

## Module II

### **Typologies of Displacement and Resettlement as Processes in Development: Causes, Types, Concepts, Size, and Frequency**



---

## Introductory Note

**D**evelopment-caused displacement is only one type among several types of forced displacement population movements. To understand better the considerably different nature of development-caused displacement from any other type, its characteristics, its specific risks, and the resulting necessity of managing such severe risks, it is important to place DFDR within the general typology of population displacements.

This module is devoted to the explanation of the typologies of forced population displacement: first, the general typology, several ways/typologies apt to classify and organize our thinking about the various kinds and displacement occurring specifically in development projects. The module enables us to understand the relevant differences of displacement in development projects from displacement caused by civil war situations and other conflicts, or by natural disasters (e.g., floods, tsunami, volcanic eruptions, etc.) or by environmental projects and other types. Managers who have worked on refugee situations are often called to work also on

development projects that cause displacement, and they need to understand the differences, the new problems they confront, as well as the new opportunities they encounter in the context of a development project.

The module explains the typology first with respect to two fundamental criteria:

- (i) the cause of displacement, and
- (ii) the location where and the manner in which the displaced people are resettled.

The cross-correlation of these criteria produces a basic typology of seven types for displacement and resettlement.

Further, the lecture briefly presents the basic conceptual apparatus, signals lexical confusions, and emphasizes why correct and transparent concepts are indispensable for practical project operations. The module/lecture also discusses the example of country differences in the basic terminology for development-caused forced displacement and resettlement (DFDR). The Indian terminology of resettlement and rehabilitation (R&R) is explained and questioned.

But not all displacement and resettlement processes are the same. Therefore, moving to the internal typology of DFDR itself, the lecture specifies the criteria and options for distinguishing types and subtypes of DFDR processes, by agent of displacement (public or private sector projects), by macro-sectors of the national economy (urban, agriculture, transport, etc.) and other criteria, including the discussion of the “eminent domain” principle in public or private sector projects. Subtypes of DFDR sponsored by the state are identified as well. An alternative DFDR typology results from using the location at arrival site as a criterion for classification.

Each of these classifications can be seen as another lens that illuminates the same range of displacement and resettlement processes each time from another angle

and perspective. Thus, each typology contributes toward building a more differentiated and nuanced body of knowledge, superior to a wholesale depiction. In turn, this pays off richly in practice, when specifically tailored problem-solving proves always superior to standard approaches.

Throughout the module, the implications of sub-typological distinctions for operational risk management are highlighted. The conclusions focus on why typologies are important for risk management in on-the-ground operations, for decision makers, and for project managers. Differentiated knowledge is essential for taking different approaches. Opportunities can be identified in each setting for transferability of risk-counteracting approaches between different types/subtypes of DFDR.

## Lecture II

# **Typologies of Displacement and Resettlement as Processes in Development**

*Causes, Types, Concepts, Size, and Frequency*

# Typology of Displacement

## Lecture II: Main themes

- Development-caused forced displacement and resettlement (DFDR) is only ONE of multiple forms of forced displacement
- Definition of basic concepts
- Placing DFDR within a general typology of displacements
- Criteria for defining the types of displacement
- Fundamental differences between DFDR and other types of forced displacements
- The states of DFDR processes

# Definitions of Key Concepts

“Forced Displacements”

“Involuntary Resettlement”

## Conceptual Proliferation or Lexical Confusion?

- “involuntary resettlers”
- “forced resettlers”
- “internally displaced people”
- “displacees”
- “refugees”
- “environmental refugees”
- “conservation refugees”
- “project-affected people”
- “disaster refugees”

- “eviction” and “evictees”
- “oustees”
- “exilees”
- “transferees”
- “forced migrants”
- “asylum seekers”
- “internal evacuees”
- “diaspora” and “diasporites”

Stick with the good, well-defined, fundamental concepts!

# **Employ Correct and Clear Concepts**

## **Kaplan's First Theorem of Communication**

### **First theorem postulates:**

“50% of the problems in the world (of researchers) result from people using the same words with different meanings.”

**But then, wherefrom comes the other 50% of our problems?**

## **Employ Correct and Clear Concepts!**

### **Kaplan's Second Theorem of Communication:**

*“The other 50% of the problems comes from people using different words with the same meaning.”*

## **Two Criteria for the General Typology of Displaced Populations**

Criteria must account for both ends of the displacement-relocation process and must employ generally accepted indicators.

- 1. Cause (cause is a proxy for):**  
onset of displacement; agent, nature of coercion
- 2. Location: where do displaced people end up?**
  - inside their country, or crossing the borders?
  - on pre-planned sites, or at random, non-planned?

