

Returns and Durable Solutions (ReDS) Assessment

Al-Ayadiyah Sub-district
Telafar District, Ninewa Governorate
Preliminary Findings Presentation, Iraq

Assessment Methodology

- **Multi-sectoral** assessment tool, which combined **qualitative and quantitative** data.
- Data collection was done **remotely by phone** between 15 and 24 November 2021, adapted to the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Purposive sampling** methods were employed to identify KIs. Findings should therefore be considered as **indicative**.
- Methodology based on **key informant interviews** (KIIs).

↓ ↓ 👤 KI profiles in Al-Ayadiyah Sub-district

Returnees	11 KIs	<div></div>
Subject matter experts (SMEs)	9 KIs	<div></div>
IDPs (displaced from the area)	7 KIs	<div></div>
Community leaders	6 KIs	<div></div>
IDPs in community	4 KIs	<div></div>

37 KIs

👤 7 KIs

👤 30 KIs

REACH Informing more effective humanitarian action



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Recent and Expected Movements

Recent returns

10-15 households

reportedly returned to Al-Ayadiyah from non-camp areas in Kirkuk Governorate due to nostalgia from previous life in their AoOs, according to one SME KI.

Expected returns

7-11 households

reportedly are expected to return to the sub-district from non-camp areas in Zummar District (Ninewa Governorate) due to nostalgia from previous life in their AoOs, according to one IDP KI from the community.



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Barriers to Return and Family Separation

Barriers to return

The top five most reported barriers for further returns included:

- Damaged/destroyed housing and challenging access to rehabilitation,
- Lack of/limited job opportunities,
- Lack of/limited access to basic public services, especially healthcare,
- Denied security clearance, and
- Fear of being perceived as affiliated with ISIL.

Family separation

Reportedly, there were **households with at least one adult male who remained displaced** at the time of data collection due to the lack of jobs in their AoO, while jobs were available in their AoD.

Reunification Plans

“When job opportunities are available for young people in their AoOs, they will return.”



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Access to Durable Solutions' Assistance¹

Activities/projects implementation

Reportedly, **there were activities and/or projects** mainly implemented by **humanitarian and development actors**, followed by local authorities.

The top four implemented activities/projects were:

- Food and NFI assistance,
- Housing rehabilitation,
- Livelihood programmes, and
- COVID-19 awareness sessions.

Assistance as a factor to encourage returns

Reportedly, access to durable solutions assistance **was a factor to encourage returns**.

The needed humanitarian activities reported were:

- **Housing rehabilitation,**
- Livelihoods, and
- ERW removal.

¹ Durable solutions' assistance includes the humanitarian, stabilization, development and peacebuilding assistance under its umbrella.



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Access to Housing and Type of Tenure

As reported, the majority of households in the sub-district resided in **owned houses**.

The majority of households from the community reportedly **had** housing, land, and property **(HLP) documents proving ownership**.

IDP households in the community reportedly were hosted in **informal settlements** or houses with other families. This is because they never owned a house in the sub-district and their houses in their AoOs were damaged/destroyed.

Some returnee households reportedly resided in their owned unfinished buildings due to the level of damage/destruction and their inability to rehabilitate their homes.



Less than 50% of houses remained damaged in Al-Ayadiya at the time of data collection.

Access to Housing Rehabilitation

Challenges

All KIs reported that households faced **challenges in accessing housing rehabilitation**.

The three most reported barriers were:

- Affected households lacked financial resources to rehabilitate their homes,
- Access to housing rehabilitation was affected by the lack of housing rehabilitation compensation, and
- Limited housing rehabilitation projects led by the government or organisations.



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Access to Basic Public Services

Challenges

All KIs reported that the majority of the households faced **challenges in accessing basic public services**, mainly education, water, and healthcare.

The three most reported challenges were:

- Level of damage/destruction of the public infrastructure, highlighting roads, water, electricity, and public buildings,
- Neglect from the government towards the sub-district and delayed budget allocation for basic public service improvements, and
- Limited presence of humanitarian/development actors in the area.



Access to Livelihoods

Challenges

All KIs reported that the majority of households faced **challenges in accessing livelihoods**.

The most reported challenges were:

- Limited construction and reconstruction projects in the sub-district,
- Lack of jobs, especially for skilled workers, youth, and vulnerable women, and
- Limited number of government jobs assigned to the sub-district.

