

## 3A – Reduce and address displacement

### UNHCR's commitments – report

---

**UNHCR commits to a predictable engagement in situations of internal displacement, subject to resources being made available by the international community**

**1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January- 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures**

As the global lead or co-lead for three clusters—protection, shelter, and camp coordination and camp management (CCCM)—UNHCR plays a significant role in responding to internal displacement. In line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals including its commitment to “leave no one behind”, the Office promoted and supported national, regional and global action towards reducing displacement and empowering IDPs to achieve solutions.

UNHCR's engagement in situations of internal displacement has become more predictable through implementation of new guidelines agreed in 2016 on UNHCR's engagement in internal displacement. In 2017, 90 per cent of UNHCR's operational interventions were aligned with the “IDP Footprint” set out in the guidelines. UNHCR showed protection leadership in States affected by active conflict, such as the Central African Republic, Iraq and Syria.

UNHCR worked with national governments to help them develop and implement law and policies to safeguard the rights of, and find solutions for, those displaced within national borders. Working with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of IDPs, the Office provided capacity building and technical guidance to States, as well as advocated for alignment of national laws and policy with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. These efforts helped lead to positive developments in national IDP law and policy in ten different operations, in particular in Afghanistan, Georgia, Honduras, Mali, Niger, Somalia and Ukraine.

To help meet the Grand Bargain commitments, UNHCR focused on helping reduce protracted displacement in a safe and dignified manner. The highest number of reported IDP returns was in 2016. However, many of these returns took place to hazardous security situations, and did not constitute a durable solution as defined by UNHCR. In such circumstances, UNHCR operations provided protection monitoring and information to communities at risk, including during returns to Mosul in Iraq.

Solutions require a strong evidence base. UNHCR supported the implementation in 2017 of an IASC framework on durable solutions for IDPs. The Office also encouraged the involvement of diverse stakeholders in data collection through work on a technical report on IDP statistics for national statistical commissions. An example of UNHCR's work on IDP solutions was in Honduras, where UNHCR supported that government to register homes abandoned by IDPs and eventually provide restitution for the property through capacity building on data systems for land ownership.

In its 2017-2021 Strategic Directions, UNHCR committed to working more systematically across the entire spectrum of displacement, including through a more decisive and predictable engagement in situations of internal displacement. In September 2017, the Office completed an operational review of its engagement in situation of internal displacement, following which the High Commissioner appointed a Special Adviser on Internal Displacement. The role of the Special Adviser is to coordinate the implementation of the review's recommendations, supported by a dedicated team at headquarters.

The review recommended transformations in UNHCR's work with IDPs from preparedness and emergency response to disengagement and solutions. It also called for fundamental changes to internal processes, practices, capacities, with a strong focus on strengthening delivery in the field.

In October 2017, the Special Adviser worked with UNHCR's operation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) to ensure a more automatic and robust response to the declaration of the most serious level of emergency situation (system-wide Level 3 emergency declaration). This included piloting new approaches to IDP population data management together with IOM. During a mission to the Philippines in December 2017, the Special Adviser highlighted the need for UNHCR to develop its operational strategy and work with national institutions and local actors in a way that will facilitate responsible engagement in the future.

**2. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?**

Progress is assessed through annual reporting on indicators in UNHCR's Results Framework, including some that have been declared global strategic priorities. UNHCR also reports systematically to its Executive Committee on challenges and achievements in the course of its work. UNHCR also uses multi-stakeholder processes, in particular through the IASC and the three clusters it leads. In this regard, the Global Protection Cluster's Task Team on Law and Policy plays a critical role.

**3. Key challenges in implementing the commitments**

- IHL and IHRL compliance and accountability
- Funding amounts
- Human resources/capacity

**4. Actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation**

2018 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the "Guiding Principles on internal displacement" which presents a critical opportunity for UNHCR to promote and support national, regional and global action towards significantly reducing internal displacement. In this regard, the Office will develop and implement a Plan of Action (GP20) with key partners to build towards changes on laws and policy.

UNHCR will update and revise its corporate policy on internal displacement to ensure full alignment with its Strategic Directions.

**5. What steps are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?**

Root cause to forced displacement are often political and more comprehensive approaches need to be pursued through notably humanitarian-development-peace continuum. It is critical that country teams develop protection strategies ensuring that collective efforts remain protection-centred.

