

## TALKING POINTS

### On the Sustainable Development Goals

- ***Emphasize that*** the 2030 Agenda recognizes the need for development investments in preventing and resolving protracted displacement and forced migration. Meeting the SDGs would:
  - i) reduce the need for people to leave their homes by addressing the root causes of forced displacement, and migration; and
  - ii) enable the development of well-managed migration policies, lower the costs of migration and strengthen the contribution of migrants and refugees to countries of origin and destination alike.

### On development approaches to displacement

- ***Highlight*** 5 key areas of support that are critical components of comprehensive development solutions for displacement.
- 1. Addressing root causes of displacement and drivers of forced migration-** key root causes of displacement include insufficient development gains, protracted conflicts and violent extremism, poor governance, climate change and weak natural resources management. As underlined by the Secretary General's report on Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants, investments in sustainable development and conflict-prevention are critically needed. It is the right thing to do and more cost-effective than mobilizing a response.
  - 2. Strengthening the evidence base through joint assessments and analysis-** this includes, multi-stakeholder collaboration in support of national and local governments to analyze the development impact of displacement in both countries of origin and destination. Secondly, it includes enhanced data analysis on the root causes of displacement;
  - 3. Enabling *voluntary* return and community based reintegration-** this includes support to authorities in the return areas in terms of service

delivery and for instance to make land available for returnees; ensuring access by returnees to local social protection; building capacity of local community leaders to support returnees; ensuring returnees are well informed and aware of alternative migration options; and support the development of livelihood opportunities for sustainable return options and economic reintegration.

4. **Support Government partners with mainstreaming displacement into national and local level development plans** – this includes support to integrate migration and displacement into national development strategies such as the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs), to measure and make visible the human development impact of migration and to mitigate potential risks.
5. **Support to host communities to cope, recover and sustain the impact of large-scale displacement.** Host communities and countries provide a global public good by hosting displaced populations. Host communities are often the first to absorb the shock of any major influx. Increasingly, refugees and IDPs are residing outside camps, without access to humanitarian support, relying on the informal economy. UNDP's support and that of the international community is critical to help host communities to provide basic services, access to legal services and create jobs and livelihoods opportunities.

#### On UNDP's Resilience based development approach

- **Underline that** recent discussions at the WHS have emphasized the need to enhance resilience of communities and displaced. *So what is a resilience based development approach?*
- **First,** a resilience based development approach supports host communities and displaced to *better cope and recover from the impact of large movements of displaced and to sustain development gains.* While building a foundation for resilience through immediate life-sustaining activities, including livelihoods, youth employment, social cohesion and local conflict

management, the resilience-based approach also includes, from the start, issues such as strengthening local government systems, rule of law, strengthening national capacities for conflict prevention and disaster risk reduction.

- ***Second***, the approach implies a number of shifts. This includes:
  - A focus on comprehensive and integrated responses that make local and national systems a priority;
  - Moving away from only covering immediate needs to addressing vulnerabilities and root causes of the crisis;
  - Investment in capacities to prevent, mitigate and cope with present and future shocks.

### Examples of joint, sub-regional resilience based development responses

- ***Highlight*** a few examples of current resilience based development responses, in which UNDP is working closely with other agencies. Some of these initiatives are still in their initial stages, others well under way.
- ***First***, the **UN Regional, integrated strategy for the Sahel**. More than 4.5 million people have been displaced in the Sahel- a three-fold increase in less than two years (2012-2013), placing further strain on already limited resources in host communities. Long cycles of drought followed by floods have further limited reliable access to food, and displaced even more people.
- In June 2013, under the leadership of the regional humanitarian coordinator, the UN and its partners launched a regional response plan covering 9 Sahel countries.<sup>1</sup> The plan covers the needs of both refugees and IDPs through inclusive governance, cross-border security mechanisms, and integrating humanitarian and development interventions for long-term resilience. It articulates sustainable solutions, like strengthening capacities of regional institutions, as part of a more integrated strategy with development actors.

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<sup>1</sup> Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Chad, Gambia, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Mali

- UNDP has developed its own regional framework for the Sahel based on this UN Integrated Strategy and its own comparative advantages, such as: its neutrality, its commitment to sustainable human development, its role in coordinating interventions by different development partners, and its capacity and reach through its knowledge network.
- ***Second***, the **Regional Refugee and Migration Response Plan (RRMRP)** for Western Europe. This is the inter-agency response to the large movements of refugees and migrants into Europe through the Mediterranean and Western Balkans route. The response plan recognizes the primary leadership and responsibility of host governments and proposes a response that complements Governments' existing capacities;
- UNDP is one of the lead agencies on the Sector Response on 'Support to Local Communities'. This includes: i) Ensuring assistance to refugees and migrants, without compromising basic services to affected communities; ii) strengthening social cohesion; and iii) preventing and combating xenophobia.
- ***Third***, the **Regional Refugee Resilience Plan (3RP)**. The 3RP has jointly been developed by UN agencies under the leadership of both UNDP and UNHCR, in response to the Syria crisis. It is one of the first large initiatives that highlights collaboration between humanitarian and development actors to support hosting government and communities. Key donors have adopted multi-year contributions, reinforcing financial predictability in a protracted displacement crisis. Various funding mechanisms are used such as Thematic Trust Funds, Multi Partner Trust Funds, budget support, and NGO modalities within national frameworks. This has offered donors a menu of options to engage humanitarian ***and*** development resources;
- The 3RP response provides a prime example of how the resilience based approach has worked in practice with UNDP and UNHCR (and other

partners) working side by side and in a complementary way to address the immediate needs of refugees (by UNHCR) and support the resilience of host communities through livelihoods, the delivery of basic services and waste management (by UNDP). UNDP is acting as the coordinator of the Resilience Component while also implementing more than 60 percent of the livelihoods programmes under the 3RP.

### UNDP programme examples of resilience based development

- ***Highlight*** that as UNDP, we know that development approaches to addressing protracted displacement are critical and they make a huge difference in addressing people's lives in the short medium and long term. For example, ***in Lebanon***, which hosts the largest refugee population per capita in the world, UNDP has reached over 1.4 million Lebanese and Syrians since 2013. Interventions span across nine sectors, including local service delivery systems and livelihoods opportunities in vulnerable host communities;
- ***Share a final example from Pakistan***. Together with other UN agencies such as UNICEF, UNHCR, FAO, UNDP implemented the Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas programme (RAHA). The programme was primarily developed to improve the living standards of more than one million Pakistanis who are hosting Afghan refugees. UNDP so far supported over 30,000 affected men and women through jobs, skills development and improved basic services and community infrastructure rehabilitation.