

Final Report for Special allocation for incubation of the window on Solutions to Internal Displacement

Cover page

Date of Report: 14 August 2023

Project title

Country: Global
Project title: Solutions to Internal Displacement

Project duration

Start date (day/month/year): **15 October 2022**
Original End date (day/month/year): **31 July 2023**
Actual End date (day/month/year): 31 July 2023

Have the PUNO operationally closed the project in its system: Yes
Expected financial closure date¹: TBD

Participating Organizations

Lead PUNO (focal point name and email): **OCHA/Office of the Special Adviser**
Focal Point from the lead PUNO (name and email): Greta Zeender, zeender@un.org
Other PUNO Focal Points (focal point names and emails):

Project budget (US\$)

Joint SDG Fund Contribution² and co-funding breakdown, by recipient organization:

	Joint SDG Fund contribution	Co-funding	Total
PUNO1	250,000	100,000	350,000
Total			350,000

¹ Financial Closure requires the return of unspent balances and submission of the [Certified Final Financial Statement and Report](#).

² Joint SDG Fund Contribution is the amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations – see [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#).

Narrative report

Project context

- Explain who was implementing the project and why (objective); provide an update (what has changed since the project was launched); and briefly indicate specific challenges and opportunities.

The overall purpose of the global project was to support the incubation of the thematic window on Solutions to Internal Displacement, which should help catalyze the implementation of solutions to internal displacement under the leadership of national Government, with UN support, responding to the needs and aspirations of internally displaced persons (IDPs) who are among the furthest behind, and thereby contributing to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The intention was to provide limited funding for technical support in order to: facilitate stakeholder consultations, drive resource mobilization, finalize the concept note for the Window, develop an Investment Strategy based on a multi-year approach, design the management arrangements for the window, and prepare the launch of the window.

The proposed global project was implemented by the Lead PUNO (Office of the Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement/OCHA) which is taking responsibility for leading the preparations for the Window, in close collaboration with relevant PUNOs as well as DCO, EOSG and the Fund's Secretariat. The project also facilitated consultations with RCs and UNCTs to inform the finalization of the Terms of Reference and of the investment strategy of the Window.

Project Results

- For each deliverable / output, provide overview of the main activities and results. List all main events organized with the project.

1. Finalization of the Concept for the window:

- 1.1** The concept note of the new window on Solutions to Internal Displacement was finalized in November 2022 and endorsed by the DSG.

2. Investment Strategy finalized:

- 2.1** A consultant was hired to draft the Investment Strategy. Her background in setting up Funds with UNDP and with the private sector provided technical expertise to ensure the drafting of a sound strategy. The Investment Strategy of the new window on Solutions to Internal Displacement was further developed through a participatory process, which included agencies part of the Steering Group on Solutions to Internal Displacement, ie. IOM, UNDP, DCO, OCHA, UNHCR, DPPA, DPO, UNICEF, and the World Bank as an Observer.
- 2.2** The draft Investment Strategy was then shared with 12 donor countries/regional organizations (Australia, Denmark, European Union, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States), as well

as with the RCs of Colombia, South Sudan and Afghanistan, and agencies beyond the Steering Group (ILO, UNFPA, WFP) in a January 2023 consultative workshop for their comments and suggestions to be integrated into the Strategy. This first round of consultations was followed by further outreach in March 2023 (through follow-up targeted letters).

2.3 National consultations:

Stakeholder consultations, including with UNRCs, UNCTs, member-states and global, regional and local development partners took place since the beginning of the project. That preparatory work was intended to be exploratory and demonstrate the viability of launching a full-fledged window and to facilitate necessary commitments from RCs, UN entities, development partners, as well as Governments affected by internal displacement and donor Governments. Member States of the pilot countries to be targeted in the first phase of the joint program (as per the investment strategy) and donor countries were also consulted through meetings of the “Group of Friends on Solutions to internal displacement” (which include Colombia, CAR, Chad, Ethiopia, Iraq, Libya, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Vanuatu, Yemen, Australia, Canada, Denmark, EU, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, US). The Solutions Window was also presented during in an all-Member States briefing hosted by the President of the General Assembly in February 2023. Missions to the pilot countries undertaken by the Office of the Special Adviser throughout the project included discussions with RCs/UNCTs and national Governments to assess their readiness to benefit from the Solutions window first round of allocation. Some of these missions were co-financed between this project and other funds. Missions were undertaken to Colombia (October/November 2022 and February 2023), Philippines (December 2022), Niger and Ethiopia (January 2023), Somalia (February 2023), South Sudan (April 2023), Iraq (December 2022 and April 2023), Nigeria (May 2023).

