



Addis Ababa University

**Addis Ababa University College of Law and
Governance Studies**

School of Law

**The Law and the Practice that Govern Internally Displaced
Persons: A Case Study at Debre Birhan IDPs Camp.**

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November, 2023

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

**Addis Ababa University College of Law and
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“The Law and the Practice that Govern Internally Displaced Persons: A Case Study of Debre Birhan IDPs Camps”, a thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Master of Laws (LLM) in Human Rights Law at the School of Law, College of Law and Governance Studies, Addis Ababa University.

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November, 2023

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DECLARATION

I, Haimanot Debebe Yeyi, hereby declare that the thesis entitled “The Law and the Practice that Govern Internally Displaced Persons: A Case Study at Debre Birhan IDPs Camps” is my original work and that it has not been submitted for any degree or examination in any other university. I also vow that, to the best of my knowledge, all sources used in any form are duly acknowledged.

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ACRONYMS

CID.....	Conflict Induced Displacement.
DEC.....	Development Expert Center.
DSI.....	Durable Solution Initiatives.
DTM.....	Displacement Tracking Matrix.
EFDA.....	Ethiopian Food and Drug Authority.
EHRC.....	Ethiopian Human Rights Council.
EHRCO.....	Ethiopian Human Rights Commission.
ERCS.....	Ethiopian Red Cross Society.
GOE.....	Government of Ethiopia.
GRID	Global Report on Internal Displacement.
GVB.....	Gender Based Violence.
IRCS.....	International Committee of Red Cross.
IDMC	Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre.
IDP	Internal Displacement.
IDPs	Internal Displaced Persons.
IOM.....	International Organization of Migration
MAM.....	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
MOH.....	Ministry of Health
MOLSWA.....	Ministry of Labour, Social and Women Affairs
MOP	Ministry of Peace.
NDRMC.....	National Disaster Risk Management Commission.
No.	Number.
NFI.....	Non Food Items.
SNNPR.....	South Nation Nationalities and Peoples of Ethiopia.
PLW.....	Pregnant and Lactating Woman
PSTD.....	Post Traumatic Disorder.

UNUnited Nations.

UNGPs.....United Nations Guiding Principles.

UNFPA.....United Nations Population Fund.

UNHRC....United Nations Human Rights Council.

UNHC..... United Nations Higher Commission for Refugees

UNRCOUnited Nations Resident Coordinator's Office

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Abstract

In Ethiopia, displacement is not a new phenomenon; this has been happening for centuries due to both natural and man-made causes. Major disasters have occurred in Ethiopia due to a number of factors; particularly conflict-related displacement is an important incident in the country's current situation. According to a number of studies, racial bias in competition for scarce resources such as land and water, as well as inadequate social services and poor governance, are reasons for the spread of conflict-related displacement. Millions of people were displaced from their homelands and relocated to other areas due to their ethnic origins and political leanings, which were influenced by armed groups and political elites within the government administration. as a result, millions of people are subjected to various human rights violations. In order to support the previously stated facts, this study primarily assesses the legislation and practices governing internally displaced person in Debire Birhan. The reason for the displacement and the manner in which rights were violated were assessed in accordance with the guidelines of both domestic and international law. The researcher employed Qualitative research design and used a combination of primary and secondary sources to conduct the research.

The study found out Ethiopian Government has failed in its duty to respect the obligations bound by a Kampala convention and to protect the rights of those who have been forcibly displaced and sheltered at the Debire Birhan IDPs Camps. There are currently no laws in Ethiopia that protect the rights of internally displaced persons. It has also failed to put in place strong institutions to prevent internally displaced people from being housed at Debire Birhan without receiving prompt humanitarian assistance and long-term solutions. Therefore the Ethiopian Government should adopt comprehensive IDPs legislation and establish a robust institution to address the plights of IDPs and to implement Kampala Convention.

Key words; Internal Displacement, Internal Displaced Person, conflict induced displacement, Violation of Rights

Chapter One

General Introduction

1.1 Background of the Study

Internally displaced Persons (IDPs) are becoming an increasingly concerning global issue due to the alarming number of them; as such, providing for their situation, protection, and aid is not only a humanitarian necessity but also a matter of regional and global security as well as sustainable development.¹

The Term internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) first came into use during the late 1980s and gained widespread international recognition in the 1990s.² The UN General Assembly resolution on refugees and displaced people in Sudan from 1972 incorporates the first official remark of the term "internally displaced people."³ However, no attempt was made to explain what this idea meant or when it occurred. The organization of the two International Conferences on the Issues of Refugees and Displaced Persons was another significant effort at the time that focused on IDP issues and further increased awareness of the problem of internal displacement. The International Conference on the Plight of Refugees, Returnees, and Displaced Persons in Southern Africa (SARRED), held in Oslo in December 1988, was the first of these. The International Conference on Central American Refugees in May 1989 was the other.⁴

The UN General Assembly first formally mentioned internally displaced people when it discussed refugees and displaced Persons in Sudan in 1972.⁵ The global attention to the concerns of these groups of people within their territorial borders gathered momentum at the end of 1980s and the beginning of 1990s. Thus, formal discussions on the protective imperatives and the other

¹ Edward Newman and Joanne Van Selm , ' Refugees and forced displacement. International security, human vulnerability, and the state'. Hong-Kong, United Nations University; United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). Report of the Representative of the Secretary General on human rights of internally displaced.(2003)

², Chatrine, Barun , 'Research Guide on Internal Displacement': Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) Trondheim, Norway.(2005)

³ UN General Assembly Resolution December (1972), 2958 (XXVII) 12

⁴ibid 8

⁵ UN General Assembly Resolution, December (1972), 2958(XXVII) Par 2 & 3.

needs of IDPs were carried out mainly under the auspices of the UN mainly starting from the beginning of 1990s.⁶

On March 1991, the UN Commission on Human Rights requested that the Secretary-General prepare a report on IDPs.⁷ This important report prompted a much more active involvement of the UN in the issue. In 1992 the United Nations began a tangible works by appointing a Representative of Secretary General Francis M. Deng on IDPs as an impetus role for the development of the Guiding Principles of Internal Displacement. M. Deng's mandate included examining the normative frameworks for protecting IDPs, evaluating the current institutional framework, and looking for ways to enhance coordination between various UN agencies.⁸

Horn of Africa is one of volatile Regions, where intra- and inter-state conflicts are persistent due to "economic, social, political, and historical grounds," but the main causes are "ethnic and religious polarization and border and territorial conflicts."⁹ The primary factor of intra-state conflict in Africa is inter-communal conflict.¹⁰

The Sub-Saharan African region's ethnic composition makes a suitable environment for ethnic conflicts that result in a large number of internal displacements.¹¹

Ethiopia is a home for a diversified multi ethnic people.¹² And occasionally encountering ethnic hostilities is not surprising. Ethiopia has frequently seen inter-communal conflicts with varying degrees of intensity, "causes and actors in the communal conflicts."¹³

Since the 1890s, there have been a number of conflicts between pastoral communities; some are regarded as hard and intense, while others are regarded as close to the ground.¹⁴ The traditional competition over shared natural resources, like water and/or grazing land, as well as over social values, economic concerns, and political issues, was the foundation for these inter-communal conflicts.¹⁵ The disputes involved the local Government as well as the community.¹⁶

⁶ Roberta Cohen and Francis M. Deng, 'Masses Plight, the Global Crisis of Internal Displacement', Brookings Institution Press, (1998) 3.

⁷ UN Commission on Human Rights Res.1991/25, (March 1991).

⁸ Catherine Phuong, 'The International Protection of Internally Displaced Persons, Cambridge studies in International and Comparative Law', Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, New York, (2004), 8.

⁹ Rabel Desalegn, 'The Protection of Ethnic Conflict-Induced IDPs in Ethiopia: A Case Study of Guraferda Woreda in Bench-Maji Zone, Addis Ababa University School of Law (2017)

¹⁰ ibid

¹¹ ibid

¹² ibid

¹³ ibid

¹⁴ ibid

¹⁵ ibid

The politics of ethnocentric federalism, which established regional borders based on ethnicity in addition to natural resources and fueled competition between ethnic groups for "economic resources and asset building,"¹⁷ have been determined to be the root causes of inter-communal disputes in contemporary Ethiopia.

The three main factors that affect the causes and effects of internal displacement in Ethiopia are the ethnic federal structure, the ongoing danger of starvation, and ethnic conflicts. Starvation is a common cause of population displacement, and ethnic federalism is an aggravating factor in ethnic hostilities.¹⁸ On a similar vein, Ethiopia's Ethno Centric Federalism and its politics, which established ethnically based regional boundaries along with natural resources and the competition between the ethnic groups for "economic resources and asset building," have served as a catalyst for inter-communal conflict in the country today.¹⁹ Relocations resulting from government-sponsored development projects and planned resettlement programs are two other factors contributing to internal displacement in Ethiopia.²⁰ In the beginning of October, 2018 Ethnic Violence also broke out between Oromos, Amharas and Gumuz in Benishangul following the killing of three local police officers.²¹

Around 62,000 new displacements were recorded between October and November. Recent figures reveal that, during the first half of 2018, the ten worst-affected countries hosted a total of 5.2 million new internal displacements associated with conflict and violence.²² There are currently 4.51 million IDPs recognized nationwide as of February 2022. Seasonal floods displaced 122,901 IDPs (3%) and flash floods displaced 119,807 IDPs (3%). Of the total displaced population, the main causes of displacement were conflict, which displaced 3.63

¹⁶ ibid

¹⁷ ibid

¹⁸ Mehari Taddele, 'Causes, Dynamics, and Consequences of Internal Displacement in Ethiopia, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik German Institute for International and Security Affairs', SWP Working Paper FG 8, (2017), 6.

¹⁹ Sisay Gebre-Egziabher: 'What Role Should Civil Society Organizations play to address Ethnic Conflicts in Ethiopia?', Haworth College of Business, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, USA, Fourth International Conference on Ethiopian Development Studies (4th ICEDS) on the Challenges and Opportunities for Peace & Development in Ethiopia & Northeast Africa', (August 2-4, 2007), 12-17.

²⁰ Tadele, (n.18)

²¹ OCHA, [Ethiopia Humanitarian Bulletin Issue 67 | 29 October - 11 November 2018 - Ethiopia | Relief Web](#). (Nov 2018) accessed 13 January 2023

²² IDMC, <https://www.internal-displacement.org/media-centres/east-africa-worst-hit-by-internal-displacement-in-first-half-of-2018>, accessed 13 January 2023

million IDPs (81%), drought, which displaced 420,887 IDPs (9%), social tension, which displaced 171,727 IDPs (4%), and social tension.²³

The African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons (Kampala Convention) was ratified by the Government of Ethiopia on March 2020 in an effort to address those setbacks for IDPs.²⁴ States Parties are required to enact or amend pertinent laws, appoint a body or authority necessary to coordinate efforts to protect and assistance internally displaced persons, and appoint to the appropriate authorities for protection and support.²⁵ Even so, the Ethiopian Government has failed of its duty to provide for displaced persons. Ethiopia neither established an independent institution responsible for supervising the well-being of IDPs nor adopted a comprehensive policy and legal framework for their protection. Because of this, the nation has struggled to support IDPs as needed.

Hence, the main aim of this research to assess The Law and the Practice, that Govern Internal Displaced Peoples in Ethiopia particularly at Debre Birhan IDPs Camps, For the reason that protections of IDPs is sensitive issues which needs a vital responsibility and urgent cooperation either from Governmental and Non-Governmental Organs.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Conflict-related internal displacement is now a common occurrence in Ethiopia. Recent trends indicate that ethnic conflicts that were accompanied by armed attacks and armed conflict led to massive displacements in a number of different parts of the nation.²⁶

In 2018, the most recent internal displacements brought on by armed conflict occurred in Ethiopia. Since 2016, the crisis in the nation has been steadily worsening, but in 2018, conflict and intercommunal violence significantly worsened and spread to new areas, resulting in nearly 2.9 million new displacements, four times the number in 2017. Three of the borders between the Oromia region and the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples (SNNP) Region in the

²³ DTM, [Ethiopia — National Displacement Report 11 \(December 2021 — February 2022\) | Displacement Tracking Matrix \(iom.int\)](#) accessed 14 January 2023

²⁴ African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons (Kampala Convention) Article 4(1), (adopted in 2009), (entered into force 2012). <https://au.int/en/treaties/african-union-convention-protection-and-assistance-internally-displaced-persons-africa>, accessed 16 January 2023

²⁵ Kampala Convention, (n-24) Article 3(2)(a and b)

²⁶ OCHA, [Ethiopia Humanitarian Bulletin Issue #112, https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/ethiopia-humanitarian-bulletin-issue-11-2-16-august-2021](#), accessed 1 February 2023.

southwest, the Benishangul-Gumuz Region in the North-West and the Somali region in the east have been marked by conflict and displacement.²⁷

In early November 2020, the Regional party of Tigray allegedly attacked the Northern Command of Ethiopia's National Defense Force in Mekelle, Tigray region, prompting a military offensive from the federal government of Ethiopia. Following this, conflict broke out in the North of Ethiopia resulting in significant displacement. After a change of administration in Tigray region at the end of June 2021, the conflict moved further south into Afar and Amhara Regions but began to subside around January 2022. In August 2022, the conflict resumed for a period though remained largely contained in Tigray Region.²⁸

According to UNFPA's report as of October 2022, Ethiopia now has 2.7 million internally displaced people. IDPs in Tigray are not included in this number.²⁹ Above all, The Amhara Region is one of the areas vulnerable to several crises such as drought, flood, locust infestation, and landslides as well as disease epidemics and conflict. Ethnic conflict has increasingly become the main driver of displacement. Due to the recent ethnic conflict within the region, particularly in North Shewa and Oromo Nationality zones, the number of IDPs has increased to 270,000 in North Shewa and 101,922 in Oromo Nationality zones. Similarly and as the result of crises in the Oromia Region (Wellega) and Benishangul-Gumuz Region (Metekel), the number of IDPs is increasing in the West Gojjam zone (175,273).

On the same kind reports of UNFPA's Oromia Region is facing various hazards that include drought, conflict, flooding, desert locust infestation, and COVID-19. As of 30 April, 946,540 people have been internally displaced in the region due to conflict, drought, and flood. According to the East Wellega zone Disaster Risk Management Office (DRM), security in Limmu, Gida Ayana, Haro Limmu, and Sasiga Woredas remains a challenge due to the presence of unidentified armed groups.³⁰

As a result of this many of them are flee from those zones of Wollega to Debire Birhan IDPs camps and they are facing with various violations of rights. Debire Birhan Town in Amhara

²⁷GRID 2019, Global Report on Internal Displacement, <https://www.internal-displacement.org/sites/default/files/publications/documents/2019-IDMC-GRID.pdf>, accessed at 3 February 2023

²⁸ Reuters, Key points in Ethiopia's ceasefire agreement. <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/key-points-ethiopias-ceasefire-agreement-2022-11-04/>, accessed 4 February 2023.

²⁹ UNFPA 2022, United Nations Population Fund, Ethiopian humanitarian response situation report, [UNFPA Ethiopia Humanitarian Response: Situation Report - October 2022](https://www.unfpa.org/ethiopia-humanitarian-response-situation-report-october-2022), accessed 6 February 2023

³⁰ ibid

Regional State currently shelters more than 24000 people displaced from several parts of Oromiya Region due to terrorist attacks of “Shene” Group attacks.³¹

Lack of robust institutional arrangement is a prominent challenge for the protection of IDPs. In the past, an internal displacement affair was responsibility and power given to the Ministry of Peace (MOP) according to Proclamation No. 1197/2018. However, The IDPs concern has been left in a vacuum. “After the Ministry was re-established on the new Proclamation on Powers and Duties of the Executive Organs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia on Proclamation No. 1263/2022 ,the mandate on IDPs lapsed returnees and IDPs projects previously started under the MOP were suspended. In particular, The “Ethiopia Durable Solutions Initiatives” which was kicked off in 2019 by the Ministry and International partners has stopped”. The absence of appropriate domestic legal and policy instruments to manage IDPs in Ethiopia are the other major factor which makes their problems even more difficult.³² Additionally, there is no research regarding the laws and practices governing IDPs particularly in sheltered at Debre Birhan IDPs Camp.

Therefore, this study examines whether the rights of IDPs are being protected and whether the Kampala Convention is being implemented.

1.3. Research Questions.

This study tries to answer the following basic research questions:

1. What are the laws governing the rights of Internal Displaced Person?
2. What are the issues covered under the law? (The content of the laws)
3. How the laws are being applicable to govern the issues of Internal Displaced People?
4. What are the loopholes on those laws and what can be forwarded for the identified gaps?

1.4 Objectives Of the Study

1.4.1 General Objectives

The main objective of this study is to assess the law and practice which governs Internally Displaced Persons which are settled in Amhara Regional State in Debre Birhan IDPs Camps.

³¹ Fana Broadcasting, Office Calls for Increased Humanitarian Assistance for IDPs in Debre Birhan, <https://www.fanabc.com/english/office-calls-for-increased-humanitarian-assistance-for-idps-in-debre-birhan-town/>, 5 August 2022, accessed 6 February 2023

³² Ethiopian Human Right Commission, Institutional vacuum leaves IDPs in disarray, <https://ehrc.org/institutional-vacuum-leaves-idps-in-disarray-the-reporter/29-October> 2022, accessed 7 February 2023

1.4.2. Specific Objectives

This study specifically aims:

1. To identify laws governing the rights of Internally Displaced People.
2. To examine issues covered under the law (the content of the laws).
3. To analyze in what way the laws are being implemented to govern the issues of Internally Displaced People.
4. To assess the gaps on the law and practices; steps should have been taken to effectively protect the rights of internally displaced people in the study area.

1.5 Research Methodology and Data Collection

1.5.1 Research Design

In order to meet objectives of the research, the researcher has employed a qualitative research design to collect qualitative data since the research aims at examining and analyzing the legal arrangements and policy regimes of the country in promoting of the rights IDPs, particularly to evaluate the practical measures taken by Governmental and non-Governmental Organizations as a response to the displaced persons at Debre Birhan IDPs camps. Qualitative case study research design is allowed the researcher to examine investigations about the perceptions, feeling, experience and interest of the group under study in its real-life context.³³

By gathering and analyzing non-numerical data, qualitative research seeks to explore and understand the significance that individuals or groups attach to social or human problems.³⁴ Hence, the research uses qualitative research method to assess practical implementation of the law governing IDPs in normative aspect by the relevant entities and addresses the questions enumerated above.

