

### Situation Overview

In 2021, the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) returning to their area of origin (AoO) or being re-displaced increased, coupled with persisting challenges in relation to social cohesion, lack of services, infrastructure and - in some cases - security in AoO.<sup>1</sup> Increased returns were driven in part by the ongoing closure and consolidation of IDP camps. As of July 2021, 16 formal camps and informal sites have been closed or reclassified as informal sites since camp closures started in mid-October. For the camps that remain open across Iraq there is an ongoing planning procedure to determine their future.<sup>2</sup> The [International Organization for Migration \(IOM\) Displacement Tracking Matrix \(DTM\)](#)'s Returnee Master List recorded that over 5,460 households returned to non-camp locations across the country between January and July 2021.<sup>3</sup>

There were no additional camp closures between January and July, 2021, however IDPs continued returning or secondarily displacing. In light of these dynamics, the need to better understand the sustainability of returns, conditions for the (re)integration of IDPs and returnees, and the impact of their presence on access to services and social cohesion has been identified in the context of humanitarian and development planning.

### Coverage Map



### Background and Methodology

A number of partners are currently tracking population movements and measuring progress towards durable solutions for displaced populations in Iraq.<sup>7</sup> For example, IOM has collected data on a bi-monthly basis, found in the [IOM DTM Returns Index](#). This tool provides indicative trends on the severity of conditions in areas of return (AoR) nationwide.

To build on this information, REACH Initiative (REACH) has conducted multi-sectoral assessments in AoOs or areas of return (AoR) across Iraq assessing the overall condition of affected areas to inform how and to what extent durable solutions have or can be achieved. REACH's Returns and Durable Solutions profiles (ReDS) focus on the study of conditions at sub-district level, providing a localized overview of the perceptions of displaced and host communities on a variety of conditions linked to the (re)integration of IDPs and returnees.

In light of recent return and re-displacement movement dynamics, REACH conducted a ReDS assessment in Suleiman Beg Sub-district to provide an in-depth profiling of needs and understanding of social relationships between returnee<sup>8</sup> and/or IDP populations.<sup>9</sup>

### Suleiman Beg Sub-district

Suleiman Beg is a sub-district of Tooz Khurmato District in Salah Al-Din Governorate. It is located 170 km north of Baghdad, and is one of the disputed territories in Iraq.<sup>4</sup> The sub-district is mostly populated by sunni Arabs. In June 2014, Suleiman Beg fell under the control of the so-called Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). In October 2014, the sub-district was declared 'liberated' from ISIL.<sup>4</sup> According to an IOM [Integrated Location Assessment \(ILA\) Round VI](#), as of July 2021, households residing in four villages and in the sub-district center were still somewhat concerned about possible ISIL operations in the area.<sup>5</sup>

### Reported Population Profile<sup>6</sup>

- 4,630-4,820 households** were residing in Suleiman Beg before the events of 2014.
- 95%-97% of households** in Suleiman Beg were displaced since 2014.
- 44%-52% households** displaced since 2014 had returned to Suleiman Beg at the time of data collection.
- 16-19 IDP households** (AoO not specified) were displaced in Suleiman Beg at the time of data collection.

Suleiman Beg Sub-district was selected for the assessment as: social cohesion severity<sup>10</sup> was classified as 'high' in three villages and in the sub-district center (out of 5);<sup>11</sup> it was an AoO for IDPs in camps at risk of closure or recently closed;<sup>12</sup> and dynamic population movements to/from this sub-district were reported through the Returns Working Group (RWG). The findings are based on 40 key informant (KI) interviews conducted between 16 and 18 August 2021, combining qualitative and quantitative data collection methods adapted to the context. Data collection was conducted remotely due to movement restrictions and public health concerns linked to the COVID-19 pandemic. Findings are based on the perceptions of KIs who were purposively sampled; all data should therefore be considered as indicative.<sup>13</sup>

### KI Profile

	<b>Suleiman Beg Sub-district</b>
Returnees (more than 3 months ago) <sup>14</sup>	<b>12 KIs</b>
Community leaders <sup>15</sup>	<b>11 KIs</b>
IDPs (displaced from the area) <sup>16</sup>	<b>9 KIs</b>
Returnees (less than 3 months ago) <sup>17</sup>	<b>4 KIs</b>
Subject matter experts (SMEs) <sup>18</sup>	<b>4 KIs</b> <b>40 KIs<sup>19</sup></b>

## Key findings

- The situation regarding returns to Suleiman Beg remained fluid, with KIs reporting ongoing returns and some projected in the six months following data collection, **driven primarily by the sense of increased safety and security and family reunification**. In general, the majority of KIs believed that **recent returns had positively impacted the community** by improving the economic situation in the sub-district and revitalizing the labour market.
- Perceptions on drivers for return varied per KI profile. While the majority of **community leader KIs believed** that households returned due to **the perceived improvement in safety and security** in Suleiman Beg, most of **returnee and IDP KIs from the community reported** that household decisions were influenced by **the need to be reunited with other members** who returned and/or **the nostalgia they felt about previous life** in the sub-district.
- A few community leader KIs reported that **the sub-district witnessed the departure of host community<sup>20</sup> households** in the six months prior to data collection. **The perceived deterioration of the safety and security situation in Suleiman Beg was the most commonly reported push factor** for these movements. Findings suggested that recent host community departures were influenced by the recent arrival of IDP households in the community<sup>21</sup> and the projected return of households from the community. This was based on the reported perceptions of the community in Suleiman Beg that some of these households may have/had alleged links with ISIL.
- The majority of KIs believed that the **households in Suleiman Beg resided in owned houses and had ownership documents**. Most of the KIs also reported that households faced challenges in accessing housing rehabilitation in the sub-district, as well as difficulties in accessing the government compensation for damaged properties.
- **Access to housing was reported as the main barrier for households to return to their AoO** in Suleiman Beg. Additionally, the majority of returnee and IDP KIs from the community reported that the availability of humanitarian aid for housing rehabilitation would be a factor encouraging further returns to the sub-district.
- **Housing rehabilitation was the most commonly reported primary community need**. Findings showed that different KI profiles prioritized community needs differently. **Community leader KIs** commonly reported the need for further efforts to **develop infrastructure in the sub-district**, namely this related to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), and healthcare services. **SME and returnee KIs** reported that **access to livelihoods and basic services**, namely education and healthcare, were considered as primary community needs.
- Perceptions on accessibility to services and assistance slightly varied with the KI profile. Overall, most of **returnee and IDP KIs from the community** reported that **households faced challenges in accessing basic public services and livelihoods**. **Around half of the community leader KIs** believed that **there were no challenges affecting accessibility**.
- KIs reported an **overall decrease in the availability of job opportunities compared to before 2014**. Reportedly, the type of jobs available had also shifted, with trade and restaurants, manufacturing, and transportation being less reported as available at the time of data collection. In addition, findings suggested that jobs in the agricultural, construction and education sectors were more available in 2021 compared to other sectors. Findings showed that the agricultural, education, healthcare and construction sectors reportedly were the livelihood sectors of interest for returnees and IDPs from the community. These were also identified by community leader and SME KIs as sectors with growth potential in the 12 months following data collection.
- Generally, **local authorities** were reportedly **the most influential bodies regarding governance**. All returnee and IDP KIs from the community reported that **the presence of formal security forces contributed positively to a feeling of safety** between community members and that they were effective in resolving disputes. However, two community leader KIs reported that the power of the tribal system in the sub-district was high and that tribal leaders played an active role in resolving inter-communal disputes.
- All returnee KIs noted that **community members felt safe or very safe** in Suleiman Beg. Overall, almost half of returnee and IDP KIs from the community reported that households from their respective population groups **felt welcome or very welcome** in Suleiman Beg. According to KIs, this was **mainly driven by kinship ties between members of the community** and consequently strong inter-family bonds. However, findings showed that almost a quarter of IDP KIs reported that households felt somewhat welcome or unwelcome commonly linked to the households' concerns about being perceived by the community in the sub-district as ISIL-affiliated. These perceptions reportedly affected interaction between groups. One IDP KI from the community reported that the main obstacles to ensure interaction was the lack of trust IDP households had in other groups and that they feared to return due to outstanding inter-communal disputes.
- Reported participation in decision-making processes slightly varied between KI profiles. While all returnee KIs reported that **returnee households participated in decision-making processes**, over **half of IDP households from the community** reported that **IDP households did not participate in these processes**. One possible explanation for this difference could be the connection that each household had with existing tribal systems and their bonds with the community in Suleiman Beg.

