



Advocacy positions – Durable Solutions and IDPs 2026

Introduction

As of early 2026, Iraq's displacement file is at a critical juncture. While successive Federal Government of Iraq decisions since 2019 have emphasized camp closure, population reclassification, and administrative "end of displacement" approaches, the structural and in some cases political conditions required for durable solutions remain largely unresolved. As of early 2026, displacement-related vulnerabilities persist at scale, particularly among populations remaining in camps and informal settlements in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) and the five liberated governorates in Federal Iraq. These vulnerabilities are no longer primarily humanitarian in nature, but institutional, legal, fiscal, and political, requiring coordinated, whole of government led solutions rather than individual ministry/ies administrative measures. They also require connection of the solutions to internal displacement agenda to wider government development properties, opportunities related to the formation of a new government and against the backdrop of UN mission transition and significant reduced UN capacities in Iraq.

According to IOM DTM (December 2024) More than 100,000 people continue to reside in 20 IDP camps in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI), over 94 per cent of whom are Yazidis, alongside an estimated 84,000 people living in informal setting nationwide, with significant concentrations in Dohuk and Anbar governorates. These populations remain in protracted displacement due to unresolved structural constraints that prevent sustainable reintegration. An approximate of 4.9 Million IDPs have since returned to their areas of origin or elsewhere in the country, that said, data on how many of the "returnees" have found durable solutions or partial stability vs those who continue to deal with the ramification of their original displacement is unclear.

IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) data as of December 2024 confirms that a substantial share of displaced families, both in camps and outside formal camp settings, continue to reside in critical shelter conditions, including tents, caravans, makeshift shelters, unfinished or abandoned buildings, collective shelters, and public or religious buildings. Nationally, tens of thousands of individuals remain in shelter arrangements that are inherently temporary, insecure, and incompatible with durable solutions.

Critically, DTM data show that large numbers of out-of-camp displaced families, many of whom are recorded as "returned," are living in non-habitable or precarious housing, often without tenure security, adequate services, or access to reconstruction and compensation mechanisms. In governorates such as Ninewa, Dohuk, Erbil, Baghdad, Diyala, and Salah Al-Din, families who have departed camps



frequently transition into unfinished structures, overcrowded apartments, or informal arrangements that replicate displacement conditions rather than resolve them.

These shelter patterns are closely linked to broader, unresolved barriers to durable solutions, including stalled compensation claims, unresolved housing, land and property (HLP) disputes, constrained access to basic services, including exclusion from social protection systems, limited livelihood opportunities, and continued security-related restrictions on movement and return. The persistence of critical shelter conditions underscores that movement alone has not translated into durable outcomes, and that displacement in Iraq continues to be managed through administrative measures rather than resolved through sustainable, rights-based solutions grounded in evident improvement in living conditions across communities.

At the institutional level, displacement governance remains fragmented. The Ministry of Migration and Displacement continues to frame solutions primarily through camp closure, return grants, and administrative reclassification, despite lacking the political leverage or fiscal authority to mobilize line ministries or resolve cross-cutting constraints. Since August 11th 2024 the Iraqi federal cabinet halted the implementation of its January cabinet resolution to incentivise departures from camps, consecutive committees were formed to develop joint plans for camps closure, however, as of early 2026 no concrete outcomes have been presented out of these committees. Relations between Baghdad and Erbil on displacement policy remain strained, with key decisions on camp closures, eligibility for entitlements, and population classification taken unilaterally and without joint agreement. This has resulted in policy incoherence, inconsistent implementation, and heightened mistrust among displaced populations.

At the same time, the operational environment has shifted sharply. By early 2025, the UN's INGOs and NGO's presence in camps and informal settlements had contracted significantly due to funding cuts and program drawdowns. This reduction in presence and service delivery, however, was not accompanied by a commensurate expansion of government led services, nor by a comprehensive government takeover of responsibility for the delivery of core services to displaced populations.. Core national data systems have weakened, while government registration systems remain outdated and closed to new, secondary, or evolving displacement caseloads. As a result, displacement figures are increasingly contested, politically instrumentalized, and disconnected from actual living conditions on the ground. This calls for a more comprehensive national data approach that continues to monitor displaced populations while also generating reliable, disaggregated data on post displacement vulnerabilities, in order to inform evidence based discussions on service provision, prioritization, and resource allocation.



