

LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND – THE INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT SOLUTIONS FUND (IDSF)

TERMS OF REFERENCE

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1. Introduction

By the end of 2022 there were over 71 million internally displaced people across 110 countries and territories, with 62.5 million as a result of conflict and violence, and 8.7 million as a result of disasters¹. The majority of those in camps or crowded urban settlements were forcibly displaced from their homes and livelihoods due to political conflicts, ethnic or religious clashes, economic imperatives or increasing climate and man-made disasters. Millions of internally displaced persons face poor or no social services access, declining health and nutritional standards, food insecurity, widespread violence and violations of human rights, disruption of livelihoods and lack access to basic services. While it is still early to assess the comprehensive impact of the Covid crisis on IDPs, there is no doubt that the pandemic has further compounded the vulnerability of IDPs today. Many Member States are calling for significant improvements in the way protracted internal displacement is tackled to enable solutions, while also recognizing that inaction will undermine national and global efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda. In this regard many States also recognize that any future sustainable solution for IDPs must go beyond crisis response and humanitarian action and be part of a national development prioritization that integrates humanitarian, peacebuilding, human rights, disaster risk reduction efforts and climate action. Moreover, facilitating any durable solution requires that all stakeholders, including national and local authorities as well as humanitarian, peace and development actors, work together to identify the right strategies and activities.

UN Response:

Recognizing that States and the UN system must re-focus and find ways to significantly shift their approach to internal displacement, and in response to an appeal from Member States, the UN Secretary-General set up a **High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement** and developed an **Action Agenda on Internal Displacement** as a follow-up to the Panel report of 2021. Launched in 2022, the Action Agenda sets out a common vision for stepped-up action to promote solutions to internal displacement, prevent future displacement crises from emerging, and ensure that individuals who are currently internally displaced have access to protection, assistance and early solutions. As women and children represent the vast majority of those internally displaced, both the High-Level Panel and the Action Agenda highlight the need to have specific, tailored approaches to their needs.

The Action Agenda emphasizes that making progress on solutions is key to the achievement of the SDGs and that action to resolve internal displacement must be recognized as a priority of inclusive development, with “leaving no one behind” being a central promise of the 2030 Agenda.² Internal displacement, whether due to conflict or disaster and the impact of climate change, affects all regions of the world. It needs to be addressed to make progress across all key SDG goals to alleviate poverty, end hunger, ensure inclusive access to basic services, end

¹ Global Report on Internal Displacement 2023, IDMC

² Internally displaced persons are mentioned as one of the groups explicitly included in the 2030 Agenda.

discrimination and gender inequality, restore social cohesion, and ensure sustainable urban development through the 2030 Agenda. In practice, this requires a development-lead approach, support via UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, increased development financing, and private sector engagement. To facilitate this, among its 31 commitments for the UN system, the Action Agenda identifies Resident Coordinators (RCs) as the UN's lead on solutions at country-level, who will lead work between the Government, agencies, organizations, and other stakeholders to support States in developing and implementing a whole-of-government approach that embeds solutions to internal displacement in national and local development plans.

Given the impact on the SDGs, the Action Agenda also underlines that solutions to internal displacement require a *step-change* in the ability of the UN's various 'pillars' to collaborate. Solutions to internal displacement will not be found without operationalizing the triple 'nexus' whereby all three pillars of the UN system work together seamlessly in the interests of some of the most vulnerable people on the planet – the internally displaced.

While States bear the primary responsibility to exercise leadership in implementing solutions for IDPs, across its institutional lines, a "whole-of-government" approach must also be mirrored by a "whole of UN" effort. Work in this area requires not only a more effective UNCT under RC leadership, but also improved engagement between the UNCT, HCT and peace and security mechanisms at the global, regional and/or country level. Strengthening this cross-pillar interaction is another key goal in the Secretary-General's reform ambition. In this regard, the new call by the Action Agenda, in effect, asks for a *comprehensive evolution* that can concretely bridge the humanitarian-development-peace divide.

The High-Level Panel on internal displacement and the SG's Action Agenda recognize the importance of humanitarian responses to address immediate needs and for development and peace actors to be engaged early on to lay the groundwork for sustainable solutions as soon as possible. This posture has implications for the type of programming needed and includes interventions that help people recover their self-sufficiency and reduce their reliance on humanitarian assistance, through access to education, to healthcare, to documentation, to livelihood opportunities and to mental health and psycho-social support.

Interlinkages between internal displacement and SDGs

Goal 1: No Poverty: IDPs often experience heightened poverty due to displacement. Addressing their unique needs, providing access to basic services, livelihood opportunities, and social protection can help lift them out of poverty.

Goal 2: Zero Hunger: IDPs frequently face food insecurity and limited access to nutritious food. Ensuring their access to adequate and sustainable food sources, promoting agricultural productivity, and improving food distribution systems are crucial.

Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being: IDPs often lack access to adequate healthcare, face health risks in temporary settlements, and suffer from mental health issues. Prioritizing their healthcare needs, including physical and mental well-being, is essential.

Goal 4: Quality Education: IDP children often face disruptions in education due to displacement. Ensuring uninterrupted access to quality education, establishing temporary learning spaces, and providing psychosocial support are vital for their educational development.

Goal 5: Gender Equality: IDP women and girls are particularly vulnerable to gender-based violence and discrimination. Promoting gender equality, addressing gender-based violence, and empowering female IDPs are critical for their well-being and empowerment.

Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation: IDPs often lack access to safe water and sanitation facilities, leading to health risks. Providing clean water, adequate sanitation, and promoting hygiene practices are crucial for their health and well-being.

Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy: Access to affordable and clean energy is important for IDP settlements, improving living conditions, and supporting income-generating activities.

Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth: IDPs often struggle to find employment and face precarious working conditions. Creating inclusive economic opportunities, providing vocational training, and supporting their economic empowerment are important for their integration and self-reliance.

Goal 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure: IDP settlements often lack adequate infrastructure and basic services. Ensuring their access to essential infrastructure, including housing, healthcare facilities, and transportation, is crucial for their well-being.

Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities: IDPs often face social exclusion and marginalization. Promoting inclusivity, addressing discrimination, and ensuring their equal access to services and opportunities are important to reduce inequalities.

Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities: Displacement can result in the rapid growth of informal settlements. Providing adequate housing, basic services, and infrastructure in IDP-hosting areas is vital for their integration and creating sustainable communities.

Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production: Ensuring responsible consumption and production patterns in IDP settlements can help reduce waste, environmental impact, and promote sustainable resource management.

Goal 13: Climate Action: IDPs are particularly vulnerable to climate-related displacement. Integrating their needs and vulnerabilities into climate adaptation and mitigation strategies is crucial for their protection and resilience.

Goal 14: Life Below Water: Protecting coastal areas and marine resources is important, as some IDP populations may reside in these areas. Ensuring sustainable use and conservation of marine ecosystems is vital to reduce displacement risks, particularly in SIDS.

Goal 15: Life on Land: Addressing the impact of displacement on land ecosystems and promoting sustainable land use practices are important for the well-being and resilience of IDPs, many of whom are indigenous communities who are displaced and/or at risk of displacement.

Goal 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions: Addressing the root causes of internal displacement, protecting the rights of IDPs, and ensuring access to justice and legal identity are vital for their protection and long-term solutions.

Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals: Building strong partnerships among governments, international organizations, civil society, and the private sector is crucial to effectively address the specific needs of IDPs and ensure their inclusion in sustainable development efforts.

To support RCs and to drive stepped-up, one-UN, approaches on solutions at the global level, the Secretary-General appointed a Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement, supported by a small team. The Special Adviser reports to the Secretary-General's office and works closely with an interagency Steering Group on Solutions. A key priority for the Special Adviser and Steering Group will be to work with UNCTs to systematize the inclusion of solutions in Development Cooperation Frameworks.

The Action Agenda also committed to the establishment of a dedicated financing mechanism on Solutions to Internal Displacement with the aim of providing dedicated resources to UNCT/HCTs under the leadership of the RC to pursue development-oriented action on solutions to internal displacement. While the original thinking was to embed this mechanism within the wider global Joint SDG Fund, it was subsequently decided that a nimble, stand-alone Multi-Partner Trust Fund will offer the most efficient and effective vehicle for channeling resources to Country Teams for this purpose without losing critical SDG alignment.

