

Returns Working Group

February 2024



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Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Review of January Meeting Minutes and Action Points
3. DTM Update: Master List
4. RWG Field Presentation | Areas of Blocked Return | Bzibiz FGD Advocacy Report
5. IOM Presentation | Facilitated Voluntary Movement Update
6. DSTWG Update
7. AOB

Bzibiz Informal Site

*Focus Group Discussions
IDPs from Jurf Al-Sakhar*

October 2023



Bzibiz Informal Site

METHODOLOGY

- Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with IDPs from Jurf Al-Sakhar
- Key Informants Interviews (KIIs) with Mukhtars, AAF local officials, and tribal leaders

Bzibiz Informal Site



INTRODUCTION

Bzibiz Informal Site is located in southeast of Falluja district in Anbar.

Population Composition estimates:

- 700 families from Jurf al-Sakhar
- 800 families from Awisat

Of these about 200 are female headed HH

Displacement history:

Majority displaced since 2014. Half lived in Bzibiz since 2014 and 2015 when site was a formal camp.

Half lived in Abo-Gharib (Baghdad) until forced eviction in 2018.

Location preferred because of proximity to areas of origin and kinship ties.

CURRENT SITUATION AND CHALLENGES

Bzibiz Informal Site

Shelter conditions and Tenure

- Most of the IDPs live in tents and caravans, and few live in low-cost houses.
- The camp is built on a private land, so IDPs can not build their own houses on.
- The government does not provide land to IDPs in areas of displacement.
- Most IDPs mentioned that they would need small grants or loans to build a house if the government would temporarily give them land plots.

Bzibiz Informal Site

Livelihoods and Employment

- Limited job and livelihood opportunities, reliance on daily labour in construction, carpentry, smithing and farming.
- In some instances travel to Ramadi, Falluja or Baghdad for work.
- Farmers face issues with irrigation in area of displacement.

Bzibiz Informal Site

Access to Humanitarian Aid

- No government assistance is provided to the IDPs.
- International and national NGOs' support is very limited.
- Politicians and parliament members visit the site in time of elections and give many promises.

Bzibiz Informal Site

Services (Health, Education, Electricity and Safety)

- Closest hospital is 10-15km away in the centre of AAF.
- Mobile health team from UIMs and DARR working with Ministry of Health provide healthcare from time to time.
- Closest primary and secondary schools are 1.5km, over crowded Long hours.
- Limited access to electricity, MoMD has provided 1 generator which was transferred to the water treatment plant.
- General feeling of safety on area of displacement.

FUTURE INTENTIONS



Mixed intentions by the participants.

Majority want to return once their areas of origin are opened.
A few want to locally integrate due to safety and stability reasons.

Blockage of access to area by security actors.

Reports of housing destruction and damage.

Majority of IDPs own land/farms on fertile land and cannot find any equivalent elsewhere.

Bzibiz Informal Site

Key Findings and Advocacy Points

- PMF still control their areas of origin.
- No IDPs have returned since their first displacement in 2014 and 2015 as the area is blocked.
- IDPs generally have a strong preference to return to their areas of origin but recognize the political nature of the facilitation of their return and request temporary measures to improve their conditions while their efforts are made to facilitate their return.
- The land of Bzibiz informal site is private property in which some land plots were given to the IDPs to be used temporarily.
- Security of tenure through allocation of government land until they can return to their area of origin.
- Support with small government grants or loans to construct dignified shelter.

Key Finding Continued

- Housing, services, and livelihoods are the main challenges facing their everyday life.
- Lack of job opportunities in area, meaning IDPs need to go to the main cities to work.
- IDPs intend to return to their area of origin rather than staying in the area of displacement or move to a third location.
- Limited outreach by government officials or parliament representatives to IDPs in Bzibiz, except during elections time when “they come with fake promises”.
- Security is good in the site and IDPs feel safe..



THANK YOU

QUESTIONS?