



World Bank-UNHCR Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement Strategy 2024-2027

Contents

Acknowledgments	5
Abbreviations	6
Background	8
The JDC's policy environment	9
Strategic Priorities for 2024–2027	11
Strategic Priority I: Systematic inclusion in national statistics	11
Strategic Priority II: Targeted production of high-quality data and timely analysis to inform policy and programs	12
Strategic Priority III: Data innovation to increase the quality, timeliness, and accessibility of data	14
Strategic Priority IV: Operationalize data and evidence to strengthen solutions to forced displacement	14
Theory of Change	16
Our way of working	17
Building a work program for 2024–2027	17
Working in partnerships	18
Resource requirements for 2024–2027	20
Measuring Success	21
Results framework	22
Monitoring and evaluation	22
Appendix A: Theory of Change Per Strategic Priority	23
Appendix B: Examples of Statistical Inclusion	27
Appendix C: Risk Registry	28

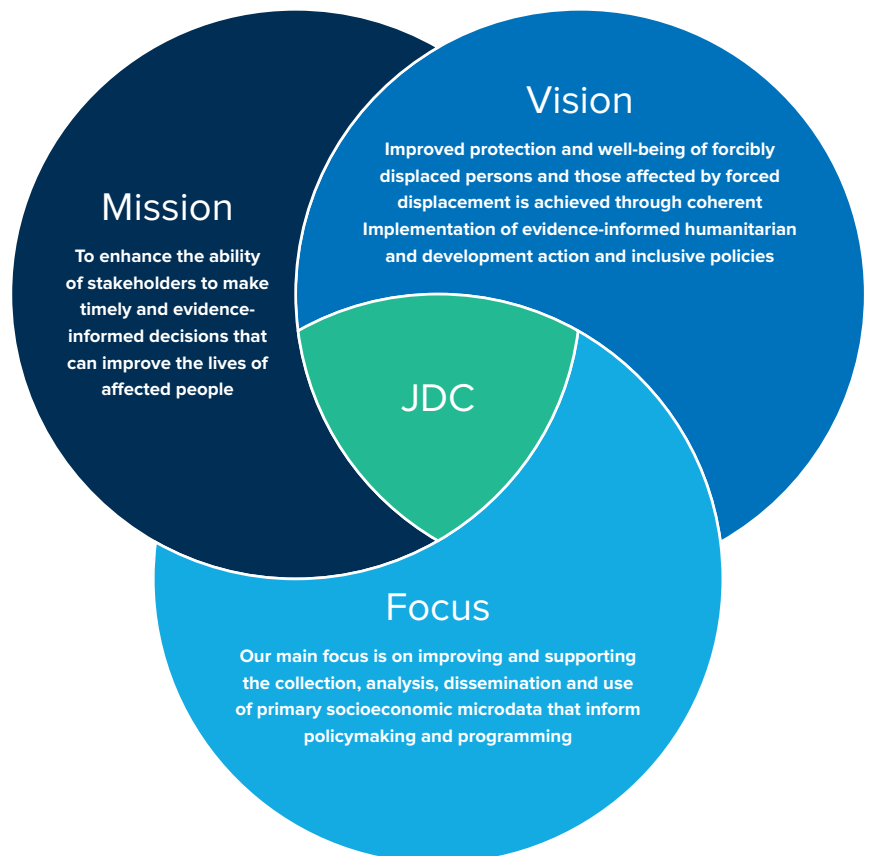
“Reliable, comparable, and timely data is critical for evidence-based measurements to improve socioeconomic conditions for refugees and host communities.”

United Nations Global Compact on Refugees, 2015

“A substantial effort is needed to enhance the availability, quality, reliability, and comparability of data on forced displacement.”

World Bank, Forcibly Displaced, 2016

The World Bank–UNHCR Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement (JDC) was established in response to the increasing magnitude, length, and complexity of displacement and the need for a development agenda to address the issue. Here, data was deemed central to the success of international and national responses. The challenge was to improve the collection and coverage of microdata (e.g., household-level socioeconomic data) in a timely, sustainable manner while ensuring quality and using country systems where appropriate.



“Stakeholders” include national and local-level decision makers in countries and communities affected by forced displacement; humanitarian and development actors, private sector, civil society, and those engaged in global policy making.

“Affected people” include: forcibly displaced populations (refugees, internally displaced persons, asylum seekers, returnees, and asylum-seekers); stateless populations; and host populations.

“Socioeconomic microdata” refers to data on social and/or economic living conditions of individuals and households, ideally broken down by core demographic variables.



Jennifer Perova, 20, a Ukrainian refugee living in the Moldovan capital, Chisinau, sorts through books donated to local NGO Laolalta at its Community Centre 151. Having left her home in Odesa, Ukraine, with her family when the war started, she now works as an office manager and associate communication coordinator for the UNHCR partner.

Acknowledgments

For further information, please contact:

Aissatou Dicko

Head of the JDC

adicko@worldbank.org

Maja Lazic

Deputy Head of the JDC

lazic@unhcr.org

Or visit www.jointdatacenter.org

This Strategy was developed by the World Bank-UNHCR Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement (JDC) in Copenhagen. The JDC would like to thank the partners and colleagues consulted, including Denmark's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the European Commission department for International Partnerships, the US State Department Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the UN, the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the UN, the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Uganda to the UN, the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the International Finance Corporation, the Danish Refugee Council, the Norwegian Refugee Council, the International Rescue Committee, the Expert Group on Refugee, IDP and Statelessness Statistics, the UN Secretary General's Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement, the UNHCR Special Advisers to the Senior Executive Team, the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Middle East and North Africa, the UNHCR Regional Bureau for West and Central Africa, the UNHCR Regional Bureau for East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes, the UNHCR Regional Bureau for the Americas, the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe, the UNHCR Division of International Protection, the UNHCR Division of Resilience and Solutions, the UNHCR Division of External Relations, the UNHCR Innovation Service, the UNHCR Global Data Service, the UNHCR New York Office, the World Bank Development Economics Vice Presidency, the World Bank Sustainable Development Vice Presidency, the World Bank Social Sustainability and Inclusion Global Practice, the World Bank Poverty Global Practice, the World Bank Fragility, Conflict and Violence Global Themes department, and members of the JDC Strategic Advisory Council.

Abbreviations

CAR	Central African Republic
CAS	Central Administration of Statistics
DHS	Demographic Health Survey
EGRISS	Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons, and Statelessness Statistics
EHCVM	Enquête Harmonisé sur les Conditions de Vie des Ménages
ENAHO	Encuesta Nacional de Hogares
EPHPM	Encuesta Permanente de Hogares de Propósitos Múltiples
FCV	Fragility, Conflict and Violence
GCR	Global Compact on Refugees
IDP	Internally Displaced Person(s)
IDAG	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IHSES	Iraqi Household Socioeconomic Survey
IOM	International Organization for Migration
JDC	World Bank-UNHCR Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement
LFS	Labor Force Survey
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MIRPS	Marco Integral Regional para la Protección y Soluciones
NSDS	National Strategy for the Development of Statistics
NSO	National Statistical Office
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SSAR	Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	The United Nations Children's Fund
WFP	UN World Food Programme
SESRE	Socioeconomic Survey of Refugees in Ethiopia
UNHS	Uganda National Household Survey



Freinyeli (23) y Antonio (28) arrived in Cuenca, in southern Ecuador, in August 2022 with their three children after leaving Venezuela. To reach their destination they had to walk for more than a month. In the Andean city of Cuenca they adopted their puppy, Kira. They spent the first seven days in the city at Posada San Francisco, an emergency shelter supported by UNHCR with Japan funding. "We had nowhere to go, but luckily we found the shelter. If it weren't for that, we would have had to sleep on the street. We adults can cope, but for the children it is more difficult, because of the cold and how dangerous it is to sleep on the street," says Franyelis.

Background

During the JDC's first term, forced displacement grew by 27 million, surpassing the devastating mark of 100 million people. Over the last decade, the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) doubled, and it currently represents more than half the total of forcibly displaced globally. The number of stateless people remains underestimated because many countries do not report or are unable to capture the numbers of their stateless populations. The JDC's work remains highly relevant in this setting, aiming to improve the protection and well-being of forcibly displaced persons and those affected by forced displacement through coherent implementation of evidence-informed policies and programs.

