

What solutions for Protracted Displacement?

Roundtable on Policy options

22 May 2019

Maelbeek Room in Residence Palace, Wetstraat 155, Brussels

Concept Note

Background and Justification

Many persons affected by forced displacement today find themselves in situations of protracted displacement. Current policies struggle to find long-term solutions for refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) who live in long-lasting situations of vulnerability and dependency.

The EU-funded Horizon 2020 research project “Transnational Figurations of Displacement (TRAFIG)” investigates long lasting displacement situations and aims to inform policy-making by providing new knowledge on how to improve displaced people’s lives and enhance their self-reliance. In addition, ICMPD has recently launched the OFID co-funded study *Bridging refugee protection and development: Policy recommendations for applying a development-displacement nexus approach*, which provides potential avenues for protection-oriented policies to support durable solutions and resilience-based development for host countries.

Both TRAFIG and the recent study are grounded in a development approach to displacement which builds upon displaced people’s own strategies and experiences to regain security, sustain their livelihoods and become self-reliant again. Moreover, both examine the situation as existing in major host countries, within the region of displacement and further afield. Such a transnational approach can provide a more nuanced view as to potential solutions for situations of protracted displacement.

Against this background, the roundtable aims to discuss viable policy options, which enhance the self-reliance and resilience of displaced people, and which simultaneously respond to the needs of host countries. Stakeholders will engage by bringing in their own perspective on applied policies and programmes, discussing how protection-, livelihood support and development-oriented policies directed towards refugees can be aligned with the needs of host countries of refugees and other populations affected by violent conflict.

Participants

To evoke discussions, policy options developed on the displacement-development nexus will be presented, in addition to the concept of “transnational figurations of displacement”, which builds on connectivity and mobility as the two key factors for moving out of situations of protracted displacement. Discussions will relate to the EU’s policy framework on forced displacement and



development “Lives in Dignity: from Aid-dependence to Self-Reliance” and other approaches and viewpoints from **policymakers, international organisations** and the **donor community**.

Keeping in mind the above, the total foreseen number of participants for this roundtable event would be approximately **25-35 participants** to allow for a productive and rich round table information exchange. To better ensure frank discussions and engagement on the policy options and their potential further development, **Chatham House Rules** will be applied.

Format and Agenda

After the respective input presentations by ICMPD, the EC and BICC, every institution will present their perspective and approach followed by discussion.

The tentative agenda is as follows:

9:30 – 10:00	<i>Registration and welcome coffee</i>
10:00 – 10:15	Welcome and introduction
10:15 – 10:30	Presentation of the selected Policy Options from <i>Bridging refugee protection and development</i> and discussion
10:30 – 10:45	Presentation of the EC Communication on “Lives in Dignity: from Aid-dependence to Self-Reliance”
10:45 – 11:30	Tour de table: <i>What are examples of how implementing a development approach to displacement?</i>
11:30 – 11:45	Presentation of the concept “Transnational Figurations of Displacement”
11:45 – 12:45	Discussion round: “Transnational Figurations of Displacement” in Practice: <i>What are the key aspects from your perspective that need to be taken into account by the conceptual framework?</i>
12:45 – 13:00	Concluding Thoughts and Way Forward
13:00	<i>Lunch</i>

Contact information

Please confirm your participation by sending an email to trafig@icmpd.org.

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For more information on TRAFIG visit <https://trafig.eu>

