



# Internal Displacement Solutions Fund



# 2023

# Annual Results Report



# Internal Displacement Solutions Fund

Fund Title: Leaving no one behind- The Internal Displacement Solutions Fund

Fund Reference Number: IDSOO

Fund duration: 2023-2027

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# Foreword

## from

Robert Piper  
UN Secretary General's Special Adviser  
on Solutions to Internal Displacement  
Chair of Internal Displacement Solutions Fund Steering Committee



**The IDSF fills a critical gap in the funding architecture of the UN.**

**The SG's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement's core message was loud and clear – solutions to internal displacement require strong Government leadership. And these Governments require a different kind of support from the international system than has been the case to-date, starting with much greater engagement by development and peacebuilding organizations and investors.**

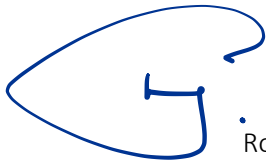
The IDSF enables the UN system to respond to this call. It is the catalytic instrument that can allow UNCTs to move quickly to accompany Governments in developing and leading their solutions pathways – providing policy advice, building local capacities to plan and coordinate, designing financing plans, gathering data for analysis and monitoring, testing new approaches, empowering IDPs themselves to be heard. The IDSF bridges a time-gap, by enabling the UNCT to move early to lay the groundwork when donors have yet to pivot their funding towards a more balanced mix between humanitarian and development sources. The IDSF also bridges an institutional-gap, by enabling a Resident Coordinator to draw on a greater mix of UN assets than would otherwise be the case while resources and focus has remained in a more humanitarian mode.

And only a matter of months into the life of the Fund, we are already starting to see the early results. The process of pulling together joint programmes – in consultations with Governments – has already reinforced RC authority, consolidated inter-agency collaboration, provoked the important discussions on the UN's 'value-added' in this phase of work, recalibrated agency buy-in and accelerated the development of a new generation of national solutions strategies that are development-informed and Government-lead.

Huge thanks are due to Switzerland, Norway and Germany for being our 'venture capitalists' and injecting our first \$15 million to get the operation off-the-ground with a minimum delay. We nonetheless remain far from our \$100 million target – our initial financial releases only cover 10 of our 15 pilot countries and even then, only a portion of

the funding-needs of these initial 10. We have a lot of ground to catch-up to meet obligations in our pilot countries and then to expand to the many important displacement-affected countries who have yet to benefit from the Fund at all.

Establishing this new financing instrument was a key commitment under the Secretary-General's Action Agenda for Internal Displacement. Because such an instrument enables speed and nimbleness while our overall financing structures remain slow to pivot to changing circumstances and opportunities on the ground. At the high human cost of extending people in displacement unnecessarily. And the high financial cost of keeping more IDPs dependent on financial support from humanitarian response plans than should be the case. I hope more donors will join us in the weeks ahead to scale-up this promising innovation in our financing tool-box.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized letter 'G' with a small 'P' inside it, followed by a period.

Robert Piper

# IDSF AT A GLANCE

PARTNERSHIP

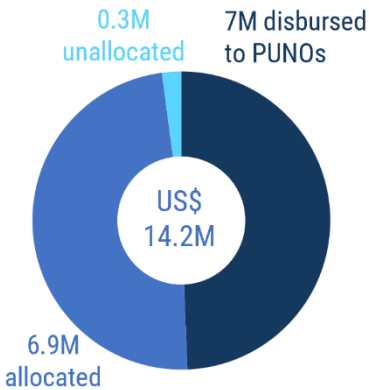
3 donors



15 eligible PUNOs



FUNDING



COUNTRIES

10 active countries



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**The Internal Displacement Solutions Fund (IDSF) was legally established as a United Nations Multi Partner Trust Fund by the Office of the Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement in August 2023. This following a commitment in the Secretary General’s Action Agenda on Solutions to Internal Displacement to establish of a financing mechanism on solutions to internal displacement with the aim of providing dedicated resources to UN country teams (UNCT) to pursue development-oriented action on solutions to internal displacement.**

In line with the Action Agenda, the fund promotes national leadership and strategies that are fully inclusive in addressing the needs of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), as well as leaving no one behind and respecting national SDG plans. IDSF priorities address root causes of protracted internal displacement, ways of improving coherence and coordination in programming multi-dimensional solutions, and piloting methods of rapidly advancing IDP strategies and scaling them accordingly.

