



# **Center For Human Rights**

College of Law and Governance Studies

Addis Ababa University

**THE NEED FOR ACCESS TO DURABLE SOLUTIONS ON THE PROTECTION OF  
CONFLICT INDUCED INTERNAL DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS) IN ETHIOPIA: THE  
CASE OF IDPS IN GONDAR, AMHARA REGIONAL STATE**

**BY**

**MEKEDES GETACHEW**

**ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE STUDIES  
CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**

**JUNE, 2024**

**ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

**The Need for Access to Durable Solutions on the Protection of Conflict Induced  
Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Ethiopia: The Case of IDPs in Gondar, Amhara  
Regional State**

**By**

**Mekedes Getachew**

**Advisor**

**Belay Tizazu (PhD)**

**A Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies of Addis Ababa University in  
Partial Fulfilment of the Requirement for the Award of the Degree of Masters of  
Arts in Human Rights**

**June, 2024**

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

Addis Ababa University College of Law and Governance Studies

Center for Human Rights

The Need for Access to Durable Solutions on the Protection of Conflict Induced  
Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Ethiopia: The Case of IDPs in Gondar, Amhara  
Regional State

By

Mekedes Getachew

Approved by the Board of Examiners

**Belay Tizazu(PhD)**

Advisor

Signature

Internal Examiner

Signature

External Examiner

Signature

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                                                                           |      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| <b><u>ACRONYMS</u></b>                                                    | viii |
| <b><u>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</u></b>                                             | x    |
| <b><u>ABSTRACT</u></b>                                                    | xi   |
| <b><u>CHAPTER ONE</u></b>                                                 | 1    |
| <b><u>INTRODUCTION</u></b>                                                | 1    |
| 1.1 Background of the Study                                               | 1    |
| 1.2 Statement of the Problem                                              | 3    |
| 1.3 Objectives of the Study                                               | 6    |
| 1.3.1 General Objective                                                   | 6    |
| 1.3.2 Specific Objectives                                                 | 6    |
| 1.4 Research Questions                                                    | 7    |
| 1.5 Significance of the Study                                             | 7    |
| 1.6 Scope of the Study                                                    | 7    |
| 1.7 Limitation of the study                                               | 8    |
| 1.8 Organization of the Thesis                                            | 8    |
| <b><u>CHAPTER TWO</u></b>                                                 | 9    |
| <b><u>LITERATURE REVIEW</u></b>                                           | 9    |
| 2.1 Theoretical Literature Review                                         | 9    |
| 2.1.1 Internal Displacement and Internally Displaced Persons              | 10   |
| 2.1.2 Conflict Induced Internal Displacement                              | 11   |
| 2.1.3 Protection of IDPs from Conflict or Violence                        | 12   |
| 2.1.4 Durable Solution for Internal Displaced Persons                     | 14   |
| 2.1.5 Legal Frameworks for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons | 17   |
| 2.1.6 Human Rights Institutions for the Protection of IDPs Rights         | 31   |
| 2.1.7 State Responsibility in the Protection of IDPs Rights               | 36   |
| 2.2 Empirical Literature Review                                           | 37   |
| 2.2.1. Durable Solutions initiatives for IDPs in Africa                   | 37   |
| 2.2.2. Durable Solutions initiatives for IDPs in Ethiopia                 | 39   |
| 2.3 Conceptual Framework                                                  | 40   |
| <b><u>CHAPTER THREE</u></b>                                               | 41   |
| <b><u>RESEARCH METHODS</u></b>                                            | 41   |
| 3.1 Study Site, Data Sources and Types                                    | 41   |

|                                                                                                                                          |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <a href="#">3.2 Research Design and Sampling</a>                                                                                         | 41 |
| <a href="#">3.3 Method of Data Collection</a>                                                                                            | 42 |
| <a href="#">3.4 Method of Data Analysis</a>                                                                                              | 43 |
| <a href="#">3.5 Ethical Consideration</a>                                                                                                | 43 |
| <b><a href="#">CHAPTER FOUR</a></b>                                                                                                      | 44 |
| <b><a href="#">RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS</a></b>                                                                                           | 44 |
| <a href="#">4.1 Demographics of Respondents</a>                                                                                          | 44 |
| <a href="#">Table 4.1 Demographic frequency of respondents</a>                                                                           | 45 |
| <a href="#">4.2 The need for access to durable solutions in the protection of conflict-induced IDPs in Gondar, Amhara Regional State</a> | 46 |
| <a href="#">4.2.1 The displacement situation in North and Central Gondar Zone</a>                                                        | 46 |
| <a href="#">Table 4.2 Number of IDPs in Gondar Woredas/Zones</a>                                                                         | 48 |
| <a href="#">4.2.2 Legal frameworks for protecting IDPs for the need to access durable solutions</a>                                      | 48 |
| <a href="#">4.2.3 Institutional Structure for the protection of IDPs to obtain Durable Solution</a>                                      | 52 |
| <a href="#">4.2.4 The prevailing practice of durable solutions initiatives for IDPs</a>                                                  | 54 |
| <a href="#">4.2.4 Challenges to protect IDPs in obtaining durable solutions</a>                                                          | 67 |
| <b><a href="#">CHAPTER FIVE</a></b>                                                                                                      | 69 |
| <b><a href="#">CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION</a></b>                                                                                     | 69 |
| <a href="#">5.1 Conclusion</a>                                                                                                           | 69 |
| <a href="#">5.2 Recommendations</a>                                                                                                      | 71 |
| <b><a href="#">REFERENCE</a></b>                                                                                                         | 73 |
| <b><a href="#">APPENDIX</a></b>                                                                                                          | 78 |

## LIST OF FIGURES

|                                                                                          |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Figure 1 Conceptual Framework Developed by the Researcher from the above Literature..... | 40 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

## LIST OF TABLES

|                                                                                                        |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Table 4.1 Demographic frequency of respondents.....                                                    | 45 |
| Table 4.2 Number of IDPs in Gondar Woredas/Zones.....                                                  | 48 |
| Table 4.3 IDP sites showing how long they got displaced.....                                           | 50 |
| Table 4.4 IDP sites showing the security situation of the sites.....                                   | 56 |
| Table 4.5 IDP site showing deprivation of freedom of movement.....                                     | 57 |
| Table 4.6 IDP site showing their shelter condition.....                                                | 58 |
| Table 4.7 IDP site showing time of food distribution.....                                              | 58 |
| Table 4.8 IDP site showing access to clean water.....                                                  | 59 |
| Table 4.9 IDP site showing access to health services.....                                              | 60 |
| Table 4.10 IDP sites showing access to education.....                                                  | 60 |
| Table 4.11 IDP sites showing access to livelihood and employment.....                                  | 61 |
| Table 4.12 IDP site showing ownership of landholding certificate.....                                  | 62 |
| Table 4.13 IDP site showing access to renew land holding certificates in their habitual residence..... | 63 |
| Table 4.14 IDP site showing family reunification.....                                                  | 64 |
| Table 4.15 IDP site showing consultation of IDPs.....                                                  | 65 |
| Table 4.16 IDP site showing access to legal remedies.....                                              | 66 |

## ACRONYMS

|        |                                                                                   |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CAT    | Convention Against Torture                                                        |
| CEDAW  | Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women                     |
| CRC    | Convention on the Rights of the Child                                             |
| CRPD   | Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities                             |
| DSI    | Durable Solutions Initiative                                                      |
| DSWG   | Durable Solutions Working Group                                                   |
| ENDF   | Ethiopian National Defence Force                                                  |
| FAO    | Food and Agriculture Organization                                                 |
| FDRE   | Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia                                           |
| GBV    | Gender Based Violence                                                             |
| GoE    | Government of Ethiopia                                                            |
| HDRP   | Humanitarian and Disaster Resilience Plan                                         |
| HHs    | Households                                                                        |
| HLP    | House, Land and Property                                                          |
| IASC   | Inter-Agency Standing Committee                                                   |
| ICCPR  | International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights                              |
| ICERD  | International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination |
| ICESCR | International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights                    |
| ICRC   | International Committee of the Red Cross                                          |
| IDPs   | Internally Displaced Persons                                                      |

|            |                                                                   |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| IHL        | International Humanitarian Law                                    |
| IHRL       | International Human Rights Law                                    |
| IOM        | International Organization for Migration                          |
| NGOs       | No-Governmental Organisations                                     |
| OCHA       | United Nations Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs |
| OHCHR      | Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights                      |
| PwDs       | Persons with Disabilities                                         |
| ReDSS      | Regional Durable Solutions Secretariat                            |
| SPSS       | Statistical Package for Social Sciences                           |
| TPLF       | Tigray People's Liberation Front                                  |
| UASC       | Unaccompanied and Separated Children                              |
| UN Habitat | United Nations Human Settlements Programme                        |
| UNHCR      | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees                     |
| UNICEF     | United Nations Children's Fund                                    |
| UNSDCF     | UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework                  |
| WASH       | Water, Sanitation and Hygiene                                     |

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I am appreciative of everyone in my life who helped me finish my thesis by offering guidance and consolation. I would like to thank Dr. Belay Tizazu, my adviser, for his unreservedly professional advice, remarks, and feedback from the start of my thesis project till its completion. Lastly, I would want to express my gratitude to my family and my OHCHR-EARO co-workers for their support. Additionally, I would like to express my gratitude to all of the informant IDPs, returnees, government officials, and humanitarian organizations operating in Gondar, Amhara Regional State.

Above all, I give thanks to God for sustaining me through difficult times and giving me the strength to finish this thesis.

This thesis is dedicated to my deceased firstborn daughter.

## ABSTRACT

*When the needs of the internally displaced people are met and their human rights are upheld without bias during the displacement, a lasting solution is reached. This study is to evaluate the need for long-term solutions to safeguard internally displaced people (IDPs) brought on by war in Amhara Regional State, particularly in Gondar. Prior to the worldwide adoption of the Guiding Principle on Internal Displacement on February 11, 1998, the protections of internally displaced people were not given much attention. Then, on February 13, 2020, the GoE ratified the Kampala Convention, which was adopted at the regional level to safeguard IDPs. "Displacement shall last no longer than required by the circumstances," according to the Guiding Principle 6. This idea results in the creation of the IASC framework for Durable Solutions at the regional level. Furthermore, DSI is designed to give IDPs in Ethiopia access to durable solutions. Through the verbal and numerical representation of the IDPs and returnees' circumstances, this study used descriptive research methodology. Primary data were gathered from IDPs at two different IDP sites: Kebero Meda IDP site, which is located in the Azezo sub-City in Central Gondar Zone, and Zarima Temporary IDP site, which is located in the North Gondar Zone. Furthermore, primary data was gathered from those who had returned to Adiarkay Woreda in the North Gondar Zone. Questionnaires were distributed to IDPs in order to determine the availability of durable solution projects. Furthermore, information was obtained through in-person interviews with government officials and humanitarian organizations. To triangulate the information, focus group discussions (FGDs) and first hand observation were employed with returnee IDPs. Additionally, secondary data from various documents and publications were also looked at. A mixed method was used to analyse the data, starting with a quantitative approach (SPSS) and ending with a qualitative explanation. The study's findings demonstrate that, in the North Gondar Zone, internally displaced people were relocated to relocation collective sites in Zarima Kebele, which served as their initial region of*

*displacement. They were unable to return to their home kebeles due to security threats in their Woreda. They had low levels of safety and insecurity with no good fortune to be able to travel around freely, a living wage, a decent standard of living, and access to legal resources and justice following their transfer. However, following the agreement between TPLF and GoE to end hostilities, the relocated IDPs returned from the Zarima IDP Site to their habitual residence. Furthermore, the protracted IDPs in Central Gondar Zone are still living in the collective site called Kebero Meda IDP site. The inadequate response from the government in both areas exacerbates the scarcity of humanitarian aid, including food, WASH, shelter and NFIs, health services, and work possibilities. Most crucially, the government has not created a legal redress for the crimes committed alongside IDPs and their families, despite the fact that they have either directly or indirectly become victims of violence. The researcher suggested that in addition to ensuring the IDPs' safety and security, the government should uphold their right to freedom of movement. Additionally, the establishment of DSWG and the hiring of technical, experienced DRMO staff members expressly for the town should set the DSI. Amhara Regional State administrations. Most significantly, the government should take into account long-term possibilities such as relocating them to their usual residence, integrating them into the community, or settling them somewhere else, rather than sending IDPs back to their neighbourhood where they would not be able to access their properties. These could be carried out in cooperation with humanitarian organizations in order to benefit from their knowledge and future financial support.*

*Key words: Protection, Rights of IDPs, Durable Solutions Initiative (DSI), Disaster and Risk Management Officer (DRMO)*

## CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Displacement has been emerging since the occurrence of nation states whose boundaries are internationally recognised setting apart the notion of internal and international or cross-border as a phenomenon. However, internal displacement focus of attention become growing internationally in the late 1980s and become internationally recognised in the 1990s. Most of the internal displacements that were result of conflict are in Africa, specifically in the Horn of Africa. As of December 31, 2022, there were 71.1 million internally displaced people (IDPs) worldwide, according to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Center (IDMC). Of those 62.5 million IDPs were displaced by conflict/ violence and 8.7 million by disaster. From those 31.7 million of IDPs were located in Sub-Saharan Africa which is triggered by conflict and violence which amounts to 28 million and 3.7 million by disaster at the end of 2022.<sup>1</sup>

In Ethiopia specifically 3.9 million IDPs has been recorded as of end of 2022 in different part of Ethiopia. Based on information gathered from the regional government, UNOCHA revealed that there are now 5.8 million people displaced in the Amhara Region of 15 Woredas due to violence and natural catastrophes. The data also shows that 360,000 people has been returned to North Gondar, North Wollo, Wag Himra and Oromia Special Zones in June 2023.<sup>2</sup> It has been reported that in the northern conflict, from June to July 2021 report, 2,105,387 IDPs (449,492 HHs) have been displaced across 377 sites in Tigray, Afar and Amhara Regions. In Amhara Regional State, an estimated 333,464 IDPs (99.8%) were displaced through conflict from March-April 2021. Particularly, across North, Central and South Gondar and North Wollo of the Amhara Region, 250,000 IDPs were displaced. The situation shows that there is limited humanitarian support in the region.<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> IDMC, *GRID: Children and youth in internal displacement* (2023).

Website: <https://www.internal-displacement.org/global-report/grid2023/>

<sup>2</sup> OCHA report.

Website: <https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/ethiopia/ethiopia-situation-report-27-jul-2023>

<sup>3</sup> World Food Program, *Tigray: Conflict Affected Areas* (Update #1, 23 September 2021) 1.

Since the first document known as the Guiding Principle on Internal Displacement was adopted on February 11, 1998, the protection of IDPs has not received as much attention on a global scale. The documents' primary purpose is "to identify rights relevant to the protection of persons from forced displacement and to their protection and assistance during displacement as well as during return or resettlement and reintegration."<sup>4</sup> Later, on November 30, 2006, the Great Lakes Region enacted a Protocol on the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons on a regional level. This protocol declares to "respect and use the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement as proposed by the UN Secretariat, harmonise all the relevant pieces of legislation and define a national and regional framework for the monitoring and follow-up of the standards contained therein and which relate to the access and protection of disaster victims, internally displaced persons, women and children who are victims of conflicts."<sup>5</sup> The IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs was adopted by the Nairobi-based Regional Durable Solutions Secretariat (ReDSS) in 2007 and released in 2010. The Framework was created as a tool to improve the region's access to data on displacement, advancing the use of more evidence-based approaches.<sup>6</sup> By creating the DSWG in 2014, the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) has made multiple attempts to create solutions for internal displacement based on the IASC framework. Then, in 2019, the GoE, the UN, INGOs, NGOs, and donors produced the DSI. In order to facilitate the circumstances necessary for IDPs to attain durable solutions in an ethical manner, the DSI in Ethiopia aims to offer a moral operational framework to direct the work of all partners on durable solutions in the nation.<sup>7</sup>

Although these agreements are not yet legally binding, they were designed with IDPs' protection in mind. Nonetheless, in 2009, the African States ratified the African Union Convention on the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons (Kampala Convention), which became the first legally enforceable agreement to

---

<sup>4</sup> *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* (E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, dated 11 February 1998) Principle 1

<sup>5</sup> The Great Lakes Region, *Protocol on the Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons*, (30 November 2006) 1.

<sup>6</sup> IASC (Inter-Agency Standing Committee), *Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs* (The Brookings Institution – University of Bern Project on Internal Displacement, April, 2010) 2.

<sup>7</sup> Durable Solutions Initiative (DSI), (December 2019) 2.

safeguard IDPs. The convention recognises “the inherent rights of IDPs as provided for and protected in International Human Rights (IHRL) and Humanitarian Law (IHL) and as set out in the 1998 United Nations Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, which is recognised as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons.”<sup>8</sup> Then Ethiopia ratified Kampala Convention in 2020.<sup>9</sup> Additionally, in July 2013, Ethiopia's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development created the National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management, a new plan for disaster prevention and preparedness. By offering suitable and prompt answers prior to, during, and following the disaster, this technique seeks to lower the risks associated with it and any potential issues. In the meanwhile, this strategy uses a comprehensive approach to disaster risk management to focus on drought and the provision of life-saving support during disasters.<sup>10</sup>

The current situation of IDPs in Ethiopia, specifically in the Northern Amhara are protracted IDPs from the conflict which created devastating loss of life, house, land and property from both Tigray and Amhara regional states side. While focusing on the status quo of IDPs settling in North Gondar Zone, there is a high need for livelihood program which helps them to access durable solution initiatives, which should be the primarily responsibility of the national government to protect the rights of IDPs. In the event that the local government is unable to provide help, it is the duty of the international community to advocate for, protection, and identify durable solutions for IDPs. The Guiding Principle on Internal Displacement explicitly states that the pursuit of long-term solutions is emphasized in Principles 25(2) and 28 (1 & 2).<sup>11</sup>

## 1.2 Statement of the Problem

“IDPs are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to

---

<sup>8</sup>African Union, *African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of IDPs (Kampala Convention)*, (Kampala, Oct 2009) 1.

<sup>9</sup>FDRE, African Union Convention (Kampala Convention) for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa Ratification (Proclamation No. 1187/2020, Negarit Gazette).

<sup>10</sup>The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, *National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management* (Addis Ababa 2013) 4.

<sup>11</sup> Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (11 February 1998). Principle 25 & 28

leave their homes or places of habitual residence, who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border.”<sup>12</sup> Human rights legislation from throughout the world and in their region protect these IDPs.<sup>13</sup> In the meantime, the IDPs' fundamental human rights would be violated during the displacement, whether it was brought on by a natural disaster or an armed conflict or violence. The violation of fundamental rights will be aggravated when the IDPs are settling in the displaced area for an extended time lacking durable solution alternatives. It breaches a number of rights, including the right to life. as illustrated on the ICCPR Article 6(1)<sup>14</sup>,

the prohibition against being treated inhumanely (ICCPR, Article 7)<sup>15</sup>, the individual's right to security and liberty (ICCPR, Article 9(1))<sup>16</sup> and the freedom of movement (ICCPR, Article 12(1))<sup>17</sup>. The IDPs are exposed to adverse conditions deprived access to basic services such as employment as illustrated on the ICESCR<sup>18</sup> Article 6(1) & 7<sup>19</sup>, education (ICESCR, Article 13(1))<sup>20</sup> and healthcare services (ICESCR, Article 12(1)).<sup>21</sup> In addition, it impedes community, cultural identity, and legacy and increases inequality, marginalization, and discrimination—all of which lead to social injustice. Most specifically, ICCPR Article 17(1) illustrates that “No one shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to unlawful attacks on his honour and reputation” and 17(2) states that “Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference attacks” are violated.<sup>22</sup>

The internal displacement situation in Ethiopia has become complex as it is stretched with a new level of displacement in different regions of Ethiopia through Conflict/violence, and natural disasters which resulted in the loss of human lives,

---

<sup>12</sup> Ibid

<sup>13</sup> Ibid

<sup>14</sup> United Nations, *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (ICCPR) (1966) (Article 6(1))

<sup>15</sup> Ibid (Article 7)

<sup>16</sup> Ibid (Article 9(1))

<sup>17</sup> Ibid (Article 12(1))

<sup>18</sup> United Nations, *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (ICESCR) (1966)

<sup>19</sup> Ibid (Article 6(1) and 7)

<sup>20</sup> Ibid (Article 13(1))

<sup>21</sup> Ibid (Article 12(1))

<sup>22</sup> Ibid (Article 17(1 & 2))

including land, livestock and social capital, and damaging essential services and infrastructure.