1.5.2. Population and Sample Technique

For the purposes of this analysis, the study population consists of those who have taken shelter at the Debire Birhan IDPs Camps. As a result, non-probability sampling has been used in the specific purposive sampling study. Due to the deliberate selection of units from the population by this technique, the participants were selected based on their institutional obligations,

³³Sewit Zewdu Dagne, 'Responding To Internal Displacements In Ethiopia: Normative And Institutional Aspects',⁶ <http://etd.aau.edu.et/bitstream/handle/123456789/28518/Sewit%20Zewdu.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=> September, 2021, accessed 8 February 2023.

³⁴ ibid

knowledge of the study and experience with displaced people and people who are close to the matter.

1.5.3 Data Collection.

The study employed both primary and secondary data collection sources to analysis the case of Debire Birhan IDPS Camps. To collect primary data from 32 IDPs, the researcher used field observations and interviews. Among these, I had two FGDs with persons who had been displaced from Wollega and staying at DB IDP Camps.

I had an employed a structured interview with informants that were selected from Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations respectively. Two Directors from Ministry of Peace (MOP), Three Directors from National Disaster and Risk Management Commission (NDRMC), One Expert from Ministry of Labour ,Social and Women Affairs (MOLSWA). One Heads and One Expert from Seimen Shewa zone food Disaster and Risk Management Bureau, One Officer from Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRCO),One Officer from Ethiopian Human Right Council (EHRC) One Officer from Medical Corpuses International (MIC) and One officer from (DEC) Development Expertise Center , One Officer from Ethiopian (United Nations Human Right Council (UNHRC) and One Officer from United Nations Higher Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).

Moreover, the researcher used Primary data mainly focus on documentary sources includes National laws like (Constitution, Proclamations and Regulations), Regional and International Legal frameworks. Secondary Sources such as textbooks, printed and electronic journals, legal encyclopedias, independent reports, Catalogues and many other relevant websites used to discover on contemporary issues of Internal Displacement.

1.5.4 Data Analysis

As doctrinal analysis is the starting point for much legal research and is used to analyze legal instruments,³⁵ examination and interpretation of different legal instruments that are relevant to the research have been made by using doctrinal analysis. Mainly standards set by the UN Guiding Principles and Kampala Convention have been used to scrutinize the normative and

³⁵UWE, Research Methods: Doctrinal Methodology, ASC LLM Support-UWE, <https://uweascllmsupport.wordpress.com/2017/01/18/research-methods-doctrinal-methodology/#%3A~%3Atext%3DD>, accessed 10 February 2023

practical aspect of displaced persons at Debire Birhan IDPs camps. To assess non-legal documents i.e. policy, strategy and data that have been collected through interviews and FDGs, textual and narrative analysis is used since the research's central aim is to identify legal and practical implementation gaps in the protection of the rights of displaced persons at Debire Birhan IDPs camp.

1.6 Significance of the Study

Internal displacement in Ethiopia has accelerated, which has decided to make this study more vital. Hence, This study may have been relevant for those who are interested to conduct research on the area to identify the major gap towards the protection of IDPs. It will help to indicate the Policy and law makers to initiate a new legislation or amend the existing legislation which is familiar with National and International Laws.

1.7 Scope of the Study

The study evaluated, The Law and the Practice, that Govern Internal Displaced Persons; In the Cases of Debire Birhan IDPs Camps in light with International, Regional and National legal Regimes. The primary focus of the research is internal displacement caused by conflict, which is a significant contributing factor to the current escalating rates of displacement in Ethiopia.

1.8 Limitations of the Study

In any research limitation is inevitable; it was challenging to obtain enough primary data from concerned Government Offices due to the sensitive nature of the subject matter and the current political climate of the country.

1.9. Ethical Considerations

The researcher has taken an important ethical consideration into account by which the interviewee, inter alia, informed for the purpose of the study without any form of deception before securing informed consent from the investigator.

1.10. Organization of the Study

Five chapters make up the research, and each chapter is divided into sections and sub sections. The first chapter contains the study's background, problem statement, objective, research questions, research method, data collection, significance, scope, and limitations, as well as an ethical consideration and the study's organizational structure.

Chapter two contains Literature Review, Conceptual Frameworks on Displacement, Internally displaced persons (IDPs) Causes, Impacts of Internal Displacement.

Chapter three examines International, National Legal and Institutional Frameworks regarding the protection of IDPs. It examines the frameworks for the protections of IDPs both at National Global and Level.

Chapter Four, analyzes the data gathered on causes of internal displacement and major violations of Rights of the IDPs from Wollega and sheltered at Debre Birhan IDPs Camps.

Chapter Five of the Research, Based on the discussion on the chapters earlier, It gives conclusions and recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO

2.1. Literature Review and Conceptual Framework for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons.

2.1.1 Literature Review

The topic of IDPs protection of their rights either in worldwide or in Ethiopia has not received much attention, but some writers had wrote an article on the topic. While researching the IDPs and other literature, it is found that the nations be deficient in the institutional development, policy, and legal framework necessary to protection of IDPs. Therefore the scope of this research is confined to identify and explore major loopholes on legislative and institutional frameworks to the internally displaced persons (IDPs) that may become an obstacle for the protection, support, security, and providing lasting solutions. In generally different scholars they were raised various argument regards on IDPs and its systems.

Phil Orchard asserts IDPs are not entitled to the same protections as refugees because they are staying in their own state, in contrast to refugees who are protected by an international refugee regime. The primary duty rests with the territorial state.³⁶

Luke Lee similarly argues that it is preferable to combine the two groups into one and give them a single legal status since the artificial distinction between the two groups generates an unfair difference and inequality of protection between the two groups.³⁷

³⁶ Phil Orchard, Protection Of Internally Displaced Persons: Soft Law As A Norm-Generating Mechanism', Review of International Studies' (2010) British International Studies Association, p.28

Catherine Phuong On the other hand, it was maintained that because refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) are subject to various legal systems, they need to get the same protection and status under the law. This is due to the possibility that doing so could destabilize the current refugee protection system.³⁸

F. M. Deng, the Special Representative on IDPs, on the contrary, contends that the level of protection that would be provided for IDPs should not be based on their legal status but rather should be determined by their needs.³⁹ Of the same kind to this, UNHCR has adopted this strategy and places more emphasis on the unique circumstances of individuals than on a certain group. This is why it has expanded its jurisdiction to include IDPs who are not refugees. Additionally, the ICRC takes a similar stance and offers protection to everyone, whether or not they have been relocated.⁴⁰

Goodwin Gill, Correspondingly claims that the issues of IDPs unlike the refugees who benefit from the international convention (1951 Refugee Convention) and international institution (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees), the IDPs neither have separate international convention nor international institution to address their problems.⁴¹

Mehari Taddele, in his paper “Causes, Dynamics, and Consequences of Internal Displacement in Ethiopia” analyzed the reasons for Ethiopia's displacement, its patterns, and its effects. He urged that the Ethiopian government develop the national competencies necessary to transform the current governance structure into one that will adequately compensate and safeguard internal displacement victims.⁴²

³⁷ Luke. T. Lee, ‘Internally Displaced Persons and Refugees: Toward a Legal Synthesis?’, *Journal of Refugee Studies*, Vol. 9 27-12, at [https://academic.oup.com/jrs/ article/9/1/27/1536272](https://academic.oup.com/jrs/article/9/1/27/1536272) issue 1, 1996 accessed at 10 February 2023

³⁸ Catherine Phuong, ‘The international protection of internal displaced persons’, 24-26 *Cambridge studies in international and comparative law*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, New York, 2004, accessed 12 February (2023)

³⁹ Francis M Deng, ‘Dealing with the Displaced: A Challenge to the International Community’ 45-57 *Global Governance*, (1995)

⁴⁰ Catherine Phuong, (n.38) 26

⁴¹ Goodwin Gill, ‘International Protection and Assistance for Refugees and Displaced: Institutional Challenges and United Nations Reform’, Oxford (2006) 1-3

⁴² Mehari Taddele, (n.18) 6

Wakgari Kebeta in his Article review asserted that Ethiopia lacks a comprehensive policy statement for the prevention, implementation, and identification of internal displacement that is assisted by specific legislation to ensure IDPs' legal protections.⁴³

Enguday Meskele. in her Article observed whether Ethiopia's current National frameworks for protecting internally displaced persons (IDPs) are sufficient or not in resolving the IDPs issue at the national level. It concludes that the existing domestic legal and policy frameworks are inadequate for tackling the special requirements of IDPs.⁴⁴

Tesfaye Tola in his LLM thesis has demonstrated the gaps in the law and the degree to which Ethiopia's Government has complied with its obligation to provide protection and assistance to Oromo refugees from Somalia. In this thesis, the author only made reference to the FDRE Constitution and criminal law to ascertain whether Ethiopia has any laws pertaining to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in general. However, he did not thoroughly analyze the legal issues and gaps pertaining to national laws of Ethiopia.⁴⁵

Hence, the above all literatures points out that there are a legal and institutional gap for the protection of IDPs in Ethiopia. No research found in Ethiopia regarding on The Law and the Practice that Govern Internal Displaced Persons; In the Cases of Debire Birhan IDPs Camps.

According to the literature mentioned above, there is a lack of legal and institutional protection for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Ethiopia.

⁴³ Wakgari Kebeta, 'The Protection of Internally Displaced Persons in Ethiopia: Leave No One Behind' (2019) 9(1) JID 40, 36-50

⁴⁴ Enguday Meskele, 'The Adequacy of Law and Policy Frameworks on Internal Displacement in Ethiopia: A Critical Appraisal. Adeola R. (eds), National Protection of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa Sustainable Development Goals Series'. Springer, Cham, (2021)

⁴⁵ Tesfaye Tola , 'Obligation for the Protections of the Rights of IDPs: In Case of Oromo People displaced from Ethiopian Somali Region'; Thesis, Addis Ababa University, (2019)

2.1.2 The Definitions of Internal Displacement and Internal Displaced Persons.

IDPs' definition has not been included in legally binding agreements that are pertinent to their protection. However, there are many ways to explain the idea of IDPs. As a result, consideration was given to the term's broad definition, which first found its interpretation and significance in General Assembly Resolution 3454 (XXX) of December 9, 1975.⁴⁶

Notwithstanding, the definition also applied to people who left their country due to civil unrest, war, or other reasons and are not considered refugees under the 1951 Refugee Convention but are nonetheless in a comparable situation to refugees – externally displaced persons.⁴⁷

In accordance with the pertinent General Assembly Resolutions, the term "displaced person" was only used to describe the category of "internally displaced persons."⁴⁸

Even though the phrase "internally displaced persons" was mentioned specifically and related to, the concept of IDPs was unclear until 1976.⁴⁹

Nevertheless, in one of its more recent resolutions, the General Assembly reaffirmed the necessity of giving refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) the proper assistance they deserve.⁵⁰

In the UN Commission on Human Rights report from 1992, Secretary General Boutros-Ghali provided a widely accepted working definition of IDPs, stating that they were "Persons who have been forced to flee their homes suddenly or unexpectedly in large numbers, as a result of armed conflict, internal strife, systematic violations of human rights, or natural or man-made disasters, and who are within the territory of their own country."⁵¹

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) also given this definition of internally displaced persons: "The expression IDPs generally refers to persons who, as a result of armed conflict, internal strife, systematic human rights violations, natural or man-made disasters, have

⁴⁶ General Assembly Resolution 3435/30 of 1975, para.3

⁴⁷ General Assembly Resolution 35/41 of 1980

⁴⁸ General Assembly Resolution 2958/28 of 1972 on Assistance to Sudanese Refugees returning from abroad.

⁴⁹ Ivor C. Jackson, 'The Refugee Concept in Group Situations, Series: Refugees and Human Rights', Vol. 3 (Ed. Prof. Anne Bayefsky), (1999) 416-420

⁵⁰ General Assembly Resolution 50/152 of 1995.

⁵¹ Commission on Human Rights, Analytical Report of the Secretary-General on Internally Displaced Persons, United Nations, (February 14, 1992), para. 17

been forced to flee their homes, suddenly or unexpectedly, and in large numbers (mass movements), and who are within the territory of their original country."⁵²

The first international standard document offered to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in April 1998 contained the final definition of IDPs. The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement state that

"Individuals or groups of individuals who have been compelled to flee or leave their homes or places of habitual residence, particularly as a result of or to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights, or natural or man-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border."⁵³

The definition of internally displaced persons, which should be viewed as the broadest descriptive stipulation, is enshrined in the Guiding Principles. It refers to a variety of situations, including armed conflicts generally covered by humanitarian law, armed tensions and disturbances governed by international human rights law, natural and man-made disasters, as well as instances in which state authorities respond to disasters in a way that discriminates against a particular ethnic minority group. The forced movement within the state's borders is one of the main components of the definition of internal displacement provided.

Furthermore, the Kampala Convention defines "internal displacement" at the Regional level as the forced or involuntary migration of individuals inside the national border. According to this Convention, internal displacement might come from either arbitrary displacement, as mentioned on Article 4 of the Convention, or from the obligatory relocation caused by a natural disaster.⁵⁴

2.1 3. Grounds of Internal Displacement

There are a variety of causes for forced displacement in general and internal displacement in particular, as various literary works assert.⁵⁵ However, these "causes of displacement are numerous and sophisticated."⁵⁶ Furthermore, there isn't a common consensus to identify specific

⁵² IOM, (Internally displaced persons), Contribution of the IOM to the 3 February 1993 meeting of the United Nations Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC).

⁵³ United Nations Guiding Principles, para. 2

⁵⁴ Maria Stavropoulou, 'Kampala Convention and Protection from Arbitrary Displacement', (2010) General Article FMR 36,63

⁵⁵ Olivia Kokushubila Lwabukuna, 'Internal displacement in Africa: African solutions to African problems? Challenges and prospects'. Journal of Internal Displacement. (2011) Vol.1, No.1, 131-141.

⁵⁶ Michèle Morel 'The Right not to be Displaced in International Law'. PhD Dissertation. Ghent University. (2013)

categories of causes for internal displacement, despite a notable advancement in the scientific literature in the field.⁵⁷

Various causes of internal displacement have been identified in the area; however, these categories are not reciprocally exclusive and do or sometimes overlap. But the focus of this investigation is targets on Morel,⁵⁸ who in a broad sense classified causes of displacement into five categories. These include "displacement resulting from conflict, development, disaster, displacement associated with systematic violations of human rights, and displacement resulting from other circumstances."⁵⁹

I. Conflict related Causes of internal displacement

"The presence of dynamic conflict among several categories of actors within a static and limited territory is the most fundamental cause of displacement."⁶⁰ "International and/or internal armed conflict, civil war, foreign occupation or intervention, internal strife, communal or generalized violence and violent raids" are just a few of the aspects of conflicts that fall under the category of conflict-related factors.⁶¹ Nonetheless, "civil war has caused more conflict-induced displacement than international war" at the moment.⁶²

Morel stated, "Persons living near violent areas may also be evacuated and relocated to safety zones by government actors."⁶³

People who are forcibly displaced from their usual residences due to conflict-related factors but do not cross international borders are referred to as "conflict induced internally displaced persons."⁶⁴

II. Development related causes Development

Predominantly large scale development projects carried out by states is the other considerable factor which resulted in 'Development Induced internally Displaced Persons'.⁶⁵ According to

⁵⁷ Robert Muggah 'Through the Development list's Looking Glass: Conflict-Induced Displacement and Involuntary Resettlement in Colombia'. *Journal of Refugee Studies* (2000) Vol. 13. No. 2, 133-163

⁵⁸ Morel, (n.56)

⁵⁹ *ibid*

⁶⁰ Bogumil Terminski 'Development-Induced Displacement And Resettlement: Social Problem And Human Rights'; ISSUE Research Paper No. 9/2013, Geneva, (May 2013)

⁶¹ Morel, (n.56)

⁶² Sarah K. Lischer 'Causes and Consequences of Conflict-Induced Displacement. Civil Wars', Wake Forest University (2009) Vol.9, No.2,142–155

⁶³ Morel, (n.56)

⁶⁴ Heidrun Bohnet, Fabien Cottier & Simon Hug 'Conflict-induced IDPs and the spread of conflict'. Paper prepared for presentation at the European Political Science Association (EPSA) in Barcelona, June 20-22, (2013).

Nuhu “Development Induced Displacement is the compulsory displacement or removal of persons from their homes that occurs for development reasons, to give way to or facilitate Government projects”.⁶⁶ Moreover as Morel, discussed:

*Development-related displacement encompasses all instances of forced movement resulting from policies and projects implemented in the name of development. People may be forced to move to make way for development and infrastructure projects, such as large dams, ports, railways, highways, airports, irrigation canals, large-scale industrial or energy projects, mining industries and other extractive industries, and housing projects. Similarly, displacement may be caused by land-acquisition measures linked to urban renewal or redevelopment, slum upgrades, city beautification, housing renovation and agricultural programmes. Development-induced displacement may also be carried out for environmental purposes, for example in the context of climate change adaptation and mitigation projects, environmental conservation projects, and deforestation.*⁶⁷

iii. Natural and Man-Made Disasters

Disasters, which include both natural and man-made disasters as well as changes in the environment, are classified as the third cause of internal displacement. particularly calamities caused by climate change, such as floods, famines, and other natural disasters.⁶⁸

"The largest-scale internal displacement globally is currently caused by disasters."⁶⁹ Natural disasters include landslides, hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, tsunamis, and droughts (and the famine that follows)." This is according to Morel. Changes in the environment are also regarded as disasters that result in displaced people.⁷⁰

"Forced resettlement or displacement linked to slow-onset environmental changes is another important cause of involuntary internal mobility." People's internal displacement is a result of

⁶⁵ Terminski, (n. 60).