2. Rationale

The Internal Displacement Solutions Fund (IDSF) will support strategic, collaborative and coherent engagement of UNCTs through joint programmes led by RCs and implemented by participating UN entities at the country level. Joint programmes will support SDG-propulsive national priorities as reflected in the Cooperation Frameworks.³

Justification for the new IDSF include the fact that:

1. *Protracted internal displacement*, among others, exacerbates the existing impoverishment of those affected and adds extra strain to already-overstretched infrastructure and services in hosting areas and represents a significant growing trend that needs to be counteracted in order to safeguard progress on the SDGs. At the same time, conflict and insecurity can leave communities less resilient to cope with the consequences of climate change. The Fund's focus on solutions is therefore important.
2. There is a need to *improve coherence and coordination* in (Solutions) programming, something the Fund can foster.
3. There is currently *no flexible financing instrument* in place to allow UN Country Teams to move rapidly, and collaboratively to advance solutions strategies at scale, under strong RC leadership.

The IDSF is expected to be operational in **Q3 of 2023** for a minimum of five years of operation with an anticipated funding envelope of USD 100 million. **The overall objective of the Fund is to advance solutions to internal displacement at country-level by enabling joint action that builds on the views, needs, and capacities of IDPs and host communities and promotes sustainable, nationally-owned solutions.** In line with the Action Agenda, the Fund will enable a whole-of-UN

³ This implies that expected results for joint programmes are taken from CFs (or UNDAFs, where CF has not yet been introduced).

approach to resolving internal displacement and will empower RCs to demonstrate greater leadership on this issue through improving access to expertise and catalytic financing to support the UNCT and relevant stakeholders with solutions work – with the intent of eventually phasing out and moving towards inclusive development financing directly by national and local systems through other financing channels.

Building on the action areas identified in the *UN Secretary General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement*⁴ the Fund will be oriented especially towards:

- Promoting **national leadership of** solutions to internal displacement, including through the provision to governments of dedicated **expert advice** and technical capacity to develop laws and policies sensitive to solutions. The recognition by the national government of the importance to address internal displacement is a prerequisite for support.
- Supporting **national solutions strategies** that embed long-term solution efforts in the wider development and SDG plans of the country, particularly vis-à-vis the goal of Leaving No One Behind.
- Supporting **joint assessments**, including through data collection and analysis, such as socio-economic and political economy assessments, as well as profiling of IDPs and host communities on national solutions programming priorities and capacities and building government capacity to shape investments, and measure progress towards solutions.
- Providing **seed funding** for the creation of conditions, including preparing local communities, for the voluntary, safe, and dignified return, integration, or settlement of IDPs in line with international standards.
- Supporting the testing of innovative “solutions measures” that can further a **catalytic impact** of current and future programming.
- Supporting national and local authorities’ efforts to facilitate the integration of IDPs into public systems and services, based on integrated **policy innovation, legal reform and/or institutional change**, thereby enabling whole of government approaches to embed internal displacement in national and local development plans and costed strategies/national financing frameworks.
- Providing dedicated **specialized expert advice** to UNCTs and government offices to assist in the development and implementation of relevant policies, strategies, and legal frameworks on solutions to internal displacement.

⁴ UN SG Action Agenda on Internal Displacement: *Follow-up to the Report of the UN Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Displacement*, June 2022

3. Scope and strategic approach

Objectives- Enabling Transformative Action

The Fund will place a high premium on accountability to displaced persons themselves. For all activities supported by the Fund, it will be a requirement that IDPs are engaged and driving these initiatives from the beginning of strategy development to the final evaluation. The Fund needs to model the highest standard of giving voice to IDPs themselves, in defining and implementing their own solutions.

Investments by the IDSF will be designed to support holistic, cross-sectoral approaches that are tailored to the local context. Programmes funded by the window will respond to the specific barriers to solutions for IDPs in the given location, as identified through initial analyses, strategies, and costed plans. They will be age and gender sensitive and ensure the meaningful consultation and participation of IDPs and host communities, including internally displaced women and children, in their design and realization.

The main instrument will be joint programmes led by the RC and implemented by UN entities at the country level. A joint programme is intended to *achieve a catalytic development result* that relies on the comparative advantages of two or more participating UN organizations (PUNOs). As an integrated-team, inclusive of other partners, joint programme design is predicated on the principles that results will be delivered through i) the contribution to one or more Cooperation Framework outcomes, national development priorities related to SDGs and ii) focus on one or more policy levers with the potential to catalyse systematic change.⁵ Joint programmes will be developed and implemented based on quality standards established by the Fund, with technical support provided through an expert group at the global level. The overall joint programme cycle includes technical review of proposals, quality assurance, monitoring and reporting, and evaluation - as per the Fund's quality standards, policies and procedures already demonstrating high efficiency in over 150 joint programmes of the existing Fund portfolios.

Funding would be available to country operations that have either addressed solutions explicitly in the Cooperation Frameworks or, if the Cooperation Framework cycle is approaching renewal, have outlined an internal displacement solutions strategy that clarifies how the development system will support solutions. Funding will be prioritized for contexts that are conducive for nationally-owned solutions – namely, where the government or relevant local authorities have shown a willingness to take action to uphold the rights of IDPs and facilitate solutions to their displacement. A context analysis with a strong protection and conflict-sensitivity component will be a prerequisite for consideration. Country operations must have an inclusive coordination mechanism in place for solutions in which all relevant operational actors participate, including local level linkages and IDP representation as well as receiving communities.

⁵ Guidance Note on Joint Programmes Implementing a new generation of Joint Programmes, UNSDG, July 2022, p.2

Description of the Fund

The Fund aims to provide *catalytic financing* to leverage impact through *three overarching goals*. The following goals will build momentum towards the establishment of a national multi-sector driven IDP Solutions policy formulation and its implementation. Linked to these 3 goals below, the joint programme will use knowledge and key partnerships gathered in one phase to inform the next, as relevant:

- 1. Multi-Sectoral, SDG-informed and aligned IDP Solutions Strategy-Development; Accelerating Development Planning alongside Humanitarian Response:** Promoting **national ownership** on solutions to internal displacement through a national consultative process that engages whole of society participants and is inclusive of concerned populations (rural and urban), as well as IDPs, host communities and communities in return areas is a critical first step in advocating for and establishing a national multi-sectoral solutions strategy for IDPs. Support may include the provision to governments of dedicated **expert advice** and technical capacity to conduct programmatic audits and/or surveys on existing IDP-related policy frameworks at national and sub-national levels to aid in assessing impact of ongoing efforts, develop laws and policies sensitive to multi-sector-engaged solutions - including participation of local actors (NGOs/CBOs) as strategic rather than just implementing partners. In addition, support may include to national and local authorities' efforts to facilitate the integration of IDPs into the labour market via vocational trainings and other educational opportunities, public systems and social services (including social protection systems). This can be based on integrated **policy innovation, legal reform and/or institutional change**, thereby enabling a "whole of government" approach to embed internal displacement in national and local development plans and response. Support may also include establishment of a **multi-stakeholder national coordination mechanism**, with experience from international best practice, that can lend itself to the oversight of integrated strategy development and implementation-monitoring.⁶

Promoting a new Architecture for revitalized national leadership: Though the recognition by the national government of the importance of addressing internal displacement - and specifically solutions (whether through local integration, relocation or return) is a prerequisite for support, formulation of an "IDP development investment case" may be necessary to promote a more development-oriented national action plan. Ensuring government buy-in, **leadership and political commitment**⁷ espousing renewed priority focus for IDPs will require evidenced-base support to underline the potential

⁶ NB: The window acknowledges that there are several countries that may have existing national IDP strategies or similar policies, guidelines, etc., in place to guarantee IDPs' rights and address their specific needs. Applications may determine the substantive parameters for financing through this Window's 4 pathways interventions. However, a marked criteria for Window financing will require (intra-ministerial and across UNCT programmes) defined roles, responsibilities, resources, etc., inputs reflecting a *solutions-oriented* and *development-oriented* (HRP) *multi-sectoral* Strategic Framework.