Economic support

Community leader and SME KIs reported that **livelihood programme** implementation **may support economic development** in the sub-district.

Main economic developments:

- Revitalization of the agricultural sector (including livestock and aquaculture),
- Reactivation of the private sector, and
- Increased job opportunities for youth and women.



Access to Livelihoods

Potential for sectoral growth

The most commonly reported sectors of interest for returnee and IDP households were: **agriculture**, **education**, **security** and **defense**,² and **construction**.

Community leader and SME KIs reported that the **agricultural** and **construction sectors** showed the most growth potential in the 12 months following data collection.

² Refers to the official/formal security forces under the Iraqi Ministry of Defense.

Challenges to access jobs of interest

- Lack of government support to compensate farmers, to revitalize agriculture and farming, and to reclaim lands,
- Lack or limited rehabilitation and construction projects,
- Water scarcity affected agriculture; farmers were forced to dig water wells illegally for irrigation purposes, and
- Presence of ERW in agricultural lands, which affected farming and planting.



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Perceptions on Governance

Bodies influencing governance

Reportedly, the **formal security forces** were the **most influential bodies in terms of governance** in Al-Ayadiyah, followed by tribal leaders.

Bodies influencing IDP and returnee affairs

The majority of KIs reported that there were **no bodies or structures influencing IDP and returnee affairs**.



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Perceptions on Safety and Security

Feeling safe

Reportedly, returnee, IDP from the community, and IDP households in the community **felt safe or very safe** in Al-Ayadiyah.

Resolving disputes

Disputes within the sub-district

Reportedly, **tribal leaders** were the most effective body in resolving disputes within the sub-district, followed by the local authorities.

Disputes between the sub-district and other areas

Reportedly, **formal security forces** were the most effective body in resolving disputes with the sub-district and other areas.



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Perceptions on Social Cohesion

Social cohesion bodies

The **social cohesion actors and partners were** perceived by KIs as the **main body promoting social cohesion**, followed by the local authorities and the local community.

Improving social cohesion

KIs believed that the **local authorities** and **tribal leaders** may play an important role to improve social cohesion.

Reported strategies or initiatives to improve social cohesion:

- Initiatives promoting access to work for all,
- Seminars, awareness sessions, and conferences, and
- Initiatives promoting safety and security.



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Perceptions of IDP KIs in the Community

Feeling integrated

All IDP KIs in the community reported that **IDP households did not feel integrated** and **somewhat belonging** to Al-Ayadiyah due to not owning a house there.

Feeling welcome

Reportedly, the majority of IDP households in the community **felt accepted** in the sub-district.

The most reported reasons included:

- Kinship ties,
- Existing bonds with the existing tribal system, and
- Respecting the traditions and rules.

Interaction

Reportedly, the majority of IDP households in the community **interacted with all groups** in the community.



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Perceptions of IDP KIs from the Community

Feeling integrated

Over half of IDP KIs from the community reported: IDP households **not feeling integrated** and **feeling somewhat belonging** to the AoDs due to not owning a house.

The rest of IDP KIs reported IDP households owned houses and felt integrated in AoDs.

Feeling accepted

Reportedly, the majority of IDP households from the community **felt welcome and accepted**.

The most reported reasons included:

- Kinship ties,
- Existing bonds with the existing tribal system, and
- Existing work relationships, mainly trade and agriculture.

Interaction

Reportedly, the majority of IDP households from the community **interacted with IDPs in the community** and **returnees**.



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Perceptions of Returnees

Feeling re-integrated

The majority of returnee KIs reported that **returnee households felt re-integrated** in Al-Ayadiyah, where they **strongly belong**.

"They are part of this community in which they used to live, and they returned to their homes after displacement, and they are also bound by love and passion."

Feeling welcome

The majority of returnee KIs reported that returnee households **felt welcome**.

The most reported reasons were:

- Returned to AoO,
- Presence of kinship ties within households, and
- Bonds with tribes in the sub-district.

Interaction

Over half of returnee KIs reported that the majority of returnee households did not **interact with any group**.

Barriers for interaction

- Presence of discrimination,
- Alleged links to ISIL, and
- Existing disputes.



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THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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Upon request