



Description of the IDSF funding round [ROUND 1 AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2023]

Objective of the Description of the IDSF funding round:

The Terms of Reference for the Internal Displacement Solution Fund (IDSF) provide overall guidance and direction for strategic direction, management and the allocation of funds under the IDSF. This '*Description of the funding round*', provides complementary guidance to UN country teams for the allocation of the first founding round for August/September 2023. This is also accompanied by the '*Interim Guidelines for allocation*' which provides complementary information on decision making processes..

A. Criteria for selection of eligible countries:

As per the TOR of the Fund, in Phase 1 of the IDSF operation, **only the 15 pilot countries** under the Action Agenda are eligible recipients. Funding is also only available to **country operations that have either addressed solutions explicitly in the Cooperation Frameworks** or, if the Cooperation Framework cycle is approaching renewal, have outlined an internal displacement solutions strategy that clarifies how the development system will support solutions. Funding will be **prioritized for contexts that are conducive for nationally-owned solutions** – namely, where the government or relevant local authorities have shown a willingness to take action to uphold the rights of IDPs and facilitate solutions to their displacement. Country operations must have **an inclusive coordination mechanism in place for solutions** in which relevant operational actors participate, including local level linkages and IDP representation as well as receiving communities.

Within the available financial envelope of approx. 14 million USD to be disbursed in the first allocation round, 13 UN country teams¹ are invited to submit proposal for consideration of the Steering Committee.

B. Financial cap per joint programme:

Each country may submit a proposal of up to USD 3 million, noting that the allocation of approved proposal may not cover the full proposed budget in the first funding round. Each allocation to approved proposals will not be less than USD 1,500,000².

C. Duration of joint programme:

Programmes should be completed within 2-3 years from the date of disbursement of funds.

D. Eligible PUNOs:

Only UN entities that have signed the MOU with IDSF are eligible recipient of funds. As of 29 August, confirmed Participating UN organisations (PUNOs) are IOM, UNDP, and UNHCR. Other agencies that are part of a submitted proposal should sign the MOU prior to submission to avoid delays in disbursement of funds.

¹ Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Ethiopia, Iraq, Libya, Nigeria, Mozambique, Somalia, South Sudan, Vanuatu, and Yemen

² With the exception of Vanuatu whose financial cap is 1 million USD.



E. Development and submission of project proposal:

Each eligible UNCT, under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator, can submit one (1) joint proposal in line with the template for the IDSF. Proposed Joint Programmes (JP) need to involve two or more PUNOs. The proposed JP will need to clearly define the Convening Agent in charge of supporting the project coordination. The final selection of the PUNOs will rest with the UN Resident Coordinator. The submission should be accompanied by a letter of support from a relevant Government counterpart.

The proposed JP must be clearly linked to one or more overarching goals of the IDSF as outlined below and fully aligned with the cross-cutting drivers and offerings in solutions transformation as described in Section 8 'Programmatic arrangements' in the TOR.

The proposed budget needs to meet the thresholds described above. A minimum threshold of 100 000 USD per individual transfer to a PUNO will apply though flexibility will be applied upon justification.

The JP proposal should be submitted by the Resident Coordinators Office to the IDSF secretariat [mona.folkesson@un.org] no later than 2 October 2023, 23.59 GVA time.

F. Programmatic scope:

The **overall objective** of the Fund is to advance solutions to internal displacement at country-level by enabling joint action that builds on the views, needs, and capacities of IDPs and host communities and promotes sustainable, nationally-owned solutions. In line with the Action Agenda, the Fund seeks to enable a whole-of-UN approach to resolving internal displacement and will empower RCs to demonstrate greater leadership on this issue through improving access to expertise and catalytic financing to support the UNCT and relevant stakeholders with solutions work – with the intent of eventually phasing out and moving towards inclusive development financing directly by national and local systems through other financing channels.