⁷ National leadership and commitment defined here, inter alia, as a critical mass of multi-sector entities embodying national and sub-national authorities underpinned by determined national leadership, ownership and commitment and is responsive to clear links to a national IDP solutions policy priority.

economic returns from the inclusion of IDPs in wider economic parameters – with equal potential to activate extensive political, social and economic gains across all multi-sectoral strategies - specifically oriented towards poverty reduction and meeting the SDGs. In addition to the wealth of national and global literature from policies to best practices available today, development of a multi-sectoral IDP solutions strategy need robust **national data** that can help i) activate more effective targeting within a “whole of government” response, ii) bridge the humanitarian-development-peace data divide and ii) build the investment case for national commitment targeting projected social and economic dividends. Support here may include **joint assessments**, including through data collection and analysis, such as socio-economic gains and political analysis assessments, as well as profiling of IDPs (i.e., IDP numbers, demographics socioeconomic dynamics, trends, IDP data systems, protection, and assistance systems) and overall standardized disaggregation of data by displacement status across sectors (e.g. food security, nutrition etc.). Support might also be provided for expertise to research and analyze national and sub-national institutional implementation challenges or “barriers” through intra-sectoral consultations as well as provision of support to build government integrative capacity to better shape the investment case and measure progress towards effective new solutions. Moreover, and to leverage and test innovative solutions, support will also be provided for **pilot initiatives** that may support research and development activities that ensure evidence-based solutions programming and results. Joint programme activities support may also include investing in activities that aid in design and testing, for example, for building management capacities of local authorities, testing prototypes of innovative housing units, local authority zoning, solutions-oriented credit-funds, etc. ⁸

- 2. Accountability Frameworks and Multi-Agency Coordination - Leveraging a whole-of-UN response** - Understanding that peacebuilding, social cohesion, legal identity and economic inclusiveness are key drivers for sustainable solutions for IDPs, a critical design feature is to engage partners early in the process of design, rollout and monitoring of the programme itself. In many countries, nexus working groups and task forces include national and local authorities, UN entities, national and international NGOs/CBOs, the World Bank and bilateral donors, with some countries establishing high level steering committees and local level coordination mechanisms.⁹

In line with the UN Development System reforms, IDP solutions’ measures must be anchored in the wider SDG efforts of the UN system, and underpinned by strong UN Agency coherence signalling the importance of UN-wide ownership. Led by the UN RC, a UNCT accountability framework that involves and delineates explicit **roles and responsibilities**, available capacities and the participatory role of local responders will, in

⁸ Joint programme investments that target policy transformation for solutions planning and implementation are not mutually exclusive of investments in pilot activities that also apply concrete investments that may not be at scale. It is important, however, to ensure that tangible or “downstream” pilots link to wider solutions policy transformation discourse and impact. As relevant, solutions’ pilot activities should also be specifically reflected in the programme activities performance and results indicators of the country-specific joint programme.

⁹ Mapping Good Practice in the implementation of Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Approaches; Synthesis Report IASC Results Group 4, September 2021, page 6.

turn, significantly help strengthen national and regional government implementation-monitoring and accountability measures. Derived from a broad consultative process for the multi-sectoral IDP Solutions Strategy, an accountability framework will outline how ministries and other national entities at different levels of government will work together and define common milestones. Simultaneously, and drawing upon existing or planned UNSDCFs, and analysing the complementarity of HRPs where they exist, a dedicated and costed solutions strategy will need to be put in place reflecting a strengthened and more unified effort. The accountability framework will form the foundation for development-oriented action espousing **harmonized responsibilities and tasks**, underlining contributions by the various pillars of the UN system to these solutions efforts.¹⁰ Harnessing the comparative advantages and expertise of various actors, RCs are similarly expected to ensure effective coordination of internal displacement solutions at the country level setting; i) an RC-led **multi-agency and partner coordination** nexus-designed accountability and reporting solutions framework, aligned with that of the national multi-sectoral accountability solutions framework, underpinned by ii) an **inclusive development-oriented accountability matrix** to articulate and advance, inter alia, key policy changes, required technical expertise and programme operations that can iii) help **map and define the respective roles and responsibilities** across UN humanitarian and development agencies, at national and sub-national levels, inclusive of other collaborating partners as contributors to the Solutions Strategy. Additional RC support will also be made available through global and regional levels, the Special Adviser's Office, the Steering Group on Solutions to Internal Displacement, as well as dedicated capacity for the RC's Office.

3. Solutions Financing Frameworks - A key goal in gauging the success of IDP solutions is the extent to which IDP solutions are intrinsically linked to longer term development planning and financing. Evidence-based data collected to build the "IDP Solutions investment case" - linking the prevailing needs for protracted displacement with potential social and economic development gains can incentivize national priority re-setting and drive more **effective national budgeting and planning** processes. Linking development financing with humanitarian planning¹¹ can better optimize on intra-ministerial financing and planning linkages, resulting in a step-change in improved national and sub-national resources' management and forecasting, set alongside crises resources' management processes. Support may include expertise for assessments and/or formulation of a development-oriented financing roadmap that articulates, inter alia, costed current and prospective national and international financial planning, IFIs, local and international private sector contributions and context-driven innovative financing instruments.¹² Other examples where expertise may be provided to support solutions

¹⁰ UN SG Action Agenda on Internal Displacement: *Follow-up to the Report of the UN Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Displacement*, June 2022, p.12.

¹² It is also encouraged that displacement solutions be proactively incorporated into the implementation of the OECD Development Assistance Committee Recommendation on the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus. UN SG Action Agenda on Internal Displacement: *Follow-up to the Report of the UN Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Displacement*, June 2022, p.13

financing strategies may include; i) Rapid “business case” development methodologies for policy analysis and decision-making to promote innovative financing options, ii) re-prioritizing national budgets to address IDP solutions and domestic revenue generation, i.e. through improved tax administration or tax policy reforms or diaspora mobilization; iii) review and piloting of private sector partnerships that support recovery of livelihoods contributing to (urban/rural) community resilience, urban planning for IDP settlements, housing/land compensation and restitution schemes, etc. and iv) options-reviews of potential Regional Development Banks and Funds with large infrastructure investments such as in roads, construction or rehabilitation of hospitals and health clinics, agriculture, education, employment generation and expansion of water and sanitation services provided through a mix of concessionary loans, grants and guarantees, as well as advocating for the financing of community-led climate-resilient infrastructures in host communities and communities of return.

Modeling IDP Solutions: With financing, it is critical the UN RCO and the UNCTs systematically ensure the capture of successful IDP solutions’ methodologies, effective policy change approaches and lessons learned throughout the development and implementation of the joint programme to help incubate applied thought leadership, HRP knowledge products, UNDS collaboration methods/tools, multi-stakeholder national and international dialogue, etc. To support this effort, dedicated expert advice to RC Offices is also envisaged to further the goals of the Fund. The aim is to ensure the analysis, collation and sharing of “solutions-oriented” results, incubating knowledge for wider dissemination on enhanced HDP and UNCT collaboration through actionable results i.e., demonstrating proof of concept behind investment-case development, harmonized UNCT collaboration, overcoming barriers and inter-agency efficiency gains, applied M & E accountability frameworks, as well lessons learned in galvanizing additional political will and commitment to embed IDP as part of whole-of-government approaches.

The Fund will take a “bottom-up” approach to allow for a diversity of country contexts on internal displacement transformation needs across countries. While country-level initiatives will have their own unique results, the Fund will identify a limited set of core results that can be aggregated across all Joint Programmes. The “bottom-up” nature of the Fund and the range of transformation needs it will serve make it impractical to prescribe a detailed framework a priori.

In line with the above, the Fund will have both **core results/indicators**, which are measured across all funded Joint Programmes, and **programme-specific results/indicators**, which are tailored to the intended impact of each Joint Programme.

