

# The Risk that Travels with You

Links between Forced Displacement, Conflict and Intimate Partner Violence in Colombia and Liberia

Jocelyn TD Kelly , Amalia Rubin, Uche Ekhaton-Mobayode, . **Diana J. Arango**



**GENDER DIMENSIONS OF FORCED DISPLACEMENT**

Understanding Inequality Through Data & Analysis



**WORLD BANK GROUP**

Building the Evidence on Forced Displacement

September 27, 2022

SVRI Forum

Cancun, Mexico

# Research question

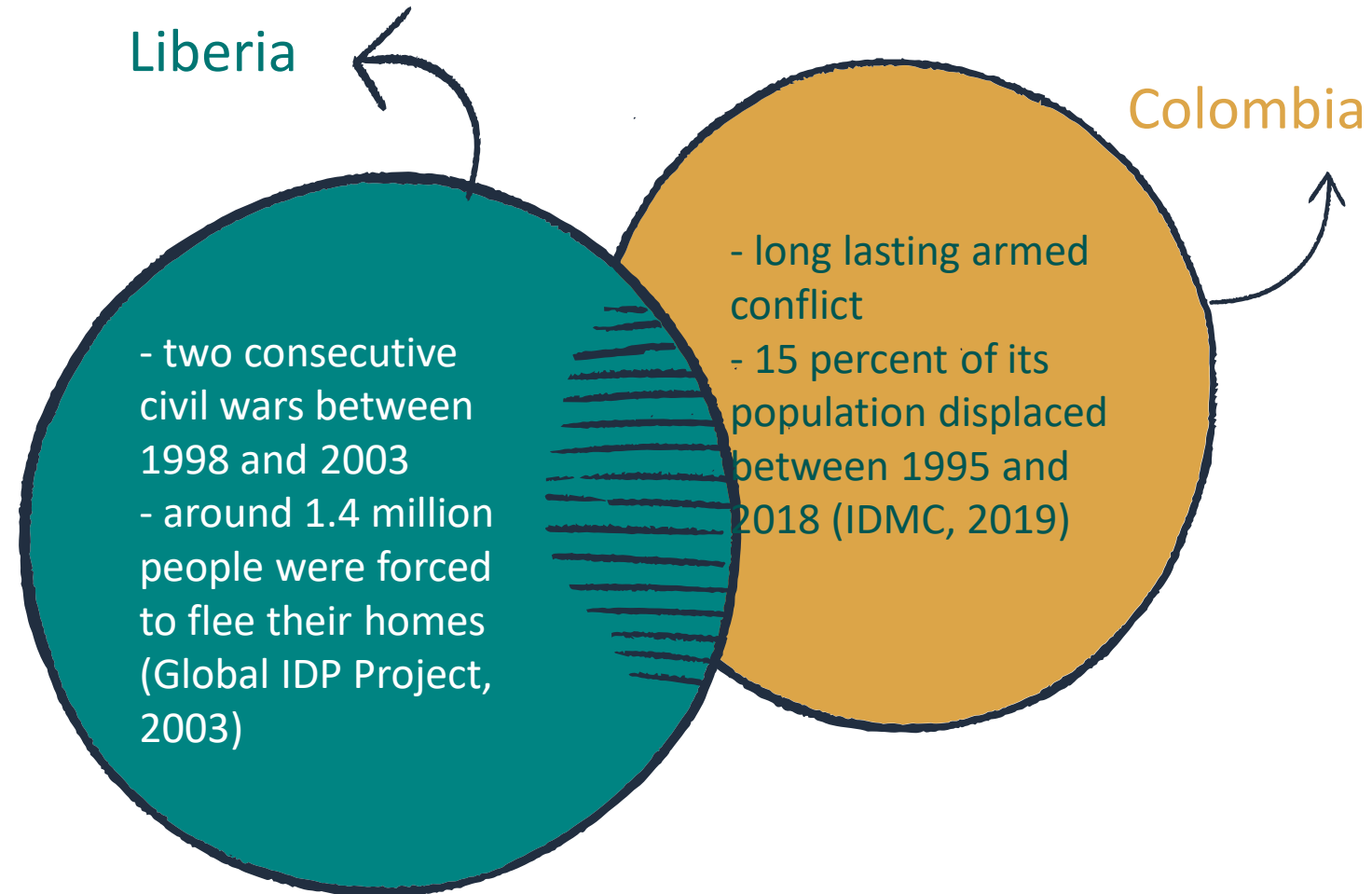
How does conflict affect experience of intimate partner violence (IPV) for forcibly displaced women and girls in two conflict-affected countries (Colombia and Liberia)?

