Durable Solutions Platform

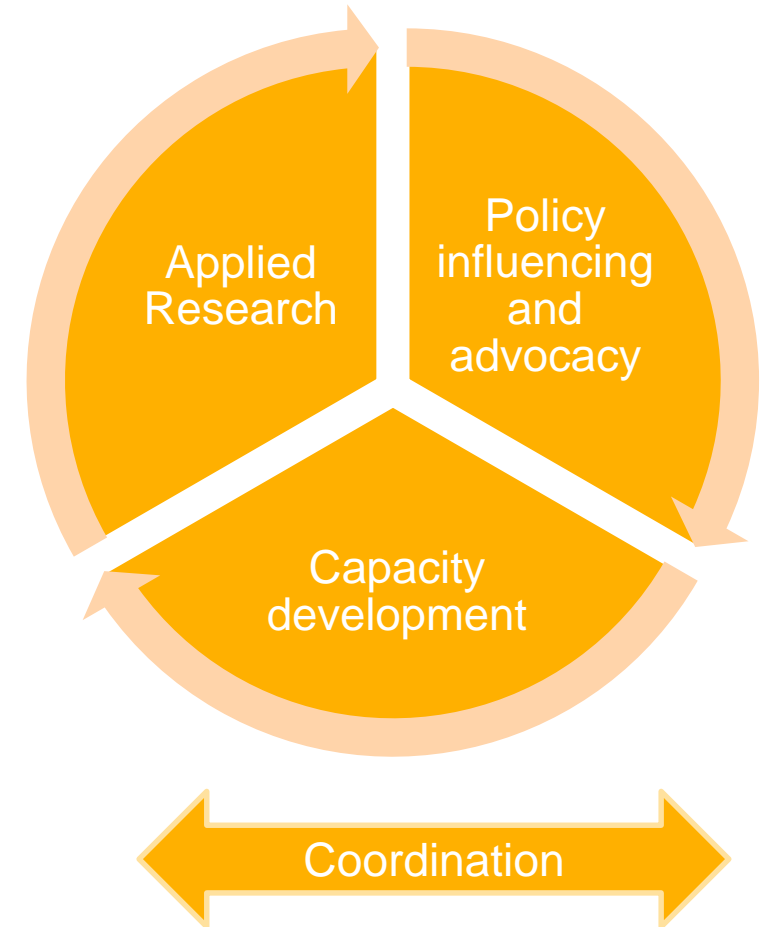Concepts & Definitions

About DSP

Goal: Conditions for displacement affected communities in the Middle East to live safe, dignified, productive lives are enabled through improved durable solutions policies, programming, and capacities.

Consortium of 6 organizations, established in 2016

Coordination and information hub – not an implementing agency

Secretariat based in Amman, hosted by DRC MERO

Currently working in Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, Turkey and Iraq

Applied Research

Policy influencing and advocacy

Capacity development

Coordination

DSP Strategy 2022 - 2025

Intervention logic

Pillars	Applied Research	Policy Influence & Advocacy	Capacity Development
Goal	**Conditions for displacement affected communities in the Middle East to live safe, dignified, productive lives are enabled through common understanding and improved durable solutions capacities, policies, and programming**		
Objectives	**To ensure that research and analysis informs durable solutions policy and programming**	**To facilitate and support evidenced-based policy engagement and advocacy for durable solutions**	**To support collective learning and strengthened capacities on durable solutions approaches and programming**
Outcome 1	**Support a common agenda** on applied research to inform durable solutions policy and programming	**Act as platform of engagement and dialogue** for DSP members and partners on durable solutions policies	**Strengthen DSP members and partners' capacity** on durable solutions concepts and approaches
Outcome 2	**Increase the use of relevant research and analysis** by DSP members and partners	**Provide evidence-based analysis** in support of advocacy on durable solutions for displacement affected people	**Support cross-learning on durable solutions** programming and practices

Defining durable solutions

A **durable solution is achieved** when IDPs/refugees:

- No longer have any **specific assistance and protection needs linked to their displacement**
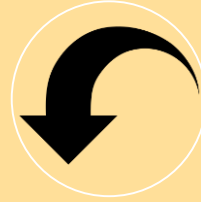
AND