Over the past four years, the JDC has successfully operationalized its vision and established key partnerships. It has produced concrete outcomes from its technical and financial investments across four original strategic objectives: (i) strengthening systems and standards, (ii) producing data and analysis, (iii) enhancing safe and responsible data access, and (iv) building evidence and sharing knowledge. Important deliverables and highlights from this period include the following:

- The JDC's technical and financial support to the Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons, and Statelessness Statistics (EGRISS) has resulted in the [development of statistical standards](#), which are increasingly operationalized across countries.
- The JDC supported [data production and analysis](#) on forcibly displaced in 35 countries in Latin America, Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Eastern Europe, including during the difficult time of the [COVID-19 pandemic](#). These investments, often as partnerships, have paved the way for the [inclusion of refugees, IDPs, and stateless people](#) in national poverty surveys, living condition surveys, and global survey programs such as the Demographic Health Survey (DHS) and the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS).
- Much of what the JDC set out to achieve regarding enabling safe and responsible access to data has been accomplished through key deliverables, such as the establishment of the [UNHCR Microdata Library](#), which hosts (as of October 2023) more than 700 datasets, with more added every quarter. Lessons from the development of protocols and guidance on how to anonymize and safely publish data have also been infused in collaborations within the broader data community.
- With the growing availability of data and analysis, there has been a sharp increase in socioeconomic research on forced displacement. The JDC has delivered Research Conferences on Forced Displacement, regularly curated academic literature on forced displacement, and hosted seminars to disseminate and stimulate the use of data and evidence.

Ultimately, the establishment of the JDC has enabled closer collaboration between its parent institutions on forced displacement issues as a result of the specific collaboration on socioeconomic data (see [Mid-term Review](#)). Teams from the two institutions have come together to implement at country level in Latin America, South Asia, and West, Central, and Eastern Africa. At the global level, the World Bank and UNHCR recently signed a [data sharing framework agreement](#) to facilitate timely access of data between operations on the socioeconomic condition of refugees, internally displaced, and stateless populations.

The JDC is continuing to identify and address gaps in socioeconomic data on affected populations and is making data available. Yet more time is needed for results to have their intended impact (see [Mid-term Review](#)). This requires more investment in strategic data production and analysis and a concerted effort to make such knowledge digestible and useful for decision making. The JDC will continue its work through 2027, leveraging the complementarity of its parent institutions in partnerships with a broad range of stakeholders to transform the forced displacement data landscape.

Several lessons are drawn from implementing the first strategy and taking stock of current data gaps and opportunities



Timely implementation requires commitment and continuous engagement.



Working with National Statistical Offices and building their capacity is fundamental to delivering data that is sustainable, scalable, comparable, and trusted by governments.



More work needs to be done to put EGRISS international recommendations into action.



Production of data does not translate into operational and policy impact without effective engagement and dissemination.



There is still significant potential to develop and use innovative tools and methods to improve the quality, production, and dissemination of data on forced displacement.



The JDC should focus on the scale and sustainability of investments.

A cornerstone of this strategy is the sustainability of the efforts the JDC has already deployed in the first four years of its existence. The JDC's commitment to sustainability can be seen in three main elements of its work:

- the data, analysis, tools, methods, and other resources the JDC supports are made available as a lasting public good for all relevant stakeholders to use as needed;
- the pursuit of national ownership of data, collected as part of regular surveys, allows the JDC to invest in the sustainable production of quality data on forcibly displaced and stateless people; and
- the capacities and partnerships that JDC integrates and maintains with governments, development, and humanitarian partners will help continue to mainstream socioeconomic data and evidence in planning and programming.

The JDC's policy environment

The JDC is informed by the collaboration of development and humanitarian actors in forced displacement. Namely, the 2018 Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) calls for reliable, comparable, and timely data to inform evidence-based measures to (i) improve socioeconomic conditions for refugees and host communities, (ii) assess and address the impact of large refugee populations on host countries in emergency and protracted situations, and (iii) identify and plan appropriate solutions.

Complementing the call of the Compact, the World Bank's [Strategy for Fragility, Conflict, and Violence](#) (FCV) commits to partnerships that enable work across the humanitarian-development-peace interface, including for the purpose

of carrying out joint data collection and analysis. The World Bank's FCV Strategy emphasizes the importance of supporting governments over the long term to improve their data environment for evidence-based policy making. Taken together with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), these policy frameworks can help ensure that displaced and stateless persons are not left behind in development processes, and that displacement and statelessness are addressed through inclusive and comprehensive approaches.

In the past four years we have seen policy developments that inform and strengthen the JDC's efforts. In 2022, the UN adopted the [Secretary General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement](#), which injected new energy into progressing solutions to internal displacement. Development

cooperation, data, and evidence are essential components in producing nationally owned strategies on solutions to internal displacement in 15 priority countries. Also in 2022, governments and development and humanitarian partners assembled for the [High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges](#) to discuss how to further enhance development engagement in displacement settings. Although not a policy making forum, the High Commissioner's Dialogue gave strong impetus to include the forcibly displaced in national statistics as well as to produce and use socioeconomic data and evidence relevant to policy making, financing, and programming.

Most recently, the World Bank published the 2023 World Development Report titled [Migrants, Refugees, and Societies](#), which highlighted that good data are essential if governments are to manage displacement and create sound and effective policies. The report points to efforts to improve the consistency of definitions and collect data beyond traditional sources to enhance the availability and quality of data that can inform policy making. Similarly, the [UNHCR's Data Transformation Strategy](#) seeks to leverage technology, strengthen data protection and ethics, and establish data systems that communicate and offer value to other systems.

Doubling Down on Internal Displacement

Over the last decade, the number of internally displaced persons has doubled, reaching 62.5 million by September 2023. It currently represents 57 percent of the total number of forcibly displaced globally. The JDC's review of publicly available socioeconomic data on forced displacement has revealed a glaring gap regarding IDPs. At the same time, the Secretary General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement has invigorated the focus on solutions in 15 priority countries and better inclusion of IDPs in national systems. The JDC will increase its focus on internal displacement by:



Targeting the priority countries and government-led solutions and response plans



Collaborating with governments, humanitarian, and development partners on IDP data and analysis



Supporting the completion of an IDP stock exit measure within the framework of EGRIS



Increasing national ownership of data through statistical inclusion of IDPs

(UNHCR Global Trends, October 2023)

Strategic Priorities for 2024–2027

This Strategy builds on the JDC's achievements and lessons learned in the first term, the independent Mid-term Review, and consultations with the World Bank and UNHCR as well the Strategic Advisory Council. It is articulated around four priorities: (i) systematic inclusion in national statistics; (ii) targeted production of high-quality data and timely analysis to inform policy and programs; (iii) data innovation to increase the quality, timeliness, and accessibility of data; and (iv) operationalize data and evidence to strengthen solutions to forced displacement. These priorities will guide the JDC's investments going forward, in the form of financial contributions, technical guidance, strategic advice, and partnerships. A Theory of Change was developed as part of the Strategy formulation and provides the road map toward achieving the JDC's mission while allowing for successes and lessons to be demonstrated along the way. A subtheory of change is available for each strategic priority in Appendix A. The potential risks in implementation are listed in Appendix B.



Strategic Priority I: Systematic inclusion in national statistics

The JDC will increase its support to National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and partners for inclusion of forcibly displaced and stateless persons in official and regularized data

collection exercises. The JDC's institutional setup and operating model allows it to build capacity through project implementation, enabling NSOs to repeat and expand efforts toward statistical inclusion. This was the case, for example, in the Central African Republic, where the support of the JDC and work with the NSO led to the inclusion of IDPs in the 2021 national household survey. The activity resulted in the

Central African Republic's first ever [poverty assessment](#), with findings endorsed at the highest level of government, and data feeding into the SDG indicator framework.¹ As an indication of sustainability, the country now plans to include IDPs in its forthcoming census.

Rationale

- Refugees, IDPs, and stateless persons are often excluded, underrepresented, or insufficiently identified in surveys and other socioeconomic data collection carried out by NSOs.
- Proper identification and representation in regular national-level household surveys allows for nationally owned socioeconomic data of refugees, IDPs, and stateless persons² that is comparable with the host population and over time.
- Statistical inclusion takes a long-term vision and requires building technical capacity and NSO leadership to achieve sustainability.

1 The analysis goes beyond considerations of monetary poverty alone, examining constraints on human capital development and exploring the role that livelihoods—especially in agriculture—can play in lifting people out of poverty. Using geospatial data, the results are also linked to indicators of physical access to schools and health facilities and key elements of basic infrastructure.

2 Inclusion of vulnerable subpopulations, such as the stateless population, in national surveys requires a degree of preexisting information on the size and locations of the subpopulation in question, which forms the basis for sensitizing or expanding the sampling frames of national surveys. The absence of basic population statistics may thereby impede the systematic inclusion of displaced and stateless populations in some countries, requiring nontraditional data collection approaches under Strategic Priorities II and III instead.

- Statistical inclusion is a key enabling factor for a government’s response to situations of forced displacement. Specifically, data and analysis that includes refugees is required to achieve GCR objectives 1, 2, and 4.³ Making forcibly displaced populations visible in government data lays the foundation for inclusion in other national service provision systems and development efforts as well as the SDGs.
- The efforts of EGRISS have created significant momentum for the enhancement of national statistical systems to produce better quality data on forced displacement and statelessness. The group is operational under the UN Statistical Commission, the highest global statistical authority, and brings together 57 countries and 36 international and regional organizations that represent humanitarian, development, and statistical communities.

