PEACE, PROSPERITY AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION

IGAD POLICY FRAMEWORK ON REFUGEE PROTECTION

FACTSHEET



About the Framework

This Policy Framework aims to ensure the safety, dignity, and self-reliance of refugees and asylum seekers, while also supporting the well-being of host communities, in line with international and regional standards. It contributes to IGAD's Strategic Development Objective on improving the social wellbeing and human productivity for inclusive development in the region.

MISSION:

To assist and complement the efforts of IGAD Member States in implementing a holistic national and regional approach to refugee protection.

VISION:

To contribute to the development of a sustainable and inclusive approach to refugee management that promotes peace, stability, and social cohesion in the region.

Objectives

1. Maintain asylum space and improve the living standards of refugees and host communities with the support of the international community and refugees themselves.
2. Enhance a regional approach, cooperation, coordination and collaboration among IGAD Member States and all stakeholders including refugees, refugee led organisations, women, children, and youth.
3. Develop regional norms and a community of practice in refugee protection through harmonising legislation, policies and practices across the region while giving impetus to localization. .
4. Promote pragmatic and sustainable approaches to comprehensive solutions including emergency preparedness and climate change mitigation in refugee settings.

Guiding Principles

1. Conflict sensitive and rights-based protection.
2. Government-led, societal involvement and supported by the international community.
3. Protection and Humanitarian principles.
4. Inclusion of refugees into national systems.
5. Compliance with gender norms and instruments

KEY PRIORITY AREAS

- Consistent access to Territory and Reception Procedures
- Registration and Refugee Status Determination Procedures.
- Access to Civil Registry, Identity, and Travel Documents for Refugees and Asylum-Seekers
- Favourable Protection Environment and Access to Essential Services
- Access to Jobs, Livelihoods and Self-Reliance
- Sustainable Environmental Management and Climate Adaptation
- Social Cohesion and Peaceful Coexistence among Refugees and between Refugees and their Host Communities.
- Comprehensive Durable Solutions
- Addressing drivers of forced displacement
- Emergency Preparedness and Response
- Responsibility Sharing and Resource Mobilisation

Stakeholders

The IGAD Member States | The IGAD Secretariat | The refugees | The UNHCR | The civil society organisations | Development Partners, Humanitarian Organisations, International Community, Private sector, and Charitable Foundations | Academia, Think Tanks and the Media