

Photo credit: Jerome Elie / ADSP 2024 (Refugee camp - Cox's Bazar)

About ADSP

The Asia Displacement Solutions Platform is a joint initiative of the Danish Refugee Council, International Rescue Committee, and Norwegian Refugee Council, which aims to contribute to the development of comprehensive solutions for displaced persons across the Afghan and Myanmar displacement situations.

Welcome to the first ADSP newsletter of 2026. These newsletters are intended to spotlight some of the issues being publicly tackled by ADSP, and the programmatic work done to promote solutions to displacement through policy change. In addition, the newsletter provides updates on global or regional processes in which we are engaged.

Each newsletter contains information related to ADSP focus countries, exploring programme developments and regional migration trends. We encourage members and external stakeholders alike to share ideas or information that you would like to see addressed.

These newsletters are intended to improve information-sharing between ADSP member organisations, and to highlight the work of the platform more publicly. We hope you find the content useful and that it supports your work or generates future ideas and collaborations.

For any questions related to ADSP, please don't hesitate to contact the Head of ADSP, Jerome Elie at jerome.elie@adsp.ngo

Myanmar Displacement Workstream

This section reflects updates on ADSP activities related to the Myanmar Displacement Workstream under the Protecting Refugees in Asia (PRiA) project funded by ECHO, as well as other related initiatives. The PRiA project began in July 2021 and entered a fourth phase in July 2025. Current project partners include the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), HOST International Malaysia, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) – Indonesia, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) – India, Mixed Migration Centre (MMC) – Asia, and ADSP. With its focus on solutions to displacement, and adopting a 'one-refugee approach', ADSP leads the project's advocacy and coordination result, which fosters concerted regional advocacy, promotes regional responses to displacement, and supports national-level advocacy in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand.

Funded by the European Union

February Malaysia Advocacy and Capacity Strengthening Engagement

From 6-15 February, ADSP organized an advocacy and capacity strengthening work trip to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. On 7 February, ADSP attended the 'Parliamentary Symposium on Access to Education and Legal Work for Refugees' co-organized by the Parliamentary Special Select Committee on International Relations and International Trade and UNHCR Malaysia. Insights from the symposium panel discussions on strengthening refugees' access to education and legal work inform ADSP's ongoing engagement on these issues throughout the region. During the event, ADSP exchanged with stakeholders from civil society, academia, and the diplomatic community on trends and potential policy measures to support refugee resilience and self-reliance.

On 9 February, ADSP co-organized a closed-door advocacy workshop with HOST International Malaysia Foundation for civil society partners which aimed to foster a common understanding of the Refugee Registration Document (DPP) program and to develop an aligned advocacy approach for targeted engagement with regional and Malaysian stakeholders. During the workshop, participants collectively developed a key messages document and an advocacy roadmap to inform potential future joint advocacy initiatives.

On 10 and 11 February, ADSP organized meetings with international organizations, diplomatic officials, and other stakeholders to discuss the implementation of the DPP, aiming to confirm that it will support improved access to rights and advance a stronger enabling environment for durable solutions for refugees in Malaysia.

From 12 to 15 February, working with DRC and its RLO partner in Kuala Lumpur, ADSP organized a capacity strengthening session for Refugee-Led Organizations on 'Data Protection and Information Management – Principles and Practice'. The training, which was attended by 31 participants, aimed to strengthen the capacity of local and refugee-led organizations in Malaysia to undertake data collection, maintain safe data storage, and responsibly use data for advocacy.

Regional Rohingya Advocacy Forum (RRAF)

On 11 March, ADSP facilitated the 13th quarterly hybrid meeting of the Regional Rohingya Advocacy Forum (RRAF) co-organized with IOM and the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific. The meeting included discussions on the regional advocacy implications of recent elections in Bangladesh, Myanmar, and Thailand as well as the coordination of advocacy messaging on Rohingya return and repatriation. The next meeting of the Forum is planned for June 2026.

Other engagements under the Myanmar displacement workstream

Aside from but connected to the PRiA Project, ADSP regularly convenes its members through the Myanmar Situation Sub-Regional Working Group. This quarter the Working Group served as a space to share updates on recent

activities, including an ongoing research on intra-regional complementary pathways, and discuss options for potential future collaboration.

ADSP also joins regional multi-stakeholder fora and coordination meetings relevant to displacement and solutions, including UN-led inter-agency coordination meetings and regional discussions on the Route-Based Approach.

Afghanistan Displacement Workstream

ADSP's Afghanistan displacement workstream is mostly supported through generous funding from the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) and adopts a focus on evidence-based advocacy, capacity development, and regional coordination. In keeping with its vision and mission, ADSP maintains a strong focus on promoting durable solutions for displaced Afghans within Afghanistan and for those in neighboring and other countries.

Building the evidence base to inform solutions

Over the last quarter of 2025, ADSP and Samuel Hall continued their collaboration on a set of publications, together with a local partner (REHA - Resilience, Environment and Humanitarian Aid) that will shed light on past reintegration programming initiatives in Afghanistan as well as on Afghan authorities' policies and practices related to durable solutions. ADSP also initiated planning steps towards other evidence-based outputs to be worked on in 2026, thus continuing to increase the evidence base to inform and influence solutions programming for displaced Afghans in the current complex context.