Statistical inclusion: What it means and where we stand

The JDC views the statistical inclusion of forcibly displaced and stateless persons in routine national household surveys and censuses as a function of three technical elements: **representation**, **identification**, and **integration**. First, the population group must be representatively covered in the data collection exercise, especially when it comes to groups living in camps that are often completely excluded from national survey sampling frames or the enumeration plans of national censuses. Beyond inclusion in this “population universe,” representation requires the allocation of a sufficiently large sample size for this subpopulation, which allows for valid statistical inference. Second, it is important to appropriately identify the forcibly displaced, since, for example, citizenship (for refugees) or the latest migration movement (for IDPs) constitute only proxies rather than fully reliable means of knowing whether a respondent is indeed forcibly displaced. Third, the degree of integration of this population in data collection and results dissemination into the wider national data collection exercise also matters. Ideally, NSOs should collect data on the forcibly displaced in parallel to nondisplaced populations to avoid seasonality-related incomparability; use the same or at least highly aligned questionnaires; and present the results on the forcibly displaced in the main report of the wider national survey, as opposed to in a separate publication. Similarly, NSOs should refrain from giving the displacement or statelessness component of a national survey exercise a separate survey title or “brand.” Appendix B provides examples of statistical inclusion.

Intended outcomes

- 1 National-level household surveys—such as national poverty and living conditions surveys, MICs, DHSs, and Labor Force Surveys (LFSs)—systematically include the forcibly displaced.
- 2 An increasing number of NSOs have the capacity to identify and collect data on the forcibly displaced and stateless, applying [international statistical standards](#).
- 3 NSOs (with partners) develop National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDSs) or similar strategic plans on official statistics that include the forcibly displaced.



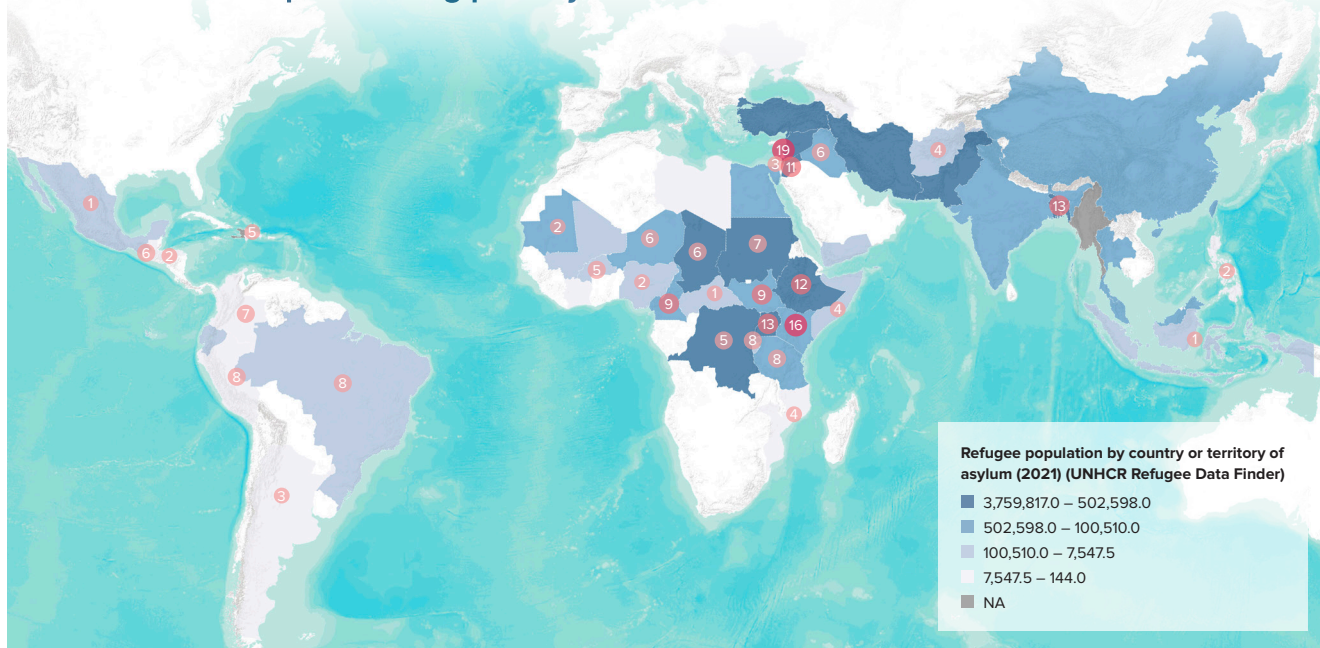
Strategic Priority II: Targeted production of high-quality data and timely analysis to inform policy and programs

The JDC will support carefully selected opportunities to produce socioeconomic microdata that appropriately identify and represent affected populations and provide timely analysis. Through its operational model of providing

financing, technical guidance, and proactive engagement to implementing teams, the JDC can directly influence the availability, quality, and operational relevance of data collection exercises and resulting analytical products. Strict selection and prioritization criteria are applied to respond to context-specific needs in humanitarian-development processes and to ensure technical qualities of the data that allow for comparisons in socioeconomic variables between population groups and disaggregation by demographic characteristics. For example, in Chad, the government called for support

³ GCR objectives are as follows: (1) ease pressures on host countries, (2) enhance refugee self-reliance, and (4) support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity. These require nationally owned, representative, and comparable data on refugees, asylum seekers, and returnees. Strategic Priority II is equally relevant in this regard.

Map of existing publicly available datasets across countries



to strengthen the complementarity between development and humanitarian interventions to better respond to the needs of all vulnerable populations in the country. In response, the JDC convened the World Bank and UNHCR to jointly analyze NSO-collected data on refugees and host communities, contributing to the implementation of an inclusive asylum law, a review of interventions in the agricultural sector, and realignment of the Refugees and Host Communities Support Project, ultimately improving access to basic services, livelihoods, and safety nets.

Rationale

While repeated inclusion of the forcibly displaced in routine national statistics is the preferred option for standardized and nationally owned socioeconomic

data over time, complementary data collection exercises are also important.

- Opportunities will be identified, considering impact and timing, data gaps (population group, geography, theme, and longitudinal data), demand (from parent organizations, governments, and other stakeholders), and constraints (resources, political will). Where possible, the JDC will pursue a situational approach involving multiple countries affected by forced displacement—host, origin, and transit countries.
- The JDC recently conducted a comprehensive review⁴ of publicly available microlevel datasets designed to have a representative sample of refugees and IDPs. The paper shows that microdata are relatively scarce in countries fraught with fragility and conflict;

among IDPs; and on several themes including labor and employment, finance (credit, debt, banking), and education.

- A recent literature review pointed to the need to disentangle the drivers and better understand the role that climate change plays in displacement. However, information regarding households’ and individuals’ vulnerability to shocks, including climate risks, is generally not well captured in existing microdata.

Intended outcomes

- 1 Parent organizations, partners, and governments produce and disseminate high-quality socioeconomic microdata.
- 2 Parent organizations, research partners, governments, and the JDC generate and share evidence.

4 Masaki, T., and B. Madson. 2023. “Data Gaps in Microdata in the Context of Forced Displacement.” Policy Research Working Paper 10631, World Bank, Washington, DC. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/40732>.



Strategic Priority III: Data innovation to increase the quality, timeliness, and accessibility of data

The JDC will support innovative tools and methods in data production, analysis, and discovery to improve the quality, timeliness, and accessibility of results. The JDC's engagement in data collection exercises through the World Bank, UNHCR, NSOs, and other partners provides a platform to develop, apply, and use tools that directly respond to operational needs. This also opens opportunities to build capacity on technological solutions. Because of its established network of specialists in data science, the JDC is well positioned to seek out ways in which innovative technologies can improve the collection, availability, and uptake of high-quality data and evidence on forced displacement and stateless situations. As in the Democratic Republic of Congo—which has not had a census since 1984 and therefore cannot provide sufficient population statistics on which to draw a sample—the JDC was able to test and further develop an innovative sampling tool that enabled surveying of IDPs, returnees, and host communities in the Grand Kasai. The tool has since been made publicly available and can be applied across a variety of forced displacement contexts, requiring minimal programming skills.

Rationale

— Through implementation of its work program and engagement with the rapid evolution of innovative tools and data science approaches, the JDC has observed the potential for data innovation to increase the quality,

timeliness, and accessibility of socioeconomic data on those affected by forced displacement.

- Identified areas where innovation can contribute include (i) improving representativeness and quality through enhancing sampling frames, adapting methods to forced displacement contexts, and applying quality assurance mechanisms; (ii) integrating datasets to improve accuracy and precision of estimates; (iii) generating indicator estimates from satellite imagery between face-to-face survey waves; and (iv) making microdata more discoverable, usable, and accessible through innovative approaches to microdata protection and by applying text analysis, including using generative artificial intelligence to develop modes of data dissemination and methods for metadata generation and information retrieval as well as for monitoring the use of data on forced displacement.
- The importance of complementing traditional approaches in generating household survey statistics with innovative tools and methods was echoed by 70 specialists from a network of 20 partners at a JDC-convened innovation and data science workshop at the end of 2022.