### Recent households return movements

**55-78 households returned** to Suleiman Beg in the 6 months prior to data collection, according to 26 KIs (out of 40). The rest of the KIs reported no returns (9 KIs) or did not know about recent movements (5 KIs).

Returns were mostly reported from non-camp areas in Kirkuk Governorate (10 out of 26 KIs). Other households returned from non-camp areas in Salah Al-Din (6 KIs) governorates, specifically from Samarra (1 KI), Shirqat (1 KI) and Tikri (1 KI) districts, and from Markaz Tooz Khurmato (2 KIs) and Al-Aziziya (1 KI) sub-districts. The rest of the KIs did not know from where these movements were from (10 KIs).<sup>22</sup>

KIs reported different pull factors influencing these movements. The most commonly reported pull factor was the sense of increased safety and security in Suleiman Beg (16 out of 26 KIs).

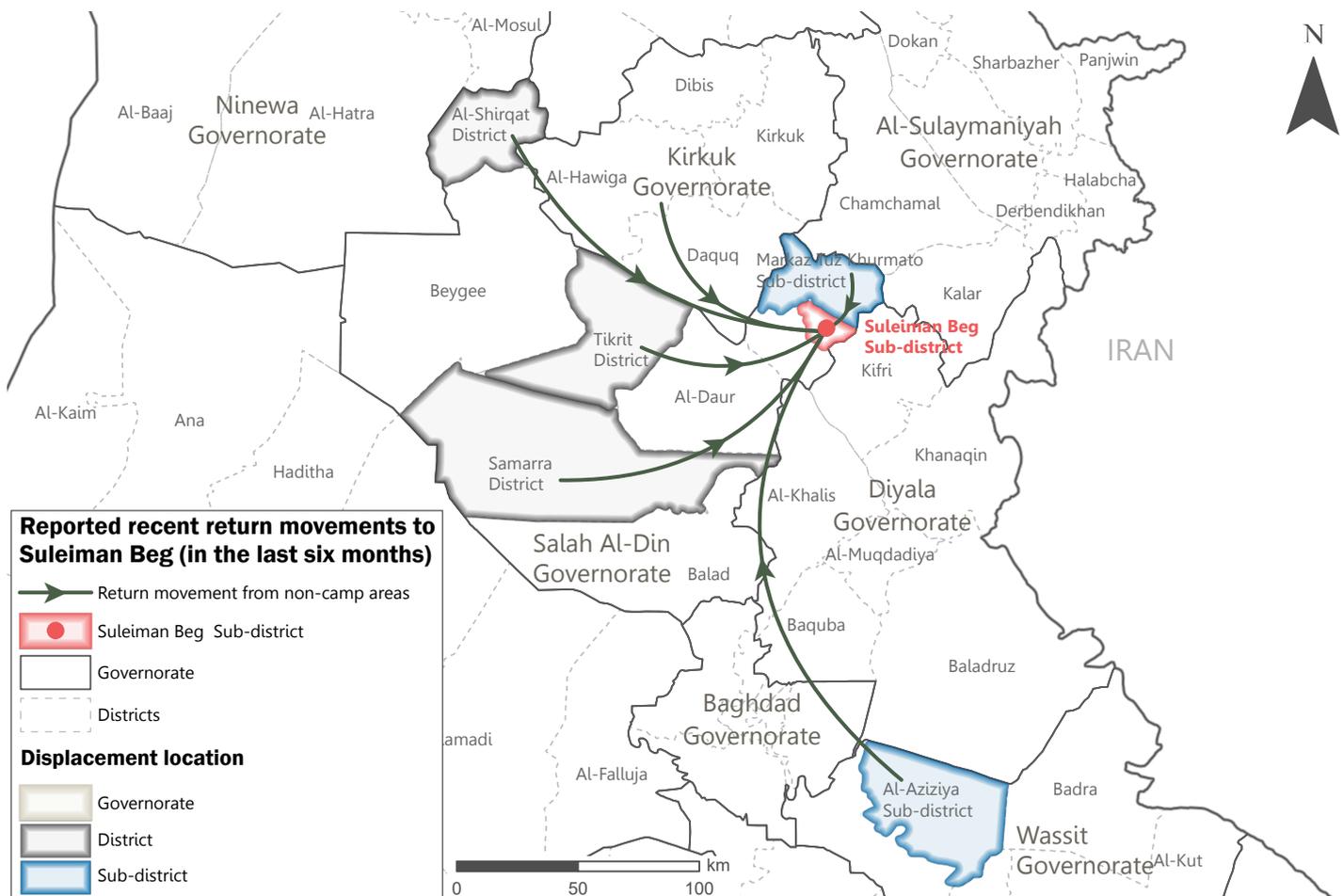
#### Reported drivers for returns (out of 26 KIs)<sup>22</sup>

Sense of increased safety and security	16 KIs	<span style="color: red;">■</span>
Following the return of other extended family members	12 KIs	<span style="color: red;">■</span>
Nostalgia about previous life	12 KIs	<span style="color: red;">■</span>
Availability of basic public services	3 KIs	<span style="color: red;">■</span>
Availability of job opportunities	1 KI	<span style="color: red;">■</span>
Did not know	1 KI	<span style="color: red;">■</span>

#### Reported impact of returns in the community<sup>22</sup>

The vast majority of KIs reporting the occurrence of recent returns (24 out of 26 KIs) also reported that these movements were perceived as positive. The main reasons for this were related to the perceived restoration of the stability in the area (18 KIs) with the improved economic situation (17 KIs). Reportedly there was noted a revitalization of the labour market (16 KIs) and restoration of trade and commerce movement (15 KIs). These were mainly attributed to the re-opening of shops (15 KIs) after the return of shop owners (4 KIs). Additionally, the return of skilled workers (9 KIs) reportedly reactivated the agricultural sector (5 KIs). KIs highlighted that the return of specialised professionals (8 KIs) allowed basic public service facilities to re-open (13 KIs). Allegedly, returns ensured the reconstruction of houses in the sub-district (9 KIs), which encouraged other households to return (7 KIs), reinforced bonds and relations between families which was perceived as opportunities for social cohesion (5 KIs), and started the re-population of the area with its original families (2 KIs).

Two KIs reported negative impacts of recent returns due to the reduced access to job opportunities, caused by an increased competition for a limited amount of available jobs (2 KIs). In turn, this lack of jobs was attributed to the restricted support from humanitarian actors (1 KI) and to the lack of support from the government and the private sector (1 KI). One KI also reported that conditions in the sub-district were not yet created to absorb the noted increase in population and to provide enough services.



### Recent host community household departures

The majority of KIs reported no host community<sup>20</sup> household departures from the sub-district (18 out of 40 KIs), did not know (10 KIs), or refused to answer (1 KI). However, two community leader KIs reported that:

**70-75** host community households departed Suleiman Beg in the six months prior to data collection.

Reportedly, these households departed to non-camp areas in Markaz Tooz Khurmato (1 out of 2 KIs) and Markaz Mosul (1 KI).

#### Reported reasons for host community household departures<sup>22</sup>

Findings showed that the reasons for these movements varied with the location of movement. One KI reported that the households who moved to Markaz Tooz Khurmato perceived a lack of security in Suleiman Beg. A second KI reported that households who moved to Markaz Mosul reportedly departed due to the lack of basic services and perceived lack of security in the sub-district.

#### Reported impact of household departures<sup>22</sup>

According to two KIs, these movements had positive and negative impacts. One KI believed that there was an increased opportunity to find jobs together with less demand for limited available services. The second KI believed that the departure of host community households disturbed the stability of the area, negatively affected the agricultural sector as lands and field were abandoned, and reduced the availability of products in the sub-district.