Against this backdrop, advocacy in 2026 prioritize moving beyond narrow debates on camp closure or population status and refocus on the conditions required to resolve displacement in practice. Durable solutions criteria should be defined by the sustained resolution of displacement-related vulnerabilities, not by physical movement from one place to another, one-off grants, or changes in administrative classification. This requires renewed political ownership at federal and regional levels, a shift toward inter-governmental coordination mechanisms that extend beyond a single ministry, and a commitment to rights-based, voluntary, informed, safe, and dignified pathways for return, relocation, or local integration.

Core advocacy principles:

This advocacy note outlines core principles for 2026 UN collective system engagement in support of a government led solutions on the backdrop of the above-mentioned context as follows:

- Collective UN advocacy efforts must focus on advancing comprehensive durable solutions that address displacement-related vulnerabilities,, including for population that have formally exited displacement but continue to face barriers to sustainable solutions. With administrative closure of the displacement file occurring only as a result of such resolution rather than as the objective,
- Solutions for internal displacement must be defined by a long-term sustainable resolution for displacement-related barriers to durable solutions not by short term movements, closure of camps, or a change in the administrative status of displaced persons.
- Returns, relocation, and reintegration must be voluntary, informed, safe, and dignified
- Data, classification of IDP population, and public messaging should not inflate progress or obscure unresolved displacement, and where its grounded in government-owned, credible data systems capable of tracking both displacement and post displacement vulnerabilities overtime.
- Durable solutions require multi-sectoral and whole of government coordination, and should not rely solely on a single government ministry (I.e. MOMD) and embedded across central financial institutions, and sectoral line ministries as part of a broader national governance and service delivery systems.



- Durable solutions to internal displacement should be integrated into wider national development priorities, including peacebuilding, economic recovery, service delivery reform, and climate adaptation, rather than treated as a standalone humanitarian issue.
- Sustainable solutions pathways require a whole of financing approach that aligns domestic, public, national and international financing and where relevant private investment, towards shared outcomes rather than fragmented, short term interventions.

Establishment of an Inter-Governmental Framework on Durable Solutions

Target audience	Advocacy ask	Background details (Internal use only)	Preferred Outcome
▪ Prime Minister's Office ▪ Council of Ministers	▪ Establish a flexible, inter-governmental coordination framework on durable solutions that brings together relevant federal ministries, the Kurdistan Regional Government, and governorate authorities, with the UN providing advisory, coordination support, analytical and secretariate capacity assistance.	The 2024 Durable Solutions Roadmap was not formally endorsed, and government engagement around its implementation has remained largely stagnant for over 18 months. Erbil continues to condition Baghdad's commitment for the implementation of the Sinjar Agreement, which Baghdad rejects, reinforcing a political stalemate that has left no viable space for progress. Meanwhile, MoMD, the UN's main counterpart, lacks the leverage or capacity to push line ministries and the challenges to advancing solutions are increasingly political in nature rather than humanitarian or technical. In the absence of a government led coordination	• Transition from Road Map language to a politically grounded inter-governmental framework; • Renewed political ownership at federal and KRG levels post-elections; • A structured forum for regular government-UN engagement on displacement beyond MoMD's administrative mandate.



framework with authority across ministries and levels of government, existing efforts have been unable to break the impass or translate commitments into a framework for action.

UN capacity to deliver the commitments outlined in the Roadmap has also diminished due to funding cuts, shrinking field presence, and reduced humanitarian footprints. Continuing to push for implementation of the Roadmap in its original form is no longer realistic due to lack of national interest.

As a result, continued reliance on the roadmap in its original form is no longer realistic without renewed political leadership and a revised, government owned framework for advancing durable solutions.