Intended outcomes

- 1 Parent organizations and the JDC drive development of innovative open-source tools and research methods to enable and improve the collection of representative and high-quality household survey data in forced displacement contexts.
- 2 Parent and partner organizations, together with the JDC, drive improvements in socioeconomic estimates by designing and

producing indicators and developing reproducible analytical models.

- 3 Parent organizations and the JDC increase the discoverability, usability, and accessibility of data and evidence for all stakeholders, through innovative approaches to data protection, text analysis, and artificial intelligence.



Strategic Priority IV: Operationalize data and evidence to strengthen solutions to forced displacement

The JDC is uniquely positioned to convene World Bank and UNHCR teams to exchange data, evidence, and operational knowledge. The JDC will actively advise project teams on how best to communicate the data and evidence produced and incorporate communication plans at the conceptualization stage. New types of strategic engagements and channels will be employed, such as closed-door peer-to-peer engagement among governments, data workshops among policy analysts, and training modules for practitioners. The JDC will increase its engagement with the private sector and civil society organizations as data users, capitalizing on their respective approaches to supporting inclusive policies and solutions. With the World Bank and UNHCR as custodians, the JDC also seeks to establish sustainable platforms where data producers and users can exchange data, translate findings, and engage in dialogue. The Integrated Platform for Aggregated Statistics on Forced Displacement⁵ and the Marketplace for Researchers and Practitioners⁶ are two such large-scale initiatives.

Rationale

- As data and evidence progressively become available, their accessibility and utilization in addressing strategic policy questions in support of inclusive national systems and durable solutions must increase. The JDC is committed to helping create a culture of increased reliance on data and evidence.
- The JDC’s experience has shown that investments are needed to (i) strengthen the link between policy demand and research supply; (ii) build capacity among

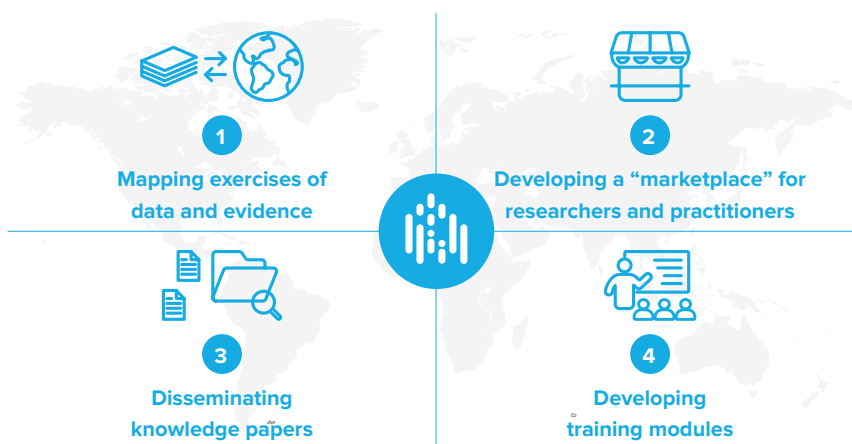
practitioners to use, document, and interpret socioeconomic data and evidence; (iii) promote and support responsible microdata sharing, interoperability, and reproducibility in research, including across organizations; (iv) create resources and tools that make data and evidence more discoverable, accessible, and digestible, particularly through the production and design of indicators; and (v) utilize strategic communication channels and means, hereunder to internalize findings within the World Bank and UNHCR for programming and advocacy.

Intended outcomes

- 1 Host governments, donors, and partners increasingly use data and evidence in their planning because it has been made more readily available.
- 2 Humanitarian organizations increasingly use socioeconomic data and evidence in programming and advocacy.
- 3 Development organizations increasingly include the forcibly displaced in their programming and country engagement.

The JDC Knowledge Agenda

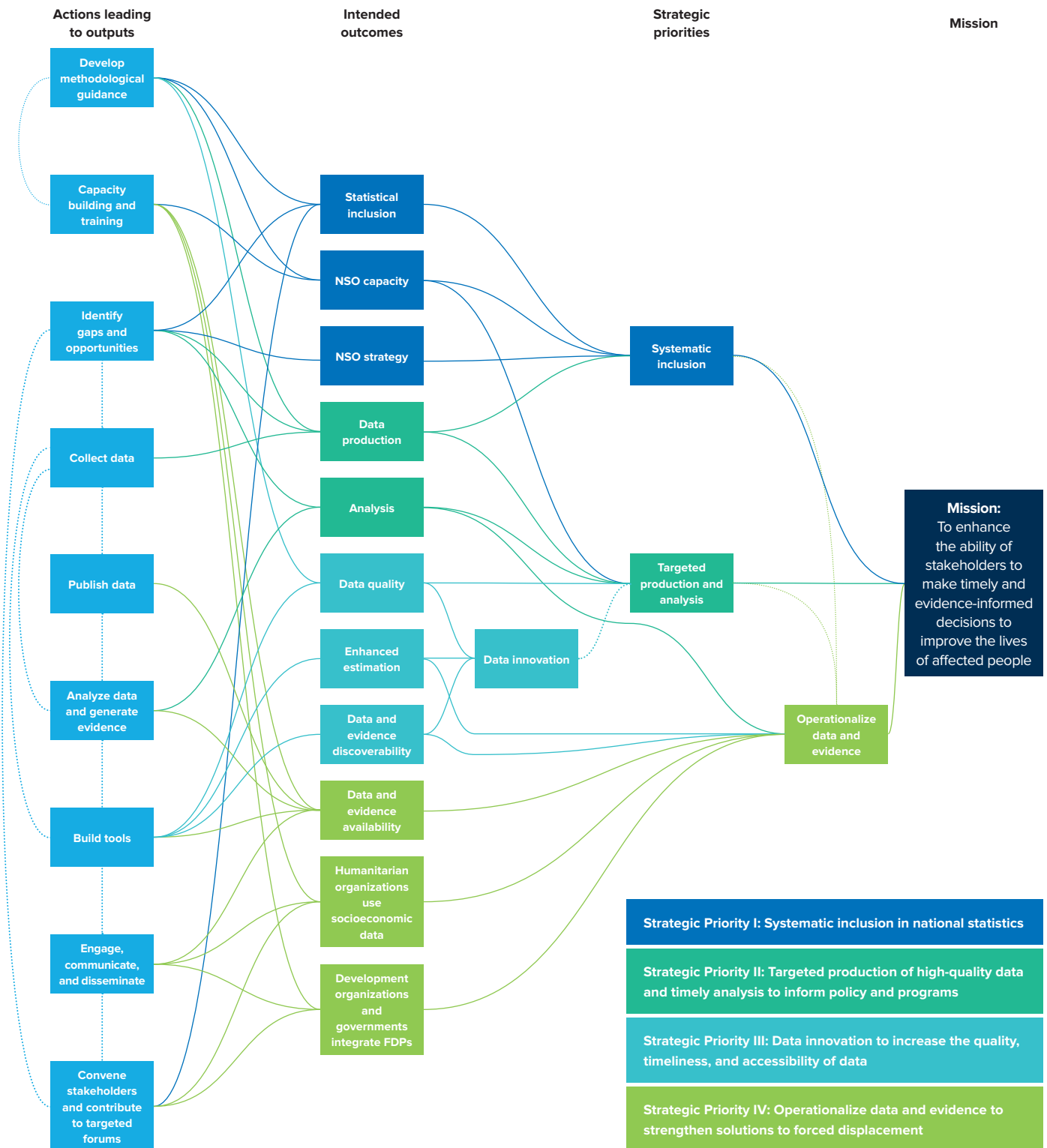
The JDC has developed a Knowledge Agenda that aims to address the need to identify and fill knowledge gaps as well as strengthen the link between research and operations. It consists of four pillars shown below. Some of the work on the Knowledge Agenda has already begun, such as the data gap mapping exercise and the first series of pilot trainings on evidence generated from the Building Evidence on Forced Displacement Program. Activities under the Knowledge Agenda will support achieving the intended outcomes under Strategic Priorities II and IV.



5 This current JDC activity supports UNHCR to develop a platform for obtaining statistics and socioeconomic and protection indicators on forced displacement, which incorporate survey-based indicators. The platform will also develop standards for inclusion and aggregation, producing data that will be comparable over time and across countries. Such a platform can ensure that data that are publicly disseminated are robust, consistent, and useful to those developing policy and programs for refugees and to progress UNHCR’s data transformation.

