ReDSS 2020 Annual review

Achievements, challenges and priorities for 2021
Overview of content

About ReDSS

Context analysis: what has changed to inform our planning?

Key achievements and lessons learnt: what do we need to focus on in 2021?

2021 priorities and members’ commitments
Regional Durable Solutions Secretariat (ReDSS)

**Goal:** To improve programming and policy in support of durable solutions processes so that *displacement-affected communities* live in safety and dignity in East and Horn of Africa

Consortium of 14 organisations hosted by DRC and steering committee NRC, IRC, DRC

**Coordination and information hub** – not an implementing agency
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Way of Working</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collaborative</td>
<td>Ensure our work is generated and grounded in a collaborative and collective process involving all relevant members and external actors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adaptive</td>
<td>Embed adaptive working approaches where durable solutions strategies and activities are designed assuming change is inevitable</td>
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<td>Iterative</td>
<td>Promote the use of iterative decision-making to adapt durable solutions approaches continuously</td>
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<tr>
<td>Locally-led</td>
<td>Enable a context-specific and problem-oriented approach to strategies and activities for improved programming and policies for durable solutions</td>
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Core elements to inform solutions planning & programming

- Creating durable solutions requires a multi- stakeholder rights and needs based programming approach
- The process must be viewed as a collective action rather than mandate driven based on an inclusive, participatory and consensus building approach
- National, regional and local authorities have the primary responsibility and need to be supported to play their leadership and coordinating role
- Developing area based solutions approaches is paramount to ensure integrated and comprehensive programming for host and displaced populations
- Community engagement is critical to inform (re)integration analysis and programming to make solutions lasting, locally relevant and supportive of social cohesion and to adopt a ‘displacement affected communities’ approach- inclusive of refugees, returnees, IDPs and host communities
- Gender/age/diversity: Interventions should take into account the gender, age and diversity at play and give special attention to women and youth
- Displacement is a development issue with humanitarian components so it is essential to ensure complementarities and synergies between humanitarian, development, peace and state building programming to inform collective outcomes
Context analysis

What does that mean for ReDSS and where to focus?
Regional

Regional dynamics and trends
- The deteriorating situation in Ethiopia will have significant regional repercussions – potential for internationalisation of the conflict and increased displacement across borders (i.e. Sudan)
- Rapidly-changing and unpredictable political context - national governments are in emergency response mode, delay in elections, a “citizen first” approach increasingly being adopted
- Triple impact of COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and locust invasion is putting food security under threat in the region

COVID-19 pandemic and implications on durable solutions agenda
- Prolonged socio-economic crisis hitting before health crisis in the region
- Shrinking of the asylum space and restrictive policies in Ethiopia and Kenya in the midst of COVID-19
- Increasing challenge, with potential long-term consequences, of ensuring a dual focus that addresses COVID-19 response through an early solutions approach within longer-term response to protracted displacement issues

Displacement financing and accountability
- Despite commitments and pledges made at the GRF, funding has not yet increased proportionally and reprioritisation of funding to COVID-19 response threatens existing multi-year development funding
- No more international focus and how to hold each other accountable
- Nature and quality of current financing structure cannot adequately support both early and long-term durable solutions processes with reduction in overall ODA funding expected
Little progress made on post GRF agenda and IGAD Regional Support Platform

- IGAD focused on COVID-19 / GCR Regional Support Platform yet to be operationalised. Planned meeting at the end of November “delayed indefinitely”.
- Humanitarian and development partners are also focused on COVID-19 and current emergencies and not linking their GRF pledges to opportunities that could be leveraged to address structural displacement issues and DAC vulnerability.

Finding the space and place for an internal displacement agenda

- Globally, increasing number of organisations (IDMC, JIPS, DTM etc), but less clear on status and success of policy processes (High Level Panel, GP20).
- Regionally, mixed progress on domestication of Kampala Convention, combined with lack of clear regional process or dialogue on internal displacement, results in lack of agreement about best approach for coordinating IDP solutions (e.g. role of Govt, UN position etc).
- At a country level, need to look at how to ensure cross-country learning whilst being contextual. How to navigate sensitivities of conflict-induced internal displacement and ReDSS’ role here.
- How to ensure appropriate distinction with refugee agenda without silo-ing relevant work.
Achievements, challenges and opportunities to inform 2021 planning and programing

