

Durable Solutions to Internal Displacement Begin With Jointly Agreed, Quality Evidence

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Concept	Definition
Accessibility (of statistical data)	Refers to the ease and conditions with which statistical information can be obtained. <i>Source: UN Department of Economic Affairs / Statistics Division (2019). United Nations National Quality Assurance Frameworks Manual for Official Statistics. Including recommendations, the framework and implementation guidance</i>
Community engagement	Community Engagement is a participatory process of two-way interaction and communication between entities, normally representatives from the community in question and representatives from Government and/or non-government agencies undertaking an activity in said community. <i>Source: JIPS (January 2023). Community Engagement in Data Processes in Displacement Contexts</i>
Comparability	Comparability is the extent to which differences between statistics from different geographical areas, non-geographical domains, or over time, can be attributed to differences between the true value of the statistics. <i>Source: OECD (2008). Glossary of Statistical Terms (p. 88).</i>
Coherence	Coherence of statistics is their adequacy to be reliably combined in different ways and for various uses. The coherence of statistical information reflects the degree to which it can be successfully brought together with other statistical information within a broad analytic framework and over time <i>Source: EUROSTAT. Glossary: Coherence (last viewed on 09 July 2024).</i>
Capacity development	Capacity development is understood as the process whereby people, communities, organisations and society as a whole unleash, strengthen, create, adapt and maintain capacity over time. <i>Source: OECD (19 September 2006). The Challenge of Capacity Development. Working Towards Good Practice</i>
Data exercise	This refers to a specific set of activities aimed at collecting, processing, analysing data and disseminating results. A data exercise normally refers to all activities linked to a specific undertaking, such as a specific survey, a focus group discussion, an administrative register or a profiling exercise.

Data management	<p>Refers to activities involving the management of data and information. This includes the design of a data activity, as well as the collection, receipt, storage, quality assurance, analysis, sharing, use, retention and destruction of data and information.</p> <p><i>Source: UN Inter-Agency Standing Committee (April 2023). Operational Guidance on Data Responsibility in Humanitarian Action</i></p>
Data governance	<p>Data governance can be described as the policies, guidelines, standards, procedures and practices that regulate the generation, management, use and reuse of data. It addresses the overarching vision for data within a system and how it is shared, accessed and integrated while mitigating risks and maintaining trust.</p> <p><i>Source: UN Statistics Division (23 February 2024). Seminar on Emerging Issues : Data Governance Across Systems: Exploring Strategies for Official Statistics</i></p>
Data value chain	<p>The data value chain describes the process of data creation and use from first identifying a need for data to its final use and possible reuse. The data value chain has four major stages: collection, publication, uptake, and impact.</p> <p><i>Source: Open Data Watch. The Data Value Chain: Moving from Production to Impact</i></p>
Data quality	<p>Data quality or quality of statistical outputs generally refers to various minimum technical standards that must be met, such as relevance; accuracy; timeliness and punctuality; accessibility and clarity; comparability; coherence.</p> <p><i>Source: UN Statistics Division (2012). Glossary</i></p>
Data system	<p>A data system refers to a collection of similar <i>data exercises</i> that are conducted repeatedly over time. Although some changes will occur over time, the various data exercises should be standardised to allow comparison over time and space. For instance, a Demographic and Health Survey conducted several times in a country will constitute a data system.</p>
Data ecosystem	<p>A data ecosystem consists of both data producers and data users of a particular data system. It may include, inter alia, actors such as government entities, civil society, academia, private sector, international and national organisations. As used in this document, a data ecosystem is linked to a particular thematic domain or sector, such as internal displacement, and refers to all data systems and their producers and users, that deliver information to this domain/sector.</p>
Durable solutions	<p>In the context of internal displacement, a durable solution is achieved when internally displaced persons no longer have any specific assistance and protection needs that are linked to their displacement and can enjoy their human rights without discrimination on account of their displacement.</p> <p><i>Source: Inter-Agency Standing Committee (2010). IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons</i></p>
Durable solutions analysis	<p>Or simply <i>solutions analysis</i>, in the context of internal displacement, refers to the analysis of the extent to which IDPs are progressing towards a solution to their displacement situation, as per the IASC Framework on Durable Solutions. Such analysis typically is based on a comparative analysis of IDPs and non-displaced across the criteria outlined by the IASC Framework in order to identify vulnerabilities and</p>

protection needs linked to the displacement situation versus vulnerabilities and need that are shared development challenges across population groups.

