



## Facilitating Returns and Durable Solutions in Iraq

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# Principles and Observations on the Current Situation

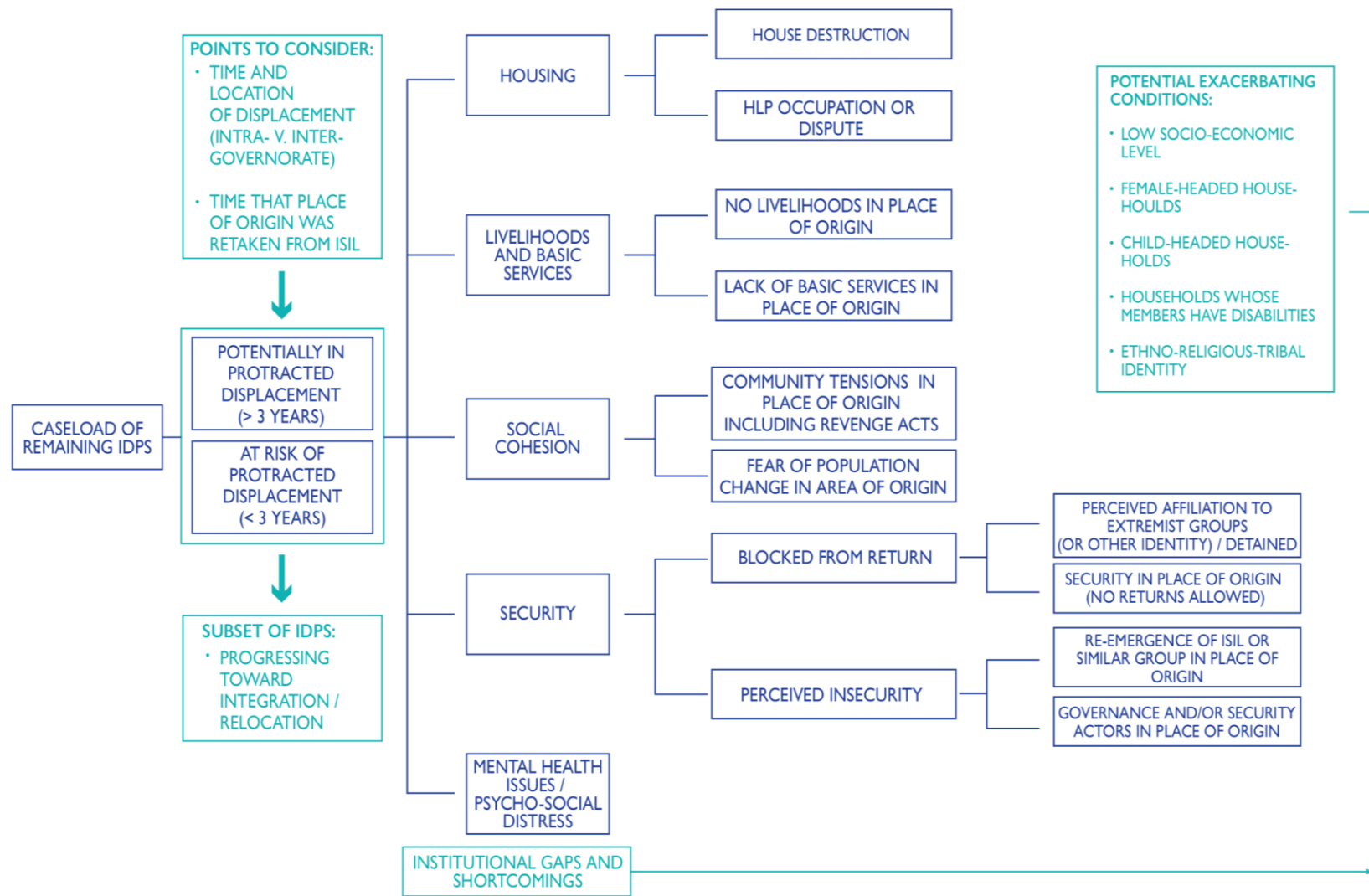
- IDP returns in Iraq have largely stalled
- More needs to be done to support durable solutions
- Returns and durable solutions are perhaps most effectively managed at governorate and local levels. However, linkages with national government and KRG need to be assured
- The focus of international assistance needs to expand beyond emergency and humanitarian activities