**6. List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation**

- UNHCR's internal operational review of its engagement in situations of internal displacement to make the Office's a more reliable and predictable humanitarian actor.
- Development of HCT's protection strategies.
- Innovative approaches to protection, such as cash-based interventions, protection information management and social media.

- As part of efforts to ensure a coherent and comprehensive approach to protection, the GPC produced an annual review of action that promoted the centrality of protection. The report, published in February 2017, set out good practices from six operations and detailed recommendations for humanitarian coordinators and humanitarian country teams.

**UNHCR commits to a sustained partnership with entities that wish to work collaboratively in situations of forced displacement based on the Wilton Park Principles: working through national and local systems; supporting host communities and building social cohesion; enabling economic participation and growth; providing impactful and innovative financing and improving the data and evidence base.**

**UNHCR commits to working with development organizations, research institutions, and other partners to leverage their expertise in strengthening existing data collection efforts and to build the evidence base of the economic impact of refugees on host economies through active engagement in new studies.**

**1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January- 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures**

In 2017, UNHCR set about working with governments and other partners to ensure better alignment in humanitarian and development efforts for the benefit of refugees and host communities alike. To that end, the Office rolled out the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) in 13 countries, developing whole-of-society partnership-based responses to large-scale refugee situations, and working with new government counterparts, such as local authorities, including municipalities. The application of the CRRF generated an increase in global responsibility-sharing in line with its first objective of easing pressure on host countries. Greater engagement with bilateral development actors saw the launch of more projects supporting access to services for both refugees and host communities which, in turn, promoted inclusive policies in refugee-hosting areas. Comprehensive approaches fostered greater synergies with the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development Goals, and reinforced the inclusion of refugees in national development plans and the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks.

Globally, UNHCR supported mechanisms promoting social cohesion, such as inter-faith platforms and return committees, to encourage stronger connections between returnees and national civil society. In Honduras, to help address potential conflict in areas where refugees were returning, UNHCR encouraged civil society cooperation between local and national authorities. This included work to analyse the local housing, land and property situations in line with the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (known as MIRPS—Marco Integral Regional para la Protección y Soluciones), the regional iteration of the CRRF.

In 2017, UNHCR continued to engage in the policy and strategic reflections on humanitarian-development cooperation with key development actors, most notably UNDP and the OECD. Based on the findings of a joint-review of UNDP-UNHCR cooperation followed by exchanges at the technical level, the two organisations have agreed to develop a new joint Plan of Action to coordinate their efforts and strengthen their collaboration at country level to better help host countries respond to refugee situations and build longer term support and solutions for refugees. Throughout 2017, UNHCR worked closely with the OECD-DAC to support its work on forced displacement issues. The deployment of a technical staff made a valuable contribution to the report *Addressing Forced Displacement through Development Planning and Co-operation: Guidance for Donor Policy Makers and Practitioners* published in September 2017.

**2. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?**

By reporting to, or using reports prepared for, UN principal organs, UN governing boards, or other stakeholder bodies. Progress is assessed through annual reporting on indicators in UNHCR's Results Framework, including some that have been declared global strategic priorities. UNHCR also reports systematically to its Executive Committee on challenges and achievements in the course of its work.

**3. Key challenges in implementing the commitments**

- Joined-up humanitarian-development analysis, planning, funding and/or response
- Multi-stakeholder coordination
- Human resources/capacity

**4. Actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation**

Under the leadership of the High Commissioner's Senior Adviser on Development and its UNDP counterparts, a joint Plan of Action is being elaborated to define more concretely the objectives of this renewed cooperation. Consultations with UNHCR's Regional Bureaux, Divisions and Country Offices are currently taking place to inform the development of the work plan and ensure it takes into consideration both headquarters and field perspectives.

**5. List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation**

- UNHCR seconded a senior staff member to the OECD-DAC which played a key role in informing and influencing donor strategies to supporting host countries through the inclusion of refugees in development programmes.

**UNHCR commits to continue to fulfil its core task of ensuring international protection and assistance and seeking permanent solutions for refugees and other persons of its concern, working in close cooperation with States, relevant organizations and other actors.**

**1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January- 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures**

Pursuant to its mandate to work with States to ensure the protection of refugees under the 1950 Statute which established UNHCR, its supervisory responsibility for the 1951 Convention and related international refugee law instrument, UNHCR has sought to promote respect for and development of legal norms relating to protection of the rights of persons of its concern.