Selected key performance indicators at the outcome level (to be tailored to each Joint Programme):

Objective	Core results/indicators*	Programme-specific results/indicators
<p>1. Multi-Sectoral, SDG-informed and aligned IDP Solutions Strategy Development– Accelerating Development Planning alongside Humanitarian Response Create interventions that make use of IDP cross-sector solutions as an opportunity to transform national systems and make use of Joint SDG Fund investment to align with and enable other sources of funding and financing in support of SDG acceleration.</p>	<p>Nationally-led multi-stakeholder mechanisms as a coalition for multi-sectoral policy and planning (national and sub-national) to integrate IDP solutions, with UN and other collaborating partners and develop joint multi-year accountability and financing frameworks.</p> <p>Sectoral or cross-sectoral solutions-oriented policies, reforms and standards and/or specific pilot initiatives relating to IDP solutions created or transformed (# of policies, #reforms, national strategy).</p> <p>Increased access measures people who have become meaningfully reached or for whom significant barriers to accessing services have been removed (# of people disaggregated by gender, vulnerable population groups, youth and host communities support).</p> <p>Reports/surveys on user (government and/or end beneficiary) cases and satisfaction levels of revitalized action on IDP solutions services (reports).</p>	<p>Each Joint Programme will include at least two or more SDG indicators directly at the impact level. Where appropriate, these impacts may be measured through the Meaningful Connectivity indicators.¹³</p> <p>Integrated approaches should also lead to increased quality of services, enhanced protection and a variety of other outcomes in connection with a number of SDGs. These results will be measured in ways that are specific to each Joint Program and their SDG linkage. Indicators will be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time bound (SMART).</p> <p>The barriers to accessing services will be identified as a prerequisite for measuring this indicator. Existing data from (EG) IOM’s Stability Index and Return Intention Surveys can provide the foundations for this methodology</p>
<p>2. Accountability Framework and Multi-Agency Coordination: Leveraging whole-of-UN response</p>	<p>Reports on regulatory and legislative measures developed and adopted to ensure the inclusion of IDP solutions in development-oriented national strategic planning and budgeting, protection and assistance to IDPs,</p>	<p>Results will be measured in ways that are specific to each Joint Programme based on national priorities and detailed Joint Programme Results Framework, depending on the specific</p>

<p>Generate and design interventions that draw on the UN’s capabilities that ensure integrated support for the implementation of cross-cutting solutions’ priorities aligned with the UNSG’s Reform Agenda and Solutions Action Agenda drawing in multi-stakeholders and contributing partnerships accelerating the progress on the SDGs.</p>	<p>adherence to human rights standards, reach (leaving no one behind), etc. (reports).</p> <p>Multi-Agency coordination mechanism and integrated-solutions Accountability framework, (whole-of-UN) with delineated roles and responsibilities and aligned UNDAF/UNSCDF, for integrated solutions transformation is established or reconfigured.</p> <p>Utilizing simplified and harmonized UN business practices to reduce transaction costs and enhance efficiencies.</p> <p>Evidence generated and incubated on successful harmonized/integrated UNCT support to transformed solutions’ implementation of policies and programmes and good practices including at national and local levels (reports).</p>	<p>country-level contribution to the framework.</p> <p>Joint UN Country Team support and capacity building provided for the development of integrated strategies/policies/solutions.</p> <p>UN-facilitated learning, sharing, dialogue and stakeholder cooperation to participatory address common challenges on IDP solutions transformation.</p>
<p>3. Solutions Financing Frameworks: revitalized partnership roadmap Generate opportunities to define and draw in multiple financing resources through a revitalized solutions roadmap inclusive of public and private, international and innovative financing resources.</p>	<p>Additional financing and resources catalyzed by the Joint Programming for SDGs. Identified Financing and resources directly linked to: Government commitments to making follow-on investments in the policies and solutions directly supported by the Joint Program, and current/proposed UNCT support and investments by the private sector, IFIs, diaspora groups, donors, innovative financing instruments, regional banks and funds (as appropriate) and other investors as a result of the developed/expanded roadmap and revitalized multi-sectoral solutions strategy created/supported by the Joint Programme. (Dollar and dollar-equivalent). Communications strategy in place.</p>	<p>Integrated approaches lead to increased financial resources mobilized (including from innovative financing instruments and other contributing actors) and a variety of other outcomes in connection with a number of SDGs. These results will be measured in ways that are specific to each Joint Program and their SDG linkage.</p>

In addition to the above outcome level indicators, Joint Programmes will be monitored through the Fund’s global operational performance indicators that ensures the programmes adherence to the principles of “leaving no one behind”, incorporate of human-rights, positive results towards youth, support for the towards persons with disabilities, integration of environmental and social standards and contributions to UN coherence and efficiencies.

4. UN value added

The focus on joint UN action enables UNCTs to develop systemic responses that simultaneously address policy, capacity, and connectivity needs for transformation. At the country level, the UN brings to the table the ability to draw from global expertise and experiences, both on solutions transformation as well as on specific subject matter areas that include, amongst others, social protection, agriculture, climate adaptation and mitigation, early warning, food security, etc.

The UN provides four distinct advantages as an IDP Solutions transformation partner to Governments:

1. A non-commercial, human-centric, and planet-focused approach for Governments. Working with the UN allows governments to separate transformation advice and planning from implementation and ensures that solutions transformation is designed to deliver the best value for money for people and the planet. Governments sometimes struggle to get unbiased and people-centered advice from commercial consultancies and businesses which may have a vested interest in designing initiatives that make use of their own products or services.

2. The ability to convene and align stakeholders across Government, the private sector, civil society and concerned individuals and communities. Successful solutions transformations often require coordination across multiple ministries and Government agencies. However, the lead ministry or agency for IDP solutions transformation often needs the support of a neutral third party to convene inter-ministerial coordination. The UN is also in a strong position to convene and align inputs from the private sector and civil society to support solutions transformation.

3. A focus on inclusion. At the core of the UN's approach is ensuring that services include those who are most vulnerable, not just those who are easiest to access. Working with the UN, countries do best with a holistic approach that creates benefits for those who need them the most. Strengthened access to services for the most vulnerable is complemented with capacities and incentives to ensure people are empowered and in a position to benefit from that access.

4. Implementation capacity and field presence. The UN system and its partners are often present in remote areas where solutions efforts are underway. This presence can be leveraged to support and build capacity of local communities and local Government and municipalities to plan, coordinate and implement local solutions strategies. Where necessary, the UN and its partners are also able to support operational implementation of specific activities building on both local knowledge of the field and global experience.

5. Governance Arrangements

The management of the Fund comprises three roles:

1. Fund Administration (MPTF Office)
2. Fund Management (Steering Committee, Secretariat, Technical committee)
3. Fund Implementation (Participating United Nations organizations)

Steering Committee

The Steering Committee is the decision-making body of the Fund and ensures overall coordination. The Steering Committee is responsible for the following tasks:

Strategy

- Provide general oversight and exercise overall accountability of the Fund.
- Approve the Fund's strategic direction and orientations.
- Review and approve the criteria for the allocation of available resources (the UN co-chair signs off decisions on fund allocations).
- Review the Fund's risk management strategy and approve residual project-level risks (as determined by the Secretariat).
- Review resource mobilization and develop strategies.

Review results

- Supervise the progress of the Fund's results framework through monitoring, reporting and evaluation (programme-related and financial), prepared by the Secretariat and the MPTF Office.
- Commission mid-term and final evaluations on the overall performance of the Fund.
- Approve requests for programmatic changes to projects (delegated to the head of the Fund Secretariat).
- Review periodic progress reports consolidated by the Secretariat and the MPTFO based on progress reports submitted by implementing organizations.

Fund management

- Approve updates the Fund's Terms of Reference, as required.
- Review the Fund's operational performance.
- Review periodically the balance of funds.
- Approve Fund's direct costs, specifically those related to the Secretariat support operations, evaluations and audits.
- Approve extensions of the Fund's duration, as required.

The Steering Committee meets on an ad-hoc basis and at a minimum twice a year. The chair can convene extraordinary meetings if deemed necessary. The consultation can occur through face-to-face or virtual meetings or by email, including non-objection. The Steering Committee endeavors to reach an agreement by consensus. When consensus cannot be reached, the chair makes the final decision and instructs the Secretariat and Agent accordingly.

In its incubation phase (2023-2024) the Steering Committee's composition will be as follows:

- Chair - The United Nations Special Adviser to the Secretary General on Solutions to Internal Displacement [Until December 2024]
- Five United Nations Participating Organizations which would normally always include UNDP, IOM and UNHCR plus two additional UN Organizations
- Three contributing donors

The MPTF's Steering Committee's UN membership is drawn from the UN membership of the Steering Group on Solutions to Internal Displacement chaired by the Special Adviser, currently UNDP, UNHCR, IOM, OCHA, UNICEF, DPPA and DPO. UN-Habitat will also be invited to participate. At the conclusion of the Steering Group's role (with the closure of the Special Adviser's mandate), UN membership in the Fund's Steering Committee will be drawn from the pool of UN Participating Agencies.

The MPTF Office as the Administrative Agent is an ex officio member.

The Chair of the Fund is expected to rotate between UNDP, IOM and UNHCR after the closure of the Special Adviser's mandate. Steering Committee membership will rotate on an annual basis. Rotation will be staggered for United Nations Participating Organizations and contributing donors. Membership is at senior leadership level.

Secretariat

The Secretariat is the entity responsible for the operational functioning of the Fund. The Secretariat provides technical and administrative support to the Steering Committee and follows up on all aspects of the allocation and project cycles within the Fund. The head of the Secretariat reports to the chair of the Steering Committee.

