Against a backdrop of rising numbers of forcibly displaced people worldwide and governments and donors scrambling to find resources and design effective and sustainable response programs, it is increasingly important to ensure that available funding is channeled towards successful and cost-effective programs. Impact evaluations are powerful analytical tools that allow to generate rigorous evidence on the effectiveness of a specific program. Through a World Bank-wide competitive process, the DfID-UNHCR-WB research program Building the Evidence on Protracted Forced Displacement: A Multi-Stakeholder Partnership has identified 14 impact evaluations that will help answer important operational questions for forced displacement operations.

Impact Evaluations

Afghanistan: Impact evaluation of the Targeting the Ultra Poor (TUP) graduation program.

“Targeting the Ultra Poor” (TUP) programs have been largely evaluated in stable developing country contexts, with positive results. The evaluation implemented in Afghanistan is the first to assess a TUP program in a fragile and conflict-affected setting. The program is part of the IDA Access to Finance program and is implemented by the Microfinance Investment Support Facility for Afghanistan (MISFA). The 1-year program targets ultra-poor households and includes transfer of a productive asset (livestock), a monthly cash transfer, a health subsidy, entrepreneurship training and mentoring.
Afghanistan: Assessment of the socio-economic outcomes, movement patterns and reintegration challenges of Afghan returnees

This study is a result from the collaboration between the World Bank Poverty and Equity Global Practice and UNHCR. The research utilizes data from the Afghan Population Profiling, Verification and Response (PPVR) survey of Afghan refugees who lived in Pakistan in 2011; data collected via a phone survey in 2018 and data from the UNHCR Voluntary Repatriation Form Survey. It generates evidence on 1) the factors determining the decision to return; 2) the factors underlying the decision of where to settle in Afghanistan; 3) the socio-economic characteristics of returnees.

Bangladesh: Impact evaluation of a child protection program in Rohingya refugee camps

This impact evaluation will assess, through a randomized controlled trial, the extent to which provision of psycho-social support programs for children and adolescents in refugee camps can impact their psychological well-being and safety and help create a new sense of home and attachment. The evaluation will investigate the impact of additionally providing such services to children’s broader social network (parents and community) and whether these programs can affect social cohesion between host communities and refugees. This evaluation involves researchers at DIME and ICDDR,B and Terre des Hommes as the implementing organization.

Cameroun: Impact evaluation of a program to prevent intimate partner violence among refugees and host communities (Social Safety Nets project)

The World Bank is supporting a Social Safety Nets Project (SSN), which administers regular cash transfers, emergency transfers and labor-intensive public works to vulnerable groups. The IE targets 1200 households that are to receive regular cash transfers in five regions of Cameroon. The findings will inform on the effectiveness of couples training, community edutainment and the combination of the two interventions on intimate partner violence (IPV) incidence, gender norms, and women’s economic empowerment, and the differential impact of the two violence prevention interventions on local vs. refugee and displaced populations.

Ethiopia: Impact evaluation of health and educational outcomes for the Development Response to Displacement Impacts project

The Development Responses to Displacement Impacts Project (DDRIP) in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Uganda and Kenya program supports hosts communities with a focus on female-headed households and youth groups to improve health and education. The IE will measure the healthcare and primary education interventions to determine gender-specific outcomes in Ethiopia, and the perceptions of host communities towards refugees using a difference-indifference approach with a propensity score matching, and a follow-up survey two years after the communities receive the program.

Ethiopia: Impact evaluation of labor outcomes of the Ethiopia Economic Opportunities Hybrid Program for Results (PforR)

The World Bank and DFID are supporting the Government of Ethiopia in the creation of a Jobs Compact through the Ethiopia Economic
Opportunities Hybrid Program for Results (PforR) to grant work rights to 30,000 refugees, support 70,000-90,000 out-of-camp refugees and connect 10,000 in-camp refugees to economic opportunities, skills and language training, and psychosocial support over two years, with a focus on gender outcomes. The IE will assess whether the PforR employment programming will impact refugee integration into the formal labor force, comparing program participants with non-participants.

