



Multistakeholder Pledge: Inclusion of Forcibly Displaced and Stateless Persons in National Statistical Systems and Surveys

Further Information & Guidance

Key outcome

To increase data and evidence on living conditions of forcibly displaced and stateless people, through their systematic inclusion in national data production systems

Background

Whilst data and evidence on forced displacement and statelessness has increased in recent years in terms of both quantity and quality, in many countries, affected populations are not systematically included in national statistics. This omission creates hurdles for decision-makers to pursue inclusive policy development and development plans informed by nationally produced, comparable data on refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), stateless persons and their host communities. Addressing this data gap therefore remains a key priority in the context of the [Global Compact on Refugees \(GCR\)](#) and is key to keeping the central promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to leave no-one behind.

Launched as an Innovation Lab in 2022 on “Making Forcibly Displaced and Stateless Persons Visible: Inclusion in National Statistical Systems and Surveys”, UNHCR, JDC and EGRIS are developing a [multi-stakeholder pledge to further statistical inclusion of forcibly displaced and stateless persons in national data production systems](#). This could involve pledges to include these vulnerable groups in Population and Housing Censuses, administrative data sources, or nationwide household surveys.

Taking note of the recently endorsed International Statistical Recommendations on [Refugees](#), [IDPs](#) and [Stateless Persons](#) that guide countries to improve official statistics on all three population groups, this Multi-stakeholder pledge aims to further build momentum on this important topic around the [2023 Global Refugee Forum](#) and enhance visibility of progress made by national and international champions of this agenda. In addition, the pledge will bring further coherence to international dialogue around inclusion of refugees and stateless persons, in line with Recommendation 7 from the [2021 High Level Official’s Meeting](#).



About pledges

Pledges towards statistical inclusion are any actions or initiatives developed in response to the GCR that aim to further the systematic inclusion of refugees in the routine data collection efforts of national governments in specific countries or regions. Pledges towards the statistical inclusion of IDPs and stateless persons are also encouraged.

The multi-stakeholder pledge will collect a series of individual pledges under its umbrella. Pledges can be made by Member States through their national statistics offices, agencies in charge of refugee, IDP or statelessness affairs, regional and international organizations, donors, or other humanitarian and development actors or groups.

Pledges can focus on the direct implementation of the international statistical recommendations (i.e. statistical inclusion of refugees, IDPs and stateless persons) or commitments to enable this effort, including in areas of financing, capacity development, partnerships and coordination.

The pledge is therefore relevant for all EGRIS members, individually and as a group.

Existing relevant pledges (from 2019/2020):

This Multi-stakeholder pledge builds upon existing [pledges and commitments made in the context of the 2019 Global Refugee Forum](#) and the [2019 High Level Segment to End Statelessness](#), including:

- Commitments to include statelessness in national population and housing censuses (e.g. Zimbabwe, Rwanda, Mali, Liberia, Chad, Bulgaria, Belarus and Republic of Tajikistan)
- Commitments to enhance birth or civil registration and vital statistics for refugees and/or stateless persons (e.g. Rwanda, South Africa, Thailand, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Eswatini)
- Commitments to improve the understanding of forced displacement/statelessness with quantitative studies (e.g. Philippines, Armenia)
- Broad commitments to include refugees in national statistical systems (e.g. Uganda).

Many of these countries have already started to implement these commitments, benefitting from the momentum and political will demonstrated by the pledges. These countries can act as champions for the 2023 process.



Illustrative examples of relevant pledges

(Please note: This is a non-exhaustive list of illustrative examples for pledges that would need to be adapted for specific country, region or institutional contexts)

For countries:

CENSUS: ([Name of country](#)) pledges to ([initiate/enhance](#)) the production of data on ([refugees/IDPs/stateless persons](#)) through its national statistical system by ([year](#)). This will involve their inclusion in our upcoming national ([population and housing census/name of survey](#)) in ([year](#)) informed by the International Statistical Recommendations on ([Refugees/IDPs/Stateless Persons](#)).

SURVEYS: ([Name of country](#)) pledges to ([initiate/enhance](#)) the production of data on ([refugees/IDPs/stateless persons](#)) through its national statistical system by ([year](#)). This will involve their improved identification in and better use of data from our national administrative data systems ([name of system/systems](#)) informed by the International Statistical Recommendations on ([Refugees/IDPs/Stateless Persons](#)).