The Secretariat main functions are:

Policy and Technical Advice

- Advise the Steering Committee on strategic priorities, program-related and financial allocations.
- Develop the fund level risk management strategy.
- Analyze and manage the Fund's knowledge, including knowledge systematization, the establishment of good practices and lessons learned, and recommendations proposals.

Programme Cycle Management

- Organize calls for Expressions of Interest/Joint Programmes.
- Support the technical design of high-quality Joint Programmes (focusing on Theories of Change and Results Framework).
- Lead the project appraisal process including technical review and selection of proposals (Expressions of Interest; Joint Programmes).

- Provide support to Joint Programme implementation, including strategic communication, learning, strategic events and knowledge management.
- Request the Administrative Agent to transfer funds based on advice provided by the Steering Committee and as authorized by the chair of the Steering Committee.
- Organize monitoring and control of operational risks, compile and synthesize monitoring results and outcomes for the Steering Committee's consideration.
- Manage project revision requests (e.g.: follow-up and support on budget revision, reprogramming, no-cost extensions, etc.).
- Consolidate the narrative annual and final reports submitted by implementing entities and present the consolidated report to the Steering Committee for approval.
- Liaise with the Administrative Agent on fund administration issues, including issues related to project/fund extensions and project/fund closure.
- Coordinate closely with OCHA at the HQ and country level, to capture potential synergies between the Fund's investments and any country Humanitarian Pooled Funds
- Coordinate closely with DCO at the HQ and RC Offices at the country level, to align the Fund's investments and governance to any country pooled fund associated with the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
- Conduct monitoring and evaluation procedures.

Administration and Coordination

- Maintain an Operations Manual outlining procedures of the Fund.
- Facilitate collaboration and communication between the Steering Committee and recipient organizations to promote effective project implementation.
- Organize an annual stakeholders' meeting.
- Engage with donors on questions related to the Fund.
- Develop a Fund's communication strategy and/or facilitate sharing of public information with all stakeholders.
- Advise the chair on the organization of Steering Committee meetings, draft and circulate the calendar and agenda of the Steering Committee meetings, and hold records of Steering Committee decisions through minutes of the meetings.

The Fund Secretariat will be housed in the Office of the Special Adviser for the first 18 months incubation phase and then is expected to transfer to the Development Coordination Office.

The costs of the Secretariat will be charged to the Fund as direct costs. The Secretariat's budget will be annually agreed and approved by the Steering Committee. No full-time staff are expected in the Secretariat until the Fund reaches a minimum of \$20 million in contributions.

Administrative Agent

The MPTFO administers the Fund under the pass-through management modality. The Fund's administration services costs are 1% of received contributions.

The MPTFO is responsible for the following functions:

- Provide support to the design of the Fund.
- Sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with United Nations Participating Organizations.
- Sign Standard Administrative Agreements with donors that wish to contribute financially to the Fund.
- Receive and manage funds including those of the Fund's closure.
- Invest and reinvest Fund's resources according to investment policies, practices and procedures. Any profits will be added to the Fund's resources and will not be credited to the contributions of a particular donor.
- Provide updated information to the Steering Committee regarding the regular resource availability.
- Subject to the availability of resources, transfer funds to recipient organizations per the Steering Committee's advice and authorized decisions by the United Nations co-chair.
- Ensure the preparation of consolidated narrative annual and final reports submitted by implementing entities and present the consolidated report to the Steering Committee and each of the Fund's contributors.
- Provide a Fund's final financial report, which includes a notice of the Fund's closure.
- Release funds as direct costs for the running of the Secretariat, based on Steering Committee decisions.
- Release funds for additional expenses that the Steering Committee decided to allocate.
- Provide tools for fund management to ensure transparency and accountability.

In addition, the MPTF Office, through its online portal, GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org>), provides real-time financial data generated directly from its accounting system, giving relevant stakeholders and the general public the ability to track contributions, transfers, and expenditures.

Participating UN Organizations

Resources will be allocated to Participating UN Organisations (PUNOs), i.e: UN Specialized Agencies, Funds and Programmes that have signed the Memorandum of Understanding with the Administrative Agent.

Each Participating UN Organisation will assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to the Administrative Agent. Each Participating UN Organization will administer such funds in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures. Indirect costs/remuneration of the Participating UN Organization recovered through programme support costs will be seven per cent (7%), with exceptions in line with UNSDG agreements, e.g., for WFP and UNHCR. Each organization shall establish a separate ledger account for the receipt and administration of the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent.

A minimum threshold of 100 000 USD per individual transfer to a United Nations organisation will be instituted though flexibility will be applied upon justification.

National government, local authorities, civil society, including community-based organizations, academia and private sector are all potential implementing partners that can receive funding through the Participating UN Organisations.

Contributors

Contributions to the Fund will be accepted from governments of Member States of the United Nations, intergovernmental organizations or non-governmental organizations, private sector companies or individuals.

Acceptance of funds from the private sector will be guided by criteria stipulated in the UN system-wide guidelines on cooperation between the UN and Business Community (the UN Secretary General's guidelines: (<https://www.un.org/en/ethics/assets/pdfs/Guidelines-on-Cooperation-with-the-Business-Sector.pdf>) and will be subject to the outcome of applicable due diligence processes. A risk assessment will be conducted by the fund secretariat and will include approval of the partnership by the Steering Committee. The risk assessment will be presented to the MPTF Office, will ensure that the planned contributions are in line with relevant United Nations policies, for decision.

A guiding principle for resource mobilization would be that donors are encouraged to contribute with multi-year resources. No earmarking is offered within this Fund. (In line with UNSDG guidance, earmarking to a Participating UN Organization or to a specific project is not possible).

The Fund receives contributions in fully convertible currency or any other currency that can be readily used. Such contributions will be deposited to the bank account designated by the MPTFO. The value of the contributions, if made in a currency other than US dollars, will be determined by applying the UN operational exchange type in effect of the date of payment.

6. Summary of the Legal Structure

The Fund is established through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for pass-through arrangements establishing the MPTF and appointing the MPTF Office as its Administrative Agent. The MOU for the Participating United Nations Organisations will be signed by all Participating UN Organizations implementing activities.

A Standard Administrative Agreement signed between the Administrative Agent and the contributing donor sets out the terms and conditions governing the receipt and administration of the contribution by the Administrative Agent, the transfer to the Participating UN Organisations, and related provisions.

7. Funding allocation process

The scale and significance of addressing IDP solutions at the country level as an opportunity to transform social and economic systems will require an ambitious funding envelope and specific and strategic scope to match – while ensuring a “bottom-up” approach and an emphasis on reaching the most vulnerable and hard-to-reach affected populations.

Funding will be used primarily for country-level impact through the implementation of Joint Programmes led by RCs at the UN Country Team (UNCT) level. Joint Programmes are programmes implemented by at least two UN entities. UN entities, Government agencies, and other partners may provide co-funding of Joint Programmes at the country level, while other related funding and financing initiatives linked by the nexus approach will be leveraged to ensure *catalytic impact* and “solutions-oriented” results at scale. The Fund’s catalytic funding will prioritize opportunities that (a) lead to transformative results in an accelerated timeline, with the intention of catalyzing systemic change and (b) mobilize finance from the Government, private sector, IFIs, and/or other in-country stakeholders.

The Fund is anticipated to have a multi-year funding envelope of USD \$100 million over an initial 5 years (2023-2028). Initially, the Fund will support 16 pilot countries (**Phase I**) identified by the inter-agency Steering Group where the new solutions model is being developed. The Fund will subsequently provide preparatory or joint programme funding for a number of additional countries (**Phase II**), as additional funds become available thereafter. Disbursements are anticipated to amount to an average annual resource envelope of USD \$20 million per year over 5 years.

The Fund will operate through **two main** phases. **Phase I funding** will support the initial 16 pilot countries.¹⁴ Together with RCs/UNCTs and the Steering Group on Solutions to Internal Displacement, the Special Adviser has identified 16 countries where the conditions are met to resolve the internal displacement of a significant number of IDPs in these countries and where there is a high degree of Government political will to address this issue. The 16 Phase I Pilot countries are: CAR, Chad, Colombia, Ethiopia, Iraq, Libya, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Vanuatu and Yemen. Afghanistan is also included with a number of caveats.

In addition, and to support Resident Coordinator (RC) leadership on solutions to internal displacement, as per the Action Agenda on Internal Displacement, UNDP has set up a UN Solutions Advisers Deployment Facility to deploy Advisers in relevant RCOs, at the request of RCs. Solutions Advisers provide dedicated support to RCs to enhance UN support to governments at the national and local levels on development solutions strategies to address internal displacement, initially for the 16 Pilot countries.