Iraq: Impact Evaluation of the role played by the government Public Distribution System (PDS) in mitigating welfare loss for internally displaced populations.

The IE assesses the extent to which the Iraq Public Distribution System (PDS) can help mitigate welfare losses for internally displaced people. The evaluation leverages data from the 2017-18 Rapid Welfare Monitoring Survey and analyzes access to PDS and its impact on household poverty, calorie and nutritional intake and perceptions about the future.

Jordan: Impact evaluation of the Providing Opportunities with Education for Refugees and Jordanians program

The Providing Opportunities With Education for Refugees and Jordanians (POWER-J) program evaluates Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and pedagogical classroom interventions on students’ cognitive and behavioral skills. The IE will assess how to support Syrian refugees and Jordanian students to acquire cognitive, behavioral, and emotion-focused skills that will reduce distress and negative behaviors.

Kenya: Impact evaluation of health and educational outcomes for the Development Response to Displacement Impacts project

The Development Responses to Displacement Impacts Project (DRDIP) in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Uganda and Kenya program supports hosts communities with a focus on female-headed households and youth groups to improve health and education. The IE will measure the healthcare and primary education interventions to determine gender-specific outcomes in 5 sub-counties in Kenya, and the perceptions of host communities towards refugees using a difference-indifference approach with a propensity score matching, and a follow-up survey two years after the communities receive the program.

Lebanon: Impact evaluations of teacher support programs (Reaching All Children with Education (RACE) initiative)

The World Bank is supporting the Reaching all Children with Education program. Within the program, the IE will determine the effectiveness of teacher professional development training. Using a stratified clustered randomized controlled trial implemented in primary schools, the IE will implement a randomized evaluation on teacher training and psycho-social support programs.

Lebanon: Impact evaluation of the National Poverty Targeting Program graduation model

Since 2011, the National Poverty Targeting Program (NPTP) has established itself as Lebanon’s main social safety net program. Its objective is to “provide social assistance to the poorest and most vulnerable Lebanese households based on transparent criteria that assess each household’s eligibility to receive assistance, given the available public resources”. The IE will evaluate a graduation model where households receive, in addition to the benefits of
NPTP, an asset transfer, technical skills training (including financial literacy) and life-skills coaching. If successful, the pilot will contribute to reducing poverty and vulnerability levels and contribute to improving the program fiscal sustainability in the long run.

**Niger: Impact evaluation of the Forcibly Displaced Support Project**

The World Bank and UNHCR are supporting the implementation of the *Niger Forcibly Displaced Support Project*. The program’s objective is to increase the resilience and reduce the vulnerability of refugees, IDPs and returnees and host communities by improving access to basic services, building local government capacity in service delivery, creating economic opportunities and providing professional training. The IE will evaluate the support to economic opportunities component of the program and determine its impact on host and refugee populations at an individual and community level.

**Nigeria: Impact evaluation of different strategies to improve health workers outreach and health outcomes for pregnant women and women with children in areas affected by the Boko Haram insurgency (Additional Financing for the Nigeria State Health Investment Project)**

This IE will support implementation of the *Additional Financing for the Nigeria State Health Investment Project*, implemented in Northeast Nigeria by the National Primary Health Care Development Agency. The IE will inform the program scale-up by identifying an effective performance-based financing strategy that can incentivize health workers to access hard to reach communities, to improve maternal and child health outcomes.

**Uganda: Impact evaluation of an entrepreneurship program for refugees and host communities in Kampala**

The World Bank partnered with Stanford University and the Congolese-led NGO, Young African Refugees for Integral Development (YARID) to examine whether sharing development aid facilitates integration and engenders goodwill among host communities. The IE employs a randomized saturation design to assess whether assistance for enterprise-creation (i.e. grants and trainings) improve household food security and education, support the inclusion of refugees in host communities and affect refugees’ intention to remain in Uganda.