The northern crises were allegedly caused by a military offensive launched by the Ethiopian Federal Government as a result of an alleged attack on the Northern Command of the Ethiopian Defense Force (ENDF) in Mekelle, the capital of the Tigray Regional State of Ethiopia, by the Regional Party of Tigray early in November 2020. It was estimated in June 2023 that 5.8 million people have been relocated in the Amhara Region due to natural disasters and conflict. The data also shows that 360,000 people has been returned to North Gondar, North Wollo, Wag Himra and Oromia special Zones. Hence, food insecurity and inflation of food costs, malnutrition, victims GBV, and Unaccompanied and Separated Children, drop out from schools have increased and the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) situation worsen in the region with a new influx of IDPs. However, the capacity of the government, governmental counterparts and NGOs to respond to this emergency is limited in the Regions. These gaps were reported by conducting rapid assessments.<sup>23</sup> There has been limited progress at the operational level and it's inaccessible in other displacement locations including Amhara Regional State.<sup>24</sup> Eight criteria for long-term solutions for internally IDPs provide a framework for government and humanitarian actors to better meet IDPs' self-identified needs. <sup>25</sup>

In 2020 Genene Negussie conducted research about "Socio-economic rights protection of conflict-induced IDPs settled in Sululta town of Oromia regional state since 2017." The study dealt with how the resettlement process was undergone as per the legal frameworks and the usefulness of government guidelines in defending the socio-economic rights of IDPs.<sup>26</sup> In 2021, Samundra Acharya<sup>27</sup> carried out

---

<sup>23</sup>UNICEF, *Ethiopia: Humanitarian Situation* (Report No.6, July 2021).

<sup>24</sup>DSI *Durable Solutions Initiative* (December 2019) 4.

<sup>25</sup>UN, Human Rights Council, *Promotion and Protection of All Human Rights, Civil, Political, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Including the Right to Development*, (A/HRC/13/21/Add.4, 2009). IASC *Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs*, (The Brookings Institution – University of Bern Project on Internal Displacement, 2010) 27.

World Bank Group, *Informing Durable Solutions for Internal Displacement In Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan*, (Volume B: Country Case Studies) 7.

<sup>26</sup>Genene Negussie, *Assessment of Socio-Economic Rights Protection of Conflict-Induced Internally Displaced and Resettled Persons in Sululta Town of Oromia Region*. (Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa, 2020) 49.

<sup>27</sup>Acharya Samundra, *Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons in Sudan and Somalia*, (the

research by examining the implementation of long-term solutions for internally displaced people (IDPs) in Sudan and Somalia from the standpoints of security, housing, land and property rights, policies, and coordination structures. It further explores the Challenges and Different Options for durable solutions in both countries. In addition, Samuel Hall<sup>28</sup> researched sustainable solutions projects and looked at opportunities, obstacles, and best practices when looking for long-term solutions in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, and Uganda for his article. In the four chosen nations, the research searches for regional and national durable solutions efforts. The paper indicated that durable solutions initiatives with strong leadership including solutions alliance in all, IDP solution initiatives and refugee and host empowerment programme operationalized. Moreover, in 2019 the Protection Cluster Report<sup>29</sup> published the Returns of IDPs in Ethiopia by the protection cluster. The report stated that the voluntariness of return and the physical and material safety upon return. Additionally, by analysing three cases pertaining to livelihood possibilities, opportunities, and problems for displaced populations in three places in the Somali Region, a working paper on the livelihood components of durable solutions for internally displaced people has been developed..<sup>30</sup> Unlike the earlier studies, this study will assess the need of accessibility of durable solutions in protecting conflict-induced IDPs in Amhara Regional State, explicitly focusing on IDPs in Gondar by assessing the situation of IDPs in the North and Central Gondar Zone and conducting continuous protection monitoring for better protection of the rights of IDPs. In order to provide long-term solutions, this study recommended areas of engagement for relevant government and non-government establishments interested in the human rights protection of IDPs caused by conflict. It also acts as a foundation for more research and understanding.

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

#### **1.3.1 General Objective**

This study's overall goal is to evaluate the accessibility of durable solutions for the

---

Art and Humanitarian Research Council, 2021).

<sup>28</sup>Hall Samuel. *Review of Durable Solutions Initiatives in East and Horn of Africa*. Good practices, challenges and opportunities in the search of durable solutions in Ethiopia | Kenya | Somalia | Uganda, (The Regional Durable Solutions Secretariat)

<sup>29</sup>Protection Cluster Ethiopia, *Return of Internally Displaced Persons in Ethiopia* (2019)

<sup>30</sup>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) *Livelihood Components of Durable Solutions for IDPs*. Assessment of three cases in Somali Region, (Ethiopia November 2021).

protection of internally displaced people (IDPs) caused by conflict in the Amhara Regional State, with a particular emphasis on IDPs in Gondar.

### **1.3.2 Specific Objectives**

The study's particular goals are to:

- o Explore the displacement situation in North Gondar Zone including the exact causes and severity of the situation.
- o Assess the legal frameworks for protecting IDPs in the need to access durable solutions in Ethiopia.
- o Identify the institutional structures for the protection of IDPs in the need to obtain durable solutions in Ethiopia.
- o Investigate the challenges to protect IDPs in the need for obtaining durable solutions in Ethiopia.
- o Examine the prevailing practice in the need for durable solutions initiatives for the IDPs in Amhara Regional State, specifically in Gondar.

### **1.3 Research Questions**

As further instructions for the investigation, the following particular research questions are formulated:

- o What does the current situation of IDP look like in North and Central Gondar Zone?
- o Are there legal frameworks for protecting IDPs in the need to access durable solutions in Ethiopia?
- o Which institutional structures help IDPs in the need to obtain durable solutions in Ethiopia?
- o What are the challenges that constrain IDPs in the need for obtaining durable solutions in Ethiopia?

- o What are the prevailing practices in the need for durable solutions initiatives for IDPs in Amhara Regional State, specifically in Gondar?

### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

Based on the core objective of this study, this thesis can contribute to scientific knowledge by adding literature a resources for further related research workers and can be a source of data for government officials, and NGOs at different levels. Besides its substantial in identifying the need for accessibility of Durable Solutions for IDPs using the three alternatives (return, integrate, and make settlement elsewhere). To successfully carry out the objectives, the research assessed the situation of IDPs and legal frameworks, identified the institutional structures, investigated the challenges for protecting IDPs to access durable solutions and examined the prevailing practice of durable solutions initiatives for IDPs in Amhara Regional State, specifically in Gondar.

### **1.6 Scope of the Study**

Ethiopia's present internal displacement crisis is complex, requiring extensive preparation and teamwork to safeguard displaced people and provide long-term solutions for their return, integration, or relocation—primarily through the GoE. The study's focus was restricted to evaluating the initiative for lasting solutions for the protection of internally displaced people in Amhara Regional State, particularly in Gondar. The thesis identified the situation of IDPs, legislative frameworks and institutional structures in protecting IDPs to access durable solutions. In addition, this thesis also looked at the prevailing practice in North and Central Gondar Zones in relocation site after the first return and active collective/ IDP site since the northern crisis. The thesis is based on displacement information since November 2020 the beginning of the military offensive by the Federal Government of Ethiopia on Tigray Regional State and people displacement befallen from Tigray and bordering areas of Tigray to Gondar different Zones.

### **1.7 Limitation of the study**

There were several restrictions on this study when gathering the data. In the

Adiharkay Woreda of North Gondar Zone, Zarima Kebele served as one of the data gathering locations. The other kebeles in Adiharkay Woreda were occupied by TPLF, hence the security situation there was unstable. Moving around the IDP site was also challenging during the COVID-19 pandemic for data collection. In addition, the government authorities were unreachable as a source of data because of the current government operation to clear different armed groups from the region. I overcame the problems I used the IDP committee members to collect the questionnaires from my sample respondents and used COVID-19 precisions by communicating with local government authorities and use the time when they are free of overlapping work.

## **1.8 Organization of the Thesis**

There were five chapters in this study. The study's background, statement of the problem, general and particular aims, research questions, scope, significance, and limits are all covered in detail in the first chapter. The theoretical, empirical, and conceptual literature reviews pertaining to the goals of the study are illustrated in chapter two. The research methodology was covered in chapter three and included research methodology and sources, study designs and sampling, data gathering methods, data analysis methodologies, and ethical considerations. The analysis of the study's key conclusions utilizing both quantitative and qualitative data is covered in detail in chapter four. The researcher's opinions and suggestions are presented in chapter five, which summarizes the research findings.

## **CHAPTER TWO LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **2.1 Theoretical Literature Review**

Displacement is involuntary movement or relocation of persons and it's a life changing, disturbing experience. Besides, internal displacement is forced movement within state borders. These are different from migration where its spontaneous movement out of the internationally recognized state borders. The IDPs must be

able to lead regular lives through the attainment of long-lasting solutions. Incorporating sustained reintegration, repatriation, or settlement elsewhere in the nation is vital for the attainment of enduring solutions. "IDPs have the right to durable solutions, and often need assistance in their efforts," as stated in Kampala Convention Article 11 and the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement Articles 28–30. These guiding principles delineate the primary obligations of the federal government, as well as the function of development and humanitarian entities in supporting the pursuit of sustainable solutions..<sup>31</sup>

NRC (2019) & IASC (2010), illustrates the main principles which guides the search for durable solutions by government and non-government agencies. It clarifies that the main duty of the national authorities is to offer IDPs lasting solutions by enabling quick access that supports and upholding their right to make educated decisions about which durable solution alternative to take. Furthermore, all policies and decisions should be primarily guided by the requirements of internally displaced people. Above all, their displacement must not drive the IDPs to return to places where they would face discrimination in their new lives. Lastly, even if their need for a sustainable solution is met, IDPs who have found one should still be covered by international human rights and humanitarian law..<sup>32</sup>

Before delving in to concept of durable solutions for IDPs, let's understand the concept of displacement and the legal frameworks available towards protecting the rights of conflict endured IDPs.

### **2.1.1 Internal Displacement and Internally Displaced Persons**

Internal displacement is 'the involuntary or forced movement, evacuation or relocation of persons or groups of persons within internationally recognized state borders.'<sup>33</sup> The international community did not give internal displacement much emphasis before the 1990s. Hence there was no clear definition of IDPs or

---

<sup>31</sup> JIPS, *Durable Solutions Analysis Guide: A Tool to Measure Progress Towards Durable Solutions for IDPs* (2018).

<sup>32</sup> NRC, *Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced People: in a nutshell* (2019).

IASC, *Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs* (The Brookings Institution – University of Bern Project on Internal Displacement 2010) 11.

<sup>33</sup> African Union, *African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa* (Kampala Convention, October 2009) 3.

normative framework that could guide the international community in protecting IDPs. 'The Guiding Principle on Internal Displacement was the first document to acknowledge internally displaced people. It identifies rights linked to protection and assistance during displacement, as well as return or resettlement and reintegration processes after displacement, in order to address the unique needs of internally displaced people.' These Principles replicate the IHRL and IHL.<sup>34</sup> The Guiding Principles definition states:

*Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border.*<sup>35</sup>

On November 30, 2006, the Great Lakes Region declaration was ratified with the intention of aiding IDPs. According to this protocol, "IDPs are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or to avoid the effects of large scale projects and who have not crossed an internationally recognised State border."<sup>36</sup>

The Kampala Convention which was adopted in October 2009, serves as a similar definition of IDPs and sets forth guiding guidelines. Here they are different from refugees in that 'refugees are persons who have crossed international borders and have thus lost the protection of their home countries.'<sup>37</sup>

## **2.1.2 Conflict Induced Internal Displacement**

The reasons of displacement are divided into four categories: development, military conflict, natural disasters, and violations of human rights. This article focuses on

---

<sup>34</sup>ICRC, *Internally Displaced Persons and International Humanitarian Law* (December 2017).

<sup>35</sup> *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* (E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, dated 11 February 1998).

<sup>36</sup>International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, *Protocol on the Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons* (30 November 2006) 2.

<sup>37</sup>Asplet Mike, *Internal Displacement: Responsibility and Action*, a handbook for parliamentarians, The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and Inter-Parliamentary Union (No 20, 19-20, 2013)

how displacement brought on by armed conflict and grave human rights violations is especially detrimental. It exposes its victims to further dangers, such as violence. The state either causes or is unable to prevent this kind of displacement. As a result, the person loses access to support systems that might otherwise be available. Different scholars have classified causes of displacement in different ways. For instance: Tizazu Ayelew (2014) distinguishes the causes of internal displacement into five categories.<sup>38</sup> As Asplet Mike (2013),<sup>39</sup> Meanwhile, this categorization can fall into three major causes in Ethiopia: conflict-induced, climate-induced and other related causes Yigzaw (2019).<sup>40</sup>

OCHA in 2020 reported that 40.5 million people displaced by conflict and natural disasters in the world.<sup>41</sup> In 2021, according to IDMC, 59.1 million IDPs were internally displaced worldwide. Of those 53.2 million IDPs were displaced by conflict/ violence and 5.9 million by disaster. From those 27.2 million of IDPs were located in Sub-Saharan Africa which is triggered by conflict and violence which amounts to 25.1 million and 49,000 by disaster. In Africa, countries with greater number of IDPs which was due to conflict and violence were seen in Democratic Republic Congo which is 5.3 million followed by Ethiopia registering 3.6 million then followed by Nigeria (3.2 million), Sudan (3.2 million) and Somalia (3 million).<sup>42</sup>

Ethiopia experienced a large amount of internal displacement in 2018, according to the IOM's Ethiopia-National Displacement Report 9 (June–July 2021). With 3,191,000 IDPs, Ethiopia had the third-highest number of new displacements globally in 2018. The majority are brought on by conflict, which is mostly triggered by disputes based on borders and ethnicity. While new disputes have also surfaced, long-standing tensions like the dispute over the Oromia-Somali regional border, which initially erupted in 2017 and still exist. Competition for land and resources sparked a fighting

---

<sup>38</sup>Tizazu Ayelew, *International Response for the Protection of Conflict Induced Internally Displaced Persons Since 1991 in Sudan's Darfur and Somalia* (Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa 2014).

<sup>39</sup>Asplet Mike, *Internal Displacement: Responsibility and Action, a handbook for parliamentarians*. The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and Inter-Parliamentary Union (No 20, 20-21, 2013)

<sup>40</sup>Yigzaw, *Causes and Impact of Internal Displacement in Ethiopia*. African Journal of Social Work 9(2), 35-37, 2016) 35.

<sup>41</sup>OCHA report.

Website: <https://www.unocha.org/es/themes/internal-displacement>

<sup>42</sup>IDMC and NRC, *GRID: Children and youth in internal displacement* (2023).

Global Report on Internal Displacement (2023).

Website: <https://www.internal-displacement.org/global-report/grid2023/>

between the Gedeo and Guji Oromo tribes in West Guji in April and June of 2018, resulting in an estimated 748,499 internally displaced people. Concurrently, there was an estimated 191,995 IDPs as a result of a limited war in the Benishangul Gumuz region and the East and West Wellega zones of the Oromia region. They caused the number of internally displaced people in Ethiopia to reach a record 3.04 million in 2019. Ethiopia is rife with climate-related displacement as well, primarily from floods and droughts. In 2019, the protracted drought in Ethiopia had an effect on pastoralist and agricultural communities, reducing crop yields, drying up water supplies, and reducing cattle pastures. October 2019 saw 202,202 IDPs as a result of multiple floods in the Somali, Afar, Oromia, and SNNPR areas. As of June 2019, the government reported that 1.8 million IDPs returned to their home country. Since April 2019, the government has been leading a nationwide return. Ethiopia has been fighting a desert locust invasion since June 2019, which is said to be the worst the nation has experienced in 25 years. Hopper bands had covered around 429 km<sup>2</sup> of crops and vegetation as of January 2020. Similar to this, in 2020 the GoE was encouraged to launch a military offensive after the Tigray regional party allegedly attacked the Northern Command of Ethiopia's National Defense Force in Mekelle, Tigray region. Two million IDPs were displaced from Tigray to various regions of Ethiopia due to the conflict in the north..<sup>43</sup>

IDPs should be safe from the impacts of armed conflict within the civilian population and forced and child recruitment during conflict.<sup>44</sup>

### **2.1.3 Protection of IDPs from Conflict or Violence**

The impact of internal displacement can be startling for states, as they might not have the resources to support both the population as a whole and IDPs specifically. This is shown by a lack of preparedness and becoming under-resourced to manage emergencies. In addition, extensive displacements can disrupt the whole region, posing extreme security and humanitarian challenges.<sup>45</sup>

---

<sup>43</sup>IOM, *DTM Ethiopia National Displacement Report 9*. Site Assessment Round 26 & Village Assessment Survey (Round 9, 2021).

<sup>44</sup> *Protection of Conflict-Induced IDPs*. Assessment for Action (2008).

<sup>45</sup> Asplet Mike, *Internal Displacement: Responsibility and Action*, a handbook for parliamentarians. *The*

IDPs that involuntarily displaced by armed conflict or other courses, possess the same rights as other host communities in the country. The practise of IDPs protection risks should be understood and need to be addressed along with those of other civilians. The following specific internal displacement causes are known to exacerbate protection risks: losing of their houses which leads to in need of shelter whether it is in a crowded camps or settlement areas, and documentation which break the ties from their normal livelihoods, inadequate food, unsafe water, education, and health care; the disintegration of the family and community, which causes family division; children who are left unaccompanied or separated; families headed by a single person; elderly people; and people with disabilities. Moreover, IDPs are exposed to various protection risks like sexual exploitation and abuse, child labour or forced conscription, arbitrary arrest and detention, exclusion as well as elevated rates of starvation, malnourishment, and illness .<sup>46</sup>

IDP sites can make IDPs more susceptible to mistreatment, forced recruitment, and harassment. Furthermore, the extended stay of internally displaced people caused host communities to become tense with them due to competition for limited resources, environmental damage, and xenophobia, all of which served as causes of conflict.<sup>47</sup>

Therefore, protection relates to defending a person from harm, including physical abuse. Protection involves the security of people, including women and children from sexual attacks. In addition, protection is any measure to prevent the threat of force against the physical, sexual and psychological well-being of IDPs. Meanwhile most of internal displacement is sudden, and IDPs could be vulnerable to risks, including threats to health and the risk of family separation. Then the vulnerability of IDPs will reach its most critical, needing more urgent and immediate action.<sup>48</sup>

---

*UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and Inter-Parliamentary Union (No 20, 18, 2013).*

<sup>46</sup>Global Protection Cluster Working Group, *Hand Book for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons* (2007).

<sup>47</sup>Mehari Taddele, *The Kampala Convention and Its Contributions to International Law: Legal Analyses and Interpretations of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons* (The Netherlands: Eleven International Publishing 2014) 14.

<sup>48</sup> Mehari Taddele, *The Kampala Convention and Its Contributions to International Law: Legal Analyses and Interpretations of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons* (The Netherlands: Eleven International Publishing 2014) 23.

Protection refers to IDPs' emotional and physical well-being; as UNHCR defines as "all actions aimed at ensuring equal access to and enjoyment of the rights of women, men, girls and boys of concern with the relevant bodies of the law establishing protection measures." In a similar vein, the ICRC defines protection as shielding conflict victims from harm and abuses of power while also providing them with support and defence. As a result, protection is instituted through all efforts intended to guarantee the equal protection of IDPs' fundamental human rights in various ways. Thus, security and safety of IDPs in or out of conflict regions are included under protection.<sup>49</sup>

One way to view protection as a goal is that it requires total and equal respect for everyone's right to be free from discrimination. Moreover, protection is legal responsibility through both state and non-state entities like opposition groups, humanitarian and human rights actors. Another way to think about protection is as a necessary action that involves responding, providing remedies, and improving the environment in order to guarantee the enjoyment of rights.<sup>50</sup> These are illustrated in the Guiding Principle as core objective: "to identify rights and guarantees related to the protection of persons from forced displacement and to their protection and assistance during displacement as well as during return or resettlement and reintegration."<sup>51</sup>

#### **2.1.4 Durable Solution for Internal Displaced Persons**

IDPs' human rights concerns do not automatically vanish when the cause of displacement ends. They are protected from ongoing violence or natural disasters, but they still need assistance until a long-term solution is found. A durable solution is attained "when IDPs no longer have specific assistance and protection needs linked to their displacement and can enjoy their human rights."<sup>52</sup> This can be accomplished by their repatriation, local integration in the areas of displacement, or relocation elsewhere in the nation. Reducing requirements unique to displacement and

---

<sup>49</sup> *ibid*

<sup>50</sup> Global Protection Cluster Working Group, *Hand Book for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons* (2007) 7.

<sup>51</sup> *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* (E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, dated 11 February 1998).