*How to adapt and what to prioritise this year?*
2020 in figures

704 PARTICIPANTS FROM 218 ORGANISATIONS ATTENDED 13 LEARNING EVENTS (compared to 140 organisations in 2019)

169 PRACTITIONERS & POLICY MAKERS TRAINED IN 6 SESSIONS (2 regional, 2 Somalia, 1 Ethiopia, 1 Kenya)

3 OPERATIONAL RESEARCH STUDIES; 7 POLICY BRIEFS (4 on COVID-19 adaptation) 8 THEMATIC ANALYSES; 5 POLICY STRATEGIES

OVER 22,223 VIEWS ON WEBSITE WITH 7869 USERS (more than 5,000 new users, and more than 2000 more views from 2019)

1,526 FOLLOWERS ON TWITTER (so increase by about 100)

1 ONLINE TUTORIAL ON UNDERSTANDING HOUSING, LAND AND PROPERTY IN SOMALIA (with more than 1000 users)
Finalised country level research agenda and ways of working peering national and international researchers - locally led processes

Developed political economy analyses to inform common context understanding and better targeting

Finalised ReDSS influencing plan template: focus on the ‘how’ of influencing and communications

Increased number of external requests for ReDSS to join research committees or to peer review articles, research and analyses

Takeaway for 2021 and beyond

- Focus on use and uptake of evidence, not in publishing more
- Translate evidence into HOW - how to inform better targeting and programing and policy processes
- Support joint analysis on key issues based on evidence and share perspective and learning from the field
Programme support

- Developed an IDP DS strategy in Ethiopia and common learning programme/ cross country learning initiative (ETH/SOM/SS)
- Focused on measuring programming impact and collective outcomes: Use of common tools and approaches e.g. LORI/LORA, Self reliance index, Graduation approaches etc.
- Supported linkages between durable solutions and other processes e.g protection, resilience, self reliance
- Facilitated technical support on government led solutions strategies – Somalia MoPIED/BRA DS strategies
- Supported a common agenda on urbanisation, land and displacement in Somalia

Takeaway for 2021 and beyond
- Move from ‘WHAT’ to ‘HOW’ - Solutions mainstreaming toolbox to support better use of research and analysis to inform integrated programming and targeting
- Leverage ReDSS members expertise: member commitments and identify thematic leads with clear roles
- Focus on measuring and monitoring durable solutions processes
Trainings

- **Developed advanced training packages**: DS ToT curriculum for Somali authorities (ongoing) and Area-based approaches training curriculum (piloted in Jigjiga) - locally led processes

- **Facilitated regional thematic trainings**: Social cohesion and conflict sensitivity training in partnership with DDG and Self-reliance Index training in partnership with the Refugee Self Reliance Initiative and NRC

- **Facilitated government authorities trainings**: for Jubaland and Galmudug Authorities

- **Facilitated ReDSS member induction sessions**: DRC Kakuma durable solutions induction training

**Takeaway for 2021 and beyond**

- Go back to basics: quarterly induction trainings focused on ‘WHAT’ - key definitions/principles
- Strengthen linkages between trainings and other pillars - focused on localisation
- Strengthen training monitoring and impacts and document use of learnings
- Leverage members expertise - cross learning and exchanges
Finalised ReDSS Regional Policy Strategy 2021-2023 as a comprehensive resource to guide ReDSS and members around our core commitments to find and sustain solutions and potential to create stronger mutual accountability for ReDSS GRF pledge

Country level policy engagement strategies in place in Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya to guide strategic engagement by ReDSS and with members/partners in priority policy processes

Continued engagement with key actors (IGAD, UNHCR, WBG, DS donors, ReDSS members, research partners) to try to preserve the space for durable solutions linked to specific opportunities/events (e.g. COVID-19, situation in Ethiopia, Somalia donor stocktaking) and through the use of as ReDSS research processes

COVID-19 policy briefs at regional and country level disseminated widely and used in key engagement opportunities with external stakeholders and influencing their responses.