⁶⁶ Safiya Ahmad Nuhu. ‘Development Induced Displacement in the African context: What says the African Union Convention?’ *Journal of Internal Displacement*, (2012) Vol.2, No.1, 8

⁶⁷ Morel, (n.56)

⁶⁸ Lwabukuna,(n.55) 136

⁶⁹ Terminski, (n.60) 12

⁷⁰ Morel, (n.56) 11

environmental problems such as global warming, desertification, land degradation, rising sea levels, and increasing temperatures in the region due to poor environmental management.⁷¹

Changes in the environment are also regarded as disasters that result in displaced people.⁷²

“Forced resettlement or relocation caused by gradual environmental changes is another important factor contributing to involuntary internal movement.” Environmental problems that are contributing to people's internal displacement include environmental change and mismanagement, which includes desertification, land degradation, rising local temperatures, global warming, and the potential for sea level rise in the future.⁷³

Iv. Systematic Human Right Violation

The other main reason for forced migration is systematic violations of human rights, which can be done by both state and non-state actors.⁷⁴

She strongly alleged that, contrary to the assertion that displacement is not a matter of human rights, there is a conceptual space where issues of human rights and displacement overlap; for example, “human rights violations [are considered] as causes of displacement and displacement as a human rights violation.”⁷⁵ In a nutshell, these are forced migrations for unjust or wrongful reasons, which may be considered war crimes or crimes against humanity under many International treaties, such as the Fourth Geneva Convention and the Statute of the International Criminal Court.⁷⁶

v. Other Cause of Internal Displacement

As long as the underlying causes of internal displacement are numerous and complex, it is impossible to restrict them to the above list of particular, related categories.⁷⁷

Other scenarios and Governmental initiatives may also be direct or indirect causes of displacement. Land, real estate, and property disputes; unrestrained land speculation; forces

⁷¹ *ibid*

⁷² Terminski, (n.60) 12

⁷³ *ibid*

⁷⁴ Maria Stavropoulou, ‘Displacement and Human Rights: Reflections on UN Practice’: Human Rights Quarterly, Vol. 20, No. 3, August (1998), 516

⁷⁵ Stavropoulou, (n.74)

⁷⁶ Geneva Convention IV 1949, Art. 49 and Art.147; Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (1998), Art.7.1, Art.7.2, d and Art.8 (2) (e) (viii)

⁷⁷ Morel, (n.56) 11

of the property and housing markets; government actions to eliminate or reduce housing subsidies for low-income groups; lack of state assistance to the impoverished during periods of worsening economic conditions and, more broadly, poor socioeconomic governance; unauthorized tenancy of a landlord's property; unjustifiable damage by a tenant to private property; enforcement of environmental and spatial planning laws; and immigration laws are a few of these.

CHAPTER THREE

3.1 INTERNATIONAL LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS OF IDPS.

3.1.1 INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK.

It is clear that a state's obligations under international law should be taken into consideration by national laws, which are an essential part of the basic legal framework for protection actions involving internally displaced people. In addition to domestic legislation, working within domestic legal systems necessitates knowledge of the rights of internally displaced persons and the duties that states have under international law. A legally binding agreement outlining the full scope of IDPs' protection is currently being drafted because, as of now, they do not have a special legal protection that is applicable to them exclusively on a global scale.⁷⁸

International Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law comprise the international legal framework for the protection of internally displaced persons (IDPs). Before the GP was drafted, no particular legal framework had been created with IDPs and their rights in mind. Thus, international human rights and humanitarian laws serve as the main sources of protection and support for internally displaced people.⁷⁹ Therefore, it is limited to the following human rights regimes for the purposes of this thesis.

3.1.1.1 International Human Rights Law

The freedoms and rights that every person should be able to enjoy are known as human rights. Everyone is entitled to these rights. To put it another way, everyone is entitled to these fundamental rights just by virtue of being human. The 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the first human rights document adopted by the UN, contains these rights as part of its fundamental human rights instrument. It lays out essential civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights that everyone, without exception, is entitled to. Even though it isn't a legally binding document by itself, many of its tenets are common law or are included in treaties, giving them legal force. The ICCPR and ICESCR are legally binding dual agreements that come into force alongside the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. They are based on and incorporate the principles of the Universal Declaration of

⁷⁸ Magdalena Silska, 'Protection of Internally Displaced Persons: An International Legal Obligation?', volume 14, Polish Yearbook of International Law(2014) 255

⁷⁹ *ibid*

Human Rights. The so-called "International Bill of Rights" is composed of these texts. A number of supplementary instruments have been enacted to enhance the safeguarding of human rights. Human rights protection has also been strengthened by a number of Regional Human Rights Instruments. In particular, issues like racism and torture, as well as particular groups like women, children, and refugees, people with disabilities, and migrant workers, who face particular obstacles to the full and equal exercise of their rights. Furthermore, there is no specific internal relationship between any of these instruments.⁸⁰

3.1.1. 2. International Humanitarian Law

Under international Humanitarian Law (IHL), internally displaced people are safeguarded during armed conflicts. The forced return of individuals is prohibited by International Humanitarian Law, with the exception of situations in which it is required for military operations or to protect civilians, in order to prevent and combat internal displacement. It is considered a crime against humanity to forcefully relocate civilians.⁸¹

Unless they are directly engaged in hostilities, civilians are protected by international humanitarian law both before and during evacuation.⁸² Discrimination and forced relocation on this account are forbidden.⁸³ Among the many rights that internally displaced people are entitled to are the rights to life, dignity, and liberty as well as the provision of humanitarian assistance.⁸⁴ Hence, in order to adopt and incorporate these protections into their own domestic legal systems, states must put them into place.⁸⁵

3.1.1. 3 United Nations Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement.

"The first international standards specifically tailored to the needs of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)"⁸⁶ The Guiding Principles has "covered the wide variety of needs of IDPs prior to

⁸⁰ John B. and M. Smith and R. Otto, 'Support to Internally Displaced Persons – Learning from Evaluations'. Published by SIDA (2005)

⁸¹ Rome Statute Of International Criminal Court (2002), Article 8(2)(e, viii)

⁸² Additional Protocol relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflict (GC AP II) Art. 51(3)

⁸³ Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (GC IV) Art. 49 and 147

⁸⁴ Geneva Convention IV, Art. 3, 27, 32 and AP II Art. 4 and 17

⁸⁵ Customary International Humanitarian Law (CIHL) Rules 129 Available at [Customary IHL - Rule 129. The Act of Displacement \(icrc.org\)](https://www.icrc.org/customary-ihl-rule-129) accessed 18 April 2023

⁸⁶ Lwabukuna,(n.55) 125

displacement (or protection against arbitrary displacement), during displacement and during return or resettlement and reintegration," the Guiding Principles are by definition a restatement of already-existing internal laws, international human rights law, internal humanitarian law and other laws.⁸⁷

A key component of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement is the primary accountability of national authorities.⁸⁸ They thoroughly outline the rights of internally displaced persons and the corresponding responsibilities of Governments toward them. The Guiding Principles, which outlined obligations of Governments toward IDPs and their rights.⁸⁹ According to the Guiding Principles, all people who fit the definition of internally displaced persons (IDPs) should benefit from states' fulfillment of this national duty.⁹⁰

According to the framework of the Guiding Principles, a national law should cover all phases of displacement, from prevention to protection and assistance during displacement to rehabilitation in terms of return, resettlement, and reintegration, with a special emphasis on the needs of specific groups of IDPs, such as women, children, the elderly, and members of ethnic minorities.⁹¹

It also declares that internally displaced people (IDPs) have the same rights as any other citizen of their nation and are not subject to discrimination as a result of their relocation. Furthermore, it proposes additional actions to ensure that general regulations are implemented in a way that considers the unique needs of internally displaced people.

Along with identifying the pertinent rights and guarantees, the Guiding Principles also address a number of specific needs and protection risks that are common in situations involving internal displacement, such as loss of property, family separation, loss of documentation, and freedom of movement within and between camps. The Principles cover an extensive array of rights, encompassing economic, social, cultural, and civil and political rights. It covers issues related to civil and political protection (such as the right to privacy and political participation), other requirements for economic, social, and cultural protection (such as access to

⁸⁷ Roberta Cohen 'Lessons Learned from the Development of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement'. Working paper. The Crisis Migration Project. Institute for the Study of International Migration, (2013) 2

⁸⁸ United Nations Guiding Principles 3 and 25 (n.53)

⁸⁹ Brooking Institution Addressing Internally Displacement : A frame work for National Responsibility ,University of Bern, April (2008) ,7

⁹⁰ *ibid*, 9

⁹¹ United Nations Guiding Principles 5-9 (n.53)

education, property restitution or compensation), and other rights. It also covers requirements for physical security and integrity (such as the right to life, protection from torture and rape), and fundamental human rights (such as the right to food, water, shelter, health, and sanitation). Widely acknowledged as the normative framework on national IDPs protection laws, regulations, and practices based the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement.

The Guiding Principles encompass a wide range of topics related to internal displacement including preventing arbitrary displacement, providing protection and assistance during displacement, finding sustainable solutions that encourage safe and dignified return, alternative resettlement, reintegration and self-sustaining development.⁹²

The Guiding Principles reaffirm the fundamental freedoms and rights of those who have been forcibly displaced within the borders of their own countries and explicitly state that competent national authorities are in charge of ensuring the protection of these rights and assisting in the facilitation of long-term solutions for those who have been internally displaced. Erin D. Mooney argues that the term "competent authorities" can be explained by the broad scope of the Principles, which are intended to guide not only states but also insurgent forces and all other authorities, groups and individuals in their relations with internally displaced persons.⁹³

The Guiding Principles', It is a soft law, not binding law like state treaty laws. However, it is formulated based on the existing hard or binding International Laws.⁹⁴

3.1.1.4. African Convention on Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons (Kampala Convention).

Several regional organizations, such as the Council of Europe and the Organization of American States (OAS), have pushed their members to draft domestic laws and internal displacement plans that comply with international standards. Nonetheless, Africa developed the first Regional instruments that could be relied upon to protect IDPs. The African Union

⁹² Lwabukuna,(n.55) 125

⁹³ Erin, D. Mooney 'Principles of Protection for Internally Displaced Persons', International Migration ,December (2002) Vol.38 ,86

⁹⁴ Rafiqul, M. Islam, 'The Sudanese Darfur Crisis and Internally Displaced Persons in International Law: The Least Protection for the Most Vulnerable 'International Law of Refugee Law, Oxford University Press June ,(2006) Vol. 18, 54-385

approved the region's first legally binding framework guaranteeing the safety of internally displaced persons.⁹⁵

According to some reports, the treaty significantly improves the legal protections available to internally displaced people. Every facet of displacement is covered by the comprehensive legal agreement known as the convention, including long-term solutions, protection, assistance, and prevention. It also includes all other causes of internal displacement, including construction projects, armed conflicts, widespread violence, violations of human rights, and natural or man-made disasters.⁹⁶

The Convention offers member states excellent chances to create domestic frameworks for preventing displacement and providing comprehensive responses when it occurs. A number of AU states have not yet signed the Convention, despite the growing number of internally displaced people and the continuous difficulties in providing them with long-term solutions.⁹⁷

3. 1.1.5 Great Lakes Protocol on the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Person

The Convention established new standards and procedures, which are detailed in the Pact and its instruments, to safeguard individuals who have been forcibly relocated across the countries in the Great Lakes region. It improves and expands upon the existing National and Regional structures. This legally binding declaration is the first of its kind, asking member states to domesticate and use the GPs as a regional tool to safeguard and assist internally displaced people in the Great Lakes Region⁹⁸

The Convention also highlights the measures that must be taken to protect pastoralists, the host community, and both, as well as the necessity of creating a regional protection framework for internally displaced people in the area.⁹⁹

⁹⁵ African Union, African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention), (2009)

⁹⁶ *ibid*

⁹⁷ The National Responsibility To Protect Internally Displaced People: The Kampala Convention, workshop report of 8 - 10 December 2014 held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

⁹⁸ Great Lakes Protocol on the Protection and Assistance to IDPs, adopted in 2006 (entered into force in 2008) Article 6(1 and 3)

⁹⁹ Great Lake Protocols Article 4(1)

The Protocol aims to guarantee the application of the minimal standards outlined in the GPs and gives them legal enforceability by recognizing them as national legislation.¹⁰⁰

The Great Lakes Protocol gives the Guiding Principles as a legal foundation in the Region by promoting the adoption of national policies that guarantee the minimum level of protection for internally displaced people as stipulated by the Principles¹⁰¹

3.1.2 INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR IDPS

No single entity has been granted legal authority to provide worldwide protection for internally displaced persons.¹⁰² Multiple humanitarian agencies are involved in many areas where extensive humanitarian operations are required.¹⁰³

Established under the auspices of coordinating the UN system's humanitarian response, the Emergency Relief Coordinator aims to facilitate these efforts, composed of the six key actors of UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF, FAO, WHO and UNDP.¹⁰⁴ For the purposes of this thesis I was observed some of them.

3.1.3.1 United Nations Higher Commission for Refugees

The United Nations Higher Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) involvement in protecting and assisting internally displaced people (IDPs) dates back to the early 1970s, long before the UN implemented new humanitarian reforms like collaborative and cluster approaches.¹⁰⁵

Institutionally, the UNHCR prioritizes refugees over IDPS; however, due to its extensive mandate on displacement, the organization has been actively supporting IDPS since its founding in Sudan in 1972.¹⁰⁶ As international aid organizations work to protect and assist IDPs, it now plays a crucial coordination role in these efforts.¹⁰⁷

¹⁰⁰ Kebeta (n.43)

¹⁰¹ ibid

¹⁰² Surafel Fikru, 'Internal Displacement and State Responsibility under International Law: A Look in to Ethiopia's Case', Thesis AAU,(2021)

¹⁰³ ibid

¹⁰⁴ ibid

¹⁰⁵ Laura, Muriithi 'Protection of Civilians in Protracted Conflicts: A Case of IDPs in Somalia'. International Peace Support Training Centre. Occasional paper, series 4, No.6.(2013)

¹⁰⁶ Fikru (n.102)

¹⁰⁷ ibid

Internally displaced Persons (IDPs) and refugees share many similarities, including the causes and consequences of their displacement as well as their humanitarian needs, which underpin the UNHCR's comprehensive role.¹⁰⁸ For example, it would be both impractical and unethical for the UNHCR to provide separate assistance to refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) in a scenario where both groups are present at the same time; doing so could make the situation more dangerous for the IDPs.¹⁰⁹

The legal basis for the UNHCR's operational role in relation to IDPs is constantly changing. As stated in Article 9 of the UNHCR Statute, the UNHCR may carry out such activities as the General Assembly may determine, within the confines of the resources made available to it.¹¹⁰

Furthermore, subsequent resolutions passed by the UN General Assembly have endorsed the UNHCR's increased provision of assistance to internally displaced individuals.¹¹¹ In UN General Assembly resolution 48/116 (1993), the UNHCR's role was expanded to include IDPs, subject to certain requirements being fulfilled and protocols being observed.¹¹²

UNHCR plays a vital role in helping countries that are facing displacement by supporting refugees who are returning home and by strengthening its position advocating for internally displaced people.¹¹³

3.2.3.2 International Committee for Red Cross.

Among the other intergovernmental and nongovernmental international humanitarian organizations that offer IDPs some measure of protection and assistance, the ICRC is at the front position. Since the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) "humanitarian response is guided by vulnerability and the needs of all people affected by armed conflict and violence," conflict-induced IDPs are logically at the center of the organization's humanitarian response.¹¹⁴

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) was founded to relieve instability and harm to people affected by armed conflict and other violent situations.¹¹⁵ Its operational

¹⁰⁸ *ibid*

¹⁰⁹ *ibid*

¹¹⁰ *ibid*

¹¹¹ *ibid*

¹¹² *ibid*

¹¹³ *ibid*

¹¹⁴ Jakob Kellenberger, "The ICRC's Response to Internal Displacement: Strengths, Challenges and Constraints". International Review of the Red Cross, (2009) Vol. 91, No. 875.

¹¹⁵ *ibid*

responsibility is to assist victims of armed conflict and other violent situations in order to accomplish this.¹¹⁶

It is also responsible for creating and promoting humanitarian and international humanitarian law.¹¹⁷

As a result, the ICRC has an institutional duty to directly protect and support CIDP, as one of its responsibilities is to protect and support individuals impacted by armed conflict and other violent circumstances..¹¹⁸

Consequently, the main objective of ICRC missions is CIDPs.¹¹⁹ By providing thorough services to the people living in high-risk areas and urging all parties to respect their International Humanitarian Law (IHL) obligations, the ICRC seeks to prevent additional displacement in conflict zones.¹²⁰

For IDPs living in camps, the ICRC offers emergency relief in dire circumstances. For instance, the ICRC played a significant role in the Darfur camps of Abu Shok and Kassab's establishment in 2004.¹²¹

3.2 NATIONAL LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS OF IDPS

3.2 .1 National Legal Frameworks on Internal Displaced Persons.

3.2.1.1 FDRE Constitution

The highest law in the nation is the FDRE Constitution. All international agreements that Ethiopia has ratified become a part of Ethiopian law, as stated in Article 9(4). It preserves the ideals of inclusivity and equality. All principles pertaining to equality and non-discrimination embraced in the ICCPR, ICERSC, and other international human rights instruments are also of effect under Ethiopian law because article 13(2) stipulates that all

¹¹⁶ *ibid*

¹¹⁷ *ibid*

¹¹⁸ *ibid*

¹¹⁹ *ibid*

¹²⁰ *ibid*

¹²¹ *ibid*

fundamental rights and freedoms included in the Constitution shall comply with and reflect the principles that are laid out in the UDHR and the core international human rights instruments.¹²²

The constitution contains the principles of equality and non-discrimination, which, if put into practice, might potentially solve this potential issue. The inclusion of Articles 14, 15, and 16 to the right to life, personal security, and protection against bodily harm under the FDRE constitution is of paramount importance with regard to the protection of life and personal security of IDPs, as they run the risk of becoming victims of conflict, which exposes them to violence and threats to life, security, and safety issues like sexual and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and inhuman or degrading treatment.

Additionally, the Constitution's Article 18 prohibits the use of cruel punishment or treatment, which includes forced labor, slavery, servitude, human trafficking, and harsh, inhumane, or humiliating treatment.

The FDRE Constitution's Article 32 recognizes the right to freedom of movement. Everyone in the country is therefore free to choose where they want to live and to travel abroad and back again. This essay is extremely important for IDPs. The Government is also obligated to protect, defend, and advance this right. Furthermore, Article 44 of the Constitution states that everyone who has been uprooted or had their way of life negatively impacted by government initiatives is entitled to compensation in the form of money or other alternatives, including relocation with sufficient government support.

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

The Kampala Convention was signed by the Ethiopian Government in 2009, and in February 13, 2020, the House of People Representative proclaimed it as African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of IDPs in Africa Ratification Proclamation No. 1187/2020.