<sup>52</sup> IASC, *Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs* (April, 2010) 11.

ensuring the non-discriminatory enjoyment of human rights are long-term goals of lasting solutions for internally displaced people. In addition, it also has challenges related to addressing procedures related to human rights, humanitarianism, development, reconstruction, and peacebuilding. Moreover, the process requires the coordination and appropriate commitment of dissimilar actors, including the government as the leading actor and non-governmental organisations.<sup>53</sup>

Reaching long-lasting solutions for IDP protection is a difficult process that necessitates a particular strategy by being context-sensitive or paying attention to the unique circumstances of IDPs. These can be accomplished by carefully examining the causes of displacement, length of displacement, the displacement setting, and how displacement has affected different populations. Additionally, it is crucial to use a solutions-based strategy in order to achieve the goal of long-lasting solutions. Furthermore, it is imperative to adopt a rights-based perspective, including participating IDPs to make an informed decision, contribute in the preparation and administration, have safe unimpeded and timely access. Similar to this, a comprehensive strategy should involve a wide range of parties, such as international organizations, local government agencies, civil society, and IDPs by using early recovery approach and conducted in a well-coordinated way in all levels.<sup>54</sup>

#### ***2.1.4.1 Key Principles to Guide the Search for Durable Solutions***

The IASC framework for durable solutions for IDPs bases the search for a durable solution on the following approaches:<sup>55</sup>

- It is primarily the duty of the national authorities to guarantee the protection and support of IDPs in order to offer them long-term alternatives. In order to protect the rights of IDPs, the national government must ensure that the appropriate legal and regulatory frameworks are in place, set up efficient government agencies, coordinate the national and local response, permit the distribution of aid for development and humanitarian causes, and facilitate the process of raising funds.

---

<sup>53</sup>ibid

<sup>54</sup>IASC, *Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs* (April, 2010) 11.

<sup>55</sup>ibid

- National authorities should grant humanitarian actors for rapid access to assist IDPs in discovery durable solutions as a complementary role by respecting IDPs' rights to make a voluntary choice.
- IDPs shall not face discrimination on the basis of their gender, race, religion, or any other status, nor be forced to migrate or return to an area where their safety, liberty, or health would be in jeopardy. Additionally, even after achieving local integration or settlement, an IDP shall not lose the ability to return, and their rights will continue to be safeguarded by national, international humanitarian law, and international humanitarian law.<sup>56</sup>

#### ***2.1.4.2 Criteria's to Achieve Durable Solutions***

The following eight factors could be applied to assess the degree to which IDPs access a durable solution,<sup>57</sup> these are:

- A. Safety and Security:*** IDPs should enjoy long term physical safety and security. The national authorities have a responsibility to protect them from risks which can create secondary displacement. A further requirement is that IDPs cannot face disciplinary action whether they return to their place of origin or live abroad. They also need to be shielded from sexual assault, landmines, exploitation, and violence within families.
- B. Adequate Standard of Living:*** Without exception, IDPs should be able to attain a sufficient standard of living, which includes access to basic healthcare, food, shelter, WASH services, and education up to the primary school level.
- C. Access to Livelihoods:*** The jobs that are accessible to IDPs must enable them to meet their basic financial requirements. And they shall not encounter obstacles that keep them from having the same access to jobs and means of subsistence in the host community as any other citizen.
- D. Restoration of Housing, Land and Property:*** Whether people decide to return or not, there should be procedures in place to restore their homes, lands, and

---

<sup>56</sup>IASC, *Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs* (April, 2010) 14.

<sup>57</sup> ibid

belongings. This norm covers rental agreements in addition to all residential, commercial, and agricultural property. This covers the rights to compensation and property inheritance.

**E. Access to Documentation:** In order to vote, access public services, regain property, and pursue other goals related to durable solutions, IDPs should be allowed to access personal and other documentation without facing any discrimination. This becomes a specific issue when they look for long-lasting solutions, and it also affects their ability to apply for jobs without a birth certificate or identification card.

**F. Family Reunification:** Families separated by displacement should be reunited after displacement and can ensure durable solution in one way. Family reunification for children who are unaccompanied or separated will be in their best interests if an assessment is done first. It is the authorities' duty to protect the youngster in the interim until the child's family is momentarily located.

**G. Participation in Public Affairs:** There should be no discrimination in the exercise of IDPs' right to engage in public affairs. This includes the freedom to engage in communal affairs on an equal footing, to cast a ballot, to run for office, and to work in all branches of government.

**H. Access to Effective Remedies and Justice:** IDPs shall have the right to a successful remedy if they have been the victims of violations of IHRL or IHL. The accomplishment of long-term solutions may be risked, additional displacement may occur, resolution procedures may be impeded, and IDPs may develop a persistent sense of unfairness if appropriate remedies are not obtained for such violations.<sup>58</sup>

### 2.1.5 Legal Frameworks for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons

Different international, regional and national legal frameworks have been established to protect IDPs before, during and after displacement. Protection can be defined as

---

<sup>58</sup>Global Protection Cluster Working Group, *Hand Book for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons* (2007).

the total and equal regard, free from discrimination, for each and every one of a person's rights, including the right to health and education (ICESCR), political participation, and freedom of movement (ICCPR). Furthermore, it is legally required for both state and non-governmental entities to defend the rights of IDPs, including humanitarian and human rights organizations.<sup>59</sup>

### ***2.1.5.1 International Legal Frameworks for the Protection of IDPs***

IDPs are eligible to relish their human rights as citizens their country under international, regional and domestic law. The International Laws couldn't solve the difficulty of IDPs, but the IDPs are protected under these laws. There are three forms of law providing legal framework for protection of IDPs, including during armed conflict. These are IHRL, IHL and International Criminal Law.<sup>60</sup>

*"IHRL, which consists of both customary and treaty law, guarantees these rights and obliges States to respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of all persons without discrimination of any kind, such as on the grounds of age, gender, ethnic origin, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, including on the grounds of being or having been internally displaced."<sup>61</sup>*

The 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the first human rights document created by the UN with an emphasis on the civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights of all people, is incorporated into IHRL. Although many of the declaration's concepts are customary rules, the document itself is not legally binding. The two Covenants were enacted by expanding upon the UDHR and enshrining its tenets in binding legal agreements: i.e. the ICESCR and ICCPR. Additionally, a number of other instruments were also approved in subject areas for the particular

---

<sup>59</sup>ibid

<sup>60</sup>ibid

ICRC, *Internally Displaced Persons and International Humanitarian Law*. Advisory Service on International Humanitarian Law (1-4, 2017).

<sup>61</sup>ICRC, *Internally Displaced Persons and International Humanitarian Law*. Advisory Service on International Humanitarian Law (1-4, 2017).

protection of individuals' human rights.<sup>62</sup>

*"IHL is a set of rules that, in times of armed conflict, seeks – for humanitarian reasons – to protect persons who are not, or are no longer, directly participating in hostilities, and to restrict means and methods of warfare. IHL thus establishes minimum standards of humane conduct that must be complied with in any situation of armed conflict."<sup>63</sup>*

The essential documents that make up International Humanitarian Law are the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their 1977 Additional Protocols. The 1949 Geneva Convention established the principle of disinterested aid to all victims of war without discrimination, to all those who, through wounds, capture, or shipwreck, are no longer enemies but rather suffering and defenceless human beings. This convention states the protection of injured military personnel and of humanitarian conventions, or fundamental international agreements, inspired by respect for human personality and dignity. These instruments' fundamental ideas form customary international law, which is obligatory in times of armed conflict.<sup>64</sup>

IHL notably forbids conflicting armed groups from under protest displacing non-combatants in international and domestic armed conflicts unless the security of the civilians will be under attack. Additionally, this ban guards against the possibility of secondary relocation for civilians. It also made clear that IDPs had the right to voluntarily return to their usual residences as soon as the calamity was over. IHL guarantees the following rights to internally displaced people: non-discrimination; protection as members of the civilian population; respect for human life, dignity, and humane treatment; adequate living conditions and humanitarian aid; family reunion; documentation; civilian property and objects; employment and social protection; education; and the ban on conscription of minors. States bear primary responsibility for putting IHL into practice, including the duty to incorporate international law norms into domestic legal systems, related with forced displacement and return and

---

<sup>62</sup>ibid

<sup>63</sup>ibid

<sup>64</sup>Global Protection Cluster Working Group, *Hand Book for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons* (2007).

penal repression should be considered when enacting national legislation.<sup>65</sup>

International Criminal Law is a tribunal that have jurisdiction to hear cases when domestic courts are unable or unwilling to prosecute, international criminal law is a supplement to national law. As a result, national authorities are required to use their national courts to try cases involving violations of IHRL and IHL and to legitimize such violations through national legislation. Under international criminal law, people may be prosecuted in certain situations. The International Criminal Court (ICC) Statute grants jurisdiction over matters of global importance, including crimes against humanity, war crimes, and genocide.<sup>66</sup>

### ***A) Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement***

The primary international human rights instrument that recognised IDPs was the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, adopted on 11 February 1998. It is by nature the reaffirmation of the existing IHRL and IHL meanwhile, the Guiding Principles are not in themselves legally obligatory. The primary concern addressed by the Guiding Principles is to the state's obligation, which does away with the idea that states should be in charge of preventing displacement, protecting and aiding IDPs under their jurisdiction, and offering long-term solutions. States must also establish national normative, policy, and implementation frameworks to address the unique requirements of internally displaced people.<sup>67</sup>

IDPs rarely appreciate the same rights as other citizens for the reason that displacement denies multiple rights through separating families, disturbing social ties, terminating employment and relationships, and depriving social assistance. The protection of IDPs is challenging since it can occur both during times of peace and during times of conflict. Hence, the Guiding Principles fused several applicable norms of IHRL and IHL to respond to IDPs basic needs. The document addresses all steps of displacement including safeguard before displacement, protection and assistance during displacement and finding alternatives of durable solutions after

---

<sup>65</sup> *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* (E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, dated 11 February 1998)

<sup>66</sup> Global Protection Cluster Working Group, *Hand Book for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons* (2007).

<sup>67</sup> Global Protection Cluster Working Group, *Hand Book for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons* (2007).

displacement. Since these values must be applied without bias.<sup>68</sup>

International humanitarian organizations and other players are guided by the Guiding Principles and are entitled to provide services to assist IDPs in addition to the state's obligation, provided that the IDPs provide their agreement. The most outstanding achievement of this document is that it internationalised the principles and gave awareness by giving the first description of IDPs.<sup>69</sup> A wide range of rights pertaining to concerns of civil and political protection, economic, social, and cultural protection, bodily security and integrity, and basic requirements of life are also covered by the Guiding Principles.<sup>70</sup> The Guiding Principles include five sections. Section I; that is from Principle 1-4 states the IDPs rights to provide protection by the national authorities. Section II articulates principles related to protection from displacement before it happens. It includes from Principle 5-9 having all stockholders' obligation to prevent or minimize conditions which leads to displacement, the IDPs' right not to be relocated for prolonged time, if displacement occurred states have duty to guarantee adequate information on the motives for their displacement, provide compensation and relocation. The concepts pertaining to protection during displacement are outlined in Section III from Principles 10–23, including the IDPs' inalienable right to life; dignity; physical, mental, and moral integrity; security and liberty of persons; protection of children: preventing them from participating in hostilities; freedom of movement; protection from forced return and resettlement; respect for their family life; and an acceptable standard of living, which includes the right to food, clean water, a basic place to live, appropriate clothing, medical care, sanitation, education, and all necessary documentation. Section IV is related to principles to humanitarian assistance which is from Principle 24-27 illustrating the humanitarian assistance should be impartial and is the main duty of national authorities. The last on Section V is about durable solutions which are from Principle 28-30 which illustrates the possible alternatives of return, reintegration at displacement location and

---

<sup>68</sup> *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* (E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, dated 11 February 1998)

<sup>69</sup> Delbaere Ruth, *International Displaced Persons in the African Human Rights System*. An Analysis of the Kampala Convention (Ghent University 2016) 19.

<sup>70</sup> Global Protection Cluster Working Group, *Hand Book for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons* (2007).

resettlement elsewhere.<sup>71</sup>

Hence, according to the Guiding Principle Section II, Principle 6(3) which emphasises that “Displacement shall last no longer than required by the circumstances.” This shows that the State should protect IDPs on a temporary bases and develop durable solution alternatives to return, resettle or reintegrate them. Thus, Section V of Principles 28–30 discusses planning and supervising return, relocation, and reintegration while involving IDPs in the search for long-term solutions. Above all, it is crucial that IDPs who have found a long-term solution continue to benefit from IHL and IHRL protections by not being subjected to prejudice or indifference that led to their displacement. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of the government to help relocated or returning internally displaced persons retrieve their belongings and secure just compensation. Finally, Principle 30's guiding principle shows that all relevant authorities must allow international humanitarian organizations and other suitable actors to quickly and unhindered access for IDPs in order to support their return, resettlement, and reintegration while carrying out their respective mandates.<sup>72</sup>

### ***B) Principles on Housing and Property Restitution for Refugees and Displaced Persons (Pinheiro Principles)***

The UN Economic and Social Council by its Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, welcomed the progress report of the Special Rapporteur by Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro on 28 June 2005 in its resolution 2004/2. Then it was approved in August 2005.<sup>73</sup> Furthermore, in March 2007, a collection of agencies—including OCHA/Inter-Agency Internal Displacement Division (IDD), UN HABITAT, The UNHCR, FAO, OHCHR, NRC, and IDMC—published a handbook on housing and property restitution for refugees and displaced people implementing the "Pinheiro Principle." Each agency contributed experience with the practical and legal complexities of property restitution. The handbook provides practical guidance to all working on HLP issues for endorsing durable solutions for IDPs and refugees,

---

<sup>71</sup> *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* (E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, dated 11 February 1998)

<sup>72</sup> *ibid*

<sup>73</sup> Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, *Principles on housing and property restitution for refugees and displaced persons* (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/17, 28 June 2005).

including the right of IDPs to return and possessions in the displaced location.<sup>74</sup>

The Pinheiro Principles offer helpful direction regarding the global norms that control how well HLP projects are implemented. The principle also includes the rights be protected from displacement, adequate consultation in the decision making, proper records of tenants and secondary occupation. Additionally, the concept outlines the obligation of the global society to uphold and defend the right to HLP with a voluntary return to safety and self-worth.<sup>75</sup>

### ***C) IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons***

The Nairobi-based ReDSS produced the IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs in 2007. The Human Rights Council General Assembly Report of the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of IDPs were discussed on December 2, 2009 about it and the framework was released in 2010.<sup>76</sup> Based on the Horn of Africa's regional context, the IASC framework was operationalized through the use of good practices and result indicators<sup>77</sup> organised to measure how durable solutions have been achieved. The framework was also intended to be a tool for expanding the data available on communities affected by displacement, which would aid in the creation of more evidence-based, solution-focused responses in the area.<sup>78</sup> The framework addresses long-term solutions in the wake of conflicts and natural disasters by including important human rights-based principles, defining the parameters that define the extent to which a long-term solution must be achieved, and tracking advancements made in this direction.<sup>79</sup>

---

<sup>74</sup> *Handbook on Housing and Property Restriction for Refugees and Displaced Persons*. Implementing the 'Pinheiro Principles' (March 2007) 17.

<sup>75</sup> Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, *Principles on housing and property restitution for refugees and displaced persons* (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/17, 28 June 2005). (March 2007). *Handbook on Housing and Property Restriction for Refugees and Displaced Persons: Implementing the 'Pinheiro Principles'*

<sup>76</sup> Human Rights Council General Assembly, *Report of the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons* (Walter Kälin, A/HRC/13/21/Add.4, 29 December 2009)

<sup>77</sup> Good practices from/in Uganda, Somalia, Sudan, Democratic Republic Congo, Turkey, Serbia, Philippines, Guatemala, Cote D'Ivoire, Algeria, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Angola, Sierra Leone and Colombia.

<sup>78</sup> <http://regionaldss.org/index.php/research-and-knowledge-management/solutions-framework/>

<sup>79</sup> IASC, *Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs* (The Brookings Institution – University of Bern Project on Internal Displacement, April, 2010) 15.

The framework was based on Principle 6 (3)<sup>80</sup> and Principles related to Return, Resettlement and Reintegration from Principle 28-30<sup>81</sup> of the Guiding Principle on Internal Displacement. It declares that “a durable solution is realised when IDPs no longer have any specific assistance and protection needs linked to their displacement.” This can be attained through justifiable reintegration to their habitual residence through return, sustainable local integration in the displacement area or elsewhere. These alternatives often take a long time to ensure IDPs' enjoyment of human rights without discrimination. To effectively support IDPs through a rights-based procedure, local government, international humanitarian organizations, and development actors must collaborate in order to meet these requirements. IDPs should be informed to voluntarily decide by participating in the planning and being involved in the peace-building processes for durable solutions. How to arrive at long-lasting solutions can be determined by the following standards: security and freedom of movement; a living wage that is adequate, access to sources of income, and efficient procedures for restoring their HLP rights.<sup>82</sup>

The framework also indicates how to support and organise durable solutions by using Right-Based approach that seats IDPs at the core of the procedure and giving a chance for them in finding the durable solution of their choice. A rights-based approach is aimed at achieving the following objectives that: IDPs should make an informed decision, partake in the arrangement and management, have timely response and monitoring the process and peace-building should be given priority by involving IDPs to reinforce durable solutions. Specifically, women, children, and PwD of all ages should be included in the processes that promote a long-lasting solution.<sup>83</sup>

#### ***2.1.5.2 Regional Legal Frameworks for the Protection of IDPs***

##### ***A) Great Lakes Protocol on the Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)***

---

<sup>80</sup>Principle 6(3)

<sup>81</sup>Principle 28 (1 &2), Principle 29(1 &2), Principle 30

<sup>82</sup>IASC, *Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs* (The Brookings Institution – University of Bern Project on Internal Displacement, April, 2010) 27.

<sup>83</sup>IASC, *Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs* (The Brookings Institution – University of Bern Project on Internal Displacement, April, 2010) 27.

The International Conference on the Great Lakes Region adopted the theme Security, Stability, and Development in the Great Lakes Region of Africa in November 2006. The two protocols covered by the agreement are the Protocol on Property Rights of Returning Persons and the Protocol on the Protection on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children. This protocol is the first legally binding multilateral instrument on countries that have ratified them, which is concerned on the extent of the spectacle of internal displacement continuing in high range and become necessary to achieve the difficulty of IDPs by eliminating the reasons of their displacement in the region. The signatory States of the protocol are dedicated in adopting national law to implement the Guiding Principles as a legal base in the region by implementing in their national legislation.<sup>84</sup>

In Article 2 of the protocol states the objectives that the member states should establish legal frameworks, ensure legal protection, provide a legal base for domestication and prevent and remove the origin of displacement. In addition, in Article 6 it illustrates the adoption and implementation of the Guiding Principles to offer defence and support to IDPs in Great Lakes Region.<sup>85</sup>

### ***B) Kampala Convention***

The Kampala Convention, which legally requires nations to assist IDPs and is available for use by African members, was the first regional agreement to be ratified by the AU in October 2009. The convention is inspired by the Guiding Principles and is a significant to reaffirm the existing rules of IHRL and IHL. Also targets to react the urgent needs of IDPs and institutional protection gap in the regional governance. Additionally, it offers a wide framework to help African States embrace regional norms, policies, and workable methods for handling internal displacement. For the Convention to realise, it should be ratified by AU member States and translated into practice. The Guiding Principles are contextualized in the Convention's twenty-three articles, which cover every aspect of internal displacement—from prevention to

---

<sup>84</sup>International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, *Protocol on the Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons* (30 November 2006) 2.

David Fisher, *Guide to International Human Rights Mechanisms for Internally Displaced Persons and their Advocates* (University of Bern, June 2006).

Global Protection Cluster Working Group, *Hand Book for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons* (2007).