### Recent IDP household arrivals

The majority of KIs reported no IDP household arrivals to the sub-district (21 out of 40 KIs) or did not know (8 KIs). However, two community leader KIs reported that:

**27-37** IDP households arrived to Suleiman Beg in the six months prior to data collection.

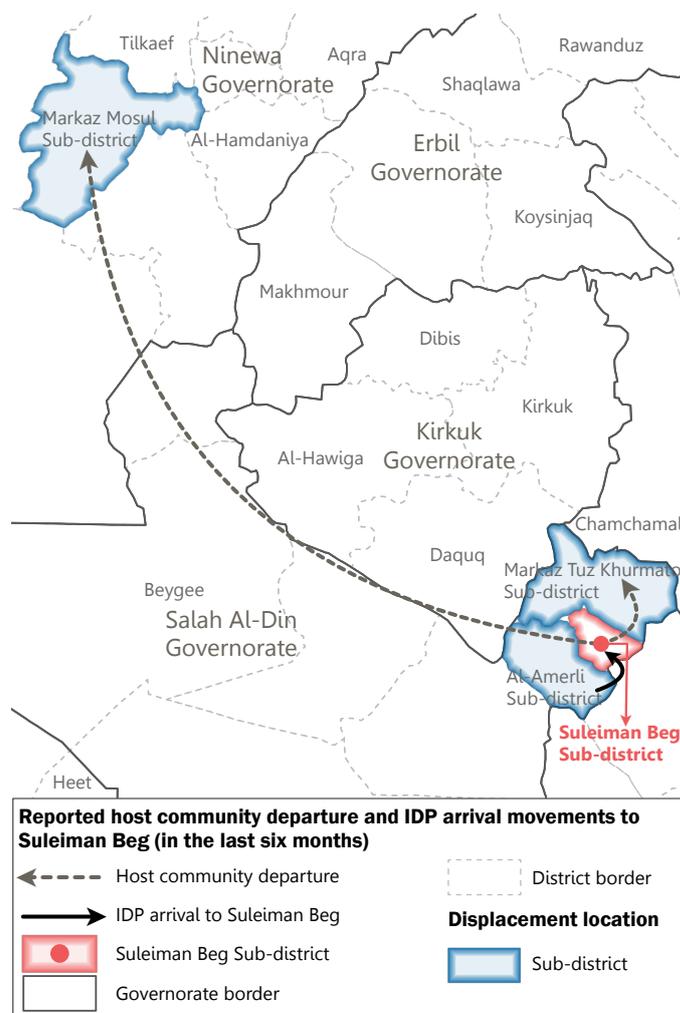
Reportedly, these households arrived from non-camp areas in Birugly village (1 KI) of Markaz Tooz Khurmato Sub-district. One KI did not know from where these households arrived.

#### Reported reasons for IDP household arrivals<sup>22</sup>

Findings showed that the reasons were related to Suleiman Beg being considered as a transition area where IDP households stay until they return to their AoOs or redisplace again (2 KIs), the presence of relatives in the area (1 KI), and the sense of increased safety and security in the sub-district (1 KI).

#### Reported impact of IDP household arrivals<sup>22</sup>

Both KIs who reported IDP household arrivals also believed that these movements negatively impacted the security situation in the sub-district. One KI believed that member(s) of the arriving IDP households had alleged link to ISIL. This reportedly required additional security measures by security actors, including the establishment of a higher number of checkpoints in the sub-district. Additionally, the second KI reported that the increased number of families in Suleiman Beg negatively affected the access to resources, including the use of agricultural lands, which led to disputes and tensions.



### Family separation and reunification plans<sup>23</sup>

The majority of SME and returnee KIs reported that **there were no family separation cases** in the sub-district (15 out of 29 KIs), did not know (10 KIs), or refused to answer (1 KI). However, three KIs reported that some households had family members who remained in displacement at the time of data collection.

#### Adult son(s)<sup>22</sup>

According to three KIs, some households had adult son(s) who remained in displacement mainly due to the lack of jobs in the AoO (2 KIs) which were available in the AoD (2 KIs), and the fear of ISIL returning to the area (2 KIs). Reportedly, some of the households did not return due to fear of COVID-19 risks according to one KI. A second KI reported that other households did not return due to house damage.

#### Male head of household (husbands)

One IDP KI from the community reported that some households had husbands who remained in displacement due to the lack of jobs in AoO which were available in the AoD. This situation consequently led to a higher presence of female-headed households in the AoO, creating a more vulnerable community.

#### Family reunification plans

As reported by one older returnee KI: **"If there are job opportunities in their AoO, they will return."** Two KIs did not know about households' plans to be reunited with the separated members.

### Expected household returns

The majority of KIs did not know about further returns in the six months following data collection (18 out of 40 KIs), reported no return movements (11 KIs), or refused to answer (1 KI). However, 10 KIs reported that:

**33-39 households** were expected to return to Suleiman Beg in the six months following data collection.

These households would be mostly arriving from non-camp areas in Salah Al-Din Governorate (4 out of 10 KIs), specifically from Tikri (2 KIs) and Shirqat (1 KI) districts (1 KI), and from Markaz Tooz Khurmato (2 KIs) and Amerly (1 KI) sub-districts. Other households may return from non-camp areas in Kirkuk Governorate (1 KI). The rest of the KIs did not know from where these households would be returning (5 KIs).<sup>22</sup>

### Reported drivers for expected returns (out of 10 KIs)<sup>22</sup>

Following the return of other extended family members	7 KIs	<div style="width: 70%;"></div>
Sense of increased safety and security	5 KIs	<div style="width: 50%;"></div>
Nostalgia about previous life	1 KI	<div style="width: 10%;"></div>

### Reported impact of expected returns in the community<sup>22</sup>

Expected returns were perceived to have both positive and negative impacts. The vast majority of KIs (33 out of 40 KIs) reported that additional returns may have positive impacts. Reportedly, this perception was based on the potential re-opening of public and governmental service institutions (18 KIs) with the return of specialized staff (11 KIs). According to KIs, these movements might guarantee an improvement in the economic situation in the area (19 KIs) due to the restoration of trade and commerce (19 KIs) with the return of shops owners (18 KIs). Additionally, the return of skilled workers reportedly may have a positive impact in the reactivation of the agricultural sector (20 KIs). KIs also believed that the return of households could be an opportunity to reconstruct damaged houses (12 KIs) supported by humanitarian actors (9 KIs), promote social cohesion (3 KIs), and ensure family reunification (2 KIs).

At the same time, some KIs (7 KIs) reported that further returns may have a negative impact in the safety and security situation in the sub-district. Reportedly, IDP households from the community were perceived as ISIL-affiliated (4 KIs), and their return would require additional efforts to increase security measures (4 KIs), such as the presence of additional armed security groups (2 KIs) and the establishment of additional checkpoints (1 KI). This could consequently restrict/complicate the movement of individuals and transportation of products (1 KI). In addition, three KIs believed that further returns may lead to inter-communal disputes caused by perceived ISIL affiliations.

### Reported barriers for further returns (out of 40 KIs)<sup>22</sup>

#### Access to housing and HLP documentation

Destroyed/damaged housing	37 KIs	<div style="width: 92.5%;"></div>
Lack of documentation needed to claim housing	2 KIs	<div style="width: 5%;"></div>

#### Access to livelihoods and basic public services

Lack of job opportunities	24 KIs	<div style="width: 60%;"></div>
Lack of basic public services	19 KIs	<div style="width: 47.5%;"></div>
Absence of specialised medical treatment in AoO	2 KIs	<div style="width: 5%;"></div>

