

Public Disclosure Authorized

Public Disclosure Authorized

Public Disclosure Authorized

REFUGEE POLICY REVIEW FRAMEWORK

TECHNICAL NOTE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Refugee Policy Review Framework (RPRF) [P173212] and accompanying Technical Note were developed under the auspices of the World Bank's Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group (FCV) in close collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The RPRF was prepared through an inclusive and participatory process which sought inputs and feedback from UNHCR, refugee-hosting countries, countries that contribute to the International Development Association (IDA) and civil society organizations (CSOs) working in the refugee sector. Consultations with external actors proved crucial to the development of a strong RPRF.

The RPRF is the product of the collaborative effort by a core team led by Alain Aeschlimann, FCV Senior Strategy and Operations Officer. This work was carried out under the general direction of Xavier Devictor, FCV Practice Manager. The core team was comprised of Leila Hanafi, Melissa Johns, Rebecca Lacroix, Khadija Shaikh (all from FCV) and Paige Casaly (Legal). Nisha Arekapudi and Marie Dry (both from Development Economics) and Jae Kyun Kim (FCV) provided research and technical assistance.

The process benefitted from high-level consultations and inputs provided by Permanent Missions in Geneva, with a focus on IDA members who are eligible for financing under the Bank's IDA18 Refugee Sub-Window (RSW) and IDA19 Window for Host Communities and Refugees (WHR) as well as countries that contribute to IDA.

Valuable inputs were also provided by over forty different CSOs, which were brought together with the help of the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) in Geneva and Refugees International and

InterAction in Washington, DC. The RPRF team also received helpful advice from the Refugee Investment Network (RIN) and the Developing World Refugee and Asylum Policy Dataset (DWRAP).

Staff across the World Bank and its various regions, Global Practices and other units (Operations Policy and Country Services, Development Finance and Legal) provided valuable contributions, advice and comments throughout this process. Formal inputs through the Bank's peer review process were given by both internal peer reviewers and external peer reviewers from UNHCR and the International Rescue Committee (IRC). Important roles were played by World Bank Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV) country focal points and UNHCR field staff in the testing phase of the RPRF. Special thanks to Dina Abu Gaida, Naila Ahmed, Afrah Al Ahmadi, Anastasia Alexandrova, Natalia Baal, Bella Bird, Benjamin Burckhart, Joanna de Berry, Catherine Defontaine, Mohammed Essakali, Melinda Good, Christian Gonzales, Lucia Hanmer, Georgia Harley, Tracy Hart, Erina Iwami, Emilie Jourdan, Sereen Juma, Rebecca Lacroix, Michael Lokhsin, Siobhan McInerney-Lankford, Jonathan Marskell, Ernest Massiah, Piers Merrick, Marjorie Mpundu, Mona Niebhur, Raymond Muhula, Suleiman Namara, Angelica Nunes, Juri Oka, Eavan O'Hallaran, Vikram Raghavan, Benjamin Reese, Paula Rossascio, Valentina Saltane, Sajjad Ali Shah, Milena Stefanova, Janette Uhlmann and Varalakshmi Vemuru (all from the World Bank), Michel Botzung and Joanna Kata-Blackman (both from IFC), Bernadette Castel-Hollingsworth, Hervé De Villeroche, Betsy Lippmann, Sajjad Malik, Ewen Mcleod, Grainne O'Hara, Shahrzad Tadjbakhsh, Marije Van Kempen, Cornelis Wouters and Johannes Zech (all from UNHCR), Sarah Charles and Lauren Post (both from IRC).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	1
Acronyms	3
Introduction	4
A. Background	5
B. Conceptual approach	5
Detailed framework for the policy review	10
A. Terminology	10
B. Key principles	10
C. Objectives	11
D. Policy dimensions, sub-dimensions and guiding questions	12
E. Implementation: Process and responsibilities for data collection and analysis	14
F. Presentation of the Refugee Policy Review	16
G. Risks and mitigation measures	17
Annex 1. Theory of change	18
Annex 2. Policy dimensions, priority orientations, and guiding questions	19
Annex 3. Draft outline of the RPRF review	24
Annex 4. Glossary of terms	25

ACRONYMS

ASA	Advisory Services & Analytics
CSO	Civil society organization
CMU	Country Management Unit
ESF	Environmental and Social Framework
FCV	Fragility, Conflict and Violence
GCR	Global Compact on Refugees
GFR	Global Refugee Forum
IDA	International Development Association
IDA18	International Development Association Eighteenth Replenishment (July 1, 2017-June 30, 2020)
IDA19	International Development Association Nineteenth Replenishment (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2023)
IFC	International Finance Corporation
MTR	Mid-term Review
NGO	Non-governmental organization
RPRF	Refugee Policy Review Framework
RSW	IDA18 Refugee Sub-Window (officially “Sub-Window for Refugees and Host Communities”)
UN	United Nations
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
WBG	World Bank Group
WHR	IDA19 Window for Host Communities and Refugees

INTRODUCTION

Over the recent years, the World Bank Group (WBG) has scaled up its efforts to support refugees and refugee-hosting communities, in particular through the \$2 billion IDA18 Sub-window for Refugees and Host Communities (RSW) and the \$2.2 billion IDA19 Window for Host Communities and Refugees (WHR). This is an integral part of the WBG's engagement in refugee-hosting countries and it is one of the pillars of the recent WBG Strategy for Fragility, Conflict, and Violence.¹ The WBG's support aims to complement humanitarian interventions by focusing on the medium-term socioeconomic dimensions of displacement for both refugees and their hosts. It is part of a broader international effort to encourage the adoption of sound government policies for the management of forced displacement situations, which underpins the 2018 Global Compact on Refugees (GCR).

Under IDA19, the WBG's objectives are three-fold: "(i) mitigate the shocks caused by refugee inflows and creating social and economic development opportunities for refugee and host communities; (ii) facilitate sustainable solutions to protracted refugee situations including through the sustainable socioeconomic inclusion of refugees in the host country and/or their return to the country of origin; and (iii) strengthen country preparedness for increased or potential new refugee flows".² IDA Deputies also "welcomed IDA's continued efforts to engage in policy dialogue on development issues facing both refugee and host communities".³

Against this backdrop, the WBG committed that "by the IDA19 Mid-Term Review, IDA conduct a systematic review of refugee policy and institutional

environments in countries eligible for the Window for Host Communities and Refugees since their initial eligibility".⁴ This review is aimed "to gauge progress, identify further reform opportunities and inform further WHR support"⁵ and "in doing so, [to] shed light on the extent to which the WHR has helped to shift policies and their implementation in WHR countries (for example, in areas such as refugee protection, freedom of movement, access to education, health, identity, justice and finance, labor force participation including skills, employment and entrepreneurship, and environmental management) to promote inclusive development for both refugees and hosts".⁶

In order to deliver on this commitment, the WBG further committed to prepare "a methodology for the review (...) in coordination with UNHCR, and [to] make every effort to ensure that the review's key findings and recommendations will be publicly available".⁷

This Technical Note aims to present such a methodology: the Refugee Policy Review Framework (RPRF). It is articulated around three critical elements: (1) which specific policies will be the focus of the review; (2) how the corresponding information will be collected and vetted for quality; and (3) how the results of the review will be presented and reported on.

This Technical Note was prepared in close cooperation with UNHCR, as requested by the IDA Deputies, and was the result of an extensive process of consultations, both internal (Regions, Global Practices, and key corporate units), and external (refugee-hosting countries, countries contributing to IDA, and CSOs).

¹ *World Bank Group Strategy for Fragility, Conflict, and Violence 2020–2025*, World Bank Group, 2020.

² Executive Directors of the International Development Association, *Additions to IDA Resources: Nineteenth Replenishment IDA19: Ten Years to 2030: Growth, People, Resilience* (2020) further referred to as "IDA Deputies report", Annex4, para. 4.

³ IDA Deputies report, par. 116.

⁴ IDA Deputies report, par. 117 (4). Currently, the countries eligible for the WHR are: Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Mauritania, Niger, Pakistan, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, and Uganda, while discussions with Kenya are ongoing.

⁵ IDA Deputies report, par. 116.

⁶ Ibidem.

⁷ Ibidem.

A. BACKGROUND

Over the last period, forced displacement has emerged as an important development challenge. The overwhelming majority of refugees live in low- and middle-income countries, often in protracted situations. Evidence to date indicates that both refugees and their host communities are among the poorest and most vulnerable. As of 2019 UNHCR data, there were roughly 9 million refugees in IDA (and Blend) countries out of a total of 20.5 million refugees worldwide. In this context, the WBG took a proactive role in an international effort to shift the support to refugee-hosting countries from humanitarian aid mainly to a more comprehensive package, including development assistance. The WBG has also developed a close partnership with UNHCR, in particular to ensure its engagement can help strengthen the refugee protection framework.

As of July 2020, the WBG was supporting fourteen IDA refugee-hosting countries through 35 projects (\$1.85 billion) financed by the IDA18 RSW. These countries stand ready to further benefit from the IDA19 WHR. These are: Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Congo Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Mauritania, Niger, Pakistan, Rwanda and Uganda.

B. CONCEPTUAL APPROACH

A development approach to forced displacement

The WBG's engagement in refugee situations in IDA countries was first articulated in the IDA18 Deputies' report. Lessons from this experience have informed IDA19 and the WHR. The WBG overall approach in situations of forced displacement was framed in a 2016 Development Committee paper on "Forced Displacement and Development",⁸ and further elaborated in a subsequent 2017 flagship report, "Forcibly Displaced: Toward a Development Approach Supporting Refugees, the Internally Displaced, and Their Hosts"⁹ and reflected in the WBG Strategy for Fragility, Conflict, and Violence.

The WBG's overall objective in such situations is to help reduce poverty among both the forcibly displaced and their host communities, as part of a broader effort to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The focus is on tackling the medium-term socioeconomic dimensions of forced displacement, which is complementary to and supportive of, but distinct from, the rights-based protection agenda and the focus on short-term crisis responses, which are typical of humanitarian interventions.

To support host communities, the WBG aims to help manage the shock and socioeconomic consequences of an inflow of refugees. The arrival of large numbers of people in specific locales creates both risks and opportunities. It can transform the environment for designing and implementing poverty reduction programs, including by creating additional socioeconomic challenges for parts of host communities. In some exceptional cases, this creates new dynamics for the entire country and national development strategies must be adjusted and supported accordingly.¹⁰ The WBG aims to help host communities manage these new circumstances so that they can adjust to the inflows, continue to reduce poverty and enhance their resilience to shocks, while providing an accepting environment for the refugees.

