

Photo credit: DRC Bangladesh CO 2026 (Refugee camp - Cox's Bazar)

About ADSP

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

Welcome to the second 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 and learning.

Each newsletter contains information related to ADSP focus countries, exploring programme developments and regional displacement 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 do not 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.

Over this quarter, ADSP and other action partners completed the fourth and final phase of the PRiA IV project. ADSP thanks ECHO for its support and partners for their collaboration over the years and looks forward to continued and renewed partnerships as ADSP maintains its focus on promoting solutions for people displaced from Myanmar.

Funded by the European Union

Registration and Documentation in Malaysia

On 20 May, ADSP co-organized with HOST International Malaysia Foundation and the International Detention Coalition a briefing for the EU Human Rights Working Group in Malaysia on 'Registration and Documentation of Refugees in Malaysia.' The briefing addressed recent developments with the rollout of the refugee registration document (DPP) program by the Malaysian government. The briefing drew on key findings and lessons learned from the implementation of the Tracking Refugee Information System (TRIS) registration scheme implemented in Malaysia from 2017-2025, and key insights from data collected through community-based registration systems on refugee arrivals.

In addition to the briefing, ADSP organized meetings from 19 to 22 May with targeted stakeholders (including Malaysia's national human rights institution, SUHAKAM, and the Malaysian Bar Council's Migrants and Refugees Committee) to discuss the implementation of the DPP and how it should support improved access to rights and advance a stronger enabling environment for durable solutions for refugees in Malaysia.

On 19 June, ADSP co-organized with HOST International Malaysia Foundation a discussion on the DPP for civil society partners in Malaysia. The meeting was a follow-up to the 9 February workshop on the DPP co-organized by ADSP and HOST. Meeting participants shared updates on recent advocacy initiatives undertaken to influence the DPP and discussed updates to key advocacy messages and options for potential follow-up advocacy initiatives.

Intra-Regional Complementary Pathways

In June, ADSP published a Briefing Note on Exploring Intra-Regional Complementary Pathways for Refugees in South and Southeast Asia. This note explores the potential of expanding complementary pathways for refugees, focusing in particular on intra-regional options and qualifications/skills-based pathways. The note argues that, with attention to protection needs, intra-regional complementary pathways may offer a scalable mechanism for States in South and Southeast Asia to respond to the challenges of forced displacement and deliver sustained benefits to refugees and host communities. The note ends with targeted policy recommendations for government, donors, international agencies, and other humanitarian stakeholders to realize the full potential of intra-regional complementary pathways through the adoption of a protection-first approach.

To disseminate the briefing note, on 26 June ADSP organized a launch event in Bangkok. Following a presentation of the briefing note's key arguments, panelists and attendees discussed the recommendations and examined potential opportunities and barriers to expanding complementary pathways for refugees in the region.

Comprehensive Solutions for Refugees in Indonesia

On 22 June, ADSP contributed to a 'Workshop on Comprehensive Solutions for Refugees' organized by JRS Indonesia and the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN). Workshop participants exchanged experiences, identified potential pathways forward, and explored options for enhancing the implementation of comprehensive solutions for refugees in Indonesia. Sessions focused on supporting self-reliance in Indonesia, developing intra-regional complementary pathways, and advancing a roadmap for comprehensive solutions for refugees in Indonesia. During the workshop, ADSP presented key arguments from its recent Briefing Note on 'Exploring Intra-Regional Complementary Pathways for Refugees in South and Southeast Asia'.

Regional Rohingya Advocacy Forum (RRAF)

On 24 June, ADSP facilitated the 14th 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 focused on 'registration, documentation, and legal identity', and included a presentation of regional trends and discussions on recent developments in Malaysia and Bangladesh. The next meeting of the Forum is planned for September 2026.

World Refugee Day

On 20 June, ADSP joined and intervened at a multi-stakeholder World Refugee Day event organized by its partner MERAT (Myanmar Ethnic Refugees Advocacy Team) in Kuala Lumpur. The event focused on the theme "Protection Challenges and Responses for Myanmar Refugees" and aimed to reflect on how protection responses can be strengthened in Malaysia. On this occasion, MERAT presented an overview of the refugee situation in the country based on data produced and analyzed by refugees themselves. This provided the basis for an exchange with the audience.



Other engagements under the Myanmar displacement workstream

Aside from but connected to the PRiA Project, ADSP regularly convenes its members through the Myanmar Displacement Sub-Regional Working Group. This quarter the Working Group served as a space to share updates on recent activities and discuss plans for possible ADSP engagement connected to Bangladesh and the region.

