

Implementation of Durable Solutions in Iraq

Durable Solutions Technical Working Group (DSTWG)

Kick-Off Meeting

Wednesday 25th November, 3pm



November 2020



Agenda

- Introduction - 15 min
- Overview of DSTWG and Expectations of Group – 20 Min
- Updates on Discussions with Gov – 15 Min
- Operational Framework – 30 min
- Area-Based Coordination – 30 min
- AOB – 10 min

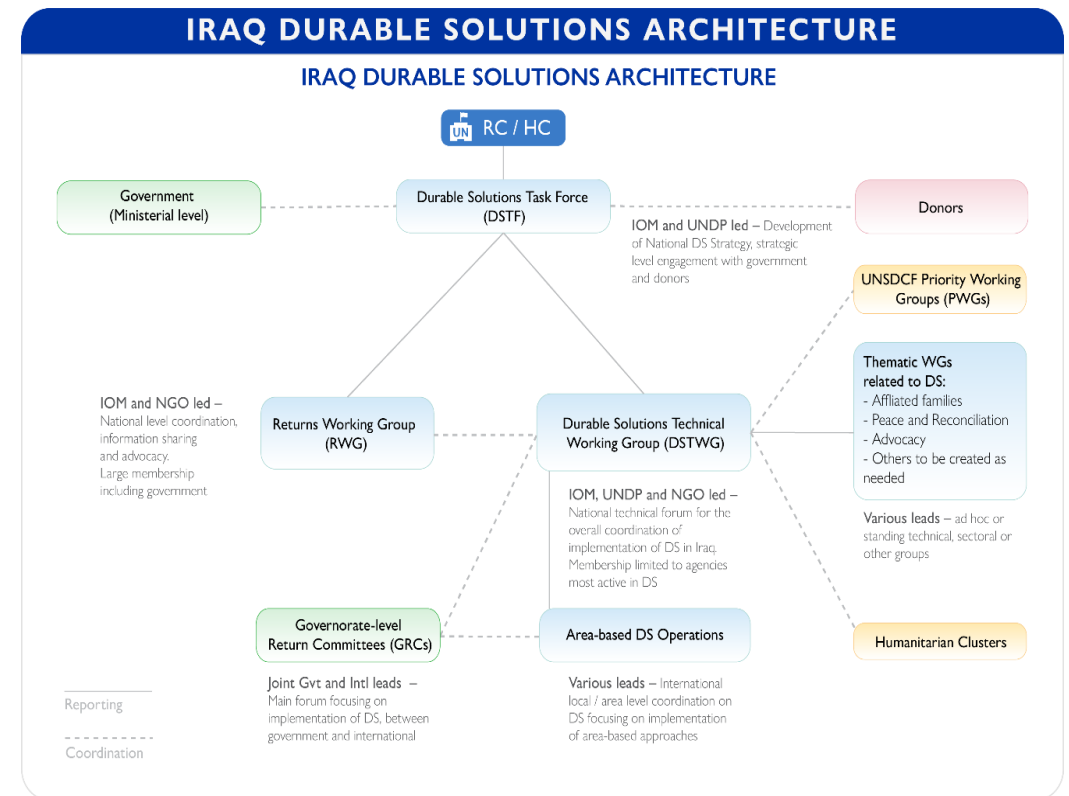


Overview of DSTWG & Expected Outcomes



Background

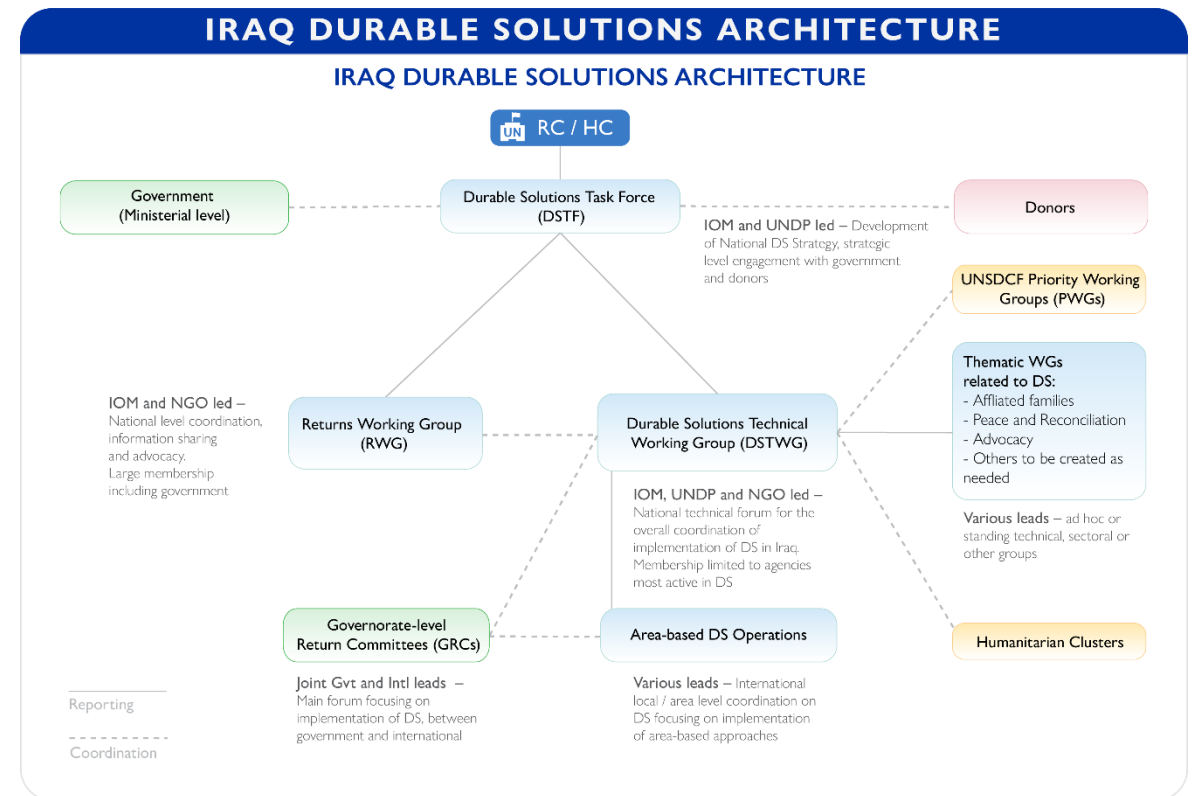
- DSTF, which was established in April 2020, created and adopted a coordination structure to support durable solutions in Iraq.
- The structure was adopted in October 2020. DSTWG is main vehicle for the implementation of durable solutions in Iraq
- DSTF drafted and adopted a chapeau document serving as a precursor of national framework / strategy
 - Chapeau frames the issue in the Iraqi context as a transitional issue (resolving protracted displacement) as
 - part of longer-term processes to support DS. The work of DSTF is as a transitional / nexus mechanism between humanitarian and development
 - Prioritises IDPs in camps (all), IDPs out of camps (highly vulnerable), and returnees (in areas with the most severe conditions)





Background

- The response is longer-term, seeking to support a sustainable resolution of internal displacement
- One of the major tasks of DSTWG is to create the operational framework guiding implementation of durable solutions in Iraq
- The operational framework will contain overall objectives and activities, building to the extent possible on existing mechanisms
- Implementation will take place primarily through area-based mechanisms
- Protection as a central element to the framework





Expectations of Group

- Expectation from DSTF is that DSTWG will act quickly
 - DSTWG is expected to be action orientated
 - Establishment of parameters for area-based coordination
 - Development of "pilot projects", building on existing projects and activities
 - Strengthening of government coordination mechanisms at governorate and local levels
- Initial focus areas of DSTWG
 - Finalisation of operational framework
 - Establishment of area-based coordination mechanisms
 - Broader issues related to (1) technical issues around programming and (2) policy, advocacy and other issues related to DS