- Past year IPV
- Lifetime IPV
- Injury resulting from IPV



## Context: Colombia and Liberia

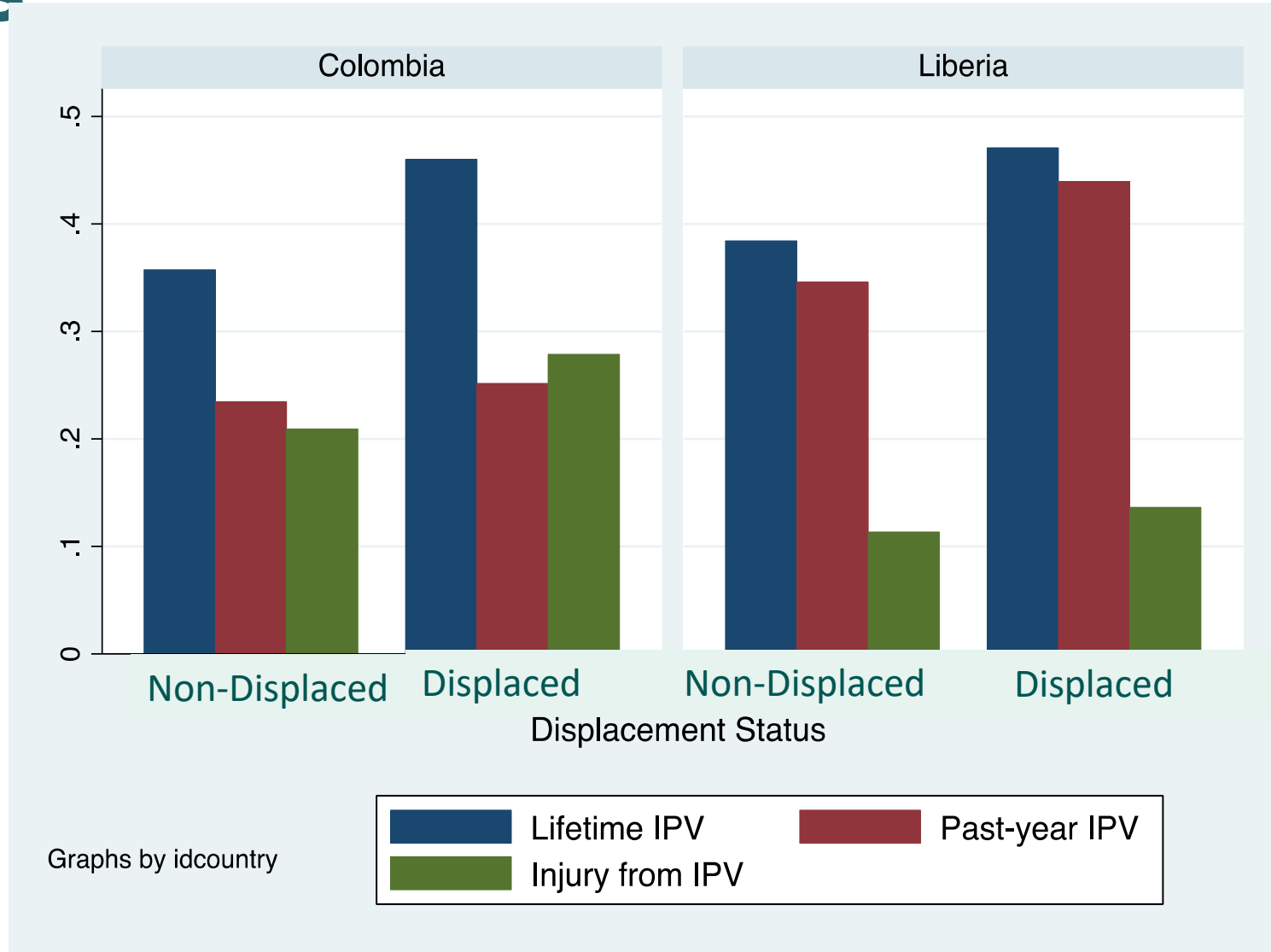
- Both countries have experienced some success in establishing peace agreements and undertaking subsequent social programs to aid the implementation of the agreements and demobilization efforts



