

DANISH REFUGEE COUNCIL'S COMMITMENTS TO THE WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT



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The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) welcomes the central positioning of forced displacement in the Secretary General's Report for the World Humanitarian Summit and the Agenda for Humanity. With global levels of displacement at an unprecedented high there is a pressing need for renewed and concerted efforts dedicated to addressing forced displacement. While the fundamental responsibility for resolving conflicts, protecting civilians and securing solutions to displacement lies with states, DRC has a key role to play in working together with displaced persons and displacement-affected communities, states,

the UN, national and international civil society partners and the private sector in finding solutions for the millions of displaced in the world today.

DRC has developed commitments on each of the five core responsibility areas in the Agenda for Humanity and will work to implement and monitor these commitments in the years to come. Following the Summit in Istanbul from 23-24 May 2016, DRC will work to translate these overarching and strategic commitments into concrete, operational actions.



Core Responsibility One: Political leadership to prevent and end conflicts

- The Danish Refugee Council commits to strengthen its organisational capacity to systematically conduct and share conflict analyses when addressing the root causes of conflict and displacement.
- The Danish Refugee Council commits to make the reduction of conflict and displacement a corporate priority by promoting peaceful, inclusive and resilient societies. DRC commits to continuously develop comprehensive bottom-up programmes to strengthen social cohesion within and between communities by strengthening the rule of law and access to justice, and supporting inclusive local governance and the delivery of basic services.

Core Responsibility Two: Uphold the norms that safeguard humanity

- The Danish Refugee Council commits to proactively engage in coordinated efforts to promote and mobilize states' and armed non-state actors' compliance with and respect for international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law. Specifically, DRC commits to support joint advocacy efforts to promote and enhance the protection of civilians and civilian objects.
- The Danish Refugee Council, through its Humanitarian Mine Action and Armed Violence Reduction Unit, the Danish Demining Group, commits to intensify its direct engagement in preventing loss of life and injury to civilians from explosive weapons in populated areas and to strengthening its work to find community-based solutions to prevent armed violence.

Core Responsibility Three: Leave no one behind

- The Danish Refugee Council commits to a new approach to addressing forced displacement by recognising displacement as both a humanitarian and a development challenge and thinking of solutions from the onset of a crisis. DRC commits to addressing the risks and vulnerabilities of forcibly displaced persons and to working to strengthen their protection, resilience and self-reliance with the view to securing transitional and durable solutions.
- The Danish Refugee Council commits to retain solutions to displacement as a corporate priority and to systematically identify, understand and work to dismantle barriers to solutions. DRC will ensure its programming is aimed at promoting transitional and durable solutions and centred on both strengthening resilience and upholding the rights of the displaced. Further, DRC commits to advocate for the political will required to advance the search for solutions and to be an active supporter of the Solutions Alliance.
- The Danish Refugee Council commits to being a strong advocate for acknowledging the role and efforts of countries hosting large numbers of refugees and to push for more resources to be directed to displacement affected countries.

- The Danish Refugee Council commits to actively support the development and implementation of a new Global Compact on responsibility sharing for refugees centred on predictability and fairness, and which addresses the needs and concerns of the large group of rejected asylum seekers and migrants not protected and covered by international refugee instruments. DRC commits to advocate that states who are not doing their fair share strengthen their engagement in resettlement efforts and increase the number of legal pathways for admission of refugees.
- The Danish Refugee Council commits to support and advance the core principles of non-refoulement, the right to seek and enjoy asylum and the compliance with and implementation of international and regional laws and policy frameworks that ensure and improve the protection of refugees and IDPs.
- The Danish Refugee Council commits to further enhance its technical and operational expertise on gender sensitive humanitarian and longer term response in line with international standards and frameworks. Further, DRC commits to continue to prioritise and address gender-based violence in its programming and response.

Core Responsibility Four: Change people's lives – from delivering aid to ending need

- The Danish Refugee Council commits to work towards transcending the humanitarian-development divide and to seek closer links between humanitarian and development programming in displacement contexts. DRC will support global, regional, national and thematic efforts to narrow the gap between short and long term approaches to supporting people in need, and will act as an advocate for joint efforts towards innovative, contextualised solutions.

Core Responsibility Five: Invest in humanity

- The Danish Refugee Council commits to being a leading international actor on the advancement of cash based programming at the conceptual, strategic and operational level in displacement contexts around the globe, and to using cash interventions as a modality for efficient delivery and ensuring targeted populations have dignified access to aid.
- The Danish Refugee Council, as an international front line responder, commits to further engage with local and national partners in a spirit of genuine partnership at all stages of strategic, programmatic and operational engagement, driven by the principle of providing the best possible solutions to displaced communities.
- The Danish Refugee Council commits to the principle that donor reporting requirements should be simplified, proportionate and coherent, as indicated in the Grand Bargain, and will remain a collaborative supporter of the on-going dialogue between donors and implementing partners to ensure the successful outcome of initiatives on improved donor reporting, such as "less paper, more aid".

In addition to the above, DRC has supported the following joint commitments:

- Regional Durable Solutions Secretariat (ReDSS): Leave no one behind – a commitment to address forced displacement
- Joint Diaspora Commitments Statement
- ICVA NGO brief for the High Level Leaders' Roundtable: Leave no one behind – a commitment to address forced displacement