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

Based on a continued collaboration with Samuel Hall and with a local partner (REHA - Resilience, Environment and Humanitarian Aid), ADSP has published a new Policy Brief on Afghan Authorities' Policies and Plans for Durable Solutions: Approaches to Return and Reintegration. This Policy Brief maps Afghan authorities' current policies, practices, and perceptions related to durable solutions for the period 2021-2025 and looks forward to priority

interventions. It identifies gaps between policy frameworks and community realities, and generates recommendations for ADSP, the Durable Solutions Working Group (DSWG) in Afghanistan, donors and relevant authorities. The brief notably finds that Afghanistan has multiple policy instruments, decrees, institutional mechanisms and sectoral plans relevant to return and reintegration, but no updated, comprehensive and operational reintegration framework that connects border reception with longer-term solutions in areas of return. Earlier frameworks continue to influence practice selectively, while newer instruments often provide high-level direction without sufficient operational guidance on eligibility, sequencing, institutional roles, safeguards or accountability.

Alongside this Policy Brief, ADSP and Samuel Hall will also soon release a publication shedding light on past reintegration programming initiatives in Afghanistan.

Other engagements under the Afghanistan displacement workstream

In the second quarter, ADSP continued to regularly convene its Afghanistan Displacement Sub-Regional Working Group gathering staff from members' country offices in Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan to exchange information on displacement and solutions trends in this sub-region, and coordinate initiatives. This quarter, discussions focused again on the return trends and implications for durable solutions in Afghanistan as well as 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. ADSP continued to engage with the Support Platform for the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) and its Secretariat (UNHCR), particularly building on the release of its 2026 Workplan in April. ADSP engaged in discussions with its members with a view to supporting civil society contributions to this workplan where possible and beneficial.

Other Activities

New ADSP Strategy 2026-2029



The process of developing a new ADSP Strategy continued over the period and was finalized in late June. The new Strategy for the period 2026-2029 has now been adopted by the ADSP Executive Committee alongside a renewed Memorandum of Understanding between its three members. Those strategic and governance documents will steer ADSP's activities and impacts for the next three years, leading ADSP into its second decade of existence. The new Strategy builds on previous experience and a candid assessment of regional trends. The new strategic priorities focus on promoting Inclusion in National and Local Systems and Self-Reliance for displacement-affected populations, underpinned by three strategic lenses: Gender and Inclusion; Climate, Disasters and Displacement; Localization and Community Leadership. ADSP will work on this basis to engage with partners and other stakeholders to ensure its activities build on relevant synergies. The new ADSP Strategy is available here.

Panel on Advancing Evidence-Based Responses & JDC Bangkok Conference

On 3 June, ADSP organized with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific (UNHCR RBAP) a panel discussion exploring regional displacement trends, key data gaps, and the policy implications of stronger data systems for displaced populations and host communities. Experts from the World Bank–UNHCR Joint Data Center (JDC) on Forced Displacement, the UNHCR RBAP, the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Badan Pusat Statistik (BPS), Indonesia and ADB highlighted experiences and approaches to

improving displacement data collection, analysis, and use in policymaking and development planning. The event drew on findings from the publication *Toward Durable Solutions: Mapping and Analysis of Displacement Data in Asia and the Pacific* and was held in connection with the 4th JDC Research Conference on Forced Displacement (4-6 June 2026, Bangkok, Thailand). ADSP also joined the JDC Conference, where the Head of ADSP moderated the Second academic session on 'Socioeconomics effects in host countries'.

A few weeks later UNHCR issued its annual report Asia and the Pacific Regional Trends - Forced Displacement and Statelessness 2025, which presents data and analysis on forced displacement, refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced people, returnees, and stateless people across Asia and the Pacific up to the end of 2025.

Joint learning session on the Action Agenda on Solutions to Internal Displacement

On 11 June, ADSP collaborated with sister regional platforms in the Middle East and East Africa (ME DSP and ReDSS) to provide a 'learning session on the Action Agenda on Solutions to Internal Displacement' for locally-led organizations, civil society and NGOs. Preceded by an induction on durable solutions, the learning session aimed to foster informed engagement, strengthen regional capacities, and ensure that participants are well-positioned to translate global commitments into context-specific action. The session notably drew from the recently issued Global Stock-Take on Implementation of the Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement and engaged with a panel of displaced people and national experts on 'how local actors are shaping solutions and how global processes can be more accountable'. The three regional platforms aim to increase their collaboration through similar initiatives in the future.