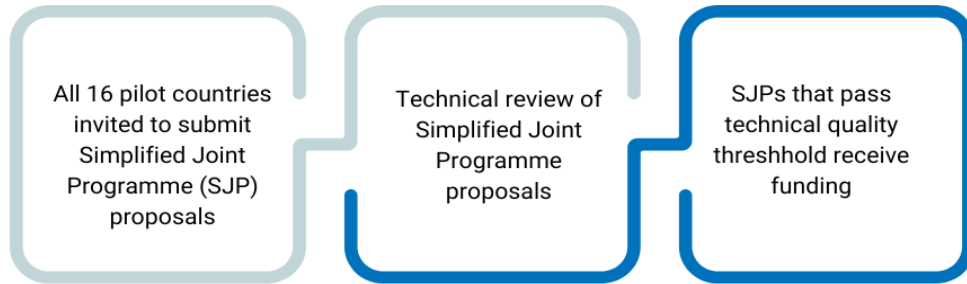
¹⁴ Selection of the 16 “pilot” countries for Phase I funding was based on extensive consultations with RC offices and Office of the Special Adviser during 2022.

Once **Phase I** funding envelope has been attained, subsequent funding releases will be made to support investments in additional countries also showing potential to development solutions pathways. The number of **Phase II** countries will be a function of resources and will hopefully extend to a further 20 countries, in addition to the initial 16 Phase I countries. To ensure rapid programme implementation, resources will be released to Phase I Pilot countries that meet the quality criteria on a rolling basis, as and when resources are mobilized. The primary focus of the Fund will be seed-funding Joint Programmes with the potential for catalytic effects in a limited time period.

- **Phase I Joint/Pilot Programmes.** In this funding envelope, all selected pilot countries that meet the country selection criteria in their submissions will be provided technical support to formulate a simplified Joint Programme and all proposals meeting quality threshold will be funded within the overall Phase I envelope. With sufficient funding mobilized for Phase I, pilot countries with top quality Joint Programme proposals that meet the quality threshold may be funded on a rolling basis to expedite joint programme launch and implementation.
- **Phase II Joint Programmes.** The Phase II funding envelope round will be launched to distribute funds to Phase II country applicants. This subsequent funding envelope will provide funding for Joint Programmes for a broader number of countries than in Phase I. This pathway is competitive and only a limited number of top-quality Expressions of Interest (EOIs), selected on a ranking basis, will proceed with the formulation of a simplified Joint Programme and must meet the quality threshold.

After submitting Joint Programme proposals and/or EIOs as relevant, the countries that meet the selection criteria will start to develop full-fledged simplified Joint Programme documents, and upon successful quality assurance, will receive the funding. Any unsuccessful **Phase I** Joint Programmes applicants may be invited to revise and re-submit within the Phase I funding cycle or instead be invited to apply to later **Phase II funding**, as relevant. Phase II funding will be a competitive process with technical review of EOIs based on technical criteria.

Phase I



Phase II



**Phase II funding round will commence as additional resources are mobilized.*

Fig 1.0: Funding Envelopes for the LNOB- Internal Displacement Solutions Fund

Specific approach to each funding round will be presented in the Description of the Funding Round, which will also include detailed guidance for proposals and explanation of the overall process. This will also specify the overall founding round budget and the expected number of Joint Programmes for both funding envelopes. However, an overall typical approach for 2–3 year programmes, under a 5-year cycle is presented below.

Funding Phase:	Tentative number of Joint Programmes	Typical Funding	Total
Phase I Joint Programme to deliver IDP solutions transformation and produce tangible results at scale that improve the situation of the most vulnerable.	16 pilot countries	Up to USD 3 million for 2-3 years	USD 40-45 million
Phase II Joint Programme to incubate and/or prepare EOIs for Joint Programme development, as funding is made available.	a) up to 8 countries	Up to USD 2-3 million for 2-3 years	USD 20 million
	b) up to 8 countries	Up to 2-3 million for 2-3 years	USD 20 million

	c) up to 8 countries	Up to USD 2-3 million for 2-3 years	USD 15-20 million
Total	Up to total of 40 countries	2–3 year programmes over 5-year cycle	USD 100 million (target)

All Joint Programmes will be developed and implemented with technical support and quality assurance provided through an inter-agency coordination mechanism at the country level and with the support of **Steering Group on Solutions to Internal Displacement**¹⁵. Joint Programmes will be designed based on quality standards established by the Fund and aligned with the new UNSDG Joint Programme Guidance Note.

8. Programmatic arrangements

While each funding round may have specific priorities based on demand and emerging opportunities from countries, the Fund globally focuses on a set of cross-cutting drivers and offerings in solutions transformation.

Cross-cutting drivers – From prevention through-to solutions

Joint Programmes supported are required to demonstrate how they strengthen the triple foundation (durable solutions, prevention and protection and assistance) as drivers for IDP Solutions, in line with the UN Secretary-General’s Action Agenda on Displacement. These cross-cutting drivers shape how all IDP Solutions interventions supported by the Fund are designed.

Joint Programmes will make substantive contributions to one or more of the following cross-cutting drivers, in line with the UN Secretary-General’s Action Agenda on Internal Displacement and the mandate of the Special Advisor and Steering Group on Solutions to Internal Displacement:

- **Reducing Conflict and violence as drivers of displacement:** *Conflict-sensitive development planning* - Interventions will create and promote advocacy efforts to address root causes that result in forcing displacement of populations including measures and/or mechanisms targeting the resolution of grievances, mobilization of de-escalation measures, political negotiations for conflict resolution, promoting peacebuilding, healing and mediation strategies and measures to promote protection of civilians, vulnerable and host communities in situations of conflict and violence aimed at reducing displacement risks. Interventions will demonstrate; a whole of government solutions approach; a design inclusive of local communities, women youth, community leaders and local NGO/CBOs

¹⁵ Steering Group on Solutions to Internal Displacement members currently include IOM, DCO, UNDP, UNHCR, OCHA, DPPA, DPO, UNICEF and WB as observer.

participation and is linked to ongoing efforts that support the establishment and/or review of a revitalized national multi-sectoral IDP solutions-oriented Strategy in line with International Human Rights standards.

- **Reducing the displacement risks posed by climate change and disasters:** *reducing climate change impact* - Interventions will ensure that critical support must sustain or strengthen preparedness, early warning and early action for disaster and climate related crises to reduce displacement risk. This includes, amongst other measures, encapsulating climate risks as integral to policies and investment decision-making processes where displacement risks and associated protection needs are systematically considered within national strategies and action plans, relevant to disaster risk reduction (DRR) and adaptation plans and as part and parcel of consultations and/or formulation of a multi-sectoral IDP solutions Strategy. Intervention support also includes advocacy and resource mobilization for early forecasting systems, helping to leverage advances in data and analysis to support rapid scale up action optimizing predictability and response. Interventions will also consider the prevailing expertise and/or capacities available from NGOs/CBOs, Indigenous Peoples, private sector, donors, and development finance partners.
- **Addressing intersecting threats that contribute to displacement:** *mitigating complex impact* - Interventions will assist in improving cross-sectional risks linking root causes of internal displacement crises associated with conflict alongside impacts of climate change and disaster. On the one hand, interventions must support these intersectional risks and IDP vulnerabilities as well as promote their inclusion into laws, policies, and action plans in support of national and sub-national authorities' response efforts. On the other hand, interventions may also include "whole of UN" initiatives whereby UN agencies can bring to bear more holistic analysis, planning coordination and expertise in DRR, climate change, human rights, conflict resolution, humanitarian, development and peacebuilding to inform and apply improved comprehensive displacement interventions within UNCTs and HCTs work. Interventions attributed to more harmonized UN system response will, in turn, aid enhanced international community and national stakeholders' dialogue which can significantly further the national efforts necessary for the development and/or expansion of a more robust development- oriented IDP solutions strategy.

All Joint Programmes will contribute to enhancing SDG data, mainstreaming gender equality, and addressing the principles of leave no one behind, in line with the overall strategy of the Joint SDG Fund.

- **SDG Data.** The Fund recognizes the need for data and statistics that are accurate, timely, sufficiently disaggregated, and accessible to monitor and fully implement the SDGs. Joint Programmes will support investments in, and better use of, data for the SDGs and strengthen national capacities for high-quality and trustworthy data from national statistical systems leveraging digital technologies. They may also enhance capacities of, and support reporting by public and private sector partners to provide robust data and concrete measurements on SDG impact.