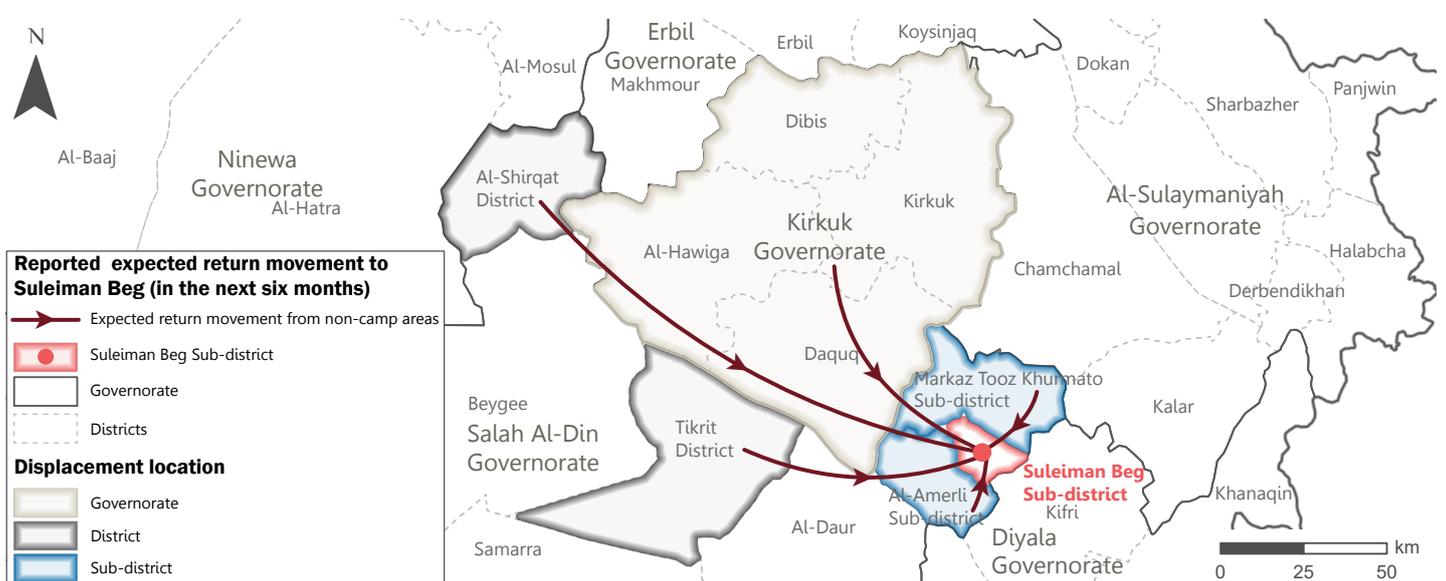
#### Safety and security

Fear of being perceived as affiliated with ISIL	9 KIs	<div style="width: 22.5%;"></div>
Concerns about security in AoO	5 KIs	<div style="width: 12.5%;"></div>
Presence of armed groups	1 KI	<div style="width: 2.5%;"></div>
Denial of security clearance papers	1 KI	<div style="width: 2.5%;"></div>

#### Other barriers

Fear of contracting COVID-19	9 KIs	<div style="width: 22.5%;"></div>
Preferred life in AoD	2 KIs	<div style="width: 5%;"></div>
Lack of civil documentation	1 KI	<div style="width: 2.5%;"></div>

According to a [Civilian in Conflict \(CIVIC\) report](#) from April 2021, one of the most acute challenges faced by families perceived to be affiliated with ISIS is the denial of security clearance papers and civil documentation that would enable them to leave IDP settlements and return to their areas of origin.



### Primary community needs

#### Primary community needs in Suleiman Beg (out of 31 KIs)<sup>22, 24</sup>

	First Need	Second Need	Third Need
Housing rehabilitation	15 KIs	6 KIs	2 KIs
Livelihoods	5 KIs	6 KIs	8 KIs
Healthcare	1 KI	7 KIs	2 KIs
WASH	2 KIs	3 KIs	5 KIs
Education	4 KIs	3 KIs	2 KIs
Infrastructure rehabilitation	1 KI	3 KIs	3 KIs
Electricity	1 KI	1 KI	3 KIs

Other less reported primary needs were access to security (1 out of 31 KIs)<sup>24</sup> and explosive remnants of war (ERW) removal (1 KI).

The most commonly reported primary need in the community was **access to housing rehabilitation** (23 out of 31 KIs).<sup>24</sup> Reportedly, access to housing in the sub-district was affected by the high proportion of destroyed or damaged housing (22 KIs), the lack of financial means households had to rehabilitate their homes (14 KIs), the limited support for rehabilitation from humanitarian actors (13 KIs), and the delays to process compensation claims (12 KIs). Rehabilitation projects were also identified by two KIs as a way to ensure job opportunities in the sub-district.<sup>22</sup>

The second most commonly reported primary community need was **access to livelihoods** (19 out of 31 KIs).<sup>24</sup> All KIs reported a lack of decent job<sup>25</sup> opportunities worsened by the presence of a high number of unemployed youth and adult individuals in Suleiman Beg (6 KIs). As a way to alleviate the economic burden, the sub-district reportedly required support via livelihood programmes (7 KIs), assistance for the agricultural and private sectors (3 KIs), and the development of skill trainings for youth (1 KI).<sup>22</sup>

The third most commonly reported primary community need was **access to healthcare** (10 out of 31 KIs),<sup>24</sup> in parallel with WASH services (10 KIs).<sup>26</sup>

#### Most commonly reported primary community needs per KI profile<sup>22, 27</sup>

Community leaders (out of 11 KIs)	SMEs (out of 4 KIs)	Recent returnees (out of 4 KIs) <sup>17</sup>	Older returnees (out of 12 KIs) <sup>14</sup>
WASH 6 KIs	Housing rehabilitation 3 KIs	Housing rehabilitation 4 KIs	Housing rehabilitation 11 KIs
Housing rehabilitation 5 KIs	Livelihoods 3 KIs	Livelihoods 3 KIs	Livelihoods 10 KIs
Healthcare 5 KIs	Education 3 KIs	Education 2 KIs	Healthcare 4 KIs

### Access to humanitarian aid and impact on returns

**28 KIs** (out of 31)<sup>24</sup> reported that **there were humanitarian activities or projects implemented** in Suleiman Beg. Three KI reported that there were no activities implemented.

#### Reported activities implemented in Suleiman Beg (out of 28 KIs)<sup>22</sup>

WASH	11 KIs
Food security programmes <sup>28</sup>	11 KIs
Livelihoods programmes	8 KIs
Non-food item (NFI) distributions	8 KIs
Housing and infrastructure rehabilitation	7 KIs
COVID-19 awareness	5 KIs
Cash assistance	2 KIs
Psycho-social support	1 KI

#### Activities implementers<sup>22, 29</sup>

The vast majority of KIs (26 out of 28 KIs) reported that these activities or projects were **implemented primarily by humanitarian actors**, followed by local authorities (8 KIs), who reportedly supported WASH projects (5 KIs) and food distributions (3 KIs).<sup>30</sup>

#### Reported groups less involved in activities<sup>22, 24</sup>

Over half of KIs (17 out of 31 KIs) reported that all displacement groups were similarly involved in these activities or projects. The rest of KIs reported that **IDPs from the community were less involved** than other displacement groups (11 KIs), followed by returnees (6 KIs). Regarding vulnerable groups,<sup>31</sup> the majority of KIs believed that all vulnerable groups were equally affected (25 KIs). The rest of the KIs reported that people with disabilities or special needs (3 KIs), older persons (2 KIs), and families of members with alleged links to ISIL (2 KIs) were less involved in these activities or projects compared to other vulnerable groups.

#### Humanitarian aid as a factor to encourage returns<sup>32</sup>

The majority of returnee and IDP KIs from the community (18 out of 25 KIs) reported that the **availability of humanitarian aid would be a factor encouraging returns** to Suleiman Beg.

**Housing rehabilitation** was reported as the most needed activity to encourage returns to the sub-district (16 out of 18 KIs), followed by livelihood programmes (1 KI) and electricity rehabilitation (1 KI).

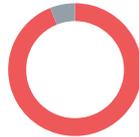
**Perceptions on access to housing, housing rehabilitation, and compensation**

All KIs consulted for this section (31 KIs)<sup>24</sup> reported that the majority of households in Suleiman Beg resided in **owned houses**.

**Access to HLP documentation**

The majority of KIs reported that **returnee households had ownership documents** (29 out of 31 KIs).<sup>24</sup>

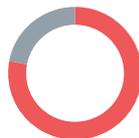
Yes, had HLP documentation **29 KIs**  
No, HLP documentation was missing **2 KIs**



The heir deed certificate (2 KIs) and the residence confirmation card (1 KI) were the most commonly reported missing HLP documentation for returnee households.

Regarding **IDP households from the community**, KIs reported that the majority of households who owned houses in the sub-district **had ownership documentation** at the time of data collection (7 out of 9 KIs).