To support the forcibly displaced, the WBG aims to help reduce the specific vulnerabilities they have acquired through their ordeal. Refugees have often endured catastrophic losses of assets or trauma, which affect their ability to seize economic opportunities, and can trap them in poverty. Because such vulnerabilities set them apart from other poor people in the communities where they live, broad-based poverty reduction efforts may not suffice to relieve their plight and specific interventions are needed.

Support to refugee-hosting countries—which is the focus of IDA19 WHR and hence of the RPRF—is only one part of a broader WBG effort that also includes an engagement in countries of origin, to help mitigate the drivers of fragility and hence to address the root

⁸ *Forced Displacement and Development*, Development Committee, March 25, 2016 (DC 2016-0002).

⁹ *FORCIBLY DISPLACED Toward a Development Approach Supporting Refugees, the Internally Displaced, and Their Hosts*, World Bank Group, 2017.

¹⁰ This is notably in instances where the national as opposed to local demography is impacted by a refugee emergency (e.g. Lebanon and Jordan).

causes of forced displacement, as well as to support the move towards durable solutions, including return and reintegration. This effort is encompassed in the respective WBG country partnership frameworks and other foundational documents.

Overall, the WBG's support is integrated within broader international support that has many dimensions: political, security, humanitarian, development, and diplomatic—each of which must be adequately resourced and cannot substitute to others. Political economy and regional dynamics play an important role at all stages of displacement.

The development approach recognizes that governments from both origin and host countries are at the center of the crisis and its management. It sees the forcibly displaced and their hosts as economic agents who make choices and respond to incentives. This approach aims to support both the refugees and their hosts in parallel. It is centered on such concepts as country leadership, and partnership with and between governments, the private sector, and civil society—as well as economic opportunity, medium-term sustainability, and cost-effectiveness. Most importantly, it pays particular attention to helping strengthen institutions, including manage development activities and enhance policies.

Helping to manage changes for host communities

Hosting large numbers of refugees creates new opportunities and new challenges which affect the host communities' poverty reduction efforts, both positively and negatively. Support to host communities is often seen as an indirect way to assist refugees, by helping to create an accepting or even a welcoming environment for forcibly displaced persons. But the development response should also aim to help reduce poverty among the hosts, as they adjust to a transformed context. This is an objective in its own right: host communities have development needs which have to be properly assessed, and reducing their own poverty often remains among their foremost priorities. Unless host communities are appropriately supported and promoted, the refugees' socioeconomic inclusion will remain limited.

The majority of refugees are hosted in peripheral areas either in border regions or in informal urban or peri-urban settlements, where opportunities are

typically scarce and service delivery is limited, and their presence can have a substantial impact on host communities. The development approach, particularly the WBG engagement under the RSW, has helped to bring focus and attention particularly to lagging and under-served regions in IDA countries and to address important challenges that both refugees and host communities face there.

For host communities, the inflow of large numbers of forcibly displaced persons is essentially a demographic shock, which disrupts preexisting equilibria and creates initial mismatches in supply and demand in markets. With the passing of time, a new set of equilibria emerges. The question is whether this new environment is more or less conducive to poverty reduction among the hosts. The answer depends on the initial conditions, the size and nature of the shock, and the policy and investment response.

The socioeconomic impacts of such situations typically entail both positive and negative elements. Positive elements are related to the arrival of newcomers, which, if managed well (and in particular if refugees can effectively work at their level of skills), can bring benefits similar to those of labor migration. In some situations, this may also include investments and use of assets by refugees to create enterprises and employment. Negative aspects are typically three-fold: (1) an exacerbation of some pre-existing issues and challenges (for example related to slow overall economic growth) for which refugees may provide convenient scapegoats; (2) distributional effects, with some hosting groups bearing a disproportionate cost (e.g., for those who, due to their qualifications or spending patterns, find themselves competing with refugees); and (3) supply constraints, especially if the refugee population is concentrated in selected areas (e.g., on basic services, environment).

The inflow of forcibly displaced can also alter the social makeup of the community by affecting various groups in different ways. This can shift the composition and the relative social status of some of these groups and change their relationships. It can also give rise to resentment and social tensions between hosts and the newly arrived who often bring their own norms, values, and behaviors. The impact of such inflows depends in part on the host community's overall readiness to accept outsiders, but also on the magnitude of the

inflow and on the preexisting relationship or socio-cultural affinities between the displaced and their hosts (language, ethnicity, religion etc.).

The impact of forced displacement on host communities also depends on government policies. For example, the concentration of forcibly displaced persons in camps or in specific hosting areas may heighten challenges for host communities (i.e. in terms of jobs, prices, services, or social cohesion). When refugees have the right to work, they can fully use their skills and contribute more to the economy (including potentially fiscal resources). The increase in population resulting from the refugee inflow may overwhelm existing national facilities and services at local level, and adequate policies may be needed to expand access of both refugees and host communities to crucial services, including infrastructure and energy.

Against this backdrop, the “Forcibly Displaced” report identified several areas of focus to support host communities:

- **Address long-standing development issues, which the presence of forcibly displaced persons may exacerbate.** This largely consists of “traditional” development support to host countries and communities, for example to improve the business environment or to reduce inequalities. It is particularly important for fragility, economic management, employment, and social cohesion.
- **Support those who have been affected within host communities.** Some groups, particularly poorer households and vulnerable persons, in host communities are disproportionately affected, especially through jobs due to increased competition and labor supply, and prices increases for selected goods. Development actors should help these people stay in the labor market and maintain their livelihoods or upgrade their skills. They should also help strengthen social protection systems to provide assistance to those who may not be able to do so.
- **Strengthen and expand service delivery** in the education and health sectors as well as for urban services and utilities. Accommodating forcibly displaced persons requires scaling up supply. Development actors should help build capacity

and finance infrastructure and operations, and maintenance expenditure in the short term. They should also help develop an adequate system that can be sustained in the medium term.

- **Encourage granting the forcibly displaced the freedom of movement and the right to work.** From a socioeconomic perspective, such policies are in the interest of all stakeholders, including host communities. They allow refugees to move to where there are potentially better employment and work opportunities. Parallel to this, development actors should also help modernize the delivery of external assistance, so that it can better stimulate economic activity within host communities (for example, through cash rather than food aid) and increasingly rely on country systems.
- **Help host countries and host communities prepare.** In general, displacement can be forecast and there is time to prepare, at least in a certain way—for example with block grants that can be rapidly deployed to affected municipalities when the crisis hits. When governments plan ahead, country systems are better equipped to manage shocks in a timely and effective way. Decisions made in the immediate aftermath of a refugee crisis often set a dependency path that can have long-term implications. Authorities can be ready with a response that can be swiftly implemented when refugees flow in. Development actors should help develop advance warning systems and support host governments in preparing contingency plans.

Helping to reduce the specific vulnerabilities of the refugees

Development approaches are geared toward helping people escape poverty. The goal is not different for refugees, although they face additional obstacles compared with the local populations. Their experience has typically left them with a set of vulnerabilities that are largely specific to them. These vulnerabilities put them at risk of falling into a “poverty trap” with lasting impacts that can extend across several generations. Many refugee crises last for a long time with a diversity of possible situations, including in some instances being confined to camps for extended periods of time with no prospect of returning home. In such cases,

the development approach aims to strengthen their capacity to seize opportunities not only in their current environment, but also as a contribution to enabling the long-term prospects for solutions.

Refugees have typically suffered a major setback. They have lost many of their assets, sometimes everything. Their human and social capital depletes rapidly. They have often experienced traumatic events, which can leave scars that are difficult to heal. When the forcibly displaced do not have access to economic opportunities, they may have to adopt short-term coping strategies to survive—putting children to work, having daughters marry early, disposing of any remaining assets at fire-sale prices. The experience of loss and trauma distinguishes them from other poor people and from economic migrants in their host communities.

The initial setbacks can be compounded in the host environment. Refugees need economic opportunities to avoid falling into poverty or dependency. But they can face severe legal restrictions on their right to work or to move freely. Refugees may also end up in areas where there are simply no jobs or opportunities for them, as in a lagging region or a place where there is no demand for their skills. In addition, due to the resulting uncertainties, forcibly displaced persons have short planning horizons that can lead to less than optimal decisions. All these factors severely constrain their prospects: they find themselves with limited options, even more limited than other poor people and economic migrants in the same communities.

Against this backdrop, the “Forcibly Displaced” report identified several priorities to help refugees overcome their distinct vulnerabilities:

- **Support policies that enhance freedom of movement and the right to work.** This is especially important where refugees are in unsustainable and economically dependent situations. It reduces aid dependency, enable normal dignified life and encourage productive participation in local economies. Development partners can document the potential benefits of such measures—for both forcibly displaced persons and for their host communities—and support their adoption.

- **Help create economic opportunities where there are large numbers of refugees.** Optimally, this requires public investment supported by external actors to encourage private sector development benefitting both local populations and refugees. A particular objective should be on sustainability once initial support programs are completed.
- **Invest in education and skills that are in demand in the labor market.** This can help adults adjust to their new environment and prevent children from becoming part of a “lost generation”. Increasing access, relevance and quality may require substantial external support. The focus should be on primary and secondary education, as well as on opportunities for higher education and skills development.
- **Protect refugees’ human capital by ensuring access to health care and provide continuing support** to those who may not be able to seize opportunities in the short term, both in camp and non-camp urban settings. This could build on lessons learned from development experience in reforming and modernizing social protection systems.
- **Guarantee refugees’ rights, notably a legal or administrative status.** The lack of rights, or their poor enforcement, can be a key source of vulnerability and a critical obstacle to contributing productively to the local economy.

Placing a particular focus on specific groups

Forced displacement does not affect all equally—and some groups are potentially more exposed to specific risks or likely to face increased hardship and discrimination. This is particularly relevant in the context of the WBG’s approach to social inclusion and economic, environmental, and social sustainability, as embodied by the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF).

Vulnerabilities linked to forced displacement often have an important gender dimension: men and women experience forced displacement very differently. Displaced populations are represented by larger shares of women and children and atypical family structures, including a high prevalence of female-

headed households among refugee populations. Women and girls face particular challenges. In some situations, displacement can arguably provide space for “positive” change and empowerment, as when gender norms are more progressive than in the place of origin, or when traditional divisions of labor are disrupted. But women and girls also often risk rape, sexual abuse, and other forms of gender-based violence throughout the displacement cycle—during flight, in transit as well as in exile. Sexual exploitation, engaging in transactional sex as refugee women seek to provide for their families or early marriage of young girls are common across many displacement situations. Girls and women are often forced to leave refugee camps and other refugee settlements to gather firewood, water, and food, especially in situations where natural resources are scarce. This leaves them vulnerable to sexual violence, especially in contexts where sexual violence is used as a weapon. Women face specific protection risks including family separation, psychosocial stress and trauma. Their access to the labor market as well as to education and adequate health services is not always guaranteed and in societies with strong gender norms that disempower women, widows or female headed households are particularly at risk of exclusion.

