



## Durable Solutions Technical Working Group (DSTWG) – Summary of Meeting #46 on 11 December 2024

**Meeting Chair:** IOM

**Co-chairs:** BHHF

**Participants:** IOM, OCHA, UNMAS, OXFAM, Private Sector/Market Systems Task Force (ITC), IRC, HLP Subgroup (Mariana), M&A Subgroup (Marta/Alaa), Secours Islamique, WFP, and SEDO

### Overview and Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions
  2. Action Points from the November Meeting
  3. DSTWG Update
    - DS Update
    - Subgroups Update  
Sustainable livelihoods, and M&A
  4. Discussion :
    - DSTWG End of year review
    - RCO update on Piper guidebook and advocacy on camp closure
  5. AOB
- 
- **November Meeting #45 Action Points:**
    - M&A Subgroup to present on TOR and to share Activity Info guidelines (Pending)
    - DSTWG to send invitation for brainstorming session on local integration and displacement stock figures (Completed/ongoing)
    - RCO to circulate outline for Piper guideline (Pending)
    - RCO to refine advocacy positions and follow up (Pending)

### DS Update

- **DSTWG update:**
  - DSTWG to send invitation for brainstorming session on local integration and displacement stock figures (ongoing)
- **Subgroup updates:**
  1. **Sustainable livelihoods Subgroup:**
    - a. The task force on private sector engagement and market system development has initiated the creation of a toolbox to support livelihoods, MSMEs, and policy development with a conflict-sensitive approach, aiming to assist displaced, host, and returnee communities through market-based solutions, with progress being made collaboratively between field teams in Iraq and Geneva HQ.
  2. **M&A Subgroup:**

In Key Points from M&A Presentation (By Alaa)

    - a. Purpose: Guidelines developed by the M&A Subgroup to standardize data collection and reporting for durable solutions in Iraq.
    - b. Objectives: Systematic data collection, alignment with DSTWG objectives, and support for planning, coordination, and resource allocation.
    - c. Scope: Applies to CSOs, NGOs, UN agencies, and partners working on housing, livelihoods, documentation, and other durable solutions activities.



- d. Reporting: Quarterly submissions with standardized indicators and disaggregated data (gender, age, displacement status).
- e. Tool Development: A new data collection and visualization tool will be created, separate from the global Activity Info platform.
- f. Next Steps: Feedback from partners will improve guidelines; reliance on national datasets for future progress measurement.
- g. Support: Questions or clarifications can be directed to Alaa or Marta.  
Also Alaa emphasized the importance of reviewing the guidelines and providing feedback by mid-January, encouraging program, M&A, or other colleagues to join the subgroup, review for clarity, and provide early feedback to address potential challenges before data submission begins.

### 3. HLP Subgroup:

In Key Points (Mariana)

- a. Dashboard: finalised and will be shared that next subgroup meeting of 16 December.

## DSTWG Work Plan review

- **Work Plan Overview:**

The work plan spans from January 2024 to December 2025 and focuses on eight main priorities under 3 broad headings:

- a. Development of operational strategies, technical methodology, tools, and processes.
- b. Coordination and steering of area-level interventions.
- c. Reinforcing advocacy under the DSTF on Durable Solutions Issues.

- **Progress and Achievements:**

- a) Successful advocacy for locations in Ninewa, Salahaddin, and Kirkuk, despite challenges.
- b) 240 locations of no return identified in Iraq, with 12 villages targeted for advocacy and service restoration.
- c) Some villages in Ninewa and Kirkuk successfully unblocked with service restoration.
- d) Climate change task force completed partner mapping and guidelines development.
- e) Private sector guidance developed and shared in previous DSTWG meetings.
- f) Progress in addressing service obstacles in Sinjar and ABC coordination efforts.
- g) Training conducted for around 110 staff from different organizations on durable solutions.
- h) Capacity-building efforts with 37 local government authorities.

- **Challenges:**

- a) Engaging with PMF in areas of military occupation remains a significant barrier.
- b) PMF-related incidents led to setbacks in opening areas like Akashat.
- c) Difficulty in getting local and national authorities to address informal site IDPs.
- d) Delayed release of Sinjar funds and ongoing discussions with local authorities on service provision.

- **Advocacy and Future Plans:**

- a) Advocacy efforts for better government approach to IDPs, beyond just camp IDPs, continue.
- b) Future advocacy may involve raising issues to the Prime Minister level through the RCO office.



1. Ongoing need for collaboration with other agencies to support durable solutions and other efforts.

- **Request for Agency Involvement:**

- a) Agencies are encouraged to participate or lead in specific components of the work plan for the next quarter.
- b) Collaboration is essential due to the limited size of the DSTWG team.

Action Point:

DSTWG to reshare the DSTWG workplan.

### **Robert Piper Guidance book and Advocacy**

#### **ASG Guidance Book Update**

- The Robert Piper office initiated the development of a guidance book on solutions to displacement, with contributions from various organizations. A team of 16 staff members in Geneva has been tasked with finalizing the book due to time constraints and the upcoming conclusion of the ASGS office mandate.
- Methodology changed and 16 staff members in Geneva tasked with finalizing the book due to time constraints.

#### **Advocacy**

- Diwani Order 24261 issued by the Prime Minister on August 12 with several recommendations:  
Formation of a Legal Committee for guidance on legal issues, including former detainees.  
Creation of a Committee to resolve debts owed to landowners for camps in Kurdistan Region.  
Due Diligence Assessment for former detainees completed, recommendations to be presented to the High Committee.
- A new Diwani Order established a specialized national team for reconstruction and sustainable return of IDPs.
- National team expected to finalize plan within 90 days and oversee previous committees' activities. Ongoing coordination with Halif Sinjari, a key figure in the national team, for updates.
- During the meeting with the DSRSG/RC/HC last Sunday, the Mol Minister of the Kurdistan Region expressed dissatisfaction with the international community's withdrawal of humanitarian assistance.
- RC proposed a joint meeting with donors in Erbil to address funding challenges after Christmas holidays.
- Ninewa Governorate has agreed, in principle, to connect East Mosul camps to the national electricity grid with KRG facilitation. RC to issue official letter to Ninewa Governorate and follow up on the electricity connection process.
- RC and Minister agreed to facilitate a meeting with judges to address judicial concerns regarding Hassan Sham detainees. Judges from Mosul, Kirkuk, and Baghdad will be invited to Erbil for the meeting.
- RC requested a list of urgent needs in the camps to be shared with MOMD for action.
- Finalized guidance book to be shared with stakeholders for review and feedback.

#### **Action points**

- Members to share feedback on the M & A Reporting guideline by 15 January 2025
- M&A subgroup to invite Mohammed Chalabi to subgroup meetings.
- DSTWG to reshare the DSTWG 24/25 workplan.

**AOB**

- Poll to be shared on Teams for the January/February meeting date
- Inge is leaving; thanked for all of her work and contributions to DS forums, DSTF, DSTWG, and RWG (Fiona will replace Inge)