ADSP Publications (April-June 2026)

Briefing Note: Exploring Intra-Regional Complementary Pathways for Refugees in South and Southeast Asia (June 2026)



This publication explores the potential of expanding complementary pathways for refugees, focusing on intra-regional options within South and Southeast Asia and skills-based pathways. Informed by a desk review and 15 key informant interviews conducted between February and April 2026, this note argues that, with attention to protection needs, intra-regional complementary pathways may offer a scalable mechanism for States' response to forced displacement challenges and deliver sustained benefits to refugees and host communities. Following a discussion of the potential contribution and current obstacles to expanding such pathways, this note provides targeted policy recommendations. This publication results from the project PRiA IV project funded by DG ECHO.
The Briefing Note is available here.

Policy Brief: Afghan Authorities' Policies and Plans for Durable Solutions: Approaches to Return and Reintegration (June 2026)



This Policy Brief maps Afghan authorities' current policies, practices, and perceptions related to durable solutions to displacement for the period 2021-2025 and looks forward to priority interventions. It identifies gaps between policy frameworks and community realities, and generates recommendations for ADSP, the Durable Solutions Working Group (DSWG) in Afghanistan, donors and relevant authorities. Based on research undertaken in partnership with Samuel Hall and REHA, the brief notably finds that Afghanistan has multiple policy instruments, decrees, institutional mechanisms and sectoral plans relevant to refugee return and reintegration, but no updated, comprehensive and operational reintegration framework that connects border reception with longer-term solutions in areas of return.
The Policy Brief is available here.

ADSP Strategy 2026-2029



Developed over the first six months of 2026, the ADSP Strategy 2026-2029 builds on a consultative and iterative process connecting with ADSP members and external actors. The new Strategy aims to support advancing durable solutions for displacement communities with a continued focus on displacement from Afghanistan and Myanmar. Working through research and evidence generation, Coordination and convening, and Capacity strengthening, over 2026-2029, ADSP will focus on two mutually reinforcing priorities: Inclusion in National and Local Systems, and Self-Reliance. Those priorities will be reinforced through three cross-cutting lenses: Gender and inclusion; Climate, disasters and displacement; Localization and community leadership.
The ADSP Strategy 2026-2029 is available here.

ADSP Members' Publications (April-June 2026)

Here are ADSP members' publications over the second quarter, relevant to ADSP's geographic and thematic focus:

Publications:

- Report: The Cost of Waiting: Intergenerational impacts of protracted Rohingya displacement, International Rescue Committee (IRC), 15 April 2026.
- Report: Forced back and left behind: Conditions for urban returnees and the urgent need for local integration in Afghanistan, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), May 2026.
- NRC Iran | Fact sheet, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), May 2026.
- IRC Bangladesh Annual Report 2025, International Rescue Committee (IRC), 17 June 2026.

News and stories:

- Afghanistan: Coping with displacement, loss, and uncertainty: How psychosocial support helps families navigate crisis, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), 6 April 2026.
- Danish Refugee Council removes explosive ordnance from key humanitarian infrastructure supporting forced returnees in Afghanistan, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), 7 April 2026.
- Iran ceasefire must hold and include Lebanon. Aid is underfunded, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 8 April 2026.
- Press Release: IRC: Nine years of emergency response falls short for Rohingya refugees and Bangladeshi host communities, International Rescue Committee (IRC), 15 April 2026.
- No place like home? Multisectoral support for forced returnees in Western Afghanistan, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), 22 April 2026.
- Press Release: IRC warns looming deportations risk Afghans returning to a country where one third of the population cannot feed their families, International Rescue Committee (IRC), 29 April 2026.
- Press Release: IRC launches emergency measles response for 20,000 children in Rohingya refugee camps as Bangladesh outbreak spreads, International Rescue Committee (IRC), 29 April 2026.
- Access to medical care for earthquake survivors in Kunar, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), 29 April 2026.
- Iran: the small things that war takes away, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 13 May 2026.
- EU-funded humanitarian action by DRC and partners supports over 845,000 people across Afghanistan, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), 22 May 2026.
- Turning waste into value in the refugee camps of Cox's Bazar, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 4 June 2026.
- What safety means for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 19 June 2026.
- From teacher to business owner: How beekeeping helped Latifa rebuild her livelihood: Economic recovery in western Afghanistan, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), 22 June 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.

ADSP website: https://adsp.ngo/
Social Media: Twitter/X – Facebook