Refugee populations are very diverse. They include groups that may have specific vulnerabilities and require dedicated support—such as unaccompanied children, youth, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and ethnic minorities. Such groups with specific vulnerabilities exist in higher proportions within refugees than in non-refugee populations. In some countries, refugees’ characteristics such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, nationality, country of origin, political opinions, indigenous status, disability, sexual orientation, membership in a particular social group, or others may also have a particular significance and increase risks of discrimination.

Against this backdrop, several areas of focus to support specific groups have been identified, notably in the “Forcibly Displaced” report:

- **Strengthen gender equality.** This is important for having an environment in which refugee women and girls do not experience specific gender-related barriers to accessing services and economic opportunities compared with national women and girls and refugee men and boys. This is especially pertinent for medium- and long-term development given the high prevalence of female-headed households in refugee populations.
- **Support institutions which provide vulnerable categories of refugees with adequate protection.** This can facilitate the access to appropriate protection and care for unaccompanied and separated children, victims of trafficking in person, and survivors of gender-based violence.
- **Promote social inclusion.** This is important to ensure that all refugees, irrespective of their age, race, ethnicity, religion, nationality, country of origin, political opinions, indigenous status, disability, sexual orientation, membership in a particular social group, or other characteristics benefit equally from services and socioeconomic opportunities. This is underpinned by the principles embodied in the ESF.
- **Provide dedicated support to those who may not be able to access socioeconomic opportunities, even when they are available.** This can allow to avoid that persons with disabilities, elderly, or unaccompanied children become marginalized and fall in the poverty trap.

DETAILED FRAMEWORK FOR THE POLICY REVIEW

A. TERMINOLOGY

Under international law, **“refugees”** are persons outside their countries of origin who are in need of international protection because of feared persecution, or a serious threat to their life, physical integrity or freedom in their country of origin as a result of persecution, armed conflict, violence or serious public disorder.¹¹ The WBG follows UNHCR guidance as to which persons are refugees in a given population.¹² For the purposes of the WHR and the RPRF, the term “refugees” includes both refugees and people in “refugee-like situations” as defined by UNHCR.¹³ For RPRF purposes, the term “refugee” will also be taken to include asylum-seekers where and if appropriate.

For RPRF purposes, **“refugee policy”** refers to formal legal and administrative instruments (including laws, regulations, proclamations, judicial and administrative decisions, national strategies, development or sectoral plans, roadmaps, and other written materials) issued by a national authority (legislative, judiciary or executive branch), including agreements or memoranda of understanding with international organizations, that regulate refugees’ admission to the country, their acquisition of legal status and legal rights, and the conditions under which they live and work. In exceptional cases, practice or unwritten

policy can be included when such practice is very broadly and publicly known and is considered binding by all concerned.

See Annex 4 for the glossary of terms used in the RPRF.

B. KEY PRINCIPLES

The RPRF is informed by the following key principles:

- **No “one-size-fits-all” approach.** There is a strong consensus that refugee-related policies have to be tailored to each hosting country’s situation, and in particular to the specifics of the forced displacement situation (e.g., in terms of numbers, origin, etc.) and to the political and socioeconomic constraints the hosting country may be facing. The situation of the host communities and a proper consideration of their needs, particularly the ones impacted by the inflow of refugees are also key elements. The RPRF should hence not be seen as providing a universal or standardized set of policies for managing refugee situations across countries, nor as a “refugee index” to benchmark countries. It will hence focus on qualitative narratives rather than quantified measurements (and communicate accordingly). The RPRF is not meant to inform cross-country comparisons, but rather to analyze changes over time in a given country.

¹¹ The 1951 **Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees** defines a **refugee** as a person “who is outside his or her country of nationality or habitual residence; has a well-founded fear of being persecuted because of his or her race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion; and is unable or unwilling to avail him- or herself of the protection of that country, or to return there, for fear of persecution” (Art. 1 A. (1)). In Africa, the 1969 **Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa** adds to the 1951 Convention definition by recognizing as refugees people who are forced to flee due to “external aggression, occupation, foreign domination or events seriously disturbing public order” (Art. 1(2)).

¹² The RPRF is geared only towards refugees, which does not include **migrants** (who choose to move to improve their lives by finding work, pursuing education, or other reasons and who do not primarily fear persecution or flee violence and conflict). Refugees benefit from a distinct status under international law, while migrants do not. The international community responds to these respective situations through different frameworks. Refugees are entitled to international protection under international refugee law obligations, while migrants are subject to normative standards and soft law such as the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration. These groups hence face different policy constraints to their socioeconomic development.

¹³ International Development Association, *Implementation Guidelines: IDA19 Window for Host Communities and Refugees* (2020), at para. 2(a). See the RPRF Glossary (Annex 4) for a definition of **“refugee-like situations.”** The RPRF is focused solely on refugees including those in refugee-like situations; this does not include **internally displaced persons (IDPs)**. In contrast to refugees, IDPs are nationals of the country in which they are displaced, and therefore face different legal and policy constraints to their socioeconomic development. The RPRF therefore considers only refugee-related policies, not those related to internal displacement.

- **Consistency with the international normative framework.** The WBG's support to host communities and refugees is part of a broader international process, which is underpinned by key international agreements, including the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, its 1967 Protocol, the 2018 Global Compact on Refugees, the 1969 Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa, and related international instruments.¹⁴ The RPRF—while recognizing that some countries provide protection to refugees even when they are not signatories to such instruments—draws from these agreements as it identifies possible areas of focus for the WBG policy dialogue, within the context of the WBG's mandate and building on the institution's development experience and adherence to the ESF. It has also been developed in consultation with UNHCR, which is established to provide international protection and seek together with governments permanent solutions for the problem of refugees. This includes a mandate to lead in monitoring and overseeing the application of international agreements for the protection of refugees in regional and national laws and policies as well as their implementation across countries.¹⁵
- **Selectivity.** Policies affecting refugees and host communities are manifold and cut across a multiplicity of sectors and areas. For the policy review to be effective and meaningful, it needs to be focused on a relatively limited set of issues which are most relevant to IDA's objectives. The RPRF hence needs to identify such a set of priority policy areas among those identified in the GCR,

with a focus on those that are most relevant to the achievement of the WBG's poverty reduction objectives for both host communities and refugees.

- **Operational relevance.** The RPRF aims to inform the WBG's policy dialogue and as such needs to be focused on critical policies that could potentially be adjusted by the host countries' authorities to improve socioeconomic opportunities for host communities and refugees. The RPRF is looking at both the existence of a formal policy and its levels of implementation, and needs to strike an effective balance between formal policy changes and their actual implementation. Key indicators must also share a number of characteristics: measurability, ease of collection, and sensitivity to policy changes.
- **Realism.** The RPRF includes an exhaustive list of those areas where change would be meaningful from a development perspective. It is not expected that there will be progress on all policy dimensions during an IDA cycle. In most situations, progress is expected to be incremental, non-linear, and largely determined by the political economy at the time within a given country.

C. OBJECTIVES

The RPRF overall objective is to identify key areas for WBG policy dialogue on forced displacement and document progress in each given country over time. It will measure the progress since the WHR/RSW was established, help identify further reform opportunities and inform further WHR support.

¹⁴ Relevant international human rights instruments include: ILO Convention No. 29 on Forced Labour (1930); ILO Convention No. 87 on Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise (1948); ILO Convention No. 98 on the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining (1949); ILO Convention No. 100 on Equal Remuneration (1951); ILO Convention No. 105 on the Abolition of Forced Labour (1957); ILO Convention No. 111 on Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) (1958); the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1965); the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966); the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966); ILO Convention No. 138 on Minimum Age (1973); the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (1979); the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1984); the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989); ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour (1999); and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006).

¹⁵ To note that international treaty law also requires States to provide UNHCR with information on the number and well-being of refugees and the laws and policies concerning them.

D. POLICY DIMENSIONS, SUB-DIMENSIONS AND GUIDING QUESTIONS

In line with these principles, and based on both the development approach to forced displacement articulated by the WBG and the inputs received through the consultation process, the RPRF is articulated around four main policy dimensions, which are further divided into selected sub-dimensions, and two cross-cutting themes (also see Annex 1 for the corresponding Theory of Change):

- **Policies toward host communities**,¹⁶ to help them make progress in their own poverty reduction effort, in an environment that has often been impacted by the presence of refugees, with a focus on direct support (fiscal transfers, social protection); social cohesion; environmental management; and preparedness to mitigate impacts in the case of new inflows, where relevant.
- **Overall regulatory environment and governance**, to ensure that refugees can effectively enjoy basic rights conferred to them by relevant international legal instruments and that are key to their ability to make progress towards poverty reduction, with a focus on the overall protection framework; the ability to access a secured legal status; the institutional framework for refugee management and coordination; the ability to access civil registration and documentation; and the ability to enjoy security and access justice.

- **Access to economic opportunities**, to ensure that refugees can make further progress towards self-reliance and maintain or further develop their skills, which is key both while in exile and for preparing for an eventual durable solution, with a focus on freedom of movement; right to work and rights at work; land, housing and property rights; and access to financial and administrative services. This also reflects the importance of conducive conditions for the private sector to engage in refugee-hosting areas.
- **Access to public services**, to ensure that refugees can access national systems in conditions similar to nationals, with a focus on education and health care, and that vulnerable groups can enjoy an adequate degree of support.
- **Cross-cutting themes—gender and social inclusion**, to ensure that policies are adapted to the distinct needs of specific groups and that they are designed and implemented in a non-discriminatory manner, across all policy dimensions. These were designed with due regard to the ESF and its principles to address impacts on vulnerable individuals or groups.

Under each of the policy sub-dimensions, the RPRF has further identified an overall “priority orientation” which reflects the WBG’s overall approach as articulated in key documents, and which can provide a concrete framework for assessing progress over time. Table 1 provides a presentation of such priority orientations, which is further detailed with guiding questions under each area in Annex 2.

¹⁶ For methodological purposes, host communities are under a specific dimension, which is distinct from the other dimensions related to refugees. However, in practice, some policies apply to both or are similar for both. Many issues are connected and the discussion on policies for hosting communities and for refugees are to be integrated and not to be held separately.

