KENYA

Figure Analysis – Displacement Related to Conflict and Violence

CONTEXT

Intercommunal violence and ethnic clashes continued cause displacement in Kenya in 2018, but the number of IDPs decreased slightly compared to the previous year. The number of people newly displaced also decreased, from reported in 24,000 in 2017 to 10,000 in 2018.

The highest number of new displacements was reported in Marsabit county, where nearly 4,300 people were displaced in October due to inter-communal violence. Incidents of cattle rustling were reported in West Pokot throughout the year, displacing an additional 2,200 people. An Al Shaba'ab attack on Lamu in January displaced more than 270 people. In addition, clashes over land in Nakuru resulted in 1,600 new displacements. Other affected counties were Samburu, Elgeyo Marakwet, Isiolo, Garissa, Trans Nzoia, Narok and Homa Bay.

New displacements	Total number of IDPs	Partial or unverified solutions	
		Number of IDPs who have made partial progress towards a durable solution	Number of IDPs whose progress towards durable solutions cannot be verified
10,000	162,000 (Year figure was last updated: 2018)	No data available	780 (1 January – 31 December 2018)
This corresponds to new instances of internal displacement having occurred in 2018.	*This corresponds to the total number of individuals living in internal displacement as of 31 December 2018.*	*This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2018 and for whom the evidence obtained by IDMC suggests that progress toward durable solutions is only partial given their living conditions. In a few instances this number may refer to movements rather than people.*	*This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2018 but for whom there is no available evidence to corroborate progress toward durable solutions. In a few instances this number may refer to movements rather than people.*

NEW DISPLACEMENTS

This corresponds to new instances of internal displacement having occurred in 2018.

Sources and methodologies

The number of people IDMC estimated to have been newly displaced in 2018 is based on several sources including Kenya's National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), Amnesty International, and the local media (*Afroinsider*, *The Star*, *Daily Nation*, *All Africa* and *Standard Media*).

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

There has been no systematic assessment of displacement due to intercommunal violence, cattle rustling, armed attacks or other triggers since 2015. As a result, IDMC's 2018 estimate of the number of new displacements is based on information from several sources, including the media. Due to lack of comprehensive reporting and data collection, this figure is likely to be an underestimate. For example, IDMC's figure does not account for many cases in which the sources indicated that communities, households, or families were displaced, but for which no exact figures could be obtained. In order not to produce an inflated and unverifiable estimate, IDMC has used a value of at least two households, approximately eight people, being displaced in such cases. This conservative accounting is likely to be an underestimation of the real scale of displacement in the country.

In other cases, IDMC has used houses being destroyed as a proxy to estimate displacement. This might also have led us to underestimate the true scale of displacement, as people whose houses were not destroyed might have also fled during clashes.

Regarding evictions in Embobut forest, the estimate for 2018 may be an overestimate because the evictions started at the end of 2017, and it was not possible to determine exactly how many people were displaced in 2017 and how many in 2018.

IDMC figure and rationale

The final figure is the total of the displacements resulting from events related to conflict reported during 2018.

Significant changes from last year

The figure decreased compared to 2017, which is mostly because drought conditions in the country improved and this contributed to a fall in the intensity and number of outbreaks of conflict related to resources and land. There was also a significant number of people displaced in 2017 in connection with that year's general election. There was no general election in 2018.

TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPS

This corresponds to the total number of individuals living in internal displacement as of 31 December 2018.

Sources and methodologies

The biggest component of IDMC's figure is outdated and comes from a preliminary IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (IOM DTM) report from June 2015. The IOM DTM assessment was conducted in seven of Kenya's 47 counties: Garissa, Lamu, Mandera, Marsabit, Turkana, Uasin Gishu and Wajir. The project also included Elgeyo Marakwet county, because it borders Uasin Gishu county and IDP sites spread across the counties' mutual border. IOM conducted the DTM assessments at site level using key informant interviews and focus group discussions which were subsequently verified by direct observation of available services and living conditions in sites.