6 One aim of the JDC’s Knowledge Agenda is to develop a marketplace in the form of a web portal that provides an interactive space for all interested actors to signal operational needs or research interests and to propose collaborations. For example, this online space could indicate research needs or opportunities (supplied from the field), research interests (supplied by the researchers), and research funding (with information provided directly by funding bodies or with links to similar, broader portals, such as the Clearing House for Financing Development Data).

Theory of Change



Our way of working





Building a work program for 2024–2027

The JDC aims for transformational engagements and achieving impact at scale in low- and middle-income countries affected by forced displacement and statelessness. This includes engagement in regional or interlinked situations of

forced displacement such as the support platforms⁷ in the context of the GCR, where data and evidence can contribute to a comprehensive response to forced displacement.

Derived from the Theory of Change, this table describes what the JDC seeks to undertake as it builds its work program.

Strategic priorities and areas of engagement

 I. Systematic inclusion in national statistics	 II. Targeted production of high-quality data and timely analysis to inform policy and programs	 III. Data innovation to increase the quality, timeliness, and accessibility of data	 IV. Operationalize data and evidence to strengthen solutions to forced displacement
Create and update opportunity shortlists to prioritize engagement	Contribute to publicly available resources on questionnaire and sampling good practices for data collection on the forcibly displaced, specifically in fragile and conflict-affected contexts	Coordinate consistency in the documentation and hosting of new types of data and models across the humanitarian and development ecosystems	Bring together researchers and practitioners to better identify and support opportunities for exchange on data and evidence
Engage and convene NSOs and governments on inclusion of the forcibly displaced in strategies	Identify socioeconomic data and evidence gaps over population group, geography, time, and theme	Create public guidance notes, methodological notes, landscape studies, and training materials	Engage stakeholders, especially host governments, through data workshops and peer-to-peer closed-door events to build channels where policy makers discuss evidence
Build NSO statistical inclusion capacity, particularly through practical implementation	Support opportunities for parent organizations, partners, and governments to collect forcibly displaced inclusive data	Generate new datasets, especially enhanced geospatial data layers	Develop and deliver training on using, documenting, and interpreting socioeconomic data and evidence on those forcibly displaced
Support and facilitate the implementation of statistical inclusion in NSO-led and global surveys	Ensure data are responsibly available as quickly as possible	Provide UNHCR and the World Bank access to alternative data sources and computing power	Proactively engage targeted World Bank and UNHCR teams on communication, dissemination, and outreach opportunities and needs
Consultation and technical assistance on methods for forcibly displaced and stateless persons' statistical inclusion in national surveys	Identify and support opportunities for analysis to generate socioeconomic evidence	Build new and adapt existing open-source innovative tools to inform sampling, data quality assurance estimation, and discovery, which complement and enhance traditional approaches	Promote and support responsible microdata data sharing, including across organizations, through data sharing agreements and microdata libraries
Produce and refine methodology, standards, and guidance on statistical inclusion in national surveys, in partnership with EGRIS		Pilot test, validate, and build capacity on tools and methods, including with NSOs	Create resources and build tools that make data and evidence promptly discoverable, accessible, and digestible
			Support knowledge products that aggregate evidence and experience from across the JDC portfolio and other sources

⁷ Comprising states and other relevant stakeholders, three support platforms were launched for the Global Refugee Forum 2019: the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Support Platform, the MIRPS Support Platform (aligned with the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework comprising countries in Central America and Mexico, known as MIRPS for its Spanish acronym), and the Support Platform for the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR). Most recently, a support platform was introduced for the Central African Republic situation. The GCR envisions that support platforms can create a wide range of opportunities for concrete support, such as galvanizing political commitment and advocacy; facilitating coherent humanitarian, development, and peace responses; and supporting comprehensive policy initiatives to ease pressure on host countries, build resilience and self-reliance, and find solutions.

Selection process for new activities

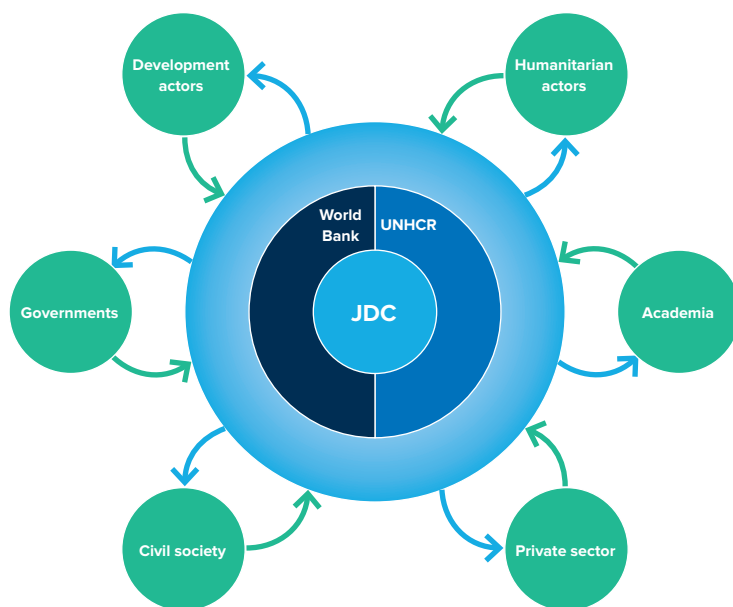
In 2024–2027, the JDC will further refine and optimize the mechanisms by which it identifies, attracts, and selects new activities into its activity portfolio, acknowledging the differing nature of the four strategic priorities and the heterogenous types of activities that are needed to successfully achieve their respective outcomes. Experience from the first strategy has shown that the most impactful opportunities for statistical inclusion (SPI) and innovation (SPIII) can often be proactively identified and prepared by the JDC team in close collaboration with relevant World Bank and UNHCR teams. In contrast, an open call for proposals has proven an effective mechanism for stimulating and attracting operationally relevant data generation initiatives outside the statistical inclusion space (SPII). Lastly, the JDC has proven that it can

take an effective and independent lead in shaping activities aimed at better presenting and disseminating evidence to practitioners to enhance the use of data and evidence (SPIV). The primary identification mechanisms for new activities under each strategic priority will be built on these realizations, while maintaining flexibility and openness for opportunities reaching the JDC through other channels. The final screening and selection of identified opportunities into the JDC’s work program will be anchored fully in the vision and principles laid out in this strategy; activities will be assessed and selected on the basis of their prospective contribution to at least one of the strategic priorities, in alignment with the Theory of Change, which, in turn, necessitates that activities are transformative, sustainable, and can achieve impact to scale.

Working in partnerships

Since 2020, the JDC’s institutional design and modus operandi has served to convene stakeholders and catalyze efforts around socioeconomic data, both within its parent institutions and more broadly. Going forward, we will continue to rely on a range of partnerships to reach our intended outcomes. The JDC secretariat—made up of senior economists, statisticians, data scientists, communications specialists, management, and administrative support staff—solicits, selects, and provides financial and technical support to global and country-level activities carried out by World Bank and UNHCR teams in collaboration with governments and humanitarian, development, and academic actors. The JDC secretariat oversees and provides hands-on implementation support from the stage of conceptualization to delivery to socialization of findings.

JDC partnerships



The World Bank provides the JDC with a policy framework, as well as capacity and resources. The JDC in turn supports World Bank with the progressive inclusion of forcibly displaced in core data and analytical activities.

The UNHCR provides the JDC with a policy framework, as well as capacity and resources. The JDC in turn helps UNHCR transform its data activities, including to produce, use, and share socioeconomic microdata on affected populations.

The JDC (and its parents) enables public goods, convenes, collaborates and capacitates partners around socioeconomic data and evidence on forced displacement and statelessness.

Partners provide the JDC (and its parents) with strategic advice, opportunities for enhanced data collection, analysis, research, methodologies, tools, and financing. These partners also support implementation of activities.

Examples of partnerships in implementation

Socioeconomic survey of refugees and migrants in Libya

Objective: Generate a solid base of socioeconomic data on migrants, refugees, IDPs, and host communities.

Use: The combined dataset forms the basis for an integrated monitoring system that captures hosts, refugees, migrants, and IDPs, thus bringing together information on disaggregated populations in terms of language, ethnicity, age, gender, and origin. The data will facilitate better planning and programming responses and higher-level policy advocacy and decision-making processes within the UN and in support of government institutions. The proposed research feeds into a broader interagency exercise that investigates the social protection needs of the different population groups (Libyan, refugees, migrants), as reported by the respondent themselves.

Implementing arrangement: The World Food Programme (WFP) has contracted the survey firm and oversees the delivery of the survey. The JDC provides financing to the UNHCR for the component of the survey related to refugees and IDPs, whereas the International Organization for Migration (IOM) covers the component on migrants. The World Bank participates in the collective analysis of the data by the four agencies and the JDC. A coordination mechanism among UNHCR, the World Bank, IOM, WFP, and the JDC has been established.