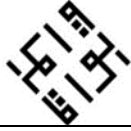


Improved access to Compensation Claims

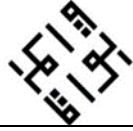
Target audience	Advocacy ask	Background details (Internal use only)	Preferred Outcome
▪ MOMD ▪ Prime Minister Office ▪ Ministry of Finance ▪ Central Compensation Committee (Law 20)	Position compensation as a catalytic and foundational enabler of durable solutions and urge Government to: ▪ Recognize compensation as the Government's central instrument for addressing conflict-related housing destruction and enabling reconstruction and rehabilitation at scale, within a broader set of conditions required for durable solutions. ▪ Mandate simplification and standardization of compensation procedures nationwide through the National Compensation Committee (Law 20), reducing discretionary variation across	Compensation is the Government's central mechanism for addressing housing destruction and enabling reconstruction and rehabilitation at scale, and remains a critical driver of whether return is feasible for large numbers of displaced households. While durable solutions depend on multiple conditions, delays and dysfunctions in the compensation system currently undermine the effectiveness of all other return-support measures. The process remains highly convoluted, requiring repeated in-person visits to areas of origin, significant transportation and legal costs, and prolonged administrative delays. Households holding recommendation letters lack clarity on when payments will be issued, while those already holding cheques are unable to access funds due to reported banking liquidity constraints. These bottlenecks have stalled reconstruction, eroded trust, and in some cases contributed to secondary displacement, including returns to camps.	▪ Release of compensation funds by the Ministry of Finance, including clearance of all pending cheques and prioritization of claimants already holding recommendation letters, to restore confidence in the compensation system and unlock stalled housing recovery. ▪ Adoption of a single, simplified, nationwide compensation procedure (SOP), with clearly defined steps, required documentation, and transparent processing timelines, formally approved and communicated to IDPs and relevant authorities. ▪ Establishment of maximum processing periods for key stages of the compensation process, including conversion of recommendation letters into cheques and cheque disbursement,



	governorates, repeat submissions, and unnecessary in-person requirements. ▪ Clear the existing backlog of approved claims as an immediate confidence-building measure, including the release of funds for claimants already holding recommendation letters or cheques, to prevent further erosion of trust and secondary displacement. ▪ Ensure inter-ministerial coordination to operationally link compensation with social protection, service restoration, and housing recovery, so compensation functions as part of a sequenced recovery pathway rather than an isolated cash transfer. Support the development and rollout of a national digital compensation platform, including digital case management and tracking, as a foundation for	From a Government perspective, unresolved compensation backlogs weaken the credibility of return and camp-closure policies, prolong dependence on humanitarian assistance, and allow grievances to accumulate in fragile areas. Conversely, clearing approved claims and simplifying procedures would unlock housing recovery at scale, demonstrate visible delivery, and allow investments in services and livelihoods to translate into durable outcomes. With the support of the Internal Displacement Solutions Fund (IDSF), IOM, UN-Habitat and UNDP are jointly supporting GoI in (1) harmonization, monitoring and strengthening of data management systems to track progress toward durable solutions, (2) improved access, transparency, and efficiency in compensation claims for displaced and vulnerable populations, and (3) the development of a national financing policy for durable solutions.	to improve predictability and accountability. ▪ Operationalization of a national digital compensation system, enabling digital case management, status tracking, and performance monitoring across all governorates, and providing the foundation for transparency, consistency, and scale. ▪ Expanded access to claim submission through mobile teams and digital channels, allowing IDPs to file claims from camps and other displacement settings and reducing financial, logistical, and protection-related barriers. ▪ Fast-tracked processing for the most vulnerable households, including those with destroyed housing, female-headed households, and long-pending claims, based on clear and transparent prioritization criteria. ▪ A comprehensive compensation awareness campaign should be established to ensure affected populations are informed of their rights,
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	improving transparency, processing efficiency, and coordination across institutions, alongside targeted legal and procedural clarifications. ▪		eligibility criteria, and application procedures. ▪
Key Consideration	▪ There is a substantial backlog of compensation claims dating back to 2014 and earlier that remain undistributed. While the Council of Ministers' decision to expedite compensation claims for IDPs residing in camps in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) is a positive step, it will intensify the existing grievances of those who have been waiting for years for their compensation. ▪ Submitting a file for a compensation claim is complex, cumbersome, and bureaucratic. UN assessment suggests only trained lawyers by UN and / or NGOs supporting the filing of compensation claims can successfully complete the task. Compensation claims procedures is different in each governorate with inconsistencies and varies levels of capacities among staff and directorates involved. There is a pressing need to streamline compensation procedures and reduce the time required to process claims.		
Access to Government assisted Return and Reintegration			
Target audience	Advocacy ask	Background details (Internal use only)	Preferred Outcome
▪ MoMD ▪ PM office ▪ Ministry of Finance	▪ Advocate for the resumption of the return process, including distribution of financial grants for IDPs to allow for their departures. Urging for equitable treatment for all, camp and non-camp IDPs,	MOMD grant was last disbursed in August 2024, remaining families have no information on whether the IQD4m or the IQD1.5m grant will be provided.	▪ Resumption and unconditional disbursement of the return grants to all, camp and non-camp IDPs who have departed and have not recieved the return grants to date.