## Figure 1 Causal-Locational Typology

#	Cause and Nature of Forced Displacement	Location at Resettlement (First arrival site)	Within Country of Origin	Cross Border
			_____ IDPs	_____ Refugees
1	Development-caused Displacement		+ +	0
2	War + Civil War Displacement		+	+
3	Ethnic/Religious Persecution Displacement		+	+
4	Disaster-caused Displacement		+ +	0
5	Conservation/Environment Displacement		+ +	0 +
6	Military-Facilities Displacement		+ +	0 (+)
7	Border-Change Displacement (Population Transfers)		+ -	+

## **General Typology: Conceptual Implications**

The umbrella concepts (as used in English) are:

Displaced Populations vs. “Forced Migrants”(?)

“Forced migration” is not a concept adequate for development-displacement

Main “Legal” Subcategories: Refugees and IDPs

IDPs = Internally Displaced Populations

IDPs are a non-homogeneous category

“Refugees” as concept should not be used for internally displaced people

## The Magnitude of Development Displacement

14 to 15 million new DDPs (Development Displaced People) each year, compared to some 10 million each year in 1991–2000

(This equals about 100 million during 1991–2000 and some 140 to 150 million in the decade 2001–2010)

Dams alone displaced between 40 to 80 million (WCD data)

India: 60 million over 50 years (1950–2000)

PRC: 70 million over 55 years (1950–2005)

DDPs = single largest category among all internally displaced populations (IDPs)

## Issues in Quantification

- Incomplete statistics. Imprecise counting: the need for census-type counting
- Omission of population growth rates (between counting and actual relocation)
- Intentional understatement of displacement size by some project owners, to facilitate project approval
- Count individuals, not only families or household units (it is more accurate)
- Some types of projects tend to displace large populations
- Many projects entail “small-sized displacements”—important for many projects
- Risks to individuals are (generally) the same even in projects causing small displacements

## Discrepancies: Government Understatements and Real Data on Development Displacements

Country	Project name	Estimate at project appraisal (Gov. data)	Revised by World Bank during implementation (# people)	Rate of understatement (%)
Congo	Ruzizi II Power project	135	15,000	99
India	Singrauli I&II Mining projects	0	49,000	100
India	Farakka	0	53,500	100
Turkey	Izmir Water Supply	3,700	13,000	71
Columbia	Guavio Hydroelectric Dam	1,000	5,500	99
Cameroon	Second Urban Project	12,500	24,000	48
India	Andhra Pradesh Irrigation II	63,000	150,000	58
India	Madhya Pradesh Medium Irrigation	8,000	19,000	59

Source: World Bank, Resettlement and Development (1996).

## Official (and Academic) Underestimation of DFDR Size

*“Why is it that academics who write about refugees, even when they are happy to describe them as a subset of forced migrants, show so little interest in the substantial literature that now exists on the most “forced” and **most numerous** forced migrants of all, those displaced by development projects?”*

David Turton

- Discuss this statement/question in class
- Have you encountered other instances in which the issues of DFDR were/are underestimated?

## The “Anatomy” of DFDR Processes Three Stages

1. The **displacement** [ = expropriation and gradual dismantling of socioeconomic patterns ]
2. The **physical transfer** process to a different location;
3. The **reconstruction of livelihoods** and social **networks**.

### **Implications**

## Country Variations in Terminology Relevant for Risk Management

- **India: conceptualizing “DFDR” as “R&R” (Resettlement and Rehabilitation)**
  - ⇒ Difference in terminology, while content is similar
  - ⇒ Why adequate concepts are operationally important?
- **Critique of the “R&R” terminology**
  - ⇒ Omits explicit mention of “displacement” seen as “uncomfortable” term: facilitates underestimation of the destructive content
  - ⇒ Separates Rehabilitation and Resettlement
  - ⇒ Research in India found that “displacement” is often not followed by resettlement; “resettlement” not followed by “rehabilitation”
- **Implications for risk management in each of the three stages**
- **Can a more transparent terminology help improve practice?**

## Implications of DFDR Process-Structure for Risk Management

If DFDR has a three-stage structure, what are the risk management tasks in each stage?