In operational terms, UNHCR works closely with States and other partners all regions and countries where it is present to ensure access in practice to protection and assistance for its persons of concern.

**2. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?**

Progress is assessed through annual reporting on indicators in UNHCR's Results Framework. These include indicators that have been declared as Global Strategic Priority indicators for UNHCR, including

indicators on ensuring a favourable protection environment; ensuring fair protection processes and documentation, and reducing protection risks faced by persons of concern; as well as facilitating access to basic needs and services, and ensuring durable solutions for persons of concern.

UNHCR also reports systematically to the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme, including via its Standing Committee, on challenges and achievements in the course of its work. This includes its annual Note on International Protection and regular Standing Committee Papers, including periodic reports on progress in relation to durable solutions for particular refugee situations and otherwise. UNHCR also reports publicly in its annual Global Report on its activities in relation to ensuring protection as well as respect for rights of persons of concern.

### **3. Key challenges in implementing the commitments**

- Adherence to standards and/or humanitarian principles
- Field conditions, including insecurity and access
- Funding amounts

### **4. Actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation**

UNHCR will continue to seek to reinforce protection principles and bolster political will and States' engagement and practices to protect displaced people and achieve solutions through its ongoing core protection work, in collaboration with States and other partners. In addition, it will take forward discussions with States and stakeholders on the Global Compact on Refugees, which will aim to reinforce practical application of refugee protection principles. Renewed efforts will continue to identify and achieve solutions through the creation of a dedicated Division of Resilience and Solutions in 2018.

### **5. What steps are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?**

Adoption by States of the Global Compact on Refugees in 2018 would significantly reinforce the international protection framework, as well as attention and collective efforts on solutions. Progress on the Global Compact on Migration would also foreseeably provide a framework to assist States more effectively ensure access to protection for those who need it, based on shared understandings and approaches to movements which include both refugees and migrants.

### **6. List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation**

Moves by States to provide a wider range of complementary pathways to solutions – including through provision of access for refugees to opportunities for labour migration, study visas and enhanced family reunification processes – represent a new and positive approach to empowering refugees, including in ways which can enable them to find solutions beyond the traditional channels of voluntary repatriation, local integration and resettlement.

**UNHCR commits to enabling equitable and sustainable access to adequate health services for refugees by advocating for the removal of mandatory disease screening and testing due to status, including HIV testing for refugees and asylum-seekers; working in a multi-sectoral fashion with partners during the contingency and response phases to ensure an integrated response to the provision of assistance to refugees so as to reduce dependency and improve**

**sustainability, as well as to improve the capacity of national health systems; advocating with other UN agencies and other organizations for the creation of a health travel passport that allows for continuity of care for refugees and other displaced persons, whenever feasible, while always ensuring medical confidentiality and protection concerns.**

**1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January- 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures (250 words max)**

In 2017, country assessments were conducted in the DRC, Djibouti, Guinea and Rwanda in partnership with ILO on the inclusion of refugees in national health care structures, including through community-based health insurance schemes. Ensuring refugees have access to the same services as host communities, several of the countries rolling out the CRRF began adopting new policies enabling refugees to benefit from essential social services on a par with nationals. Such was the case in Djibouti where, in December, the Government's new refugee law granted refugees freedom of movement, access to legal employment and to healthcare and education on a par with citizens.

Capacity-building activities in Algeria, the Congo, South Sudan and Uganda helped train some 240 primary health care workers to provide mental health support to refugees. These efforts also aimed to promote the integration of mental health into refugee primary health care.

UNHCR continued delivering HIV prevention and treatment and reproductive health programmes within a framework of public health, protection and community development. In 2017, UNHCR reinforced reproductive health and HIV prevention and treatment programmes in Cameroon, Niger, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia. With measures to improve maternal health outcomes enhanced 17 UNHCR operations had coverage rates of skilled birth attendance of above 90 per cent. Cost-effective and high- impact, neonatal interventions were expanded in Jordan, Kenya and South Sudan.

