



Updates on the IOM Facilitated Voluntary Movements Programme

RWG Meeting March 2025

Facilitated Voluntary Movements Updates

FVM updates

5 rounds of departures were facilitated from Duhok to Sinjar and Baaj.

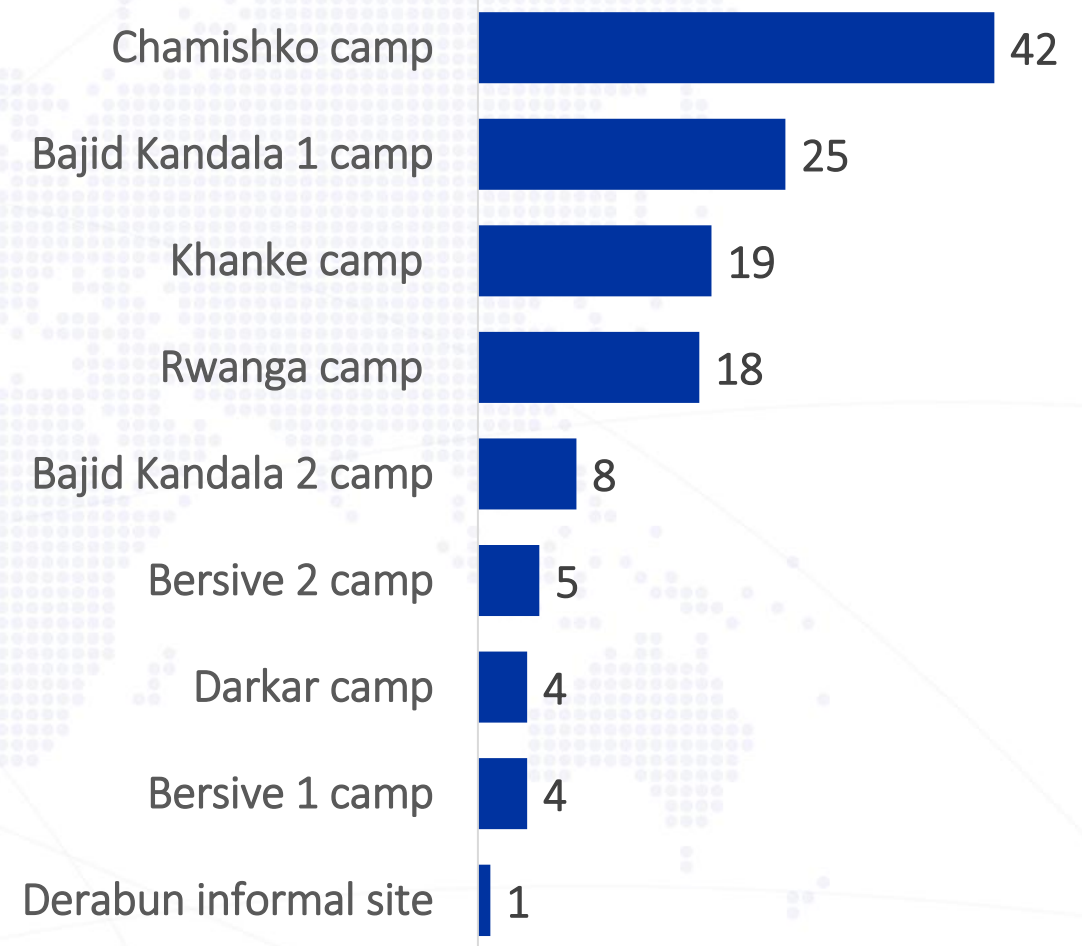
126 households have returned or relocated through FVM.

Additional rounds of departure are currently being organized from 2 camps in Dohuk:

446 households from Chamishko.

369 households from Khanke.