The Kampala Convention challenges the responsibilities and duties of National and International entities concerning the prevention of internal displacement, safeguarding, and offering sustainable solutions for internally displaced persons.¹²³

¹²² FDRE Constitution, Art. 13(2)

¹²³ Kampala Convention , Article(3,4,5,9,10,11,12,13)

States are required to "avoid arbitrary displacement, protect IDPs' fundamental human rights during displacement, and find durable solutions" in this regard.¹²⁴ States bear responsibility of averting arbitrary displacement by abiding by their obligations under international law and by avoiding circumstances that could lead to it.¹²⁵

Concerning displacement resulting from natural disasters, the Convention requires States to establish a "Disaster preparedness and disaster management" mechanism as well as an "Early Warning System."¹²⁶

The Kampala Convention it has stipulates states parties undertake to respect and ensure the accountability of non-States actors including multinational companies and private military companies for the acts of arbitrary displacement.¹²⁷

Although the Convention requires states to create a legal framework for the provision of compensation and reparation for IDPs when damage is sustained as a result of displacement, as well as the duty to make reparations for IDPs when a natural disaster results in induced displacement because the state failed to protect and assist the affected population.¹²⁸,

Specifically in relation to the aforementioned point, Article 12(2) of the Convention, the Government of Ethiopia expresses its reservation. When expropriation procedures cause displacement, compensation is owed. Article 89 of the Constitution outlines the state's obligation to provide assistance and ensure rehabilitation in cases of displacement resulting from both natural and man-made causes.¹²⁹ The Ethiopian Government recognizes its obligation under Article 12(3) of the Convention to ensure the accountability of the perpetrators and the resumption of assistance to the victims in the event that the act or omission of individuals or entities acting in violation of the law prevents assistance from being provided to displaced persons.¹³⁰ The Government also entered a declaration on the meaning of internal displacement, which would be considered in the context of Article 1(K) of the Convention, In addition to the aforementioned reservations.¹³¹

¹²⁴ *ibid*, (3,4,5,9 , 10 and 11)

¹²⁵ *ibid*,4(1)

¹²⁶ *ibid* ,4(2)

¹²⁷ *ibid* 3(1(h)

¹²⁸ *ibid* , 12(2 and 3)

¹²⁹ African Union Convention (Kampala Convention) for the protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa Ratification Proclamation No.1187/2020, Article 3(1, a)

¹³⁰ *ibid*, 3(1,b)

¹³¹ *ibid* ,Article 3(2,a)

Due in part to the Government's reservations on the practice, certainly there is no compensation has been made to persons who are displaced due to a natural disaster or a CID are prohibited from receiving compensation and reparations for losses suffered as a result of the displacement.¹³²

The Ministry of Peace is tasked with working with other pertinent bodies to carry out and monitor the Kampala Convention according to Article 3 of the Ratification of the Proclamation, nevertheless on the ground the power scattered to diverse Governmental organs.¹³³

The protection of IDPs rights across the nation is based on such legal recognition has regarded as a significant move for the nation, which has been working hard to address the enormous demand for internal displacement. The Convention also specified clearly the responsibilities that national Governments must fulfill throughout the entire stages displacement process. Due to this the Ethiopian Government has a responsibility to carry out these commitments as a state party to the Convention.¹³⁴

3.2.1.3 FDRE Criminal Code

The FDRE Criminal Code was enacted with the intention of promoting public welfare by safeguarding the security, tranquility, and order of the state's citizens.¹³⁵

It seeks to discourage crime by upholding the legal penalties for violation of the law and, in the event that those fail to do so, permitting the punishment of offenders to act as a deterrent to other offenders or, if required, permitting their rehabilitation and steps to prevent them from committing criminal acts.¹³⁶

The criminal law is relevant as far as IDPs concerned because it criminalizes actions that result in arbitrary displacement ,Among acts of arbitrary displacement specifically deportation, forcible transfer of population, killing, torture, inhuman treatment, starvation ,intimidation, or terror, collective punishment, bodily harm, or injury to mental and physical health during time of war , armed conflict or occupation is punishable as war crime pursuant to Article 270 of Ethiopian

¹³² Interview held with Mengistu Abera, Ministry of Peace, Legal Department Directorate, Addis Ababa Ethiopia, conducted on 14/08/2023.

¹³³ *ibid*

¹³⁴ *ibid*

¹³⁵ FDRE Criminal Code No.414/2004, Art.1

¹³⁶ *ibid*

Criminal Code. Moreover ,Crimes involving person and health¹³⁷Crimes involving public safety¹³⁸Crimes involving life.¹³⁹

Nevertheless, Our Criminal Code does not specifically mentioned non-armed conflict as a sources of criminal responsibility for conflict induced displacement.

3.3.1.4 National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management

A most significant national policy that has been in effect since 1993 is the National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Risk Management. The policy primary aim at mitigate the risks of disasters and the potential damage they may cause by implementing a comprehensive and coordinated disaster risk management system within the framework of sustainable development.

The policy's definition of a disaster applies to IDPs even though it does not mention them specifically. The "early warning system," which allows all interested parties to effectively plan and respond to reduce the likelihood of harm one of the important innovations that this strategy brought about is the ability to prevent an injury ahead of time, or to prevent it altogether in cases where it can be done so. The policy statement described the components of the early warning system, which include elements for local capacity building, risk awareness, monitoring, analysis, and hazard forecasting.¹⁴⁰

To prevent displacement and mitigate the adverse the effects of risk in general and displacement in particular, it is of the extreme significance. The plan also emphasizes the importance of using an early warning or disaster assessment information system to react.¹⁴¹

An early warning system for disaster pre-assessment data must be incorporated into the document's response. The coordinated response at all levels and with all stakeholders is necessary to counteract the effects of disasters and hazards. Property protection and life-saving assistance mechanisms are also included in the institution designated as a lead institution, based on their areas of expertise. Women, children, the elderly, and those with disabilities are among the vulnerable groups that receive extra care.¹⁴²

¹³⁷ ibid (553 -560)

¹³⁸ ibid (494-504)

¹³⁹ ibid (538-552)

¹⁴⁰ Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Management, 2013

¹⁴¹ ibid

¹⁴² Interview held with Taye Getachew, National Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Commission , Early Warning Directorate Director, Addis Ababa Ethiopia. Conducted on 8/08/2023

The policy acknowledges that the most vulnerable groups to the effects of hazards and related disasters are women, children, the elderly, people with disabilities, and people living with HIV/AIDS. Based on the aforementioned objective, the policy responses to internal displacement in Ethiopia have, up to this point, primarily focused on life-saving humanitarian action.¹⁴³

The policy additionally stated that any long-term solution must be based on the informed choice and free will of the displaced people. It also placed emphasis on integration and resettlement programs. Additionally, the plan encourages IDPs to participate in the creation and management of durable solutions. The needs of the host communities are also taken into consideration by the programs.¹⁴⁴

3.2 1.5. Ethiopia Durable Solutions Initiatives

The 2019 Ethiopian Durable Solutions Initiatives (DSI) signifies yet another vital policy component. The policy was developed with involvement from UN, NGOs and the Ethiopian Government organizations. It provides a properly sound operational framework and platform for developing and implementing long-term solutions for Ethiopian IDPs and host communities.¹⁴⁵ Correspondingly, it offers a chance to actors at the national and international levels to collaborate and act as a group.¹⁴⁶

Many concepts approved by the UNGP and the Kampala Convention are included in this document. The first is support for the long-lasting solution as described in the Convention. The strategies deemed to be long-lasting are resettlement, local integration, and sustainable return.¹⁴⁷

It also explained how the informed decision-making and free will of those displaced must be the cornerstones of any long-term solution.¹⁴⁸

It encourages IDP participation in long-term solution development and management. Third, it says that enabling IDPs to be independent should be the main goal of the long-term solution. Not to add, the programs consider the requirements of the host communities. Since DSI can be applied to sustainable solutions regardless of the location of displacement, recognition of DSI is crucial. Regardless of the reason for their displacement—armed conflict, pervasive violations of human rights, development-related displacement, or natural or man-made disaster—it is

¹⁴³ Interview with Alegne Sew Kassa, National Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Commission, Legal Directorate Director, Addis Ababa Ethiopia, Conducted on 8/08/2023

¹⁴⁴ *ibid*

¹⁴⁵ Ethiopian Durable Solution Initiatives,(2019)

¹⁴⁶ Meskele (n.44)

¹⁴⁷ DSI (n.145)

¹⁴⁸ *ibid*

effective for all internally displaced people. A long-term solution for IDPs is being promoted and supported by this initiative on five different levels: institutional, planning, policy, legislative, and operational.¹⁴⁹ Early in 2019, following the launch of its National Strategy on Internal Displacement, the Ethiopian Government requested support from the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) to develop a solutions-focused internal displacement strategy. An expert in durable solutions was employed by the RCO to provide high-level advice to the RC/HC and UN Country Team. Furthermore, in order to provide technical support for designing the DSI with all partners while adhering to International best practices, the RCO employed a dedicated coordinator for durable solutions.¹⁵⁰

3.2 .2 National Institutional Framework on Internally Displaced Persons

3.2.2.1 The Role of Ministry of Peace

Ministry of Peace is among the recently established executive organs of the government by having a broad and influential mandate within the nation.¹⁵¹ In this spirit, it has a plenty of powers and duties including: working in cooperation with concerned governmental, cultural as well as religious organizations to ensure the maintenance of public order, mutual respect among followers of different religions and beliefs as well as nation nationalities and peoples; developing strategies, and undertaking awareness creation and sensitization activities to ensure the peace, security and freedom of the country and its people, to which IDPs are not exceptions; in collaboration with the relevant Regional Organs, facilitating the provision of proper protection of citizens, including IDPs living in any part of the country;¹⁵² as well as identifying factors which serve as causes of conflict (including causes of displacement), among communities and submitting a study proposing recommendations to keep communities away from conflicts and instability execution of functions relating to Federal police;¹⁵³

Most importantly, the Ministry has given the power to oversee and follow-up national intelligence and security, as well as information network; supervise and follow up the proper lead and follow up citizenship, national identification card and vital events registration or issuance functions; make appropriate preparations for natural and man-made disasters, in which internal displacement is one of the results of such disasters, lead and follow up national disaster

¹⁴⁹ *ibid*

¹⁵⁰ *ibid*

¹⁵¹ Definition of Powers and Duties of the Executive Organ, Proclamation No.1097/2019 Art. 9 and 13

¹⁵² *ibid*, 13 (1-3)

¹⁵³ *ibid*, 13 (j)

risk management; facilitate the resolution of disputes, including border disputes which is serving as the basic cause of internal displacement, arising between regional states;¹⁵⁴ Up on the request of the Regional States, devise and implement sustainable solutions to disputes and conflicts that may arise within Regional States; as well as provide assistance to those Regional States particularly in need of special support, including to those having a substantial number of IDPs.¹⁵⁵ In addition to these broad powers and functions, the Ministry of Peace has empowered to undertake those powers and duties which were vested up on Ministry of Federal and Pastoralist Development Affairs under the provisions of other laws which are currently in force .¹⁵⁶The Ministry has the mandate to participate in pre-emptive protection mechanisms and prevent any form of internal displacement by giving training and raising the awareness of the public regarding the positive and negative aspects of displacement as well as the rights and duties of every individual within the nation; by protecting everyone from any form of arbitrary displacement; and by creating sense of equality among the citizens of the nation and protecting them from any form of discrimination. ¹⁵⁷Moreover, it participates in ex-post protection strategies through protecting IDPs by creating safe areas through employing Federal police at the place where they refugee; by registering, issuing as well as replacing national identification cards as well as registering or issuing vital events such as birth, death and marriage of IDPs; by leading and following up the provision of basic humanitarian necessities to IDPs through the NDRMC; as well as by facilitating the resolution of any form of disputes that are the basic causes of displacement for creating safe and informed return as well as reintegration of IDPs to the place of their origin.¹⁵⁸

As a result, Ministry of Peace is the core institution within the nation regarding protection of the rights and freedoms of IDPs with a broad mission of bringing peace and stability across the nation by collaborating the Regional and Federal Governments as well as other concerned bodies to play a pivotal role in the peace building of the nation. ¹⁵⁹Regard on the legal framework, In comparison to Proclamation No. 691/2010, which defines the Powers and Duties of the Executive Organs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Proclamation No. 1097/2019

¹⁵⁴ *ibid*, 13 (p)

¹⁵⁵ *ibid*,13 (s)

¹⁵⁶ *ibid*,13 (2)

¹⁵⁷ Abera,(n.132)

¹⁵⁸ *ibid*

¹⁵⁹ *ibid*

commence a distinctive mechanism which has pertinent for the protections of Internal displacement in general, internal displaced persons in particular. There is no such clear clause concerning to IDPs protection under the latter legislation. As compare as with Articles 14 of Proclamation No. 691/2010 and Article 13 of Proclamation No. 1097/2019, the latest one gave a paramount power to MOP pursuant to Article 13(m) the Ministry has a power to make appropriate preparations for natural and manmade disasters the matters of internal displacement is part and parcel of this function. In accordance with the Power and Duties of Executive Organ Proclamation No. 1097/2020 Article 13(h) assigns the Ministry of Peace has the following Power and responsibilities. Determine the root causes of conflicts within local communities through research; present a study with recommendations to prevent conflicts and instability in communities; and, if approved, put those recommendations into practice.

Moreover Determine the causes of conflicts between communities; present a study with recommendations to prevent conflicts and instability in communities; and if approved, put the recommendations into practice; 13(g) Ever since Prepare appropriately for both man-made and natural disasters; oversee and manage the nation's disaster risk management program; 13 (m). Pursuing the Ministry's reestablishment in accordance with Proclamation No. 1263/2022, which updated the list of powers and responsibilities for the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia's Executive Organs. The protection of internal displacement and internally displaced persons is not covered by any article. The new Proclamation 1263/2023 does not describe the key powers that were granted to MOP under Proclamation 1097/2020. Only Article 41(1)h attempts in some way to address issues related to causes of conflict by identifying causes of conflicts among local communities through research; submitting a study that makes recommendations to prevent conflicts and instability in communities and putting those recommendations into action after they are approved; ¹⁶⁰The GOE and the UN jointly launched the Durable Solutions Initiative (DSI) in Ethiopia in December 2019. DSI was launched in the presence of high-level participation of GOE authorities, UN Organs , NGOs, and the donor

¹⁶⁰ Abera,(n.132) and EHRC's Opinion Piece on the Gaps Observed Regarding Institutional Structure and Coordination Mechanisms on the Protection Of Internally Displaced Persons and Proposed Recommendations. May 2022, <https://amharic.voanews.com/a/ethiopia-idps-report/6779203.html>, accessed at 8 October 2023

community. But the “DSI” has kicked off in 2019 by the Ministry and International partners have stopped. As a result, IDPs projects previously started under the MOP were suspended.¹⁶¹

3.2.2.2 The Role of National Disaster Risk Management Commission

The FDRE Constitution imposes a Government to take necessary measures to avert any disaster, natural or man-made, and in the event of disaster, to provide timely assistance to the victims.¹⁶²

To discharge this function, efficient and effective organizational structure and mechanism with experienced, knowledgeable; and skillful human power is vital for effective disaster risk management system.¹⁶³

In this regard, it has established the National Disaster Risk Management Commission as an autonomous Federal Government office and defines its functions and powers. It shall be the main Federal organ for disaster prevention and response coordination¹⁶⁴ with the objective of conducting appropriate activities for the comprehensive implementation and realization of the objectives of the National Disaster Risk Management Policy and Strategy (the policy) as well as coordinating, monitoring, and providing appropriate support with respect to activities carried out by lead actor institution.¹⁶⁵

Therefore, NDRMC is empowered with a plenty of powers and duties¹⁶⁶ including; ensuring that the disaster risk management (including displacement risk management) is mainstreamed in to Government development policies and strategies, in the plans of the private sectors and in school curricula and provide necessary support to the concerned bodies on this regard; ensuring and following-up the inclusion of disaster risk management in the plans of the executive organs that are identified as lead sector institutions in the policy;¹⁶⁷ coordinate, follow up and evaluate

¹⁶¹ *ibid*

¹⁶² The FDRE Constitution, Article 89 (3)

¹⁶³ National Policy and Strategy on Disaster Management(n.141) 12

¹⁶⁴ NDRMC Establishment Regulation, 363 /2015 Article 3

¹⁶⁵ *ibid*,4

¹⁶⁶ *ibid*, Article 6 (1-18)

¹⁶⁷ Lead sector institutions shall be assigned for every hazard at Federal, Regional, Zonal, Woreda as well as at Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa City Administration levels and they will be responsible for undertaking activities ranging from monitoring to response. Accordingly, Ministry of:- Agriculture; Environment and Forestry; Health; Water; Irrigation and Energy; Federal Affairs; Transport; Mines; National Defense; Urban Development; Housing and Construction; Education; Region, Zone, Woreda, Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa City Administration are institutions which are identified as lead institutions under the policy. They are mandated to discharge the assigned hazards and related disasters they are responsible institutions.

disaster risk reduction, disaster response and rehabilitation programs of disaster victims, in which IDPs are among them; coordinate, hold and administer disaster response fund, relief food and non-food stocks; as well as distribute the emergency relief food supplies from strategic food reserve in times when necessary.¹⁶⁸

Moreover, the NDRMC is empowered to lead and coordinate the development and revision of disaster risk profile, including the profile of IDPs, at the national level` in collaboration with concerned bodies; based on this profile develop and implement a comprehensive contingency plans at all levels; lead and coordinate studies and assessments conducted at national level before, during and after the disaster period (for instance displacement period) including disaster risk forecasts, lead and coordinate the Federal Early Warning and Emergency Coordination Center and support the establishment of similar lead sector institutions at Federal, Regional, Zonal and Woreda administration level, as required;¹⁶⁹

Generally, the Commission undertakes and coordinates all types of studies and assessments that are conducted at national level in different stages of displacement. Because of such functions, despite the roles of other institutions within the nation, the Commission plays a pivotal role in the protection of IDPs in all phases of displacement. Moreover, Pursuant to Article 79 (17) of the Definition of Powers and Duties of the Executive Organ, Proclamation No.1263/2020, currently the commission shall be accountable to Prime Minister¹⁷⁰

3.2.2.3 Ethiopian Human Rights Commission

The Ethiopian Human Rights Commission is constitutionally established organ¹⁷¹, with the objective of creating public awareness regarding human rights, including the rights of IDPs, so that human rights are protected, respected, and fully enforced, and appropriate measures are taken to address their violations.¹⁷²

The Commission is entrusted with several roles which include: safeguarding the human rights and freedoms as defined in the Constitution; confirming that the government's laws, orders, and decisions don't infringe on the constitutional human rights of the citizens;¹⁷³ notify the public in various ways to instill the tradition of respecting human rights and demanding their

¹⁶⁸ NDRMC Establishment Regulation,363/2015 Art 6 (7)

¹⁶⁹ *ibid*,6 (11)

¹⁷⁰ Interview with Alegne Sew Kassa (n.143)

¹⁷¹ The FDRE Constitution, Article 55 (14)

¹⁷² The Ethiopian Human Rights Commission Establishment Proclamation 210/2000, Article 5

¹⁷³ *ibid*, Article 6 (1-2)

enforcement once they have a substantial understanding of these rights; also, conducting investigations when these rights are violated.¹⁷⁴ Likewise, the Commission has been given the authority to suggest changes to current laws, to propose new legislation and policies, including those related to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs),¹⁷⁵ and to translate international human rights laws - including those relevant to IDPs - to the local language of Ethiopia, which is a signatory nation. They are also involved in distributing this information and providing advisory services on human rights issues, including those concerning IDPs.¹⁷⁶

The Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) is identified as addressing the challenges faced by IDPs, recognizing it as a critical human rights issue. To this effect, based on its amended proclamation 1224/2020 EHRC has set up a specific Directorate to attend to the rights of Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons, and Migrants. Presently, it has taken a leading role in giving voice to human rights abuses and ensuring the protection of IDPs.¹⁷⁷

2 3.2.4 Other Institutions

Key Governmental bodies that significantly contribute to safeguarding and aiding internally displaced persons (IDPs) encompass the judiciary; police Commission, the National Information and Intelligence Service, the House of Representatives, and the National Dialogue and Reconciliation Commission. An assessment of these organizations shows that none has been explicitly allocated the role of preventing displacement or ensuring the safety of IDPs. Although the responsibility of implementing and overseeing the Convention is given to the Mop, what this entails is not well defined. Furthermore, there is a lack in coordination among these institutions, and no procedures are in place to hold them accountable for their obligations.