The Fund is an integral and essential element in delivery of the mandate of the Special Adviser and of the overall Action Agenda which sets out clear commitments by the UN system to better address, prevent and resolve internal

displacement. In particular the Fund is a critical vehicle to support development of solutions pathways across the 15 pilot countries that the Office of the Special Adviser and the Steering Group for internal displacement is providing dedicated support to. The aim is to refine, and in some cases develop, tailored approaches to help resolve the internal displacement situation in these countries. Drawing on a combination of strong Government leadership, UN Resident Coordinators’ convening authority and the engagement and operational lift of UN Country Team members. Structured around a new generation of solutions strategies underpinned by a development-led approach, clear coordination and accountability arrangements and a dedicated financing framework.

## 2023 results

Since its inception and until end 2023, the IDSF became operational and completed the first round of project development and approval of project proposals. To this end, the IDSF governance structure was established, including the Steering Committee, the IDSF Secretariat and the Technical Review Teams supporting the technical quality assurance of projects. The Steering Committee, composed of representatives from the United Nations and donor countries, held one formal meeting during 2023, with additional close collaboration between members and the IDSF Chair throughout the year to ensure expedient operationalization of the Fund given the timebound mandate of the Special Adviser. The first Funding Round was completed, with 13 UN country teams invited to submit proposal, of which 10 were approved by the Steering Committee for allocation of resources by the IDSF in 2024.



# INTRODUCTION

**The number of internally displaced people is growing dramatically and constitute over 2/3 of all forcefully displaced people world-wide. Despite this, IDPs remain underrepresented in the attention of the international community and largely invisible in global reporting, including against the Sustainable Development Goals. 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. 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.**

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.

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. 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.

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. 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. 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.

**15 Pilot Countries were selected where “Solutions Pathways” will be piloted:  
Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Ethiopia, Iraq, Libya,  
Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Vanuatu, and Yemen**

# IDSF OBJECTIVES



The Internal Displacement Solutions Fund (IDSF), established in 2023, supports strategic, collaborative and comprehensive engagement of United Nations country teams (UNCTs) under the leadership of Resident Coordinators in managing IDP-centred initiatives aligned with national priorities. The fund promotes national leadership and strategies that are fully inclusive in addressing the needs of IDPs, as well as leaving no one behind and respecting national SDG plans. IDSF priorities address causes of protracted internal displacement, ways of improving coherence and coordination in programming multi-dimensional solutions, and piloting methods of rapidly advancing and scaling IDP strategies .

IDSF stakeholders provide financing to leverage impact through:

- Multi-sector, SDG-aligned and IDP-informed strategies that accelerate development planning and humanitarian responses for internally displaced people.
- Leveraging a whole-of-UN response using accountability frameworks and joint coordination mechanisms where peacebuilding, social cohesion, legal identity and economic inclusiveness are foundational elements.
- Developing financing frameworks that link IDP solutions to long-term development planning and financing that is evidence-based.

## Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

All approved IDSF project meets Gender Equality Marker 2 (GEM2) meaning that Gender Equality/Women's Empowerment is a significant objective of the programme. The IDSF allocation process places a particular emphasis on the integration of gender consideration in the analytical foundation, in project definition and prioritisation and in disaggregation of data.

The Fund is anticipated to have a multi-year funding envelope of USD \$100 million over an initial 5-year period, with an average annual resource envelope of USD \$20 million, with the ability to release up to USD \$3 million per eligible country. The Fund is operationalised in two phases. Phase 1, until end 2024, focused on support to the 15 pilot countries identified by the Office of the Special Adviser. As of 2025, the IDSF will open up to a wider group of countries impacted by internal displacement and showing potential for Government-led, development-supported solutions pathways.

The IDSF focus on joint UN action, helps the UN develop systemic responses that simultaneously address policy, capacity, and connectivity needs for transformative results. At the country level, the UN brings to the table an ability to draw from global expertise in terms of solutions that are transformative and successful in the areas of social protection, agriculture, climate adaptation and mitigation, early warning systems, food security, structural transformation, and others. Funding is 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.



# IDSF Objective - Enabling Transformative Action

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 enables a whole-of-UN approach to resolving internal displacement and empowers 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.