Partners: IOM, WFP, the World Bank, and UNHCR

Syrian refugees in Lebanon's Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey

Objective: Lebanon's Central Administration of Statistics (CAS) is conducting a nationally representative Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) to assess the well-being of children and women and capture the unequal access to services and protection among the country's various subpopulations. The survey sample design allows for disaggregated results on Syrian households residing in Lebanon living in informal settlements and among the general population.

Use: The 2023 MICS is a pivotal source of data that will shape policy, development strategies, and program design for women and children by government and its partners for the coming years. The MICS will be a major source of Lebanon's reporting against the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Complementing other data sources on refugees in Lebanon, like the Vulnerability Assessment for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon and the Lebanon Vulnerability Assessment Panel, the MICS provides rich and detailed data on Syrian refugees not found elsewhere, including water quality testing, anthropometry, and foundational learning. As the survey is owned by the NSO, it will be an important basis for advocacy and future discussions about the country's refugee situation with government stakeholders. Lastly, the engagement on the MICS may lead to opportunities for further collaboration on refugee inclusion in national surveys.

Implementation arrangement: The survey is implemented by the Lebanon CAS, with overall technical support from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). UNHCR is represented on the Survey Steering Committee. The JDC provides financing to the UNHCR for the refugee component of the MICS. UNHCR and the JDC engage on the sample design of the survey in consultation with the World Bank. Transfer of JDC funds to the MICS is actioned through a UN-to-UN agreement between UNHCR and UNICEF.

Partnership: Government of Lebanon (Prime Minister's Office, Ministries of Education, Health, Justice, Social Affairs, Energy and Water, Interior, municipalities and the CAS) UNICEF, UNHCR, and the World Bank

Resource requirements for 2024–2027

The cost of implementing the JDC Strategy has been estimated at US\$36 million over four years. This covers allocations for country, regional, and global activities as well as financing the joint World Bank and UNHCR secretariat and management of the program. The JDC's senior economists, statisticians, and data scientists directly contribute to the delivery of activities, in addition to convening partners and identifying new opportunities in line with the strategic priorities.

JDC 2024–2027 resource requirements		US\$36M
Work program	Priority I: Systematic inclusion in national statistics	US\$8M
	Priority II: Targeted production of high-quality data and timely analysis to inform policy and programs	US\$9M
	Priority III: Data innovation to increase the quality, timeliness, and accessibility of data	US\$4M
	Priority IV: Operationalize data and evidence to strengthen solutions to forced displacement	US\$4M
JDC secretariat	Implementation and coordination	US\$6M
	Management and administration	US\$5M

Measuring Success

Expected results by the end of 2027



*While we assume uptake among a range of humanitarian and development actors, reporting will be limited to the UNHCR and the World Bank.

Results framework

The JDC Results Framework is derived from the Theory of Change that guides the JDC Strategy. The Theory of Change identifies a set of interrelated actions and outcomes under four strategic priorities to achieve the JDC's mission, and the Results Framework outlines how the JDC plans to monitor these results.

The Results Framework is articulated based on learnings from the first Strategy through the Mid-term Review, regular consultations with donor partners, and internal review.

Through the combination of the selected quantitative output and outcome indicators, as well as complementary qualitative indicators, reporting will help discover trends, lessons learned, and good practices in the JDC's activities.

Realistic but ambitious targets for the indicators are set for the full period of the Strategy, 2024–2027; however, for reporting purposes, annual targets are identified to reflect the scope of secured funds and annually approved work programs. Baselines for the indicators are articulated, among others, using reporting from the previous Results Framework (2021–2023), where available and accounted for in the shown targets. The potential risks in implementation and achieving the intended results are captured under the Risk Registry of the Strategy (Appendix C).

Monitoring and evaluation

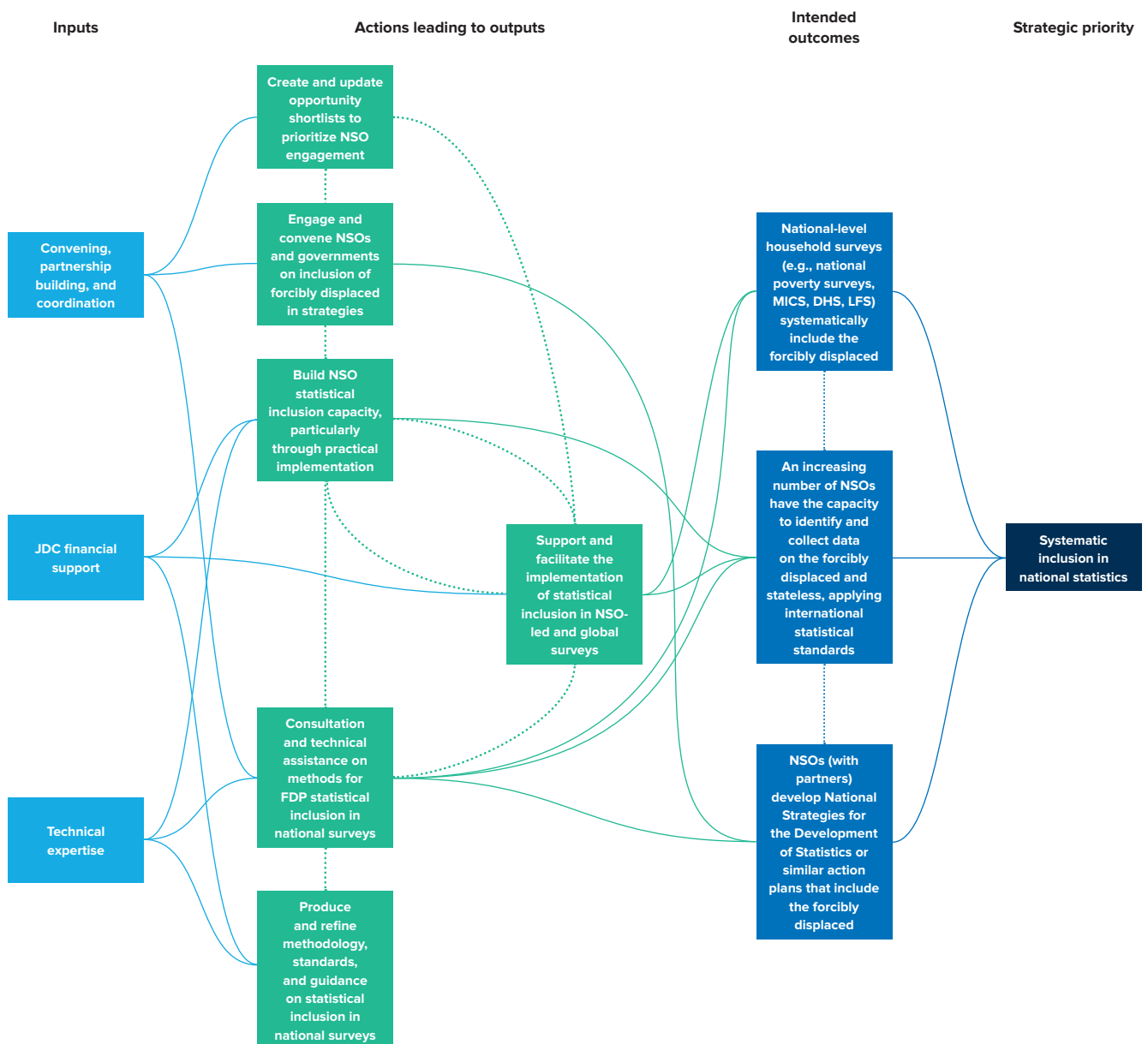
Guidance on the results chain—from project-level deliverables to programmatic-level outcomes—will be provided as part of the Scoping Note that defines each activity, with clear accountability mechanisms put in place for Task Team Leaders and Focal Points.

Aggregate quantitative results will be reported annually together with an overall risk rating based on the risk registry.

