The positive impact of internally displaced persons (IDPs) on the economy

Call for contributions

The thought of people being forced to leave their homes because of conflict or violence, disasters, environmental degradation or development projects brings to mind images of trauma and uprooting, instability and insecurity that always come with internal displacement.

Communities receiving those displaced often see them as competition for housing, public services and work. Governments mainly consider the economic cost of providing additional services to internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities.

Yet under certain circumstances, IDPs can have a positive impact on local economies and turn one of the most challenging life events into an opportunity for themselves, their host community’s and their country’s development.

This call for contributions is the occasion to highlight such exceptional resilience and innovation to look at the positive impact IDPs can have and recognize their largely untapped economic potential.

The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) is leading innovative research to assess the impact of internal displacement on the economy and encourage investments to reduce the scale and intensity of the phenomenon. Contributions to this call should complement this work and provide examples of real-life stories when IDPs have successfully integrated into the economy of their host community or brought a specific added value either as individuals, as a result of their self-organization or of support from their host community, public authorities or private companies. Initiatives launched to support the economic potential of IDPs through trainings, job opportunities or other income-generating activities, and examples of successful development of internal economy in IDP camps are also welcome. Contributions can include individual stories and case studies. Those including quantitative evidence or clear demonstration of the positive impact of IDPs on the economy will be especially useful.

Contributions should be submitted to christelle.cazabat@idmc.ch using the below template by the 1st of July 2018. All contributors will receive a message acknowledging receipt of their submission. IDMC may contact contributors for additional information as needed.

Selected contributions may be used to inform IDMC’s research or illustrate IDMC’s publications, including the Global Report on Internal Displacement, policy papers, thematic series and blog posts. Contributors grant IDMC all rights to use their contributions in its research and publications, with proper citation.
Contributor

First name:
Last name:
Organization (if any):
Type of organization (civil society, local or national government, inter-governmental organization, private company or else):
Email address:
Phone number (including country code):
Street address:
City: Zip Code:
Country:

Case study, life story or successful example

Country:
City or region:
Time period or year:
Does this story involve (multiple choices possible):

☐ An individual IDP   ☐ A group of IDPs   ☐ A private company   ☐ A public authority
☐ A host community   ☐ A civil society organization   ☐ An inter-governmental organization

Does this story relate (multiple choices possible):

☐ A successful integration of IDPs into the economy of their host community
☐ A specific added value of IDPs for the economy of their host community
☐ A public initiative to support IDPs’ economic potential
☐ A private initiative to support IDPs’ economic potential
☐ A successful example of internal economy in IDP camps

Description (please be as precise as possible and include quantitative evidence or clear demonstration of the positive impact on the economy) - maximum 500 words:

If possible, please include 1 to 3 quality photographs to illustrate your contribution.

*By submitting this contribution, you grant IDMC all rights to use it in its research and publications, with proper citation.*