Takeaway for 2021 and beyond
- Focus on influencing and tailored communication products - draft influencing plan template, policy brief template
- ReDSS strategic use of ongoing research processes/common research agendas to continue to create space to bring stakeholders together and discuss longer-term DS issues/ Aligning research questions to policy priorities
- More actors engaged on IDP agenda and opportunity for ReDSS to build on strategic relationships and support regional IDP discussions which can help members navigate the space and support cross-learning
ReDSS priority policy process and key stakeholders

- National and sub-national government policies (national and county/regional development plans)
- Humanitarian and development donors policies and funding
- World Bank IDA 18/19 Process
- CRRF/GCR/GRF Regional and country levels
- UNHCR
- IGAD
Strengthened internal coordination amongst core group at regional level despite COVID-19 – core group meeting; internal updates members

Fostered inclusive, trustful and collaborative working approaches – continued demand for ReDSS support to provide technical expertise on displacement and solutions

Continued to pursue strategic partnerships, collaboration and relationships despite COVID-19 – UNHCR, governments/ municipalities, ReDSS + Structures

Strengthening performance and collective accountability within ReDSS - Developed internal monitoring systems with outcome indicators to ensure that ReDSS can measure uptake and impact

**Takeaway for 2021 and beyond**

- Amplifying voices from the field in a coherent, collective way - more space to national actors
- Define members commitments and role at the beginning of the year
- Space for 1 to 1 engagement and coordination with members
- Members expect ReDSS to continue to “speak on behalf of a coalition” to promote policy and programming changes
2021 planning and ReDSS members engagement

What should we prioritise based on 2020 learning?
ReDSS refined pillars for strategy 2021-2023

1. Research and Analysis
   To support a collective research agenda and increase use of research and analysis to inform durable solutions policy and programming

2. Capacity Development
   To strengthen capacity, collective monitoring and learning on durable solutions and leverage members’ expertise

3. Policy Dialogue
   To facilitate and undertake constructive and influential policy dialogues with key local, national and regional policy actors and processes

4. Coordination
   To bring members and partners together to learn and coordinate on research, policy and practice on durable solutions
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<th>Policy Dialogue</th>
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<tr>
<td>Use of research processes as an entry point to engage with key actors</td>
<td>Work on common standards to measure and monitor progress towards (re)integration and self-reliance</td>
<td>Align research questions to policy priorities to ensure relevance and support more granular understanding/ use PEA</td>
<td>Engage at the interface between humanitarian, development and government actors</td>
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<td>Prioritise curation and utilisation of the existing body of research, rather than continuing to expand it</td>
<td>Support cross learning between countries and integrated programming - develop solutions mainstreaming toolbox</td>
<td>Need to focus on the ‘how’ of influencing - targeted planning for what, who and how of ReDSS use of evidence</td>
<td>Support engagement in complex IDP issues at the country level while adding value to regional and synergy with global level IDP discussions</td>
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<td>Focus on the ‘How’ to support programme guidance based on evidence</td>
<td>Continue to develop different levels of training on durable solutions to address the various learning gaps that exist</td>
<td>Amplifying voices from the field in a coherent, collective way</td>
<td>Define members commitments and role at the beginning of the year</td>
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<td>Strive to ensure that research explicitly informs training and coordination efforts</td>
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<td>Preserve the space and maintain momentum to address long-term displacement issues</td>
<td>Space for 1 to 1 engagement and coordination with members</td>
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### 2021 Regional and country level focus

#### Regional

- Local (re)integration
- Self reliance and graduation
- Protection and politicisation of population movement

#### Somalia

- Measuring local (re)integration processes and collective outcomes
- Self reliance, graduation and safety nets
- Protection, rights and inclusion

#### Ethiopia

- Integrated response
- Self-reliance and right to work
- Protection oriented and principled responses to displacement

#### Kenya

- Integrated access to services/education
- Self reliance, safety nets and graduation
- Protection, rights and inclusion

### 2021 overall theme: social and economic inclusion

- Measuring local (re)integration processes and collective outcomes
- Self-reliance and right to work
- Protection oriented and principled responses to displacement
- Integrated access to services/education
- Self reliance, safety nets and graduation
- Protection, rights and inclusion

### Cross cutting issues:

- Climate Change
- Early Solutions and preparedness
- Cross border
- Measuring progress and impacts
Expected outcome: Define a collective plan for each regional theme informed by ReDSS 4 pillars and with clear roles and responsibilities between secretariat staff and members.

Cross cutting issues to address under each theme: Climate Change/ Early Solutions and preparedness/ Regional dimension and cross border dynamics.