Table 1: Policy dimensions, sub-dimensions and priority orientations for reform

1 Host Communities		
1.1	Support for communities in refugee-hosting areas	Priority orientation: Support is provided to refugee-hosting areas as part of an approach that takes into consideration the estimated socioeconomic impacts on local communities hosting refugees (i) in public resource allocations and (ii) in extending social protection to individuals who are economically affected by the situation.
1.2	Social cohesion	Priority orientation: Effective steps are taken to identify, prevent, and mitigate social tensions and risks of violence between and within refugee and host communities and to combat discrimination.
1.3	Environmental management	Priority orientation: Effective measures are in place to prevent or mitigate environmental degradation in refugee-hosting areas and sustainably manage natural resources.
1.4	Preparedness for refugee inflows	Priority orientation: Robust preparedness plans are in place to mitigate the impact of possible new refugee inflows.
2 Regulatory Environment and Governance		
2.1	Normative framework	Priority orientation: Policies related to refugee status determination, legal status, and rights and obligations of refugees are clearly defined and in line with applicable international and regional norms and standards and are easily accessible and well known by refugees, the national and local authorities, and other national stakeholders.
2.2	Security of legal status	Priority orientation: (i) Legal stay arrangements are secure and predictable with adequate time perspectives; and (ii) no expulsion of asylum-seekers or refugees takes place in violation of international law.
2.3	Institutional framework for refugee management and coordination	Priority orientation: An efficient government-led coordination system is in place and enables the management of the refugee situation, policy development as well as effective coordination across government and with external parties. This includes a representative consultation mechanism which allows the authorities to get input and feedback from refugees on decisions affecting them.
2.4	Access to civil registration and documentation	Priority orientation: All refugees have access to official personal identification (proof of legal identity) and are able to register vital events (birth, marriage, divorce and death) with the civil registry and be issued with documentation.
2.5	Justice and security	Priority orientation: (i) Refugees enjoy a level of security on an equal basis with nationals, and (ii) refugees have access to civil, administrative and criminal justice and other grievance redress mechanisms under the same conditions as nationals.
3 Economic Opportunities		
3.1	Freedom of movement	Priority orientation: Refugees can choose their place of residence and move freely across the country as nationals of a foreign country generally in the same circumstances would.
3.2	Rights to work and rights at work	Priority orientation: (i) Refugees have access to the labor market, including by starting a business and seeking wage-earning employment, in the same way as nationals; and (ii) refugees enjoy protection of workers' rights on the same level as nationals.
3.3	Land, housing and property rights	Priority orientation: Refugees can purchase, lease and use housing, land and property in the same way as nationals, without restriction on location, type, or duration, or at least benefit from the most favorable treatment accorded to nationals of a foreign country in the same circumstances.

3.4	Financial and administrative services	Priority orientation: Refugees have effective access to financial services and to administrative services (driving license, recognition of professional/academic qualifications, skills development) which are essential for economic opportunities.
4	Access to National Public Services	
4.1	Education	Priority orientation: Refugees have the possibility to effectively and safely access the national education system under the same conditions as nationals.
4.2	Healthcare	Priority orientation: Refugees have the possibility to effectively and safely access the publicly financed health care system under the same conditions as nationals.
4.3	Social protection	Priority orientation: Vulnerable refugees and vulnerable host community members have access to basic levels of assistance in a manner that is equitable in terms of coverage, targeting, and levels of benefits.
4.4	Protection for vulnerable groups	Priority orientation: Protection and care are available to unaccompanied and separated children, refugee victims of trafficking in persons, survivors of gender-based violence, and other refugee groups with specific needs.
5	Cross Sectors	
5.1	Gender	Priority orientation: Refugees of all gender groups do not experience specific gender-related barriers to accessing services and economic opportunities.
5.2	Social inclusion	Priority orientation: All refugees, irrespective of their age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, nationality, country of origin, statelessness, political opinions, indigenous status, disability, sexual orientation, membership in a particular social group, or other characteristics, benefit on an equitable basis from relevant policies, including those related to access to services and economic opportunities.

E. IMPLEMENTATION: PROCESS AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

The RPRF review cycle will be carried out to inform the IDA Mid-term Review and Replenishment process. The RPRF baseline will be available in spring 2021 and the first review for IDA19 Mid-Term Review (exact delivery time to be confirmed in mid-2021). The frequency of further reviews will be decided upon in due time.

The process for each RPRF review cycle will be led by the FCV Group in close cooperation and partnership with UNHCR. UNHCR has kindly agreed to collect the country data and information necessary for the country-level assessment of changes that will be conducted by the WBG. This process will allow the

Bank to benefit from UNHCR's extensive presence on the ground and knowledge of refugee situations, strengthen the alignment of its efforts with other strands of the global debate on refugee policies, and reinforce the credibility of the assessment by basing it on information provided by an independent and internationally recognized third party. This partnership is expected to be formalized in an exchange of letters between the two institutions.

To launch the RPRF process, the WBG will proactively reach out to refugee-hosting governments to share this Technical Note and clarify any points that may deserve discussion, including with regard to the role of UNHCR.

The RPRF review cycle and corresponding responsibilities are spelled out below:

Step 1 – Initial collection of data and information (six weeks). The RPRF process will draw from UNHCR's standard information gathering and government collaboration on refugee policies and institutional environments as per its mandate. UNHCR has kindly agreed to expand these processes to collect and share information that is necessary for the RPRF, based on their knowledge of the situation and relevant resources, including publicly available datasets, domestic laws, regulations and other policies, the confidential protection assessment prepared by UNHCR for the eligibility of each WHR country,¹⁷ and UNHCR, WBG and other relevant stakeholders' public material. This will include consultations with the host governments, WBG CMUs, relevant global practices and other staff, including IFC specialists. It is also expected that this information will reflect the dialogue UNHCR is maintaining with refugees, relevant CSOs and representatives of the private sector, as may be appropriate. UNHCR will provide the WBG with a country summary based on collected data and information. This will include introductory data points and short narratives under each policy dimension/sub-dimension, based on guiding questions and changes against the baseline, in the format presented in Annex 3. UNHCR has committed to applying their internal quality assurance process to these country summaries, including with a view to ensuring accuracy and consistency across countries.

Step 2 – Absence of objection by host countries' governments (four weeks). The WBG will share the country summary with relevant host countries' governments to give them an opportunity to provide clarifications and feedback, including on any possible inaccuracies. This would be done through a process of absence of objection with a four-week response period. In its communication to the concerned government, the WBG will indicate that the country summary has

been drafted based on information provided by UNHCR at the request of the WBG.¹⁸ UNHCR will be kept informed throughout this consultation. In case of inaccuracies noted by the government, the WBG and UNHCR will discuss how the issue can be represented in a fair and accurate manner and will endeavor to find a solution to solve the discrepancy, including, where appropriate, in a trilateral discussion with the government.

Step 3 – Overall analysis and progress report (two weeks). The FCV Group will prepare an overall analysis of progress over the reporting period which draws from country summaries established by UNHCR, and inputs from various stakeholders, including CSOs.

Step 4 – Finalization and WBG review (two weeks). The final Refugee Policy Review (overall analysis of progress and UNHCR country summaries as annexes) will be subject to a WBG-wide review meeting, chaired by the FCV Group Senior Director to which UNHCR will participate as peer reviewer.

Step 5 – Follow up (continuous). The Refugee Policy Review will be broadly disseminated to all stakeholders concerned (IDA countries eligible to the RPRF, countries which contribute to IDA, IDA Deputies, UNHCR, CSOs, development actors, etc.), and will be made publicly available in line with the IDA19 Deputies' report, which states the WBG "will make every effort to ensure that the review's key findings and recommendations will be publicly available".¹⁹

The analysis presented in the Refugee Policy Review is expected to guide the policy dialogue with refugee-hosting countries in the subsequent period, including to purposefully identify further reform opportunities and inform further WHR support, as committed to the IDA Deputies. To that effect, for each country, the FCV Group will draft a short strategy document based on the Refugee Policy Review, which will focus on priorities, policy reform opportunities and potential further WHR support. This document will be established following in

¹⁷ Please note that the RPRF does not determine the eligibility of countries for the WHR. The documents required to establish the eligibility of each WHR country include an eligibility note prepared by WBG Country Management Units (CMUs), a strategy note prepared by the concerned country, and the confidential protection assessment prepared by UNHCR to inform the WBG's determination of the adequacy of a country's refugee protection framework.

¹⁸ The correspondence will typically be addressed to the Governor of the World Bank, and copied to relevant sectoral ministries and technical agencies, including the national institutional focal point for refugee matters as well as to the UNHCR country representative.

¹⁹ IDA Deputies report, par. 116.

depth discussions with the concerned government and consultations with UNHCR, relevant CSOs and other development partners. It will be validated in a meeting chaired by the WBG Country Director in accordance with the Accountability and Decision-Making (ADM) framework for Advisory Services and Analytics (ASA). This strategic document will be developed after the first Refugee Policy Review and then at the start of each IDA cycle, as appropriate.

The regular production of reviews will also contribute to the global knowledge on forced displacement and to assessment of the WBG's comparative advantage in this area.

The establishment of the RPRF initial baseline for each country will follow a twofold approach. As per the IDA policy commitment, the periodic review needs to consider progress since the inception of the window/sub-window at the time of the initial eligibility note of each country (in most cases 2017). In doing so, the review will show the extent to which the IDA support has helped to shift policy and implementation since inception. Recognizing that some data points may not be available as far back as 2017, the process to fulfill this commitment will be the following:

- UNHCR will conduct a desk review to identify key refugee policy changes that have occurred in each WHR country from the establishment of their initial IDA18 RSW eligibility up to the end of IDA18 (30 June 2020). This process will focus on de jure policies to provide a retrospective overview of policy changes for each WHR country under IDA18.
- Simultaneously, UNHCR will apply the whole RPRF methodology for collecting information and data as at the start of IDA19 (1 July 2020).

The first country summaries will integrate information from both workstreams and have the retrospective note annexed. Steps one, two, and five as outlined above will also be implemented. The baseline review will start in early March 2021 and the absence of objection by host countries' governments will be sought by the second half of April 2021.

F. PRESENTATION OF THE REFUGEE POLICY REVIEW

Each Refugee Policy Review will be produced as an ASA work product, for which this Technical Note provides the global framework (see draft outline in Annex 3).

The ASA will aim to provide a comprehensive review of significant policy changes related to refugee management during the reporting period for each country, as well as their expected implementation and impact, and an overall perspective on the overall pace and direction of policy advancements across countries. The ASA will not aim to make comparisons across countries, but capture developments over time in each given country.

The ASA will be comprised of two parts: (1) an overall analysis of changes in the respective countries, prepared by the FCV Group; and (2) an annex presenting country-level attachments with country summaries detailing information and changes under each policy dimension and sub-dimension, which UNHCR has kindly agreed to provide.