Current Status

- Membership to be finalized by the end of the week
- Framework has been shared for comments – further review required to finalise
 - DSTWG to review and finalise ASAP
 - Separate, smaller sessions to review and finalise?
- Establishment of area-based coordination mechanisms in pilot locations, perhaps linked to existing / ongoing work
- Work has begun to support information management at area level, including mapping of existing data collection mechanisms, in support of partner mapping



Many activities on-going to be brought under group i.e. not starting from scratch...

- On-going stabilization and development work
- Ongoing facilitated voluntary returns as well as lessons learned from DSN
- Discussions under way for Ninewa and KRI – round tables and current applied training
- Area-based groups and technical groups that exist to build on
- Data and information on situation in return areas

Objective is dual-purpose a) bring together different actors to support coherence and linkages between on-going activities b) increase direction and coordination of existing and new activities under a newly articulated DS framework



Engagement with Government: National Level Discussions



National Plans on DS - Background

- Discussions began when chapeau discussed with government – Gol notified that they are developing a plan, focus shifted from combining plans to providing technical support and guidance – i.e. respecting existing government process
- MOMD initially led on the drafting of key components. This was then handed over to MOP, as overall convenor, to bring together elements
- Meetings have taken place with MOP and MOMD at technical level during to support – i.e. highlighting importance of considering social cohesion and reconciliation, refocusing attention on areas of return and not strictly camp closures
- Comments on the plan were shared with MOP yesterday, after inputs from DSTF members



National Plans on DS – Current Status and Priorities

- Plan expected to be finalized and endorsed by council of ministers by end of next week
- Indications are that while some parts of the plan reflect on-going/funded activities, others require fundraising - MOP intend to conduct a donor conference, timeline not defined
- Implementation approach unclear – to be defined. Timeline 2 years according to plan.
- Expectation is that while periodic engagement will be required at national level - particularly as certain issues need to be escalated/can only be resolved by central government – implementation will be led at the area-level



Operational Framework



Framework Objectives

1. Increasing the sustainability and quality of returns through the overall improvement of conditions in areas of return
 - Area-based approaches to improving conditions in areas of return
 - Target group: returnees, host communities and other residents in high severity locations
2. Increasing the sustainability and quality of local integration and settlement elsewhere through individual- and area-based support to vulnerable IDPs
 - Area-based approaches to supporting sustainable local integration and settlement elsewhere
 - Target: out of camp IDPs and host communities in high severity location
3. Resolving displacement for those in priority displacement sites through facilitated movements
 - Identification of obstacles and facilitation / accompaniment to support solutions, e.g. facilitated voluntary returns
 - Target: IDPs in camps, out of camp IDPs in the most difficult conditions



Objectives 1 and 2: Area-based approaches to increase the sustainability and quality of returns, integration and settlement elsewhere

1. Conflict analysis and risk assessment in areas of origin
2. Comprehensive service mapping at the local level to build referral pathways and identify gaps in services that could undermine the sustainability of the reintegration process.
3. Referral pathways and responses
4. Protection services and community-level protection interventions: Provision of individual protection services (general protection, GBV, and CP) and strengthening of community-level protection mechanisms, and provision of MHPSS services.
5. Shelter, housing and effective mechanisms to support HLP: reconstruction and rehabilitation of housing, HLP
6. Improvements in access to basic services: infrastructure rehabilitation, increased access to critical services in areas of origin
7. Improving access to livelihoods, employment: livelihoods programs aimed at addressing both immediate needs for income generation (such as cash for work) and creation of sustainable livelihoods should be rolled out across all key locations.
8. Access to and replacement of personal and other documentation
9. Social cohesion and peacebuilding interventions with the two-fold objective of enabling future returns and at maintaining a safe and enabling environment in areas of returns on the long-term.
10. Measures to promote consultation and dialogue between government and communities to support restoration of trust