The Office assisted national authorities with HIV prevention activities and the delivery of antiretroviral therapy to refugees, including in Rwanda. Together with UNFPA, it strengthened maternal health and HIV services for South Sudanese refugees in Uganda by offering training to staff and partners and clinical services to survivors of SGBV, and provided refugee peer education in Niger.

**2. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?**

Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation; and by reporting to, or using reports for UNHCR's Executive Committee.

**3. Key challenges in implementing the commitments**

- Field conditions, including insecurity and access
- Strengthening national/local systems
- Human resources/capacity

**4. Actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation**

The joint project with ILO will continue in 2018 with similar assessments conducted in Cameroon, Sudan, Rwanda, Senegal, Burkina Faso.

**5. What steps are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?**

**6. List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation**

- In Jordan, UNHCR and partners use cash as part of a wider programme of referral services for refugees to access health care. Using cash enables UNHCR to serve more refugees and people of concern with the same level of funding, as the cost of using a referral system is about three times greater.

**UNHCR commits to ensure respect for international refugee law and protection principles through its supervisory responsibility in relation to relevant international instruments, including through leading and contributing to the progressive development of international, regional and national refugee law and to more effective implementation of legal standards in practice**

**1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January- 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.**

UNHCR has continued in 2017 to work on standard-setting and policy development on refugee rights and, where relevant, the rights of other persons of concern to UNHCR, at the international, regional and national level; developing operational tools to supervise international instruments for the protection of refugees and, where relevant, other persons of concern to UNHCR; providing legal and policy advice and reports; and engaging with international processes and mechanisms for the purpose of maintaining and strengthening international protection principles.

UNHCR also seeks to fulfil its supervisory responsibility through input to and advocacy with States for adoption and implementation of national legislation which reflects international instruments, as well as for practice that respects the applicable standards.

**2. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?**

Progress is assessed through annual reporting on indicators in UNHCR's Results Framework. These include indicators that have been declared as Global Strategic Priority indicators for UNHCR, including indicators on ensuring a favourable protection environment; ensuring fair protection processes and documentation, and reducing protection risks faced by persons of concern; as well as facilitating access to basic needs and services, and ensuring durable solutions for persons of concern.

UNHCR also reports systematically to the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme, including via its Standing Committee, on challenges and achievements in the course of its work. This includes its annual Note on International Protection and regular Standing Committee Papers. UNHCR also reports publicly in its annual Global Report on its activities in relation to ensuring protection as well as respect for rights of persons of concern.

**3. Key challenges in implementing the commitments**

- Adherence to standards and/or humanitarian principles
- Field conditions, including insecurity and access
- Funding amounts

**4. Actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation**

The Global Compact on Refugees, if adopted as foreseen by the General Assembly, should provide a clear, comprehensive framework to promote more effective respect for refugee law.

### **5. What steps are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?**

The adoption of the Global Compact on Refugees should constitute an important step forward in articulating ways in which refugee law can be respected more effectively, and creating the protection space in countries where will to do so remains limited. A clearer framework for the governance of migration and ensuring respect for the rights of migrants should also encourage States to ensure that approaches to the admission, treatment and protection of refugees are not overly restrictive.

### **6. List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation**

The Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) has demonstrated that countries across the world have the means and will to strengthen their refugee protection frameworks and take concrete action to improve their legislation, national processes and institutions and capacity to respond to the needs of refugees, including with firm assurances of international support.

**UNHCR commits to expand the use of biometrics for refugee registration to a total of 75 country operations in order to enhance the protection of refugees by maintaining their key identity features and to strengthen the integrity of aid delivery.**

### **1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January- 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures**

In 2017, UNHCR rolled out its primary biometric tool, the Biometric Identity Management System (BIMS) in 19 additional country operations, thereby increasing the number of operations using biometrics to a total of 48 (of which 5 use IrisGuard and 43 BIMS). This corresponds to 64% of the 2020 target of 75 operations using biometrics.

An additional 12 country operations have been trained in the use of BIMS and are ready to start using it once legal, logistical and procedural questions are clarified.

Two regional training-of-trainers workshops were implemented in the East and Horn of Africa and in Eastern Europe, to strengthen regional regional capacities for roll-outs and sustained on-site support.

### **2. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?**

Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation; and through multi-stakeholder processes or initiatives.

