IRAQ DURABLE SOLUTIONS NEWSLETTER



June 2025



DISPLACEMENT OVERVIEW 1

returns	DISPLACED	OUT OF CAMP	IN CAMP	CAMPS	CRITICAL SHELTER	
596,252 HH	352,962 HH	574,465 HH	21,787 HH	20	58,408 HH	
% ?	% →				Î	

While some 318 House Holds (1.438 individuals) departed from Dohuk, Erbil and East Mosul camps between January and May 2025, broader return movements have been largely suspended since July 2024 following the halt of the official return programme. Of those who have returned this year, 904 Households (approximately 5.424 individuals) returned via the IOM facilitated voluntary movement program. Many families remain eager to depart but face key barriers such as:

- · Lack of security in areas of origin
- · Absence of essential services and livelihoods
- Inability to access exit documentation to leave camps legally

Camp conditions remain challenging, with multiple fire incidents, disrupted healthcare and hygiene services, and limited distributions especially in East Mosul camps (EMCs). Many IDPs in EMCs face freedom of movement restrictions and difficulties in accessing legal documentation, including UIDs.

IDP CAMPS ADVOCACY

Partners continue to advocate for:

- · Clear government messaging and decisions on camp status
- Budget allocations to resume voluntary return assistance
- · Legal facilitation for families wishing to depart independently
- 1 Displacement and Return Figures are provided by the Ministry of Migration and Displacement, as of April 2025. Camp Figures provided by UNHCR as of 30 April 2025. Critical shelter data from DTM.

MoMD DATA: Governorates of displacement and return:

Governorate	# of Displaced families	# of Returned Families	#of Local Integrated Families
Dohuk	85,676	-	-
Erbil	71,813	-	-
Anbar	62,374	210,310	0
Kirkuk	36,553	28,082	0
Sulaymaniyah	29,644	-	-
Baghdad	28,857	17,482	632
Salah Al-Din	18,302	95,610	0
Diyala	11,259	45,328	1,725
Babel	3,311	346	102
Ninawa	2,301	192,691	0
Karbala	2	0	1,803

CAMP CLOSURE DEADLINE UPDATE

Following the suspension of the 30 July 2024 camp closure deadline through a High Committee meeting held in August 2024 (DR 24261), a list of recommendations was presented to the Prime Minister. Among the recommendations were:

- 1. The Supreme Judicial Council to establish a joint committee to address the issue of former detainees.
- 2. Establishment of a security committee to address security concerns in areas of origin.
- 3. Establishment of a service committee chaired by the Ministry of Construction, Housing and Municipalities.
- 4. Establishment of a committee chaired by the Federal Ministry of Interior with the membership of the KRG Minister of Interior to address concerns related to tribal conflicts.

The committees were to have 90 days to make recommendations from date of establishment, and the High Committee was to reconvene. The MoMD would register the intentions of families inside and outside of camps and monitor the departure of returning families.

While the Prime Minister did not endorse all the recommendations, some were adopted. Diwani Order 24529 was issued for the establishment of a committee to develop a Joint Humanitarian Plan and the committees to consider the issues of former detainees and the landowners. The Joint Humanitarian Committee includes representation from the federal (GOI), regional (KRG) authorities, and the Resident Coordinator's Office. The committee tasked with the development of the joint humanitarian plan met in 2024 and met several times in 2025 but has yet to develop the joint humanitarian plan within the designation period. An extension of 60 days was requested and pending approval.

DURABLE SOLUTIONS TASK FORCE (DSTF): REVAMP AND GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT

In January 2025, the RC and DSTF co-chairs initiated a revamp process of the DSTF, aiming to align it with residual HCT structures and the Sinjar Taskforce. A consultation process is underway, including a draft TOR and strategic positioning document. Key suggested reforms include:

- Improved engagement with Government-led bodies, particularly the High Committee established under Diwani Order 24261 and the Joint Humanitarian Planning process.
- Increased opportunities for Government participation.
- Closer collaboration with the Solutions Hub in Geneva to ensure global alignment and access to technical expertise and funding tools.

- Strengthened support to the implementation of the Government–UN Joint Roadmap, including coordination with the Joint Technical Committee and alignment of UN efforts under the leadership of the RC.
- What remains unchanged:
- DSTF mandate to provide strategic guidance, policy advocacy, and technical support to government counterparts at both federal and local levels.
- Coordination across humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding actors, with a focus on area-based planning and durable solutions delivery.

The updated Terms of Reference also emphasize the DSTF's role in supporting national policy implementation, including the integration of durable solutions into Iraq's 2024–2028 National Development Plan and the UN Cooperation Framework.

GLOBAL ARRANGEMENTS FOLLOWING THE END OF THE SPECIAL ADVISOR MANDATE

Following the closure of the mandate of the UN Secretary-General's Special Advisor on Solutions to Internal Displacement, the UN system has institutionalized a Solutions Hub, hosted by the Development Coordination Office (DCO) in Geneva. This Hub provides technical support, operational guidance, and access to the Internal Displacement Solutions Fund (IDSF), with IOM, UNDP, and UNHCR serving as global Solutions Champions supporting RCs at the country level.