¹⁷⁴ *ibid*, Article 6 (3-4)

¹⁷⁵ *ibid*, Article 6 (5)

¹⁷⁶ *ibid*, Article 6 (6 and 8)

¹⁷⁷ Interview held with Selamawit Seifu, Ethiopian Human Rights Commission, Legal Officer on Refugees, Internal Displaced Persons and Migrants, Addis Ababa Ethiopia, conducted on 07/11/2023

CHAPTER FOUR

Internal Displacement And Violations Of Rights ,Idisplaced Persons From Wollega And Sheltered At Debre Birhan Idps Camps

4,1 General Overview of Internal Displaced Persons on Ethiopia

Ethiopia recorded the third highest number of new displacements worldwide, with 3,191,000 IDPs.¹⁷⁸ Conflict and inter-communal violence caused almost 2.9 million new displacements in 2018, four times the figure for 2017.¹⁷⁹

Conflict has been identified as the primary cause of displacement affecting 66% of IDP population.¹⁸⁰ The long-standing conflicts are the results of ethnic drives, competition for scarce resources such as land, water and inadequate social facilities and poor governance.¹⁸¹ According to Mehari the three major causes of CID in Ethiopia are ethnic identity and federalism, religious conflicts and weak implementation of the constitutional protection of minority rights.¹⁸²

In the beginning of October, 2018 Ethnic Violence also broke out between Oromos, Amharas and Gumuz in Benishangul Gumuz, following the killing of three local police officers.¹⁸³ Around 62,000 new displacements were recorded between October and November.

Recent figures reveal that, during the first half of 2018, the ten worst-affected countries hosted a total of 5.2 million new internal displacements associated with conflict and violence.¹⁸⁴ Aftermath of political change in the country on April 2018, communal violence and armed

¹⁷⁸ IOM: Ethiopia National Displacement Report 2 Round 19: September — October 2019. accessed 12 September 2023.

¹⁷⁹ *ibid*

¹⁸⁰ *ibid*

¹⁸¹ SIDA, Ethiopia Humanitarian Crisis Analysis (2019), accessed 12 September 2023.

¹⁸² Taddele,(n.18)

¹⁸³ OHCA, 'Humanitarian Bulletin, Ethiopia', 29 October- 11 November 2018. accessed 12 September 2023.

¹⁸⁴ IDMC, 'East Africa Worst Hit by Internal Displacement in First Half of 2018', 12 September 2018 Available at: www.internal-displacement.org/media-centres/east-africa-worst-hit-by-internal-displacement-in-first-half-of-2018. accessed 12 September ,2023.

conflict remain a critical concern across Ethiopia including Somali, Benishangul Gumuz, Oromia, Amhara and Tigray Regions.¹⁸⁵

In 2021, conflict was the major driver of internal displacement in Ethiopia, uprooting more than 5.1 million people – 80% of the total number of IDPs.¹⁸⁶ The Tigray war at the end of 2020 represented a return to full-scale war in northern Ethiopia. Tension between the federal Government and the Tigray People’s Liberation Front (TPLF) over the postponement of the 2020 elections, the future of the Federal system, and policy changes made to the security apparatus and the economy led to the Tigray conflict, which escalated into full-scale war in November 2020. With the expansion of the conflict into Afar and Amhara regional states in 2021 and 2022, more than 2.5 million were displaced within their regions or neighboring Regional states and some became refugees in Sudan.¹⁸⁷ In 2021, According to IDMC, there were 5.1 million new IDPs, making Ethiopia the country with the highest number of IDPs in Africa, followed by DR Congo with 2.7 million IDPs¹⁸⁸

Based on UN sources, with the continuation of fighting on 24 August 2022 in northern Ethiopia, more than 300,000 people were displaced within the first month.¹⁸⁹ Furthermore, Eritrean refugees residing in camps located in the Tigray Region According to reports from the IOM through its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), over 4.38 million people were internally displaced in Ethiopia, more than half of whom were displaced due to a conflict were forced to move to a temporary sheltering at Alemwach, Amhara Region.¹⁹⁰

¹⁸⁵OCHA, Humanitarian Needs Overview 2021 (February 2021) Available at: <<https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/ethiopia-2021-humanitarian-needs-overview-hno.pdf>> accessed 08 September ,2023.

¹⁸⁶ IDMC. All-Time High Of Nearly 60 Million People Internally Displaced Worldwide. Press Release. Geneva. (19 May 2022) accessed 08 September, 2023

¹⁸⁷IDMC, Global internal displacement in 2022 (GRID 2022): Children and youth in internal displacement. (2022). accessed 08 September, 2023

¹⁸⁸ ibid

¹⁸⁹ Anyadike, O. (ed) (2022). Is there a path to peace in the Tigray conflict? - ‘There’s no confidence on either side that the other can be trusted.’ The New Humanitarian. Nairobi. (28 September,2022) accessed on 12 September, 2023

¹⁹⁰ UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Ethiopia Country Report, Quarterly Fact Sheet (April to June 2022).(2022) accessed 12 September 2023

Amharas are the only ethnic group currently residing in Debre Birhan IDPs Camps . The main causes of their displacement emanates from conflict induced displacement, According to my respondent. Nearly all of them are internally displaced persons from Wellega. Numerous IDPs encounter several challenges in their previously living area, These factors are driving force for many Amhara descendants to sheltered at Debre Birhan. The researcher noted during the FGD and interview that there are no other displaced persons from other ethnicities in Debre Birhan IDPs camps. As a result I had only found Amharas as Respondents. Moreover, The Researcher has declares no competing interests.

4.2 Causes of Displacement From Wollega

Internal displacement is a persistent issue in Ethiopia. There are primarily three main reasons why displacement caused by conflict occurs. Religion-related disputes, identity and federalism, and the inadequate application of the constitution's protection of minority rights. Ethnic violence, border-based disputes, competition for land and resources, armed attacks, and conflicts are the main causes of conflict-induced displacement.¹⁹¹

Ethiopia's current situation is typified by conflicts resulting from territorial border disputes between Somale and Oromo in 2017, land and resource disputes between Gedio and Guji in 2018, and ethnic-based attacks by armed groups in the West and East Wellega Zones of the Oromia region beginning in 2018. A portion of the conflict in those areas was settled peacefully between rebel groups and the Government. However, other conflicts continue, with armed groups in Oromia's West and East Wellega Zones escalating their attacks on people based solely on their race.¹⁹²

Nearly all of the informants claimed that their political inclination and ethnic background which had been influenced by local insurgents and political elites within the Government administration are the main reasons behind their displacement. The people in charge of the area's power are avaricious and will stop at nothing to increase their influence both politically and economically.

¹⁹¹ Interview with Getachew, (n.143)

¹⁹² Interview with Yitbarek Tesfaye MOP, Heads of Conflict Studies and Analysis Desk. Conducted on 13/8/2023 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

They thus attacked the “Amhara” ethnic group because they believed that they were impeding their attempts to gain power.¹⁹³

Many ethnic groups have been living in the Wollega Region for a long time now, coming from different regions of Ethiopia. Nevertheless, attacks and forced relocation against the “Amhara” ethnic group occurred suddenly. The following two interviews indicate as a clear justification for this statement:

Due to our ethnicity, we were compelled to flee. Our houses were set on fire, and our lives were stolen. Despite this, we coexisted peacefully with the local and indigenous communities. Despite the fact that some people have a deep dislike for us. They mistakenly portray us as greedy settlers on our fertile territory. They firmly believe that the source of their animosity is our vast population and the wealth we have accumulated in the Region.¹⁹⁴

Another informant described the displacement in the following way: We have been living in the Wollega Region since the 1970 famine and the Government-sponsored resettlement program that followed. We basically have similar religious beliefs and many customs, and we even speak Oromifa, which is their native tongue. But recently, for reasons that are unclear, some people started to hate us, acting hostilely and sometimes insulting us with words that minimized who we are. Once they started working with dishonest military officials in the area, their attitude changed. These are the principal causes for our displacement.¹⁹⁵

According to the interviewee, Due to our ethnicity, we were compelled to flee. Our houses were set on fire, and our properties were stolen. Despite this, we coexisted peacefully with the local communities. Even though the fact that some people have a deep dislike for us. They mistakenly portray us as avaricious settlers on their fertile land and they are always reminding us we are the settler on the area.¹⁹⁶

The following is quoted from the FGD with elders and youth: Due in large part to the hardships incurred by the extreme drought, the “Amhara” community centered in Eastern Wollega

¹⁹³ FGD held with seven Displaced Elder women from Wollega currently residing in Dibire Birhan Wonishet Camp, held on 17/8/2023 and FGD held with Ten Displaced young women from Wollega currently residing in Debire Birhan China IDPs Camp. Conducted on 18/8/2023

¹⁹⁴ Interview with Zemizem Hussen Displaced woman from Wollega currently residing in Debre Birhan 08 Camp, conducted on 16/8/2023

¹⁹⁵ Interview with Melkam Fantaye Displaced woman from Wollega currently residing in Dibire Birhan wonishet Camp, conducted on 16/8/2023

¹⁹⁶ Interview with three Displaced Persons from Wollega currently residing in Dibire Birhan 08 IDPs Camp, conducted on 16/08/2023

is widely acknowledged for their exceptional work ethic. Our migration in 1977 from our original home of Seimen Wello to a place we considered our refuge was primarily motivated by this. The majority of our community members obtained land and constructed their homes on it. Some local communities on Wollega felt jealous as a result of this. They had a system that they could get rid of us and take our properties, and they were right. According to reports we have received, they have divided up the buildings and land that we had to give up. They believe that the Amhara people are taking over their lands because they believe that despite the “Amhara” population growing in Wollega, they still control a large portion of the country's economic wealth.¹⁹⁷

According to the Legal Analyst, on our finding there are various types of internally displaced persons in Ethiopia, but those who are displaced due to inter communal conflict including on the ground of displacement, fall into the most extreme category in terms of the severity of the causes of displacement. Conflict between ethnic groups. He claims that ethnic decentralization is a major factor in the cause of displacement because it protects Nation Nationalities People rights without also providing minority protection. It will therefore become inevitable to drive out minorities from areas where one group occupies the majority of the space. In the country, there are currently a large number of displaced people as a result of this persistent security issue. The situations involving the Debire Birhan IDPs camps are a part of this issue.¹⁹⁸

4.3 VIOLATIONS OF DISPLACED PERSONS RIGHT SHELTERED AT DEBIRE BIRHAN IDPS CAMP.

4.3.1 Protection of the Right being Free from Arbitrarily Displacement.

Under this Convention, internally displaced persons have the right to protection from arbitrary expulsion from their homeland or habitual residence. The prohibition on arbitrary displacement includes displacement based on apartheid policies, ethnic cleansing, or similar practices aimed at or resulting in a change in the ethnic, religious or racial composition of the affected population.¹⁹⁹

¹⁹⁷ FGD held with elders and youth Displaced from Wollega currently residing in Debre Birhan Wonishet and 08 IDPs Camps. Conducted on 17/17/2023

¹⁹⁸ Interview with Azariyas Solomon, Ethiopian Human Rights Council, Legal Analyst, Conducted on 20/10/2023 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

¹⁹⁹ UN Guiding principles on Internal displacement, Article 6(1)(2)(a)

The Kampala Convention generally stipulates the obligation of states to protect internally displaced persons from arbitrary displacement, in particular displacement due to racial discrimination or other similar practices aimed at or resulting from changes in ethnic, religious, or racial composition.²⁰⁰

Every human being has the inherent right to life, which shall be protected by law. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his or her life. Internally displaced persons shall be protected, in particular against genocide, murder and slavery.²⁰¹

Many of the people who were compelled to evacuate the Wollega endured terrible physical abuse at the hands of the “Shene” and other instigators. The majority of focus group participants (FGD) were merely forced out of their homes that day; they were not aware of the circumstances. Most of the Focus Group Discussion participants mentioned that these things happened quickly over a few days. According to the individuals, their rapid displacement was caused by discrimination against them because they are Amhara ethnic. Due to the vicious actions of the "Shene" Group, many people tragically lost family members on that fateful day. Numerous suffered from physical disabilities, were left severely injured, or were murdered. Meanwhile, the spouses of the victims of "Shene" sexual assaults were made to watch. Some of the women forced to give birth in unspeakable conditions on that terrible day were even forced.²⁰²

According to one of the discussants on elders female FGD, One of their victims told how the "Shene" group and their assailants ruthlessly murdered her father because they were descended from the Amhara people. Even though my father was very old and ignorant of politics or anything else, they severely beat him up before killing him. He served as a priest in our community's local church. They entered our home one night with their faces covered, leaving us to see only their eyes. They were inquiring about his origins and other related matters. Subsequently, they removed him from the house and brought him to an unidentified location. I found out three days later that my father had been brutally murdered after being beaten.

²⁰⁰ The Kampala Convention, Article 4(4)(a)

²⁰¹ UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, Article 10(a) (b)

²⁰² FGD held with ten of Displaced youths from Wollega currently residing in Debre Birhan China IDPs Camp, held on 16/17/2023

When I requested his body for his funeral after that, they informed me that they had fed some vultures.²⁰³

Another story According to one of the discussants on young female FGD, One day, while returning from school, a group from Shene came to our house and inquired about the number of people living there. I was one of the discussants on the young female FGD. They returned to our home the following day and took our belongings, cash, and other items. Later, they began abusing my family members before killing my father, mother, brother, and sisters in the village over from where my uncle lives. His family members were murdered. I was the only member of my family to survive because I fled after all those incidents.²⁰⁴

According to one of my interviewees, My spouse served in the Special Forces. We had five children . Even though he was a member of the Special Police Force, they killed him because of his Amhara ethnicity. one day when he was returning home to see his families. Similarly, my two cousins were killed by the rebel group "Shenes" while we were traveling to find shelter after being uprooted from our village.²⁰⁵

According to Early Warning Directorate Director due to disputes over the identities of persons who may be the source of internal displacement in Ethiopia today, the Federal and Oromia Regional State Governments have failed to protect the rights of internally displaced Wollega residents who were housed at Debre Birhan Camps both during and after their displacement to prevent physical harm and loss of life.²⁰⁶

Another interview with key informants reveals that Internally displaced people must not be subjected to any form of arbitrary relocation. In addition, the Ethiopian Government is required by Kampala Convention Articles 3(1), (g), and (h) to safeguard non-state actors' accountability and personal responsibilities in relation to their participation in or execution of arbitrary deportation acts that violate local or International Criminal Law. The Ethiopian Criminal Code does not consider inciting ethnic conflict or arbitrary displacement to be a crime unless it is associated with a war crime. As a result, it is more challenging to

²⁰³ FGD held with seven of Displaced Elders women (Particularly with Asede Abera) Wollega currently residing in Debre Birhan Wonishet Camp, held on 18/08/2023

²⁰⁴ FGD held with seven of Displaced Young Female (Particularly with Mekiya Worku) from Wollega currently residing in Debre Birhan Wonishet Camp, held on 18/08/2023

²⁰⁵ Interview held with Hawa Indris, Displaced from Wollega area currently residing in Debre Birhan China IDPs Camp, conducted on 16/08 /2023

²⁰⁶ Getachew, (n.143)

prosecute offenders and give victims robust legal remedies. As a result, many people are being forced to leave their homes, and violence keeps breaking out all over Ethiopia. In a similar manner, during camp observations at Debre Birhan IDPs camps, our institution witnessed directly how serious the problem was. Because of this, the government has disregarded its duty to ensure that no one is forcibly removed from their homes or other places of regular residence.

State parties have an obligation under the Kampala convention to prevent arbitrary displacements resulting from conflicts, widespread violence or human rights violations. In this context, the convention has established two key obligations. The first step in preventing displacement is for state parties to name an authority or body to be in charge of carrying out policies and plans. Secondly, it is mandatory for state parties to create early warning systems in areas where there is a possibility of displacement. Regarding the cases of those who were displaced from Wellega and living at Debre Birhan IDPs Camps. Therefore the Government failed of its responsibility to safeguard internally displaced persons from arbitrary displacement.²⁰⁷

4.3.2 The Right of the Internal Displaced to Humanitarian Assistance

Pursuant to Article 5 of the Kampala Convention, States Parties have the primary obligation and responsibility to protect, without discrimination of any kind, all humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons within their territory, and the UNGP accordingly provides: State authorities are those within their jurisdiction who have the primary duty and responsibility to provide protection and humanitarian support to internally displaced persons. In connection with point;

The 1995 FDRE constitution requires the Government to take precautions against all natural and man-made disasters and, in the event of a disaster, to promptly assist the victims.²⁰⁸ This provision obliges the Ethiopian government to provide humanitarian assistance to those who are internal displaced Persons and sheltered at Debre Birhan Camps.

²⁰⁷ Interview with Misker Getahun, United Nation Human Rights Council, Legal Officer, Conducted on 27/10/2023, Addis Abeba Ethiopia.

²⁰⁸ The FDRE Constitution, Article 89(3).

According to data from interviews The majority of those interviewed made it clear that they are having difficulties with the problem of food security. Each displaced citizen receives one liter of oil and fifteen kilograms of flour from the Government every month.²⁰⁹

However, the majority of respondents continue to believe that the Government's food assistance program's nutritional quality is inadequate and problematic. The fact that many people exchange their food aid for cash to pay for other necessities only serves to worsen this problem.

We received rations of 10 kg of flour and 1 liter of oil each month from a number of NGOs. Onion, salt, and charcoal are necessary for cooking, but we also need these other ingredients to prepare meals. For this reason, we frequently rely on assistance from different NGOs. We don't cook enough food to satisfy the needs of our member families, even with these efforts.²¹⁰

I was a dedicated farmer and businessman, and our area had one of the top trading routes on the West part of the Country. I was displaced and came to this camp two years ago. I was engaged in multiple trading transactions. I was able to support myself by exporting fruits, coffee and sesame. I had been earning money to support my family by participating in such activities. But all of these efforts came to an end after the displacement, leaving us with nothing. Currently I'm always expecting a support from the Government and Non-Governmental Organizations to maintain my families here in Debire Birhan.²¹¹

Economic challenges are a main concern in relation to the previously mentioned issues. Almost all of the informants discussed a variety of topics pertaining to the financial difficulties resulting from the displacement. One of the key informants focusing on Internally Displaced People from Siemen Shewa, Debire Birhan City designated the financial challenges faced by displaced individuals in all of Debire Birhan's IDPs camps. While recognizing that he shares the concerns of the internally displaced persons and he indicates about the challenges brought forth by them and said that different steps are being taken to address their problems.²¹²

²⁰⁹ Interview held with Rukiya Ahmed, Displaced from Wollega area currently residing in Dibire Birhan 08 IDPs Camp, and conducted on 16/8/2023.