## IDP Solutions Strategies

1

### Promote nationally owned solutions to internal displacement

Expert policy advice and technical assistance for “whole of government” approaches embedding internal displacement in national and local development plans

Strategic engagement of local actors in development of policies and laws

Establishment of multi-stakeholder national coordination mechanisms

## Solutions Accountability Frameworks

2

### Leverage a whole-of-UN response to displacement

UNRC-led accountability frameworks to strengthen multi-agency and partner coordination, accountability and reporting to deliver IDP Solutions Strategies

Frameworks should articulate key policy changes, required technical expertise, and the roles and responsibilities across UN humanitarian and development agencies, inclusive of partners

## Solutions Financing Frameworks

3

### Build IDP solutions investment cases

Assessments and development-oriented financing roadmaps

Rapid business cases promoting innovative financing options

Sustainable national financing solutions (e.g. improved tax administration, tax policy reforms, diaspora mobilization)

Review and piloting of private sector partnerships

# Investing in the SDGs

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. 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 discrimination and gender inequality, restore social cohesion, and ensure sustainable urban development through the 2030 Agenda.

With this in mind, the IDSF place a high emphasis on the linkages between internal displacement and national plans to advance the Sustainable Development Agenda. One of the critical aspects of the solutions strategy is the integration of displacement in national development plans.

The current IDSF portfolio supports achievements across 12 Sustainable Development Goals. With the biggest financial investment in SDG 17, SDG 16, SDG 10 and SDG 1 respectively. In total 41 SDG targets are supported by the interventions under the Fund with the largest budget planned in support of target 17.16 Enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, closely follow by Target 10.2 to Promote Universal Social, Economic and Political Inclusion, Target 1.4 on Equal Rights to Ownership, Basic Services, Technology and Economic Resources, and Target 17.14 to Enhance Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development.

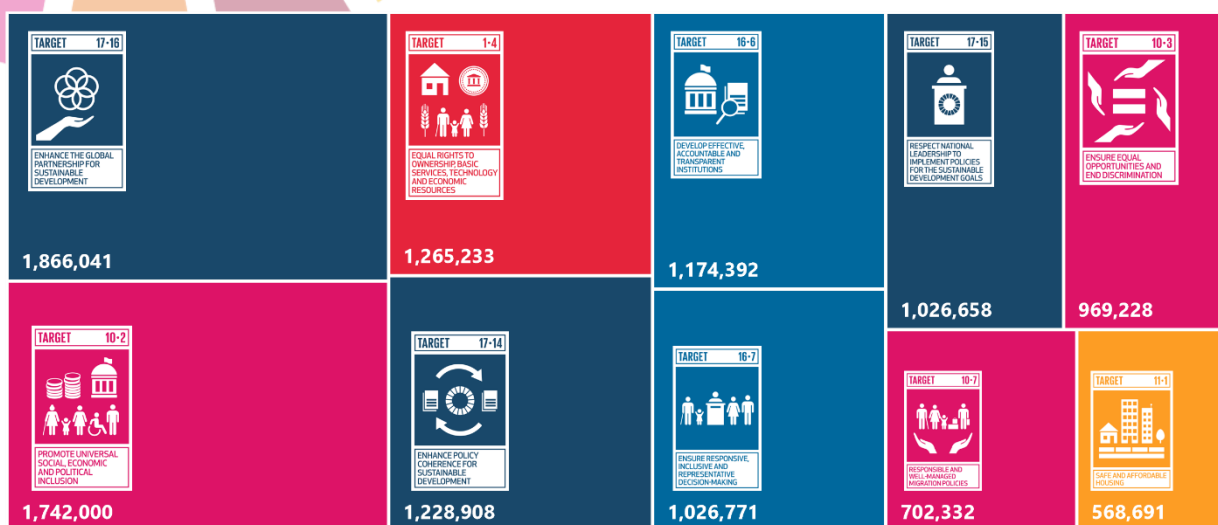


Figure 1 Top 10 SDG targets in active IDSF programmes [figure representing planned budget in UDS]

## Leaving No One Behind: Importance of Participation

Project proposals are assessed on their clear demonstration of accountability to displaced persons, by giving voice to IDPs in defining and implementing their own solutions. UNCTs have used the opportunity to design activities which promote participation in solutions processes. For example, in Nigeria, state-level steering committees led by local authorities will include IDP leaders, women and youth representatives. In Vanuatu, consultative forums will be organized to include IDPs and communities at risk of displacement in national conversations about