<sup>85</sup>ibid

protection and aid to IDPs. Most significantly, Article 11 (from 1 to 5) contains an alternate durable solution.<sup>86</sup> Moreover, the convention has detailed provision of the obligations to AU, UN and Civil Societies Organizations. In general, the Kampala Convention could be taken as major instrument starting from transforming the soft law to all other conventions into binding hard law based on the context of the African people.<sup>87</sup>

IHL, regional and international human rights instruments, the Great Lakes Protocol, the Guiding Principles, and others served as inspiration for the Kampala Convention. As a result, the Kampala Convention and the Great Lakes Protocol share the objective of offering long-term solutions for IDPs. Because it addresses all causes and phases of internal displacement, the Kampala Convention is likewise equivalent to the Guiding Principles on the definition and scope of internal displacement. The Guiding Principles emphasize a right-based approach where the rights are from the position of IDPs, whereas the convention takes an obligation-based approach where the rights are from the perspective of States and NGOs. This is the primary distinction between the two methods.<sup>88</sup>

#### ***2.1.5.3 Ethiopian National Legal Frameworks for the Protection of IDPs***

Ethiopia on of the States in Africa which is a member of most of the binding global and local human rights mechanisms, including tools related to IDPs. Ethiopia commits to the instruments either by ratifying or acceding; the ICCPR, ICESCR, CEDAW, CRC, CAT, the Geneva Conventions and its Additional Protocols and Kampala Convention regionally to provide the fundamental rights and guarantees for human rights protection IDPs. These instruments guarantee the fundamental rights to defence IDPs in Ethiopia for claiming the protection of essential rights that are already assured under the human rights and humanitarian frameworks. In addition,

---

<sup>86</sup>International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, *African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa* (October 2009). Article 11(1-5)

<sup>87</sup>Taddele Mehari, *The Kampala Convention and Its Contributions to International Law: Legal Analyses and Interpretations of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons* (The Netherlands. Eleven International Publishing 2014) 29.

<sup>88</sup>African Union, *African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa* (Kampala Convention, October 2009).  
Delbaere Ruth, *International Displaced Persons in the African Human Rights System: An Analysis of the Kampala Convention* (Ghent University 2016) 20.

Ethiopia has already entered the agreements under the existing legal frameworks that provide the fundamental rights of IDPs protection needs.<sup>89</sup>

Kampala Convention is signed and by Ethiopia in Oct 2009 and February 2020 respectively. The convention sets out the responsibilities of states to guard IDPs to the domestication of this framework. States then commit to prevent arbitrary displacement by safeguarding IDPs' rights while they are being relocated and find durable solutions after returning. Consequently, Ethiopia had organised the framework of a government-led process, the Humanitarian and Disaster Resilience Plan (HDRP), to collaborate with the humanitarian agencies to afford shield and assistance IDPs. Meanwhile, Ethiopia made reservations on Article 12(2)<sup>90</sup> of the Kampala Convention related to reimbursement. According to proclamation No. 1187/2020 states that "compensation is due when displacement results from expropriation procedures. The duty of the state in the case of displacement due to natural and man-made causes is seen within the purview of assisting as provided under article 89<sup>91</sup> of the FDRE Constitution and ensuring rehabilitation." In addition, Ethiopia entered into reservation on Article 12(3)<sup>92</sup> of the convention-related with assistance. The proclamation reveals that "in the event of non-delivery of assistance to displaced populations due to the act or omission of individuals or entities that act in contravention with the law, the Government of Ethiopia understands its obligation under Article 12(3) of the Convention to be the obligation to ensure accountability of the perpetrators and resumption of assistance to the victims." Moreover, Ethiopia reserved Article 22<sup>93</sup> of the convention-related to dispute resolution. The proclamation stated that "The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia does not consider itself to be bound by Article 22 of the Convention on the African Court of Justice and Human Rights jurisdiction."<sup>94</sup>

### ***A. Constitutional and Legislative Frameworks***

<sup>89</sup>Website: [www.ohchr.org](http://www.ohchr.org)

Mohammed Adem, *The Protection of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Ethiopia: the Analysis of Legal and Institutional Frameworks* (Ethiopian Civil Service University, Addis Ababa 2020).

<sup>90</sup> African Union, *African Union Convention (Kampala Convention) for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa Ratification* (Proclamation No. 1187/2020) Article 12(2)

<sup>91</sup>FDRE Constitution (1995) Article 89(3)

<sup>92</sup>Article 12(3)

<sup>93</sup>Article 22(1)

<sup>94</sup>ibid

The 1995 FDRE Constitution is the Ethiopian national legislation that provides the essential human rights framework. When Ethiopia ratified the international and regional human rights instruments, they become vital parts of the national law and complies with the international and regional instruments required. Therefore, domesticating international instruments by enshrining the law in national constitutions is necessary for their domestic execution.<sup>95</sup> Article 10(1) states that, “Human rights and freedoms, emanating from the nature of mankind, are inviolable and inalienable.” Moreover, in Article 13(2) describes that “The fundamental rights and freedoms specified in this Chapter shall be interpreted in a manner confirming to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Covenants on Human Rights and International instruments adopted by Ethiopia.” Meanwhile, the human rights articles found in Chapter III of the Constitution are the only ones’ subject to the necessity to certify to international institutions. Nonetheless, human rights are addressed by other provisions that are not included in this Chapter. For example, Chapter 10, which addresses the National Policy Principles and Goals, includes crucial clauses pertaining to human rights, especially those related to socioeconomic and environmental rights (Articles 89 and 90).<sup>96</sup> Moreover, the regulation that deals with derogation of rights indicate the direct relation with human rights which needs more guidance based on international and regional mechanisms.<sup>97</sup> Nonetheless, the final legal authority and practical applicability are exclusively vested in laws published in the Negarit Gazettea.<sup>98</sup>

More importantly in the FDRE constitution the rights of IDPs related to development were recognised in Article 43(2)<sup>99</sup> to respect and consult different policies that can affect their community. This provision becomes a preventive mechanism for arbitrary displacement. Moreover, Article 89(3)<sup>100</sup> on the FDRE constitution reveals

---

<sup>95</sup>FDRE Constitution (1995) Article 9(4)

<sup>96</sup>Article 88-92

<sup>97</sup>Article 93

Adem Kassie, *Human Rights Under the Ethiopian Constitution: A Descriptive Overview* (Mizan Law Review 5(1), 41-71, 2011).

<sup>98</sup>Mulugeta Tesfaye, *Rights in Displaced Situations: Challenges and Prospects for the Enforcement of Reproductive Rights of Refugee Women and Girls in Ethiopia* (Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa 2011).

<sup>99</sup>FDRE Constitution (1995) Article 43(2)

<sup>100</sup>Article 89(3)

the governments' accountability to avert when man-made or natural disaster arrives by assisting the victims. These provisions are directly related to IDPs rights; hence all the provisions in the constitution applies to the IDPs as nations of the country. Meanwhile, the constitution neglects incorporating conflict induced displacement which needs the obligation to protect IDPs. There is constitutional omission to give protection of the IDPs. Regarding durable solutions, the Ethiopian constitution Article 44(2)<sup>101</sup> which is about environmental rights, explained compensation mechanisms if citizens got displaced as a result of State programs but not to others causes of displacement like displacement occurred by conflict, violence or disaster.<sup>102</sup>

## ***B. Policy Frameworks***

### ***The FDRE National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management***

Ethiopia formulated the local policy and approach about disaster risk management on July 2013. The policy defines disaster as “a serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society involving widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses and impacts, which exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources”.<sup>103</sup> It relates disaster with natural and manmade disasters. It depicts that conflicts triggered by different factors also is given attention. The policy incorporates early warning systems with the informed response and a disaster risk management structure; from an official disaster statement system to a decentralised system, policy implementation and practices with its administration system and enforcement laws and directives. The Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development created this policy, which addresses the catastrophe anticipation and readiness system. The legal frameworks created by modifying the National Policy on Disaster Prevention and Administration, which has been in effect since 1993, support the full implementation of this system.<sup>104</sup>

This policy also defines displacement as caused by ‘natural hazard, war/conflict, or

---

<sup>101</sup> Article 44(2)

<sup>102</sup> FDRE constitution (1995).

<sup>103</sup> The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, *National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management* (Addis Ababa 2013) 3.

<sup>104</sup> The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, *National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management* (Addis Ababa 2013) 13.

other human-made action.’ Therefore, it provides response using early warning and disaster assessment results and allocate resources when disaster arise. It also responds for emergency livelihoods interventions by properly identifying people in need during disaster. It also emphasis the disaster risk management to mainstream into development plans of government organisations and private businesses for better response by mobilizing resources from external sources when the country is incapable.<sup>105</sup>

The policy implementation has the following main principles for effective disaster risk management scheme and implementation.

**a) Government leadership:** should lead actions for the application of the disaster risk management scheme.

**b) Self-reliant response system:** should be delivered before, during, and after the disaster by using early warning system and developing the capacity of domestic sources.

**c) Mainstreaming into development programmes:** development programmes and activities should be executed on the development agendas by ensuring mainstreaming into different sectors.

**d) Decentralized and community-centred:** the policy should be implemented in a decentralized way at community level.

**e) Participatory, accountability and responsibility:** the scheme should focus on participation of actors including victims by clearly stating their specific responsibilities.

**f) Forecast the hazard, analyse, and take early action:** this should be done in a timely manner by anticipating and examining the risks to prevent and take action.

**g) Protection of human life:** shortage of or times delivery response should not affect human life.

**h) Special attention to natural resource and environmental development and**

---

<sup>105</sup>ibid

**protection:** Disaster risk management events should be implemented by giving extreme attention to natural reserves for conservation and protection.<sup>106</sup>

### ***Ethiopia Durable Solution Initiative (DSI)***

IASC Framework is systematized around physical, material, and legal safety of IDPs by measuring the degree to achieve durable solutions. The Framework was created as a tool to help expand the data available on communities affected by displacement, which would aid in the creation of more evidence-based, solution-focused responses in the area. Then, the Ethiopian government, international funders, national NGOs, and UN agencies launched the DSI. The goal of these corporation is to facilitate collective actions between the GoE and the international community. It reflects relevant governmental plans, strategies and international standards like the Guiding Principles and the Framework on long term Solutions. The goal of DSI in Ethiopia is to offer a morally sound operational framework to lead cooperative actors in the nation's efforts to identify long-term solutions. Its ultimate goal is to create circumstances that allow all IDPs to find lasting solutions in an ethical manner.<sup>107</sup>

The DSI incorporates five levels:<sup>108</sup> The DSI at a *policy level* works on mainstreaming displacement issues in the key policy documents, including in national development plans. For example, the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) is currently developing a 10-year perspective plan, as well as its Growth and Transformation Plan III (2020/2021 – 2024/2025) which is aligned with the Government Ten-year Perspective Plan (2020 -2030) and the Agenda of Home-grown Economic Reform. Over the following five years, these will direct the GoE's and the development actors' activities and to support the GoE, the UN Country Team is also creating a multi-year resilience plan and a new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). In these strategic documents, the initiative will try to mainstream the subject of long-term solutions for internally displaced people. Furthermore, Ethiopia's experiences—more especially, those of the Somali region—in working toward long-term solutions will be

---

<sup>106</sup>The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, *National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management* (Addis Ababa 2013) 14.

<sup>107</sup>DSI (December 2019) 2.

<sup>108</sup>*ibid*

GP20, *Prevent Protect Resolve*. Working Together Better to Prevent, Address and Find Durable Solutions to Internal Displacement (2019)

shared by the DSI with the higher level conversation on internal displacement.<sup>109</sup>

The DSI at the *legislative level* supports the endorsement and domestication of the Kampala Convention. The ratification was completed by the GoE and the regional governments in March 2020.<sup>110</sup> Currently the Ministry of Peace of Ethiopia is on the status of drafting IDPs Proclamation. The proclamation is aimed to vindicate aid for IDPs involuntarily flee their habitual residence due to manmade or natural disaster and provide long term solutions.<sup>111</sup>

The DSI at the *institutional level* the GoE has made abundant efforts to progress and improve results for internal displacement, by creating the DSWG in 2014. The goal of the DSI is to form group repatriation, relocation, and local integration programs for IDPs while also offering a morally sound operational framework for long-term solutions. The Sustainable Solution Steering Committee was formed by the Somali Regional State government in 2020 and is made up of representatives from the community, UN agencies, NGOs, and government stockholders..<sup>112</sup> To duplicate this good practice of coordination in other regional states, efforts are now on-going in Afar, Oromia, Gambella and SNNP Regions which were affected by internal displacement.<sup>113</sup>

The DSI at the *planning level reinforces* by keeping rural areas and regions less vulnerable to climate-related displacement and preventing principal cities from being the first choice for IDPs. By supporting local integration and the selection of appropriate relocation sites, it also takes into account the availability of natural resources, territorial climate risk analysis, and local clan-based land management systems on regional planning.<sup>114</sup>

Finally, at the *operational level* the DSI targets to provide joint programmes on internal displacement in supporting durable solutions interventions. As an example,

---

<sup>109</sup>DSI (December 2019) 4.

<sup>110</sup> *ibid*

<sup>111</sup> Ashenafi Endale, *Bill to establish national fund for IDPs* (The Reporter Jan 28, 2023).

<sup>112</sup> Abdirahman Ahmed and others, *Livelihood Components of Durable Solutions for IDPs: Assessment of three cases in Somali Region, Ethiopia* (Tufts University, Nov 2021).

<sup>113</sup>GP20, *Prevent Protect Resolve*. Working Together Better to Prevent, Address and Find Durable Solutions to Internal Displacement (2019).

<sup>114</sup>DSI (December 2019) 4.

the initial projects will be carried out in the Somali and Oromia regions, with the goal of expanding them to all of the country's regions affected by displacement. Support will be given to the GoE to allow for flexibility in the current development financing in areas such as relocation across different sectoral areas, voluntary return, or local integration in order to maintain IDPs and former IDPs in the same stable relationship with the host community, in accordance with the DSI principles.<sup>115</sup>

### ***C. Institutional Arrangement***

The National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management in Ethiopia were established at the Federal, Regional, Zonal, and Woreda level in the regional States; Dire Dawa City Administrations and Addis Ababa and levels for the implementation the policy. It also includes monitoring and evaluation which deal with displacement. In the policy implementation the GoE is responsible to prevent hazards and provide a response by launching a disaster response preparedness and response structure according to Article 89(3) of the FDRE Constitution. The Region, Zone, and Woreda level administration undertake actions under their capacities from deterrence to rehabilitation. The next higher level of government will respond if the need exceeds these resources. At the federal, Woreda, Dire Dawa, and Addis Ababa levels, the Disaster Risk Management Council will serve as the overall leader for disaster risk management initiatives.<sup>116</sup>

According to the 2013 Ethiopian National Policy for Disaster Risk Management, lead sector government institutions are assigned for every hazard at these levels who are responsible for undertaking activities from observing to response. At the Federal level, the institutions will perform a principal role with main duties of providing and coordinating response for disasters relevant to their respective sectors.<sup>117</sup>

#### **2.1.6 Human Rights Institutions for the Protection of IDPs Rights**

It's important to recall that it is national authorities' primary responsibility for

---

<sup>115</sup> *ibid*

<sup>116</sup> The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, *National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management* (Addis Ababa 2013) 15.

<sup>117</sup> The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, *National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management* (Addis Ababa 2013) 16.

implementing human rights not international institutions. National institutions are advised to confront human rights issues in their locality. These institutions are more powerful and efficient than international institutions. Most international institutions provide recommendations and suggestions to local authorities and luck on persuading them to fulfil their responsibility to the people. All available remedies at the local level should be used exhaustively before the international monitors examine particular cases.<sup>118</sup>

### ***A. International Level***

The "Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons" (RSG) was a newly constituted directive in 2004.

*"The RSG is a human rights expert who undertakes country visits, engages in dialogue with governments, sponsors regional and national seminars, promotes the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, encourages the development of national laws and policies on internal displacement, supports the work of civil society and national human rights institutions, and works to mainstream the human rights of IDPs in the UN system. Although the RSG does not have an explicit mandate to take up individual cases, he is entitled to intervene in specific situations of imminent or past violations of the rights of IDPs (including through "urgent appeals" and "allegation letters") that also can be taken up by other Special Procedures."*<sup>119</sup>

Most importantly in the UN system OHCHR has been mandated to monitor human rights issues on the ground of UN Charter Article 1(3), 13 and 55.<sup>120</sup> The Office's activity in the field is overseen and carried out by the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division. The East African Regional Office (EARO) is based in Addis Ababa, one of the twelve regional offices and centres. The office offers a forum for

---

<sup>118</sup>David Fisher, *Guide to International Human Rights Mechanisms for Internally Displaced Persons and their Advocates* (University of Bern, June 2006).

<sup>119</sup>David Fisher, *Guide to International Human Rights Mechanisms for Internally Displaced Persons and their Advocates* (University of Bern, June 2006).

<sup>120</sup>UN Charter, *Charter of the United Nations and Statute of the International Court of Justice* (San Francisco 1945).  
Article 1(3), Article 13 (1), Article 55(c)

identifying, highlighting, and developing responses to our current human rights challenges; it works with a wide range of partners in order to widen the constituency for human rights worldwide; it works with and assists governments in fulfilling their human rights commitments; and it speaks out objectively in the face of human rights violations worldwide. Most importantly, the office conducts human rights protection (human rights monitoring, investigations, documentation and reporting), human rights promotion (technical cooperation arrangements, technical assistance, capacity building and training on human rights, awareness-raising and sensitisation), advocacy with authorities to improve the identified situation: based on findings from monitoring activities or events based and make legal and thematic advice to Parliament, Government, and Judiciary.<sup>121</sup>

The global protection cluster oversees the protection of IDPs' human rights and humanitarian interests. In particular, the Cluster has been operational since 2008, coinciding with the global implementation of the cluster methodology. The Ethiopia Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD) incorporated a protection component for the first time in 2016. In 2019, 3.19 million IDPs were listed in the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), which was created for the first time. The government institutions are in charge of the Protection Cluster, which is also co-led by UN organizations, particularly UNHCR. Donors and both domestic and foreign NGOs are also involved. In addition to GBV, physical violence, child marriage, family separation (including unaccompanied and separated children), psycho-social distress and trauma, people with specific needs not receiving or being able to access life-saving services, people living in collective sites without adequate shelter, people lacking documentation, and people without legal redress for lost property, livelihood, or human rights violations are all under the cluster's purview. The cluster meetings in the field are held weekly and monthly at the national level then produce monthly situation reports. The Protection Cluster includes sub-clusters: UNICEF, UNFPA, and MoWCA co-lead the Child Protection (CP) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Areas of Responsibility (CP/GBV AoR), while UNHCR and NRC co-lead the Housing, Land, and Property Working Group (HLP WG). Hence, OHCHR is included in the protection

---

<sup>121</sup> Website: [www.OHCHR.org](http://www.OHCHR.org)

cluster monitoring all human right issues and gaps of affected population.<sup>122</sup>

### ***B. Regional Level***

The African Commission was created Based on the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, to promote, protect and interpret the rights of African people through convening conferences, considering periodic reports from State, responding to complaints of ACHPR violations, passing new resolutions on current human rights subjects and providing opinions on the ACHPR provisions.<sup>123</sup>

*"The commission affirms the range of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right of every individual to freedom of movement and choice of residence, and the right to property. Supplementing the Charter's provisions for the protection of the rights of women and children are the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa. Both instruments include specific provisions relating to State obligations to respect human rights in times of armed conflict, and reiterate the responsibility of States to respect and ensure respect for international humanitarian law, including protection of civilians. The Charter on the Rights of the Child also affirms that no child under 18 is to be recruited or otherwise take direct part in hostilities, and makes express reference to the need to protect and assist internally displaced children and to ensure family reunification in situations of displacement."*<sup>124</sup>

The Commission established the Special Rapporteur on Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and Displaced Persons in Africa, whose task is to gather, review, and take appropriate action about data pertaining to the rights of refugees, IDPs and asylum seekers. Additionally, carry out fact-finding missions by conversing with both non-state and state actors. By raising knowledge of the legislative requirements, the

---

<sup>122</sup>OCHA, *Ethiopia Protection Cluster* (2022)

<sup>123</sup>David Fisher, *Guide to International Human Rights Mechanisms for Internally Displaced Persons and their Advocates* (University of Bern June 2006).

<sup>124</sup>Global Protection Cluster Working Group, *Hand Book for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons* (2007).

rapporteur creates strategies to better defend these groups' rights and submits an annual report to the Commission. Additionally, after gathering information from IDPs and concerned NGOs, gets ready to step in on a few pressing cases of individual rights violations against indigenous people..<sup>125</sup>

### ***C. Local Level***

Most States are established domestic human rights bodies like the ombudsmen and human rights commissions. These institutions are governmentally established but are working independently. The complaints can be received in individual level in a official role by inspiring the growth of the policy and laws. Then form a link between IDPs, civil society and the government. The IDPs themselves are agents of change; they influence public opinion, communicate with media sources, and put pressure on local government to uphold its human rights obligations.<sup>126</sup>

***The Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC).*** The EHRC was recognised according to Article 55(14)<sup>127</sup> of the FDRE Constitution on Proclamation No. 210/1992. The independent Commission, which reports to the HPR, is an agency whose main goals are to uphold, defend, and advance human rights across the country and to look for corrective action when it discovers abuses of those rights. The Commission seeks corrective action to ensure that every citizen's rights are respected, upheld, and completely enforced. It also seeks to prevent human rights infractions and takes appropriate action when they occur. The commissions' core functions are to investigate complaints related to forced evictions. So far, the complaint of IDPs that were brought to the Commission is either the development-induced displacements or conflict-induced displacements.<sup>128</sup>

***The Institution of the Ombudsman.*** was conventional according to Article 55(15)<sup>129</sup> of the FDRE of Proclamation No. 211/2000. The Ombudsman's main goals are to

---

<sup>125</sup>ibid

<sup>126</sup>David Fisher, *Guide to International Human Rights Mechanisms for Internally Displaced Persons and their Advocates* (University of Bern June 2006).