- In the absence of improvements in conditions in areas of origins, premature or involuntary returns have taken place too often
- For the most part, we have enough data now. Additional analysis of existing data and, especially, operationalisation of that which exists already should be the priority
- The Iraqi security apparatus plays a key role in terms of camps and population movements. They need to be engaged more extensively
- Humanitarian funding is already declining and will continue to do so; the window to make progress in durable solutions is open but may not necessarily remain so

# How Can We Better Facilitate Durable Solutions?

- More intensive engagement with national, governorate and local authorities to prioritise interventions, prioritise geographic areas and unblock areas of return.
- However, the success of this engagement depends on the scale up of activities in key sectors, *both humanitarian and recovery*. This includes, especially, reconciliation, rehabilitation of basic services, sustainable livelihood and shelter for cat. 3/4
- Create clear and achievable operational plans at local level that donors can support

# How Can We Operationalise This?



CATEGORY 1 Service or material interventions	CATEGORY 2 Community reconciliation, dialogue and social interventions	CATEGORY 3 Advocacy and negotiation
Resource, material and individual service needs, in both areas of origin and areas of displacement	Social cohesion Issues	Access and security related challenges

<p>CATEGORY 1</p> <p>Service or material interventions</p>	<p>CATEGORY 2</p> <p>Community reconciliation, dialogue and social interventions</p>	<p>CATEGORY 3</p> <p>Advocacy and negotiation</p>
<p>Resource, material and individual service needs, in both areas of origin and areas of displacement</p>	<p>Social cohesion Issues</p>	<p>Access and security related challenges</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Damaged / destroyed housing</li> <li>• Land tenure and other HLP issues</li> <li>• Lack of economic opportunity / jobs</li> <li>• Mental health issues (e.g. trauma, depression, PTSD, etc.)</li> <li>• Lack of basic services (water, electricity, education, health, etc.)</li> <li>• ERW / UXO / IED contamination</li> <li>• Debris preventing reconstruction</li> <li>• Lack of basic documentation/ protection services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ethno-religious tension, protection</li> <li>• Perceived ISIS affiliation (allowed to return by authorities but fearful of revenge, reprisal, community acceptance)</li> <li>• Other issues preventing acceptance of returnees by communities (e.g. mental health)</li> </ul> <p><i>Communities facing these challenges may also face category 1 issues</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas blocked (militias)</li> <li>• Perceived ISIS Affiliation (blocked from return by authorities)</li> <li>• Security clearance</li> <li>• House occupation (by armed groups)</li> </ul> <p><i>Communities facing these challenges may also face category 1 and category 2 issues</i></p>

<p>CATEGORY 1</p> <p>Service or material interventions</p>	<p>CATEGORY 2</p> <p>Community reconciliation, dialogue and social interventions</p>	<p>CATEGORY 3</p> <p>Advocacy and negotiation</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Areas and return obstacles are identified through the triangulation and analysis of existing data that can then serve as evidence base for the development of localized / area-based interventions</li> <li>2. Individual or household level assistance needs are identified</li> <li>3. Potential partners for implementation of category 1 activities are identified through GRCs, GCMs, ICCG, HCT or others</li> <li>4. Resources are mobilized for the implementation of activities in coordination with GRCs to respond to community level needs that support returns</li> <li>5. Project / activity implementation coordinated by GRCs and GCMs</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Information is disseminated through the GRCs, GCMs, ICCG, HCT and others to impact advocacy, policy development and resource mobilization efforts related to reconciliation activities (e.g. for peaceful coexistence), as well as dialogue / negotiation specifically to facilitate return</li> <li>2. Priority areas for dialogue and reconciliation activities are agreed upon with GRCs</li> <li>3. Potential partners for implementation of category 2 activities are identified through GRCs, GCMs, ICCG, HCT or others</li> <li>4. Resources are mobilized for the implementation of activities in coordination with GRCs</li> <li>5. Dialogue to facilitate return between local authorities, tribal leaders and other key stakeholders is initiated by GRCs (e.g. community level service provision to support negotiation)</li> <li>6. Implement reconciliation activities</li> </ol> <p><i>In cases where social cohesion issues prove intractable, consider local integration or relocation as solution</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Information that can be used for strategic dialogue is disseminated through the GRCs, GCMs, ICCG, HCT and others</li> <li>2. Engagement and negotiation with security actors where possible at field level (via GRCs, governorate authorities, etc.)</li> <li>3. Referral of intractable situations to high levels of UN and embassies / donors for advocacy with government</li> </ol> <p><i>In cases where access and security issues prove intractable, consider local integration or relocation as solution</i></p>



THANK YOU