Indicator Proposal Summary Template

Note: This document is provided as a template for the 1-2 page summary that should accompany your Indicator proposal for the 2020 Comprehensive review

Additional information/documentation that should accompany the summary include:
- Draft metadata *(Word file only please)*
- Available data and/or link to where data can be located-
- Any methodological documents and/or links to these documents

Full name of the Indicator: Proportion of population who are refugees by country of origin

Custodian Agency(ies): United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Goal and target addressed: Goal 16, Target 16.3

What type of proposal (replacement, refinement, adjustment and addition), for replacement, refinement and adjustment, please list the original indicator and its number: Addition of new indicator (16.3.3)

1. Background and rationale for the indicator proposal

The United Nations General Assembly Resolution (A/Res/70/1) that adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at paragraph 23 recognizes the relevance of the Agenda to meet the needs of refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants on the basis that they are among the most vulnerable. It also explicitly states that Member States resolve to take further effective measures and actions, to "*strengthen support and meet the special needs of people living in areas affected by complex humanitarian emergencies*".

Furthermore, since the resolution was adopted, the issues associated with forced displacement have become even more prominent, mainly as a result of the growing refugee emergency, including the crisis at the Myanmar-Bangladesh border, in Venezuela, and the continuing Syria and South Sudan situations. Additionally, the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2016, explicitly acknowledges the challenges posed by forced displacement for achieving the 2030 Agenda, pledging to work to address the root causes of such crisis situations and to prevent or resolve conflict by peaceful means. The New York Declaration at paragraph 25 states that Member States will "*make efforts to collect accurate information regarding large movements of refugees and migrants. We will also take measures to identify correctly their nationalities, as well as their reasons for movement. We will take measures to identify those who are seeking international protection as refugees*". At paragraph 40, it recognizes "*the importance of improved data collection, particularly by national authorities*" and commits to "*enhance international cooperation to this end, including through capacity-building, financial support and technical assistance. Such data should be disaggregated by sex and age and include information on regular and irregular flows, the economic impacts of migration and refugee movements, human trafficking, the needs of refugees, migrants and host communities and other issues*".

SDG 16 claims to seek to reduce "the horrors which are a results of armed conflict or other forms of violence within societies", however there are no indicators monitoring the number of populations being forcibly displaced outside their country of origin at a global level. The omission of indicators on refugees and internally displaced people is inconsistent with the specific importance accorded to them in the 2030

Agenda for Sustainable Development and weakens the indicator framework as a key mechanism for fulfilling the pledge that "no one will be left behind."

2. Information on how and when the methodology has become an international standard and who is the governing body that approves it

UNHCR is the provider of official, government approved refugee statistics, which are released annually in its Global Trends report on World Refugee Day since the beginning of this century.

3. Data sources and data availability

`At the international level, data on refugee populations are routinely collected by UNHCR through the biannual Population Statistic Review (PSR) data collection. Focal points in each UNHCR country office submit data to the Statistics Unit in the Field Information and Coordination Support Section that performs consistency checks. In most cases these focal points obtain data either from the UNHCR registration database (in countries where UNHCR performs registration directly), or from national institutions responsible for data production in the area of asylum and refugee matters (National Statistical Offices, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice, Administrative Tribunals). When a country does not report refugee figures to UNHCR, estimations based on positive decisions on asylum applications from previous years are used. Once consolidated, data are shared to countries to check their accuracy. Population data are derived from annual estimates produced by the UN Population Division.
National data on refugee populations are available for 192 countries (at least one data point between 1951-2018). Time series data on refugees suitable for monitoring are available for 192 countries. Approximately 62 per cent of the refugee population have data which can be disaggregated by sex and 56 per cent which can be disaggregated by age.

4. Confirmation/explanation of joint submission with other partner/co-custodian agencies (if applicable)

5. Conclusion

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development makes an ambitious commitment of leaving no one behind in its implementation, however the framework includes no indicators on refugees or other forcibly displaced people. The omission of indicators on refugees and internally displaced people is inconsistent with the specific importance accorded to them in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and weakens the indicator framework as a key mechanism for fulfilling the pledge that "no one will be left behind."In order to ensure that this commitment is effectively met, the 2020 Comprehensive Review is an important opportunity to make the most vulnerable visible again.