<sup>127</sup>FDRE constitution (1995)

<sup>128</sup>website: <https://ehrc.org>

Office of the National Human Rights Action Plan, *The Ethiopian National Human Rights Action 2016-2020*, (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)

<sup>129</sup>FDRE Constitution (1995). Article 55(15)

establish good governance based on the rule of law and to ensure that legislation pertaining to rights and privileges are implemented by the executive branch of government. Another organization created by the Ethiopian constitution to defend human rights is the Ombudsman. Securing political power, enforcing the rule of law, advocating for good governance, and establishing easily available mechanisms to stop administrative abuses against citizens are among the institution's primary goals. Therefore, it has the role of preventing the unfair decisions of Executive Organs. Moreover, the institution is entitled to give redress for their rights upon complaints. In addition, the institutions' responsibilities include monitoring administrative directives, receiving and looking into complaints about poor administration, conducting research on ways to stop bad administration, offering suggestions for changes to current laws, policies, or practices, and creating new laws and policies for better governance. Therefore, the Ombudsman could play an insignificant role in defending human rights and IDPs but is limited to cases relating to government decisions.<sup>130</sup>

***Ethiopian Human Rights Council.*** its non-governmental human rights advocacy group operating as charitable organization. It stands for human rights respect & protection, development of democratic system and establishment of rule of law.<sup>131</sup>

### 2.1.7 State Responsibility in the Protection of IDPs Rights

States have an obligation to uphold, defend, and fulfil the human rights of the people they are in charge of. State compliance with human rights legislation and refraining from actions that could impede the exercise of rights are mandated under the obligation to ***respect***. Then the duty to ***protect*** obliges State to prevent and mitigate or stop any human rights violations by other individuals or groups. The Lastly, the duty to ***fulfil*** requires State to ensure individuals can exercise their human rights under its jurisdiction. States establish administrative frameworks to increase their

---

<sup>130</sup>website: [www.ethombudsman.gov.et](http://www.ethombudsman.gov.et)

Office of the National Human Rights Action Plan, *The Ethiopian National Human Rights Action 2016-2020*, (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)

<sup>131</sup>website: <https://ehrc.org>

capacity as a nation to assist in the application of human rights.<sup>132</sup>

Furthermore, national authorities should set monitoring mechanisms supporting durable solutions. Peace-building strengthen durable solutions by involving IDPs in peace building. Peace agreements, which typically include the attainment of long-term solutions, should take into account the rights, needs, and legitimate interests of IDPs. The realization of IDPs' long-term safety and security, which is predicated on appropriate protection from national and local authorities, is of utmost importance. This includes protection from threats of displacement including secondary displacement. Additionally, the protection afforded to internally displaced people (IDPs) who have found a long-term solution must not be inferior to that of local residents who are not experiencing displacement.<sup>133</sup>

## 2.2 Empirical Literature Review

According to the GRID (2022), in 2021 Ethiopia found to have 5,142,000 IDPs by conflict and 240,000 IDPs by disaster which is the first county which registered more internal displacement in Africa. In addition, in Ethiopia as of 31 December 2021; 2,560,000 IDP children and youth under the age of 25 were displaced due to conflict and disaster.<sup>134</sup>

### 2.2.1. Durable Solutions initiatives for IDPs in Africa

There are some empirical researches which accessed durable solution initiates for IDPs who are displaced by conflict in Africa. For example, in 2021, Samundra Acharya<sup>135</sup> conducted a research by analysing how durable solutions for IDPs are implemented in Sudan and Somalia from the viewpoint of safety, HLP rights, as well

---

<sup>132</sup>Global Protection Cluster Working Group, *Hand Book for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons* (2007).

<sup>133</sup> *Handbook for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons* (2008).

<sup>134</sup>IDMC & NRC, *GRID 2022, Children and youth in internal displacement* (2022).

<sup>135</sup>Acharya Samundra, *Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons in Sudan and Somalia* (the Art and Humanitarian Research Council 2021).

as Policies and Coordination Structures. It further explores the challenges and different options for durable solutions in both countries. According to the study, there are certain similarities among the IDPs in these nations when it comes to relocating and finding long-term solutions. Most notably, the IDPs choose to stay in metropolitan regions even when the security conditions in the rural areas where they had previously lived in the countries had improved. There are unique vulnerabilities in both countries with regard to HLP-related issues. While forceful eviction is a significant problem for HLP-related affairs in Somalia, customary tenure is used to handle HLP issues in Sudan, particularly in Darfur, where it does not provide complete protection to affected parties. The research also reveals that Somalia has implemented appropriate regulations and guidelines for internally displaced people (IDPs) and long-term fixes, putting in place systems of coordination that span all pertinent ministries and humanitarian partners. As a result, Somalia is implementing a lot of projects and activities in addition to creating a framework for accountability and learning.

Moreover, in 2012 a joint briefing paper<sup>136</sup> was written on the durable Solutions for IDPs and the challenges in Eastern Chad. In eastern Chad, specifically in the regions of Ouaddaï and Sila, around 180,000 people were internally displaced between 2005 and 2007 as a result of a combination of national crisis (insecurity, intercommunity and political conflicts), together with regional war (mostly in Darfur). The current goal of the Chadian administration is to eliminate the division between host communities and displaced people. Currently, there are three viable options available to IDPs: voluntary return to their home village, relocation, or local integration. The joint study seeks to represent the proactive steps that, while taking into consideration the needs and rights of the affected parties, could offer long-lasting solutions for displaced communities. IDPs are starting to adjust and make decisions about repatriation, relocation, and integration. But things are still unstable in eastern Chad: there is still a lot of crime, high levels of insecurity, and tensions between communities; also, a poor crop year may force many people to return from their villages to internal displacement centres.

---

<sup>136</sup> *Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons: challenges in Eastern Chad*, (joint briefing paper March 2012).

In addition, Samuel Hall<sup>137</sup> conducted a research by reviewing durable solutions initiatives in East and Horn of Africa by examining opportunities, problems, and best practices in the pursuit of long-lasting solutions in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somali and Uganda. The paper looks for national and regional durable solutions initiatives in the four selected countries. The paper indicated that durable solutions initiatives with strong leadership including solutions alliance in all (Ethiopia, Kenya, Somali and Uganda), IDP solution initiatives (Somalia) and refugee and host empowerment programme (Uganda) are operationalized. The UNHCR Higher Education Scholarship Program-Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee initiative (Ethiopia, Uganda, and Kenya) and the out-of-camp policy for Eritrean refugees (Ethiopia), as well as the Turkana UN joint program (Kenya), Kalobeyei Integrated Socio-Economic Development Program (Kenya), and Koboko Initiative (Uganda), are examples of ongoing durable solutions initiatives with a local, area-based focus. Initiatives for sustainable solutions with an emphasis on education are developed, such as the regional durable solutions secretariat (all) and the joint IDP profiling service (Somalia). The voluntary repatriation of Somali refugees (Kenya and Somalia), the Somalia return consortium (Somalia), the Strategy for Durable Solutions for IDPs in Somali Regional State (Ethiopia), and the Global Initiatives for Somali refugees (all) are the last durable solutions initiatives that need to be adjusted.

### **2.2.2. Durable Solutions initiatives for IDPs in Ethiopia**

Different papers were conducted in Ethiopia showing the durable solution initiatives in different locations of the country. For instance: in 2020 Genene Negussie<sup>138</sup> conducted a research by assessing the protection of the socioeconomic rights of those who have been resettled and displaced due to violence in Sululta Town,

---

<sup>137</sup> Hall Samuel, *Review of Durable Solutions Initiatives in East and Horn of Africa*. Good practices, challenges and opportunities in the search of durable solutions in Ethiopia | Kenya | Somalia | Uganda (

<sup>138</sup> Genene Negussie, *Assessment of Socio-Economic Rights Protection of Conflict-Induced Internally Displaced and Resettled Persons in Sululta Town of Oromia Region* (Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa 2020).

Oromia Regional State. The study examined the socioeconomic rights protection of internally displaced people (IDPs) who were resettled in Sululta Town after being forcibly removed from the Somali regional state in 2017 due to war. Particularly, the researcher took into account the principles on both national and international instruments. The paper also demonstrates the limitations of government action in terms of ensuring a sufficient standard of living, access to sufficient food and water, improved housing, health care, and basic education, as well as employment and livelihood opportunities. It also highlights the limitations of national policy and the retrieval of personal property that has been destroyed or left behind at the place of origin. The findings of the study suggest that the establishment of domestic policy towards protection of IDPs, will provide lasting solution.

In addition, in 2019 the Protection Cluster Report<sup>139</sup> was written about the Returns of IDPs in Ethiopia by the protection cluster Ethiopia. According to the paper, a return's voluntariness—which encompasses both free will and educated decision-making—is a necessary condition for its material and bodily safety. The purpose of this note is to offer recommendations on returns in suboptimal conditions using a practical yet ethical approach. States should adhere to the following procedures when it comes to long-lasting solutions: Information sharing by humanitarian, development, and national authorities is necessary to enable internally displaced people (IDPs) to make decisions that will last. In order to provide lasting solutions, the IDPs' choice of place should be voluntary and well-informed. Complete inclusion of the IDP population is required, including women, children, people with special needs, and maybe marginalized individuals.

This suggested there hasn't been much research done on the topic of long-term solutions for the protection of IDPs brought to by violence in Amhara Regional State. Thus, in the North and Central Gondar Zones of Amhara Regional State, this researcher has looked on the availability of long-term solutions for internally displaced people (IDPs) caused by violence.

## **2.3 Conceptual Framework**

The conceptual framework serves to analyse the state of ideas or variables and how

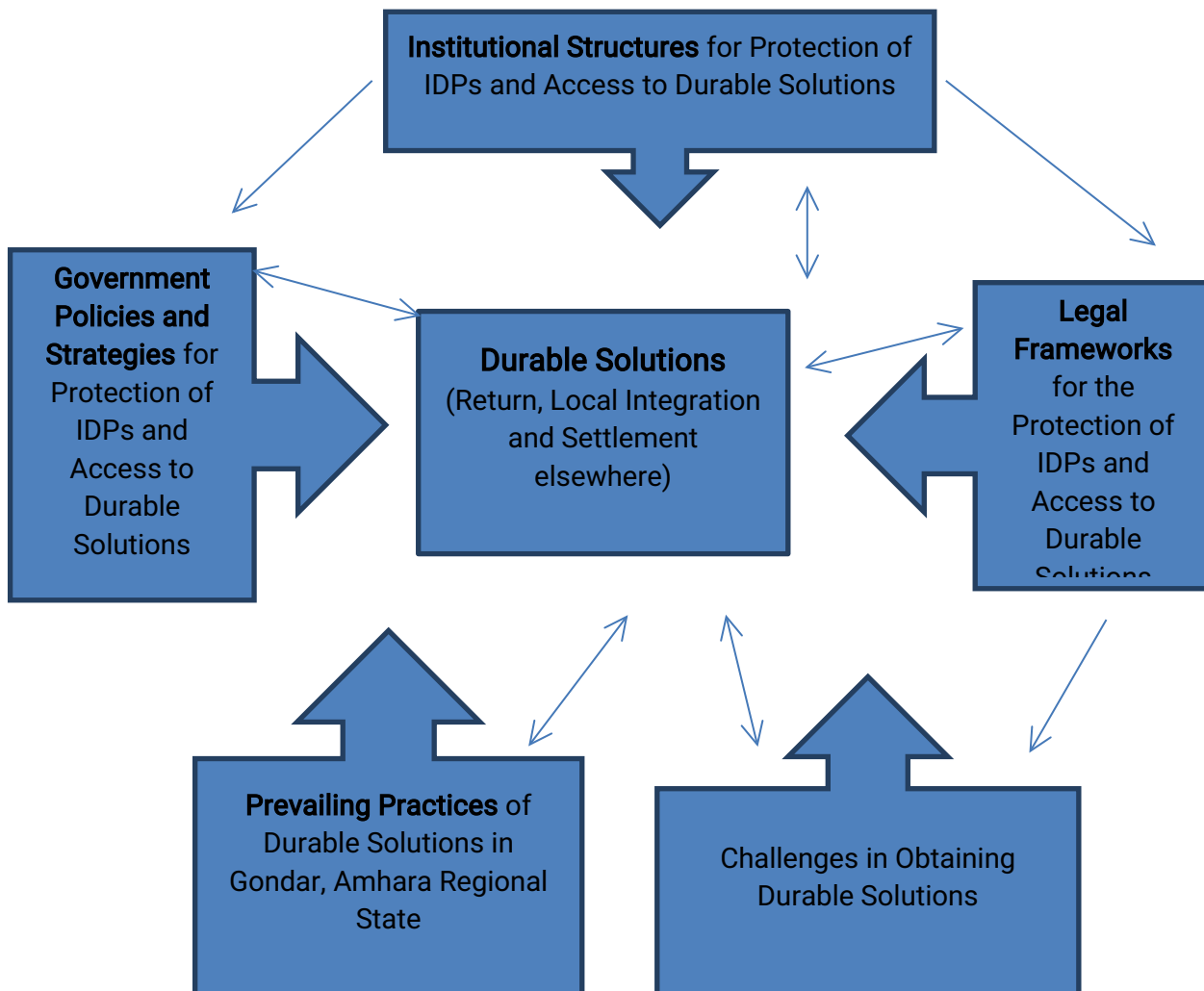
---

<sup>139</sup>Protection Cluster Ethiopia, *Return of Internally Displaced Persons in Ethiopia* (2019).

they interact to provide a thorough knowledge of a phenomenon. The conceptual framework serves as a guide for the collection of data on access to durable solutions for the protection of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Ethiopia, specifically in the context of Gondar, Amhara Regional State, resulting from conflict.

The diagram bellow describes that the durable solution alternatives can be achieved by using government policies and strategies, the institutional structures and the legal frameworks of GoE. And describing the prevailing practice in order to identify the challenges to solve the problems of IDPs to protect their human rights.

**Figure 1 Conceptual Framework Developed by the Researcher from the above Literature**



## **CHAPTER THREE RESEARCH METHODS**

### **3.1 Study Site, Data Sources and Types**

To attain the study's objective, the researcher focused on the target group of conflict-induced IDPs who fled from Tigray and Amhara Regional States, bordering Woredas and Kebeles since November 2020. These IDPs were displaced from different locations in Tigray like Sheraro, Adihageray, Badme Sembel, Dansha and Maykadera. And the IDPs displaced from North Gondar Zone, Woredas bordering Tigray, like Adiharkay, Dima, Telemt and Maytebri Woredas. In addition, some are from Humera and Welkayit Tsegede areas of North West Ethiopia. Therefore, the study is focused on conflict-induced IDPs of Tigray crises or the northern conflict and settled in North Gondar Zone, Adiharkay Woreda in Zarima Kebele temporary IDP Site <sup>140</sup> and Central Gondar Zone, Azezo Sub City, Kebero Meda IDP site.<sup>141</sup> These IDPs are composed of different ethnic groups like Amhara, SNNP and Oromia. Regarding data type and sources both primary and secondary data were combined.

### **3.2 Research Design and Sampling**

The empirical and legal analysis of national and international frameworks for IDP protection and access to long-term solutions forms the basis of this study. The UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, the Kampala Convention, the IASC Formwork on Durable Solutions, DSI, Constitutional Laws and policies of Ethiopia on ensuring IDPs' rights and freedoms to access durable solutions were discussed.

The objective of this study was to combine a descriptive survey, according to (Ezeani, 1998), is 'to collect detailed and factual information that describes an existing phenomenon. Kothari and Garg (2014) also specify that descriptive research provides an accurate account of the characteristics of a particular individual, event or group in real-life situations.' Both probability and non-probability sampling

---

<sup>140</sup>7190 Indiv. (3181 HHs) IDPs inhabit in Zarima IDP site. The IDP site is a temporary site located in Zarima primary and secondary school. The IDPs were living in the Kulich Meda IDP site in Debark town and have been returned to this kebele since 25 Dec 2021. All the IDPs are displaced from bordering towns with Tigray Regional State during Tigray Crises.

<sup>141</sup>Kebero Meda IDP site is inhabited by 2744 Indiv. (745 HHs) IDPs who were displaced from Tigray during the Tigray crises.

strategies were utilized in this study to choose data from the respondents. The study used Snowball Sampling Technique by starting with IDP Committees as key informants and asked them to indicate IDPs who are very knowledgeable in the field and used Cluster Sampling Technique to study the IDPs using their habitual place of residence as a group to collect my data.

Additionally, the researcher utilized to determine the sample size by using Carvalho's (1984) Sampling Size Determination to select respondents IDPs for the *questionnaire*. Therefore, the researcher took the medium sample size from Zarima Kebele, which would be 200 IDP respondents (the population size of Zarima Kebele IDPs are 7190 IDPs and it is in the range of 3201-10,000 according to Carvalho's (1984) Sampling Size Determination), and the small sample size from Kebero Meda IDP site, which would be 50 IDP respondents (the population size of Kebero Meda IDPs are 2744 IDPs and it will be in the range of 1201-3200 according to Carvalho's (1984) Sampling Size Determination). Most importantly, the researcher reached data saturation where enough information was replicated in the study (O'Reilly & Parker, 2012; Walker, 2012). Therefore, the researcher condensed interviewees from each government organisation working in North and Central Gondar Zones: Zonal DRMO, Health Bureau, Bureau of Women and Social Affairs, and Bureau of Agriculture 5 (4 Male and 1 Female) and humanitarian agency focal persons working with the protection cluster from OHCHR, UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM, and ICRC 5 (3 Male and 2 Female) were *interviewed face-to-face* and participated in the study. Furthermore, after the return process is completed by the government initiative, the researcher conducted 2 separate *FGDs* with 24 (12 Female and 12 Male) returnees and triangulated the information on hand and gained verified results.

### **3.3 Method of Data Collection**

Through survey administration and information gathering, the study made use of primary data sources from respondent 250 IDPs and 24 returnees, 5 government authorities and 5 humanitarian agencies working on the ground. The researcher used the survey method to ask questions using Questionnaire to get quantitative data from IDPs in both Zarima and Kebero Meda IDP sites. In addition, face to face Interviews were conducted with government authorities and humanitarian agencies

participating in the weekly protection cluster meeting in Dehak Town of North Gondar Zone. In addition, the researcher employed 2 FGDs with new returnees and used personal observation to assess the durable solutions initiative practise to triangulate the information gathered. Moreover, the researcher used secondary data sources by evaluating reports of various kinds, international and national legislations, policy documents, publications, thesis, and the Internet. In addition, data was collected via qualitative and quantitative approaches.

### **3.4 Method of Data Analysis**

The researcher sorted out the collected data from the questionnaire by classifying and coding then using tables and descriptions to report the findings. The researcher utilised a quantitative method using tables to present the data collected from questioners through numbers using SPSS. Most importantly, the researcher used explanatory sequential design which is 'a type of mixed methods research which first collect and analyse quantitative data and then follow the results up with a qualitative phase.' Using this method, the researchers use the qualitative phase to provide context for the preliminary quantitative data that is collected by the questionnaire.<sup>142</sup> Then after, the researcher used a qualitative method to describe and explain data composed from face- to-face interviews and FGDs.

### **3.5 Ethical Consideration**

The researcher requested ethical clearance from all concerned bodies before directly delve in in conducting this research. The goal of the study was explained to the respondents' and accepted their willingness to participate. Furthermore, no personal information about study participants was recorded, and the survey was carried out without infringing upon the rights, interests, confidentiality, or privacy of the respondents. Moreover, the researcher used the COVID 19 prevention mechanisms to avoid infection to protect both the respondents as well as the data collectors.

---

<sup>142</sup>Qualitative & Quantitative Mixed Methods  
Website: <https://delvetool.com/blog/mixedmethods>

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

In the following chapter, the researcher used an explanatory sequential design to report the results obtained from the questionnaire, first by collecting and analysing the quantitative data and with a qualitative explanation which was obtained from face to face interview and FGDs. The researcher also incorporated the personal observation made during the protection monitoring and data collection processes in the IDP sites.

#### **4.1 Demographics of Respondents**

The background information about respondents were analysed by age, sex, marital status, and educational attainment.

