

Output

TRAFIG will produce a variety of products over three years, ranging from publications such as **Working Papers** (research outcomes resulting from project work) to **Policy Briefs** (short analyses of and commentaries on current topics).

It will further develop **an interactive toolkit**, which can be used to assess the vulnerability of people in protracted displacement situations (PDS) and the transnational dimensions of their lives. It will show how to visualise and use the gathered information.

The project will organise **stakeholder workshops** and **study trips** for parliamentarians and journalists and by doing so, offer opportunities for exchange.

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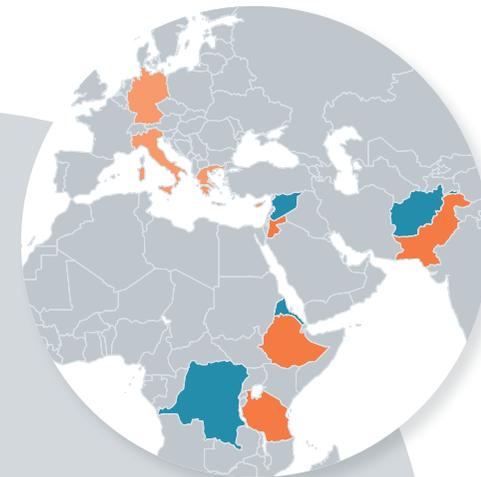
Partners

BICC (Bonn International Center for Conversion), Germany
Project Coordinator

Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece
CMI (Chr. Michelsen Institute), Norway
Danube University Krems, Austria
Dignity Kwanza – Community Solutions, Tanzania
FIERI (Forum of International and European Research on Immigration), Italy
ICMPD (International Centre for Migration Policy Development), Austria
SHARP (Society for Human Rights & Prisoners' Aid), Pakistan
Leiden University, The Netherlands
University of Sussex, United Kingdom
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TRAFIG

Transnational Figurations of Displacement

Connectivity and Mobility
as Solutions to
Protracted Refugee Situations



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the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and
innovation programme under grant No 822453

About TRAFIG

Displacement is normally regarded as a temporary phenomenon. Yet, more than 13 million people—two thirds of 20 million refugees worldwide—have been in exile for long periods of time without prospect of return, resettlement or local integration. The number of internally displaced persons who cannot return is unknown. Both groups find themselves in protracted displacement.

TRAFIG (Transnational Figurations of Displacement) is an EU-funded Horizon 2020 research and innovation project. From 2019 to 2021, 12 partner organisations will investigate long-lasting displacement situations at multiple sites in Asia, Africa and Europe and options to improve displaced people's lives.

The project aims at generating new knowledge to help develop solutions for protracted displacement that are tailored to the needs and capacities of persons affected by displacement.

TRAFIG will

- | provide academic evidence on refugee movements and protracted displacement
- | analyse which conditions could help to improve displaced people's everyday lives
- | inform policymakers on how to develop solutions to protracted displacement.



Key themes

TRAFIG looks at how transnational and local networks as well as mobility are used as resources by displaced people to manage their everyday lives. TRAFIG investigates the following key research questions:

1 | Asylum policies and humanitarian aid

How do displaced people manage to navigate through the complex legal and administrative systems of aid and asylum?

2 | Everyday lives and livelihood strategies

How do displaced people sustain their living in long-lasting situations of existential uncertainty and insecurity?

3 | Transnational connectivity and mobility

How do connections and networks beyond the current place of residence affect the lives of displaced people and their mobility?

4 | Social relations between refugees and hosts

How do displaced people and hosts interact, and in which ways is local integration contested?

5 | Economic interactions and development

What are the wider economic impacts of displacement, and which opportunities exist for economic development?

Activities

We undertake comparative research in Africa, Asia, and Europe

TRAFIG carries out trans-disciplinary, applied research to advise policymakers and to contribute to public debates. We apply both qualitative and quantitative research methods in camps and cities in Africa (Ethiopia, DR Congo, Tanzania), the Middle East (Jordan, Pakistan) and Europe (Greece, Italy, Germany).

We apply an innovative concept

TRAFIG introduces a novel research perspective—the figurational approach. On this basis, we investigate displaced people's lives and dependencies, local relations between refugees and hosts, transnational network connections and changes in protracted displacement situations. We consider connectivity and mobility as resources that can enhance the resilience of displaced people.

We support policymakers and practitioners to address the needs of the most vulnerable groups

TRAFIG reviews policies and legal instruments in recipient countries, on the European and global level. We develop a 'Toolkit for Practitioners' with which the needs of displaced people can be assessed. We provide knowledge that helps to design solutions that are tailored to specific local contexts and displaced people's own capacities.

We seek to give a voice to and empower those affected by displacement

TRAFIG aims to empower displaced people through a participatory research approach and by allowing them to tell their story in interviews and videos, through a photo exhibition, and by bringing these voices to the attention of policymakers, the media and the public.