To sum up, the RPRF will complement the WHR process, in the following manner:

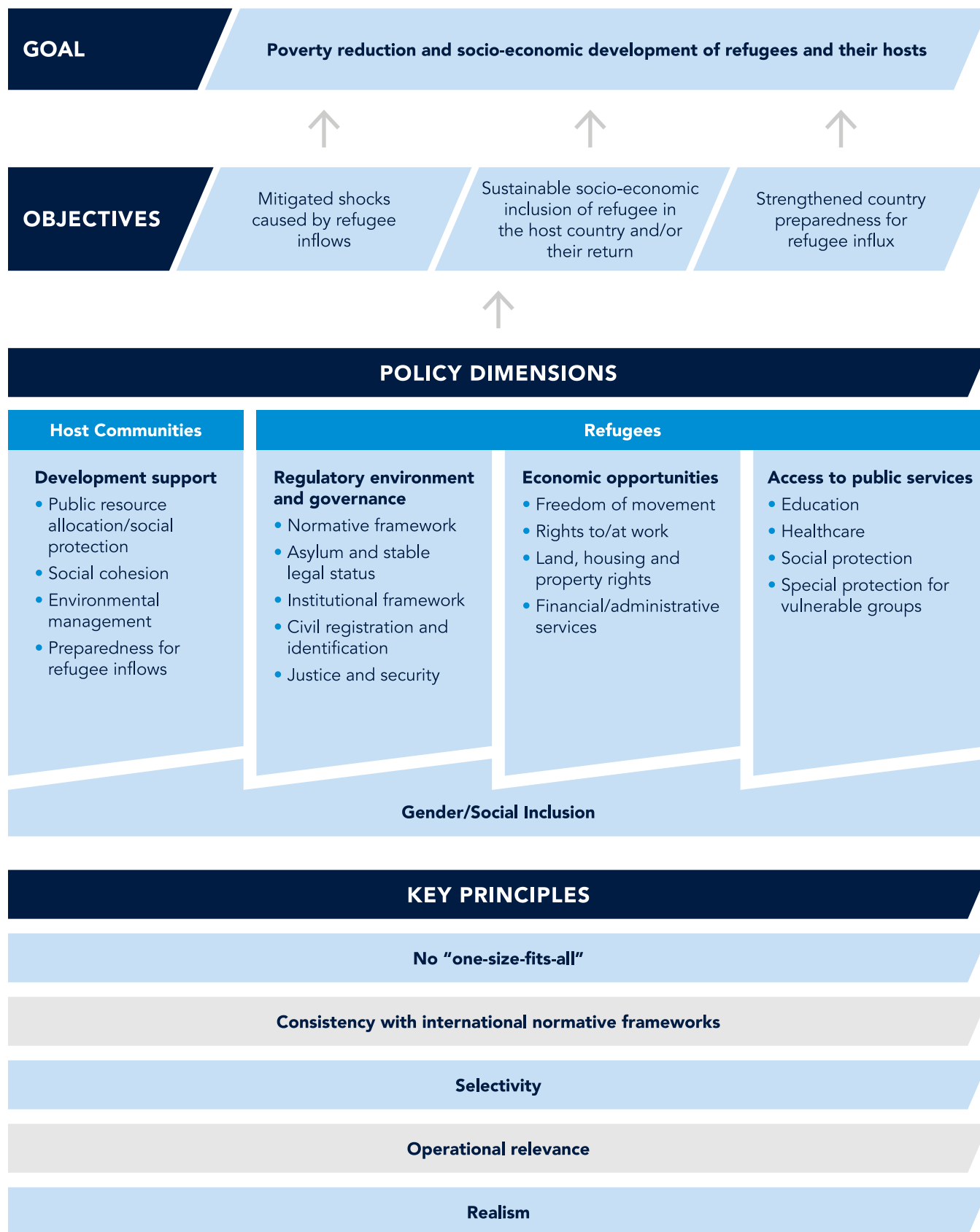
- At inception (for each RSW/WHR country): the government prepares and shares with the WBG a strategy/action plan, which provides the basis for eligibility; the WBG prepares an eligibility note to allow access to the WHR.
- On a bi-annual basis: UNHCR provides the WBG with a Refugee Protection Assessment for each WHR country, which helps the WBG determine the continued adequacy of the refugee protection framework.
- At the IDA Mid-Term Review: the WBG prepares the RPRF, with UNHCR support, including assessing progress since initial eligibility under the RSW/WHR and identifying priority areas for policy dialogue in each WHR country.

G. RISKS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

The RPRF aims to enhance policy dialogue, notably by supporting IDA refugee-hosting countries in their efforts to adopt policies that best advance the socio-economic development of host communities and refugees while fitting the circumstances that a given country is facing. Some potential risks have been identified in the implementation of the RPRF. These risks and the corresponding mitigation strategies include:

- **Perception.** There may be inaccurate expectations or perceptions of the RPRF as a way to compare or rank refugee-hosting countries, to encourage standard policy formula across countries, to provide an exhaustive list of desirable policies, to compare countries, etc. It will be important to maintain a regular dialogue with the concerned governments and to consistently communicate with other stakeholders the purpose of the RPRF, in particular that the exercise is not aimed at making cross country comparison but at assessing changes in each country concerned.
- **Partnership and efficiency.** The RPRF is implemented in close partnership with UNHCR. The WBG will rely largely on information and data collected by UNHCR, which will draft the various country summaries. Concerned governments might have differing interpretations of relevant policies and their implementation. On socioeconomic issues, UNHCR and the WBG will have to collaborate closely in order to ensure their respective expertise and data are effectively complemented. As such, UNHCR will consult with WBG specialists on these issues during the data collection phase; with UNHCR and WBG headquarters ready to harmonize available datasets. The nature of the cooperation between the WBG and UNHCR and their respective roles in the various phases of the RPRF will be clearly explained to the concerned governments. Efforts, including through trilateral discussion where appropriate, will also be made to avoid any misunderstanding and solve possible discrepancies.
- **Political economy.** Depending on the circumstances in the host country and/or country of origin, the handling of a refugee crisis may involve political and security sensitivities. As committed through IDA19, the RPRF focuses on the situation of host communities and refugees in the host countries, notably to inform WHR further support for refugees and host communities. Understanding the constraints of host countries and communities is key to understand the political economy constraints. On this basis, demonstrating and communicating the socioeconomic benefits of refugee inclusion based on evidence allows to advance the dialogue, both globally and with the concerned authorities. Highlighting how the WBG work in addressing the drivers of displacement and creating the conditions for sustainable return to the country of origin complements the WHR objectives is also important. The political economy in the country of origin and its capability or willingness to allow the safe return of refugees is also a paramount factor for strengthening a conducive environment in the host country for establishing and maintaining a solid refugee framework.
- **Stakeholders.** The multiplicity of agencies or organizations supporting the refugee response may create a risk in the implementation of the RPRF. Humanitarian and development partners interventions are for the most part focused on refugees and on a more limited scale, host communities. Without an institutional mechanism between the concerned government and the various partners for strategic coordination, the value-added of these interventions as advocacy instruments for strengthening refugee policy could be weakened. To mitigate this risk, the WBG will have a sustained dialogue with other development actors and the relevant governments, and will encourage the governments to establish or strengthen dialogue and coordination mechanism.

ANNEX 1: THEORY OF CHANGE



ANNEX 2: POLICY DIMENSIONS, PRIORITY ORIENTATIONS, AND GUIDING QUESTIONS

A questionnaire has been developed to disaggregate the policy dimensions and sub-dimensions into guiding questions. The responses to the various questions, which reference both the formal policies and their actual implementation,²⁰ will lead to a qualitative analysis for each country.

The framework is expected to be kept unchanged across the IDA19 period, at the end of which possible need for adjustments will be reviewed.

Two cross-cutting issues are encompassed in all policy areas: gender and social inclusion based on refugees' certain characteristics.²¹ These considerations are incorporated throughout the RPRF guiding questions but reported upon in specific sections.

1 Host Communities		
1.1	Support for communities in refugee-hosting areas	<p>Priority orientation: Support is provided to refugee-hosting areas as part of an approach that takes into consideration the estimated socioeconomic impacts on local communities hosting refugees (i) in public resource allocations and (ii) in extending social protection to individuals who are economically affected by the situation.</p> <p>See GCR, paras. 32, 64-65, 81.</p>
	<p>a) Do national fiscal/budget policies provide for timely additional financial transfers (both investment and operating expenditure) from the national level to the areas that are economically affected by the presence of refugees?</p> <p>b) Do social protection policies provide for an effective extension of social safety net programs to host community members who are negatively affected by the situation resulting from the presence of refugees?</p>	
1.2	Social cohesion	<p>Priority orientation: Effective steps are taken to identify, prevent, and mitigate social tensions and risks of violence between and within refugee and host communities and to combat discrimination.</p> <p>See GCR, paras. 77, 84.</p>
	<p>a) Are there policies directly or indirectly aimed at identifying, preventing, and mitigating potential social tensions and risks of violence in refugee-hosting areas?</p> <p>b) Are there local mechanisms which promote peaceful coexistence, dialogue, joint activities, or citizen engagement and include representatives of both refugees and host communities?</p> <p>c) Are there national policies to formally protect refugees from discrimination, including based on age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, nationality, country of origin, statelessness, political opinions, indigenous status, disability, sexual orientation, membership in a particular social group, or other characteristics?</p>	
1.3	Environmental management	<p>Priority orientation: Effective measures are in place to prevent or mitigate environmental degradation in refugee-hosting areas and sustainably manage natural resources.</p> <p>See GCR, paras. 78-79.</p>
	<p>a) Are there policies to mitigate the environmental impact of hosting refugees—especially in terms of access to energy to limit deforestation and other natural resource management such as water resource management, waste management, and access to sanitation in refugee-hosting areas?</p>	

²⁰ Despite the fact that implementation is only expressly referred to in a couple of questions, the response to each question will systematically look at the existence of the concerned policies and its degree of implementation, when relevant.

²¹ See 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (hereinafter '1951 Convention'), Article 3; 2018 Global Compact on Refugees (hereinafter 'GCR'), paras. 13, 51, 59-60, 74-75, 76-77, 84.