IOM facilitated movements in March 2025



FVM Challenges During the Last Departures

Some challenges faced during the last departure included:

- There has been a **high level of withdrawal from the programme (45% of the initial planned caseload)**, primarily due to the suspension of USG funds resulting in the housing assistance activities freezing and departures being postponed.
- **Some households postponed their departure** because of their children's enrollment in schools in areas of displacement, serious health conditions and the lack of specialized hospitals in Sinjar, and involvement in agricultural work. However, households have reported a willingness to return to their areas of origin (AoO) within 3 to 6 months.
- **Irregularities in decisions and conditions imposed by security actors at Saheela checkpoint** resulting in delays for the families to cross. In addition, to households not respecting the assigned roads for their movement.
- **IOM being the unique formal option for IDPs' departure from Dohuk** since registrations for departures were suspended after 12 July 2024 and not resumed yet.



Questions?

Access to Information Gaps

FGDs Findings
Khazir M1 Camp

March 2025

Objective

The objective of the Focus Group Discussion was to understand the information needs, preferences, and challenges faced by IDPs in Khazir M1 Camp regarding their return or relocation.

Specifically, the discussion aimed to:

- Identify the preferred methods and channels for receiving and sharing information about areas of return or relocation.
- Key concerns related to security, housing, livelihoods, services, and legal documentation.

The findings will help inform strategies to improve communication and access to reliable information for IDPs to support their decision-making process.

Location and Participants

The focus group discussions took place on 10th of March 2025.



Female FGD Participants

Age range: 28 to 53 years

Areas of origin: Ninewa governorate

Male FGD Participants

Age range: 19 to 65 years

Areas of origin: Ninewa and Salah Al Din governorates

Findings: Intentions

Female FGD Participants

- The majority want to relocate to Mosul city (7/11) or return to their areas of origin in Mosul (3/11).
- Some participants desire to return to specific locations like Tel Aswad Kabeer.

One female originally from Tel Aswad Kabeer reported that *“the preference of families from this location is to return, however if they do not receive the security clearance they will need to relocate in Mosul.”*

Male FGD Participants

- The majority reported their preference to return to areas of origin in Ninawa (e.g., Qayara, Mosul, Hamdaniya, and Sinjar).
- Relocation will be the best option for those with tribal issues, specially in Salah Al Din.

Findings: Current Access to Information and Gaps

The majority of participants felt they had sufficient information on services. Both female and male reportedly receive information via **phone calls**, daily or weekly, from **relatives**, neighbors, and returnee and relocated households who had departed the camp.

Female FGD Participants

- Key information topics received: Housing, rent, markets, security, basic services, MOMD grant, jobs, and education.
- Information gaps: Female participants expressed interest in receiving information about housing conditions (rent and location of cheaper rents), job opportunities, schools (registration), and availability of salaries.

Male FGD Participants

- Key information topics received: living costs, livelihoods and jobs, services, and access to education
- Information gaps: security situation in areas of origin or arrival, tribal issues in these areas, and compensation.

Findings: Communication Channels Preferences

Female FGD Participants

- Preferred Communication: Phone calls, visits, and in-person meetings (especially with relatives).
- Visits (Go and See) were considered expensive due to transportation costs and documentation issues, difficulting their movement and checkpoints crossing.
- Flyers distributed by organizations were trusted
- Caution with internet and social media due to trust issues.
- Video calls were not favored due to concerns about showing their faces over internet channels

Male FGD Participants

- Preferred Communication: In-person meetings and phone calls.
- IOM-organized Come and Tell sessions were highly appreciated, and participants recommended inviting the Mukhtars of the villages for discussions.
- Less frequent use of internet or social media.

In general, **direct family members** and **relatives** were identified as the most trusted sources of information. Followed by organisations and UN agencies.

Other Findings

- The biggest need identified by female and male participants was access to documentation, especially for children. It was very difficult for women with detained husbands to process documentation by themselves, even if they have done Tabriaa.
- Delays in SSN registration were also a concern, with some female participants reporting been waiting for two years for their files to be processed. According to both female and male participants, families in the camp were required to register in their areas of origin to receive their salaries, according to instructions from Baghdad.
- A significant concern raised by the female participants was the delicate security situation in some locations due to perceived affiliations. Mukhtars mistreat them, calling them dawaesh (ISIL affiliated), and preventing their return. Information they receive on security or mukhtar behaviors they are reluctant to share with others.



Thank you