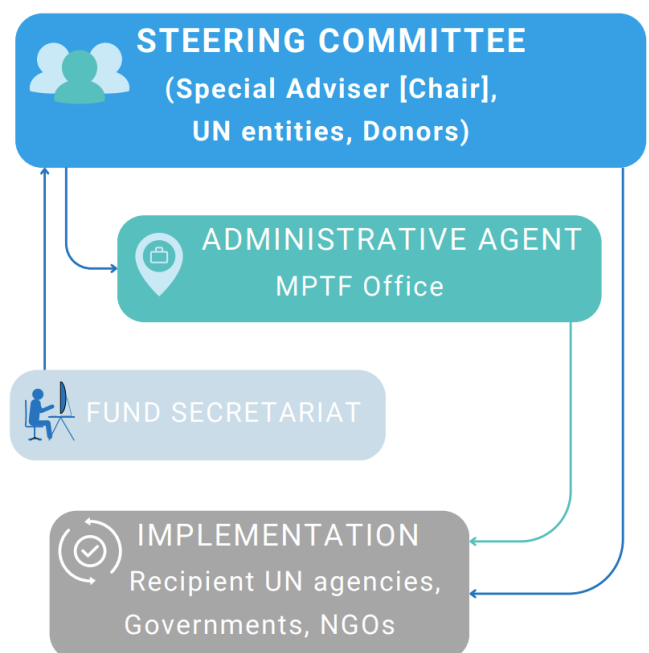
displacement and solutions. Plans for Colombia include participatory processes to develop and receive feedback about territorial plans, including civil society, victims' organizations and community representatives. Local committees to support peace and reconciliation will be supported in CAR. Intentions surveys will also be implemented CAR, Mozambique, Nigeria. These efforts will be central to ensuring people are at the heart of decision-making for solutions to internal displacement, as envisaged by the Action Agenda.

## Governance

The Fund is managed by the Steering Committee ensuring overall coordination, strategy and monitoring of results. In its incubation phase (2023-2024), the Steering Committee is chaired by the UN Special Adviser and includes on a rotating basis, five UN entities and three contributing donors. Building on experience from other Funds, it has been agreed to further integrate two IDP affected members states in the steering committee in 2024.

The Fund is administered by the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, the UN center of expertise on pooled funding, guaranteeing the highest fiduciary and transparency standards.

The Fund Secretariat is housed in the Office of the Special Adviser in its incubation phase and will transition to the UN Development Coordination Office by 2025.



# 2023 RESULTS

The Internal Displacement Solutions Fund (IDSF) was legally established as a United Nations Multi Partner Trust Fund by the Office of the Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement in August 2023. The focus during 2023 was to create the operational foundations, building donor relationships and initiate the development of joint programmes under the first funding round with the minimum delay.

Since its inception and until end 2023, the IDSF became operational, completed the first round of development and approval of project proposals. To this end, the IDSF governance structure was established, including the Steering Committee, the IDSF Secretariat and the Technical Review Team supporting the technical quality assurance of projects. The Steering Committee, composed of representatives from the United Nations and donor countries, held one formal meeting during 2023, with close collaboration between members and the IDSF Chair throughout the year to ensure expedient operationalization of the fund. The Terms of Reference of the Fund were prepared and consulted with UN agencies as part of the Steering Group on Solutions to Internal

Displacement prior to being presented to the Steering Committee. The Fund Secretariat was established within the Office of the Special Adviser, with anticipated handover to UN Development Coordination Office (DCO) at the end of the mandate of the Special Adviser. The Chair of the Fund will rotate between IOM, UNDP and UNHCR.

While the Operational Manual was under development and to guide the first round of allocations, 'Interim Guidelines for allocation of funds under the Internal Displacement Solutions Fund' were developed and endorsed by the Steering Committee. Based on the 'Description of the First Funding Round', an invitation to submit Joint Programme proposals was extended to 13 UN country teams. Following a review undertaken by the Technical Review Team, 10 proposals were approved by the Steering Committee for priority allocation of resources.

In support of enhanced transparency and accountability of the Fund, project details were posted on the newly launched MPTF online project portal.