	regardless of affiliation or size of the household. ▪ Clear eligibility for expanded families; ▪ Transparent communication on timelines and entitlements.	Return grant disbursement has been inconsistent and, in some cases, decoupled from actual departure. Lack of clarity fuels mistrust and undermines informed decision making.	▪ Criteria for expanded families is clarified and expanded families departing IDP camps are entitled and able to access return grants.
Ensure Equal Access to the Social Safety Net and Social Protection Entitlements Guarantee equal access for displaced families to Social Safety Net (SSN) and Public Distribution System (PDS) entitlements regardless of location or displacement status.			
Target audience	Advocacy ask	Background details (Internal use only)	Preferred Outcome



▪ MoT ▪ MoLSA ▪ MoMD ▪ KRG	▪ Advance advocacy and engagement with key government ministries to address social exclusion and equity gaps, ensuring that key national systems are inclusive, across populations and geographical locations, with a particular focus on social protection (PDS and SSN), education and health systems, and that in a landscape of rapid digitalization, access to documentation is integrated into support for the most vulnerable. ▪ In the absence of a more durable solutions, advocate with the Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MoMD), Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), and other stakeholders to ensure regular and reliable food assistance for in camp population, in particular those in the EMCs.	The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs is tasked with including the returnees from displacement in the camps of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq after the issuance of the Cabinet's decision (24007 for the year 2024) in programs (social protection allowances and loans without interests for unemployed returnees) as an exception from the rules. MoLSA has increasingly argued that families must return to their areas of origin to access SSN benefits, effectively using social protection as leverage to pressure return. Consequently, there will be no further inclusion for IDPs while they remain in camps. To facilitate IDPs' registration in SSN, the social protection Authority (SPA) established a new branch in Ninawa Governorate. Families in camps and informal settlements report exclusion from SSN, despite being among the most vulnerable. In recent meetings, the Minister of Labor and Social Affairs confirmed that 200,000 SSN registrations have been unlocked and will be issued after the elections. Advocacy should	▪ All eligible IDPs are properly registered and receive SSN assistance. Removal of any geographic or displacement status conditionality from eligibility criteria. ▪ Access to PDS assistance and SSN entitlements for IDPs on equal terms with other citizens. ▪ Explicit allocation of a percentage of the newly unlocked 200,000 SSN cards to vulnerable displaced families.
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Returns are Informed, Safe, Dignified and Voluntary			
Target audience	Advocacy ask	Background details (Internal use only)	Preferred Outcome
▪ All government entitles listed in the Council of ministers decision. ▪ MOMD ▪ MOLSA	Reject administrative reclassification of camp residents as “integrated” without resolution of displacement related vulnerabilities, and ensure: • Clear information on options and entitlements;	A statement in mid-August by the Ministry of Migration and Displacement states that families still residing in camps in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq could be considered stable and “integrated” by the end of 2025 if they did not leave the camps. While presented as a step toward closing the displacement file, the statement offered no plan for supporting	▪ Ensure that all IDPs are fully informed of all possible durable solutions and are able to make an informed and voluntary decision on their future. ▪ If funds support, an intention survey can be undertaken to detail which durable solutions may be achieved, so that support can be tailored