The Fund aims to provide catalytic financing to leverage impact through **three overarching goals** as describe in detail in Section 3 Description of the Fund in the TOR:

- 1) Multi-Sectoral, SDG-informed and SDG-aligned IDP Solutions Strategy-development:: Accelerating development planning alongside humanitarian response
- 2) Accountability Frameworks and Multi-Agency Coordination: Leveraging a whole-of-UN response
- 3) Solutions Financing Frameworks: *Catalyzing sustainable financing solutions*

Building on the action areas identified in the *UN Secretary General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement*³ the Fund will be **oriented especially towards**:

- Promoting **national leadership** of solutions to internal displacement, including through the provision to governments of dedicated **expert advice** and technical capacity to develop laws and policies sensitive to solutions. The recognition by the

³ UN SG Action Agenda on Internal Displacement: *Follow-up to the Report of the UN Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Displacement*, June 2022



national government of the importance to address internal displacement is a prerequisite for support.

- Supporting **national solutions strategies** that embed long-term solution efforts in the wider development and SDG plans of the country, particularly vis-à-vis the goal of Leaving No One Behind.
- Supporting **joint assessments**, including through data collection and analysis, such as socio-economic and political economy assessments, as well as profiling of IDPs and host communities on national solutions programming priorities and capacities and building government capacity to shape investments, and measure progress towards solutions.
- Providing **seed funding** for the creation of conditions, including preparing local communities, for the voluntary, safe, and dignified return, integration, or settlement of IDPs in line with international standards.
- Supporting the testing of innovative "solutions measures" that can further a **catalytic impact** of current and future programming.
- Supporting national and local authorities' efforts to facilitate the integration of IDPs into public systems and services, based on integrated **policy innovation, legal reform and/or institutional change**, thereby enabling whole of government approaches to embed internal displacement in national and local development plans and costed strategies/ national financing frameworks.
- Providing dedicated **specialized expert advice** to UNCTs and government offices to assist in the development and implementation of relevant policies, strategies, and legal frameworks on solutions to internal displacement.

G. Quality criteria:

All proposal will be vetted by a technical review team against the following quality criteria:

1. Does the JP clearly support one of the three overarching goals of the IDSF?
2. Will the JP deliver catalytic impact – i.e. will it either (a) lead to transformative results in an accelerated timeline, with the intention of catalyzing systemic change or (b) serve to mobilize finance from the Government, private sector, IFIs, and/or other in-country stakeholders.
3. Does the JP demonstrate clear accountability to displaced persons – giving voice to IDPs in defining and implementing their own solutions? (e.g. engaging IDPs to drive the initiative from the beginning of strategy development to the final evaluation)
4. Does the JP leverage the comparative advantages UN agencies and enable delivery as "ONE UN"?
5. Does the JP ensure sustainability of the investment upon completion?
6. Does the JP include a results framework with ambitious, but realistic and measurable targets, contributing to the core indicators of the Fund as defined on pp.13-14 in the TOR?
7. Is the level of risk considered to be acceptable, based on the JP objectives and mitigation measures in place?



Additionally, the **following criteria will also be applied based on which overall goal/s** the JP proposal is contributing to as per Annex A. Guidance Criteria for Joint Programmes in the TOR.

Quality criteria for the overarching goals of the fund

1 Multi-Sectoral, SDG informed and aligned IDP Solutions Strategy Development - Accelerating Development Planning alongside Humanitarian Response

1.1 Ready-to-deliver. Proposal has the ability to unleash significant and large-scale transformation in a 2–3-year timeframe with catalytic funding.

1.2 Solutions approach: Results are part of UNSDCF and are aligned with national SDG priorities. Proposal is/will be based on country-wide consultation (whole-of-society) to drive innovative and accelerated multi-sectoral development-oriented national solutions strategy and is endorsed by Government.

1.3 Measurable contribution to the SDGs. Proposal has measurable targets and demonstrates how the intervention contributes to integrated SDG indicators where there is significant need for strengthening in the country.

1.4 Pathways to additional financing and resources. Proposal demonstrates how it can crowd in or leverage financing architecture from Government, the private sector, IFIs, the EU, and other partners in support of SDG acceleration.