- **Gender equality.** Mainstreaming gender equality involves fully integrating gender perspectives and women’s empowerment in all its programmes. The Fund will also continue to apply the gender equality marker to enhance and track allocations of resources to programmes with significant and/or principled contributions on gender equality and women’s empowerment and build on the integration of human rights-based approaches. A minimum of 15% of project resources will be allocated to projects supporting gender equality/women’s empowerment as the principal objective (and tracked).
- **Leave no one behind.** Any IDP oriented solutions strategy must understand, involve and address the needs of the most vulnerable and hard-to-reach populations while ensuring they retain the agency to make decisions. This entails reaching the poorest of the poor, combating and preventing inequalities (often multiple and intersecting) impacting the ability of people to make use of and access IDP protection and assistance services and the benefits of IDP solutions’ transformation, and ensuring that transformation supports peoples’ agency.

9. Risk management

A Risk Management Strategy will be developed by the Fund Secretariat and reviewed regularly by the Steering Committee. Its purpose is to provide guidance regarding the management of risks to support the achievement of the Fund’s objectives. The strategy will articulate the shared understanding of risk tolerance and risk sharing between the partners, provide a holistic analysis of the risks related to the attainment of the Fund’s objectives, and evaluate the possible trade-offs to achieve these.

The below risk matrix presents the principal risks identified at the initial start-up phase of the Fund as well as a judgement on the level of risk and initial mitigation measures.

Risk Category	Risk	Level (low-medium-high-very high)	Mitigation Strategies
Operational	Initial project results fail to demonstrate impact in a timely manner.	Medium	Close monitoring of 6-monthly indicator reporting and expenditure progress.
Financial	Donors may not be as forthcoming as expected to provide support to the IDSF	Medium	The Special Adviser will be in close contact with the Group of Friends to explain the importance of catalytic financing to jump start solutions
Political	Impacted Governments’ political engagement may change due to a number of factors (change in leadership, unexpected disasters/conflict, etc. which require a change in priorities)	High	This proposal targeted 15 countries at first, to take into account potential changes in political commitments, so some of the countries may not be eligible due to changed political and security circumstances

Risk Category	Risk	Level (low-medium-high-very high)	Mitigation Strategies
Organizational	Some of the Steering Committee members may not sustain their commitments throughout the project	Medium	Target the organizations most likely to commit throughout the project

Specific risk mitigation strategies will be developed by applicants for each project that is funded, as part of the submission of the proposal. Risks will be considered and provisions for the identification, monitoring, tolerances, and risk responses will be elaborated. Risks will be outlined specific to each project and constitute a criterion for consideration.

10. Reporting

Responsibilities related to reporting are described in detail in the Memorandum of Understanding. All Participating Organizations will submit annual and final reports on program activities to the Secretariat in line with the approved format.

Narrative reports

For each project, the Participating Organizations will submit the following reports to the Secretariat for consolidation and further transmission the Administrative Agent:

1. Annual narrative reports to be provided no more than three months (31 March) after the end of the calendar year.
2. Final narrative reports after the end of activities contained in the program-related approved document, including the final year of such activities, to be submitted no more than four months (30 April) in the following year after the financial closure of the project.

Annual and final reports will exhibit results based on evidence. Annual and final narrative reports will compare actual results against estimated results in terms of outputs and outcomes and they will explain the reasons for higher or lower performance. The final narrative report will also include the analysis of how the outputs and outcomes have contributed to the Fund's overall impact.

The Fund Secretariat will submit the consolidated annual narrative report to the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office four months (30 April) after the end of the calendar year.

Financial Reports

For each project, the Participating Organizations will submit the following financial statements and reports to the Administrative Agent:

1. Annual financial statements and reports to 31 December, regarding released resources by the Fund to them; these shall be provided no more than four months (30 April) after the ending of the calendar year.
2. Final certified financial statements and financial reports after the completion of activities contained in the program-related approved document, including the final year of such activities, to be submitted no more than five months (31 May) in the following year after the financial closure of the project.

The annual and final financial reports providing information on the use of financial resources against the outputs and outcomes in the agreed results framework will be submitted to the Fund Secretariat.

Based on these reports, the Administrative Agent will prepare consolidated narrative and financial reports which will submit to each of the Fund's Contributors and to the Steering Committee as per the schedule established in the Standard Administrative Agreement.

In addition to the annual financial report set in the MOU, all Participating Organizations are encouraged to provide each quarter financial reports on expenditure incurred as of 31 March (Q1), 30 June (Q2) and 30 September (Q3) in each calendar year through the Administrative Agent's reporting system (UNEX).

11. Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation of the Fund will be carried out in accordance with the national context, a results-based management method will be applied, with overall coordination by the UN system. The continuous monitoring and evaluation will be done by the Participating Organizations and coordinated by the Secretariat. The Secretariat will monitor and evaluate the implementation of programmes against the programmatic framework of the Fund, consolidate all reporting submitted by Participating UN Organizations, and send consolidated reports to the Steering Committee.

Participating UN Organizations will provide 6-month project progress information based on project indicators and expenditures at project outcome level.

The monitoring and evaluation system for the Fund will serve two functions: first, periodic assessment of project implementation and performance of projects (M&E of Project Performance), and second, evaluation of their results in terms of relevance, effectiveness and impact of the fund (M&E of fund Impact). The Steering Committee will decide on any mid-term or final evaluation, either as part of a joint evaluation commissioned by the UNCT or separately. The cost of any evaluation of the Fund is to be borne by the Fund.

12. Audit

The Administrative Agent and the PUNOs will be audited according to their own financial rules and regulations, in line with Framework for Joint Internal Audits of UN Joint Activities which has been agreed to by the Internal Audit Services of POs and endorsed by the UNDG in 2014. The details are included in the Fund MOU.

13. Public Disclosure

The MPTFO website, Gateway (<http://mptf.undp.org>), is a web-based service portal that provides real-time financial data issued directly on contributions in and out of the fund account, from the UNDP accounting system. The Fund will have a dedicated page on the Gateway which will allow

partners and the public at large to follow-up the Fund contributions, transfers and expenses, and access key documents and reports.

The Secretariat and the MPTFO will ensure that the Fund's operations are posted on the Gateway. Further, in accordance with the Funding Compact, the Fund should specifically mention individual contributors in all results reporting. Each Participating Organization will take appropriate measures to promote the Fund. Information shared with the media regarding beneficiaries of funding, official press releases, reports and publications will acknowledge the role of the Fund.

14. Amendments, duration and termination

The Fund will be established for an initial duration of five years. The Steering Committee will be able to modify any of the provisions of these terms of reference in writing as it deems necessary, including the extension.

Completion of all operational activities will be **30 June 2028**. The dissemination of the final narrative report will be 30 June 2029. All Participating Organizations will provide certified final financial reports on financially closed projects by no later than five (5) months (31 May) after the end of the calendar year in which the financial closure of the activities in the approved programmatic document occurs, or according to the period specified in the financial regulations and rules of the Participating Organization, whichever is earlier. The dissemination of the certified final financial statement ("Source and Use of Funds") is to be provided no later than seven months after the end of the calendar year in which the financial closing of the Fund.

The Fund will terminate upon completion of all programmes funded through the Fund and after satisfaction of all commitments and liabilities. Notwithstanding the completion of the initiatives financed from the Fund, any unutilized balances will continue to be held in the fund account until all commitments and liabilities incurred in implementation of the projects/programmes have been satisfied and project activities have been brought to an orderly conclusion. The Steering Committee will decide on the use of any unutilized balance of the Fund. Any balance remaining in the Fund Account, upon closure of the Fund, will be used for a purpose mutually agreed upon, or returned to the Donor(s) in proportion to their contribution to the Fund as agreed upon by the donor(s) and the Steering Committee.

15. Annexes

Annex A. Guidance Criteria for Joint Programmes

For the pathway supporting transformative Joint Programmes, specific selection criteria will be applied. This will ensure, in addition to the standard quality assurance for all Joint Programmes of the Joint SDG Fund, that the **proposals indeed demonstrate the highest degree of readiness to drive accelerated and catalytic results at scale**. The criteria will apply to the initial 16 countries (**Phase I**) submitting an Expression of Interest (EOIs) and a ranking will be produced. Those that meet the minimum thresholds will move into the Phase I Joint Programme pathway. During a secondary phase (**Phase II**), other countries that pass the threshold will be invited to submit applications as funding is made available. Further details on the process will be provided in Description of Funding Rounds.

