Introduction to International Recommendations on Refugee and IDP Statistics

(e-Learning course)

13 March-21 April 2023

Guideline

I. OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE

The numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) have increased rapidly in recent years, with UNHCR estimating over 100 million forcibly displaced persons in 2022. With displacement's growing prominence, there is increasing interest at national, regional and international levels in statistics on refugees and IDPs including complete, accurate, timely and internationally comparable estimates of the numbers of people displaced, their well-being and vulnerabilities. Good-quality statistics are a requirement for developing, implementing and monitoring national, regional and international policies and agreements concerning refugees and IDPs.

This course introduces the "International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics" (IRRS) and the "International Recommendations on IDP Statistics" (IRIS). These sets of recommendations were endorsed by the United Nations Statistical Commission in 2018 (IRRS) and 2020 (IRIS). The course is spread over five substantive modules and provides details on the statistical framework for compiling refugee and IDP statistics. In particular, it introduces concepts, definitions, classifications and methodologies relevant to collecting, compiling, analyzing and disseminating data and indicators on refugees and IDPs, including SDG indicators. The course also includes information on data sources, institutional mechanisms and coordination.

II. TARGET PARTICIPANTS

Target participants for the course are staff of national statistical offices, relevant line ministries and other institutions working on issues related to refugees and IDPs (include for example Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice, Immigration Agencies, etc.). Others who would benefit from the course include those working on refugee and IDP issues in international organizations, regional organizations and NGOs.

III.   LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, participants will be expected to:

- Describe the importance of refugee and internally displaced persons (IDPs) statistics, relevant international legal frameworks and their relevance for operational and national policy applications.
- Discuss the role of Expert Group on Refugee, IDP and Statelessness Statistics (EGRISS) and its outputs in providing the statistical framework for the compilation of official statistics in response to the various data needs.
- Apply concepts and definitions and make use of main data sources for refugee and IDP statistics according to internationally endorsed recommendations.
- Outline the challenges associated with the collection, compilation and dissemination of statistics on refugee and IDPs.
- Appraise the importance of coordination of data on refugees and IDPs to facilitate policy development and apply the recommendations in practice.

IV.   COURSE DESIGN AND CONTENT

The e-learning course is comprised of 5 interactive modules that are hosted on the SIAP Learning Management System (LMS). Each of the 5 interactive modules consist of slides with explanations. Avatars and interactive elements are used throughout the course to enhance participant engagement and additional resources are provided at the end of each module. After all modules have been completed, participants who would like to receive a certificate, will be required to complete a final assessment that will cover all modules. The online modules are expected to take about of 6 hours to complete. Participants are also expected to attend weekly webinars that will provide an overview of the course topics and allow for participants to ask questions. More details will be provided at the beginning of the course. Furthermore, participants are encouraged to actively participate in the online forum of the course. Topics for discussion will be posted on a regular basis and participants are invited to share their views/comments/questions. In total, it is estimated that the course will take about 20 hours (online modules, webinars, contributions to online discussions and review of course reference materials).

Outline

Module	Coverage
1. **Introduction to International Recommendations on Refugee and IDP Statistics**	- Why we need statistics on refugees and IDPs - Applications and challenges - Official statistics and operational data - EGRISS and its key achievements - Defining refugee and IDP's in statistics

		• Data sources for refugees and IDP statistics
		• Coordination of refugee and IDP statistics
2. **Refugee statistics: measuring stocks, flows and characteristics**		• Legal framework
		• Statistical framework
		• Stocks and flows
		• Measuring integration and satisfaction of ongoing needs
3. **IDP statistics: measuring stocks, flows and characteristics**		• Legal and policy framework
		• Statistical framework
		• Stocks and flows
		• Durable solutions and key displacement-related vulnerabilities
		• Variables and tabulations for IDP statistics
4. **Data sources, analysis and dissemination**		• Population and housing censuses
		• Sample surveys
		• Administrative data
		• Alternative data sources
		• Operational data
		• Confidentiality and data sharing
		• Evaluation and quality assessment
		• Analysis and dissemination
5. **National, regional and international statistical coordination**		• Principles of statistical coordination
		• Statistical coordination at the national level
		• Coordination amongst regional and international partners
		• Recommendations to improve the coordination of refugee and IDP statistics

V.   EVALUATION

Participants' understanding of the material will be reinforced through integrated mini-assessments in each interactive module as well as a final assessment upon completion of all modules. Participants must receive a score of 80% or higher at the end of this course in order to receive a certificate.

Participants will be given 90 minutes to complete the final assessment. They may take the exam up to three times and retain their best score. Participants may not work together on the

assessment. The course facilitator reserves the right to deny course certificates to participants suspected of cheating.

Participants will be eligible to receive certificates of completion upon (i) attaining a minimum grade of 80% in the final assessment; and (ii) completing the course evaluation questionnaire.