DURABLE SOLUTIONS ROADMAP

The "Roadmap to Accelerating the Implementation of the National Plan to Resolve Displacement in Iraq" was developed following consultations with the Government of Iraq, KRG, and aid actors. The roadmap, structured under the four pillars of the National Plan, serves as the primary framework guiding durable solutions for IDPs and returnees across Iraq. The four pillars are:

- 1. Damaged shelters
- 2. Infrastructure
- 3. Sustainability of stabilization, rehabilitation and social development after return
- 4. Security, political, national reconciliation and peaceful co-existence

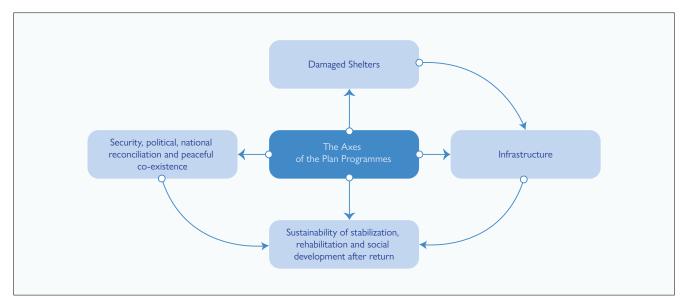


Figure 1: Iraq National Plan Pillars

Key commitments from the Government of Iraq include:

Damaged shelter:

- Allocation of the national budget to property compensation and implementation of affordable housing programs in Sinjar and Mosul.
- Simplifying compensation processes and expediting claims, especially for IDPs in the Kurdistan Region (per Cabinet Resolution 24007).

Infrastructure:

- Enhancing essential services, including water, electricity, schools, and healthcare, in areas of return and stabilization.
- Prioritizing highly damaged districts such as Sinjar and mobilizing resources for the rehabilitation of critical infrastructure.

Security and Political Reconciliation:

 Support for returns to areas with political and security barriers, including legal and tribal reconciliation mechanisms under Cabinet Resolution 24007.

Sustainability and Social Development:

• Expansion of access to civil documentation, social protection schemes, and livelihood opportunities, prioritizing vulnerable and women-headed households.

The roadmap also outlines the complimentary role of UN agencies and partners, through the provision of technical support, and legal aid, infrastructure rehabilitation, community engagement, and M&E. The Roadmap is a pivotal milestone in transitioning from humanitarian response to long-term solutions and will guide planning through mid-2026.

COORDINATION & GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP

Sinjar ABC Group Update

The Sinjar Area-Based Coordination (ABC) group has been assessing the ongoing reconstruction efforts and displacement trends in the district. Government representatives reported progress on 30 infrastructure projects under the Sinjar Reconstruction Budget and confirmed the allocation of 1,000 public sector jobs. Plans are also underway for the development of Sinjar University to expand access to higher education in the region. However, the recent suspension of U.S. funding has disrupted numerous projects across Sinjar, prompting partners to coordinate data collection for joint advocacy with the UN Resident Coordinator.

Progress on Yazidi Land Rights in Sinjar

In April 2025, following years of sustained advocacy by UN Habitat, a landmark milestone was achieved with the issuance of over 1,300 land ownership letters and 100 title deeds to Yazidi families in Sinjar, officially recognizing them as landowners for the first time in generations.

This followed the implementation of Resolution No. 227 by the Iraqi Council of Ministers, waiving all title deed issuance fees for Yazidi beneficiaries—previously estimated at nearly USD 6,000 per household.

The distribution process, carried out by the Ninewa Governorate and Real Estate Registration Department, reflects the Government of Iraq's commitment to advancing housing, land, and property (HLP) rights for historically marginalized communities. To date, UN Habitat has issued over 18,000 land occupancy certificates serving as the basis for full title deeds. For additional information, please check the below link.²

2 Recognition of Yazidi Land Ownership in Sinjar A Historic Achievement underscoring UN and Iraqi Joint Efforts | United Nations in Iraq

JOINT COORDINATION FORUMS (JCFs):

A high-level JCF workshop was held and co-chaired by the DSRSG/HC and the Director General of International Relations at COMSEC. Key topics included:

- The upcoming phase-out of DSO support by end-2025 due to UNAMI's mandate conclusion
- The need for the GoI to take over secretariat responsibilities
- Expansion of |CFs to additional governorates
- Integration of SDGs and UNSDCF priorities



JCF Workshop Participants

PROGRESS TOWARD DURABLE SOLUTIONS

To assess progress toward durable solutions in Iraq, the DTM conducted a household survey designed to compare internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees, and host communities. The study defines three types of durable solutions: sustainable return, sustainable integration, and sustainable resettlement. Each is evaluated based on eight criteria: long-term safety and security; adequate standard of living; access to livelihoods and employment; restoration of housing, land, and property; access to personal and other documentation; family reunification; participation in public affairs; and access to effective remedies and justice.