IDMC based its estimate on more recently conducted research by Amnesty International on violent evictions of indigenous people in Embobut Forest between 2014 and 2018. These displacements were triggered by a land dispute between different communities as well as more recent forced evictions by the Kenya Forest Service.

IDMC's figure also draws upon information from media articles, as well as National Drought Management Authority reports.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

IDMC's figure reflects the limited geographical coverage of the IOM DTM data and the ad hoc reporting on displacements in other locations. Some of this information is now several years old and becoming increasingly uncertain.

As noted in the previous section, some sources say communities, households, or families were displaced, but note no precise figure. As with the new displacements figure, we use a value of two households, eight people, being displaced in each instance. This is likely to be an underestimate.

IDMC figure and rationale

The biggest component of IDMC's figure, 138,000 people, comes from the IOM DTM assessment and represents approximately 64 per cent of the 216,000 IDPs identified in seven counties reported by the IOM DTM as displaced by clashes. IDMC also used the figures we reported in 2017 because we did not receive any evidence these people returned home during 2018.

On top of that, the year-end figure also accounts for people displaced in 2018 due to the fact that IDMC found no evidence indicating these people returned home. We did not include all the displacements, however, because we recorded several instances of displacement in the same or very similar locations and could not verify whether it was the same people moving several times during the year or whether it was different populations each time. For each of these events, IDMC triangulated the figures reported from multiple sources and added them to the end-of year-figure from 2017.

IDMC disregarded new displacements reported in Samburu, Marsabit, Narok, Isiolo, and Garissa this year, because these counties were covered by the 2015 assessment or included in our 2017 figure based on new displacements in 2017. We could not verify whether IDPs accounted for in the assessment differed from those reported as displaced during 2018 so we did not include them in order to avoid double counting.

Significant changes from last year

The figure increased due to new displacements which occurred in 2018.

NUMBER OF IDPS WHOSE PROGRESS TOWARDS DURABLE SOLUTIONS CANNOT BE VERIFIED

This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2018 but for whom there is no available evidence to corroborate progress toward durable solutions. In a few instances this number may refer to movements rather than people.

Sources and methodologies

Information on IDPs whose progress towards durable solutions cannot be verified comes from the local and regional media.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

IDMC's figure is based on local media reports. We do not have information on other returns in the country and therefore it is likely that this figure is an underestimate.

IDMC figure and rationale

IDMC included the number of people ordered to return after calm returned to Nessuit and Mauche in Eastern Mau Forest after four days of violence. The returns could not be confirmed by IDMC therefore we include them in our estimate for IDPs whose progress towards durable solutions cannot be verified.

Significant changes from last year

This is the first time IDMC has reported on the number of IDPs whose progress towards durable solutions cannot be verified.

CONFIDENCE ASSESSMENT

The Confidence Assessment provides an at-a-glance overview of the comprehensiveness of the data available regarding displacement associated with conflict for each country. It describes the methodologies used, frequency of reporting, data disaggregation and geographical coverage. Here two key metrics are analysed: the new displacements and the total number of IDPs.

Displacement metric	New displacements	Total number of IDPs
Reporting units	People, households	People, households, percentage of population
Methodology	Media monitoring, other	Key informants, media monitoring, other
Geographical disaggregation	Subnational - admin 1	Subnational - admin 1
Geographical coverage	Partial coverage	Partial coverage
Frequency of reporting	Other	Other
Disaggregation on sex	No	No
Disaggregation on age	No	No
Data triangulation	Some local triangulation	Some local triangulation
Data on settlement elsewhere	No	No
Data on returns	Partial	Partial
Data on local integration	No	No
Data on cross border movements	No	No
Data on deaths	No	No
Data on births	No	No

For any additional questions please email: data@idmc.ch

For the full country profile on Kenya please visit:
http://www.internal-displacement.org/countries/kenya