▪ Compensation committee ▪ Prime Minister's office	• Support packages linked to departures; • Provision of service within camps must be assured until a time when all residents are able to voluntarily depart. In order to ensure appropriate living conditions and adequate service provision, it may be necessary to consider camp consolidation. • Discussions on any potential consolidation must include the IDP community and should ensure that appropriate financial resourcing is available. • S .	departures, providing entitlements, or addressing the complex realities faced by over 100,000 displaced individuals who remain in 20 camps in KRI - without having achieved sustainable (re)integration. The Kurdistan Regional Government condemned the statement in a later press release. UN consistently reported that lack of sustainable shelter is one of the most critical needs for IDP populations that have departed IDP camps in KRI, especially to return areas across Salahine Governorates.	▪ Ensure clarity of process for each durable solution, so that IDPs who are ready to depart the camp can follow the necessary procedure, irrespective of return, local integration or relocation. ▪ Government stakeholders to adopt an approach that focuses on reintegration as an outcome not as a time bound procedure. ▪ Families are adequately assisted with the entitlements and provisions post departure out of IDP camps. ▪ Families cannot depart IDP camps are considered for adequate service continuity while remaining in IDP camps with further assistance provided to support with a durable solution in the near future.
Security Clearances and departures from East Mosul Camps			
Target audience	Advocacy ask	Background details	Preferred Outcome



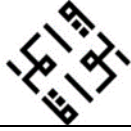
		(Internal use only)	
▪ JoC ▪ MOMD ▪ JCCC/MOI KRG ▪ Governorate Level ▪ MOI/SJC	▪ Inform the Minister that the UN is available to support voluntary departures out of camps in KRI, contingent on clear assurances from authorities regarding the safety, dignity and voluntariness of departing individuals throughout the process. ▪ Urge for the reactivation of the return committee involving MOMD and JCCC to ensure voluntary self-departures and confirmation of clear procedures, esp. for EMCs. ▪ Reiterate the need of Gol, esp. MOI/SJC, to prioritize and support the issuance process of UID and facilitate reintegration in areas of origin. Special attention should be given to enabling the departure of women and children remaining in the camps.	It is imperative that the government offers assurance that returning individuals will not face arrests during the return process, especially on the occasion that relevant authorities have provided security clearance. Furthermore, the observed conduct of the security forces during the return process raised protection concerns, both for the returning population and the UN staff involved in the return process. The authorities must guarantee the safety of both returnees and the staff involved in facilitating the return process. Local authorities informally instruct some returning families with perceived or actual ties to ISIS to submit <i>Tabri'a</i> (disavowal) and <i>Khalaa</i> (Forced Divorce Certificate- الخلع) claims against the missing, detained, or deceased suspected family members to qualify for the return grant. These measures unjustly penalize families and not only reinforce stigma and collective punishment but also create significant barriers to reintegration, access to essential services, and community reconciliation. Their continued	▪ Authorities revert back to the former security approvals system, ensuring approvals be provided by Governorate-level security forces in addition to JOC approval.



use risks deepening social exclusion and protection concerns among already vulnerable populations.

Former Detainee Caseload

Target audience	Advocacy ask	Background details (Internal use only)	Preferred Outcome
▪ Federal Supreme Judicial Council ▪ Erbil Court of Appeal	▪ Encourage KRI and Federal authorities to coordinate on resolving ex-detainee caseloads on a case-by-case basis. It is essential that individuals released from detention are not redirected into camps. ▪ Advocate with the Federal Supreme Judicial Council, the Erbil Court of Appeal, and other relevant courts in liberated governorates to strengthen judicial	The caseload of former detainees is estimated to exceed 800 individuals (potentially more). Some individuals may resolve their cases involving federal arrest warrants that overlap with Kurdish court rulings (e.g., affiliation charges at both ends), while others risk facing new and severe charges in federal courts. This group is not homogeneous, and solutions are likely to be judicial rather than political. The potential for future arrests of departing IDPs (especially in the presence of security clearance) poses a particular concern pertaining to future departures in general and	▪ Clear referral pathways between Kurdish and federal courts through an established legal committee that is time-bound for reviewing and comparing court cases in Kurdistan with standing arrest warrants in Federal Iraq. ▪ Resolution of overlapping cases under double jeopardy principles. ▪ Authorities revert to the former security approvals system, ensuring approvals