Surveys were carried out between 2022 and 2024 across Ninewa, Salah al-Din, Anbar, and Diyala to identify key obstacles and characteristics hindering progress. The study also aimed to determine the proportion of IDPs and returnees who have made significant progress toward durable solutions. A sample of NES returnees was included in the Anbar data.

Following international recommendations for IDP statistics, the study focused on indicators related to safety and security, standard of living, livelihoods, housing and property restoration, compensation, documentation, and civic participation. Additional information is available on the DTM website 3but in summary:

IDPs face persistent challenges in housing, documentation, livelihoods, and community acceptance. Returnees generally fare better but still encounter instability and limited income opportunities. Low progress is linked to repeated displacements, lack of legal tenure, and unresolved compensation claims. Female-headed households and high dependency ratios are especially vulnerable.

Households Close to Solutions Findings:

Low Progress		Number of criteria met							
0			Medium progress		High progress		Total		
1		2	3	4	5	. 0 ca.			
	IDPs	No. of HHs	408	3,674	16,757	13,960	6,320	578	41,698
Ninewa		Percentage of HHs	1%	9%	40%	34%	15%	1%	100%
Ninewa	Returnees	No. of HHs	380	9,734	68,980	95,582	108,809	38,924	322,410
		Percentage of HHs	0%	3%	21%	30%	34%	12%	100%
	IDPs	of households #	1,778	1,537	1,705	2,177	1,134	83	8,414
Salah Al-Din		of households %	21%	18%	20%	26%	14%	1%	100%
	Returnees	of households #	2,686	10,307	28,570	40,344	34,416	8,940	125,263
		of households %	2%	8%	23%	32%	28%	7%	100%
	IDPs	of households #	218	1,744	1,833	1,255	529	249	5,828
		of households %	4%	30%	31%	22%	9%	4%	100%
Anbar	D - t	of households #	830	10,948	31,591	67,906	79,287	67,392	257,955
	Returnees	of households %	1%>	4%	12%	26%	31%	26%	100%
	NES	of sampled households %	4%	31%	33%	20%	11%	1%>	100%
6: -	IDPs	of households #	60	604	1,930	2,686	1,673	408	7,360
		of households %	1%	8%	26%	36%	23%	6%	100%
Diyala	Returnees	of households #	325	2,361	7,693	13,053	10,462	6,302	40,196
		of households %	1%	6%	19%	32%	26%	16%	100%

Common Challenges Among Low Progress Households:

- Frequent and failed displacements are common, leading to instability and disrupted recovery.
- Poor shelter conditions and inadequate access to water, sanitation, and healthcare are widespread.
- Households often rely on unstable income sources, such as irregular labor or subsistence agriculture.
- Many struggles with unexpected expenses due to limited financial resilience.
- · Female-headed households, widows, and those with high dependency ratios face greater challenges.
- · Marginalized groups, including Yazidis, experience heightened vulnerability.
- Legal and documentation issues, including informal housing and unresolved compensation claims, are prevalent.
- Low community acceptance and limited civic participation, especially among IDPs, hinder integration.
- Limited support from local authorities and fear of eviction further exacerbate insecurity.

RECENTLY PUBLISHED REPORTS/RESOURCES

Guidelines for Climate Resilience in Agriculture and Livelihoods-Arabic

Guidelines for Climate Resilience in Agriculture and Livelihoods-English

MoMD Activity Report Coordination Mechanisms Workshop, Baghdad, 20-21 August 2024

Area of No Return, Aljahafat Hamra Village, DS Discussion, Alshura Subdistrict, September 2024

Area of Low Return, Qaryat Ar Rawashi, Balad District, Salah Al-Din Governorate, Community Dialogue, February 2024

Areas of No Return, Al-Ayadiya Village, Tal Afar District, Ninewa Governorate, Community Dialogue, December 2024

Area of Low Return- Jadalh Suffla village- Qayyarah Subdistrict, Ninewa Governorate- Community Dialogue- December 2024

Area of Low Return- Jazzirat Al-Khalidiya- Ramadi City- Anbar Governorate- Community Dialogue- December 2024

Area of No Return- Makhmour District- Community Dialogue- December 2024

Protracted Displacement, Al-Mashru> Al-Sharqi Village, Riyadh Sub-district, Kirkuk Governorate, Community Dialogue, December 2024

Areas of No Return, Isloby Village DS Discussion, Hatra District, Ninewa Governorate, DS Discussion, September 2024

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Group	Frequency	Notes	
RWG	Monthly	Last Tuesday of each month (open)	
DSTF	Monthly	By invitation (DSTF members)	
DSTWG	Monthly	Second Wednesday of each month (members only)	
JCFs	Monthly	Based on governorate schedule	