1.4	Preparedness for refugee inflows	Priority orientation: <i>Robust preparedness plans are in place to mitigate the impact of possible new refugee inflows.</i> <i>See GCR, paras. 32, 52-53.</i>
	a) Is there a national preparedness framework, including institutional mechanisms, to respond to increased or new refugee inflows in ways that minimize short- and medium-term socioeconomic impacts on hosting regions and is it regularly updated?	
2 Regulatory Environment and Governance		
2.1	Normative framework	Priority orientation: <i>Policies related to refugee status determination, legal status, and rights and obligations of refugees are clearly defined and in line with applicable international and regional norms and standards and are easily accessible and well known by refugees, the national and local authorities, and other national stakeholders.</i> <i>See 1951 Convention, arts. 35-36; GCR, paras. 5-6, 20.</i>
	a) Are the commitments made by the country under international law explicitly incorporated into national legislation and regulations? b) Is there a refugee status determination system in line with applicable international and regional norms and standards? c) Are there gaps in awareness of applicable policies among relevant authorities, refugees and other stakeholders?	
2.2	Security of legal status	Priority orientation: <i>(i) Legal stay arrangements are secure and predictable with adequate time perspectives; and (ii) no expulsion of asylum-seekers or refugees takes place in violation of international law.</i> <i>See 1951 Convention, arts. 12, 32-34; GCR, paras. 61-62, 82, 97, 100.</i>
	a) Can refugees benefit from predictable legal stay arrangements without policy limitations, such as time limits, renewal/extension requirements, and lengthy procedures for renewal/extension? b) In the last year, have there been reported cases of unlawful termination of refugee status? Have there been reported cases of refoulement (e.g. forcible or coerced returns; non-admission or push backs at the border) of asylum-seekers and refugees?	
2.3	Institutional framework for refugee management and coordination	Priority orientation: <i>An efficient government-led coordination system is in place and enables the management of the refugee situation, policy development as well as effective coordination across government and with external parties. This includes a representative consultation mechanism which allows the authorities to get input and feedback from refugees on decisions affecting them.</i> <i>See GCR, paras. 20-21, 34.</i>
	a) Does the national institutional framework for refugee management involve sectoral ministries, foster coordination between central and local levels of government, and provide leadership on donor coordination? b) Are refugees included within national data collection systems (e.g. census, demographic health survey, education management information system) and national development planning processes or strategies to adequately inform policy decisions? c) Is there a consultation mechanism to obtain refugee input and feedback on decisions taken at the national, sub-national or local levels, and how representative is it?	

2.4	Access to civil registration and documentation	<p>Priority orientation: <i>All refugees have access to official personal identification (proof of legal identity) and are able to register vital events (birth, marriage, divorce and death) with the civil registry and be issued with documentation.</i></p> <p><i>See 1951 Convention, arts. 12, 25, 27-28; GCR paras. 58, 82, 100.</i></p>
	<p>a) Are refugees entitled to receive official personal identification (document, electronic card, or other digital credential) which is effectively recognized by national and sub-national authorities, law enforcement entities, and the private sector (e.g. financial services, and mobile money, private employers), and do refugees routinely avail of these rights?</p> <p>b) Are refugees entitled to register vital events that occur in the host country or have occurred before coming to the host country (birth, marriage, divorce, and death) and to be issued the corresponding civil registration documentation (birth, marriage, divorce, and death certificates), and do refugees routinely avail of these rights?</p>	
2.5	Justice and security	<p>Priority orientation: <i>(i) Refugees enjoy a level of security on an equal basis with nationals, and (ii) refugees have access to civil, administrative and criminal justice and other grievance redress mechanisms under the same conditions as nationals.</i></p> <p><i>See 1951 Convention, art. 16; GCR, paras. 57, 75.</i></p>
	<p>a) Is the level of security enjoyed by refugees comparable to that enjoyed by nationals in the same areas?</p> <p>b) Are there policies in place to prevent and deter gender-based violence in refugee-hosting areas?</p> <p>c) Can refugees access law enforcement and justice in the same way as nationals?</p>	
3 Economic Opportunities		
3.1	Freedom of movement	<p>Priority orientation: <i>Refugees can choose their place of residence and move freely across the country as nationals of a foreign country generally in the same circumstances would.</i></p> <p><i>See 1951 Convention, art. 26; GCR, paras. 42, 54.</i></p>
	<p>a) Are refugees allowed to freely move within the host country as non-nationals generally in the same circumstances would, and do refugees routinely avail of these rights?</p> <p>b) Are refugees allowed to freely choose their place of residence in the host country as non-nationals generally in the same circumstances would?</p>	
3.2	Rights to work and rights at work	<p>Priority orientation: <i>(i) Refugees have access to the labor market, including by starting a business and seeking wage-earning employment, in the same way as nationals; and (ii) refugees enjoy protection of workers' rights on the same level as nationals.</i></p> <p><i>See 1951 Convention, arts. 15, 17-19, 24; GCR, paras. 70-71, 99.</i></p>
	<p>a) Are refugees allowed to seek wage-earning employment, and what percentage of refugees are employed in the formal sector?</p> <p>b) Do policies require refugees to have specific work permits, and under which conditions? If yes, how burdensome is the acquisition or renewal of such work permits? How many refugees currently possess such permits?</p> <p>c) Are refugees allowed to open businesses and register them in their own name?</p> <p>d) Do policies provide refugees with the same worker protections as nationals, including with regard to same salary for the same job in the public sector, non-salary discrimination in the private sector and protection against child employment?</p> <p>e) Are the refugees' professional certificates/diplomas recognized by the competent authorities of the host government and allow them to practice a profession?</p>	

3.3	Land, housing and property rights	<p>Priority orientation: Refugees can purchase, lease and use housing, land and property in the same way as nationals, without restriction on location, type, or duration, or at least benefit from the most favorable treatment accorded to nationals of a foreign country in the same circumstances.</p> <p>See 1951 Convention, arts. 13, 21, 30.</p>
	<p>a) Are refugees allowed to purchase or lease or use land as nationals of a foreign country in the same circumstances would?</p> <p>b) Are refugees allowed to purchase, lease or use housing and immovable property as nationals of a foreign country in the same circumstances would?</p> <p>c) Are refugees allowed to access public/social housing when such programs exist?</p>	
3.4	Financial and administrative services	<p>Priority orientation: Refugees have effective access to financial services and to administrative services (driving license, recognition of professional/academic qualifications, skills development) which are essential for economic opportunities.</p> <p>See 1951 Convention, arts. 22, 25; GCR, paras. 69, 71.</p>
	<p>a) Can refugees open bank accounts and access traditional financial services (payments, savings, borrowing) in the same way as the country's nationals, and do refugees routinely avail of these rights?</p> <p>b) Are refugees allowed to access mobile money/mobile phone banking in the same way as nationals, and do refugees routinely avail of these rights?</p> <p>c) Can refugees obtain key administrative documents or certifications that are necessary for them to access employment and other socioeconomic opportunities (such as recognition of foreign academic and vocational qualifications, and driving licenses, recognition of educational attainments received outside of a national system, as in refugee camps, or access to national driving licenses), and do refugees routinely avail of these rights?</p> <p>d) Do policies provide for skills development opportunities for refugees?</p>	
4	Access to National Public Services	
4.1	Education	<p>Priority orientation: Refugees have the possibility to effectively and safely access the national education system under the same conditions as nationals.</p> <p>See 1951 Convention, art. 22; GCR, paras. 68-69, 75.</p>
	<p>a) Do education policies allow refugees to enroll in primary, secondary, and tertiary schools in the national education system under the same conditions as the country's nationals? What percentage of refugee children are enrolled in these systems and how does this compare to host communities?</p> <p>b) Do education policies provide for specialized services (such as accessible learning services, accelerated education, language training, remedial learning programs, catching-up programs, psychosocial support) for host community and refugee children as may be necessary?</p>	
4.2	Healthcare	<p>Priority orientation: Refugees have the possibility to effectively and safely access the publicly financed health care system under the same conditions as nationals.</p> <p>See GCR, paras. 72-73, 75.</p>
	<p>a) Do healthcare policies allow refugees to access the publicly financed health care system under the same conditions as the country's nationals, and do refugees routinely avail of these rights?</p> <p>b) Can refugee women and girls access sexual and reproductive health services—including maternal and neonatal health services—and other women's health services under the national healthcare system in a manner comparable to national women and girls, and do refugee women and girls routinely avail of these rights?</p> <p>c) Do healthcare policies allow refugees to be enrolled in the national public health insurance system in the same way as nationals? If not, is there a system that can finance refugees' health care costs in the publicly financed health system?</p>	

4.3	Social protection	<p>Priority orientation: <i>Vulnerable refugees and vulnerable host community members have access to basic levels of assistance in a manner that is equitable in terms of coverage, targeting, and levels of benefits.</i></p> <p><i>See 1951 Convention, arts. 20, 23-24; GCR, para. 81.</i></p>
		<p>a) Do vulnerable refugees, including persons with disabilities and older persons, have access to basic levels of assistance provided through government programs and/or external aid? If so, what percentage of the refugee population is covered by this assistance and how does this compare to the host community?</p> <p>b) Is there a framework for dialogue between the government and international partners, to move towards a gradual alignment of aid and social protection systems, and of support to vulnerable refugees and vulnerable host community members, in terms of coverage, targeting, and levels of benefits?</p>
4.4	Protection for vulnerable groups	<p>Priority orientation: <i>Protection and care are available to unaccompanied and separated refugee children, refugee victims of trafficking in persons, survivors of gender-based violence, and other refugee groups with specific needs.</i></p> <p><i>See GCR, paras. 13, 51, 59-60, 74-75, 76-77, 84.</i></p>
		<p>a) Do unaccompanied and separated refugee children, refugee victims of trafficking in persons, survivors of gender-based violence, or other refugee groups with specific needs have access to care and protection systems in a manner comparable to nationals in the same situation?</p>
5 Cross Sectors		
5.1	Gender	<p>Priority orientation: <i>Refugees of all gender groups do not experience specific gender-related barriers to accessing services and economic opportunities.</i></p>
		<p>a) In which three to five sub-dimensions would improvement to gender considerations be most consequential in terms of socioeconomic development?</p>
5.2	Social inclusion	<p>Priority orientation: <i>All refugees, irrespective of their age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, nationality, country of origin, statelessness, political opinions, indigenous status, disability, sexual orientation, membership in a particular social group or other characteristics, benefit on an equitable basis from relevant policies, including those related to access to services and economic opportunities.</i></p>
		<p>a) In which three to five sub-dimensions are differences or restrictions in terms of policies and their implementation related to refugees' characteristics, including age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, nationality, country of origin, statelessness political opinions, indigenous status, disability, sexual orientation, membership in a particular social group or other characteristics, most consequential in terms of socioeconomic development?</p>

ANNEX 3: DRAFT OUTLINE OF THE RPRF REVIEW

Introduction (2 pages)

- Background, IDA commitment, nature and objectives of the RPRF
- Overall evolution of the global forced displacement situation during the reporting period
- Evolution of situation in the main countries of origin

Significant policy changes during the reporting period (5-10 pages) – Write up by the WBG based on UNHCR data

- Country-by-country analysis of significant policy changes during the reporting period (if any): introduction on each country (evolution of the situation, situation in the countries of origin, approval and implementation of WHR-financed operations), specific policy changes, expected impact, next steps in implementation of policy reforms (about 1/3 page per change).