Examples: UNDP's Funding Facility for Stabilisation (FFS), numerous multi- and single-sector projects and programmes seeking to improve conditions in conflict-affected areas having an impact on DS



Objective 3: Resolving displacement for those in priority displacement sites through facilitated movements

1. **Identifying obstacles and providing information:** Set up in camps and priority out of camp settings. Provide information, register households to identify obstacles and potential solutions, from pre-departure activities to support during and after movement. Basic profiling of households, prospective return or settlement areas and obstacles. Supplemented by mobile outreach teams for continuous sensitization and mobile registration.
2. **“Go-and-See” and “Come-and-Tell” visits:** Information sessions with local authorities and service providers in their respective areas of origin (in the case of returns), and dialogue sessions with local authorities from areas of origin visiting IDPs in areas of displacement.
3. **Departures:** Logistical support for the transport of the family members and their belongings. Monitoring, help lines, liaison with authorities and reception in destinations.
4. **Arrival centres and help desks:** Arrival desks are set up in locations of origin to register arrivals, distribute household arrival packages, contacts for feedback help lines, and to facilitate the profiling and referrals.

Upon arrival, those participating in facilitated voluntary returns or settlement programmes are supported through broader multi-sectoral area-based approaches as described in objectives 1 and 2

Examples: IOM- and Durable Solutions Network (DSN)-led facilitated returns from Salamiyah camp in Ninewa, AAF camp in Anbar



Area-based Coordination



Area-based coordination

- DSTWG at national level to support overall prioritisation of interventions, develop a broad framework, ensure harmonisation in approaches and provide overall technical guidance and direction. However, implementation of the framework will take place through common approaches at **area level**, where coordination mechanisms will be established to support implementation
- Implementation and coordination at the area-level requires:
 - Area-level coordination groups for different international and local actors supporting area-based operations. Where possible, existing groups may support, so long as they are reflective of a broad range of actors
 - Coordination with government counterparts— either pre-existing structures or newly established ones. Consideration of how to bring different areas together
 - Building on what exists: clear mapping of who is already doing what in support of DS (even if not currently conceptualized in that way)
- Establishment of information management system to support area-based operations



Area-based coordination

- An 'area' to be defined depending on context and situation e.g. supporting returns from X location to Y location, or supporting general interventions in location X with high levels of return
- Area-level groups should feedback to DSTWG. Where new coordination mechanisms are established, they, will be supported by members of DSTWG as outlined in the ToR
- Agreement over priority areas – criteria
 - Government prioritisation
 - Ongoing activities / presence of actors
 - Needs-based
 - Implementation-orientated, created only where needed and feasible