²¹⁰ Interview held with, Seid Ibrahim Displaced from Wollega currently residing in Dibire Birhan 08 IDPs Camp, Conducted on 16/8/2023.

²¹¹ Interview held with, Ibrahim Hussein Displaced from Wollega currently residing in Dibire Birhan 08 IDPs Camp, conducted on 16/8/2023.

²¹² Interview with Bizuayehu Setegn, Social worker and Community Mobilizer Officer at Development for Expertise, conducted on 20/8/2023 Seimen Shewa, Debre Birhan.

By the same token, the expert demonstrated in his own words that while the government should provide support each month, the humanitarian aid provided to internally displaced people has been rationed for a set amount of time. He asserts that this has led to a severe food shortage in the Debre Birhan settlement's camps.²¹³

The key informant, who is a Director at NDRM, confirmed that food security aid is provided in accordance with international standards. The food ration in the study DB's IDP Camps is often criticized for both its quantity and quality, although it is set in compliance with global standards for the treatment of internally displaced persons. Forcible displacement has resulted in millions of Ethiopians suffering, and it is the Government's duty to provide for them even though the food may not be adequate for those residing in the camps.²¹⁴

The other precarious challenge is the conflict between the necessity to meet humanitarian needs and the delicate nature of sovereignty. As a result, some organizations develop their own agenda. Restrictions have been placed by the Ethiopian Government on the ways that foreign aid organizations can protect and support internally displaced people in the DB Camps.²¹⁵

The Regional Public Health Institute reported more than 18,000 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in children under five and more than 4,000 cases of malnutrition in pregnant and lactating women (PLW) among internally displaced people (IDPs) in six zones, according to the most recent updates available on World Vision. More food assistance is required to close the response gap. In Debre Birhan, North Shewa Zone, Amhara, over 26,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) from Western Oromia are housed in overcrowded IDP camps. These camps are overcrowded because there are insufficient resources for rehabilitation and there is a lack of land or rental support. To overcome those challenges on the IDP camps at Debre Birhan, multi-sector responses and regularly filled food baskets are essential.²¹⁶

Our Directorate first collects basic data from the Regional State, where the IDPs reside in order to address their needs and then we dispatch some groups to validate the numbers and the

²¹³ Interview held with Anonymous Expert, at Seimen Shewa Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Office, Conducted on 18/8/2020 Seimen Shewa, Debre Birhan.

²¹⁴ Interview held with Tewodros Demmise Directorate Director of Logistics and Operation Management at National Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Commission. Conducted on 19/9/2023, Addis Abeba Ethiopia.

²¹⁵ Interview held with Abebaw Mellese, Heads Office of the Food Security and Disaster Prevention of North Shewa Administrative Zone. Conducted on 21/08/ 2023

²¹⁶ Northern Ethiopia Crisis Response: Situation Report (2023): [NECR Sitrep May 2023.\(wvi.org\)](https://www.wvi.org/), accessed 12 October, 2023.

assistance they require. On this mechanism, we are severing those IDPs at Debire Birhan camps. In fact, our evaluations are unstructured and solely focus on camps. However, some IDPs do not live in camps; instead, they are living with near families in the city of Debre Birhan. In keeping with this, one of the challenges we encountered that , lack of a centralized system for gather documents and vital event services. Moreover, lack of coordination between the Ministries and the Task Force members, Regional Disaster Risk Management Office, NGOs is the other major practical difficulties we are facing currently. This has an impact on the funding allotted for humanitarian relief to the IDPs in Debire Birhan. It is undeniable that our nation is among the world poorest. The Government is making every effort to address the humanitarian assistance concerns in each of the DB's IDP camp.²¹⁷

4. 3. 3 The Right to Shelter, Medical Seivice and Sanitations

UNGP clearly states that States Parties have the primary obligation and responsibility to protect, without discrimination of any kind, all humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons within their territory, and the UNGP accordingly provides: State authorities are those within their jurisdiction who have the primary duty and responsibility to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons.²¹⁸

Likewise, Kampala Convention States Parties shall provide adequate humanitarian assistance, including food, water, shelter, medical and other health services, sanitation, education, and all other necessary social services, to the maximum extent possible and with the minimum possible delay. shall be provided to internally displaced persons.²¹⁹ On the same vein, ICESCR clearly denotes States to take steps for the ‘prevention, treatment and control of epidemic, endemic, occupational and other diseases’.²²⁰ Conditions that would guarantee access to all medical services and attention in the event of illness are also being created.²²¹

It is evident that the displaced individuals living in each resettlement site face numerous social service challenges. Specifically pertaining to housing quality, health facilities, and non-food items (NFI). The aforementioned services were used by our organization to carry out its operations. We have been operating under the International system known as CCCM (Camp Coordination and Camp Management). The programming of

²¹⁷ Interview held with Demmise (n.214)

²¹⁸ UN Guiding Principle of Internal Displacement, Article 18(1) and (2).

²¹⁹ The Kampala Convention Article 9 (2,b)

²²⁰ ICESCR, Article. 12 (2).

²²¹ ibid

CCCM places a high priority on engagement, accountability, community participation, and mobilization. While, we are providing IDPs with our services. Our primary goal is to support internally displaced persons at the Debre Birhan camps by constructing plastic houses and giving non-food supplies. However, due to the daily increase in IDPs, we are unable to adequately provide these services for everyone.²²²

As I saw at the China, Wonishet, and 08 Camps, practically every tent made by NGOs and the government was tiny, made of plastic, and had plastic shelters covering the floor. The majority of the informants have expressed concerns about the quality of their homes, as indicated by the informants above. In addition, the informants have expressed concerns regarding various cooking utensils and materials used in the home, in addition to issues with clothing, blankets, and mattresses. The following is quoted from the informants:

I'm being the head of ten families, the three blankets and two pieces of foam we received from the government are not enough for my family. As a result, half of my family members don't use mattresses and instead sleep on the floor. In addition, we don't have the blankets and clothes needed to keep our family warm in the winter. The respondents claimed that their shelters were insufficiently large for their families.²²³

Almost all of the informants stated that there is a significant problem with the services that hospitals provide. In addition to the challenges already mentioned, inadequate social services—specifically, a shortage of good healthcare facilities are another persistent problem. I noticed that a small clinic was constructed by numerous NGOs on the relocation site to provide healthcare to the locals. However, every interviewee asserted that the current healthcare system faces a number of challenges in providing healthcare.

The staff and camp clinic's lack of adequate resources is the other problem. Aside from the FGD, nearly every participant expresses concern about the fact that a large number of them are battling chronic illnesses such as diabetes, nerve damage, and other related health issues. The following was extracted from the focus group discussion. The older women participants stated that, they cannot afford to visit a specialized medical center when they are ill. Numerous problems with the clinic that are found in there camp. There are large numbers of IDPs are

²²² Interview with Setegn (n.212)

²²³ Interview held with, Techalew W/ Amanuel Displaced from Wollega and currently residing in Debre Birhan Woinshet IDPs Camp. Conducted on 20/8/2023.

living here in Woinshet Camp, but there are scarcities of suitable laboratory, medicine or highly qualified professionals such as doctors and health officers. As a result the clinics are unable to provide the necessary services.²²⁴

The Response Officer at the Debre Birhan IDPs camps claims that a large number of them, along with their family members, get sick frequently. Despite the fact that the camp offers free clinic services, there is never adequate care. Due to an imbalance in the supply of medical equipment compared to their number. Numerous displaced persons are challenging with serious health problems. As well, a referral for the required serious treatment has written by the camp clinic. But because of their financial constraints, many of the IDPs are unable to obtain the services.²²⁵

The UNHCR Protection Officer claims that we have three humanitarian clusters specifically the Protection Cluster, the Shelter and NFI Cluster, and the CCCM Cluster (camp coordination and camp management are coordinated by UNHCR). UNHCR and its partners working diligently to address response to IDPs sheltered at Debre Birhan . In Debire Birhan IDPs we are providing emergency shelter support, core relief and access to protection services, including protection desks. We have protection desks designed to give access to information, counseling and direct support, as well as referrals. Even so, there are still a number of challenges related with construction of standardized camps and long-term housing for internally displaced persons. Debre Birhan is a small city where it is not possible to establish permanent shelters or camps causes of lack of land resource. In addition, it needs lengthy process for the approval and acquire land from local Government. In connection to this point, the other problem is that Debre Birhan is currently developing into a financial hub. Its obvious in order to carry out investment, land is a crucial component for investors .Moreover, We cannot construct permanent shelter in two camps (China and Woinshet) those Camps had formerly factories and both camps are located in the city's center. This has also creates an adverse impact on the security concerns for both the host communities and the internally displaced persons. The issues listed above are currently influencing our protection strategies for internally displaced person at the same time.²²⁶

²²⁴ FGD held with, Seven elder Women from Wollega and currently residing in Dibire Birhan Wonishet IDPs Camp. Conducted on 17/8/2023

²²⁵ Interview held with Tsirguta Yirega, GVB Protection Officer at Medical Corpse International, Conducted on 20/8/2023, Seimen Shewa Zone Debire Birhan.

²²⁶ Interview held with Hari Tesfaye Senior Legal Protection Officer at United Nations Higher Commissioner for Refugees .Conducted on 24/10/2023, Seimen Shewa Zone Debire Birhan.

The Director admits that it is challenging to provide appropriate shelter, clothing, basic medical care and sanitary facilities to IDPs. All of these services are provided insufficiently as compared to their number and their problem. Financial limitation and lack of coordination between the Government and NGOs are the key factors for the absence of response for the above mentioned problem at Debre Birhan IDPs Camp²²⁷

The measles outbreak is still having an impact on vulnerable populations in Amhara, according to a recent report from USAID. The GoE Ministry of Health and the UN report that during the week of June 19, at least 460 new cases were reported, bringing the total number of measles cases in the area since January to almost 4,600. IDP populations in Amhara remain highly susceptible to measles infections because of their cramped living conditions. As of June 29, 165 cases of measles had been reported in the Debre Birhan Woreda IDP camps in Amhara, specifically in the Woinshet and China camps, according to the UN. UN workers take part in a measles vaccination campaign in six IDP camps in Debre Birhan from June 24 to June 29 in order to protect vulnerable IDP populations.²²⁸

The measles has been attacking a large number of displaced people in Debre Birhan town's settlement camps. Over 25,000 displaced people are living in the Woinshet and China Camps, where the measles outbreak took place. There are a number of displaced people in those camps whose lives are in danger due to the pandemic. The health service officers are putting a lot of effort into stopping the diseases' spread in order to address this issue.²²⁹

In the same vein, the Government emphasizes the severity of the epidemic, and we are working with the Ministry of Health and various NGOs to address medical needs and offer assistance to individuals at the Debre Birhan IDP camps who have been exposed to cholera and measles.²³⁰

We have been requesting assistance from various NGOs like Plan International, UNHCR, WFP, WHO, UNICEF and ICRC such as clothing, basic medical care, and sanitary services to provide humanitarian response to the IDPs on the basis of cluster method. But one of the main

²²⁷ Demmisse (n.215)

²²⁸ USAID: https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/202307/202328_USG_Northern_Ethiopia_Crisis_Fact_Sheet_4 accessed on October 12, 2023

²²⁹ Melese, (n.215)

²³⁰ Tesfaye (n.192)

difficulties we are facing currently in the Debre Birhan IDPs camp is the lack of systematically gathered and registered information about the backgrounds of IDPs.²³¹

The other precarious challenge is the conflict between the necessity to meet humanitarian needs and the delicate nature of sovereignty. As a result, some organizations develop their own agenda. Restrictions have been placed by the Ethiopian Government on the ways that foreign aid organizations can protect and support internally displaced persons in the Debre Birhan Camp.²³²

4.3.4 The Right to Prevention of Family Separation.

One of the rights violations during and after displacement is family separation. Families separated by evacuation need to be reunited as soon as possible. All appropriate steps should be taken to facilitate the reunification of these families, especially where children are involved. Relevant authorities shall facilitate family interviews and promote and cooperate with the work of humanitarian organizations dealing with family reunification.²³³

A significant number of informants disclosed that they had been separated from their family members and relatives following the incident. Financial limitation is key reason why some family members are leaving their families, according to data from FGD. In order to support their family, Many heads of the household left there families and migrate to another place.

My husband abandoned me in this camp, so I have no idea where he is right now. He left my two children and I in these awful circumstances. Things got harder for us after he left, even though he always showed concern and responsibility for our circumstances before he left.²³⁴

The poor economic conditions in the resettlement camp led to divorce, which is another family-related issue that the people are currently facing. One victim told me the following story about this case:

My spouse and I have been together for ten years; we have three children together, and our marriage has been solid. Our life was difficult because we lost everything during the relocation. I worked very hard to raise our standard of living after we moved to DB, but things might not have gone as well as we had planned. My wife abruptly informed me one day

²³¹ Melese (n.215)

²³² Melese, (n. 215)

²³³ United Nations Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, Article 17 /3/

²³⁴ Interview held with, Lubaba Yesuf from Wollega area and currently residing in Dibire Birhan 08 IDPs Camp conducted on 17/9/2023

that she could no longer handle life in the camp. She then left camp to live with her relatives in Addis Ababa and moved to Saudi Arabia; I haven't heard anything more about her since.²³⁵

Almost all IDPs had severed their ties to their families. Because the majority of the families worries on surviving the psychosocial challenges their children are facing, their strong familial ties and relationships have weakened, leaving the children at the camps vulnerable to trauma and anxiety. Furthermore, in the Debre Birhan IDPs camp, there are a lot of divorce-related problems. To resolve this matter, NGOs including our organization are working attentively with religious fathers and concerned Government bodies²³⁶

4.3.5 The Right to Access Documentation and the Right to Education

UNGP openly recognizes the right of internally displaced children to education; authorities must ensure that these people, especially displaced children, have access to free and compulsory primary education. As soon as circumstances allow, facilities for education and training must be made available to internally displaced people, especially women and adolescents, whether or not they are residing in camps.²³⁷

Furthermore, the Kampala Convention clearly stipulates that state parties must establish and maintain up-to-date registers of all internally displaced persons within their territory or under their effective control. States Parties shall ensure that internally displaced persons are provided with the documents necessary for the enjoyment and exercise of their rights, such as passports, identity cards, civil documents, birth certificates, and marriage certificates.²³⁸

I had a FGD with ten youths who are displaced and they were illustrate the following point; We don't go to school after being displaced because we left all of our documents at the place we were lived. Instead, we all regret not going to school, We don't have an organized document which are mentioned our former background as a result of this we cannot resume our education.²³⁹

Similarly I had an interview with a 20-year-old boy I used to go to school, and I was in the seventh grade when I stopped due to displacement, and I don't have any documents to resume my classes. I tried my best to continue my education, but I didn't get any response from the

²³⁵ Interview held with, Ahmed Arega from Wollega area and currently residing in Dibire Birhan Woinshet IDPs Camp. conducted on 17/9/2023

²³⁶ Setegn, (n.212)

²³⁷ UN Guiding Principles on Internal displacement Article 23(1)(2)and (4)

²³⁸ The Kampala Convention Article 13(1) and (2)

²³⁹ FGD held with, Ten Displaced Youths from Wollega and currently residing in Debre Birhan China IDPs Camp. conducted on 17/9/2023

concerned body, so now I just wander around the camp and wish I could be like those who have learned.²⁴⁰

In fact, some of the internally displaced persons were not able to continue their education either due to being unable to return to Wollega or even because those who had returned to their homes due to financial reasons were not able to bring documentation that was relevant for school and other related services.

UNHCR similarly confirms that internal displaced persons are currently facing with different problems in connection with documentation and vital event service in Debre Birhan camp. In order to cope up this difficulty our offices has working in collaboration with other stake holders on the bases of service referral system and we are trying our best to curb IDPs problem ,Even though we cannot responded to all IDPs the services appropriately , For the reason that the issues needs the intervention of Government as much as possible²⁴¹

During the Focus Group Discussion, they all expressed a desire to return to school. However, in the Debre Birhan IDP camps, they are unable to do so, Due to lack of essential documentation and vital event services. This is a challenge for all displaced individuals, even though there are schools near to China, Wonishet and 08 camps. As a result, they are forced to wandering aimlessly throughout the day. Many of them are also at risk for depression and anxiety.²⁴²

Nearly all of the FGD participants and interviewees constantly prompt the Regional and Federal Governments of Ethiopia to answer their documentation and educational problems, but they never hear back from them.

Likewise, the issues IDPs registration and documentation are play a significant function, It has crucial for budget allocation and to determine the types of assistance that IDPs requires. Even though, Ethiopia's has lack of such structure and It's a main hindrance we come across either at country level or specifically at the cases of Debre Birhan IDPs Camp.²⁴³

Our commission on the yearly report has recommending to the Government that to evaluate the right to access documentation and vital event services for displaced persons. Even though the

²⁴⁰ Interview held with, Mohammed Kassaw Displaced Young Boy from Eastern Wollega and currently residing in Dibire Birhan 08 IDPs Camp. conducted on 16/8/2023

²⁴¹ Tesfaye (n. 226)

²⁴² FGD held with, Ten Displaced Youth from Wollega and currently residing in Debre Birhan China IDPs Camp. conducted on 17/9/2023

²⁴³ Kassa, (n.143)

Government has also failed its complementary obligations for protection the right to get documentation and the right to get education for internally displaced children at the place they are sheltered at Debre Birhan IDPs Camp.²⁴⁴

In connection with Kampala Convention Article 13, States are required to keep a record of all internally displaced persons for protection and assistance purposes. In addition, they must issue or replace any documents that are required for IDPs to exercise their rights, such as passports and personal identification documents like birth and marriage certificates. When it comes to the Debre Birhan cases Persons who are internally displaced are excessively rejecting to access to essential event services. Similarly, denying internally displaced children access to essential event services directly affects their ability to access education. Lack of documentation, physical access restrictions to educational institutions and a lack of political will on the part of the Government to approve the service could all contribute to this renunciation. According to our finding, all of these difficulties are a persistent issue at the Debre Birhan IDPs camp for the past 6 years.²⁴⁵

4.3.6 The Right to Get Psychological Support

The UNGP and the Kampala Convention compel states to respect and ensure international human rights law, and the right to psychological support for internally displaced persons is one of the rights that states must protect.²⁴⁶ The FDRE constitution does not clearly provide for the right of displaced persons to psychological support and protection.