2. Accountability Framework and Multi-Agency Coordination-leveraging a whole-of-UN-response

2.1 Effectively advances UNDS reform principles on nexus-driven policy planning and implementation. Proposal demonstrates how transformed systems will be designed to advance the triple foundations of IDP solutions transformation (solutions, prevention, protection and assistance) in an integrated way through national, sub-national and multi-stakeholder dialogue mechanisms/forums and offerings to Government and other contributing/ implementing partners for development-oriented strategic planning. Proposal demonstrates links to added value of UN support, UN principles and standards on human rights, gender equality, vulnerable population and youth and sets out targets for advancing innovative “whole-of-UN” measures to build institutional and human resources capacities to develop and implement multi-sector solutions policies and programmes. Proposal demonstrates joint comprehensive analysis through programme audits /reviews on existing policies and legislation to improve/revitalize innovative national priority setting, strengthening cross-sector data governance and decision-making, protection and conflict-sensitivity components, leveraging the comparative advantages of UNDS to bring about expanded scope and scale of planned activities guided by the principle of leaving no one behind.

2.2 Theory of change for catalyzing systemic change. Proposal demonstrates an understanding of the factors necessary to transform social, environmental, financial, or technological systems, which ones are already present, and which ones are still missing using data and evidence, where possible. Proposal includes a theory of change for catalyzing systemic solutions impact by showing how innovative solution interventions



build on existing building blocks for transformation and fills in critical missing factors, connections, or reinforces positive feedback loops.

2.3 Integrated support and solutions. Proposal clearly demonstrates how multiple UN agencies are providing integrated and mutually reinforcing support and policy across the triple foundations (solutions, prevention protection and assistance). Proposal demonstrates established/planned **Coordination Mechanism** (multi-stakeholder, multi-partner and IDP representation) to aid in humanitarian-development-peace nexus synergies, including pilot-oriented initiatives, complementarity and avoidance of duplication not only within the Joint Programme but with country projects in the broader UN Country Team as well as complementarity with work on the ground by other ecosystem stakeholders, such as the private sector and Government.

2.4 Coherence with national IDP solutions strategies and/or policies. Proposal shows coherence with and transformational impact on a national IDP strategy (if available). Priority is given where there are favorable conditions for solutions transformation, including existing capacity in Government for solutions-oriented transformation; Government buy-in and resource commitments to IDP solutions transformation; an active private sector ecosystem supporting innovative interventions; and demonstrated Government commitment to UN principles on IDPs.

2.5 Builds on existing commitments and relationships. Proposal is underpinned by a solid foundation of existing commitments by the UN in country, Government and other partners. Proposals will be assessed based on existing UNCT commitments to deliver on solutions transformation (i.e., there are specific expected results in the UN Cooperation Framework; IDP transformation priority is explicitly mentioned in the Cooperation Framework), existing relationships e.g., specific agencies delivering programme in partnership with IDP transformation decision makers in Government, or both (e.g., Joint Programme supporting Government in IDP related transformation) Priority is given where there is a proven track record in the UNCT of established IDP support readiness, such as delivering on IDP solutions, working with other contributing partners and/or providing knowledge-leadership in the local IDP ecosystem. A list of key strategic partners, including expected co-funding or co-financing will need to be demonstrated.

2.6 Aligned with principles Modelling IDP Solutions. Proposal shows adherence to ideals of re-use and improvement, as well as plans to share/make end results available for others, e.g., in the form incubation of "solutions-oriented" lessons learned, including on key transformative actions, processes, multi-stakeholder consultations results, innovative instruments and processes, integrated UNCT pilot/programming, etc. to aid in UNCT solutions best practice modeling.

3. Solutions Financing Frameworks – catalyzing sustainable financing solutions

3.1 Additional financing and resources catalyzed by the Joint Programming for SDGs. Proposal demonstrates ongoing or planned financing investment plans (need not be contributed directly to the Joint Programme) are underway/planned. This measure includes current or planned **Government commitments** to making follow-on investments in the policies and solutions directly supported by the Joint Program, reflecting step-change in public resources and/or investments from the **private sector, IFIs, donors,**



innovative financing instruments, regional banks and funds or other investors as a result of a developed/expanded Roadmap for solutions financing, linked to multi-sector and multi-partner solutions strategy created by the Joint Programme (dollar and dollar-equivalent).

H: Monitoring and Reporting

Responsibilities related to reporting are described in detail in the Memorandum of Understanding. All Participating Organizations will submit annual and final reports on program activities to the Secretariat in line with the format to be developed as part of the Operations Manual of the Fund.

Participating UN Organizations will during the first two years of the fund, provide 6-month project progress information based on project indicators and expenditures at project outcome level to support the roll-out of the fund.

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