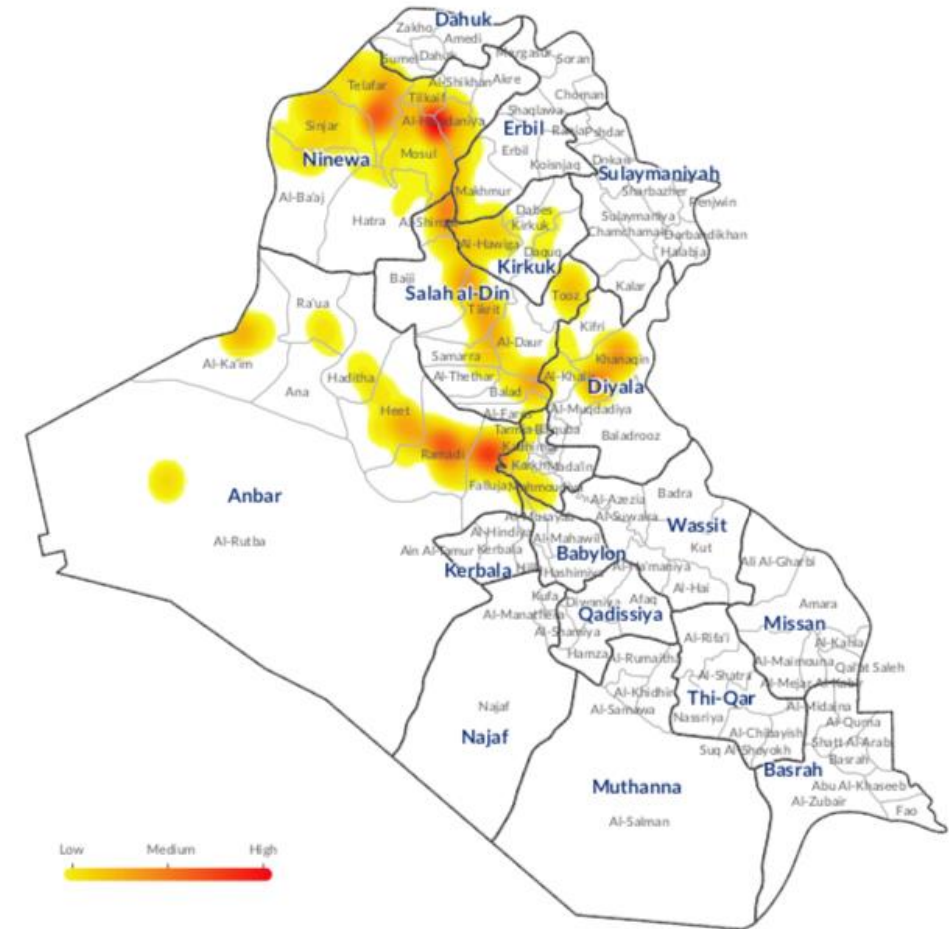


Area-based coordination

Scenarios

- Hotspot areas of origin of returnees
 - Shirqat, Salah al-Din
 - Baiji, Salah al-Din
 - Jalawala, Diyala
 - Ba'aj, Ninewa
 - Sinjar, Ninewa
 - Others?
- Areas of displacement with existing / future facilitated return operations
 - Salamiya camp in Ninewa (IDPs from Ba'aj, Sinjar, Telafar, Mosul)
 - AAF camp in Anbar (IDPs from Fallujah, Ramadi, Qa'im, Abu Ghraib)
 - Dohuk in / out of camp IDPs
- Areas of displacement with potential longer-term presence of IDPs (IDPs in the process of integrating locally)
 - IDPs in / out of camps in Dohuk (IDPs from Sinjar)
 - IDPs in informal settlements in Mosul (IDPs from various places)

Map 1. Returnee population density by overall severity score





Sinjar

Leverage existing factors to set up a coordinated approach and support returnees in order to remove obstacles to durable solutions

**20% of Iraqi IDPs are from the area
Majority are displaced in KRI**

**Strong interest from government and
international community**

**One of the lowest rates of return in the
country**

**High number of partners already working in
the area**

Large diversity of communities

**Spontaneous wave of returns from KRI ongoing
since June 2020**

**Low level of basic services (water, electricity,
education, health)**

High levels of destroyed housing

**Fragile economic conditions following conflict
and protracted displacement**

Social cohesion issues

High need for protection activities

**Possibilities for local integration and
settlement elsewhere**



Next Steps



Next steps

- Small groups to review and comment on the operational framework
 - Submission to DSTF for review and approval
 - Seeking substantive input from partners
 - Timeframe: end of next week (3 December?)
 - One group per section of the document
 - Objective 1
 - Objective 2
 - Objective 3
 - Area-based coordination
 - Linkages between humanitarian, DS, development
- Sinjar
 - Staff on the ground with expertise in Sinjar to set up area-based coordination group?



Thank you!