## Highlights of 2023 results

- ✓ Three donor commitments signed with Switzerland, Norway and Germany\* for a total contribution of USD14.2 millions.
- ✓ The Steering Committee was constituted and held its inception meeting providing strategic direction to the Fund, including approving the Terms of Reference, the 'Interim Guidelines for allocation of funds' and 'Description of First Funding Round' to guide the first round call for proposal and approval of a modest funding allocation for the Fund Secretariat
- ✓ A Call for proposals for the First round of project proposal development was launched, a technical review was completed and 10 joint programmes were approved for a total of USD13.8 million with transfers to be completed in 2024.
- ✓ A Draft Operations Manual was developed to guide the Fund management processes.
- ✓ 15 UN entities signed Memorandum of Understanding with the Fund, and became eligible to receive money under the fund: FAO, IOM, OCHA, UNCDF, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNMAS, UNODC, UN Habitat, UN Women, WFP and WHO.

\*SAA signed in 2023 and deposits to arrive end of 2023, early 2024

# ISDF CURRENT PORTFOLIO

Financial transfers to PUNOs were undertaken in 2024 and not reflected in the 2023 financial report

**10** Joint Programmes approved

**7M** transferred to PUNOs

**9** active PUNOs

**3.9** PUNOs per average in each JP

**34%** of budget dedicated to Gender Equality

Under the first funding round 10 joint programmes are being supported targeting a variety of results including as examples

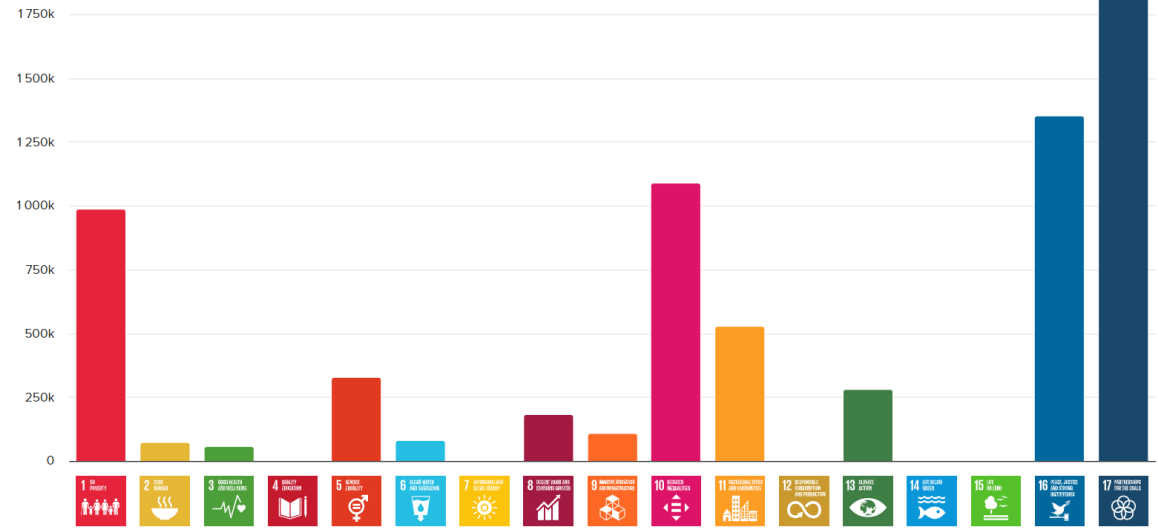
- In **Colombia**, 5 municipalities will develop and implement municipal plans to overcome the displacement related vulnerabilities for 2 million IDPs in line with the Government Durable Solutions Strategy.
- 60% of returnees in targeted return areas in **Central African Republic** should report that rural planning improvement contributed to reducing the vulnerability of their houses to flooding.
- 1 federal and 4 regional coordination platforms will be provided with solutions experts to support planning, data analysis, and coordination in **Ethiopia**.
- In **Mozambique**, 70% of participants of the multi-stakeholder forum on data will be reporting improved access to integrated durable solutions data that applies a standardized approach for measuring progress in addressing internal displacement.
- To ensure an enabling environment, **Vanuatu** will establish a multi-year financing framework for the National Climate Change and Disaster-Induced Displacement Policy and undertake a legislative review to ensure inclusion of IDP solutions in development-oriented national strategic planning.
- To ensure a principled approach with active and informed IDP participation in implementation of the solutions strategies, the governments of the BAY states (Borneo, Adamawa, Yobe) in **Nigeria** will establish a comprehensive protection risk analysis and monitoring framework.
- 3 urban plans to be developed and endorsed by the municipality to provide inclusive, sustainable solutions to displaced communities in **Somalia** and frameworks adopted to guide the development of fit-for-purpose land tenure administration and dispute resolution mechanisms.
- 100 civil servants at national and local level in **Yemen** trained on data for solutions in support of evidence-based approaches and ability to measure progress across the 4 localized solutions action plans.
- Identification of local solutions pathways in the Lake Province of **Chad** through undertaking of Solutions and Mobility Index studies and supporting Government in carry out necessary assessment.