The following table displays the summary of variables having 250 respondents, which indicates the number of responses by age, gender marital status and level of education. Only 0.4% of respondents were under the age of 20, 29.6% were between the ages of 21 and 30, 42.8% were between the ages of 31 and 40, and 26.8% were between the ages of 41 and 50. These numbers represent the number of respondents per age scale. Response 0.4% was missed and found with-out response and no data was collected from respondents aged above 50 years old.

The table also revealed the respondents by gender which 24% of the respondents were male, and 75.6% were female. Response 0.4% was missed and found with-out response.

Then the table shows respondents by their marital status. The bulk of respondents—67.6%—were married, followed by single people (28.4%) and widowed/widowers (3.2%). Response 0.8% was missed and found with-out response and no respondents were identified that are divorced.

Lastly, the table shows the respondents by level of education. Accordingly, 38.8% of respondents are educated until secondary schools who are the majority of respondents, followed by 31.6% respondents who are in primary school, then 14.8% respondents are diploma holders, followed by 10.4% respondents with bachelor's degrees, then 2% of respondents are certificates holders and less than primary school level of education. Response 0.8% was missed and found with-out response.

Table 4.1 Demographic frequency of respondents

|                       |                   | Frequency  | Percent (%)  |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------|--------------|
| <b>Age</b>            | Less than 20      | 1          | 0.4          |
|                       | 21-30             | 74         | 29.6         |
|                       | 31-40             | 107        | 42.8         |
|                       | 41-50             | 67         | 26.8         |
|                       | Unknown           | 1          | 0.4          |
|                       | <b>Total</b>      | <b>250</b> | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Gender</b>         | Male              | 60         | 24           |
|                       | Female            | 189        | 75.6         |
|                       | Unknown           | 1          | 0.4          |
|                       | <b>Total</b>      | <b>250</b> | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Marital status</b> | Single            | 71         | 28.4         |
|                       | Married           | 169        | 67.6         |
|                       | Widowed           | 8          | 3.2          |
|                       | Unknown           | 2          | 0.8          |
|                       | <b>Total</b>      | <b>250</b> | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Education</b>      | Less than primary | 5          | 2.0          |
|                       | Primary           | 79         | 31.6         |
|                       | Secondary         | 97         | 38.8         |
|                       | Certificate       | 5          | 2.0          |
|                       | Diploma           | 37         | 14.8         |
|                       | Degree            | 26         | 10.4         |
|                       | Unknown           | 1          | 0.4          |
|                       | <b>Total</b>      | <b>250</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

*Source: Filed survey 2022/2023 analysis of respondent IDPs by Age, Gender, Marital Status and level of education*

## **4.2 The need for access to durable solutions in the protection of conflict-induced IDPs in Gondar, Amhara Regional State**

### **4.2.1 The displacement situation in North and Central Gondar Zone**

The Federal Government of Ethiopia purportedly launched a military offensive after the capital of the Tigray Regional State of Ethiopia, Mekelle, was attacked by the regional party in early November 2020. This created the northern conflict which consequently brought displacement of civilians. Since then a lot of IDPs were displaced from Tigray and bordering towns of Tigray or Northern Gondar, Amhara Regional State and sheltered in IDP sites and host community for more than three years in Debark Town. These IDPs habitual residences including Adiarkay, Mytsebri and Dima Woredas of North Gondar zone, were occupied by TPLF from July 25-September 04, 2021. Meanwhile, the IDPs originally displaced from Tigray were sheltering in North Gondar Zone, Debark Town at Kulich Meda IDP site and Dabat Town at Talak Mesk IDP site. Moreover, some were relocated to Central Gondar Zone, Azezo Sub-City of Kebero Meda IDP site. During the protection monitoring, the IDPs revelled that during the conflict their family members were killed; houses and properties got damaged and looted; they got separated from their children and family members; and the women and girls were sexually assaulted and raped allegedly by the TPLF armed group. As a result, the IDPs displaced to the Northern Amhara region and settled in the IDP sites and host community with limited humanitarian response for more than three years.

From Oct 31-Nov 11, 2022 total number of 90,000 IDPs who were originally displaced from Adiarkay Woreda and were living in the host community at Debark town resumed their life in their habitual residence with Zonal administration provision and UNHCR assistance by covering the transportation cost. From Nov 14-30, 2022 Most of the IDPs who have been in Debark town were returned to their place of origin which is Adiarkay and Mytsebri areas. However, there are 77HH/250 IDPs who were displaced originally from Tigray region and not able to return to their place of origin.

These IDPs were forcefully relocated to Adiarkay woreda of North Gondar Zone during the period of December 5-6, 2022 by the decision of North Gondar zone administration against their will. This IDPs are composed from the Amhara, SNNP and Oromia ethnic groups. Because Tigray is their habitual residence, most of the IDPs communicate in Tigrigna language, even the children didn't know other language to communicate. In these sites there were no IDPs who are from Tigray ethnic group.<sup>143</sup>

According to the Multi-Agency Rapid Needs Assessment Conducted in IDP return areas from 21-27 November, 2022, Some 104,072 IDPs have made their way back to their original homes, including 94,123 who were sheltering amongst host communities and 10,949 accommodated in collective sites. Adiarkay Woreda accounts for the largest caseload of returnees. Since October 2022, the bulk of returnees have returned spontaneously. In the North Gondar Zone, there are still IDPs who are unable to return to their place of origin. A total of 41,909 IDPs who were displaced from Tigray and Oromia regions remain there. Of these, 39,889 IDPs are in host communities and 2,020 in Talak Mesk/ Shimelako IDP Site located in Dabat Town of North Gondar Zone. Moreover, the IDPs which were evacuated from Tigray during the battle also are living in Kebero Meda IDP Site, in Gondar Town of Central Gondar Zone.<sup>144</sup>

Currently, the IDPs in North Gondar Zone totally returned to their habitual residence during the third round of return from March 6-17, 2023. This became successful partly by the cessation of hostilities agreement between GoE and TPLF which was concluded in 2 November 2022. And on May 2023 the IDP sites were officially closed. According to the Zone DRMO, the Zarima site is going to be ready for the coming academic year to educate students, as the site is used for primary school.

The table that follows displays the number of IDPs settling in IDP sites and host community in North and Central Gondar zones. Currently, the IDPs are still residing in Central Gondar Zone and the IDPs who were located in the collective sites and host community in North Gondar Zone specifically, the IDPs in Kulich Meda and Zarima

---

<sup>143</sup> Local DRMO master lists in North Gondar Zone

<sup>144</sup> OCHA (21-27 November, 2022). Multi-Cluster Initial Rapid Assessment (MIRA) Report at Adiarkay, Telemt, May Tsebri and Dima Woredas.

IDP sites and IDPs in host community in Debarik Town have returned to their habitual residence. The registration was made by the Zone DRM by looking at their ID cards, bank accounts or educational certificates to verify their habitual residence, to make them settle in the IDP sites. The IDP sites were inhabited by elderly, vulnerable children and lactating and pregnant mothers. Then the youth and IDPs who have capacity settled by renting houses and with their relatives in the host community after the registration.<sup>145</sup>

Table 4.2 Number of IDPs in Gondar Woredas/Zones

| <b>R. No .</b> | <b>Location: Zone/ Woreda</b>                                       | <b>IDP Site/ Host Community</b>   | <b>Number of IDPs: Individual and Household</b> |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 1              | Central Gondar Zone, Azezo Sub-City Gondar City                     | Kebero Meda IDP Site              | 2744 Indiv. (745 HHs)                           |
| 2              | Central Gondar Zone; Gondar Zuria, Wogera, East Dembia, East Belesa | IDPs living in the Host Community | 2726 Indiv. (236 HHs)                           |
| 3              | North Gondar Zone, Adiarkay Woreda                                  | Zarima IDP Site                   | 7190 Indiv. (3181 HHs)                          |
| 4              | North Gondar Zone, Debarik Town                                     | Kulich Meda IDP Site              | 2891 Indiv. (1254 HHs)                          |
| 4              | North Gondar Zone, Debarik Town                                     | IDPs living in the Host Community | 130,000 Indiv.                                  |
| 5              | North Gondar Zone, Dabat Woreda                                     | Talak Mesk/ Shimelako IDP Site    | 2020 Indiv. (702 HHs)                           |

<sup>145</sup> Local DRMO master lists in Central and North Gondar Zones

|   |                                  |                                      |                         |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
|   |                                  |                                      |                         |
| 6 | North Gondar Zone,<br>Dabat Town | IDPs living in the Host<br>Community | 1477 Individ. (758 HHs) |

*Source: Filed survey 2022/2023 number of IDPs in North and Central Gondar Zones. The total number of IDPs who are in living in the IDP Sites: 14,845 and in the Host Community: 134,203.*

#### **4.2.2 Legal frameworks for protecting IDPs for the need to access durable solutions**

There is assumption that during displacement, fundamental human rights of individuals will be violated and the violations will be worsened when the IDPs are living in the displaced area for a long time lacking durable solution alternatives. This covers violations of the following rights: the right to life; the right to be free from cruel treatment; the right to personal liberty and security; and the right to freedom of movement. Moreover, IDPs are vulnerable to deprivation of access to basic facilities like employment, schooling and health care services. Particularly, displacement by itself is violation of people's right by subjecting them to indiscriminate intervention with their discretion, home and attacks on their reputation. And the law protects them against such interferences.<sup>146</sup>

As mentioned in the literature review, on the Guiding Principles, Principle 6 reveals that "displacement shall last no longer than required by the circumstances", means that IDPs should not stay in the displaced location for a long time and to acquire alternative ways of durable solutions by facilitating voluntary return, reintegration or resettlement elsewhere. In Ethiopia, the humanitarian emergency responses were provided by NGOs were planned for two years thinking that the GoE will provide the IDPs need for durable solutions after the emergency response. The emergency responses are provided based on the rights covered by the Guiding Principles. Moreover, the Guiding Principle in its last section mentions about durable solutions which are from Principle 28-30 which demonstrates the possible alternatives of

---

<sup>146</sup> African Union, *African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa* (Kampala, October 2009).

return, reintegration at displacement location and resettlement elsewhere. So that the GoE is mandated and accountable for providing long-lasting solutions for the IDPs in the country.

In North Gondar Zone, the below table shows that the respondents in Zarima IDP site, 100% of the IDPs were returned to Zarima IDP site after 19 months living in the displacement location which is called Kulich Meda IDP site. Zarima IDP site became their relocation Woreda due to their habitual residence kebeles were occupied by TPLF armed group from July 25- September 04, 2021. The IDPs didn't return to their homes but made to stay in Zarima temporary IDP site located in Adiarkay Woreda of North Gondar Zone. The Zone DRMO stated that, these IDPs were displaced from the bordering towns of Tigray and at least had a chance of return to their habitual residence Woreda but not to their homes. Meanwhile, after the occupied area is cleared, the IDPs in Zarima Kebele got returned to their habitual residences. Even if the GoE said the IDPs got returned, the IDPs got transferred to another IDP site until the security situation improves.

In Gondar City, the respondents at Kebero Meda IDP site revealed that 53.7% of the IDPs displaced for more than 47 months and 37% of them between 31-43 months. The rest 9.3% IDPs got displaced in between 44-46 months. These shows that IDPs in Kebero Meda IDP site are protracted IDPs displaced for a long time and need durable solutions alternatives.

Table 4.3 IDP sites showing how long they got displaced

| Duration IDPs stayed in IDP site in Months | Zarima IDP    |                | Kebero Meda   |                |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                                            | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) |
| Less than 7                                | 0             | 0.0            | 0             | 0.0            |
| 7-19                                       | 200           | 100.0          | 0             | 0.0            |
| 20-30                                      | 0             | 0.0            | 0             | 0.0            |
| 31-43                                      | 0             | 0.0            | 20            | 37.0           |

|                     |            |              |           |              |
|---------------------|------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| 44-46               | 0          | 0.0          | 5         | 9.3          |
| 47 months and above | 0          | 0.0          | 29        | 53.7         |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>200</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>54</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

*Source: Filed survey 2022/2023 analysis of responses on how long the IDPs stayed in the displaced location/IDP site*

GoE has ratified important international human rights agreements and international humanitarian legislation, as mentioned in the literature review. Ethiopia also ratified several important international human rights treaties, including the Four Geneva Conventions, the ICCPR, ICESCR, CRC, and CEDAW. The Kampala Convention, which particularly addresses the rights of IDPs, has also been ratified by the GoE. As a result, the government has a duty to uphold, defend, and respect citizens' human rights. The rights to life, bodily integrity, property, personal security, and freedom of movement are among the fundamental human rights covered by these documents. During armed conflict, the government is also obligated to defend its citizens' rights in line with Article 9(4) of the Ethiopian constitution which depicts all ratified documents as part and parcel of the law of the land.

Since the early November 2020 to July 2021 because of the continuous dispute between the Federal government/Amhara Special Force and TPLF armed group in the Amhara region, lots of IDPs got displaced. The North Zonal DRMO revealed that in the IDPs were allegedly killed, physically injured and houses were destroyed and looted by TPLF. Moreover, according to WCA IDP children were reported unaccompanied and separated and who are living in the IDP site without special attention. Although Article 9 2h of the Kampala convention stipulates that the state should take necessary steps to trace and reunite separated families during relocation, meanwhile, there is no humanitarian intervention in this regard that is working toward family reunification. Besides, there is no designated Child Friendly Space for children. There is also prevalence of negative coping mechanism in the site where mostly girls are reportedly forced to involve in commercial sex work due to lack of basic relief or means of survival while others mostly young boys reportedly engaged in child labour and beggary in the host community to get income and

support their families.

Under International humanitarian law the conflicting parties are forbidden for to intentionally kill or murder a civilian. In both non-international armed conflicts (as murder) and international armed conflicts (as wilful killing), the deliberate killing of civilians is considered a war crime. If it is a component of genocide or is part of a systematic attack on any civilian population, it may also be considered a crime against humanity. Parties to the war must also never intentionally target a civilian target and must always make a clear distinction between military and civilian targets. It will be against international law if there is any uncertainty about the object's status and it is presumed to be a civilian object not being used for military purposes.

During the siege by TPLF from July 25- September 04, 2021 houses were destroyed and looted, including governmental health centers, administration offices, equipment and machinery allegedly by TPLF in Adiarkay woreda and Zarima kebele.

Furthermore, international humanitarian law forbids sexual violence. When a party to the war engages in any type of sexual violence, including conflict-related sexual violence, such as rape or forced prostitution, it is a violation of international humanitarian law and constitutes a serious violation. These actions, which may qualify as torture or a crime against humanity, are classified as war crimes under international criminal law in both international and non-international armed conflicts. Genocide may also be instigated via rape and forced pregnancy. According to the WCA data in the IDP site, more than 200 Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) cases were allegedly committed by TPLF armed group during the conflict and the period of the siege in the North Gondar Zone. The lack of sufficient medical treatment and equipment's to provide the health service for the survivors, worsen their health condition. Article 7 (5c) of the Kampala Convention stipulates the denial of health services for the IDPs is prohibited.

The Ethiopian constitution has also devoted one-third of its part for the protection and protection of human rights from Article 13 to 44 which provide human and democratic rights. These Articles basically includes the right to life, security, , movement, property, women and children and not to be tortured.

The IASC Framework, above all, deals with long-term solutions after natural disasters and conflict. GoE pledged to adhere to the framework, even though it is not legally binding, by setting up the DSI in the Somali regional state for IDPs afflicted by the drought. By outlining the standards by which a durable solution might be realized, it exemplifies the quest for long-lasting solutions. The FDRE constitution on Art 89(3) discloses that the government is responsible to avert when man-made or natural disaster arrives by assisting the victims. whereas, there is no prohibition articulated regarding IDPs displaced by conflict/violence. Hence, all the human right provisions in the constitution apply to IDPs as they are citizens of the country. However, the GoE has been unwilling to protect IDPs rights and provide the durable solution alternatives for IDPs residing in North and Central Gondar Zone of Amhara regional state.

#### **4.2.3 Institutional Structure for the protection of IDPs to obtain Durable Solution**

The FDRE National Policy focuses on disaster prevention and preparedness system which led to a comprehensive disaster risk management approach. The strategy of early warning and disaster assessment and informed response is given emphasis. This is done by enabling resources to be allocated and properly utilized during displacement to save lives and livelihoods. In order to implement the National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management and to provide support for its implementation, monitoring, and evaluation, administrative system structures were established at the Federal, Regional, Zonal, and Woreda levels in the regional States, as well as at the levels of the Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa City Administrations. On the other hand, the Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa city governments oversee the Disaster Risk Management division. According to the policy, reaction operations beyond the capacity of any level of government must be carried out by the next higher level of government. Using this clause for example in Gondar City, the City Mayor is taking the lead to take charge of IDPs who are residing in the city by selecting a focal person to facilitate humanitarian assistances.

Meanwhile, the FDRE National Policy defines 'displacement as the process of people being forced to move from their homes to other places because of a natural hazard,

war/conflict, or other human-made action.’ This shows that the policy gave its focus for IDPs who are displaced due to conflict/violence. The policy, however, merely outlines a basic plan to reduce the likelihood of disasters by limiting possible losses through the use of a comprehensive disaster risk management system in accordance with the FDRE Constitution and development policies, particularly those related to rural development plans and strategies. And doesn’t have the strategy to respond for conflict induced IDPs.

Ethiopia formulated the DSI framework as a tool that would contribute to supporting the displacement-affected communities and developing of more evidence-based, solution-focused interventions throughout the regions. For the purpose of supporting IDPs and host communities in Ethiopia, DSI is offering a morally sound operational framework for designing and implementing long-term solutions. A DSWG was founded in 2014 by the Somali region of Ethiopia in an effort to prevent difficulties for communities affected by drought. The Amhara Regional State does not have a working group. However, efforts are on to replicate it in other regional states, such as Afar, Gambella, Oromia, and SNNPR.

RSG is focusing on the human rights of IDPs in particular when it comes to the international monitoring system. As a human rights specialist, the RSG visits countries, conversing with governments and supporting regional conferences. further advances the Guiding Principles by fostering the creation of national IDP-related laws and policies. In addition, in the UN system the OHCHR has been mandated to monitor human rights issues and one of the activities in the field presence is to be responsible in overseeing and implementing human rights violations on IDPs. From the 12 regional offices and centres Addis Ababa is the base for East African Regional Office (EARO). This office has human rights officers operating in Debre Birhan, Dessie, Bahir Dar and Gondar Town in Amhara Regional State. OHCHR-EARO is working monitoring, reporting and advocacy work related to IDPs, returnees and host community for better protection and advertisement of IDPs rights. Additionally, in partnership with OHCHR and government sector offices, the Ethiopian Human Rights Council and Commission are working locally to defend the rights of IDPs and returnees.

The above institutional measures are also supported in Article 9(2m) of Kampala Conventions by stating that State parties shall 'Put in place measures for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness and impact of the humanitarian assistance delivered to internally displaced persons in accordance with relevant practice, including the Sphere Standards.' However, with all these institutions presence, there is lack of rule of law which aggravates the fight arising in the nation. And the search for durable solutions is far away to be reached when we see the reality of the IDPs way of life in North and Central Gondar Zones.

#### **4.2.4 The prevailing practice of durable solutions initiatives for IDPs**

The IDPs in Central Gondar Zone who are settling in Kebero Meda IDP site are still living in the collective site for more than three years without any durable solution initiatives. However, the IDPs in North Gondar Zone who were displaced from bordering towns of Tigary and affected by the northern conflict, and who settled in Kulich Meda IDP sites at Debarik Town had encountered three types of return.

According to North Gondar Zone DRMO, the government has started the first return process conducted from January 17-21, 2022. return process and has returned 160 House Holds (HHs) from Kulich Meda IDP site to Zarima Kebele of Adiarkay Woreda. Besides, there are 142 HHs who are registered and waiting to be returned to Zarima, Chew Ber and Meka Kebeles of Adiarkay Woreda. The DRMO mentioned that it is the political decision of the Woreda administration to return the IDPs without making genuine discussion and preparing basic infrastructure in the return areas. According to Principle 28(2) of the Guiding Principles and Article 11(2) of the Kampala Convention, this breaches the rights of IDPs to participate in decisions that affect them. Moreover, the OHCHR officer revealed that humanitarian agencies were not consulted on the return process for grant and facilitation. This violates Principle 30 of the Guiding Principles and Art 11((3) and Art 9(2k) of the Kampala Convention which stipulates to consult IDPs on issues which is related with them. Besides, the peace and security situation of the return area was unpredictable because there was an active hostility in the surrounding areas between TPLF and ENDF. As a result, the return procedure was neither honourable or safe, which is against both Kampala

Convention Article 11(1) and Guiding Principle 28 (1). Moreover, during the FGD conducted with the returnees, they said that the IDPs were resettled to another location called Zarima IDP site due to 8 of the kebeles in Adiarkay Woreda was under siege by TPLF.