Approaches to reflect under each theme (based on the ReDSS core programing principles): Measuring progress and impacts/ integrated programing/ cross country learning/ DAC engagement and locally led/ value add of the collective engagement to prioritize activities.

Role of member regional thematic leads: provide technical support and expertise to the membership and partners, lead the development of a joint paper with key messages, represent and speak on behalf of the membership in coordination fora and conferences to inform and influence programing and policy processes.

Role of ReDSS Secretariat: to support and facilitate the work of the thematic lead.
Specific objective to achieve: Supporting principled relocation and local planning processes that collectively support sustainable (re)integration of displacement affected communities.

Thematic lead(s): ACTED/Agora*/REACH - co lead LWF / OXFAM(TBC)

Members interested to support and engage: Oxfam, DRC, Concern, NRC, LWF, SCI, IRC, RCK, WV

Upcoming opportunities to engage collectively/ represent ReDSS and key stakeholders/ coordination structure to engage with:
- ToT curriculum development in Somalia
- Area-based trainings and capacity building for local actors in SRS (ETH)
- Area-based training tools being developed by ACTED/Agora in Hargeisa
- Translation of ReDSS area-based training tools into Somali
- Existing coordination structures which support locally-led area-based planning/coordination

Next steps/ timeframe: Follow up discussion with interested members and thematic leads to develop one-pager with objective and plans by March 2021, and focus of quarterly core group meeting in June 2021.
## Regional Theme 1: Local (re)integration

### Research & Analysis

**Dissemination/lessons learned from existing research** to inform integrated programing

- Thematic synthesis products and learning events linking research to inform programing

**Sharing best practices** on measuring local integration (i.e. LORA) with actors in other contexts

**Intentions/aspirations surveys** on local (re)integration to inform programing and policy decision-making

### Capacity development

Contextualize and roll-out trainings on area-based planning in different contexts (including cross-learning)

**Capture existing resources** from ReDSS members/partners

**Developing solutions mainstreaming toolbox** to include best practices on local (re)integration programing

Engagement with local actors:
- **Tailored trainings** leveraging presence of ReDSS members
- **Identify capacity gaps**
- **Translate tools/resources**

### Policy Dialogue

Engaging with displacement affected communities to promote rights-based local (re)integration

**Facilitating discussions** on implementation and dissemination of local (re)integration policies (focusing on the ‘HOW’ of policy operationalisation)

Engage in **local development planning processes**

### Coordination

Focus our regional core group meeting in June

Work with local authorities to inform their ability to **support principled relocations and inclusion of DACs in local planning processes**

Engage with existing structures on advancing local (re)integration and area-based processes (i.e. local authorities, CRRF coordination structures, DS fora/WGs)
Theme 2: Self reliance and graduation

- **Specific objective to achieve:** Advance a common self-reliance and graduation agenda and measure progress in the Horn of Africa to improve programming and policy dialogue
  - Self-reliance, resilience and protection
  - Measuring progress and impacts on graduation and self reliance/ mapping out indicators - LORA, SRI, graduation, Save DS toolkiT
  - Link poverty reduction/ graduation models and safety nets to: protection and HLP/ urban displacement programs, education, Mental health MHPSS
  - Climate change - mitigate impacts/ livelihoods and climate financing
  - Collective advocacy and collective fundraising

- **Thematic lead(s):** Lead: NRC; Co-leads: IRC and World Vision

- **Members interested to support and engage:** NRC, WV, Concern, IRC, Save, LWF, RCK, DRC, Mercy Corps, OXFAM

- **Upcoming opportunities to engage collectively/ represent ReDSS and key stakeholders/ coordination structure to engage with:** Regional economic inclusion co chaired UNHCR/ NRC, PAC working groups at country & regional levels led by UNHCR, strategic engagement with Donor working groups

- **Next steps/ timeframe:** 1 pager (March) to define focus & priorities / Discussion with thematic members & experts in March/ Regional Core Group in September to focus on theme/ Maintain a contact lists for this theme
## Regional Theme 2: Self reliance and graduation