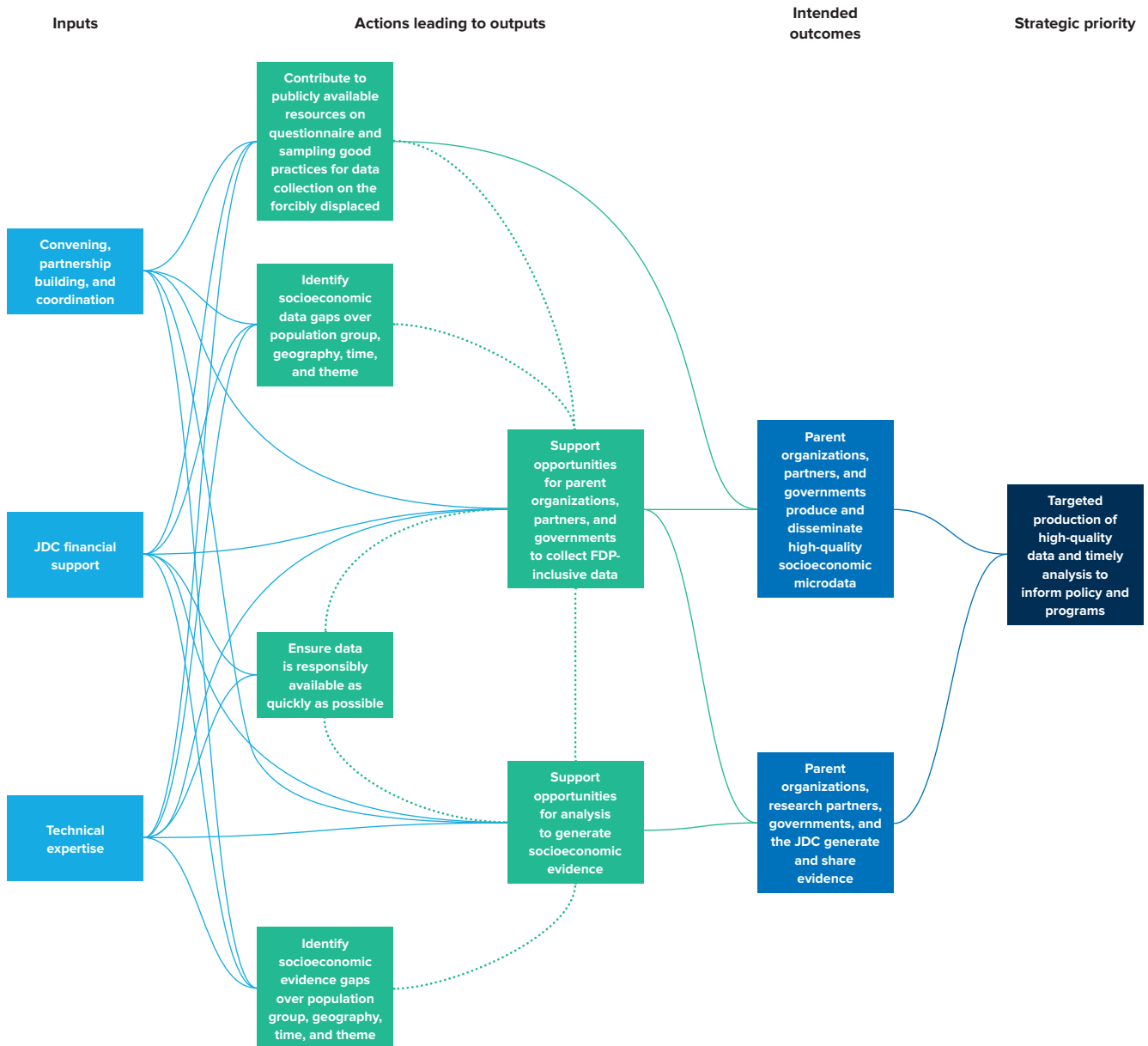
A mid-term evaluation will be conducted to assess progress and allow for course correction.

Appendix A: Theory of Change Per Strategic Priority

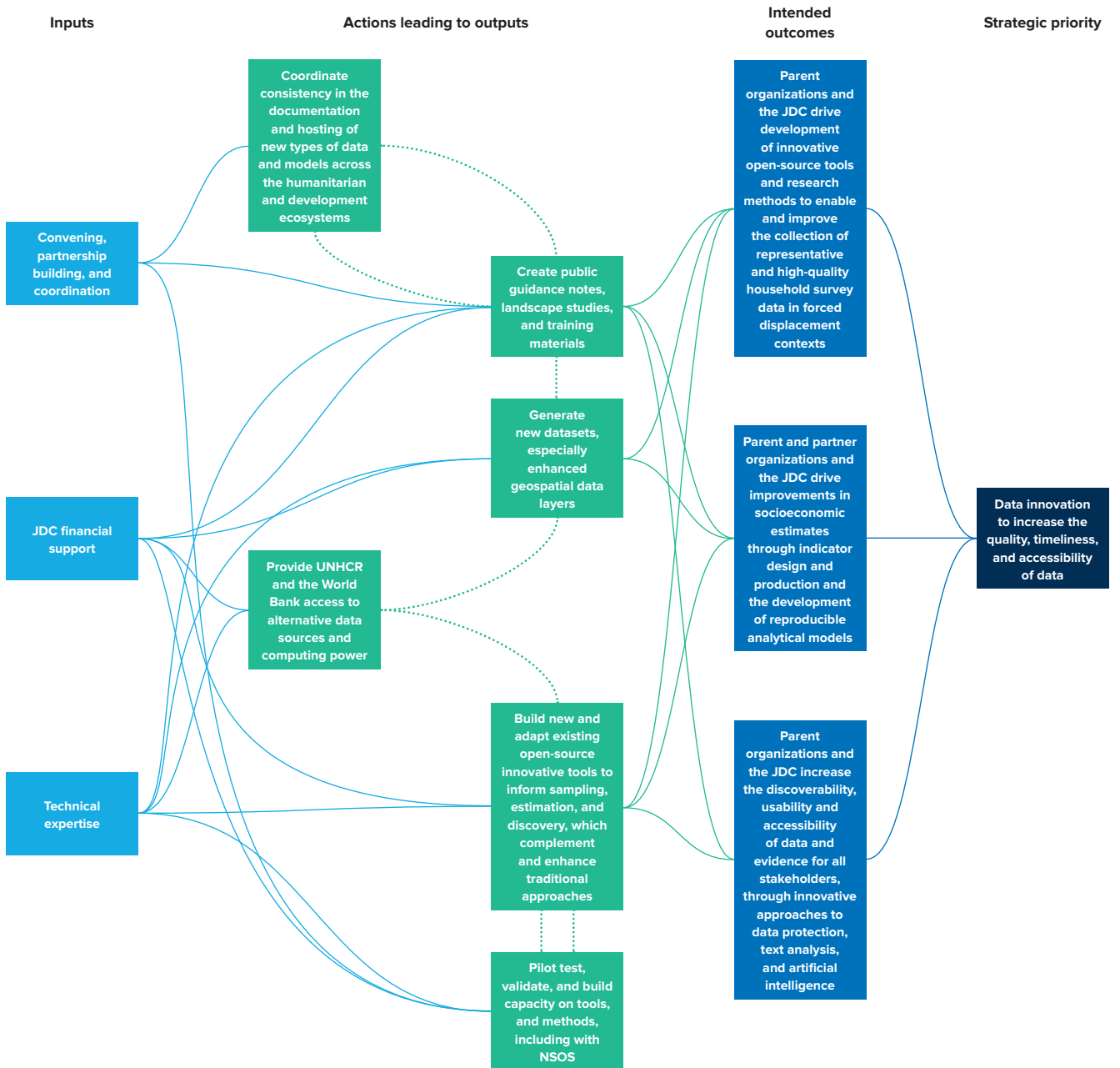
Strategic Priority I: Systematic inclusion in national statistics



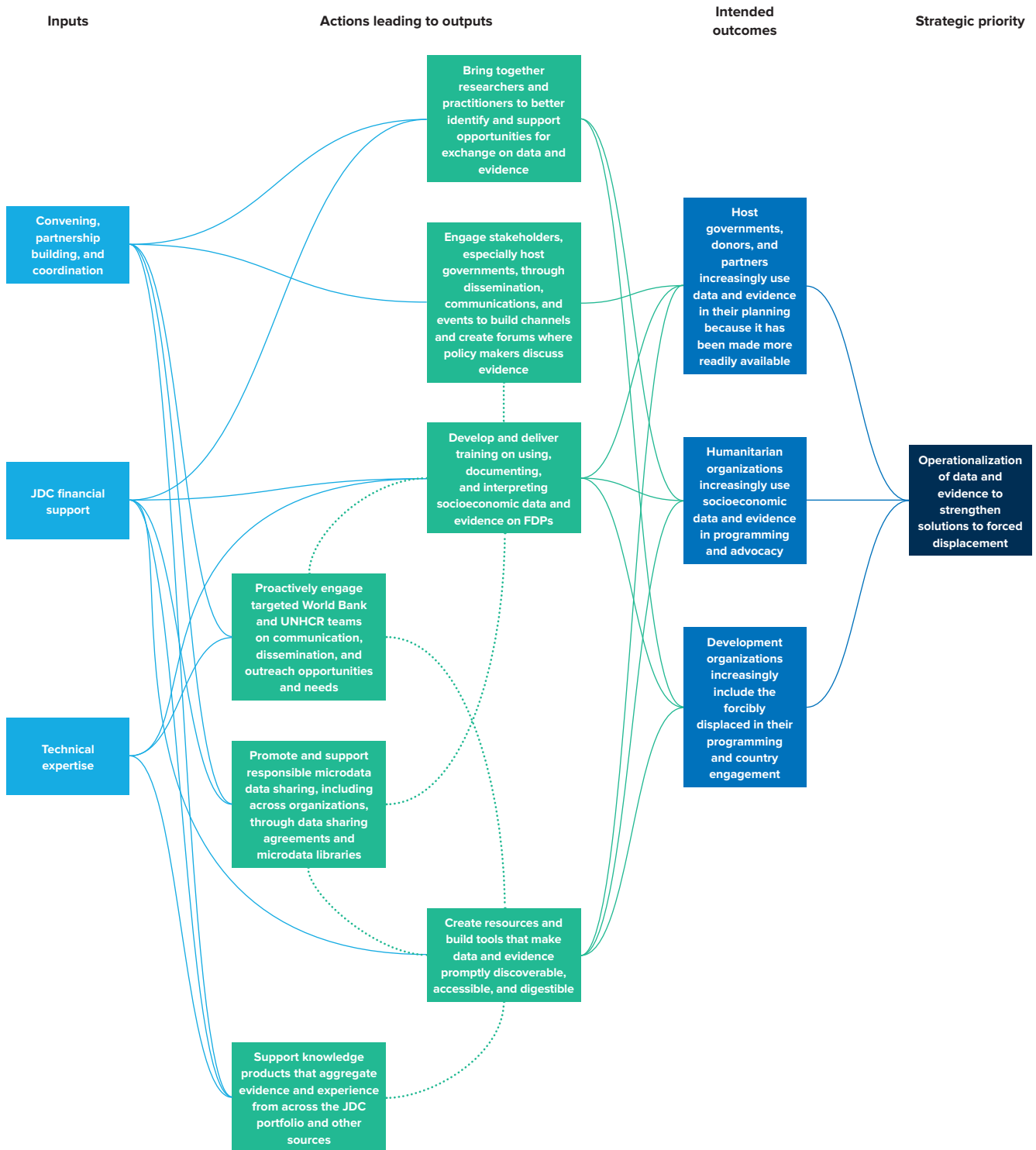
Strategic Priority II: Targeted production of high-quality data and timely analysis to inform policy and programs