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA: ([Name of country](#)) pledges to ([enable/enhance](#)) the use of nationally produced data on ([refugees/IDPs/stateless persons](#)) by national policy makers and other stakeholder by ([year](#)). This will involve improvements to the analysis and reporting of data, ensuring high-quality comparative analysis with the national populations, as well as the safe and responsible sharing of microdata on related populations as recommended by the International Statistical Recommendations on ([Refugees/IDPs/Stateless Persons](#)).

ANALYSIS, REPORTING & DATA SHARING: ([Name of country](#)) pledges to ([enable/enhance](#)) the use of nationally produced data on ([refugees/IDPs/stateless persons](#)) by national policy makers and other stakeholder by ([year](#)). This will involve improvements to the analysis and reporting of data, ensuring high-quality comparative analysis with the national populations, as well as the safe and responsible sharing of microdata on related populations as recommended by the International Statistical Recommendations on ([Refugees/IDPs/Stateless Persons](#)).

SDGS: ([Name of country](#)) pledges to ([initiate/enhance](#)) the use of nationally produced data on ([refugees/IDPs/stateless persons](#)) by national and international policy makers by ([year](#)). This will involve the production and publication of SDG-aligned data, including through upcoming Voluntary National Reviews in ([year](#)) as recommended by the International Statistical Recommendations on ([Refugees/IDPs/Stateless Persons](#)).

COORDINATION AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT: ([Name of country](#)) pledges to ([initiate/enhance](#)) the production of data on ([refugees/IDPs/stateless persons](#)) through its national statistical system by ([year](#)).



This will involve system wide action including ([improved national coordination mechanisms and/or investments in capacity development of relevant staff](#)).

NSDS/ACTION PLAN: ([Name of country](#)) pledges to ([initiate/enhance](#)) the production of data on ([refugees/IDPs/stateless persons](#)) through its national statistical system by ([year](#)). This will involve [mainstreaming the production and use of forced displacement and/or statelessness statistics in the current/new National Strategy for the Development of Statistics and/or the development of a sectoral statistical strategy/plan of action to improve forced displacement/statelessness statistics](#).

For regional entities:

([Name of regional entity](#)) pledges to support the inclusion of ([refugees/IDPs/stateless persons](#)) in collaboration with the national authorities of countries within ([name of region](#)) through the period ([start-end date/year](#)). This will involve (the organization of peer-to-peer learning events/trainings/regional policy processes) to support national efforts.

For international organisations:

([Name of international organisation](#)) pledges to support the inclusion of ([refugees/IDPs/stateless persons](#)) in collaboration with the national authorities in ([name of country/countries/region](#)) through the period ([start-end date/year](#)). This will involve (the provision of technical assistance) to support national efforts with their ([upcoming national census/surveys/plans to enhance the use of administrative data](#)) to improve the availability of official statistics on ([refugees, IDPs and/or stateless persons](#)).

For donors:

(Name of donor) pledges to grant ([specific amount of financial support](#)) over a ([specific number of months/ years](#)) to support the inclusion of ([refugees/IDPs/stateless persons](#)) in national statistical systems and associated data production processes. This will include direct support in at least ([specific number of](#)) countries including ([list countries and possible match pledges](#)).

(Name of donor) pledges to grant ([specific amount of financial support](#)) over a ([specific number of months/ years](#)) to support the inclusion of ([refugees/IDPs/stateless persons](#)) in national statistical systems. This will include support to regional and global efforts to strengthen capacity of national partners and enhance cooperation and coordination associated efforts within the broader statistical community.

For groups and other stakeholders:

(Name of group) pledges to continue efforts to enable the inclusion of ([refugees/IDPs/stateless persons](#)) in national statistical systems over a ([specific number of months/ years](#)). This will include support to regional and global efforts to strengthen capacity and enhance cooperation and provide high-quality and accessible guidance for statistical community.



How to pledge

Pledges should be submitted in advance of the Global Refugee Forum in December 2023.

Pledges should be submitted through an online form available here: [Pledge concrete actions for refugees and host communities | The Global Compact on Refugees | UNHCR \(globalcompactrefugees.org\)](#)

Pledge submissions include:

- 1) Information about the submitting entity.
- 2) Function to link individual pledge to multi-stakeholder pledge.
- 3) Information about the pledge including:
 - Summary heading,
 - Description,
 - Expected impact (one sentence),
 - Target population, and
 - Timeline for implementation.

Beyond pledging

Pledging partners are primarily responsible for realizing the commitments made and can, if they wish, update the international community on their progress. Progress updates can be made online at any time (see pledging link above); in addition, periodic reminders will be shared by UNHCR. Future contributions towards the next High Level Official's Meeting (2025) and/or Global Refugee Forum (2027) will also be relevant platforms for progress updates.