- Can enjoy their human rights **without discrimination** on account of their displacement

Definition and principles are based on the 2010 IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs (this document is also relevant for refugees) and the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (#28 – 30)
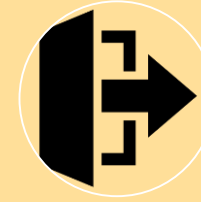
How are durable solutions achieved: Three options

Return / safe & voluntary repatriation

Sustainable Local Integration

Settlement elsewhere / Resettlement to third country

(RE)INTEGRATION

* Complementary Pathways – emerging field but not a DS options as defined by the IASC framework

Principles underpinning durable solutions

Voluntariness
- Freedom of movement
- Prohibition of forced return
- Informed decision making

Safety
- Physical
- Material
- Legal
- Psycho-social

Dignity
- No unconditional return
- At their own pace
- With the full participation of the IDPs/Refugees in the planning and management of their preferred solutions
- No separation of families

Key legal frameworks

Refugees	IDPs

1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol

- Defines the term 'refugee' and outlines the rights of refugees, as well as the legal obligations of States to protect them
- " Contracting States shall as far as possible facilitate the assimilation and naturalization of refugees".
- Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq have not signed onto the Convention

Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (1998)

- Based on binding law—human rights law, humanitarian law and refugee law by analogy.
- Outlines the rights IDPs have through different stages of displacement and obligations of governments.
- Emphasizes the right of IDPs to locally integrate, return home or resettle voluntarily in another part of the country.

Refugee and IDP rights can also be found in other international law as well as national laws

IASC Framework

IASC Framework on durable solution – 2010 - clarifies the durable solution concept and provides general guidance on how to achieve durable solutions in line with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement

The main principles:
- The **primary responsibility** for the achievement of durable solutions **lies with the state**.
- **National and international actors** from the humanitarian and development sectors have a **complementary role to play**
- IDPs' ne**eds, rights and legitimate interests should be the primary considerations**
- IDPs' right to make an **informed and voluntary choice on what durable solutions to pursue** should be respected, as should their right to participate in the planning and management of strategies and programs that facilitate durable solution
- IDP opting for local integration or settlement elsewhere **when return is not possible doesn't lose the right to return once return is feasible**.

- IDPs should **not be subject to discrimination** in particular for reasons linked to their displacement
- IDPs **should not be encouraged or compelled to return or relocate** to areas where there is a risk for their life, safety, liberty or health
- A **community-based approach** used addressing the needs of both the IDPs and their hosts, which in turn reduces the risk of tensions arising and facilitates (re)integration
- IDPs' **continued protection** by national and international human right law and IHL even after achieving a durable solution

Defining durable solutions

IDPs who have reached a durable solution will enjoy without discrimination:

1. Long-term safety, security and freedom of movement

2. Adequate standard of living

3. Access to livelihoods and employment

4. Access to effective mechanisms to restore housing, land and property (HLP) or to provide compensation

5. Access to and replacement of personal and other documentation

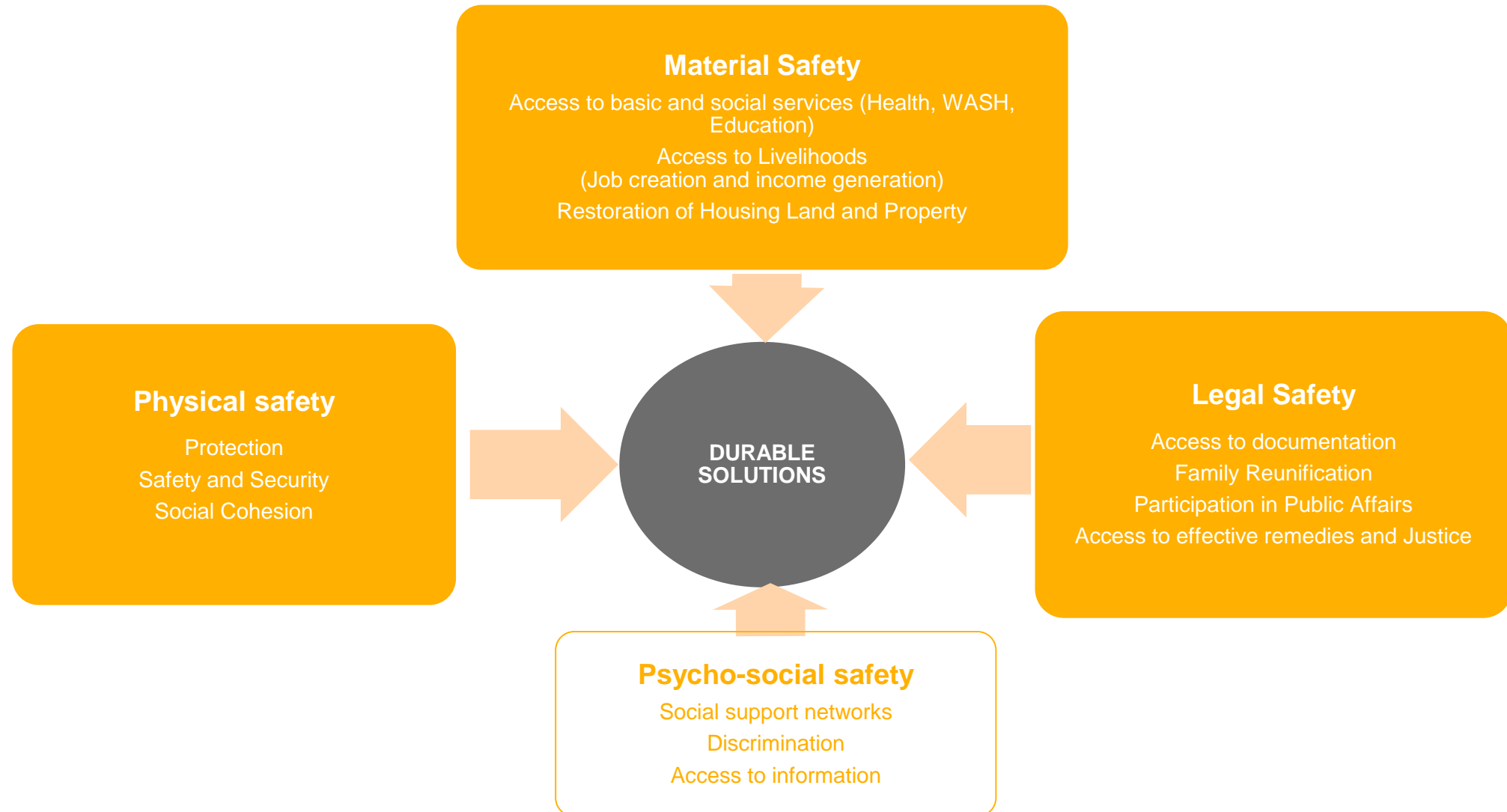**6.** Voluntary reunification with family members separated during displace,ent

7. Participation in public affairs

8. Access to remedies

Pathways towards durable solutions

Emergency   Early recovery   Development

- In practice, **displacement often lasts around 30 years** (UNHCR), with most recent efforts focusing on local solutions (e.g. including the Global Compact on refugees)

- Currently, **durable solutions are out of reach** for the vast majority of displaced people, with unconducive conditions for returns in safety and dignity, limited local integration options and few resettlement opportunities.

- Enabling **self-reliance and resilience** contributes in the most effective way to the search for durable solutions to displacement, by ensuring displaced people are in the best position plan and make informed decisions about their future.

Pathways towards durable solutions

- Focus is on **enabling pathways towards durable solutions**, so that displaced people can take an informed and voluntary decision once durable solutions become available to them.

- Taking a 3-5 year timeframe, or medium-term approach, to support durable solutions

- **In practice, this translates to** (amongst other things):

➢ **Improving self-reliance and resilience**: system, community and individual levels

➢ **Including displacement-related needs in recovery efforts:** assessments, community consultations, awareness raising etc.

➢ **Mapping progress towards of durable solutions**: joint planning and responses

➢ **Coordination**: relevant data and analysis, joint planning, area-based approaches,

➢ **Working towards inclusion**: shared service delivery, systems strengthening, social cohesion

On policy and programming levels