



Plan International would like to commend the progress highlighted today, including the valuable role of GP20 as well as the ongoing global discussions led by the Special Rapporteur and the High Level Panel. However, we have witnessed that specific groups of internally displaced people continue to be excluded from short and long-term solutions, suffering discrimination based on their age, gender and diversity.

The implementation of global and regional frameworks, particularly the Guiding Principles and the Kampala Convention, must better tackle discrimination and inequalities based on age, gender and diversity, including disability.

Protecting and assisting IDPs is fundamentally about respecting and upholding human rights and ensuring non-discrimination and inclusion. Although the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and the Kampala Convention provide the basis for the improvement of IDPs' human rights, their practical application does not always translate into the equal treatment of all individuals. Gaps remain in ensuring the protection, assistance and empowerment of specific groups of IDPs, such as women, girls, children, persons with disabilities and other groups who face violence and discrimination based on their age, gender and diversity.

That is why adopting an age gender and diversity (AGD) approach is crucial. Achieving gender equality and non-discrimination are essential for tackling discrimination against IDPs. Gender equality and non-discrimination are key to enabling individuals – in all their diversity – to achieve their full human potential, including in terms of access to education, jobs, livelihoods, and decision-making at all levels. Laws and policies, including those aimed at protecting and assisting IDPs, must ensure that there is no discrimination against internally displaced women, girls, and others requiring specific protection, such as children and persons with disabilities.

Additionally, an AGD approach requires thoughtful ways to ensure safe and meaningful participation of diverse groups of IDPs, including children and young people, as well as host communities. Such participation leads to a better understanding of needs, capacities, protection risks, and who can – or cannot – access rights, aid, services, information, and decision-making during displacement; and therefore leads to better policies and programmes.

Accountability and leadership are essential in promoting political will to foster gender equality and tackle discrimination

Creating momentum around AGD responsive policies, approaches, and solutions to internal displacement must happen both nationally and internationally. In order for this to become a reality, stakeholders should have collective and individual leadership to create the spaces and proper processes to learn from good AGD practices and share responsibility for their implementation. Existing regional and international mechanisms should also be used to ensure greater accountability to affected populations. Governments should play a key role in partnering with other stakeholders, including civil society organisations and IDPs themselves, to identify and tackle any discrimination faced by IDPs based on age, gender and diversity, including revising or enacting policies or laws when necessary. Donors, and humanitarian actors in internal displacement situations must ensure that age-, gender-, disability and diversity solutions are fully funded and integrated throughout humanitarian and development responses. We must seize the current momentum to ensure that no internally displaced person is left behind.

I thank you.