## Financial allocation per PUNO

figures in million \$US



## Financial allocation per SDG



# Overview of approved projects under Funding Round 1

UN country Team	Joint Programme	Participating UN organisations	Endorsed JP budget	Allocation under funding round 1
<b>CAR</b>	Supporting National Leadership on Durable Solutions and Promoting Local Integration and Social Cohesion in the Central African Republic	<i>UNDP (lead) IOM, UNICEF, UNHCR</i>	2'800'000	1'500'000
<b>Chad</b>	Supporting the Government of Chad to provide Durable Solutions for IDPs	<i>UNDP (lead), IOM</i>	500,000	500,000
<b>Colombia</b>	Roadmap to Durable Solutions: Strengthening the Government of Colombia in the implementation of the Durable Solutions Strategy	<i>UNHCR (lead) IOM, UNDP, UN-Habitat</i>	2'300'000	1'800'000
<b>Ethiopia</b>	IDS Fund for Ethiopia	<i>IOM (lead) UNDP, UN-Habitat, UNHCR</i>	2'999'149	1'900'000
<b>Iraq</b>	Accelerating Solutions Pathways for IDPs in Iraq	<i>IOM (lead) UNDP, UN-Habitat</i>	500'000	500'000
<b>Mozambique</b>	Enabling durable solutions to internal displacement in Mozambique through a joint approach	<i>IOM, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR</i>	1'750'000	1'500'000
<b>Nigeria</b>	Pivoting government leadership for the realization of durable IDP solutions in Northeast Nigeria	<i>FAO, IOM, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNMAS, UN-Habitat (in-kind)</i>	2'500'000	1'900'000
<b>Somalia</b>	Asaaska Fikir (Basis of Thought)	<i>IOM (lead) UNCDF, UNDP, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNRCO</i>	3'000'000	1'900'000
<b>Vanuatu</b>	Advancing Durable Solutions to Internal Displacement in Vanuatu	<i>IOM (lead) UNDP</i>	1'000'000	800'000
<b>Yemen</b>	Area-based programmes for durable development solutions to displacement in Aden, Marib, Taiz, and Lahj: Building local capacity and experience to implement Yemen's 2013 National Policy on IDPs.	<i>FAO, IOM, UNDP, UNHCR</i>	2'800'000	1'500'000
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>22,149,149</b>	<b>13,800,000</b>

# 2024 outlook and priorities



The priorities for the IDSF in 2024 are to ensure efficient operationalisation of the approved joint programmes supporting government-led, development supported solutions. Emphasis will be placed on identifying and showcasing, early results from the joint programmes, in order to inform a renewed resource mobilization process to meet the funding target of 20 million in new contributions per year.

Given that the Fund is newly-established, further work will also be undertaken to consolidate operational processes, and initiate the handover of the Chairmanship of the Steering Committee and the Secretariat with the anticipated end of the mandate of the Special Adviser. This includes the approval of the full Operations Manual which outlines the policies and procedures for the Fund management and completion of the risk management and communication strategy.

Strong focus will be placed on cross-country learning and knowledge sharing across IDSF recipients. A community of practice, moderated by the Fund Secretariat, has been established to facilitate exchange. With regular dialogues to be undertaken in 2024 on key topics of convergence across the Joint Programmes.

With the planned handover of the Chairmanship of the Steering Committee and Secretariat at the end of the mandate of the Special Adviser, the focus will be placed on anchoring the Fund as a catalytic instrument for delivering solutions to internal displacement. Enabling the UN system to accompany Governments in their efforts to take lead on solutions to internal displacement. The Fund is a critical vehicle in the wider dialogues to maintain a stepped-up focus on internal displacement as promised by the Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement launched in 2022.

By the close of 2024, the Fund should be turning its sights to the task of extending access to the Fund to the many priority countries that are yet to be reached in its first year of operation.