	cooperation and create pathways for resolving former detainee cases.	of former detainees who currently reside in the East Mosul Camps in specific.	be provided by Governorate-level security forces in addition to JOC approval.
Key Considerations	▪ The number of former detainees currently residing in camps remains highly contested and is difficult to verify. They were convicted on terrorism charges in Kurdish courts, served their sentences, and upon release they were transferred to one of the East Mosul camps. This caseload requires a more nuanced approach than the regular security clearance / approval. ▪ Yet, the overall caseload of former detainees, according to ministry of interior of KRG, in all camps may exceed 800 individuals. While the common assumption in the past was that this group shared a broadly similar profile of affiliation, trial, and release, it has become increasingly clear that the caseload is not as homogenous as originally thought. It includes individuals who have served sentences, others acquitted for lack of evidence, juveniles tried under counter-terrorism provisions, and those who remain incarcerated but may eventually be transferred to camps.		
Blocked Areas			
Target audience	Advocacy ask	Background details (Internal use only)	Preferred Outcome



▪ PM's Office ▪ MoMD ▪ Relevant governor's offices ▪ Security Actors including KRI	▪ Urge for the need of political resolution to the obstacles faced by families from blocked areas ▪ Follow up by government with security actors for those areas which don't have political concerns and issues are simpler or security actor related	DTM estimates that there are 200 locations of no return in Iraq. Blocked areas represent a small fraction of these locations with most notable areas including locations in Babylon Jurf Al Nasser/Sakher, Salah Al-Din Auja, Tal Dhahab, Anbar Akashat, Ninewa Hasansham villages, locations in Tel-Afar, Hatra and Sinjar. The issues in these locations vary from complex to less complex but require intentional high-level advocacy.	▪ Opening up of blocked areas to allow reintegration efforts for families to return.
Recognition and Inclusion of Informal Settlements			
Target audience	Advocacy ask	Background details (Internal use only)	Preferred Outcome
▪ MoMD ▪ Supreme Committee on Returns	▪ Advocate with MoMD and the Supreme Committee on Returns to formally recognize informal settlement residents as displaced and included in any provisions or entitlements designed for in-camp IDP populations.	Informal settlement populations, such as in Khanke and Shariya, were unable to access camps when they reached capacity but remain displaced a decade later. These families are excluded from return grants and other entitlements, despite facing harsher conditions than many camp residents. MoMD's refusal to recognize them distorts national figures and perpetuates inequities.	▪ Formal recognition of informal settlement residents as displaced population. ▪ Inclusion in government support schemes, including return grants, SSN and any future entitlement that may be announced for in camp IDP population.



Sinjar and the Yazidi IDP File			
Target audience	Advocacy ask	Background details (Internal use only)	Preferred Outcome
▪ MOJ/RERD ▪ Nineveh Governorate Municipalities	▪ Request information updates, specifically on security considerations, that will help the Yazidis population who are currently in the IDP camps to take an informed choice on potential durable solutions. ▪ While the commitment and efforts of the local government in driving this historic progress are commendable, the pace of implementation is being hindered by heavy workloads and a shortage of personnel. ▪ Allocation of additional resources to tackle challenges, including a shortage of technical experts/staff, lack of capacity, limited financial resources, and understaffing at the local level, will be essential to execution of the Cabinet Resolution No. 227 to	Following the Cabinet resolution announced on March 25, 2025, which fully waived payments for Yazidis' title deeds, the registration and distribution of land title deeds began in Sinjar and Ba'aj. Over 1,000 ownership letters have been converted into title deeds for Yazidi residents of Dugrey and Tel Uzair Mujama'at. Although implementation has begun in two mujamma'at, the initiative is expected to eventually reach all 11 mujamma'at inhabited by the Yazidi community. To obtain a title deed, beneficiaries must complete several administrative steps with municipality and RERD. Delays often occur when there are insufficient staffs to support the steps. Although the maps were prepared by the Nineveh Governorate Planning Department, the final step, updating the maps and reassigning plot numbers, has been delayed by RERD Sinjar. Despite repeated efforts by UN-Habitat to accelerate the process and provide	▪ Additional staffing and support allocated for key government institutions, particularly RERD Ninewa and RERD Sinjar, to accelerate the distribution of title deeds. ▪ Training and capacity building conducted for staff in key government institutions, particularly in efficient land ownership data management, including the use of the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) and data tracking systems. ▪ Good practices demonstrated through the cases for Yazidis serve as a model for title deed registration efforts targeting other vulnerable groups and minority communities.



