

## RETURNS WORKING GROUP- IRAQ

- ❖ **Meeting Date:** 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018
- ❖ **Meeting Time:** 10:00-12:00 hrs
- ❖ **Location:** Erbil (IOM Conference Room, Gulan Rd.) via bluejeans to Baghdad, SRSG Conference Room

**In Attendance:** IOM, CRS, INTERSOS, DFID/UK Consulate, Nonviolent Peace Force, Mercy Hands, Mercy Corps, CCCM Cluster, USAID/OFDA, RIRP, US Consulate/PRM, MSF, Samaritan's Purse, Protection Cluster, DRC, NRC, Relief International, GIZ, Oxfam, WHH, ECHO, REACH, COOPI, Geneva Call, UNDP, IRCS, OCHA/AWG, , UIMS, RIDPA, UN- HABITAT, UNHCR, UNICEF, DRC

### Agenda Items:

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- 1) **Introduction and adoption of minutes:** Review of previous minutes; Follow up on action points from previous meeting
- 2) **Returns Updates:** Updates from DTM, Field updates from main governorates of return
- 3) **Update on Governorate Return Committees:** Presentation on the national and field level GRC meetings
- 4) **Government Response to Returnees:** Presentation on MoMD's response and assistance to returnees
- 5) **AOB:**

### Key Discussion Points/ Action:

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- 1) **Introduction and adoption of minutes:** Review of previous minutes; Follow up on action points from previous meeting
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- The chair gave an overview of the previous meeting after the introductions, on discussions regarding the dashboard on returns DTM, as well as website on returns and information management framework. The DTM dashboard on returns has been released, and which will be updated on a monthly basis.

- 2) **Returns Updates:** Updates from DTM, Field updates from main governorates of return
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- i) Update from DTM (Presentation attached for more details):
  - As of March 2018, the total no. of returnees was at ? and IDPs at ?

- During the reporting period, there was a 6% decrease in the no. of IDPs and 5% increase in the no. of returnees.
- Highest governorates of returns (as of March 2018): Anbar, Salah al Din, Ninewa
- The 3 top highest district of returns as of March 2018: Mosul, Fallujah, Ramadi,
- Emergency tracking: (more details in attached presentation)

➤ Discussion:

- An inquiry was made about secondary displacement, and whether it could be tracked. It was mentioned that this data is already incorporated into ILA III questionnaire, which will be available around end of June, as the ILA III exercise will conclude end of May. It was also highlighted that there have been increasing rate of secondary displacement, mainly in Anbar and Ninewa due to lack of basic services.

ii) Field updates from main governorates of return (Presentation attached for more details)

Additional updates from Diyala (YAO): No. of returnees in several camps since January 2018:  
Tazade- 167 families, Quratu- 22 families, Alwand 1- 19 families, Alwand 2- 31 families.

➤ Discussion:

- Protection cluster mentioned that they will flag/follow up the security and screening situation
- Concern was raised regarding IDPs paying to get security clearance. DRC CwC had been conducting anti- fraud messaging, and will inquire if this service was extended to other areas.
- Protection cluster updated that 600 families have already returned to Baaj and surrounding villages from Ninewa camps and out of camp areas
- A concern was raised by UNICEF that during camp closure in some areas, the military has been confiscating items previously given to IDPs (tents etc.), and these poses visibility concerns, when assets will be displayed in other areas by the military.
- Inquiry made about the situation in Sinjar and if it's causing secondary displacement, as well as on overall situation in disputed areas. Protection Cluster mentioned that they have received reports that 25 families moved from Sinjar to Khanke and Sharya camps. According to Duhok actors, no displacements have occurred yet. Ad-hoc ICCG working meeting took place yesterday to develop a contingency planning. Protection cluster is also planning to conduct an RPA on Sinjar based on this.
- DIFD mentioned that a JCMC report (in Arabic) shows data on camp closure and the percentage of return per governorate. Data should be discussed and compared with CCCM and others. DIFD will share the report soon.

➤ Action Point:

- Follow up to be done by DRC regarding CwC messages on payments for security clearance.
- Follow up on Sinjar situation

3) Update on Governorate Return Committees: Presentation on the national and field level GRC meetings

- Nationally, 52% of HHs expressed no intent to return

➤ Discussions:

- UIMS updated on the current situation on intentions to return in Anbar camps. Out of (14000 IDP families) there are nearly 10000 IDP families are still living in camps, those camps are located in bzeebz, Ammeriyat al- falluajh, Habbaniya, Khaldiya, Kilo 18 and Nakheeb camps. It was also mentioned that perceived ISIS affiliation seems to be a primary issue for obstacles to return for IDPs in Anbar, followed by a lack of basic services and destroyed houses.
- :CCCM Cluster inquired whether FGDs were made regarding safety concerns and security clearance permission, and whether these factors were broken down with different answers . It was clarified that this was mainly quantitative data and will be more- in depth into further information in the future.
- In addition, a query was made on whether there data available on district level. REACH mentioned there was no representative at district level, hence the surveys were only done at camp level.
- Co-chair asked whether the intention survey will be enrolled also for informal settlements. REACH and partners are currently working on it.
- Inquiry was made on whether future intention surveys could look further into financial restraints on return, as it seemed to be a major obstacle for return. REACH stated that the IDPs were asked a more general question mainly as livelihood, which entails financial restraints.
- Inquiry made about Ninewa and why nobody cited security as the biggest obstacle. REACH is working on how families are getting information on AoOs.
- Further breakdown requested for graph showing “not planning to return to AoO”
- Question regarding intentions survey: who are the enumerators on the ground? Answer: REACH enumerators were collecting the data in camps

➤ Action Points

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**4) Government Response to Returnees:** Presentation on MoMD's response and assistance to returnees

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➤ Discussion:

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➤ Action Points:

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**5) AOB:**

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