Yes, had HLP documentation **7 KIs**  
Did not know **2 KIs**



**Evictions**

The majority of returnee KIs reported that **there were no households or families evicted** in the last six months prior to data collection (15 out of 16 KIs).<sup>33</sup> One returnee KI did not know about evictions.

The majority of returnee and SME KIs believed that none of the displacement groups would be at risk of eviction in the longer term (14 out of 20 KIs)<sup>23</sup> or did not know about groups that could be at risk of eviction (3 KIs). However, three KIs reported that IDP households in the community might be at risk of eviction in the longer term.<sup>22</sup>

Regarding vulnerable groups, the majority of KIs reported that none of the vulnerable groups<sup>31</sup> in Suleiman Beg should be at risk of eviction in the longer term (15 out of 20 KIs)<sup>23</sup> or did not know (3 KIs). However, two community leader KIs reported that households with People with disability and special needs might be at risk of eviction in the longer term.<sup>22</sup>

**Access to housing rehabilitation**

**59%-68%** of houses in Suleiman Beg were reportedly destroyed or heavily damaged during the military operations in 2014, according to all KIs (31 KIs).<sup>24</sup>

**Challenges to access housing rehabilitation**

Over half of KIs (27 out of 40 KIs) reported that **households faced challenges in accessing housing rehabilitation** in the sub-district. The rest of the KIs did not know (8 KIs), reported no challenges (4 KIs), or refused to answer (1 KI).

According to KIs, access to housing rehabilitation was negatively affected by the high level of destroyed/damaged housing in the sub-district (16 KIs), the inability of households to pay for the reconstruction of their shelters with private resources (12 KIs), and the lack of financial support from the government (4 KIs). One KI reported that this situation reportedly forced IDP households to remain in displacement, which limited their access to compensation mechanisms due to the fact that compensation claims had to be presented in person by the affected landlord.<sup>22</sup>

Additionally, KIs reported that the most difficult supports to obtain in terms of access to housing rehabilitation were (out of 27 KIs):<sup>22</sup>

Financial support **26 KIs**  
Housing rehabilitation and reconstruction projects **14 KIs**  
Legal support on HLP **3 KIs**

**Reported groups with less access to housing rehabilitation<sup>22</sup>**

Regarding affected groups, IDPs from the community reportedly faced more challenges when attempting to access housing rehabilitation (14 out of 23 KIs),<sup>34</sup> followed by returnees (8 KIs). The rest of the KIs believed that all groups were equally affected (9 KIs).<sup>23</sup> While analysing vulnerabilities,<sup>31</sup> the majority of KIs believed that all groups were equally affected (15 KIs). However, the rest of the KIs reported that people with disability or special needs (6 KIs), older persons (4 KIs), and families of members with alleged links to ISIL (1 KI) confronted more difficulties to access housing rehabilitation compared to other groups.

**Access to compensation mechanisms**

The majority of KIs reported **no challenges in accessing compensation mechanisms** (19 out of 40 KIs) or did not know (5 KIs). However, over a third of KIs reported that the majority of households in Suleiman Beg faced difficulties in accessing the government compensation for damaged properties (16 KIs).

Reportedly, out of 16 KIs, perceptions toward the compensation process included:<sup>22</sup>

Long and complicated process **10 KIs**  
Households will not be compensated at the end **8 KIs**

**Challenges to access compensation mechanisms<sup>22</sup>**

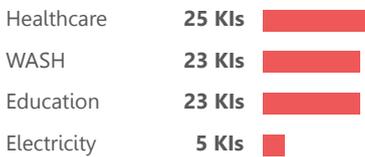
KIs believed that the process to claim compensation was worsened by the lack of awareness on compensation mechanisms (12 out of 16 KIs), the lack of legal support to process these claims (5 KIs), and the lack of interest of households to present their files (1 KI). In addition, KIs reported delays or lack of transactions for compensation claims (14 KIs) and neglect from relevant public institutions/departments regarding compensation (11 KIs).

Moreover, there were conditions reported by KIs which affected access to compensation and caused households to mistrust the governmental support process (2 KIs). Reportedly, households needed to pay bribes to access compensation (2 KIs), access was affected by the presence of intermediaries (1 KI), and compensation payments were controlled by tribal leaders benefiting specific groups (1 KI).

**Perceptions on access to basic public services**

The majority of KIs reported that **households faced challenges in accessing basic public services** in the sub-district (25 out of 40 KIs). The rest of the KIs reported no challenges in access (7 KIs), did not know (7 KIs), or refused to answer (1 KI).

**Reported affected basic public services (out of 25)<sup>22</sup>**



Perceptions on accessibility varied between the KI profiles. While the majority of returnee KIs reported that households faced challenges in accessing basic public services, over half of community leader KIs believed that there were no challenges affecting accessibility.



■ Yes, there were challenges      ■ No, there were no challenges  
■ Did not know      ■ Refused to answer

**Challenges to access basic public services<sup>22</sup>**

Reportedly, access to public basic services was mainly affected by the high level of infrastructure destruction from military operations (24 out of 25 KIs), worsened by the negligence from the government towards infrastructure rehabilitation (16 KIs), and the limited support from humanitarian actors (3 KIs). Additionally, KIs reported the lack of equipment and supplies necessary to run these facilities (14 KIs), the absence of specialized staff who remained in displacement (9 KIs), and the delays to pay public personnel salaries (1 KI). This situation reportedly led to limited opening-hours for public basic service facilities (3 KIs) or forced the facilities to remain closed. (1 KI). Consequently, One KI perceived a decline on the quality of public services compared to 2014.

**Access to public healthcare services<sup>22</sup>**

According to KIs, there was perceived a deterioration on the quality of healthcare services in the sub-district compared to years prior to 2014 (3 KIs). This situation was reportedly attributed to the lack of medicine (9 KIs), medical supplies and equipment (6 KIs), and the limited presence of specialized medical staff due to their prolonged displacement (6 KIs). In addition, the local public health clinic (PHC) was damaged and did not cover the needs in the sub-district (5 KIs). KIs reported that households resorted to using private doctors and hospitals (3 KIs) in Tikri and Kirkuk.

**Access to public water, sanitation, and waste management services<sup>22</sup>**

Access to water was reportedly affected by the destruction or serious damage of the public water network (5 KIs), which was reportedly worsened by its lack of maintenance (6 KIs).

This situation reportedly caused households to access insufficient (5 KIs) and polluted water (3 KIs). Consequently, households resorted to purchasing water (3 KIs) at inflated prices (1 KI). Additionally, the limited access to water negatively affected the agricultural sector (2 KIs). To address these problems/issues, KIs reported the need for governmental and humanitarian support for the rehabilitation of water treatment plants and networks (2 KIs).

One community leader KI reported that there were concerns around the environmental deterioration in the sub-district as a result of the lack of maintenance of the sewage networks. Reportedly, the damage to the network resulted in the gradual leakage of gray and black water into underground water supplies considered as one of the most dangerous environmental issues in the sub-district.

Two community leader KIs reported that waste management services in the sub-district were affected by the lack of waste transportation services (2 KIs), the absence of waste containers in the area (1 KI), the delays on salary payments for sanitation employees (1 KI), and the negligence from the relevant authorities towards this public service (1 KI). This situation reportedly resulted in the accumulation of waste in the sub-district's residential areas (2 KIs).

**Access to public education services<sup>22</sup>**

Access to public education was considered by KIs negatively affected by the conflict because most of the schools in the sub-district were destroyed or seriously damaged during the course of the military operations in 2014 (8 KIs). KIs reported that operational schools were overcrowded (4 KIs). In addition, the lack of furniture and equipment for schools to properly operate (1 KI) had a negative impact on the quality of education in the sub-district.

**Access to public electricity services<sup>22</sup>**

Access to public electricity was reportedly limited by reduced service-hours (4 KIs). This was the result of the deterioration or serious damage to the electrical network suffered during the military operations in 2014 (5 KIs) and the lack of maintenance for the sector (4 KI). This situation reportedly affected the provision of public water services (1 KI), the operation of factories (1 KI), and forced some households to resort to private generators (1 KI).