# Approach

- Look at Colombia and Liberia, two conflict-affected nations with different histories
  - Each have information about forced displacement in DHS – population-based – Colombia 2010 and Liberia 2007
  - DHSs employed the module measuring violence against women and girls aged 15-49
  - DHSs have georeferenced data
  - Each has history of conflict leading to forced displacement among its population
  - Data are available on political violence and conflict that is georeferenced (ACLED and UCPD)
  - Comparative study leveraging multi-level modeling to look at drivers of IPV in two very different conflict-affected countries

# IPV by Country and Displacement Status



# Research results

---

Forced displacement is highly and significantly associated with increased IPV (lifetime IPV, past-year IPV and severe forms of IPV resulting in injury)

Displaced women across both countries reported 40-55% greater odds of lifetime IPV compared to their non-displaced counterparts

The odds are 40% higher for injury resulting from IPV in displaced compared to non-displaced women and 20% higher for past-year IPV

Some of the first population-based, multi-country evidence that both forced displacement significantly heighten the risk of IPV for women in fragile environments

# Limitations

- Datasets are cross-sectional (difficult to establish causality)
  - However, analysis looked at conflict events in the 10 years preceding the DHS (helps establish temporality)
- Displacement was measured differently in Colombia and Liberia - making it potentially challenging to compare the two datasets
  - The Colombia measure is arguably more precise and might have resulted in better identification of displacement
  - The Liberia displacement question was relatively imprecise and vague
- Analysis drew on different conflict data for each country (ACLED in Liberia and UCDP in Colombia).
  - However, each data source is widely used in the academic literature

# Policy Recommendations

---

- 1. Increase funding** and invest in women's groups. Increased investments of both development and humanitarian assistance are critical. Funding should be purposely allocated to local organizations led by forcibly displaced women who are well-positioned to understand and respond to context-specific needs.
- 2. Increase access** to sustained services for survivors. Quality responses for GBV survivors that are forcibly displaced, recognizing the increased probability of violence, should be a priority for ministries overseeing services. Host ministries need to provide the sustained support required by displaced survivors of GBV.
- 3. Invest** in efforts to prevent IPV among forcibly displaced populations. **Scale-up** evidence-based community violence prevention approaches to address GBV. Focus prevention efforts on changing social norms that underpin violence, support economic empowerment for women and adolescent girls



## Policy Recommendations - Continued

- 4. Bridge** the humanitarian-development divide — in line with the 2017 Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), reduce the gap between the humanitarian and development responses to GBV by deliberately aligning violence prevention and response interventions with national systems
- 5. Understand** local settings. More investments in qualitative and quantitative data are needed.

Dr. Jocelyn Kelly

Dr. Uche Ekhaton Mbayode

Analia Rubin

Diana J. Arango

[WEB https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/gender/brief/gender-dimensions-of-forced-displacement-gdfd-research-program](https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/gender/brief/gender-dimensions-of-forced-displacement-gdfd-research-program)



**GENDER DIMENSIONS OF  
FORCED DISPLACEMENT**

Understanding Inequality Through Data & Analysis



**WORLD BANK GROUP**

**Building the Evidence on Forced Displacement**