Conclusion (1 page) – Write up by the WBG

- Overall priorities and recommendations for the subsequent period, based on ongoing evolution of forced displacement situations, and opportunities for further dialogue and WHR financing.

Annex: country-level attachments (about 10 pages per country) – Provided by UNHCR

- Summary for each country with:
- Background on each country: population; number of refugees and their disaggregation by age, gender, etc.; countries of origin; location (geographical areas, camps versus non-camp dwellings, etc.); main applicable legislation (and accession to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, and regional and international treaties related to refugees, including reservations and declarations); eligibility for the IDA 18 RSW/IDA 19 WHR and corresponding operations.
- For each policy dimension and sub-dimension: baseline, change if any, new baseline (based on guiding questions).

NB. The country summary established as the RPRF initial baseline will be accompanied by an annex:

Annex to the baseline country summary: Retrospective Note (2 pages per country) – Desk review done by UNHCR

- Country-by-country retrospective overview of refugee policy changes related to each RPRF dimension and sub-dimension that have occurred under IDA 18 since each country's eligibility to the RSW; focusing on existence of policies (de jure). This note will inform analysis in the baseline country summaries and provide the contextual foundation for subsequent RPRF reviews.

ANNEX 4: GLOSSARY OF TERMS

This glossary defines terms which are used throughout the RPRF for RPRF purposes. It should not be construed to define terms for use outside of the RPRF.

Term	Definition	Location in Questionnaire
Asylum-seeker	<p>For RPRF purposes, the term “refugee” will also be taken to include asylum-seekers where and if appropriate.</p> <p>The term “asylum-seeker” is a general term for any person who is seeking international protection. In some countries, it is used as a legal term referring to a person who has applied for refugee status or a complementary international protection status and has not yet received a final decision on their claim. It can also refer to a person who has not yet submitted an application but may intend to do so, or may be in need of international protection. Not every asylum-seeker will ultimately be recognized as a refugee. However, an asylum-seeker may not be sent back to their country of origin until their asylum claim has been examined in a fair procedure and is entitled to certain minimum standards of treatment pending determination of their status.²²</p>	Definition of “refugee” (below)
Child	“Child” means every human being below the age of eighteen years unless, under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier. The term includes adolescents and is preferable to the term “minor”. ²³	4.1; 4.4.a
Civil registration	“Civil registration” refers to the continuous, permanent, compulsory and universal recording of the occurrence and characteristics of vital events pertaining to the population, as provided through decree or regulation in accordance with the legal requirements of each country. ²⁴ This process is carried out primarily for the purpose of establishing the documents provided for by law. Vital events concern the life, death and civil status of individuals, including live birth, death, fetal death, marriage, divorce, separation, annulment, adoption, legitimation, and recognition (of paternity). ²⁵	2.4
Financial services	“Financial services” refers to formal services through which individuals save money, borrow money, make payments, and manage financial risks. This includes ownership of accounts at banks or other types of financial institutions (such as a credit union, microfinance institution, or cooperative), access to formal loans or savings accounts with banks or other types of financial institutions, possession of credit, debit, or payment cards, access to money transfer services, and access to mobile money accounts or services. ²⁶	3.4
Gender	“Gender” refers to the social, behavioral, and cultural attributes, expectations, and norms associated with being male or female. “Gender equality” refers to how these factors determine the way in which men and women relate to each other and to the resulting differences in power between them. ²⁷	Throughout

²² See UNHCR. [Global Focus: Glossary](#), at “refugee” and “asylum-seeker”.

²³ [Convention on the Rights of the Child](#) (1989), Art. 1.

²⁴ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), Statistics Division. 2014. [Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System](#), Rev 3 (Statistical Papers, Series M No. 19/Rev.3).

²⁵ [World Bank. 2019. Identity for Development, Practitioner's Guide.](#)

²⁶ See World Bank Group. 2017. [The Global Findex Database 2017: Measuring Financial Inclusion and the Fintech Revolution.](#)

²⁷ World Bank Group. 2015. [World Bank Group Gender Strategy \(FY16-23\): Gender Equality, Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Growth](#), at pg. 6.

Term	Definition	Location in Questionnaire
Gender-based violence	“Gender-based violence” is an umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person’s will and that is based on socially ascribed (that is, gender) differences between males and females. This includes acts that inflict physical, mental, or sexual harm or suffering; threats of such acts; and coercion and other deprivations of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life. ²⁸	2.5.b; 4.4.a
Grievance redress mechanism	“Grievance redress mechanisms” are defined as organizational systems and resources established by national government agencies (or, as appropriate, by regional or municipal agencies) to receive and address concerns about the impact of their policies, programs and operations on external stakeholders. ²⁹	2.5
Healthcare services	“Healthcare services” includes all preventive, promotive, rehabilitative, palliative, and curative services provided by the publicly funded healthcare system.	4.2
Host community	“Host community” is a context-specific term which first corresponds to the definition of “host community” established by the government within official refugee policies and development strategies, where these exist. If no such definition is provided, “host community” is defined as a community, usually at a given administrative unit, whose socioeconomic circumstances have been impacted (positively and/or negatively) by an inflow of refugees.	Throughout
Immovable property	“Property” refers to anything that is owned or possessed by a person or entity. “Immovable property” (also known as “real property”) is generally understood to include land, real estate, and anything attached to or embedded in earth that cannot be moved (e.g., a building). ³⁰	3.3.b
International protection	“International protection” refers to the protection that is accorded by the international community to individuals or groups who are outside their own country, who are unable to return because they would be at risk there, and whose own country is unable or unwilling to protect them. Risks that give rise to a need for international protection classically include those of persecution or other threats to life, freedom or physical integrity arising from armed conflict, serious public disorder, or different situations of violence. Other risks may stem from famine linked to situations of armed conflict or disasters, as well as being stateless. International refugee law provides the principal normative framework for determining needs and providing international protection, complemented by related legal frameworks such as international human rights law, as well as State practice. The concept of international refugee protection, which is closely associated with refugee protection and asylum, is related to but distinct from the broader concept of protection, which applies to all humanitarian action including outside refugee contexts. ³¹	General
Law enforcement procedures	“Law enforcement procedures” refer to the procedures of the government agencies responsible for maintaining public order and enforcing the law. This could encompass policing as well as restorative justice practices. ³²	2.5.c

²⁸ Id.

²⁹ UNDP. 2017. [Stakeholder Engagement Supplemental Guidance: Grievance Redress Mechanisms](#).

³⁰ UNHCR. [Emergency Handbook, “Housing, Land and Property \(HLP\)”](#). See General Assembly. 1951. [Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees](#), 28 July 1951, United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 189, p. 137, at Article 13.

³¹ See UNHCR. [Global Focus: Glossary](#), at “international protection”.

³² World Bank. 2016. [Addressing the Enforcement Gap to Counter Crime: Part 2. Options for World Bank Engagement with Police](#).

Term	Definition	Location in Questionnaire
Legal stay arrangements	“Legal stay arrangements” are the arrangements put in place by states to regularize the presence on its territory of a non-national that fulfils the conditions of entry, stay or residence as established by domestic law in accordance with regional and international standards. See “secure legal status.”	2.2.a
Liberal profession	Liberal profession refers to any profession for which diplomas and other qualifications are required and can involve work that is organized and carried out independently, i.e. not governed by an employer-employee relationship. Liberal professions include, among others, lawyers, physicians, architects, engineers, and artists. ³³	3.2.e
Meaningful participation	“Meaningful participation” refers to the full and equal engagement of all members of the community in decision-making processes and activities that affect their lives, in both public and private spheres. It: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is essential for informed decision making; • Promotes protection and reduces feelings of powerlessness; • Enables the concerned authority to draw on the insights, knowledge, capacities, skills and resources of persons of concern; • Empowers women, men, girls and boys of different backgrounds to rebuild self-esteem and self-confidence; • Allows people to identify opportunities and strategies for action and build solidarity to effect change; and • Helps people cope with the trauma of forced displacement. 	2.3
National public services	“National public services” are services which are provided by a government to people living within its jurisdiction through the public sector. For RPRF purposes, this includes education, health and social protection services.	4
Nationals of a foreign country	“Nationals of a foreign country”, “aliens” or non-nationals are often used interchangeably and refer to nationals of a State, or stateless persons, other than nationals of the State under whose jurisdiction they fall. Where the treatment of refugees equates to that of non-nationals in the same circumstances, “in the same circumstances” implies that refugees must fulfil any condition which other non-nationals would also need to meet. General requirements—such as specific qualifications, skills, experience or other characteristics as well as obtaining identity documents, work permits and business licences—may be imposed on refugees in the same way as they are on other non-nationals. Equally, States may impose charges or fees—e.g., to obtain permits—as are levied on other non-nationals or their own nationals in similar situations. However, conditions refugees are incapable of fulfilling by reason of being a refugee need to be waived in their case (for example, refugees being unable to present evidence of identity, or other documents from their country of origin).	3.1, 3.3

³³ ILO decent work guidelines.