2.4 Country profiles

The Office of the Special Adviser developed 16 country profiles, to help review national internal displacement contexts and potential for solutions in the 16 pilot countries to potentially benefit from the first phase of disbursement of the joint programme (Afghanistan, Colombia, CAR, Chad, Ethiopia, Iraq, Libya, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Vanuatu, Yemen).

The development of country profiles aimed to review institutional frameworks, laws, policies on internal displacement, as well as national development plans, UNSDCFs and financing frameworks to:

1. Further inform the selection of countries in the first phase of the joint programme, based on the initial analysis conducted by the Special Adviser together with the Steering Group on Solutions to Internal Displacement;

2. Identify potential entry points to operationalise the Solutions Window, with a potential to achieve substantial results within the next two to three years in countries ripe to support solutions to internal displacement for a significant number of people, given the current overall environment, political leadership at country level, significant presence of development actors in-country, engaged RCs/UNCTs;

3. Support the engagement with UNRCs, UNCTs, the government and other national and international partners.

2.5 Financial landscape analysis

1. The Office of the Special Adviser hired a Development Financing Adviser in May 2023. The Adviser analysed in May-July the global development financing contributions to solutions to internal displacement by international financial institutions, with a focus on the World Bank and bilateral donors (through OECD data), and analysed the financial implications of national solutions strategy plans, including through the development of a costing methodology. Such analyses are important since the funding provided by the Solutions Window is catalytic and should take place in an environment where development resources are available to then scale up solutions efforts in a sustainable way.
2. The Adviser also contributed to develop an engagement strategy with IFIs, in particular with the World Bank and the African Development Bank to consider internal displacement risks and drivers as a strategic issue to address, systematically consider internal displacement in their data collection, assessment and analytical work and develop programs and investments that are IDP inclusive and IDP dedicated at relevant scale. This will also allow to a sustainable attention on solutions to internal displacement by IFIs beyond the Window's action.

3. Resource mobilization strategy prepared and implemented

3.1. Extensive discussions with more than 15 bilateral donors have taken place development partners took place since the beginning of the project, to try and secure funding for the new window on Solutions to Internal Displacement.

3.2. The Office of the Special Adviser undertook a mapping exercise of all top donors to humanitarian contexts with IDPs, current financing trends in the pilot countries and the demonstrated interests of bilateral donors in the initiative of the Special Adviser. The financial resources allowed for the Chief of Staff/Senior Policy Adviser (P5 post) to accompany the Special Adviser to missions to donor capitals identified in order to support the resource mobilization efforts: in December 2022 and in July 2023, missions were undertaken to Washington DC and in March 2023, missions to the development cooperation and foreign ministries of Denmark, EU, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, UK and to France in June 2023 took place as well. This yielded strong interest from Denmark, Germany, Norway and Switzerland to contribute to the new Solutions Window.

3.3. A consultative workshop was organized on 22 June 2023 and financed through the project. More than 20 representatives from Denmark, EU, Germany, Japan, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, UK and the US attended the meeting. All

participating Member States reiterated their support to the work of the Special Adviser, and recognized the value of setting up a catalytic funding mechanism to jump start joint programming on solutions to internal displacement in support of Government-led initiatives, in line with IDPs' aspirations, rights and needs.

- 3.4. The Office of the Special Adviser then sent up follow-up letters to shore up support and commitment, which resulted in commitments by Norway, Denmark, Switzerland and Germany.

4. Terms of reference for the Solutions Window prepared

4.1 The full Terms of Reference were prepared by the Office of the Special Adviser for the operationalization of the Solutions Window, including management arrangements in line with the governance structure of the Joint SDG Fund for the need for technical support to design and implementation of future joint programmes under this window. The Terms of Reference were consulted with the UN agencies part of the Steering Group on Solutions to Internal Displacement.

Way forward

- *Briefly mention what is expected to happen after the project and recommend the follow-up, if relevant.*

At the end of June 2023, the DSG decided to realign the windows to the Joint SDG Fund to the transformative priorities of the SDGs. It was assessed that the Solutions Window did not truly align with these transformative priorities, even if it was recognized that ensuring that IDPs are among those who are generally left behind and that it is important to reach this specific category of population so that they benefit from their country's development and that countries are able overall to reach their sustainable development goals.

It was then decided that the Solutions Fund would better fit as a distinct MPTF rather than under the Joint SDG Fund. This project however allowed to lay the ground to fill an important gap in the UN system, i.e. joint humanitarian-development-peace projects which jumpstart solutions in support of Government's plans for solutions, in line with IDPs' rights and aspirations.