Other engagements under the Afghanistan displacement workstream

During this quarter, ADSP's Afghanistan Situation Sub-Regional Working Group continued to meet regularly to exchange information and coordinate initiatives. This space is particularly important for ADSP and its members to develop coordinated public and private advocacy initiatives on solutions-related topics. This space particularly allowed to gather members' contributions and feedback on ongoing efforts to build the evidence base to inform solutions.

ADSP has also joined UN-led regional interagency meetings on the Afghanistan situation and exchanges with various stakeholders at regional level, including on the Route-Based Approach. Moreover, ADSP continued to engage with the Support Platform for the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) and its Secretariat (UNHCR) following the Official Transition of Chair from the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Swiss Confederation in late March.

Other Activities

New ADSP Strategy

In January, ADSP launched a process that will lead to the adoption of a new ADSP Strategy for the period 2026-2029. Supported by a consultant team, the process involves extensive consultations with ADSP members, partners and other relevant interlocutors, aiming to produce the new Strategy by mid-year. In parallel, the Executive Committee and the Head of ADSP work on renewing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between its members, thus ensuring continuity and adaptation of ADSP's governance alongside its strategic directions.

March 2025 UNHCR Standing Committee Meeting

As in previous years, in February and March, ADSP contributed to leading the development and finalization of the NGO Statement on Asia and the Pacific for the UNHCR 95th Standing Committee Meeting. Focusing on the Afghanistan and Myanmar situations, and highlighting current challenges and recommendations, the statement was delivered by a representative of a Refugee-Led Organization, who traveled to Geneva with ADSP support. The full statement, which reflects the views of a wide range of NGOs and RLOs, is available on the website of the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), which coordinates NGO engagement with the UNHCR governing body meetings.

Presentation at the Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Weeks:

On 5 March, the Head of ADSP, Jerome Elie, was invited to contribute to an IOM-led session on 'Setting the scene and measuring progress toward displacement solutions', at the 2026 Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Weeks (HNPW). His intervention provided Lessons learned from an earlier collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on the publication *Toward Durable Solutions: Mapping and Analysis of Displacement Data in Asia and the Pacific* (2025).

ADSP Members' Publications (January-March 2026)

Here are some of ADSP members' publications over the last quarter of 2025, relevant to ADSP's geographic and thematic areas of focus:

Publications:

- Tackling the Tazkira (National ID) Documentation Gap Among Afghan Returnees, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 26 March 2026.

News and stories:

- Afghanistan's communities on the frontline of repeated climate shocks, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), 8 January 2026.
- IRC expands food assistance in Afghanistan as 4.7 million people face starvation, International Rescue Committee (IRC), 13 January 2026.
- Bangladesh: Rohingya families lose everything in devastating fire amid funding crisis, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 21 January 2026.
- Afghanistan: "Welcome to my new home", Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 25 February 2026.
- Afghanistan: 6 months after earthquake, families face abandonment, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 26 February 2026.
- Middle East: We witness how civilians are suffering, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 4 March 2026.
- The humanitarian impact of escalating hostilities between Afghanistan and Pakistan, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), 5 March 2026.
- Rights in action: A woman leading change in the Rohingya response, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 8 March 2026.
- Beyond survival: Rights, justice and action for Rohingya women, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 8 March 2026.
- Turning the tide on climate disaster in Bangladesh, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 10 March 2026.
- Afghanistan/Pakistan war: Living in a poultry house, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 11 March 2026.
- Afghanistan-Pakistan: Civilians paying highest price for escalating conflict, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 13 March 2026.
- Iran: voices from the ground, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 16 March 2026.
- Afghanistan joint statement: Humanitarian NGOs condemn civilian toll in Kabul airstrikes and call for respect for international humanitarian law, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 18 March 2026.
- Afghanistan faces another war – what's happening?, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 20 March 2026.
- Middle East War: The vast human cost is overlooked, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 26 March 2026.
- Iran: One month of war leaves millions in extreme uncertainty, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 27 March 2026.

ADSP Funding Partners

ADSP is thankful for the funding provided since 2021 by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) through the multi-partner project "Protecting Refugees in Asia (PRiA)", which supports activities under the Myanmar displacement workstream. The PRIA project aims to inform integrated regional protection responses in support of refugees in South-East Asia. This contribution allows ADSP to lead the PRiA project's advocacy result, fostering concerted regional advocacy, promoting regional responses to displacement, and supporting national-level advocacy in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand.

ADSP is grateful for the longstanding funding provided by the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), which supports activities under the Afghanistan displacement workstream. This contribution allows ADSP to develop evidence-based advocacy to influence national, regional and global processes with the aim of fostering solutions for displaced Afghans. DANIDA funding also allows ADSP to collaborate with research entities while also supporting the capacity development and engagement of local and national partners into regional and global processes.

ADSP is thankful for the funding provided by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) through the multi-partner project "Bridging Regions, Building Futures: Advancing durable solutions to displacement through joint action bridging global policy and implementation (BRBF, 2025-2028)." This contribution supports ADSP's core activities across both the Afghanistan displacement and Myanmar displacement workstreams. A collaboration between ADSP, the Middle East Durable Solutions Platform (ME DSP), the Regional Durable Solutions Secretariat (ReDSS), DRC and NRC, the BRBF project also promotes cross-regional collaboration and knowledge sharing on durable solutions for displaced individuals and their communities.

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