	all 11 mujamma'at. UN-Habitat remain available to provide technical expertise and capacity building.	support, progress has been hindered by the heavy workload and a shortage of staff.	
Promote Urban Integration as a Complementary Solution			
Target audience	Advocacy ask	Background details (Internal use only)	Preferred Outcome
- Ministry of Planning - Municipalities - Commission for Agricultural Development	Advocate with municipalities (Akre, Dohuk, Erbil, Ninewa) and the Ministry of Planning to design alternative land and planning solutions for protracted IDPs unable or unwilling to return.	Return remains the preferred solution for many displaced families. However, others request opportunities to integrate locally, such as those in Mamlyan, Dawoodia, Khanke, and Shariya. These sites sit on privately owned agricultural lands, and municipalities lack incentives to integrate them into urban planning. Without options for urban integration, families remain in prolonged limbo, and land disputes risk escalating in the near future.	- Pilot projects where municipalities allocate alternative lands for permanent settlement. Could be included in the reconstruction fund allocation as a form of access to safe and affordable housing. - Defined financing mechanisms, built on inclusion of settlements within local development plans, to enable municipalities to extend urban services to integrated communities through the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Planning.
Resolve Camp Land Ownership and Rental Disputes			
Target audience	Advocacy ask	Background details	Preferred Outcome



		(Internal use only)	
- Ministry of Migration and Displacement - Prime Minister's Office - Ministry of Finance - Kurdistan Regional Government	Advocate to address outstanding land rental disputes through a two-track approach: (1) compensating landowners for past unpaid dues, and (2) linking future rental arrangements to a clear plan for the closure or transition of camps.	Fourteen of the 20 camps in KRI were established on privately owned agricultural land. Landowners received rental payments only during the first years of camp operation and have since gone unpaid for more than five years. MoMD recently indicated that financial compensation is under consideration, but without a broader strategy for camp transition, a one-off payment will only delay the problem. Kurdish authorities confirmed that landowners continue to pursue claims through the Ministry of Agriculture's Commission for Agricultural Development, which annually sets the rental price per acre and can provide total financial estimates. In August 2024, a committee was recommended to address this issue but never assumed its role, leaving no institutional mechanism to resolve disputes. Addressing this problem requires both clearing the backlog of unpaid rent and preventing recurrence through forward-looking camp transition planning.	- Meaningful engagement on support to durable solutions will allow the camp population to reduce, with the potential support some of the camps established on private land to be closed, giving an additional incentive to the government to resolve ongoing rental issues. - Reactivation or establishment of the recommended committee to coordinate between MoMD, MoA's Commission for Agricultural Development, and KRG authorities with the intent to compensate landowners for past unpaid dues, and (2) linking future rental arrangements to a clear plan for the closure or transition of camps. - Disbursement of funds to clear outstanding rent dues owed
Clearance of Explosive Ordnance (EO)			
Target audience	Advocacy ask	Background details	Preferred Outcome



		(Internal use only)	
Ministry of Environment	- Despite the enormous efforts by the Iraqi security forces and humanitarian and development partners, the presence of explosive ordnance (EO) continues to threaten affected communities and impede the return of IDPs. - To reduce the risks of EO, the UN calls on continued risk education and awareness campaigns at the community level to promote safe behavior when encountering EO threats. - Furthermore, the UN, along with the donor community call on the Government of Iraq to allocate sufficient federal budget resources for EO survey and clearance operations.	there have been some accidents caused by explosive remnants of war in several locations including ISIL liberated areas and legacy mines from previous conflicts. Furthermore, there are reports of villages that witnessed no return of IDPs due to the presence of explosive ordnance. The government allocated IQD20 billion (US\$17 million) in the state budget for 2023 over three years, but it was reported that the funds have been diverted to other environmental projects. Iraq is a State Party to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) and the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) and is expected to meet its obligations by 2028. However, given the scale of contamination, meeting these commitments will be challenging without stronger commitment from the Government of Iraq.	The Government of Iraq to prioritize humanitarian demining and allocate resources for survey and clearance.
Reconciliation of IDP Data			



