

Expert meeting on measuring poverty and inequality

29-30 November 2018, Vienna, Austria

Topic F: Coverage of hard-to-reach and potentially disadvantaged population groups in data collection

Surveying Forcibly Displaced Populations

The World Bank

Abstract

The UNHCR estimates that there are 68.5 million forcibly displaced people worldwide, 85 percent of which are being hosted in developing countries. As more than half of this population have been displaced for longer than four years, the World Bank has increasingly come to recognize the issue as a medium term social and economic development challenge, and has allocated USD 2 billion in new support for refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and their host communities. Designing programs to use the new financing, however, requires quantitative data on the history and needs of the displaced populations, many of which are difficult to reach and difficult to survey. This paper describes the World Bank's approach to survey design in three cases: refugees and IDPs in Chad, Syrian refugees in Turkey, and newly arrived asylum seekers in Italy and Greece. The topics covered include the design challenge, sampling approach, and special concerns for interviewing vulnerable populations in each of the three cases.