An internal benefits tracking matrix has been introduced to monitor the timely and effective implementation of biometric tools in each operation. Regular communication with focal points take place to discuss challenges and adjust processes if necessary.

### **3. Key challenges in implementing the commitments**

- Funding amounts
- Human resources/capacity



#### **4. Actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation**

- Regional Training of Trainer workshop for the Caribbean/Central America to increase local capacities and facilitate regional deployments
- Continue BIMS roll-out to 15 additional operations
- Integration of biometric tool into offline, mobile registration devices to facilitate processes in remote areas and decrease costs for heavier equipment

#### **5. What steps are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?**

Move forward with the interoperability project for the biometric systems in place (BIMS and IrisGuard) to strengthen integrity of processes, reduce multiple registrations, and work towards one globally unique identity.

#### **6. List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation**

Regional training-of-trainers workshops have proven fruitful for increased capacities on a local/regional level in order to build sustained and more efficient field support structures and speed up deployments.

**UNHCR commits to further developing its dialogue and cooperation with Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to facilitate their active engagement in situations of forced displacement where their technical and financial comparative advantages can contribute to improved socio-economic outcomes for refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and affected host communities.**

#### **1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January- 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.**

In 2017, UNHCR has continued to engage with Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to facilitate their engagement in situations of forced displacement. The best example of this effort remains UNHCR's strategic partnership with the World Bank Group which has evolved notably in the past year through an increasing number of joint activities at both headquarters and field level. Operationally, UNHCR focused its attention and resources on the key operations where the World Bank's new financing mechanisms have been launched, namely the Global Concessional Financing Facility (GCFF) for Middle Income Countries (targeting Jordan and Lebanon) and the IDA 18 sub-window for refugees and host communities. The ultimate objective is to identify and support innovative ways to join humanitarian and country-level development systems in the delivery of equitable and sustainable benefits for both refugees and their hosts.

#### **2. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?**

By reporting to, or using reports prepared for UNHCR's Executive Committee.

#### **3. Key challenges in implementing the commitments**

- Data and analysis
- Joined-up humanitarian-development analysis, planning, funding and/or response
- Strengthening national/local systems

#### **4. Actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation**

The World Bank and UNHCR are planning to establish a joint data centre to improve statistics on forcibly displaced people and host communities. This centre will enable a better informed and more sustainable response to forced displacement and help national governments improve their statistical capacity, underpinning a coordinated humanitarian-development approach.

#### **5. What steps are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?**

Substantial investment in staff training for personnel from both UNHCR and the World Bank has been undertaken both at headquarters and field level contributing to an enhanced mutual understanding of operating and business systems. This effort should be sustained and expanded to other key development actors to support the ongoing humanitarian-development cooperation in addressing forced displaced.

#### **6. List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation**

To further operationalize their partnership, the World Bank and UNHCR have managed a joint technical staff exchange facility to support UNHCR's operations with technical staff for timely short projects. Eight technical staff exchanges were undertaken in 2017.

**UNHCR commits to reinforcing the Solutions Alliance as a central platform for collaborative action in support of solutions to conflict-induced displacement and to do so by engaging in relevant national groups.**

#### **1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January- 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.**

The Solutions Alliance was established in 2014 as a network of like-minded actors from host and donor governments, United Nations agencies, multilateral financial institutions, and international and local non-government organizations. Its mission was to work on innovative and comprehensive ways to better respond to protracted displacement. In early 2017, the Governing Board decided to transition the work of the Solutions Alliance into other ongoing initiatives in the field of forced displacement.

The Solutions Alliance contributed to the design of the CRRF and represented an early example of the New Way of Working. Its Website has been archived so that a record of its work remains publicly available.