Target audience	Advocacy ask	Background details (Internal use only)	Preferred Outcome
- MoMD - Prime Minister's Office - Central Statistical and Data Authorities - UNCT	Advocate for the adoption of a government owned, nationally led, vulnerability based data framework for durable solutions, supported by the UN, that moves away from movement based labels and enables evidence based decision making on service provision, financing, and appropriate administrative closure of displacement. Specifically, urge Government counterparts to: - Endorse a clear analytical distinction between <i>displaced</i> and <i>integrated</i> populations based on the persistence or resolution of displacement-related vulnerabilities, rather than on return, relocation, or length of stay; - Establish transparent criteria for inclusion in and exit from	Current displacement data practices in Iraq are largely shaped by administrative classifications that prioritize movement history and legal status over actual living conditions. This approach has increasingly framed displacement as an issue that can be resolved through reclassification rather than through the resolution of underlying vulnerabilities, limiting the ability of government systems to guide policy choices, budget allocations, and service delivery priorities. Recent policy positions have proposed that populations remaining in displacement settings for extended periods may be considered "integrated" by default, without reference to housing conditions, access to livelihoods, social protection, services, or access to social protection mechanisms. Such approaches are not accompanied by clearly articulated benchmarks or measurable criteria for determining when integration has been achieved nor are they embedded within a nationally endorsed analytical framework.	Agreement on a vulnerability-based classification framework anchored in two population statuses: Displaced persons: individuals who continue to experience displacement-related vulnerabilities, regardless of movement history or current location; Integrated persons: individuals who no longer experience displacement-related vulnerabilities, irrespective of whether they reside in areas of origin, displacement, or a third location. Adoption of clear sub-classifications under each status (camp, informal settlement, urban/peri-urban, area of origin), with shelter type specified to inform solution pathways. Explicit definition of protracted displacement within the Iraqi context and clear, measurable criteria for exiting displacement datasets, particularly for out-of-camp and urban populations.



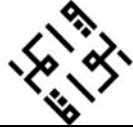
	displacement datasets, applicable to camp, out-of-camp, urban, and informal-settlement populations, anchored in nationally agreed standards and applied consistently across institutions. Agree on a minimum, shared methodology for data collection, validation, and public reporting on durable solutions, drawing on multiple data sources (DTM, sectoral assessments, administrative data, and targeted surveys), under the leadership of central government data authorities.	A growing body of evidence demonstrates that individuals recorded as “returnees” or administratively considered “stable” often continue to experience vulnerabilities commonly associated with displacement. These include inadequate or temporary shelter, unresolved compensation and housing claims, exclusion from social protection schemes, limited access to education and health services. As a result, movement-based classifications risk overstating progress while obscuring unresolved displacement-related needs, undermining the credibility of official data and public narratives. Data inconsistencies are further compounded by the absence of clear criteria for exiting displacement datasets. Individuals who have previously departed camps or displacement settings may later find themselves unable to sustain return or integration due to structural constraints. In such cases, their displacement status is no longer reflected in official data, rendering them statistically invisible and excluded from planning and assistance frameworks, and weakening the government’s capacity to monitor outcomes overtime.	A documented methodology outlining indicators, data sources, validation processes, and reporting standards, enabling consistent interpretation by Government, the UN, and partners. Displacement data that credibly informs policy decisions, prevents premature administrative closure of the displacement file, and aligns public narratives with actual living conditions and solution outcomes.
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In parallel, inconsistencies in access to government entitlements, such as return grants, compensation, and social protection, have weakened the analytical integrity of displacement data. In some instances, administrative access to benefits is decoupled from physical movement or sustainable reintegration outcomes, further distorting the relationship between data and durable solutions.

The current effort to refine displacement definitions has also exposed conceptual overlap between categories such as IDPs, returnees, relocated, and integrated persons. These categories are frequently applied simultaneously to populations experiencing similar conditions, resulting in analytical ambiguity. Individuals may be labelled as “returnees” while being described in terms that clearly correspond to displacement-level vulnerability. This overlap undermines the usefulness of data for policy formulation, programming, and accountability.

Without a shared, vulnerability-based framework and an agreed methodology, there is a growing risk that displacement will be administratively resolved through



		reclassification while unresolved needs are absorbed into broader poverty, protection, or development caseloads without acknowledgement of their displacement origins.	
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