- Preventive management of risks during pre-displacement and expropriation
- Risk management during transfer
- Risk reversal during resettlement with reconstruction

## Subtypes within DFDR: Public and Private Sector Displacements

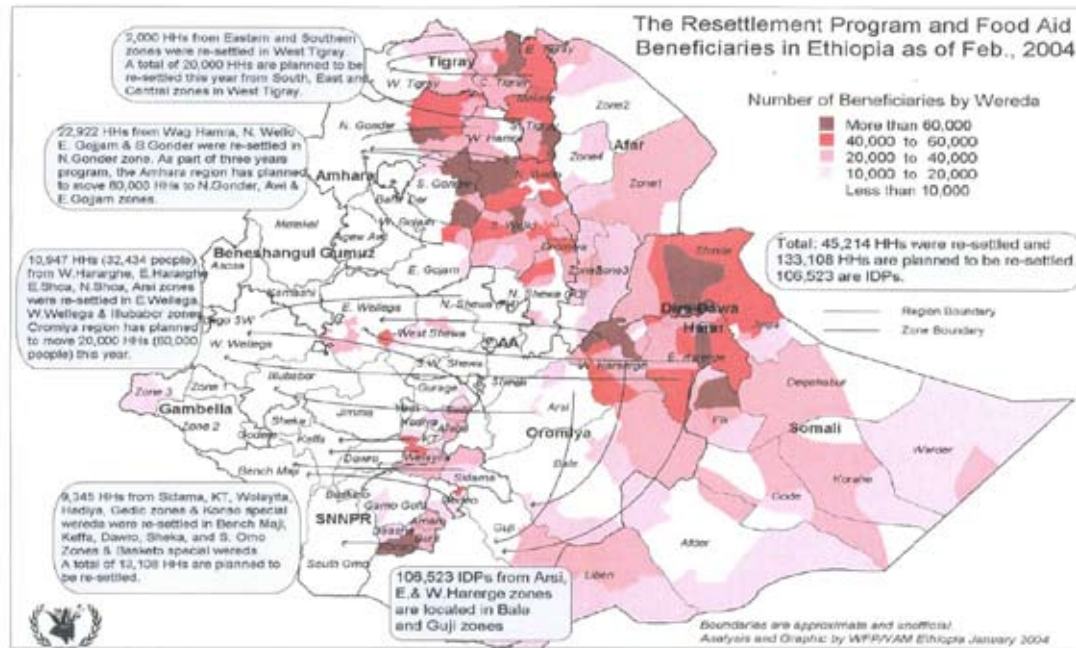
[Not all cases of development-induced displacement have the same characteristics.  
There is need to identify subtypes within DFDR]

- Criteria for distinguishing subtypes (by agent, by sector, by relocation pattern, etc.)
  - Classification by the agent of displacement
    - ⇒ The role of the state : public agencies and public interest  
The “eminent domain” tool in DFDR displacement
    - ⇒ The private sector as agent of displacement
    - ⇒ The meaning of “public use” vs. “public interest”
    - ⇒ Should “eminent domain” be used by the state for the benefit of private sector projects?
- Class discussion: Explain why private sector projects should acquire land by market-purchase rather than by state expropriation?

## Subtypes of Public Sector DFDRs

1. State-sponsored development/investment programs  
[infrastructure, public utilities, highways, etc.]
2. State-sponsored programs for conservation purposes
3. State-sponsored programs for constructing military facilities
4. State-sponsored large population transfer programs:  
developmental rationale or disaster-prevention rationale? e.g.,  
Tanzania, Indonesia, Ethiopia, or with mixed rationale

# Ethiopia DFDR: Development? Disaster Avoidance? Political Control?



## **Sectoral Subtypologies of DFDR**

**Are sectoral differences in displacement relevant for managing risks?**

Consider and compare:

1. Urban sector displacements;
2. Agriculture and forest sector displacements;
3. Industrial development-displacements;
4. Transport sector displacements;
5. Can the class suggest other sectoral subtypes?

## **Alternative Criterion for Identifying Subtypes: Locational Patterns of Resettlement at Arrival Site**

1. Creating entire “*New settlements*”
2. “*In-fill resettlement*” within existing host communities
3. “*Linear resettlement*” or “*Corridor resettlement*” [railway tracks]
4. “*Vertical resettlement*” (former single-floor rural-dwellers shifted to multi-floor, urban and peri-urban buildings, e.g., PRC)

## Conclusions: Why are Subtypes Important for Risk Management?

- “Not all cats are black”: not all DFDR types/subtypes are identical
- Differences are enormously consequential for managing risks in practice
  - ⇒ Knowledge is essential for differential approaches
  - ⇒ Operational relevance of each classification
  - ⇒ Various subtypes may result in different social consequences and requirements
- Host populations react differently.
- General risks tend to be similar in most types, but type-specific risks vary
- Are “good solutions to risk” transferable between “subtypes” of displacements?