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<tr>
<td><strong>Develop a regional paper</strong> to clarify collective approach and key messages - ready by March</td>
<td><strong>Follow up Self Reliance Index training</strong> in partnership with RSRI, REIWG</td>
<td><strong>Engage with IGAD stocktaking</strong> - focus on self reliance and measuring progress</td>
<td><strong>Facilitate thematic Core Group meeting</strong> in March - finalise/uptake of one pager</td>
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<td><strong>Support joint analysis/dissemination/uptake</strong> based on upcoming member publications + ReDSS PEA and Displacement financing studies</td>
<td><strong>Leverage member/partner expertise</strong> on graduation - WV/ Concern resources, Trickle Up for refugees and urban</td>
<td><strong>Engage with Development and poverty reduction platforms</strong></td>
<td><strong>Focus on self-reliance and graduation learning</strong> for ReDSS Regional Core Group in September</td>
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<td><strong>Cross cutting</strong>: Climate change/ early solutions, cross-border</td>
<td><strong>Facilitate regional graduation training</strong> led by technical partners</td>
<td><strong>Strategic donors consultation</strong>: EU, USAID, Netherland, SDC, Danida, FCDO</td>
<td><strong>Engage existing coordination platforms</strong>: Regional economic inclusion WG, Coordination with PAC, UNHCR and IOM, Regional environment and migration group</td>
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<td><strong>Engagement with donors working groups</strong> as collective</td>
<td><strong>Engagement with Technical partners</strong>: Trickle Up, Village Entreprise, BRAC, BOMA</td>
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Theme 3: Protection and politicisation of population movement

- **Specific objective to achieve:**
  - Working proactively to create space and enhance capacity on joint solutions and protection oriented response to displacement

- **Thematic lead(s):** DRC and NRC

- **Members interested to support and engage:** ACF, IRC, RCK, Acted, Oxfam, LWF, Save

- **Upcoming opportunities to engage collectively/ represent ReDSS and key stakeholders/ coordination structure to engage with:**
  - 2021 increased attention to these issues: building on interest and ‘hotspot’ moments
  - March ReDSS core group meeting thematic focus
  - Global / regional initiatives e.g. Kenya in Security Council / HLP / GP2020
  - Building training calendar for ReDSS which includes relevant member trainings

- **Next steps/ timeframe:** Initial planning meeting with DRC, NRC and ReDSS to streamline and prioritise opportunities and plans. Agree with wider group. Maintain a contact list for theme. 1 pager to define focus & priorities developed by March. Regional Core Group end March to focus on this theme.
### Regional Theme 3: Protection and politicisation of population movement

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<td><strong>Creating space</strong> for discussions that might be too sensitive for individual members at a regional level</td>
<td><strong>Prioritising training</strong> by connecting to existing ReDSS member and ReDSS trainings and resources (e.g. conflict analysis and peacebuilding training, protection mainstreaming)</td>
<td><strong>Proactively engaging</strong> with position papers, key messages etc especially around 2021 hotspots and enhancing access to these</td>
<td><strong>Acting as a bridge/connector</strong> on these sensitive issues</td>
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<td><strong>Drawing from political analysis</strong> that already exist</td>
<td><strong>Strengthening cross-country learning</strong> on experience of politicisation of population movement</td>
<td><strong>Advocating for accountability</strong> of policy processes</td>
<td><strong>Focusing March ReDSS Core Group meeting on this theme, based on 1 pager summary</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Enhancing the ‘behind the scenes’ work of ReDSS on this theme</strong></td>
<td><strong>Looking beyond ReDSS membership</strong> and using research and policy to support / train local authorities</td>
<td><strong>Acting as a connector</strong> between ReDSS members and key global / regional initiatives</td>
<td><strong>Establishing relationships at regional level with IDMC, JIPS, MMC, IOM DTM. Continuing engagement with key actors (e.g. UNHCR, IOM)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Strengthening regional level focus</strong> on internal displacement research / learning</td>
<td><strong>Developing a solutions mainstreaming toolbox</strong> (including protection mainstreaming and AAP tools etc)</td>
<td><strong>Advocating for protection mainstreaming</strong>, integration, streamlining in policy processes</td>
<td><strong>Enhancing engagement with civil society to ensure voices of population are heard (ReDSS+)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Connecting to research on climate change</strong> induced movement and early warning systems</td>
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<td><strong>Building synergies</strong> across relevant sectors/technical areas and connecting to issues of access (physical and rights based)</td>
<td><strong>Understanding relevant humanitarian v development v peacebuilding structures. Enhancing coordination across sectors</strong></td>
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