See also: *UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons and JIPS (2018)*. [Durable Solutions Analysis Guide: A Tool to Measure Progress towards Durable Solutions for IDPs](#)

Harmonised data systems	For JIPS, this refers to the process identifying opportunities to create commonalities between different data systems and facilitating standardisation (e.g. in the use of definitions) and where not possible ensuring complementarity.
Independent	In JIPS' work being <i>independent</i> means being free from organisational priorities, capacities, practices, and political agendas, ensuring that data-driven insights steer our contributions to the development of relevant responses and policies.
Joint analysis	Joint Analysis is a collaborative process during which partners with complementary areas of expertise and responsibilities collectively make sense of information from a given context, following an agreed-upon methodology. The purpose of this approach is to transform information into agreed-upon, actionable findings to support decision making. <i>Source: JIPS (2021). Joint Analysis Guide</i>
National data system	Refers to data systems at a national level. Please see definition of "Data system"
National statistical system	The national statistical system (NSS) is the ensemble of statistical organisations and units within a country that jointly collect, process and disseminate official statistics on behalf of the national government. <i>Source: UN Statistics Division (2012). Glossary</i>
National statistical office	National Statistical Office (NSO) is the leading producer of official statistics in a country and is responsible for coordinating all activities related to developing, producing, and disseminating official statistics in the national statistical system (NSS). <i>Source: UN Statistics Division (2023). Handbook on Management and Organization of National Statistical Systems. Chapter 5: The National Statistical Office</i>
Neutral	The term has two essential dimensions for JIPS. In the specific context of collaboration, neutrality means that JIPS takes an unbiased and impartial stance. JIPS is avoiding favouritism or bias toward any specific party or stakeholder involved in the collaboration, which allows the organisation to have a "license to operate" as an interagency service. This neutrality is crucial for fostering an environment of trust, fairness, and equal participation around the work.
Operational data	Operational data are collected by a range of organisations, including government ministries and humanitarian and development actors, primarily to inform decisions concerning programming, responses and resource allocation associated with humanitarian action. Some, but not all, use professional and scientific methods. Operational data tend to be timelier than official statistics, but they may not be subject to the same rigour and validation.

Source: Expert Group on Refugee, IDP, and Statelessness Statistics (2020). [International Recommendations on IDP Statistics \(IRIS\)](#)

Official statistics Official statistics are defined as statistics developed, produced and disseminated by the national statistical systems of countries in conformity with the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, internationally agreed statistical standards, codes and recommendations as well as applicable national legislation and programmes.

Source: UN Statistics Division, (2023). [Handbook on Management and Organization of National Statistical Systems. Chapter 2: Official Statistics – a general overview](#)

Profiling A collaborative exercise that seeks to establish a shared understanding of displacement situations and the circumstances and characteristics of those affected. It uses mixed method approaches, which often entail sample surveys to collect and analyse data on displaced populations, their host communities and others, and situates this in broader considerations of the economic, political and social backdrop of displacement. The overall aim is to create a comprehensive and mutually agreed evidence base to inform more effective humanitarian and development interventions, advocacy efforts and the development of national policies to support the achievement of durable solutions for displaced populations.

Source: JIPS (2020). [Sampling Guide for Displacement Situations: Choosing and Planning Your Approach](#)

Protection Protection encompasses all activities aimed at ensuring full respect for the rights of the individual in accordance with human rights law, international humanitarian law (which applies in situations of armed conflict) and refugee law.

Source: UN OCHA(January 2024). [OCHA on Message : Protection](#)

Rights-based approach A rights-based approach should ensure that: IDPs are in a position to make a voluntary and informed choice on what durable solution they would like to pursue; IDPs participate in the planning and management of durable solutions, so that recovery and development strategies address their rights and needs; IDPs have access to humanitarian and development actors; IDPs have access to effective monitoring mechanisms; and in cases of displacement caused by conflict or violence, peace processes and peacebuilding involve IDPs and reinforce durable solutions.

Source: Inter-Agency Standing Committee (2010). [IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons](#)

Sustainable development Sustainable development has been defined as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainable development calls for concerted efforts towards building an inclusive, sustainable and resilient future for people and the planet.

Source: United Nations. [The Sustainable Development Agenda](#) (last viewed on 09 July 2024)
