



Durable Solutions Technical Working Group (DSTWG) – Summary of Meeting #38 on 14 February 2024

Meeting Chair: IOM

Co-chairs: UNDP, NRC

Participants: OCHA, IOM, UNHCR, REACH, SIF, GIZ, ICRC, World Vision & WFP (ICF), SEDO

Overview and Agenda

- Tour de Table
- Action Points from the December Meeting
- DTM: Findings of Progress towards Durable Solutions | Salah Al-Din
- Council of Ministers Camp Closure Plan
 - DSTF Meeting 7 Feb and Position on the Camp Closure Plan
 - Open Discussion
- UNHCR- IDP camp solutions strategy
- DSTWG Strategic Planning Day
- AoB.

Action points from the December meeting (Precillar)

1. DSTWG to communicate to all ABCs that they will be phased out upon the establishment of the JCFs. Completed.
2. DSTWG to finalize Hasansham assessment report. Completed and shared with DSTWG members.
3. DSTWG to meet with Ba'aj and Sinjar focal points for determination of focal point. Completed.

IOM DTM: Progress toward Durable Solutions in Iraq

DTM Presented key findings of the second HH survey that was conducted in Salah Al-Din, which is part of a project to measure progress towards a durable solution, understand where displaced populations are now in progress towards durable solutions, and compare their living conditions with those who have never been displaced.

The survey covered 5000 HH, which is around 1600 for each population group (IDP HH, Returnee HH and Stayee HH) across eight Districts and seventeen sub-Districts in Salah Al-Din.

Please use this [link](#) to access the full report.

REACH: Enquired about the proportion of IDPs living in informal sites covered in the sample of IDP population and whether the MoMD local integration process had started in Salah Al-Din.

DTM: Responded that IDPs in informal sites were included.

DSTWG co-chair (IOM): Highlighted that IOM regularly follows up with MoMD regarding registering IDPs for local integration. So far, the registration has started in Diyala, Baghdad, Babylon, Kerbala, Wasit, Qadisiya, Muthana, Maysan and Basra. The registration process has not started yet in Ninawa, Kirkuk and KRI.

OCHA: Asked if there are any plans from DTM to publish something around the informal sites in Iraq, like the one used in the ILA or the location assessment profile.

DTM: Responded that they were not currently planning on it but did express that if there was a demand for it, they would consider it.

MoMD plan

DSTWG co-chair (IOM): Presented the following:



- The **timeline for GOI camp closure** plan started with the announcement on 2 July when the government announced the plan to close camps by 30 June 2024 until the endorsement of the plan by the Council of Ministers on 23 January 2024 in which the initial deadline was extended by a month to 30 July 2024.
- **Assistance package** offered by the government comprises a 4 million IQD return grant, prioritizes families for rehabilitation/compensation, loans to families to rebuild their homes, pieces of land for the reconstruction of low-cost houses, livelihood grants and cash for work. Support for families facing tribal and security obstacles through a judicial committee.
- **DSTF meeting discussion points:** key messages that were shared with MoMD, like the need for the inclusion of non-camp IDPs, a need for collaboration between GOI and KRG, revision of the timeline set for the camp closure and a request to revoke the prohibition of UN Agencies and NGOs to work in camp after that deadline.

REACH: wondered if there was any media announcement or statement made by KRG regarding their position in supporting this plan.

IOM DSTWG co-chair: responded that in recent engagement with JCCC and what had been reported in local media JCCC noted the lack of coordination with MoMD and inadequate care for IDPs.

UNHCR: UNHCR added that they are engaging with KRG on operational matters through the partnership engagement they have together.

ICRC: Asked about the extent to which the KRG is on board with the decision to close the camps, and whether they are ready for it.

DSTWG co-chair (IOM): Responded that the key message letter that was shared with MoMD Minister has a question regarding the resources that will be provided to Municipalities to support families in their local integration and relocation. This might mean the need for additional budget to be provided by GoI, but it is not clear yet in the current plan. It was anticipated that more information would be received after the RC meeting with the MoMD Minister.

UNHCR IDP Camp Solutions Strategy

UNHCR: Briefed about the situation in east Mosul, Duhok, Erbil, and Sulaymaniyah camps. There are 160,000 individuals in 23 camps in KRI, eight of which are in disputed areas under the jurisdiction of KRG.

One of the key advocacy points for UNHCR is the east Mosul camps; they are home to 11,500 individuals in three camps, with a majority of female-headed households, in addition to people from 13 surrounding villages and former detainees from Ninawa, Kirkuk and Salah Al-Din. Individuals living in these camps are reliant on MoMD assistance, and local integration is not possible due to the location of those camps.

For more information, please refer to the strategy document and the PowerPoint slides.

Discussion

IOM Ds Co-chair: Enquired about the link between IDPs' return from Duhok and Zakho camps with the implementation of the Sinjar agreement.

UNHCR: Responded that people are hesitant to return due to lack of security, access to services, shelter and livelihoods. The effective implementation of the Sinjar agreement is the key advocacy point for UN Agencies.

IOM: Asked if there is a specific advocacy on the Debaga camp and its setup, particularly the freedom of movement since it is now combined with the Erbil and Sulaymaniyah camps and how UNHCR is willing to take the camp solution strategy forward.

UNHCR: Responded that increasing freedom of movement is one of the main advocacy points that UNHCR is working on, including access to civil documentation.



DSTWG co-chair (IOM): Complemented that initially, this was a UNHCR document, but the RC asked for it to become an inter-agency document, which is something that will be discussed during the strategic planning event at the end of February.

AOB

- DSTWG strategic planning day is set for the 29th of February 2024. Precillar will share the calendar invitation. The planning day will be in person in Erbil.
- It was the last DSTWG for IOM representative Valentina Bacchin. The replacement IOM representative will be on board soon.
- The next DSTWG meeting will be conducted on the 13th of March, as per the calendar invite.