Traumatic life events due to war, disasters, torture and mass violence are known to lead to serious psychological consequences and mental disorders.²⁴⁷ According to the key informants, there are different psychological problems facing the displaced people because of tragic experiences during the displacement and after the displacement.

“I feel shocked if I always think back to that horrible day when we were discussing our current crop production and suddenly the Shene group members entered the compound. They were asked who was the owner of the compound, who was the owner of the house, and whether he had a gun. After he responded that he didn't, they immediately entered the farmland and checked to see if he had hidden it there or not, Right away, they got into a lengthy argument. The 'Shene groups

²⁴⁴ Seifu, (n.177)

²⁴⁵ Solomon ,(n.198)

²⁴⁶ The UN Guiding Principle of Internal Displacement, Article 5 & the Kampala convention, Article 4(1)

²⁴⁷ Mesfin Araya, Post conflict internally displaced persons in Ethiopia : mental distress and quality of life in relation to traumatic life events, coping strategy, social support, and living conditions, Addis Ababa University, January 2007

responded by murdering the farmer's son and daughter in cold blood. Since then, the farmers and his wife have both suffered from mental illness.²⁴⁸

One of the female elders who participated in the FGD told me another story that was similar: The worst experience she had during the relocation caused a woman in our neighborhood to go crazy and develop a mental illness. This occurred as a result of “Shene” sexually assaulting her daughter in front of her mother; ever since that day, the girl has gone insane.²⁴⁹

The other story was told to me by one of the female discussants, who claimed that my cousin had developed a mental illness as a result of the worst night she had endured while being displaced. Shene killed her father in front of her, and from that day on, the young girl has gone crazy and refuses to speak to anyone other than her mother.²⁵⁰

One of the female informants said, Since that incident that happened to us, I've grown to hate everything. The phrase "displaced Amahara people from Wollega Region" it makes me hate myself. However, I also learned that some people were raising money on various accounts in the name of the Wollega Displaced Peoples. In this camp, all of those things make life difficult for us, and the Government's assistance is insufficient. This is too much for me to handle, and I have no idea how I'll feed both my elderly parents and my young child.²⁵¹

One of the interviewees said, "I am a 22-year-old who is displaced from Wollega with my five family members. What happened to me was very heartbreaking. I was pregnant during my displacement. “Shenes” came to our house and looted everything. When we saw our neighbor's family get killed and raped, we hid in the house at a spot they did not expect. The health officer said that they do not understand Amharic and that I should not have told them that I was ready to give birth. When I was ready to give birth, the health officer told me that they couldn't understand Amharic and that I needed to find a translator. After I paid 5,000 Birr for the translation from Amharic to Affan Oromo, the health officer gave birth to my babies, but they didn't survive, which left me physically and psychologically traumatized.²⁵²

²⁴⁸ Interview held with, Aregu Yimer Displaced from Eastern Wollega and currently residing in Debre Birhan Wonishet IDPs Camp. Conducted on 17/8/2023

²⁴⁹ FGD held with, Yeshi Belay from Displaced Eastern Wollega and currently residing in Debre Birhan Wonishet IDPs Camp. Conducted on 15/8/2023.

²⁵⁰ Interview held with, Enaney Gete Displaced from Wollega and currently residing in Debre Birhan China IDPs Camp. Conducted on 17/9/2023

²⁵¹ Interview held with, Rukiya Ahmed Displaced from Wollega and currently residing in Debre Birhan 08 IDPs Camp. Conducted on 17/8/2023

²⁵² Interview held with, Rahimet Shiferaw Displaced from Wollega and currently residing in Debre Birhan China IDPs Camp. Conducted on 17/8 /2023

On a daily basis, we see that a significant portion of the IDPs living in the three camps are in a terrible situation, and some of them are constantly in tears over their lost children and unidentified family members. As a result, some of the displaced people have been exposed to mental illness. And because of their new living circumstances in the camp, many of them are experiencing depression, post-traumatic disorder, low self-esteem, and feelings of hopelessness. Even though their efforts are insufficient compared to the scale of the issue on the ground, numerous NGOs are working to reduce the psychological complications that IDPs face.²⁵³

For those who were displaced from Wollega last year as a result of tragic events during and after the displacement, MOP provided ongoing training and psychological support at DB camps in coordination with other important stakeholders. However, the training was not available to all IDPs at Debre Birhan Camps.²⁵⁴

Trauma, cultural isolation, loss of social identity, and sociocultural uncertainty are all effects of displacement. MOLSA as a result, in partnership with the host community representatives, elders, religious fathers, well-known individuals, concerned Government and NGOs offered a training and awareness program for all stakeholders at Siemen Shewa Zone, including Debre Birhan City, on five core packages namely (Community Based Mental Health Support, Gender Based Violence protection, Child Protection Support, Traumatic Healing and Mental Health Gap for Health Professionals) in collaboration with MOH and EFDA.²⁵⁵

Likewise, EHRC Analysis confirmed IDPs in the Debre Birhan resettlement camps are coping up various with psychological problems. These individuals' traumatic life experiences at the resettlement site and throughout the displacement process have left them with psychological scars like stress, anxiety and Post Traumatic Disorder (PSTD). Living in overcrowded resettlement settings, losing social ties, losing family members and relatives during coercive displacement processes, not having a social support system, lacking basic necessities for the family and losing property during displacement are just a few examples of the living conditions that can seriously damage a person's emotional and mental health. Government and NGOs they

²⁵³ Yirega , (n.225)

²⁵⁴ Tesfaye, (n. 192)

²⁵⁵ Interview with Zekariyas Dessalegn Ministry of Women , Children and Labor Affairs ,Gender Based Violence Prevention and Response Senior Expert, Conducted on 10/09/2023, Addis Abeba , Ethiopia.

are more concerning on humanitarian assistance than psychological support responses this exacerbating the problems of IDPs severely.²⁵⁶

4.3.7 The Right to Get Durable Solutions

The UNGP recognizes that internally displaced persons have the right to durable solutions. It is the primary duty and responsibility of competent authorities to create the necessary conditions and resources so that internally displaced people can return to their homes or other places of habitual residence in safety and with dignity, or they can voluntarily resettle in another area of the nation. These authorities will make an effort to support internally displaced people who have been resettled or returned. Furtherly, Persons who have been internally displaced and either returned to their homes or places of habitual residence, or resettled in another part of the country, are not entitled to discrimination on the basis of their displacement.²⁵⁷

Likewise, The Kampala Convention clearly stipulated National Governments to find durable solutions to IDPs through the creation of suitable conditions for voluntary return, reintegration and resettlement.²⁵⁸ Furthermore, Government should collaborate with IOs, humanitarian actors and CSOs in finding and fulfilling durable solutions to IDPs.²⁵⁹

There is no specific law in Ethiopia that requires states to offer long-term solutions for IDPs. In order to address the issues of IDPs, the Ethiopian government is working to encourage their return, reintegration, and local integration. The Ministry of Peace Muferiate Kamil said ‘the Durable Solution initiations have done for sustainable re-integrations at their place of origin, in areas where they take refuge or in other parts of the country they wish to resettle’ in collaboration with development partners and donors to enhance their engagement in supporting displacement affected communities .²⁶⁰

On the ground, The key informant believes that discussing long-lasting solutions for those who are seeking shelter in the Debre Birhan IDP camps is unlikely due to identity-based conflicts, intercommunal tensions, the current political climate in the Amhara Region between the Federal Government and “Fano” militants, and lack of political commitment throughout political elites exaggerate competing interests by framing dilemmas like being

²⁵⁶ Solomon(n.198)

²⁵⁷ UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement , Article 28(2) and 29(1)

²⁵⁸ Kampala Convention Article 11(1)

²⁵⁹ ibid 11(3)

²⁶⁰ Government of Ethiopia (2019).Durable Solution Initiatives to support IDPs. Retrieved from <https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/nationlaunchesdurable-solutions-initiative-support-idps>. 21 May,2020 accessed October 12 , 2023

oppressed and dominated by others in a way that promotes prejudice and hatred in the nation, which are significant factors aggravating the IDPs generally in the nation and particularly in Debre Birhan.²⁶¹

Ethiopia currently lacks policies or procedures addressing the acceptance of durable solutions for IDPs. Additionally, he pointed out that no long-term follow-up was done regarding the protection and assistance of these displaced people after they had returned home, and that their opinions and decisions had not been taken into account when deciding on the best long-term solution for them.²⁶²

This shows unequivocally that the Amhara Regional State Governments and the Federal Government of Ethiopia did not fully carry out their state obligations under International and Regional law, which specifically deal with protecting IDPs, by passing laws and developing strategies with respect to the right to obtain long-term solutions for the protection and assistance of IDPs. The current situation in Wollega, according to the Early warning Directorate Director, has made it more difficult for the Government to fully realize a long-term solution for IDPs. According to him, the Government's primary responsibilities are to carry out life-saving measures. In addition, massive resources and financial mobilization are needed to facilitate the return of IDPs to their homes and other regions of the nation. The Ethiopian Government currently could not dare to sort out its run as required. Particularly political commitment of elites plays a pivotal role to prevail durable solutions for IDPs at Debre Birhan camps.²⁶³

The Commission uncompromisingly works to support the victims find long-lasting solutions, especially in cases of IDPs residing at Debre Birhan resettlement Camps, where it takes a while for things to settle down and an answer to be developed. Furthermore, it is evident that Durable solution depends on political will and resource mobilization at the relevant levels of Government organs.²⁶⁴

The politics of ethnocentric federalism plays a significant role for massive arbitrary displacement and a challenge for durable solution. Ethiopian Government shall give a due attention for the rights of minority groups in ethnic-majority Regional States. The Federal Government must be revise and enact laws, National Principles and Policies that embrace protecting the rights of the

²⁶¹ Anonymous, (n.213)

²⁶² Ibid.

²⁶³ Getachew,(n.143)

²⁶⁴ Seifu ,(n.177)

all citizens in country. In particular, such matters necessitate a peace dialogue within the community to avoid conflict Induced displacement, like the cases of Debire Birhan. Furthermore, the Federal Government of Ethiopia, the State Governments of Oromiya and the State Governments of Amahara Regional Governments they have to take a serious political commitment to resolve the IDPs who are sheltered at Debire Birhan IDPs Camp.²⁶⁵

In order to address the concerns and find a permanent solution our organization's on annual monitoring and advocacy report recommending the Ethiopian Government to adopt a human rights-based approach nationwide, including the cases of Debire Birhan. National and Local authorities, as well as key actors in the humanitarian and development sectors, must ensure that IDPs have access to all the information they need to make this decision, in addition to allowing them to freely exercise their right to choose a durable solution.²⁶⁶

CHAPTER FIVE

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

5.1 Conclusion

Internal displacement has emerged as one of the greatest human disasters in the world today. Internal displacement is a scenario that calls the attention of the world community after the incidence of the Second World War (WW II). Following one of the first situations of large-scale displacement in Sudan in the early 1970s, the problem of internal displacement began to attract international concern and became a sensitive and increasing concern. Consequently, the term internally displaced person was used for the first time in the 1972 UN General Assembly Resolution concerning refugees and displaced persons in Sudan.

The issue of internal displacement has become a more pressing social, human rights, and national security issue in Ethiopia today than ever before. Ethiopia records the highest number of internally displaced people in the world, primarily due to conflict, followed by disaster and development-related factors. Ethnic tensions appear to be the main cause of displacement in Ethiopia today. Its purpose is to address the issue of restoring law and order in the country. As a

²⁶⁵ Abera , (n.132)

²⁶⁶ Getahun, (n.208)

result, livelihoods were lost, and many people were forced to migrate due to their ethnic identity. Therefore, this shows that the Ethiopian government has failed in its commitment to protect internally displaced persons. Hence, Ethiopia lacks a normative and institutional framework to protect internally displaced persons, further exacerbating the problems faced by internally displaced persons. Ethiopia is a party to the Kampala Convention, which obliges states and non-state actors to protect internally displaced persons.

Although a convention has been ratified in this regard, those provision under the Convention has not yet been accepted and incorporated into National laws. The availability of a legal framework to protect internally displaced persons falls below the standards of state obligations or responsibilities set out in the United Nations Guiding Principles and the Kampala Convention. Ethiopia's legal framework and scattered laws are insufficient to adequately protect internally displaced persons and meet their humanitarian needs. In general, there is no comprehensive legal framework, and Ethiopia's legal framework provides various protections to internally displaced persons at different stages of displacement.

As far as institutions are concerned, although there is autonomous institution specifically established to protect internally displaced persons, there are various institutions that are implicitly or explicitly empowered to protect internally displaced persons. The Ministry of Peace formerly had a key role for the protection of Internal displaced persons but not precisely responsible for the protection of internally displaced persons, Pursuant to latest Proclamation No. 1263/2022. The Other key institutions in the nation established to provide protection to internally displaced persons before, during, and after evacuation, National Disaster and Risk Management Commission which has empowered to protect internal displaced persons. Institutions such as the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission and some of these institutions that are directly or indirectly involved in the protection of internally displaced persons, These Organs carry out their mandate through a collaborative approach, with NDRMC at the center of coordinating body with other Government bodies and NGOs in the protection of internally displaced persons. However, this approach has many flaws and the mandates are vague and overlapping, resulting in conflicts over who is responsible and competent for the safeguard of internally displaced persons.

Therefore, This study aims to analyze and evaluate the laws and Implementation of the rights of internally displaced persons in Debre Birhan IDPs camp based on National and International human rights treaties ratified by the Ethiopian Government .And the Study indicated that the Debre Birhan IDPs camp does not meet the level of State Obligations or responsibilities under the UNDPs and the Kampala Convention . Practically, The Ethiopian Government takes a measure only after the evacuation and these does not to end the causes of the evacuation. In Debire Birhan IDPs camp, necessary humanitarian needs, such as food, clothing, adequate medical assistance, hygiene, and psychological support, are not adequately and effectively provided by the Government during and after evacuation. Furthermore, the right of internally displaced persons to education is inseparable from the right to access documentation and vital event services. However, the Government has failed to fulfill its commitments to protect the rights of internally displaced persons. The Government has failed in its obligation to provide durable solutions for internally displaced persons in the Debre Birhan camp. The primary responsibility for providing continuous response to IDPs rests with national authorities. Relevant authorities should provide and facilitate prompt and unhindered access to actors to provide humanitarian assistance and durable solutions. Despite the Ethiopian Government's as result of lack of commitments unable to execute Durable Solutions for internally displaced persons sheltered at Debre Birhan camps.

Recommendations

Therefore, According to the above findings and in-depth discussions under the main body of the paper, the researcher specifically makes recommendations forwarded to the concerned body to minimize internal displacement in Ethiopia.

1. Adopting comprehensive IDPs legislation and national IDPs policy, which stipulates specific standards of return, relocation, and resettlement processes, from basic requirements to the process where the IDPs themselves participate, and guiding the overall effort to combat internal displacement in Ethiopia in a holistic manner, the governments are required to take action in a political will to control the domestic law in line with their treaty obligations. Further, the Ethiopian Government needs to establish an autonomous institution exclusively to cope up the plight of internally displaced persons.

2. The Ministry of Peace and the National Disaster and Prevention Commission should work in collaboration on an early warning system for conflict-induced displacement at the Federal and Regional levels in conformity with the continental system, with particular emphasis on potential conflict areas.
3. Lack of effective preventive security has been the primary driver of the displacement and re-displacement of people in Ethiopia. The Government of Ethiopia should formulate preventive security strategies and develop political commitment through a deep understanding of the evolution of the conflicts.
4. Reducing the root causes of conflict-induced displacement would take a lion share to alleviate displacement in Ethiopia, in connection to this point the rights of minority groups in ethnic-majority Regional States need to be revised and reinforced within Federal and Regional Constitutional frameworks. The Ministry of Peace and The National Reconciliation Commission they should have play a prominent role on this matter.
5. The Federal and Regional Governments should provide sufficient budget and human resource allocation for these institutions with a view to empowering them to effectively discharge their obligations and address the protection needs of IDPs,
6. Establishing coherent forms of institutions at the Regional level, currently there is no similar platform for the prevention, protection, and assistance of IDPs. Several regional states are processing IDPs' affairs through various offices. IDP situations are managed by Regional Administration Offices in the Regional States of Somalia and Oromia. While IDP concerns are handled by the Regional Agriculture and Food Security Bureau in the Regional State of Amhara,
7. Improving the quality of coordination and synchronization among IDPs institutions, Consolidation and coordination between actors in delivering integrated IDP-focused interventions, cause on the practice Institutional fragmentation and the diverse interests and influence of multiple actors have hindered the uptake of proactive measures and durable responses to IDPs' struggles in Ethiopia.
8. Establishing protection centers that facilitate the effective physical, psychological and social recovery of victims and allocating funds for rehabilitation of internally displaced persons to avoid displacement
9. Standardizing data collection and nationwide investigation on the scale, root causes, and consequence of internal displacement and measures to cope with internal displacement the

absence of a centralized data collection and management system is one of the key challenges. Hence, the Ethiopian Government should systematize IDPs related data collection and management systems.

10. Creating a conducive situation for NGOs and civil societies to enhance their participation in the prevention and protection of internal displacement, including support for humanitarian assistance. The Ethiopian Government as a requisite must maintain security issues and a protected environment for International humanitarian organizations.
11. **The Government shall acknowledge the existence of the IDP problem and its obligation to respond, which is the stepping stone to having an operational national response through the media and formulating strategies to address the problem of IDPs.**
12. To conclude, the enacting IDPs draft legislation as well as an organ that the will establish to handle the cases of IDPs should give an emphasis to provide a complete safeguard for IDPs in all stages of displacement.