Then the second was a relocation process which was conducted from Oct 31- Dec 09, 2022 where 2891 individual IDPs living in Kulich Meda IDP site and 130,000 individual IDPs living in the host community at Debark Town, who were displaced from Tigray and bordering towns of Tigray. These IDPs were relocated to Zarima IDP site until the cessation of hostilities agreement. According to the interview conducted with North Gondar Zone DRMO. These bordering areas were occupied by TPLF during the northern conflict. Nevertheless, after September 04, 2021, when the Woreda is controlled by Ethiopian Defence Force (EDF), all the IDPs got returned to North Gondar Zone habitual residence. Meanwhile, a total of 77 HHs/ 250 IDPs from Kulch Meda IDP site were forcefully returned to Adiarkay, Dima and Telemt Woredas from December 5-6, 2022 by the decision of North Gondar Zone administration. These IDPs were from Amhara, Oromia and SNNP ethnic group who were displaced from Tigray region. Besides, the North Gondar administration has used humanitarian support/aid as a tool for enforcing return which shows discrimination and violates Art 9(1a) of the Kampala Convention. Principle 28(1) of the Guiding Principles, as well as Articles 11(1) and 9(2e) of the Kampala Convention, state that the practice of forcible return breaches the rights of IDPs to return voluntarily.

Finally, the third return process was from March 6-17, 2023. The IDPs in North Gondar Zone totally returned to their habitual residence during this round of return. This became successful partly by the cessation of hostilities agreement between GoE and TPLF which was concluded in 2 November 2022. And on May 2023 the IDP sites were officially closed.

The researcher focused on the three return processes which is part of durable solutions initiatives in order to check the prevailing experience in North Gondar Zone and also assessed the availability of durable solution for protracted IDPs in Central Gondar Zone. In addition, the researcher collected data from respondents in Kebero

Meda IDP site<sup>147</sup> located in Central Gondar Zone of Gondar City and Zarima temporary relocation IDP site<sup>148</sup> located in North Gondar Zone of Adiarkay Woreda. The researcher used the eight durable solution analysis criteria's to assess the need for the accessibility of durable solution initiative in North and Central Gondar, Amhara regional state. These are discussed as follows:

#### *4.2.4.1 Safety, Security and Freedom of Movement*

By determining the threat to safety, verifying security incidents, examining freedom of movement, and examining social cohesion are one of the criteria's for analysing durable solutions which is related to safety, security, and freedom of movement.

The table below shows that 90% of respondents replied that, Zarima IDP site was not secured. The North Zonal DRMO representative revealed that Adiarkay Woreda is one of the North Gondar Woreda's having 22 kebeles. Out of these kebeles, 8 kebeles were occupied by and are found under siege by TPLF. As Zarima kebele is one of Adiarkay Woreda, the security situation is fragile because of the fear of attack by TPLF. Hence, 10% of the interviewees responded that the IDP site is secured because there is presence of ENDF in their area. This shows that, during armed conflict, IDPs have the right to live in satisfactory and secured location. Most of the respondents in Zarima IDP site feel insecure which is related to denying their security according to Art 7(5c) of the Kampala Convention.

However, 92.6% of respondents mentioned that Kebero Meda IDP Site where they have stayed is secure. Meanwhile, 7.4% of respondents don't feel secure. The Zonal DRMO for Central Gondar Zone explained that the security situation in Kebero Meda IDP site is calm because it is located in the City. Hence, there can be personal disputes in the site.

Table 4.4 IDP sites showing the security situation of the sites

| Security Level | Zarima IDP    |                | Kebero Meda   |                |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) |

<sup>147</sup> Kebero Meda IDP site is currently operational.

<sup>148</sup> Zarima IDP site is currently closed.

|               |            |            |           |              |
|---------------|------------|------------|-----------|--------------|
| Feel Secure   | 20         | 10.0       | 50        | 92.6         |
| Feel Insecure | 180        | 90.0       | 4         | 7.4          |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>200</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>54</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

*Source: Filed survey 2022/2023 analysis of responses related to the security situation of the IDP sites*

Regarding freedom of movement, the table below shows that, IDPs in Zarima IDP site 81.5% of respondents were deprived of their freedom of movement in and outside the IDP site while 18.5% replied they were moving freely in and outside the site. The Kebele Militias move around and look for IDPs if they are moving after 6PM outside the IDP site. The Zone DRMO mentioned that the restriction is for the IDPs protection and to minimise disputes between EDF who are camping at nearby location to the kebele and the IDPs This shows that IDPs have restrictions in their freedom of movement because of armed clashes around their location as indicated in Article 7(5d) of the Kampala Conversion.

In the contrary, IDPs at Kebero Meda IDP site replied that 90.7% respondents live and move freely in and outside the IDP site. Meanwhile, 9.3% of respondents revealed that they are having fear to move outside the site because they don't have ID cards.

Table 4.5 IDP site showing deprivation of freedom of movement

| Deprivation of freedom of movement | Zarima IDP    |                | Kebero Meda   |                |
|------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                                    | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) |
| Yes                                | 163           | 81.5           | 5             | 9.3            |
| No                                 | 37            | 18.5           | 49            | 90.7           |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>200</b>    | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>54</b>     | <b>100.0</b>   |

*Source: Filed survey 2022/2023 analysis of responses on freedom of movement in and outside the site*

#### *4.2.4.2 Adequate standard of living*

The following circumstances will be covered by this criterion including poverty, food security, housing and tenure security, water and sanitation, health care services, and educational evaluation. The researcher asked about the state of the shelters, the distribution of food, the presence of mobile clinics, and the provision of clean water services in the IDP sites.

According to Art 9(2b) States have the duty to 'Provide internally displaced persons to the fullest extent practicable and with the least possible delay, with adequate humanitarian assistance, which shall include *food, water, shelter, medical care* and other *health services, sanitation, education*, and any other necessary social services, and where appropriate, extend such assistance to local and host communities.' The absence of these services is seen as violations of IDPs rights by denying the necessary services.

Regarding shelter condition, the table below shows that 91.5% respondents replayed that they are living in the over-crowded and congested condition, while 8.5% of them said they are living in the less crowded state at Zarima IDP Site. According to the health bureau representative, the Zarima IDP site is risky for IDPs related to their shelter condition. They are living in congested manner compared to Kulich Meda IDP site where they were residing earlier. These leads to health problems and break outs are imminent.

However, 81.5% of respondents in Kebero Meda IDP site informed that they living in a less crowded shelter, whereas 18.5% of the respondents said they live in over-crowded shelter.

Table 4.6 IDP site showing their shelter condition

| Shelter Density | Zarima IDP    |                | Kebero Meda   |                |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                 | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) |
| Less Crowded    | 17            | 8.5            | 44            | 81.5           |
| Over Crowded    | 183           | 91.5           | 10            | 18.5           |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>200</b>    | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>54</b>     | <b>100.0</b>   |

*Source: Filed survey 2022/2023 analysis of responses on the shelter condition in the site*

In reference to food distribution, the following table reveals that 99.5% of respondents in the Zarima IDP site reported receiving food in more than 45 days, with a delay ranging from 10 days to 3 months. Food assistance in North Gondar Zone is undertaken by WFP, by its implementing agency FH. Meanwhile, because of shortage of food as the county level, food distribution is taking more time than the usual which is more than 45 days. Though the emergency food support guideline indicates the food assistance should be distributed every 30 days.<sup>149</sup>

Similarly, in Kebero Meda IDP site, 92.6% of respondents said they have been receiving food assistance in more than 45 days. According to the Zonal DRMO, there is no institutional arrangement at city administration levels to assist IDPs with their basic needs. The Zone Early Warning and Food Security officers, who are Agriculture experts, are taking the lead as DRMO focal person at the city administration level. The experts also have a technical gap in protecting IDPs by facilitating humanitarian assistance, especially food support.

Table 4.7 IDP site showing time of food distribution

| Duration of Food distribution | Zarima IDP    |                | Kebero Meda   |                |
|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                               | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) |
| More than 45 Days             | 199           | 99.5           | 50            | 92.6           |

<sup>149</sup>WFP food distribution is usually takes 45 days to distribute for IDPs. The standard is 30 days but because of transportation delay the schedule became 45 days. Currently the distribution is taking more than 45 days in the North Gondar Zone.

|                   |            |              |           |              |
|-------------------|------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| Less than 45 Days | 1          | 0.5          | 4         | 7.4          |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>200</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>54</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

*Source: Filed survey 2022/2023 analysis of responses related to food assistance*

When it comes to the availability of clean water for IDPs at the Zarima IDP site, 91% of respondents stated they have it, while 9% stated they don't. From the information gathered from the health bureau representative, there is a clean water service at the IDP site. However, it is not enough for all IDPs. Therefore, some IDPs use water from the river for cleaning and hygiene purpose.

However, at Kebero Meda IDP site 92.6% of respondents mentioned having access to clean water. The representative noted that IOM initiated digging underground water to serve IDPs and the host community. Currently, three water points have been completed by IOM to serve the whole community living around the collective site.

Table 4.8 IDP site showing access to clean water

| Access to Clean Water | Zarima IDP    |                | Kebero Meda   |                |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                       | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) |
| Yes                   | 182           | 91.0           | 50            | 92.6           |
| No                    | 18            | 9.0            | 4             | 7.4            |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>200</b>    | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>54</b>     | <b>100.0</b>   |

*Source: Filed survey 2022/2023 analysis of responses on access to clean water in the site*

The following table reveals that 99.5% of respondents stated they have a mobile clinic run by the IOM Health Cluster Lead in the Zarima IDP site when asked about access to healthcare services. However, according to the Zone health bureau representative, there is shortage of medicines not only in the mobile clinic but also in the health centres and hospitals in the Zone.

Similarly, in the Kebero Meda IDPs site, 92.6% of respondents replied that they have

mobile clinic operated by IOM Health Cluster Lead. However, according to the Zone health bureau representative, there is shortage of medicines and problem of getting free health service at referral hospital. The Federal DRMC give a clear direction that all IDPs in the displaced location should get free health services in every level. The Zone health bureau representative also indicated this directive and added that the federal government should reimburse the expenses during the free health service to buy medication. However, the federal government didn't make the payment. Therefore, at the hospital level free health service is not given for IDPs. Consequently, shortage of medication is observed in the whole region.

Table 4.9 IDP site showing access to health services

| Access to Health Care Services | Zarima IDP    |                | Kebero Meda   |                |
|--------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                                | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) |
| Yes                            | 199           | 99.5           | 50            | 92.6           |
| No                             | 1             | 0.5            | 4             | 7.4            |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>200</b>    | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>54</b>     | <b>100.0</b>   |

*Source: Filed survey 2022/2023 analysis of responses on access to health services*

Regarding admission to education, the table below shows that in Zarima IDP site, 100% respondents mentioned that students are not going to school. The North Gondar Zone Bureau of Women, Children and Social Affairs' expert explained that because of the Northern crisis, children in Zarima Kebele stopped their education because the nearby school is occupied by the IDPs as a shelter which is called Zarima IDP site.<sup>150</sup>

However, 81.5% of respondents stated that IDP children are attending school, while 11.1% respondents mentioned that their children are not attending school in Kebero Meda IDP sites. According to the representative, most children are supported with educational materials to continue their education in the nearby schools. According to North Gondar Zone DRMO, in North Gondar zone more than 206 primary and

<sup>150</sup> Zarima IDP site is located in Zarima primary and secondary school.

secondary schools were closed as a result of the conflict which affected more than 62,800 students to be out of school.

Table 4.10 IDP sites showing access to education

| School Attendance | Zarima IDP    |                | Kebero Meda   |                |
|-------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                   | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) |
| Yes               | 0             | 0.0            | 44            | 81.5           |
| No                | 200           | 100.0          | 10            | 18.5           |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>200</b>    | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>54</b>     | <b>100.0</b>   |

*Source: Filed survey 2022/2023 analysis of responses on access to primary education*

The above discussion shows that Article 9(2b) which stipulates “State parties have the obligation to provide IDPs to the fullest extent practicable and with the least possible delay, with adequate humanitarian assistance” and according to the above data, appropriate responses were not provided for the IDPs and this created burden for the HC and the town way of life. The absence of these services is seen as violations of IDPs rights by denying the humanitarian relief services.

#### *4.2.4.3 Access to livelihoods and employment*

Legal or administrative obstacles to employment were analysed in this criterion for durable solutions to employment, livelihoods, access to economic assets, cattle, and land both before and after displacement.

The table below shows that IDPs living in Zarima IDP site revealed that 99.5% of respondents didn't get employment opportunities. Similarly, IDPs living in Kebero Meda IDP site informed that 90.7% respondents didn't get employment opportunities in and outside the IDP site. The Zonal DRMO noted that government doesn't have programs to support IDPs in their livelihood. But according to the sources few IDPs started small business like making coffee and opening small shops in the collective site by the help of NGOs who are working in livelihoods cash support at Kebero Meda IDP site.

Table 4.11 IDP sites showing access to livelihood and employment

| Access to Livelihood Opportunities | Zarima IDP    |                | Kebero Meda   |                |
|------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                                    | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) |
| Yes                                | 1             | 0.5            | 5             | 9.3            |
| No                                 | 199           | 99.5           | 49            | 90.7           |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>200</b>    | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>54</b>     | <b>100.0</b>   |

*Source: Filed survey 2022/2023 analysis of responses related to access to livelihood and employment opportunities*

#### 4.2.4.4 Mechanisms to restore housing, land, and property

This criterion examined access to restitution or compensation methods, documentation proving ownership or tenancy prior to displacement, and ownership or tenancy access.

Regarding land holding certificates IDPs in Zarima IDP site mentioned that 72.5% of the respondents stated they had land holding certificates before displacement at their habitual residents while 27.5% of respondents noted that they didn't have a land holding certificate.

However, IDPs in Kebero Meda IDP site, responded that 16.7% of the respondents own land holding certificates in Tigray region. In contrast, 83.3% respondents don't have a land holding certificate. According to the Zonal DRMO representative, most of the IDPs in Kebero Meda were living in Tigray region and working as daily labourers, and few had assets.

Table 4.12 IDP site showing ownership of landholding certificate

| Ownership of Landholding Certificate | Zarima IDP    |                | Kebero Meda   |                |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                                      | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) |
|                                      |               |                |               |                |

|              |            |              |           |              |
|--------------|------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| Yes          | 145        | 72.5         | 9         | 16.7         |
| No           | 55         | 27.5         | 45        | 83.3         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>200</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>54</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

*Source: Filed survey 2022/2023 analysis of responses on access to HLP rights including ownership of land holding certificates*

#### *4.2.4.5 Access to Documentation*

Cases such as access to documents prior to and following relocation, as well as access to substitute methods, would be handled appropriately under the documentation access criteria.

The table below shows that, from the information gathered at Zarima IDP site 96.5% of respondents mentioned that it's less likely to renew or replace land holding certificate. The Zone Agriculture expert said a land holding certificate is to be given at Woreda level. However, Adiharkay Woreda was under siege by TPLF armed group. During the occupation most government offices including schools, hospitals and health centres has been destroyed. The sources mentioned that it's possible to renew or replace the land holding certificate by using witnesses and elders as committee to identify their farming area. Then the kebele administration will endorse the decision of the committee to renew or replace their ownership in case of loss or damage. These supports Art 11(5) of the Kampala Convention stating that 'States Parties shall take all appropriate measures, whenever possible, to restore the lands of communities with special dependency and attachment to such lands upon the communities'

reinsertion, reintegration, and return.' The participants of the FGD also discussed that they have left documents like ID card, Bank account, property ownership documents, and other related documents. Though, Article 13 of the Kampala convention specified that the government should issue such types of documents but the zonal administration has not issued such types of documents so far.

Similarly, in Kebero Meda IDP site, 46.3% respondents mentioned that it's less likely

and as well as unknown to renew or replace their landholding certificate at their habitual residence. Currently, after the cessation of hostilities agreement IOM conducted intention survey to assess the interest of IDPs for accessing durable solutions. Accordingly, most of the IDPs didn't want to return to Tigray. The sources mentioned that these IDPs don't have assets in Tigray regions.

Table 4.13 IDP site showing access to renew land holding certificates in their habitual residence

| Access to Documentation | Zarima IDP    |                | Kebero Meda   |                |
|-------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                         | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) |
| More likely             | 1             | 0.5            | 4             | 7.4            |
| Less likely             | 193           | 96.5           | 25            | 46.3           |
| Unknown                 | 6             | 3.0            | 25            | 46.3           |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>200</b>    | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>54</b>     | <b>100.0</b>   |

*Source: Filed survey 2022/2023 analysis of responses on access to HLP rights including ownership of land holding certificates and renewal or replacement of the certificate during damage or loss*

The Pinheiro Principles and guidebook serve as guidelines for IDPs' HLP rights by supporting long-term solutions for them, such as the ability to return to their place of habitual residence. The guidelines cover privacy and respect for one's home, freedom of movement, adequate housing, a voluntary return in safety and dignity, equality between men and women, the right to be free from discrimination, adequate consultation during the decision-making process, HLP records and documentation, tenants, and secondary occupation.

#### *4.2.4.6 Family Reunification*

In this criterion, separated household members and access to reunification mechanisms were measured. The case of reunification is only raised for IDPs at Zarima IDP site.

Accordingly, the table below shows that 98.5% of respondents stated that they didn't get the chance to reunite with their families. The Zonal DRMO indicated that the IDPs didn't return to their habitual residence. They returned to their Woreda (Adiharkay) but not their kebele or homes. They are living in the temporary IDP site which is in Zarima Kebele. In addition, according to the Zone Women and Children Affairs expert, most of the IDPs have families and relatives in the kebeles. This violates Article 9(2h) of the Kampala Convention regarding the IDPs rights to be reunified with separated family members during displacement.

Meanwhile, IDPs at Kebero Meda IDP site couldn't return to Tigray region to reunite with their families. So the researcher didn't ask respondents to reply about the issue of reunification. According to the Zonal DRMO, their office doesn't have the mandate or the capacity to materialise alternative measures like integration or settlement elsewhere for IDPs in Kebero Meda IDP site.

Table 4.14 IDP site showing family reunification

| Family Reunification | Zarima IDP    |                | Kebero Meda   |                |
|----------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                      | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) |
| Yes                  | 0             | 0.0            |               |                |
| No                   | 197           | 98.5           |               |                |
| Unknown              | 3             | 1.5            |               |                |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>200</b>    | <b>100.0</b>   |               |                |

*Source: Filed survey 2022/2023 analysis of responses on access to family reunification after displacement*

#### *2.4.4.7 Participation in Public Affairs*

Participation in the community, in social or political organizations, in efforts for peace making, and in projects aimed at fostering confidence are all part of this criterion. The researcher used the participation of IDPs in the return process,

especially to identify whether they were consulted before the return or not.

Even if the IDPs didn't return to their homes, 93% of respondents in Zarima IDP site mentioned that they were consulted to relocate to IDP site in their Woreda. But 7% of respondents stated that they were not consulted before the relocation. Meanwhile, the Zonal DRMO is saying that the IDPs are in the return process which was initiated by the regional government, and discussion was made with IDPs before the relocation. However, all IDPs did not participate in the discussion forums. Most of the participants were IDP committees, elderly, women and PWDs. However, in Kebero Meda IDP site there is no initiative and no discussion was made with IDPs to access durable solution initiatives.

Table 4.15 IDP site showing consultation of IDPs

| Extent of Participation | Zarima IDP    |                | Kebero Meda   |                |
|-------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                         | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) |
| Yes                     | 186           | 93.0           |               |                |
| No                      | 14            | 7.0            |               |                |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>200</b>    | <b>100.0</b>   |               |                |

*Source: Filed survey 2022/2023 analysis of responses on IDPs participation in the return process*

#### *2.4.4.8 Access to Remedies and Justice*

The criterion includes measuring access to informal or formal justice and the reparation process.

The table below shows that 99% of respondents from Zarima IDP site stated that they didn't get legal remedies for crimes, committed before and during conflict. However, currently consultations are on-going regarding Transitional Justice (TJ) to access justice and reparation for the crimes devoted on IDPs and the whole community after the conflict. Working groups were established to lead the consultations in Amhara region as well as in the whole Ethiopia. The facilitation is

made by OHCHR-EARO and EHRC. These can be a good sign to take accountability for every action made in the Northern conflict.

Similarly, 90.7% of respondents of Kebero Meda IDP site stated that they didn't get legal remedies for crimes committed before during and after the conflict.