Objectives	Selection criteria
<p>1. Multi-Sectoral, SDG informed and aligned IDP Solutions Strategy Development– <i>Accelerating Development Planning alongside Humanitarian Response</i></p>	<p>Ready-to-deliver. Proposal has the ability to unleash significant and large-scale transformation in a 2–3-year timeframe with catalytic funding.</p> <p>Solutions approach: Results are part of UNDAF/UNSDCF and are aligned with national SDG priorities. Proposal is/will be based on country-wide consultation (whole-of-society) to drive innovative and accelerated multi-sectoral development-oriented national solutions strategy and is endorsed by Government.</p> <p>Measurable contribution to the SDGs. Proposal has measurable targets and demonstrates how the intervention contributes to integrated SDG indicators where there is significant need for strengthening in the country.</p> <p>Pathways to additional financing and resources. Proposal demonstrates how it can crowd in or leverage financing architecture from Government, the private sector, IFIs, the EU, and other partners in support of SDG acceleration.</p>
<p>2. Accountability Framework and Multi-Agency Coordination-leveraging whole-of-UN-response</p>	<p>Effectively advances UNDS reform principles on nexus-driven policy planning and implementation. Proposal demonstrates how transformed systems will be designed to advance the triple foundations of IDP solutions transformation (d solutions, prevention, protection and assistance) in an integrated way through national, sub-national and multi-stakeholder dialogue mechanisms/forums and offerings to Government and other contributing/ implementing partners for development-oriented</p>

strategic planning. Proposal demonstrates links to added value of UN support, UN principles and standards on human rights, gender equality, vulnerable population and youth and sets out targets for advancing innovative “whole-of-UN” measures to build institutional and human resources capacities to develop and implement multi-sector solutions policies and programmes. Proposal demonstrates joint comprehensive analysis through programme audits /reviews on existing polices and legislation to improve/revitalize innovative national priority setting, strengthening cross-sector data governance and decision-making, protection and conflict-sensitivity components, leveraging the comparative advantages of UNDS to bring about expanded scope and scale of planned activities guided by the principle of leaving no one behind.

Theory of change for catalyzing systemic change. Proposal demonstrates an understanding of the factors necessary to transform social, environmental, financial, or technological systems, which ones are already present, and which ones are still missing using data and evidence, where possible. Proposal includes a theory of change for catalyzing systemic solutions impact by showing how innovative solution interventions build on existing building blocks for transformation and fills in critical missing factors, connections, or reinforces positive feedback loops.

Integrated support and solutions. Proposal clearly demonstrates how multiple UN agencies are providing integrated and mutually reinforcing support and policy across the triple foundations (solutions, prevention protection and assistance). Proposal demonstrates established/planned **Coordination Mechanism** (multi-stakeholder, multi-partner and IDP representation) to aid in humanitarian-development-peace nexus synergies, including pilot-oriented initiatives, complementarity and avoidance of duplication not only within the Joint Programme but with country projects in the broader UN Country Team as well as complementarity with work on the ground by other ecosystem stakeholders, such as the private sector and Government.

Coherence with national IDP solutions strategies and/or policies. Proposal shows coherence with and transformational impact on a national IDP strategy (if available). Priority is given where there are favorable conditions for solutions transformation, including existing capacity in Government for solutions-oriented

	<p>transformation; Government buy-in and resource commitments to IDP solutions transformation; an active private sector ecosystem supporting innovative interventions; and demonstrated Government commitment to UN principles on IDPs.</p> <p>Builds on existing commitments and relationships. Proposal is underpinned by a solid foundation of existing commitments by the UN in country, Government and other partners. Proposals will be assessed based on existing UNCT commitments to deliver on solutions transformation (i.e., there are specific expected results in the UN Cooperation Framework; IDP transformation priority is explicitly mentioned in the Cooperation Framework), existing relationships e.g., specific agencies delivering programme in partnership with IDP transformation decision makers in Government, or both (e.g., Joint Programme supporting Government in IDP related transformation) Priority is given where there is a proven track record in the UNCT of established IDP support readiness, such as delivering on IDP solutions, working with other contributing partners and/or providing knowledge-leadership in the local IDP ecosystem. A list of key strategic partners, including expected co-funding or co-financing will need to be demonstrated.</p> <p>Aligned with principles Modelling IDP Solutions. Proposal shows adherence to ideals of re-use and improvement, as well as plans to share/make end results available for others, e.g., in the form incubation of “solutions-oriented” lessons learned, including on key transformative actions, processes, multi-stakeholder consultations results, innovative instruments and processes, integrated UNCT pilot/programming, etc. to aid in UNCT solutions best practice modeling.</p>
<p>3. Solutions Financing Strategy – catalyzing sustainable solutions</p>	<p>Additional financing and resources catalyzed by the Joint Programming for SDGs. Proposal demonstrates ongoing or planned financing investment plans (need not be contributed directly to the Joint Programme) are underway/planned. This measure includes current or planned Government commitments to making follow-on investments in the policies and solutions directly supported by the Joint Program, reflecting step-change in public resources and/or investments from the private sector, IFIs, donors, innovative financing instruments, regional banks and funds or other investors as a result of a developed/expanded</p>

	Roadmap for solutions financing, linked to multi-sector and multi-partner solutions strategy created by the Joint Programme (dollar and dollar-equivalent).
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Round-specific selection criteria.

Depending on the specific focus of each funding round, there may be round-specific selection criteria. Funding rounds could include consideration of geographic and income-level diversity among supported UN country teams, which might include a list of preferred countries.

Annex B. Overview of Joint Programme approach

Supporting UN Development System reform and the need to facilitate an integrated approach to SDG acceleration, the Fund will provide funding through the modality of Joint Programmes. Under the common umbrella of the UN Cooperation Framework, Joint Programmes support the development and implementation of national priorities for coherent action towards systemic change, transformative results at scale, acceleration of the SDGs, and facilitation of UN Development System reform.

As mentioned in the UNSDG Guidance Note on Joint Programmes, “A joint programme is a cooperation strategy. It is a way to achieve a catalytic development result that depends upon the comparative advantages of two or more participating UN organizations (PUNOs) working together with partners as a team in a highly coordinated and integrated manner. The joint programme has a strategic intent and strong programmatic rationale: Expected results: a) contribute to one or more CF outcomes, national development priorities and related SDGs and b) focus on one or more policy levers, with the potential to catalyze systemic change.”¹⁶

Funding will be limited to Joint Programmes that meet the following criteria:

1. Requires RC leadership in design and coordination of joint programmes at the country level
2. Directly contributes to the results and theory of change in the Cooperation Framework and to enhancing UNCT coherence
3. Is multi-sectoral in nature, creates cross-sectoral impact, and contributes to accelerated progress on several SDGs
4. Requires pooling of expertise, knowledge, and networks from two or more UN entities
5. Leverages engagement of diverse stakeholders, including government, private sector and civil society, and promotes a systems approach to designing, developing and implementing solutions, and therefore benefits from the convening authority of the RC; and
6. Facilitates systemic and catalytic results to scale SDG action in line with priority goals of the UN Secretary-General and UN Sustainable Development Group

The selection of PUNOs will be based on the criteria outlined in the UNSDG Guidance Note on a New Generation Joint Programmes ([Annex B2](#))¹⁷

Typically, Joint Programmes are managed by Joint Programme Steering Committees, or a related mechanism comprising of UN RC, UN entities involved in implementation, Government representatives, and other local and international partners. There will be a possibility for local partners contributing with a certain amount/percentage of co-funding of the Joint Programme (e.g., USD 20 million or more) to become a member of the country-level Joint Programme Steering Committee. To the extent possible, existing structures will be prioritized to anchor Joint

¹⁶ UNSDG Guidance on a new generation of Joint Programmes, October 2022

¹⁷ Final - ANNEXES to UNSDG Guidance Note on a New Generation Joint Programmes.pdf

Programmes, and its management arrangements at the country level streamlined to avoid fragmentation and duplication of structures and processes. It is expected that one implementing UN entity agency takes the lead in the Joint Programme implementation, depending on allocation of roles and responsibilities amongst UN entities taking part in the Joint Programmes, and the broader organization of the UN Country Team.

Annex C. List of Rotating Chairs

Rotating Chair organization	Year
Office of Special Adviser	2023/2024
IOM	2025
UNDP	2026
UNHCR	2027

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