

NEPAL

Displacement associated with Conflict and Violence

Figure Analysis – GRID 2020

CONTEXT

There were no new displacements associated with conflict or violence in Nepal in 2019. IDMC, however, has identified 100,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) from the Maoist conflict who made progress towards a durable solution as of 31 December 2019.

Nepal's authorities consider the issue of displacement resulting from the Maoist insurgency as resolved. Following the adoption in 2015 of a new constitution, the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction, the entity responsible for providing assistance to IDPs displaced by conflict, was closed because most issues associated with the conflict, except for transitional justice, had been settled. Government records shows that more than 100,000 IDPs were provided assistance, including return packages.

The conflict came to an end as a result of a comprehensive peace agreement in 2006. We reported on 50,000 IDPs still displaced until 2016. GRID 2018 research, however, found that, according to a 2013 assessment by the Nepal Peace Trust Fund, all IDPs displaced as a result of the civil war were considered rehabilitated. Given indications that the IDPs had made partial progress towards a solution, we opted for counting them as having reached a "partial or unverified" solution. For the GRID 2019, however, IDMC chose not to report this "partial or unverified" solution figure as a result of an internal redefinition of the concept.

New displacements that occurred in 2019	Total number of IDPs as of 31 December 2019 <i>(Year figure was last updated: 2019)</i>	Partial Solutions and Unverified Conditions		
		Number of IDPs who have made partial progress towards a durable solution*		Number of IDPs whose progress towards durable solutions cannot be verified**
		Flows <i>(1 January – 31 December 2019)</i>	Stocks <i>(Year figure was last updated: 2019)</i>	Flows <i>(1 January – 31 December 2019)</i>
-	-	-	100,000	-

*This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2019 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 having taken place in 2019 (flows) rather than a total number of people (stock).

**This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2019 but for whom there is no available evidence to corroborate progress toward durable solutions. In a few instances, this number may refer to movements having taken place in 2019 (flows) rather than a total number of people (stock).

NUMBER OF IDPS WHO HAVE MADE PARTIAL PROGRESS TOWARDS A DURABLE SOLUTION

This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2019 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 that occurred in 2019 rather than a total number of people.

IDMC figure and rationale

More than 100,000 people had made progress towards a durable solution as of 31 December 2019. This is based on an estimate from the UN Resident Coordinator for Nepal (UN RC Nepal), which found that more than 100,000 IDPs from the Maoist conflict have been provided with return packages consisting of cash grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

Most of these IDPs continue to live in their displaced locations in urban centres for various reasons, including access to education, employment opportunities and the remoteness of their place of origin, according to UN RC Nepal.

IDMC considers these returns as partial solutions since we have no evidence that they effectively returned to their place of origin or overcame vulnerabilities linked to displacement when they resettled.

Sources and methodologies

IDMC obtained its figure and contextual information from UN RC Nepal, which examined government records. IDMC has been monitoring Nepal and reaching out to contacts during the last couple years but has found that information is limited. Of the information IDMC has been able to collect, this is the most recent and likely the most accurate figure.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

IDMC has no additional information about the time, place of return, or resettlement of the IDPs. It also has no additional information on their conditions upon return or resettlement elsewhere, or if the more than 100,000 figure includes all the remaining IDPs from the conflict.

Based on explanations from UN RC Nepal, however, it appears that people displaced from the conflict have been “returned/resettled”.

Significant changes from last year

IDMC did not report on IDPs who had made progress towards a durable solution last year. This year we obtained new data from a new source, which enables us to report on IDPs having made partial progress towards durable solutions with reasonable confidence. Historically, IDMC has reported on 50,000 IDPs displaced since the Maoist insurgency in Nepal who had not yet been rehabilitated, according to a 2012 assessment by the Nepal Peace Trust Fund. During the GRID 2018 research, however, it was found that all IDPs displaced due to the civil war were stated to have been rehabilitated, according to a 2013 assessment by the Nepal Peace Trust Fund. Given the indications that the IDPs had made partial progress towards some form of durable solutions, we opted for counting them as having reached a “partial or unverified” solution. For the GRID 2019, IDMC chose not to report on this “partial or unverified” solution figure due to the refining of the Partial Solutions and Unverified Conditions model.

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

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<http://www.internal-displacement.org/countries/nepal>