communities, households or families were displaced, but provide no precise figure. As with the figures on new displacements, we use a value of two households, or eight people, displaced in each instance. This is likely to be an underestimate.

Significant changes from last year

The figure remained the same as IDMC did not receive any updates and was unable to add new displacements because of the risk of double-counting that is explained above.

CONFIDENCE ASSESSMENT

The Confidence Assessment provides an at-a-glance overview of the comprehensiveness of the data available regarding displacement associated with conflict for each country. It describes the methodologies used, frequency of reporting, data disaggregation and geographical coverage. Here two key metrics are analysed: the new displacements and the total number of IDPs.

Displacement metric	New displacements	Total number of IDPs
Reporting units	People, Households	People, Households
Methodology	Media monitoring, Unknown	Key informants, Media monitoring, Other
Geographical disaggregation	Admin 2 or more	Subnational - admin 1
Frequency of reporting	Other	Other
Disaggregation by sex	No	No
Disaggregation by age	No	No
Data triangulation	No Triangulation	No Triangulation
Data on settlement elsewhere	No	No
Data on returns	No	No
Data on local integration	No	No
Data on cross border movements	No	No
Data on deaths	No	No
Data on births	No	No

For any additional questions please email: data@idmc.ch

For the full country profile on Kenya please visit:
http://www.internal-displacement.org/countries/kenya