**Reported groups with less access to basic public services<sup>35</sup>**

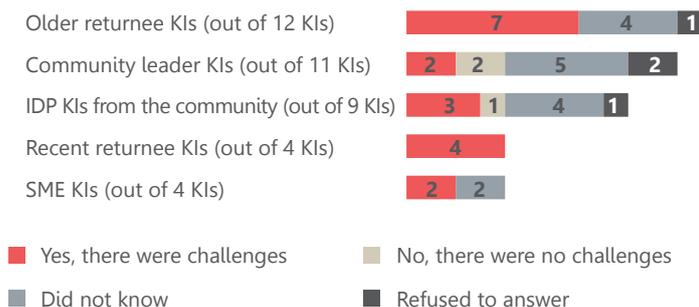
Returnees was reportedly the group who faced most challenges when attempting to access basic public services (9 out of 17 KIs), followed by IDPs in the community (3 KIs). The rest of the KIs believed that all displacement groups had the same chance to access basic public services (8 KIs).<sup>22</sup>

Regarding vulnerabilities,<sup>31</sup> KIs reported that people with disability or special needs (6 KIs), older persons (6 KIs), and families of members with alleged links to ISIL (1 KI) faced more challenges when attempting to access basic public services compared to other vulnerable groups. The rest of the KIs believed that all vulnerable groups equally faced challenges to access services (9 KIs).<sup>22</sup>

### Perceptions on access to livelihoods

Over half of KIs did not know about any challenges to access livelihoods (15 out of 40 KIs), refused to answer (4 KIs), or believed that there were no challenges to access livelihoods (3 KIs). However, over one third of KIs reported that the **households in Suleiman Beg faced challenges in accessing livelihoods** (18 KIs).

Perceptions on accessibility varied with the KI profile. While the majority of returnee KIs reported that households faced challenges in accessing job opportunities, a few community leader KIs and a third of IDP KIs from the community believed that there were no challenges affecting accessibility.



### Challenges to access livelihoods<sup>22</sup>

KIs reported that the lack of decent job opportunities<sup>25</sup> limited households' ability to meet their basic needs (17 out of 18 KIs). Reportedly, challenges included the lack of livelihood projects (11 KIs), the lack of factories and workshops in the sub-district (3 KIs), and the limited amount of jobs available in the private sector (2 KIs). KIs reported that the agricultural sector was seriously affected (5 KIs), and, in spite of the support received by humanitarian actors, it had not fully recovered (1 KI). The private sector was also reported as unrecovered at the time of data collection (3 KIs). According to one KI, small shops had to take on debts to operate, and businesses remained uncompensated for their losses.

Other reported factors affecting access to livelihoods were related to the high number of graduated youth from the sub-district looking for employment (3 KIs) in parallel to the increased competition attributed to the return of households to their AoO (2 KIs). Allegedly, this situation forced household members to travel to other sub-districts to seek for employment (2 KIs).

### Reported availability of job opportunities in Suleiman Beg in August 2021 (out of 31 KIs)<sup>22, 24</sup>



Findings indicated that the availability of some livelihood sectors were affected at the time of data collection. Trade and restaurants; manufacturing; and transportation were less reported as available at the time of data collection. In addition, findings suggested that jobs in the agricultural, construction, and education sectors were more available in 2021 compared to other sectors.

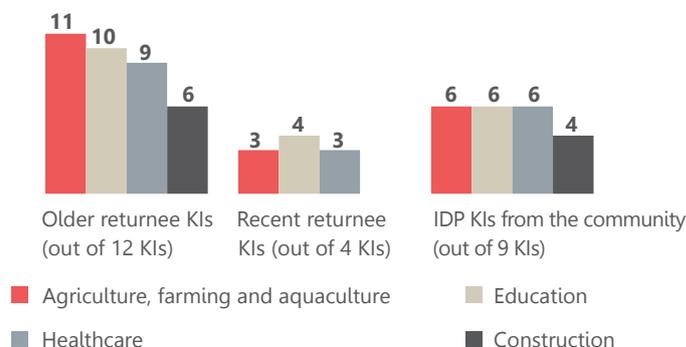
As a way to alleviate the economic burden and enhance access to livelihoods, the sub-district reportedly required support in the shape of implementation of livelihoods programmes (7 KIs), support to the agricultural sector (4 KIs) and the private sector (3 KIs), and the development of skill training for youth (1 KI).

### Reported groups with less access to livelihoods<sup>22</sup>

Returnees was reportedly the group who faced the most challenges when attempting to access livelihoods (9 out of 18 KIs), followed by IDPs in the community (5 KIs). The rest of the KIs believed that all groups were affected equally (6 KIs). Regarding vulnerabilities,<sup>31</sup> KIs reported that older persons (7 KIs), people with disability or special needs (4 KIs), and families of members with alleged links to ISIL (1 KI) faced more challenges when attempting to access livelihoods compared to other groups. The rest of the KIs believed that all groups were affected equally (9 KIs).

### Livelihood sectors of interest for returnees and IDPs<sup>22</sup>

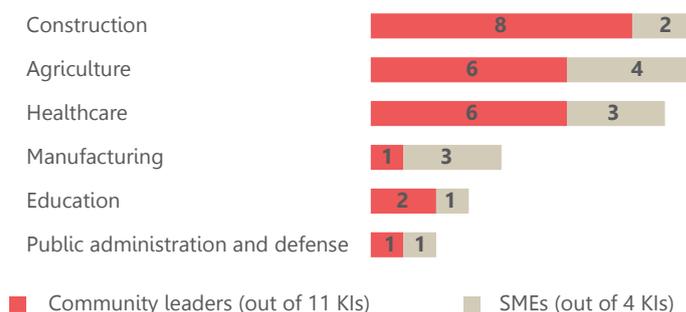
The most commonly reported livelihood sectors of interest for returnee and IDP households were **agriculture, farming** (including animal breeding and livestock), and **aquaculture**.



In addition, three KIs reported that the trade and commerce sector was of common interest for recent returnees and IDPs from the community households. One IDP KI from the community reported that IDP households were interested in works related to electrical networks' installation and reparation, and manufacturing.

### Livelihood sectors with reported growth potential<sup>22</sup>

Perceptions on livelihood sectors with growth potential in the 12 months following data collection were:



### Perceptions on governance<sup>36</sup>

The majority of community leader and SME KIs (13 out of 15 KIs)<sup>37</sup> believed that **local authorities were the most influential bodies in terms of governance**. One SME KI did not know and one community leader KI refused to answer.

#### Reported influential local actors regarding governance (out of 15 KIs)<sup>22, 37</sup>

Local authorities	13 KIs	
Tribal leaders	12 KIs	
Mukhtars <sup>15</sup>	11 KIs	

However, two community leader KIs also reported that Suleiman Beg is a rural area (2 KIs) led by tribal law (2 KIs). Reportedly, the power of the tribal system in the sub-district was relevantly high (2 KIs).<sup>22</sup>

#### Influential bodies in terms of IDP and returnee affairs

Over the half of KIs (26 out of 40 KIs) reported that **there were no bodies or structures in place to influence IDP and returnee affairs**. The rest of the KIs did not know (14 KIs).

#### Participation of returnee and IDP households from the community in decision-making processes<sup>32</sup>

All returnee KIs and almost half of IDP KIs from the community (20 out of 25 KIs) reported that households participated in decision-making processes.

Older returnee KIs (out of 12 KIs)		12
Recent returnee KIs (out of 4 KIs)		4
IDP from the community KIs (out of 9 KIs)		4

■ Yes, households participated    ■ No, households did not participate

Findings suggested that households' participation in decision-making processes may be linked to the connections they had with the community in the sub-district. Over half of the KIs who reported households' participation in decision-making processes (11 out of 20 KIs) also reported feeling welcome or very welcome in the community or mentioned that households had kinship ties with other families and tribes in Suleiman Beg.

### Access to public judicial mechanisms

The majority of KIs reported that **there were no challenges in accessing public judicial mechanisms** (26 out of 31 KIs).<sup>24</sup> The rest of the KIs did not know (5 KIs).

#### Presence of missing or expired documentation<sup>32</sup>

All KIs consulted for this section reported that **there were no households with missing, damaged, or out-of-date personal documentation**. However, one community leader KI reported that the lack of civil documentation, namely the personal identity document (ID) and unified ID, was one of the barriers for households/members to return.<sup>40</sup> In addition, one community leader KI (out of 31 KIs)<sup>24</sup> reported that the closure of public departments in the sub-district and the refusal by public employees to reopen them and process the files, affected households' access to documentation.

