Humanitarian and development nexus

Core elements to inform Solutions planning and programing in Somalia

- The 3 durable solutions options (voluntary repatriation, local (re)integration or resettlement elsewhere) are processes, they are not solutions in and of themselves. The ultimate goal for all is (re)integration. So **return is not a solution, (re)integration is.**

- Creating durable solutions requires a **multi- stakeholder and sectoral, rights and needs based programming approach**. Addressing physical, material and legal safety of displaced people as a whole is critical in the search for durable solutions, and **requires contributions from all sectors** (humanitarian, development, human rights, peace-building…) in creating favourable conditions for durable solutions.

- Therefore the process must be viewed as a **collective action rather than mandate driven** based on an inclusive, participatory and consensus building approach - our common goal being to give the millions of displaced persons in Somalia a chance of a better life with dignity and self-reliance.

- The Federal Government of Somalia, regional administrations and local authorities have the primary responsibility and they need to be supported to be able to play a leadership and coordinating role.

- It is essential to **adopt a 'displacement affected communities'** approach- inclusive of returnees, IDPs and host communities – supporting integrated programing for both displaced and host communities, factoring in appropriate economic, environmental and social considerations (legal, material and physical safety).

- **Community engagement is critical to inform reintegration analysis and programing.** As numerous researches have shown, return and reintegration successes depend by large on the degree of participation accorded to displaced populations and host communities, which involve extensive period of consultation, sensitisation, negotiation, conflict resolution, factoring in individual's own perception of risks, and differentiated according to class, gender, age, clans, etc. **It is therefore critical to support the safe and meaningful involvement of displacement affected communities** in the search of durable solutions that affect their own lives, including children and other vulnerable groups, so as to ensure their ownership and support in order **to make solutions lasting, locally relevant and supportive of social cohesion.**

- Developing **area based Solutions analysis** (**localization of aid**) to inform safe and dignified (re)integration modalities is paramount due to limited absorption capacity, limited access to basic services, shelters and livelihoods opportunities, prevailing protection concerns, and persistent security, safety and access issues.

- While 'solutions' districts' analysis will contribute to identify and prioritize 'immediate' (re)integration needs for displacement affected communities, by **involving development actors from the start**, it should also contribute to inform medium to long term sectorial priorities for development programing complementing humanitarian interventions. **This is not only about starting new plans, but building into existing humanitarian and development ones to address displacement affected communities' needs and contribute to a comprehensive effort.**