SESSION 6: PREPARATION - DATA COLLECTION

OVERVIEW

This is the second of three sessions that concentrate on the preparation phase, and highlight the importance of conducting a legal review, increasing knowledge and understanding of displacement, and collecting data on IDPs before starting to draft a law or policy.

This session focuses on data collection, a process that may already be in motion, but information should be collected regularly and systematically updated. For a law or policy on IDPs to be meaningful, it must be based on evidence that is shared and agreed upon. Data requirements must be defined, existing information analysed and needs in terms of primary data determined and met. Timelines, resources and collaboration will be needed to do so.

The profiling of IDPs can be adapted to gather the data needed to inform law and policy-making. The Joint IDP Profiling Service (JIPS) provides support for countries in the collaborative collection of both quantitative and qualitative data. Profiling exercises use a range of methodologies, including the review of existing information, rapid population estimates, satellite imagery, movement tracking systems, focus group discussions, household surveys and key informant interviews.

They provide an overview of a displaced population that includes, at a minimum, the number of IDPs disaggregated by age and sex, even if only estimated, and their location. This is understood to be core data. They may also include the cause(s) and pattern(s) of displacement, protection concerns, humanitarian needs, potential solutions and other information.
OBJECTIVES

By the end of the session participants will be able to:

- Understand the relevance of data collection and profiling to law and policy-making
- Understand what the profiling of displacement situations entails
- Understand the points in the policy-making process where the input of data and information from profiling is needed

KEY MESSAGES

- Profiling is a collaborative process of identifying and describing IDPs via the collection and analysis of data, in order to advocate on their behalf, protect and assist them and eventually bring about a solution to their displacement
- Profiling exercises are context specific and their methodologies are adaptable
- They take a mixed methods approach, collecting both quantitative and qualitative data for deeper analysis
- The collaborative element ensures shared ownership of the process and results

DOCUMENTATION

JIPS website: http://www.jips.org/en/home