Strategic Priority III: Data innovation to increase the quality, timeliness, and accessibility of data



Strategic Priority IV: Operationalize data and evidence to strengthen solutions to forced displacement



Appendix B: Examples of Statistical Inclusion

The table shows examples of national surveys that have achieved some level of statistical inclusion of forcibly displaced populations.

Country	Survey	Are FDPs representatively covered in the data collection exercise?	Have appropriate identification questions been used to identify the forcibly displaced in data collection?	Have FDP data and results been integrated into the wider national data collection exercise?
CAR	Enquête Harmonisé sur les Conditions de Vie des Ménages (EHCVM) 2020	Yes	Mostly	Yes
Chad	Enquête Harmonisée Sur Les Conditions de Vie des Ménages (ECOSIT-4) 2018, with RHCHS	Yes	No	Yes
Chad	Enquête Harmonisée Sur Les Conditions de Vie des Ménages 2022 (ECOSIT-5)	Yes	Mostly	Yes
Ethiopia	Socioeconomic Survey of Refugees in Ethiopia (SESRE) 2022, modelled onto HoWStat	Mostly	Yes	No
Uganda	DHS 2022	Mostly	Yes	Yes
Uganda	Refugee and Host Survey 2018, modeled onto Uganda National Household Survey (UNHS) 2016/17	Yes	Yes	Partially
Uganda	Uganda National Household Survey (UNHS) 2024	Yes	TBD	Yes
Honduras	Encuesta Permanente de Hogares de Propósitos Múltiples (EPHPM) 2022-2023	TBD	Yes	Yes
Lebanon	MICS 2023	Mostly	Mostly	Yes
Jordan	DHS 2018	Partially	No	Yes
Georgia	MICS 2018	Mostly	Partially	Yes
Colombia	DHS 2015	Partially	Yes	Yes
Peru	Encuesta Nacional de Hogares (ENAH) 2024	Yes	TBD	Yes
Iraq	Iraqi Household Socioeconomic Survey III (IHSES3) 2023	Partially	Mostly	Yes

Appendix C: Risk Registry

Identified risk	Operational	Financial	Protection	Mitigation	Risk level
Lack of political will: Change of government interest or demand after the inception of an activity may cause failure in implementation or loss of operational relevance.	x			Activities should be developed based on a clear analysis of demand and opportunity, in consultation with the host government and key stakeholders in the country.	Medium
Fragile country situation: The internal situation in a country may aggravate or deteriorate to the point that an activity is delayed or cannot be implemented.	x			The eligibility of activities should include a political and security assessment of the situation by key stakeholders in the country to inform them of the feasibility of implementation. Positive assessments should always anticipate alternative options and measures, including the possibility for delay or modification of activities in an unforeseen negative turn of events.	Medium
Data protection breaches: Data of particularly vulnerable populations such as refugees, IDPs, and stateless persons is insufficiently protected in data sharing, data collection, preparation, and implementation.	x		x	Consistently implement data sharing agreements guided by the global Framework Data Sharing Agreement between the World Bank and UNHCR. Implement good practices from data curation and anonymization workstreams from the UNHCR Microdata Library and methodologies developed by the World Bank and UNHCR.	Low
Protection-operational disconnect: Absence of protection input and considerations in the review of potential activities may lead to outcomes that are remote from protection considerations and serving mainly technical sectors.			x	Encourage consultations with protection colleagues in proposing activities to the JDC. Involve protection colleagues in the conceptualization of activities, including peer review or decision meetings as appropriate.	Medium
Data becomes obsolete: Discrepancy between the time needed to produce data and analysis and the urgency of the data required for operational (or policy and program) opportunities.	x		x	Invest in innovation that can enable updated socioeconomic indicator estimates between surveys. Invest in analytical and communications support to produce briefs (or other just-in-time analysis) in anticipation of final reports. Conduct careful feasibility and implementation assessments of potential activities. Ensure strong planning and accountability on delivery timeline.	Medium
Lack of resources: Donor fatigue or competing priorities may create shortfalls in the budget required to achieve the strategy.	x	x		Through appropriate investments and proactive engagement, generate high-impact deliverables. Budget planning processes, early and proactive monitoring of funds raised, and gaps. Allocate resources to communicating added value and building partnerships.	Medium
Operational disconnect: Activities developed without the involvement of both parent organizations and operations colleagues could become tangential, incongruous, and irrelevant in informing operations, programs, policy, and research.	x			Activities should be developed in close consultation with the parent organizations and other partners at country level, ensuring that demand and a clear analysis/assessment of operational relevance informs the selection and follow-up.	High

Identified risk	Operational	Financial	Protection	Mitigation	Risk level
Diagnosis difficulties: Parent organizations may not have the capacity to accurately diagnose their data needs in response to forced displacement.	x	x		The JDC should proactively explore opportunities with its parent organizations and in-country partners. For example, the JDC can build upon the World Bank and UNHCR regional coordination where identification of joint priorities and related data needs are integral.	Low
Lack of capacity in data use and application of tools: An insufficient coverage of skills in the parent organizations could leave them without the capacity to use data and tools to inform operations and programs.	x		x	Capacity assessments of parent organizations can help to prioritize which activities would be most useful for the parent organization and which ones will not be used due to a lack of capacity. Invest in capacity as appropriate.	Medium
Lack of resources in communications: The dissemination and communication of activities rely on time, skills, and resources in the parent organization, which may not be available.	x	x		Increased investment in communications and capacity building from the JDC may be needed where resources lack in the parent organizations. Invest in capacity as appropriate.	Low
Missed opportunities (specific to Strategic Priority I): The JDC misses chances for statistical inclusion in countries and contexts if UNHCR and the World Bank are not perceived as sufficiently engaged in this area. If UNHCR and the World Bank are not linked in these discussions, the JDC may not be aware of places in which it could work.	x			The JDC should engage directly with its established partner network to learn about and identify opportunities for national statistical inclusion. For example, engagement in EGRIS provides access to 57 national statistical offices and regional statistical actors, many representing countries with internal displacement, stateless persons, and hosting refugees.	Medium
Time constraints (specific to Strategic Priority I): Since National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDSs) and similar action plans are developed every 5–10 years, it may not be feasible for the JDC to engage in these kinds of projects with a 4-year strategy.	x			Where opportunities are identified, engagement must take place in close partnership with in-country actors who are committed to following up beyond the JDC's involvement.	High
Weak sustainability prospect (specific to Strategic Priority I): Lack of necessary roles and commitments in the parent organizations and among partners in driving statistical inclusion, could make this priority unsustainable post-JDC.	x	x		Building strong partnerships among actors who can impact or have a stake, can support a continued drive toward statistical inclusion. Specifically, signal proof of concept where statistical inclusion has been a success and seek to grow engagement within the organizations.	High
High stakeholder expectation (specific to Strategic Priority III): Stakeholders may not understand or be able to adjust their expectations to the experimental nature of innovative approaches, sparking disappointment or discontent in the progress made.	x			Clear communication at the beginning of an activity concerning the nature of experimental innovation and not overpromising on deadlines and results.	Medium