Regarding effective remedies and reparation, Article 12 of the Kampala Convention explicitly discusses it in three sub articles, however, Regarding Article 12(2) of the Convention, which states that "compensation is due when displacement results from expropriation procedures," Ethiopia submitted a reservation. The duty of the state in the case of displacement due to natural and man-made causes is seen within the purview of providing assistance as provided under Article 89 of the Constitution and ensuring rehabilitation.' Consequently, the GoE will not be mandated to give compensation for the displaced community. Meanwhile, Article 89(3) reveals that the government is responsible to prevent when man-made or natural disaster arrives by assisting the victims. This suggests that providing aid for long-term solutions, legal recourse, and humanitarian relief is the main duty of the national government.

Table 4.16 IDP site showing access to legal remedies

| Access to Legal Remedies | Zarima IDP    |                | Kebero Meda   |                |
|--------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                          | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) |
| Yes                      | 2             | 1.0            | 5             | 9.3            |
| No                       | 198           | 99.0           | 49            | 90.7           |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>200</b>    | <b>100.0</b>   | <b>54</b>     | <b>100.0</b>   |

*Source: Filed survey 2022/2023 analysis of responses on access to legal remedies for crimes, committed before and during conflict*

The key finding shows that durable solutions initiatives for IDPs were somehow implemented by North Gondar Zonal administration. However, the government failed to provide initial conditions before returning the IDPs. IDPs were returned to relocation collective sites in Zarima Kebele which was used for their 1st

displacement area and didn't get back to their home kebeles because of the security threats in their Woreda until the third return. Until they returned to their usual house, they experienced minimal safety, security, and freedom of movement while residing in the relocation site. They also had access to a living standard, a means of subsistence, and legal and remedy resources. However, after the TPLF and GoE agreed to end hostilities, the relocated IDPs from the Zarima IDP Site went back to their usual homes. Furthermore, the protracted IDPs in Central Gondar Zone are still living in the collective site called Kebero Meda IDP site. Furthermore, the absence of government action in both areas has exacerbated the lack of humanitarian aid, including food, WASH, shelter and NFIs, health services, and chances for jobs that allow people to support themselves. Most importantly, IDPs have directly or indirectly become victims of conflict and the government makes no legal remedy for the crimes committed against them and their families.

Finally, based on the comments of IDPs who previously lived in the Zarima relocation site and who currently reside in Kebero Meda IDPs, and taking into consideration the eight criteria for measuring the extent to which a lasting solution is established for IDPs; it sounds to argue that durable solutions were not achieved for IDPs in both locations. It seems that the third return process is far more unplanned and not consulted and which is followed by the relocation and cessation of hostilities agreement. However, the IDPs who were displaced originally from Tigray and sheltered in Kulich Meda and Talak Mesk IDP sites of North Gondar Zone and Kebero Meda IDP sites of Central Gondar Zone are still residing in the collective sites<sup>151</sup> without any durable solution initiative provided by the GoE.

#### **4.2.4 Challenges to protect IDPs in obtaining durable solutions**

The researcher conducted interviews with humanitarian agencies working in Central and North Gondar zones to identify challenges in the protection of IDPs to obtain durable solutions. The respondents revealed that the IDPs in North Gondar Zone were returned to their habitual residence forcefully and didn't get back to their homes in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> phases of return, because of the security threats in the Woreda. Meanwhile, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> return process all the IDPs returned to their habitual

---

<sup>151</sup> Currently the IDPs are residing in Talak Mesk and Kebero Meda IDP sites. The other two are closed.

residence who were displaced from the bordering areas of Tigray. They were placed in a relocation site in Zarima Kebele, where they had limited access to justice and remedies, as well as a minimal level of protection, security, and freedom of movement. Furthermore, service deficiencies were found in areas such as employment, health services, WASH, shelter and NFIs, and food access.

Most importantly, the decisions on return must be made via a choice and consultation which is both free and informed. Meanwhile, the IDPs in North Gondar Zone were forcefully relocated by indirect coercion mediated by denial of humanitarian assistance. The sources revealed that 'if they don't return the government, will stop the food assistance.' Alternative durable solutions of local integration or settlement elsewhere were not provided. Because Adiarkay Woreda was occupied by TPLF, the IDPs had no freedom to move from village to village in order to work and earn a living. This indicated the unsafe and insecure condition of living. Furthermore, the IDPs were not given the opportunity to thoroughly engage in the relocation process by determining whether basic services would be available in the new location.

In Kebero Meda IDP site the protracted IDPs are still living in the IDP site for more than three years without access to durable solutions. The government is the lead agent which should initiate DSWG based on the DSI and national policy. And if the government doesn't have the capacity to conduct its activities, it should ask humanitarian organizations to work with the government to defend IDPs' rights to alternatives for long-term solutions. However, the government is reluctant to accomplish this major responsibility to fulfil the necessary arrangements for IDPs to access durable solutions and replicate DSWG in Amhara Regional State.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

#### **5.1 Conclusion**

“persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence as a result of or to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalised violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognised state border.” Conflict and violence are examples of man-made crises

that directly impact IDPs. IDPs are susceptible to poverty, additional displacement, and other threats to their safety as a result of their forced relocation. In addition, the Guiding principle and the Kampala convention illustrates that “displacement shall last no longer than required by the circumstances.” This entails the protection of IDPs should include finding durable solutions alternatives to return, integrate or settle elsewhere.

To protect IDPs from the different risks, the GoE ratified the Kampala convention. Then the IASC framework for a durable solution was framed to protect IDPs to access durable solutions. Moreover, a draft proclamation for protection and support for IDPs in Ethiopia was prepared and its’ left with the House of Representatives’ approval to be enacted. Besides, GoE activated DSI first in Somali Regional State. Even though there is a large caseload of IDPs, these initiatives are still not being repeated in the Amhara region in general and in Gondar in particular.

This study's main goal was to determine how accessible long-term options are for assisting IDPs who are displaced due to war in Amhara Regional State, particularly in Gondar. The researcher looked at institutional structures, legislative frameworks, current practices for IDP protection, and obstacles to obtaining lasting solutions in order to measure how accessible the initiative for durable solutions was. The study also employed eight criteria for analysis of durable solutions. The study's main conclusions are that, although IDPs in the North Gondar Zone were restored to their usual residences during the first and second return processes, their safety and security remain at danger due to TPLF attacks and volatility of the area. This is somehow relocation process were IDPs get to settle in a temporary site called Zarima IDP site until the security situation in North Gondar Zone and their habitual kebeles are secured. During their stay in the site, there was shortage of humanitarian assistance like food, water and health services. Most importantly, IDPs live in highly congested shelters, which amount to different protection risks. Moreover, there is no employment opportunity to support themselves. Because the IDPs of Zarima relocation site were displaced from bordering kebeds of Amhara regional State with Tigray, some of their family were separated but wouldn’t get reunified. In addition, IDPs who lost their land holding certificates have low opportunity for replacement. Most importantly, IDPs directly or indirectly became victims of conflict like sexual

violence, and there is no legal remedy for the crimes committed against them and their families. Similar to this, IDPs who were forced to flee from Tigray and are being housed at the Kebero Meda IDP site are unwilling to go back to their original home. It is therefore imperative that they need to be integrated or relocated to the area of displacement or to other safe place.

The key finding shows that durable solutions initiatives for IDPs were undertaken by North Gondar Zonal administration. However, the government failed to provide initial conditions before returning the IDPs. Most crucially, failed to confer with humanitarian organizations that are actively assisting with the repatriation process and collaborating to safeguard the IDPs' human rights by providing for their basic needs so that their rights can be properly protected.

In addition to urgent assistance, the displaced population requires long-term solutions initiatives. The GoE must protect the location of displacement and the place of return in order to uphold the rights of IDPs before, during, and after displacement in order to even begin the durable solution project. Due to the insecurity in the North Gondar Zone, durable solution initiatives couldn't be achieved in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> return process. The GoE fails to uphold the aforementioned obligations to protect the rights of conflict-induced IDPs in the Gondar Amhara Regional States, even in spite of the existence of eight criteria for durable solutions for IDPs, which establish a basis for government and humanitarian actors to better address the self-identified needs of IDPs and determine the extent to which durable solutions can be achieved.

## **5.2 Recommendations**

In Amhara Regional State, particularly in Gondar, the researcher evaluated the need for accessible, long-lasting solutions for protecting IDPs. The researcher also assessed the accessibility of legal frameworks and institutions to protect IDPs rights and revealed the prevailing practices of durable solutions initiatives for IDPs. The researcher offered the following suggestions for improved IDP rights protection in light of the study's findings:

### **For Federal, Regional, City, Zonal and Woreda level Government**

- The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management Risk and policy should incorporate strategies to respond to IDPs displaced due to conflict/violence or set other policy to address their needs.
- The Federal government should approve and enact the proclamation to protect and assist IDPs in Ethiopia.
- The lack of viable solutions for IDPs could impede long-term peace, stability, recovery, and reconstruction. Therefore, through restoring their livelihood, the government must restore the dignity of IDPs and guarantee sufficient living conditions.
- As stated in the Ethiopian constitution, "Every Ethiopian citizen has the right to liberty of movement and freedom to choose of their residence wherever within the national territory." This law should also apply to IDPs by upholding their right to freedom of movement and choice of residence within the country while also ensuring their safety and security.
- The security of IDPs in Northern Ethiopia, especially in North Gondar, is fragile since the Northern crisis. Therefore, the government must ensure the security and safety of IDPs, returnees and the host community in the area.
- The regional administration should then provide ID cards to IDPs and

returnees to guarantee their freedom of movement.

- The DSI has been implemented in Somali Regional State and evaluated successfully. Therefore, the DSI should be implemented in Amhara regional state by taking good practices from the region. And the DSWG should be established to that effect.
- Agriculture experts working in Early Warning and Food Security positions but working as acting DRMO in the city administration in the regional states, should get technical support through capacity-building and training, for better protection of IDPs rights. In addition, there should be a designated office of DRM in the city administration level to avoid human rights violation and abuses when disasters arise.
- The government should provide alternative durable solutions of local integration or relocation elsewhere for the protracted IDPs living in Talak Mesk IDP site of North Gondar Zone and Kebero Meda IDP site of Central Gondar Zone while IDPs didn't chose to return.
- The GoE should exert it's power on the security and peace of the citizens in Ethiopia for sustainable return and way of living without displacement. This can be accomplished working with humanitarian agencies.

#### **For Humanitarian agencies including UN, INGOs and NGOs Working on IDPs rights**

- Durable solutions initiative needs lots of expertise and financial assistance from the international community. Therefore, humanitarian agencies need to collaborate with the government sectors for a sustainable solution.
- Humanitarian agencies should work in collaboration with government agents for better protection of IDPs rights.

## REFERENCE

Acharya Samundra, *Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons in Sudan and Somalia*, (the Art and Humanitarian Research Council, 2021).

Abdirahman Ahmed and others, *Livelihood Components of Durable Solutions for IDPs: Assessment of three cases in Somali Region, Ethiopia* (Tufts University, Nov 2021).

Adem Kassie, *Human Rights Under the Ethiopian Constitution: A Descriptive Overview* (Mizan Law Review 5(1), 41-71, 2011).

African Union, *African Union Convention (Kampala Convention) for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa Ratification* (Proclamation No. 1187/2020).

African Union, *African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa* (Kampala Convention, October 2009).

Ashenafi Endale, *Bill to establish national fund for IDPs* (The Reporter Jan 28, 2023).

Asplet Mike, *Internal Displacement: Responsibility and Action, a handbook for parliamentarians, The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and Inter-Parliamentary Union* (No 20, 19-20, 2013)

David Fisher, *Guide to International Human Rights Mechanisms for Internally Displaced Persons and their Advocates* (University of Bern, June 2006).

Delbaere Ruth, *International Displaced Persons in the African Human Rights System: An Analysis of the Kampala Convention* (Ghent University 2016).

DSI *Durable Solutions Initiative* (December 2019).

FAO, *Livelihood Components of Durable Solutions for IDPs: Assessment of three cases in Somali Region* (Ethiopia November 2021).

FDRE *Constitution* (1995)

Genene Negussie, *Assessment of Socio-Economic Rights Protection of Conflict-Induced Internally Displaced and Resettled Persons in Sululta Town of Oromia Region* (Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa, 2020).

Global Protection Cluster Working Group, *Hand Book for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons* (2007).

*Global Report on Internal Displacement* (2022).

GP20, *Prevent Protect Resolve: Working Together Better to Prevent, Address and Find Durable Solutions to Internal Displacement* (2019)

*Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* (E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, dated 11 February 1998)

Hall Samuel, *Review of Durable Solutions Initiatives in East and Horn of Africa: Good practices, challenges and opportunities in the search of durable solutions in Ethiopia / Kenya / Somalia / Uganda*

*Handbook for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons* (2008).

*Handbook on Housing and Property Restriction for Refugees and Displaced Persons: Implementing the 'Pinheiro Principles'* (March 2007).

Human Rights Council General Assembly, *Report of the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons* (Walter Kälin, A/HRC/13/21/Add.4, 29 December 2009)

IASC, *Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs* (The Brookings Institution – University of Bern Project on Internal Displacement, April, 2010)

ICRC, *Internally Displaced Persons and International Humanitarian Law* (December 2017).

ICRC, *Internally Displaced Persons and International Humanitarian Law: Advisory Service on International Humanitarian Law* (1-4, 2017).

ICRC, *The Geneva Conventions* (1949).

IDMC & NRC, *GRID 2022, Children and youth in internal displacement* (2022 & 2023).

IDMC, *Global Report on Internal Displacement* (2023)

International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, *Protocol on the Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons* (30 November 2006).

IOM DTM, *Ethiopia National Displacement Report 9: Site Assessment Round 26 & Village Assessment Survey Round 9* (2021).

JIPS, *Durable Solutions Analysis Guide: A Tool to Measure Progress Towards Durable Solutions for IDPs* (2018).

*Livelihood components of Durable Solutions for IDPs: Assessment of three cases in Somali Region* (Ethiopia November 2021).

Mehari Taddele, *The Kampala Convention and Its Contributions to International Law: Legal Analyses and Interpretations of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons* (The Netherlands: Eleven International Publishing 2014).

Mohammed Adem, *The Protection of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Ethiopia: the Analysis of Legal and Institutional Frameworks* (Ethiopian Civil Service University, Addis Ababa 2020).

Mulugeta Tesfaye, *Rights in Displaced Situations: Challenges and Prospects for the Enforcement of Reproductive Rights of Refugee Women and Girls in Ethiopia* (Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa 2011).

NRC, *Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced People: in a nutshell* (2019).

OCHA, *Ethiopia Protection Cluster*

Office of the National Human Rights Action Plan, *The Ethiopian National Human Rights Action 2016-2020* (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)

Protection Cluster Ethiopia, *Protection of Conflict-Induced IDPs, Assessment for Action* (2008).

Protection Cluster Ethiopia, *Return of Internally Displaced Persons in Ethiopia* (2019),

Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, *Principles on housing and property restitution for refugees and displaced persons* (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/17, 28 June 2005).

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, *National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management* (Addis Ababa 2013).

The Federal Negait Gazetta, *the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa Ratification* (Proclamation No. 1187/2020, March 2020).

The Great Lakes Region, *Protocol on the Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons* (30 November 2006)

Tizazu Ayelew, *International Response for the Protection of Conflict Induced Internally Displaced Persons Since 1991 in Sudan's Darfur and Somalia* (Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa 2014).

UN, *Charter of the United Nations and Statute of the International Court of Justice* (San Francisco 1945).

UN, *Human Rights Council, Promotion and Protection of All Human Rights, Civil, Political, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Including the Right to Development* (A/HRC/13/21/Add.4, 2009).

UNICEF Ethiopia: *Humanitarian Situation* (Report No.6, July 2021).

UN, *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (ICCPR) (1966)

UN, *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (ICESCR) (1966)

Website: <http://regionaldss.org/index.php/research-and-knowledge-management/solutions-framework/>

Website: <https://www.internal-displacement.org/global-report/grid2023/>

Website: <https://www.internal-displacement.org/global-report/grid2023/>

Website: <https://www.unocha.org/es/themes/internal-displacement>

Website: <https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/ethiopia/ethiopia-situation-report-27-jul-2023>

Website: [www.ohchr.org](http://www.ohchr.org)

World Bank Group, *Informing Durable Solutions for Internal Displacement In Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan* (Volume B: Country Case Studies)

World Food Program, *Tigray: Conflict Affected Areas* (Update #1, 23 September 2021).

Yigzaw, *Causes and Impact of Internal Displacement in Ethiopia. African Journal of Social Work* (9(2), 35-37, 2016).

## APPENDIX

**Addis Ababa University**

**Center for Human Rights**

### ***1. Questionnaire for IDPs***

Dear respondents,

The purpose of this questionnaire is to gather data that will assist the researcher in partial fulfilment of the requirements for a master's degree in human rights at Addis Abeba University's Center for Human Rights. The title of the research study is " The need for access to durable solutions on the protection of conflict-induced IDPs in Ethiopia in Case of Gondar, Amhara Regional State." This study investigates the current state of durable solutions projects for internally displaced people (IDPs) in the North and Central Gondar Zones of Amhara Regional State. In the instance of this study, the information obtained from participants aids the researcher in drawing precise conclusions and empowers the relevant authorities to address the current issue. In order to partially fulfil the requirements for a Master's degree the protection of their rights to obtain lasting solutions, this questionnaire seeks to gather data. Respondents provide their

consent to participate. The researcher attests that the answer will be kept private and utilized exclusively for scholarly study. Your assistance and promptness would therefore be greatly appreciated.

Best Regards,

Mekedes Getachew

I. General instructions:

- There's no need to write your name.
- Just check the item that most accurately represents your reaction.
- Please feel free to contact the researcher or facilitators if you have any questions, suggestions, or confusion regarding the below questions.

II. About respondents

1. Gender: Male ☐ Female ☐
2. Age: Less than 20 ☐ 21-30 ☐ 31-40 ☐ 41-50 ☐ 51 and above ☐
3. Level of education: Less than Primary ☐ Primary ☐ Secondary ☐  
Certificate ☐ Diploma ☐ Degree ☐ Degree and above ☐
4. Marital Status: Single ☐ Married ☐ Widowed/ Widower ☐  
Divorced ☐

| R No. | Questions                                     | Responses                                                      |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1     | How long have you been displaced?             | -----# of Months,<br><input type="checkbox"/> I don't remember |
| 2     | Have you been living in the secured IDP site? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>       |

|    |                                                                                            |                                                                                                                 |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3  | Did you been deprived to move freely in and out-side the site?                             | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                                        |
| 4  | How is your shelter condition?                                                             | Over Crowded <input type="checkbox"/> Less Crowded <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| 5  | How often food distributed in the site?                                                    | 30 days <input type="checkbox"/> 45 days <input type="checkbox"/><br>More than 45 days <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6  | Do you have access to clean water?                                                         | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                                        |
| 7  | Is there a mobile clinic in the site?                                                      | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                                        |
| 8  | Are children enrolled in schools after displacement?                                       | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                                        |
| 9  | Did you get any employment opportunities?                                                  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                                        |
| 10 | Did you have land holding certificates before displacement?                                | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                                        |
| 11 | How likely does the replacement or renewal of the land ownership certificate if lost?      | High <input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>                     |
| 12 | Did you reunite with your family at your habitual residence?                               | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                                        |
| 13 | Have you been consulted to return to your habitual residence?                              | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                                        |
| 14 | Did you get any legal remedies for crimes committed before, during and after the conflict? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                                        |

## ***2. Interview and FGD Questions for Government Authorities***

1. Are there institutional arrangements to protect IDPs at the Regional, City administration, Zonal, Woreda and Kebele levels?
2. Are there initiatives at the Zonal level to return IDPs to their habitual residence?
3. What measures taken by the government to secure the IDPs habitual residence for safe and dignified return?
4. Do you believe that the IDPs' wish was the basis for the return process? And how?
5. Has the administration and the IDPs have a clear conversation regarding the return process?
6. From your observation, in comparison to the previous IDP site, how satisfied are they with the current location? If yes, why? If not, why not?
7. Did the government provide humanitarian assistance after returning the IDPs?
8. Do the government prepare programs to support the IDPs livelihood?

## ***3. Interview Questions for Humanitarian Agencies***

1. Did you get to participate with government organs in the return process?
2. Did the IDPs participate in return decisions via a choice that is both free and informed?
3. Do you think their habitual residence is secured enough to protect IDPs from risks of human rights violations?
4. Are the IDPs denied humanitarian assistance to coerce IDPs to return?
5. Did the IDPs get information about their habitual residence before returning?
6. Are there alternative durable solutions of local integration or relocation available?
7. Did advocacy made by your respective organisations with the government about the principles and standards of voluntariness, safety, dignity, and

sustainability of the return?