Term	Definition	Location in Questionnaire
Official personal identification/Proof of legal identity	<p>“Official personal identification” is a synonym for “official identity” and refers to the specification of a unique natural person that is based on characteristics (attributes or identifiers) of the person that establish a person’s uniqueness in a given context, and is recognized by the state for regulatory and other official purposes.³⁴</p> <p>For RPRF purposes, “proof of legal identity” refers to various forms of government-provided or -issued registration, documentation or certification (e.g., a birth certificate, identity card or digital ID credential) that constitutes evidence of core attributes (e.g., name, date and place of birth) for establishing and verifying official identity and is recognized as proof of legal identity under national law and in accordance with emerging international norms and principles.³⁵</p> <p>In some countries, proof of official identity is provided through general-purpose or “foundational” ID systems, such as national ID and civil registration systems, which typically provide documentary or digital credentials that are widely recognized and accepted by government agencies and private sector service providers as proof of official identity for a variety of purposes.</p> <p>Many jurisdictions also have a variety of “limited-purpose” or “functional” ID systems that provide identification, authentication, and authorization for specific services or sectors; access to specific government benefits and services; or access to financial services. Examples of limited-purpose ID evidence include refugee identity documents. In some cases—particularly in countries without general-purpose ID systems—such “functional” credentials may also be used to provide proof of official identity.</p> <p>In the case of refugees, States are primarily responsible for issuing proof of legal identity, including identity papers. The issuance of proof of legal identity to refugees may also be administered by an internationally recognized and mandated authority” (e.g., UNHCR).</p>	2.4
Preparedness plan	“Preparedness plan” refers to all measures which show the current readiness of the public sector to respond to future displacement situations or its plans to mitigate the negative impact of ongoing protracted displacement situation. ³⁷	1.4
Refoulement	“Refoulement” is a legal term used to qualify a breach of the principle of non-refoulement. The principle of non-refoulement is a core principle of international human rights and refugee law that prohibits States from removing individuals in any manner whatsoever (whether directly or indirectly) to territories where they may be at risk of persecution, torture, or other forms of serious or irreparable harm. The most prominent expression of the principle of non-refoulement in international refugee law is Article 33(1) of the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees . The principle is part of customary international law, making it binding on all States, whether or not they are parties to the 1951 Convention or its 1967 Protocol. The principle of non-refoulement is also expressed in various human rights treaties, including Article 3 of the Convention against Torture , which is a peremptory norm of international law (<i>jus cogens</i>). ³⁸	2.2.b

³⁴ See World Bank. 2019. *ID4D Practitioner’s Guide*, “ID 101: Basic concepts.” Washington, DC: World Bank. See Financial Action Task Force (FATF). March 2020. *Guidance: Digital Identity*.

³⁵ Id.

³⁶ United Nations. 2019. UN Legal Identity Expert Group Operational Definition of Legal Identity. This working definition was signed off by the Director of UNHCR’s Division of International Protection (DIP).

³⁷ See notably World Bank. 2017. *Forcibly Displaced: Toward a Development Approach Supporting Refugees, the Internally Displaced, and Their Hosts*. Washington, DC: World Bank.

³⁸ See UNHCR. *Global Focus: Glossary*, at “non-refoulement” and “refoulement”.

Term	Definition	Location in Questionnaire
Refugee	<p>The term “refugee” refers to any person who meets the eligibility criteria under an applicable refugee definition, as provided for in international or regional refugee instruments, under UNHCR’s mandate, or in national legislation. Under international law and UNHCR’s mandate, refugees are persons outside their countries of origin who are in need of international protection because of feared persecution, or a serious threat to their life, physical integrity or freedom in their country of origin as a result of persecution, armed conflict, violence or serious public disorder.³⁹</p> <p>The Bank follows determinations made by UNHCR of which persons are recognized as refugees in a given population. For the purposes of the WHR and the RPRF, the term “refugees” includes both refugees and people in “refugee-like situations” as defined by UNHCR (see below). For RPRF purposes, the term “refugee” will also be taken to include asylum-seekers where and if appropriate (see definition of “asylum-seeker” above).⁴⁰</p>	Throughout
Refugee-hosting areas	“Refugee-hosting areas” are the given administrative units where refugees are staying and reside, and which include both refugee and host communities.	1.1; 1.2.a; 1.3; 2.5.b
Refugee-like situations	“Refugee-like situation” is a descriptive—not legal—category describing groups of people who are outside their country or territory of origin and who face protection risks similar to those of refugees, but for whom refugee status has, for practical or other reasons, not been ascertained. ⁴¹ Refugee population numbers as determined by UNHCR include persons in “refugee-like situations.”	Definition of “refugee” (above)
Refugee policy	<p>“Refugee policy” refers to formal legal and administrative instruments (including laws, regulations, proclamations, judicial and administrative decisions, national strategies, development or sectoral plans, roadmaps, and other written materials) issued by a national authority (legislative, judiciary or executive branch), including agreements or memoranda of understanding with international organizations, that regulate refugees’ admission to the country, their acquisition of legal status and legal rights, and the conditions under which they live and work.</p> <p>In exceptional cases, practice or unwritten policy can be included when such practice is very broadly and publicly known and is considered binding by all concerned.</p>	Throughout
Refugee Status Determination	“Refugee status determination,” or “RSD,” refers to the legal or administrative process undertaken by States and/or UNHCR to determine whether a person should be recognized as a refugee in accordance with national, regional and international law. ⁴²	2.1.b

³⁹ The 1951 **Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees** defines a **refugee** as a person “who is outside his or her country of nationality or habitual residence; has a well-founded fear of being persecuted because of his or her race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion; and is unable or unwilling to avail him- or herself of the protection of that country, or to return there, for fear of persecution.” [1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees](#) (1951), at Art. 1. See also World Bank Group, *Forced Displacement and Development* (2016), at Box 1. In Africa, the 1969 **Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa** adds to the 1951 Convention definition by recognizing as refugees people who are forced to flee due to “external aggression, occupation, foreign domination or events seriously disturbing public order.” Organization of African Unity (OAU), [Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa](#) (1969), at Art. 1(2).

⁴⁰ International Development Association, *Implementation Guidelines: IDA19 Window for Host Communities and Refugees* (2020), at para. 2(a).

⁴¹ UNHCR. 2020. [Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2019](#).

⁴² See UNHCR. [Global Focus: Glossary](#), at “refugee status determination”.

Term	Definition	Location in Questionnaire
Secure legal status for refugees	"Secure legal status" for refugees refers to an officially documented status provided under a State's domestic legal framework regularizing in accordance with regional and international standards (1) an asylum-seeker's right to remain in the country until a final determination of their claim is made; and (2) a recognized refugee's right to reside in that State during the period of validity of the permit. The granting and withdrawing of such status must be in accordance with international standards, including due process.	General
Security	"Security" refers to a refugee's physical and psychological safety from threats and attacks of myriad sources.	2.5
Social cohesion	"Social cohesion" refers to the ties which hold people together within and between communities and the willingness of community members to engage and cooperate with each other to survive and prosper. ⁴³ This can include the degree to which they interact with and trust State and civil society institutions and each other; the degree to which they are committed to laws, institutions and a common future; the degree to which they share common cultural, religious or other social features and interests; and/or the degree to which they are able to identify, prevent and mitigate social tensions and risks of violence, minimize disparities and avoid discrimination and marginalization. ⁴⁴ For RPRF purposes, the key is to understand how forced displacement changes existing social balances and how these changes are managed to prevent social tensions and conflict from resulting in violent repercussions or harmful social marginalization. ⁴⁵	1.2
Social protection	"Social protection" refers to public systems which help individuals, households and communities manage risk and volatility and protect them from poverty and destitution through a mix of contributory schemes (social insurance) and non-contributory tax-financed benefits (including social assistance, public works programs and other schemes guaranteeing basic income security and access to essential services). ⁴⁶ This includes helping the poor and vulnerable cope with crises and shocks, find jobs, invest in the health and education of their children, and protect the aging population. ⁴⁷ Social Protection systems may take the form of cash transfers, social pensions, subsidies, sickness, disability or old age benefits and medical care, unemployment assistance and insurance, training or labor services, maternity protection, childcare and child allowances, conditional and disability assistance and insurance, and other social services. ⁴⁸ For RPRF purposes, the term "social protection" is used with a wider variety of meanings than "social security" , including protection provided between members of the family or members of a local community.	1.1.b; 4.3

⁴³ World Bank Group. 2020. [Social Capital and Social Cohesion Measurement Toolkit](#), at pg. 4.

⁴⁴ See UNHCR. [Global Focus: Glossary](#), at "social cohesion."

⁴⁵ De Berry and Roberts. 2018. [Social Cohesion and Forced Displacement: A Desk Review to Inform Programming and Project Design](#). World Bank Group.

⁴⁶ World Bank Group. 2012. [Resilience, Equity and Opportunity: The World Bank's Social Protection and Labor Strategy, 2012-2022](#), at para. 17; This aligns with the International Labour Organization's (ILO) definition and is affirmed in UNHCR's Decent Work Guidelines.

⁴⁷ World Bank Group. 2019. [The World Bank In Social Protection](#).

⁴⁸ World Bank Group. 2020. [Sourcebook on the Foundations of Social Protection Delivery Systems](#), at pg. 2.

Term	Definition	Location in Questionnaire
Social safety net	<p>“Social safety net” refers to a type of social protection program that is comprised of non-contributory transfers in cash or in-kind, designed to provide regular and predictable support to poor and vulnerable people. Social safety nets, which are also known as “social assistance” or “social transfers,” help alleviate poverty, food insecurity, and malnutrition; contribute to reducing inequality and boosting shared prosperity; support households in managing risks and cope with shocks; help build human capital and connect people to job opportunities; and are an important factor in shaping social contracts between states and citizens.⁴⁹</p>	1.1.b
Unlawful termination of refugee status	<p>“Unlawful termination of refugee status” refers to the ending, withdrawing or termination of refugee status in any manner that does not conform with international law. Under international law, cessation, revocation or cancellation of refugee status are the legal grounds for ending refugee status.</p> <p>Cessation refers to the ending of refugee status because it is no longer necessary or justified on the basis of certain voluntary acts of the individual concerned or a fundamental change in the situation prevailing in the country of origin.⁵⁰ Revocation refers to the withdrawal of refugee status from a person who was rightly recognized as a refugee, but whose conduct after recognition comes within the scope of the exclusion clauses 1F(a) or (c) of the 1951 Convention. Cancellation refers to the invalidation of a refugee status recognition which should not have been granted in the first place. Cancellation has the effect of rendering refugee status null and void from the date of the initial determination (<i>ab initio</i> or <i>ex nunc</i>—from the start or from then).⁵¹</p>	2.2.b
Vulnerability	<p>“Vulnerability” describes individuals or groups who, by virtue of certain characteristics or experiences, have the limited capacity to avoid, resist, cope with, or recover from harm. Such harm can take a variety of forms such as economic hardship, discrimination, or violence. Among the groups most susceptible to harm in the context of forced displacement are children, the elderly, women and girls, persons with disabilities, ethnic or religious minorities, persons of diverse sex and sexual orientation, victims of trafficking in persons, and survivors of gender-based violence.⁵²</p>	4.1.b; 4.3; 4.4
Wage-earning employment	<p>“Wage-earning employment” refers to work governed by an employment relationship between employer and employee, and for the performance of which the employee is provided a periodic wage or remuneration.⁵³</p>	3.2.a

⁴⁹ [World Bank. 2014. The State of Social Safety Nets 2014.](#)

⁵⁰ See [1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees](#) (1951), Article 1C and Organization of African Unity (OAU), [Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa](#) (1969), at Article I(4).

⁵¹ See UNHCR. [Global Focus: Glossary](#), at “cessation”, “revocation” and “cancellation”.

⁵² See UNHCR. [Global Focus: Glossary](#), at “vulnerability”.

⁵³ UNHCR. Decent Work Guidelines.