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INTERVIEWS

➤ Interview with IDPs

1. Interview held with Gashaw Sultan, IDP displaced from Bilo Boshe and Sheltered at Wonishet IDPs Camp /Amhara Region (Interviewed on 15th , August 2023)
2. Interview held with Fantaye Abebe IDP displaced from Dubi Seyo and Sheltered at Wonishet IDPs Camp /Amhara Region (Interviewed on 15th , August 2023)
3. Interview held with Mohammed Dawd , IDP displaced from Subu Sire and Sheltered at Wonishet IDPs Camp /Amhara Region (Interviewed on 15th ,August 2023)
4. Interview held with Techalew W/Amanuel, IDP displaced from Jibat and Mecha and at Sheltered at Wonishet IDPs Camp /Amhara Region (Interviewed on 15th , August 2023)
5. Interview held with Yeshi Belay, IDP displaced from Areb Gebiya and Sheltered at Wonishet IDPs Camp /Amhara Region (Interviewed on 15th ,August 2023)
6. Interview held with Seid Ibrahim, IDP displaced from Mekofa and Sheltered at Wonishet IDPs Camp/Amhara Region (Interviewed on 15th , August 2023)
7. Interview held with Enanaey Gete, IDP displaced from Gera Huda and Sheltered at Wonishet IDPs Camp /Amhara Region (Interviewed on 15th , August 2023)
8. Interview held with Aregu Yimer, IDP displaced from Guran Ango and Sheltered at Wonishet IDPs Camp /Amhara Region (Interviewed on 15th , August 2023)
9. Interview held with Tsedale Arega , IDP displaced from Subu Sire and Sheltered at Wonishet at IDPs Camp /Amhara Region (Interviewed on 16th ,August 2023)
10. Interview held with Zeiba Arega, IDP displaced from Chafe Jale and Sheltered at Wonishet at IDPs Camp/Amhara Region (Interviewed on 16th , August 2023)
11. Interview held with Rukiya Ahmed , IDP displaced from Subu Sire and Sheltered at 08 IDPs Camp /Amhara Region (Interviewed on 16th ,August 2023)
12. Interview held with Teyiba Ayalew, IDP displaced from Subu Sire and Sheltered at 08 IDPs Camp /Amhara Region (Interviewed on 16th ,August 2023)

13. Interview held with Zemizem Hussein , IDP displaced from Subu Sire and Sheltered at 08 IDPs Camp /Amhara Region (Interviewed on 16th ,August 2023)
 14. Interview held with Mohammed Kassaw, IDP displaced from Areb Gebiya and Sheltered at 08 IDPs Camp /Amhara Region (Interviewed on 16th , August 2023)
 - 15 . Interview held with Lubaba Yusuf, IDP displaced from Chire Jarso and Sheltered at 08 IDPs Camp /Amhara Region (Interviewed on 16^t , August 2023)
- **Interview with Concerned Governmental and NGOs**
1. Interview with Mengstu Abera, Legal Directorate at Ministry of Peace at, (Interviewed on 12th August 2023)
 2. Interview with Yitbarek Tesfaye, Heads of Conflict Studies and Analysis Desk at Ministry of Peace, (Interviewed on 12th August 2023)
 3. Interview held with, Alegnesew Kassa, Legal Directorate Director at National Disaster Risk Management Commission, (Interviewed on 13th August 2023)
 4. Interview held with, Taye Getachew, Early Warning Directorate Director at National Disaster Risk Management Commission. (Interviewed on 13th August 2023)
 5. Interview held with, Tewodros, Demisse Directorate Director of Logistics and Operation Management at National Disaster Risk Management Commission. (Interviewed on 19th September 2023)
 6. Interview held with Abebaw Mellese, Heads Office of the Food Security and Disaster Prevention of North Shewa Administrative Zone. (Interviewed on 2th August 2023)
 7. Interview held with Anonymous, Senior Expert at Office of the Food Security and Disaster Prevention of North Shewa Administrative Zone. (Interviewed on 21th August 2023)
 8. Interview held with Zacharias Dessalegn, Senior GVB Expert at Ministry of Labour, Social and Women Affairs. (Interviewed on 14th September, 2023)
 9. Interview held with, Selamawit Seifu, Legal Officer at Ethiopian Human Rights Commission. (Interviewed on 7th July, 2023)
 10. Interview held with, Misker Getahun Legal Officer at UN Human Rights Council (Interviewed on 20th October, 2023)
 11. Interview held with, Azariyas Solomon Legal Analysist at Ethiopian Human Rights Council (Interviewed on 27th October 2023)

12. Interview held with Bizuayehu Setegn, Community Mobilizing Officer at Developmental Expertise Center, DEC. (Interviewed on 20th August, 2023)
13. Interview held with Tsirguta Yirega, GVB Protection Officer at Medical International Corpuses. (Interviewed on 20th August 2023)
15. Interview held with, Hari Tesfaye Senior Protection Officers at United Nations Higher Commission for Refugees (Interviewed on 24th October 2023)

➤ **Focus Group Discussions**

1. Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with 10 Young Women IDPs residing in Debre Birhan City. The Discussion prominently focused on the IDPs' protection at the China Camp with regard to Internal displacement legal and institutional frameworks, challenges and prospects (China IDPs 17th August, 2023)
2. Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with 7 Elder woman IDPs living in Debre Birhan City, The Discussion prominently focused on the IDPs' protection at Wonishet Camp with regard to Internal displacement legal and institutional frameworks, challenges and prospects (Wonishet IDPs Camp, 18th August, 2023)

Annex

1. List of interviewed IDPs

No	Respondent Name	Age	Place of Displacement	Place of Shelter	Date of Interview
1	Gashaw Sultan	60	Bilo Boshe	Wonishet IDPs Camp	15, August 2023
2	Fentaye Abebe	55	Dubi Seyo	Wonishet IDPs Camp	15, August 2023
3	Mohammed Dawid	50	Subu Sire	Wonishet IDPs Camps	15, August 2023
4	Techalew W/Amanuel	60	Jibat and Mecha	Wonishet IDPs Camp	15, August 2023
5	Yeshi Belay	50	Areb Gebiya	Wonishet IDPs Camp	15, August 2023
6	Seid Ibrahim	75	Mekofa	Wonishet IDPs Camp	15, August 2023
7	Enaney Gete	45	Gera Huda	Wonishet IDPs Camp	15, August 2023
8	Aregu Yimer	45	Guran Ango	Wonishet IDPs Camp	15, August 2023
9	Tsedale Arega	47	Subu Sire	Wonishet IDPs Camp	16, August 2023
10	Zeiba Arega	38	Chefe Jale	Wonishet IDPs Camp	16 th , August 2023
11	Rukiya Ahmed	25	Subu Sire	08 IDPs Camp	16 th , August 2023
12	Teyiba Ayalew	25	Subu Sire	08 IDPs Camp	16 th August 2023
13	Zemzem Husien	32	Subu Sire	08 IDPs Camp	16 th , August 2023
14	Mohammed Kassaw	28	Areb Gebiya	08 IDPs Camp	16 th August 2023

15	Lubba Yesuf	28	Chire Jarsso	08 IDPs Camp	16 th , August 2023
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List of Focus Group Discussion

Focus Group Discussion with Young Displaced Women

No.	Name of Respondent	Age	Place of Displacement	Place of Shelter	Date of Interview
1	Aleya Fentaw	16	Subu Sire	China IDPs Camp	17 th , August 2023
2	Marifa Ahmed	18	Subu Sire	China IDPs Camp	17 th , August 2023
3	Bedriya Ali	17	Bako Tibe	China IDPs Camp	17 th , August 2023
4	Aminat Dawed	16	Subu Sire	China IDPs Camp	17 th , August 2023
5	Zeiba Mohammed	15	Subu Sire	China IDPs Camp	17 th , August 2023
6	Mestawet Bizuneh	16	Dano	China IDPs Camp	17 th , August 2023
7	Mekiya Worku	15	Dubi Seyo	China IDPs Camp	17 th , August 2023
8	Tsedale Lema	17	Dano	China IDPs Camp	17 th , August 2023
9	Hayat Ahmed	15	Subu Sire	China IDPs Camp	17 th , August 2023
10	Teyiba Kedir	16	Subu Sire	China IDPs Camp	17 th , August 2023

List of Focus Group Discussion

Focus Group Discussion with Elder Displaced Women

No.	Name of Respondent	Age	Place of Displacement	Place of Shelter	Date of Interview
1	Kedija Beyan	80	Bilo Boshe	Wonishet IDPs Camp	18 th August ,2023
2	Wude Tekalign	75	Leka Dolecha	Wonishet IDPs Camp	18 th August ,2023
3	Desse Yimer	70	Bilo Boshe	Wonishet IDPs Camp	18 th August ,2023
4	Tiruye Dessalegn	72	Leka Dolecha	Wonishet IDPs Camp	18 th August , 2023
5	Mulu Tekaw	65	Wayo Tuka	Wonishet IDPs Camp	18 th August ,2023

6	Melkam Bogale	65	Bilo Boshe	Wonishet IDPs Camp	18 th August ,2023
7	Astede Abera	60	Subu Sire	Wonishet IDPs Camp	18 th August ,2023

2. List of Interviewed Government and Non-Government Organizations.

No.	Key Informants	Name of Organization	Date of interview
1	Yitbarek Tesfaye	Heads of Conflict Studies and Analysis Desk at Ministry of Peace	12 th August 2023
2	Mengistu Abera	Legal Directorate at Ministry of Peace	12 th August 2023
3	Taye Getachew	Early Warning Directorate Director at National Disaster Risk Management Commission	13 th August 2023
4	Alegn sew Kassa	Legal Directorate Director at National Disaster Risk Management Commission	13 th August 2023
5	Tewodros Demmise	National Disaster Risk Management Commission	19 th September ,2023
6	Zekariyas Dessalegn	Senior GVB Expert at Ministry of Labour, Social and Women Affairs.	14 th September, 2023
7	Selamawit Siefu	Legal Officer at Ethiopian Human Rights Commission-EHRC	7 th September, 2023
8	Abebaw Melese	Heads Office of the Food Security and Disaster Prevention of North Shewa Administrative Zone.	21 th August , 2023
9	Anonymous	Senior Expert at Office of the Food Security and Disaster Prevention of North Shewa Administrative Zone	21 th August' 2023
10	Bizuayehu Setegn	Community Mobilizing Officer at Developmental Expertise Center, DEC.	20 th August, 2023
11	Tsirguta Yirega	GVB Protection Officer at Medical International Corpuses,	22 th August' 2023
12	Azariyas Solomon	Legal Analyst at Ethiopian Human Right Council	20th October 2023
13	Misker Getahun	Legal Officer at United Nations Human Right Council	23th October 2023
14	Hari Tesfaye	Senior Protection Officers at United Nations Higher	24 th October ,2023

Data Collection Tool

My name is Haimanot Debebe Yeyi ,I'm Conducting this Research on the topic of " Internal Displaced Persons : The Law and The Practice of Internal Displaced Persons : A case Study in Debre Birhan IDPs Camps "In Partial Fulfillments of my LLM Degree Program at Addis Ababa University Colleges of Law and Governance Studies . The purpose of this interview is to get information about the Part of Your Organization as far as the protection of IDPs which are reside at Debre Birhan IDPs Camps . The purpose of this interview is to collect information and data to be used for academic purpose. Thus your Contribution has a vital role for the quality of this study.

1. ከተፈናቀሉ ሰዎች ጋር ብቻ ለሚደረግ ቃለ መጠይቅ የተዘጋጀ ጥያቄ

- 1. ሙሉ ስም ፣ አድራሻ ፣ ዕድሜ ፣ የትዳር ሁኔታ እና የቤተሰብ ሁኔታ
- 2. ቀድሞ ይኖሩበት የነበረው የት አካባቢ ነበር? በዚህ የተፈናቃይ ካምፕ ምን ያህል ጊዜ ቆይተዋል?
- 3. ቀድሞ ትኖሩበት ከነበረው ክልል እንድትፈናቀሉ እና ወደ ደብረ ብርሀን የተፈናቃይ ካምፕ እንድትሰደዱ የሆናችሁበት መሠረታዊ ምክንያቶች ምንድን ናቸው?
- 4. ተፈናቅላችሁ መጥታችሁ ባረፋችሁበት አካባቢ ለመኖር ዋናዋና ችግሮች ምንምን ናቸው ብለው ያምናሉ?
- 5. በካምፕ ውስጥ ያላችሁ ተፈናቃዮችን አሁን ካለችሁበት ችግር እንድትወጡ እና አሁን ከምትኖሩበት አካባቢ ማሕበረሰብ ጋር በመቀላቀል እንድትኖሩ ምን እየተደረገ ይገኛል;
- 6. የፌደራል መንግሥት እና የአማራ ክልላዊ መንግሥት ለተፈናቃይ ሰዎች ተፈናቅለው ባረፉበት ካምፕ ውስጥ እየተደረገ ያለው ድጋፍ በተለይም ለተፈናቃዮች ዘላቂ መፍትሄ ለማምጣት እያደረጉት ያለው ተግባር እንዴት ይገልጹታል?

7.ተፈናቅላችሁ መጥታችሁ አሁን ባላችሁበት መጠለያ ካምፕ ውስጥ መንግሥታዊ ያልሆኑ ተቋማት እና የረድኤት ድርጅቶች እየተደረገ ያለው ድጋፍ እንዴት ያዩታል ለተፈናቃዮች በዋናነት ድጋፍ ከሚደርጉት ዋናዎቹን ይጥቀሱ?

8. አሁን ባላችሁበት ካምፕ ለመኖር ፈተና የሆኑ ምክንያቶች እና ተስፋዎች ምንምን ይሆናሉ ብለው ያስባሉ?

2 Interview Questions for the Respondents of Ministry of Peace and Ministry of Labour, Social and Women Affairs.

General Information.

Job Position.....

1. Can you give me some general information on IDPs in Ethiopia?
2. What are the main responsibilities of your position?
3. What do you consider to be the main reasons for the IDPs in Ethiopia?
4. What major factors, particularly those associated with conflict-induced displacements, are responsible for the internal displacement in Ethiopia?
5. What are the main gaps in policy and legal implementation that your office is dealing with in terms of IDP protection, prevention, and assistance? How can you get past this?
6. How many people live in the Debire Birhan IDPS Camps each year and are displaced due to violence caused by conflict from 2019 to 2023?
7. What are the main obstacles your office faces in fulfilling its obligations effectively at the study area?
8. How do you collaborate with the relevant governmental and NGO entities to meet the needs of IDPs at Debire Birhan as the nation's focal institution for the prevention, protection, and assistance of IDPs?
9. What are the approved mechanisms that the Ministry uses to predict, protect, and avoid conflicts in order to stop displacement in its tracks and respond to humanitarian needs once displacement has already taken place?
10. What are the names of the international humanitarian and funding organizations working with the Ministry to protect and assist IDPs in Ethiopia?
11. What steps is the Ministry taking to ensure that IDPs in the study area are locally integrated and have Durable?

3. Interview Questions for the Respondents of Federal National Disaster Risk Management Commission

General Information.

Job Position.....

1. What are the commission's overall responsibilities and mandate? Its purpose, goal, or aim? Particularly in regards to IDPs?
2. Which commission body's organ has a distinct and unique mandate with regard to IDP?
3. From what national and international legal sources does the NDRMC draw when carrying out its obligations in relation to IDP?
4. How are the laws of other countries applied in this situation? How do you see these principles being implemented in your sites, particularly the UN guiding principle and the Kampala convention?
5. Can we address the issue of IDPs within a comprehensive national legal framework?
6. What institutional tools does the commission use to foresee, safeguard against, and avoid conflicts in order to prevent displacement in the first place and to respond to humanitarian needs after displacement has already taken place?
7. What are the primary cause(s) of internal displacement in Ethiopia?
8. What are the main gaps in policy and law implementation that you are experiencing in terms of IDP protection, prevention, and assistance? How can you get past this?
9. From the year 2019 to 2023, how many people per year at the national level are displaced as a result of conflict-related displacement?
10. What are the main issues that IDPs are currently facing where they have relocated?
11. Which International humanitarian and funding organizations are working with the commission to protect and assist IDPs in the study area?
12. How does the commission oversee and support international humanitarian organizations' activity in the study area? What are their specific roles and mandates?
13. What is the future strategy of your institutions to address the issue at the study area, and how is relocation or return carried out?

4 Interview Questions for the Respondents of Amhara Regional State Food Security and Disaster Prevention Office.

Job Position.....

1. What is the function of your office in defending the rights of IDPs in the research area?
Please describe the institutional framework for protecting IDPs?
2. What are the main reasons for the displacement of IDPs from Wollega to Debre Bihan?
3. Are you aware of the institutional and legal frameworks in place to safeguard IDPs?
4. What are the main gaps in policy and legal implementation that your office is dealing with in terms of IDP protection, prevention, and assistance? How can you get past this?
5. What are the main problems IDPs are dealing with?
6. Why the Federal and Regional State Governments of Ethiopia unable to stop the displacement?
7. Who is primarily collaborating with the Federal Government and Regional States to provide the IDPS with humanitarian aid during and after their displacement to the Debre Birhan Camp? Which national and international organizations, as well as civil society groups, are active in the study area's protection and support of IDPs?
8. Which national and international organizations, as well as civil society groups, are active in the study area's protection and support of IDPs?
9. What are the specific responsibilities of international humanitarian organizations, and how is their activity in the study area monitored and supported by the Regional States Commission?
10. What kind of long-term solutions are being implemented by the Government in the Study Area to address the issue of internal displacement?

5. Interview Questions for the Respondents of United Nations Higher Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Human Rights Council, Developmental Expertise Center and Medical International Corpuses.

Job Position.....

1. What do you think about Ethiopia's current internal displacement situation?
2. What are the main reasons that people from Eastern Oromia were uprooted and found shelter at Debre Birhan?
3. What are steps has the Government taken to stop the evictions in Debre Birhan? Was there a plan of action for the protection and support of the IDPs in Debre Birhan?
4. Who, specifically for the IDPs, provided the majority of the humanitarian aid to the IDPS of Debre Birhan IDPs camps during and after the displacement?

5. Who offers these IDPs protection and humanitarian aid? What is your institution's responsibility, and how is your institution carrying it out?
6. How do you collaborate with the relevant organizations to meet the needs of the IDPs in Debre Birhan as actors in the humanitarian assistance sector? What are the current shortcomings in the nation's prompt and responsible prevention, protection, and assistance of IDPs?
7. What steps have been taken or are being planned to strengthen the nation's legal system, policies, and strategies?
8. How do you assess the success of your institution in putting IDP-relevant laws into effect? What difficulties did you encounter in this regard? How can you get past this?
9. What do you suggest to provide better IDP prevention, protection, and long-lasting solutions in the study area?

Interview Questions for the Respondents of EHRC and EHRCO

Job Position.....

1. How do you describe the contemporary situation of internal displacement in Ethiopia?
2. What are the prominent causes behind the displacement of people from Wollega sheltered at Debire Birhan?
3. What is your institution's responsibility in relation to prevention and protection of IDPs? How is your institution implementing its responsibility? As an institutional advocator of human right what are the measures taken by your organization with regard to protection of IDPs?
4. Is the Government able to uphold its duty to give affected groups at the Debre Birhan IDP Camps access to various legal remedies which are stipulated under Kampala Convention?
5. What protections and remedies are available under Ethiopian law for IDPs' rights?
6. What challenges did you institution encounter when positioning IDPs protection laws into practice?
7. What do you recommend for improve prevention, protection as well as rendering of durable solution for IDPs in generally in the Ethiopia specifically at Debre Birhan IDPs Camp?