### Perceptions on safety and security<sup>36</sup>

All returnee KIs (16 KIs)<sup>33</sup> reported that **the majority of returnee households felt safe or very safe** in Suleiman Beg. This situation was reportedly the same for women, girls, men, and boys,<sup>38</sup> according to all returnee KIs.

#### Freedom of movement

All returnee KIs (16 KIs)<sup>33</sup> reported that **the majority of returnee households could freely move during the day and at night** in Suleiman Beg if they desired. This situation was reportedly to be the same for women, girls, men, and boys,<sup>38</sup> according to the majority of returnee KIs (13 KIs). However, three KIs reported that this situation was not the same for women, girls, men and boys,<sup>38</sup> especially at night due to the fear of potential ISIL operations and the fear of harassment.

Additionally, one community leader KI (out of 31 KIs)<sup>24</sup> reported security as one of the primary community needs to ensure freedom of movement in the sub-district, especially for women and girls, as a condition to achieve safe and dignified access to work and services, and to ensure the safety of the families in the sub-district.

#### ERW land contamination

The majority of KIs (30 out of 40 KIs) reported that **there were no fields contaminated with ERW** in Suleiman Beg at the time of data collection. Of the rest, nine KIs reported that they did not know, however one KI did report the presence of contaminated lands in the sub-district. The same KI also reported the occurrence of incidents relating to ERW detonation causing casualties, further noting the lack of specialized actors to deal with existing ERW and the overall neglect from local authorities regarding ERW removal.

#### Community disputes

The majority of KIs consulted for this section reported that **there were no disputes within neighbourhoods** in Suleiman Beg or **between villages** in the six months prior to data collection (30 out of 31 KIs).<sup>24, 39</sup> One KI did not know about disputes. According to the majority of returnee and IDP KIs from the community (23 out of 25 KIs),<sup>32</sup> there were no retaliation incidents in the sub-district. Two KIs did not know.

#### Status of public offices or departments<sup>24</sup>

The majority of KIs (30 out of 31 KIs) reported that **there were no closed offices or departments** in Suleiman Beg at the time of data collection.

However, one community leader KI reported that the civil status department in the sub-district was closed at the time of data collection. The KI believed that the main reasons for the institutional closure were:

- » Specialised staff remained displaced;
- » Destroyed or damaged public building;
- » Lack of funding for operational costs; and,
- » Lack of assets for the department (such computers, stationary, etc.).

### Perceptions on the presence of formal security forces<sup>36</sup>

All returnee and IDP KIs from the community reported that the **presence of formal security forces contributed positively to a feeling of safety** between community members (25 KIs).<sup>32</sup>

Reportedly, all returnee KIs (16 KIs)<sup>29</sup> perceived that official security forces in Suleiman Beg were effective in resolving disputes within the sub-district and between villages. However, according to two community leader KIs, security forces and local authorities could not effectively intervene to solve inter-communal disputes and requested the intervention of tribal leaders.

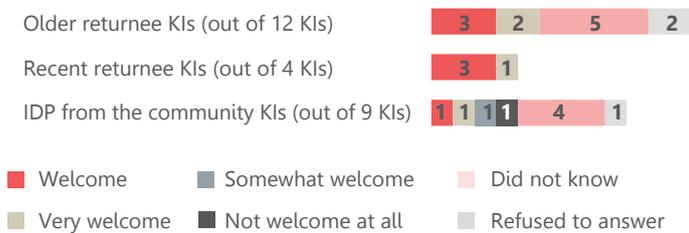
“Safety and security is the most important to be provided in Suleiman Beg. Without safety and security, community members cannot go to their work. The head of the family cannot leave his/her family alone and go to work, especially when their work place in another location outside the sub-district. Women cannot move completely free unless safety and security is provided, and there are laws and a system in place that protect individuals.”

- Male community leader KI -

### Perceptions on community inter-relations<sup>36</sup>

Overall, almost half of returnee and IDP KIs from the community reported that **returnee and IDP households from the community felt welcome or very welcome** in Suleiman Beg (11 out of 25 KIs).<sup>32</sup>

#### Household welcome levels as reported by KIs (out of 25 KIs)



Findings suggested that returnee households felt more accepted in the community compared to IDP households from the community. Over half of returnee KIs (9 out of 16 KIs), of which four of them were recent returnee and five were older returnee, reported that the majority of returnee households felt welcome or very welcome due to the fact that they had bonds with the tribal system in the sub-district (7 KIs), that there were kinship ties between members of the community and consequently stronger inter-family bonds (5 KIs), and that there were work relationships in place (4 KIs). In addition, two returnee KIs believed that these conditions facilitated social cohesion processes and the re-integration of returning households.

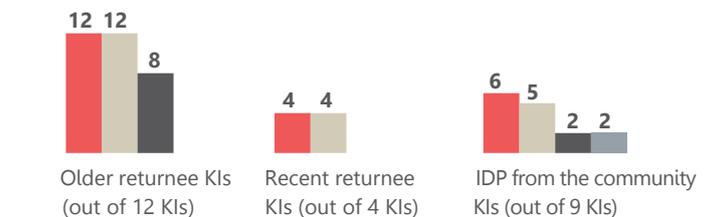
Reportedly, some IDP households from the community felt welcome to return to their AoO in Suleiman Beg (2 out of 9 KIs). This was reportedly attributed to the previous strong relationships these IDP households had with other households in the sub-district (1 KI). According to both KIs, these relations were based on friendship, bonds with the tribal system, and kinship ties with households there.

Additionally, two IDP KIs from the community (out of 9 KIs) believed that some IDP households from the community felt somewhat welcome or not welcome at all to return to their AoO in Suleiman Beg. This was commonly alleged to the households' concerns about being perceived by the community in the sub-district as ISIL-affiliated. In addition, KIs reported that IDP households from the community feared potential tensions arising over previously existing inter-communal disputes and negative perceptions commonly associated to displaced households, such as having family members who had previously committed crimes and were still awaiting judicial resolution.

### Interaction between displacement groups<sup>32</sup>

The majority of returnee and IDP KIs from the community reported that **households interacted with other groups** (23 out of 25 KIs). Two IDP KIs from the community did not know about interaction.

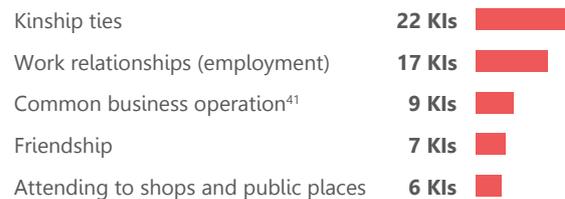
Findings showed the variation of interaction between groups.<sup>22</sup>



- Interacted with returnee households
- Interacted with IDP households in the community
- Interacted with IDP households from the community
- Did not know

The most common type of interaction households had was reportedly kinship ties (22 out of 23 KIs).<sup>22</sup>

#### Reported types of interaction between groups (out of 23 KIs)<sup>22</sup>



### Challenges for interaction between groups

The vast majority of returnee and IDP KIs from the community (22 out of 23 KIs) reported that **there were no challenges for interaction between groups**.

However, one IDP KI from the community (out of 16 KIs)<sup>33</sup> reported that the main obstacle to ensure interaction between groups was the lack of trust IDP households had in other groups and the presence of outstanding inter-communal disputes. In addition, the same KI reported that IDP households only interacted with returnees in Suleiman Beg and also believed that IDP households felt not welcome at all in Suleiman Beg due to “some of the displaced households have members with alleged links with ISIL or members who welcomed ISIL in the sub-district in 2014.”