**UNHCR commits to support efforts that enable economic participation of forcibly displaced persons and access to finance, in collaboration with partners, thereby contributing to their self-reliance, preparedness for solutions and also to poverty reduction and economic growth**

#### **1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January- 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.**

Building on previous years' results, UNHCR expanded its work and partnerships in 2017 to improve the economic empowerment and inclusion of refugees, in line with its global livelihoods strategy and its 2017–2021 Strategic Directions. In 2017, UNHCR focused on ensuring the sustainability and efficacy of

its work and economic inclusion and livelihoods initiatives across 72 countries. These efforts necessarily relied on the involvement and support of key partners. Reflecting the growing recognition of work and employment to refugee wellbeing, the Office also increased its number of in-country livelihoods experts from 39 in 2016 to 61 in 2017. UNHCR also worked with ILO to assess labour market and other economic factors in refugee hosting countries and completed analysis in six countries. These assessments helped ensure that initiatives designed to help boost refugee economic independence took into account local market conditions. Building on the results of UNHCR's graduation approach pilots since 2014, the Office worked with the NGO Trickle Up to roll out new projects with this approach targeting refugees and host community members living in extreme poverty in Argentina, Mozambique and Sudan in 2017. The Office also maintained its support of its existing projects in six other countries—in Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Expanding its efforts to advance refugees' financial inclusion, UNHCR also partnered with UNCDF to establish a joint, multi-year facility to improve efforts to work with financial service providers in ten countries. The establishment of this new facility helped encourage financial service providers to grant refugees and host communities access to credit, savings, financial services and micro-insurance. UNHCR and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) also partnered with Grameen Crédit Agricole Foundation to implement the Credit Guarantee Facility in Jordan and Uganda, which provides refugees and host communities with access to financial services through a lender's guarantee facility, as well as loans

UNHCR embarked on a global, collaborative initiative to better link refugee artisans' access to international, regional and local markets through the MADE51 initiative, which focuses on market access, design and empowerment for refugee artisans. The MADE51 initiative enabled artisans in 11 countries develop competitive products that are now marketed internationally.

Results from Ecuador show increased per capita income from US\$ 66 in 2015 to US\$ 86 in 2017 and the percentage of households having at least one regular source of income went up from 49.5% in 2015 to 70.2% in 2017.

## **2. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?**

Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation. New livelihoods indicators and monitoring tools were developed to measure the impact of interventions on refugee livelihoods and economic inclusion. Roll-out started in 18 countries in 2017.

## **3. Key challenges in implementing the commitments**

- Joined-up humanitarian-development analysis, planning, funding and/or response
- Strengthening national/local systems

## **4. Actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation**

- Build and strengthen partnerships with the private sector, humanitarian and development actors to enhance inclusive opportunities for refugees;
- Build technical capacity of UNHCR and partners to enable shift towards new market-oriented programming;
- Develop and initiate sustainable economic models that will facilitate increased economic inclusion of refugees.

## **5. What steps are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?**

- Build and strengthen partnerships with the private sector, humanitarian and development actors to enhance inclusive opportunities for refugees;
- Build technical capacity to enable shift towards new market-oriented programming;
- Develop and initiate sustainable economic models that will facilitate increased economic inclusion of refugees.

## **6. List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation**

- Partnerships (with a broad range of actors);
- Livelihoods training for staff and partners initiated; market analysis conducted to support development of viable strategies
- Sustainable models: MADE51, Graduation approach, financial inclusion

**Commit to collectively work towards a Global Compact on responsibility-sharing for refugees to safeguard the rights of refugees, while also effectively and predictably supporting States affected by such movements.**

### **1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January- 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures**

From the beginning of 2017, UNHCR developed a 'roadmap' for the process leading to the global compact on refugees, in close consultation with Member States and other relevant stakeholders. From the second half of 2017, UNHCR commenced implementation of the roadmap by conducting a series of five 'thematic discussions' on a range of topics relevant to the global compact, as well as a stocktaking exercise in December 2017. These activities laid the groundwork for the development and circulation of the compact's 'zero draft' and the process of formal consultation to take place in the first half of 2018.

### **2. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?**

By reporting to, or using reports prepared for, UN principal organs, UN governing boards, or other international bodies; and through multi-stakeholder processes or initiatives.

The real transformative potential in this work lies in the implementation of the compact, once adopted in 2018. Indicators to assess this are under development

### **3. Key challenges in implementing the commitments**

- Buy-in
- Human resources/capacity

### **4. Actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation**

The zero draft of the global compact on refugees was released on 31 January 2018. Between February and July, a series of six formal consultations will be used to take views on the text and update its provisions before the global compact is formally presented by the High Commissioner to the General Assembly

**5. What steps are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?**

The text that the High Commissioner ultimately proposes needs to have the buy-in from all Member States and be in such a form that it can be adopted by the General Assembly by consensus.