### 1. [IOM DTM Return Index](#)

2. A total of 16 IDP camps and informal sites have now been closed or reclassified since mid-October 2020 (12 formal camps closed, including Salamiyah, two informal sites closed, and two formal camps were reclassified to informal sites). However, as per July 2021, 2 camps in federal Iraq and 26 in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) (mostly in Dohuk) remained open. The Ministry of Migration and Displacement in Iraq (MoMD) announces from time to time their attempts to find solutions for the remaining in-camp IDPs in federal Iraq in the way to close the remaining two camps accordingly, while no plans have been set in place to support the IDPs who settled in the informal sites nationwide - RTONLINE, [Iraq discusses the situation of the displaced with the IOM](#), October 2021
3. IOM DTM Master List, [Returnees rounds 120 and 122](#), January-February 2021 and June-July 2021
4. "As part of Iraq's Disputed Territories, Tuz district has been controlled jointly by the KRG and GOI Security Forces since 2003. Mistrust between the parties resulted in weak control (and, on occasion, open confrontation)." - Global Public Policy Institute (GPPI), [Iraq after ISIL: Tuz](#), August 2017
5. IOM DTM, [Integrated Location Assessment \(ILA\) Round VI](#), May, June and July 2021
6. The ReDS questionnaire is tailored to ask questions related to demographics only to community leader and SME KIs based on their knowledge about the sub-district and population groups. In the case of Suleiman Beg, there were 11 community leader and 4 SME respondents. Population figures for returns and IDP populations in Suleiman Beg are based on their estimates at the time of data collection.
7. To date, [IOM DTM's bi-monthly tracking of returnees and IDPs](#) provides an overview of numbers and trends in movement and returns. Simultaneously, since 2018, the Returns Index was run as a joint initiative of DTM, Social Inquiry and the Returns Working Group (RWG), collecting data bi-monthly to provide indicative trends in the severity of conditions in areas of return (AoR) nationwide. Similarly, the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster, IOM DTM, Protection Working Group (PWG), and RWG have conducted assessments with IDPs that have left camps following or in anticipation of closures to better understand and map AoR and secondary displacement.
8. For the purposes of this assessment, "returnees" are categorized as an IDP returning to their AoO, where AoO is defined as the stated original sub-district of origin for the IDP as per the [IOM returnee index](#). Given the complexity of (re)integration, this could mean that returnees still face challenges to their sustainable return to their AoO.
9. As clarified by the Iraq Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) in 2018, secondary displacement covers multiple scenarios: 1) IDPs who are voluntarily or forcibly displaced to another displacement location; 2) IDPs who voluntarily or forcibly return to their AoO but are unable to achieve sustainable solutions and are consequently re-displaced to their first place of displacement or to a new location of displacement; and 3) IDPs who, voluntarily or forcibly, return to their AoO but are unable to occupy in their former habitual residence and cannot achieve sustainable solutions and are consequently re-displaced to a new location within their AoO.
10. "To measure the severity of conditions in each location of return, the Return Index is based on 16 indicators grouped into two scales: (i) livelihoods and basic services, and (ii) social cohesion and safety perceptions. To compute an overall severity index, the scores of two scales are combined. The severity index ranges from 0 (all essential conditions for return are met) to 100 (no essential conditions for return are met). Higher scores denote more severe living conditions for returnees. The scores of the severity index can be grouped into three categories: 'low' severity conditions, 'medium', and 'high' (which also includes the identified 'very high' locations)." - [IOM DTM Methodology](#)
11. The most severely affected areas in Suleiman Beg in terms of social cohesion were reportedly Suleiman Beg sub district center, Um Al-Guta village, Habish village and Hafrya village. - IOM DTM, [Return Index Round 12](#), March and April 2021
12. Noting that Laylan IDP camp, with populations originally from Suleiman Beg, was closed in 2020 - CCCM Cluster and OCHA, [Iraq: Camp closure status](#), November 2020
13. For further details on the methodology, please see the [Terms of Reference \(ToR\)](#) for this assessment. The occasionally large variation between perceptions is potentially due to KIs varying profiles and personal interests.
14. For the purposes of this assessment, "older returnees" refer to households who returned to Suleiman Sub-district more than three months prior to data collection.
15. Community leaders are members of the host community represented by seven tribal leaders or sheikhs, three mukhtars, and one legal representative. A mukhtar can be defined as the head of a village or neighbourhood in some Arab countries. A sheikh can be defined as an older male in a particular Arab tribe, family, or village who is respected and consulted.
16. "IDPs (displaced from the area)" refer to households from Suleiman Beg displaced during the events of 2014 to non-camp areas different than their AoO, specifically in Markaz Tooz Khurmato Sub-district (Salah Al-Din Governorate).
17. For the purposes of this assessment, "recent returnees" refer to households who returned to Suleiman Beg Sub-district less than three months prior to data collection.
18. SMEs are members of the community with a relevant level of expertise in different sectors or topics. These were represented by: three public sector employees (education and healthcare) and one governmental employee (Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS)).
19. There were 40 individuals aged between 22 and 68 years old interviewed for the Suleiman Beg assessment. The vast majority were male (35 KIs). The lack of gender balance among the KIs is a limitation to the assessment. Integration of vulnerable age groups was considered, 3 male KIs were over the age of 65 representing older persons, and one male KI was considered in the youth group (between 18 and 24).
20. During this assessment, "host community" were defined by KIs as those households who returned to their AoO more than one year prior to data collection.
21. For the purposes of this assessment, "IDPs in the community" refer to households who displaced to Suleiman Beg after 2014 and were originally from other areas. According to the [IOM DTM IDP Master List](#) of July 2021, there were no identified IDP households identified in the community of Suleiman Beg Sub-district. However, this does not confirm the non-existence of IDP households, as they may be low profile and/or perceived by the community members from Suleiman Beg as now part of the host community.
22. Sum of answers may exceed the 100% due to KIs being able to select multiple response options.
23. This question was asked only to returnee and SME KIs (20 out of 40 KIs).
24. This question was asked only to returnee, community leader and SME KIs (31 out of 40 KIs).
25. "Decent work sums up the aspirations of people in their working lives. It involves opportunities for work that is productive and delivers a fair income, security in the workplace and social protection for families, better prospects for personal development and social integration, freedom for people to express their concerns, organize and participate in the decisions that affect their lives and equality of opportunity and treatment for all women and men." - International Labour Organisation (ILO), [Decent Work Definition](#)
26. See section on "Access to basic public services" on page 8.
27. Findings were indicative of each population group and not representative.
28. One community leader KI (out of 31 KIs) reported food as a primary community need. Reportedly, access to food and its production was affected by the neglect of agricultural lands by landlords and relevant authorities, lack of governmental support for seed, fertilizer, and insecticide provision, and the lack of loans from the banks for farmers to develop their businesses.
29. This question was asked only to returnee, community leader and SME KIs who reported the implementation of activities and projects in Suleiman Beg (28 out of 31 KIs).
30. Two KIs reported that some tribal leaders used their authority to request bribes from affected households in exchange for ensuring households' access to assistance.
31. In this assessment, vulnerable groups included were: female heads of household, older persons, people with disabilities, unaccompanied/separated children (UASC) and minor heads of household. Other groups mentioned in the report were reported by KIs under the 'other vulnerable groups' option.
32. This question was asked only to returnee KIs and IDP KIs from the community (25 out of 40 KIs).
33. This question was asked only to returnee KIs (16 out of 40 KIs).
34. This question was asked only to KIs who reported challenges to access housing rehabilitation (23 out of 40 KIs).
35. This question was asked only to returnee and IDP KIs from the community who reported challenges to access basic public services (17 out of 25 KIs).
36. The findings this assessment represent the perceptions of a relatively small group of respondents, therefore are not representative and may differ from other reporting on these topics. Additionally, differences in reporting compared to other metrics could also be due to the methodology, with people being less open to sharing sensitive information over the phone.
37. This question was asked only to community leader and SME KIs (15 out of 40 KIs).
38. It should be noted that gender indicators can be subject to potential under-reporting due to the limited number of female KIs interviewed. In addition, there might be a stigma around reporting on safety for men and boys.
39. Reportedly, the recent arrival of IDP households to Suleiman Beg negatively impacted access to resources, including the use of agricultural lands, which led to disputes and tensions.
40. Similar opinions can be found in this report mentioning that "one of the most acute challenges faced by families perceived to be affiliated with ISIS is the denial of security clearance papers and civil documentation that would enable them to leave IDP settlements and return to their areas of origin." - Civilian in Conflict (CIVIC), [Ignoring Iraq's most vulnerable: The Plight of Displaced Persons](#), April 2021
41. For the purposes of this assessment, "common business operation" refers to the action of operating an income-generating business in partnership involving members of different population groups.