

Returns and Durable Solutions (ReDS) Assessment

**Zummar Sub-district
Telafar District, Ninewa Governorate
Preliminary Findings Presentation, Iraq**

08/2022

Assessment Methodology



- **Multi-sectoral** assessment tool, which combined **qualitative and quantitative** data.
- Data collection was done **remotely by phone** between 20 July and 2 August 2022.
- Methodology based on **key informant interviews** (KIIs).
- **Purposive sampling** methods were employed to identify KIs. Findings should therefore be considered as **indicative**.

👤👤 KI profiles in Zummar Sub-district

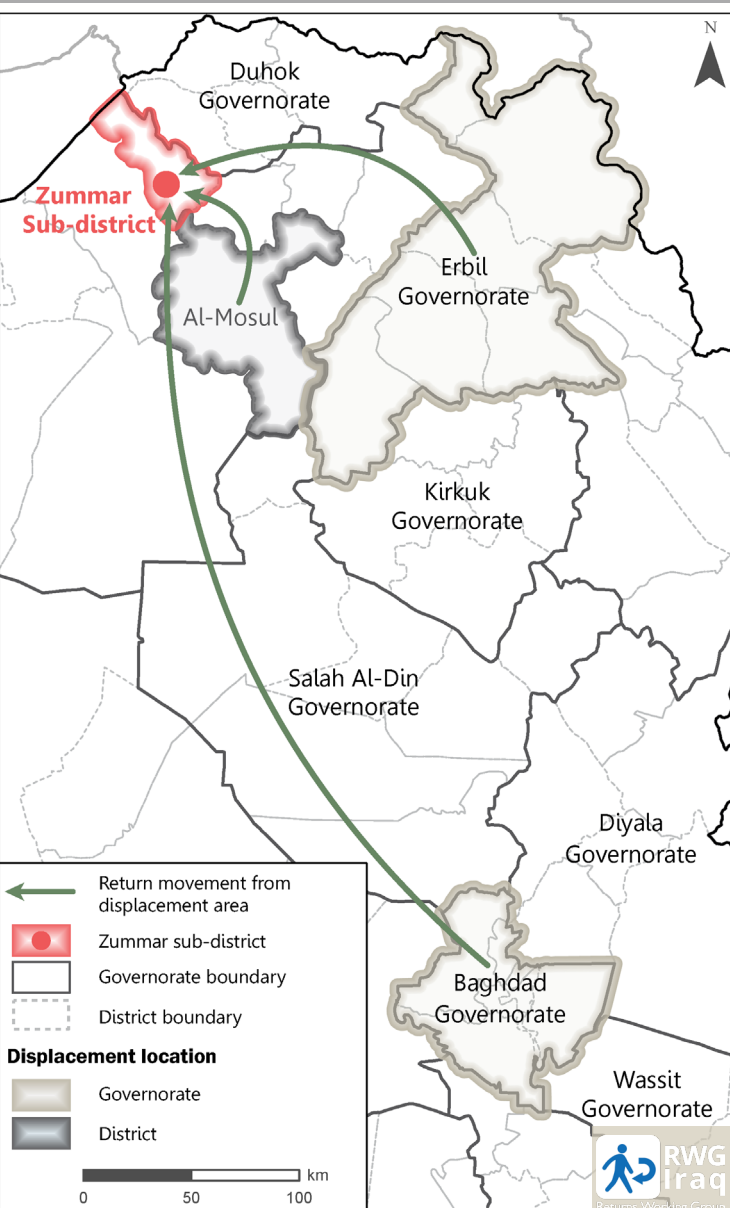
Returnees (return > 3 months prior)
Returnees (return < 3 months prior)
Subject matter experts (SMEs)
Community leaders
IDPs from Zummar
IDPs in Zummar
Remainee

9 KIs
8 KIs
8 KIs
8 KIs
8 KIs
8 KIs
8 KIs

57 KIs

👤 11 KIs 👤 46 KIs

Recent Returns and Barriers to Return



Returns from non-camp areas

22-29 households

were reported by KIs to have returned from non-camp areas during the six months prior to data collection, namely Mosul District and Baghdad and Erbil governorates.

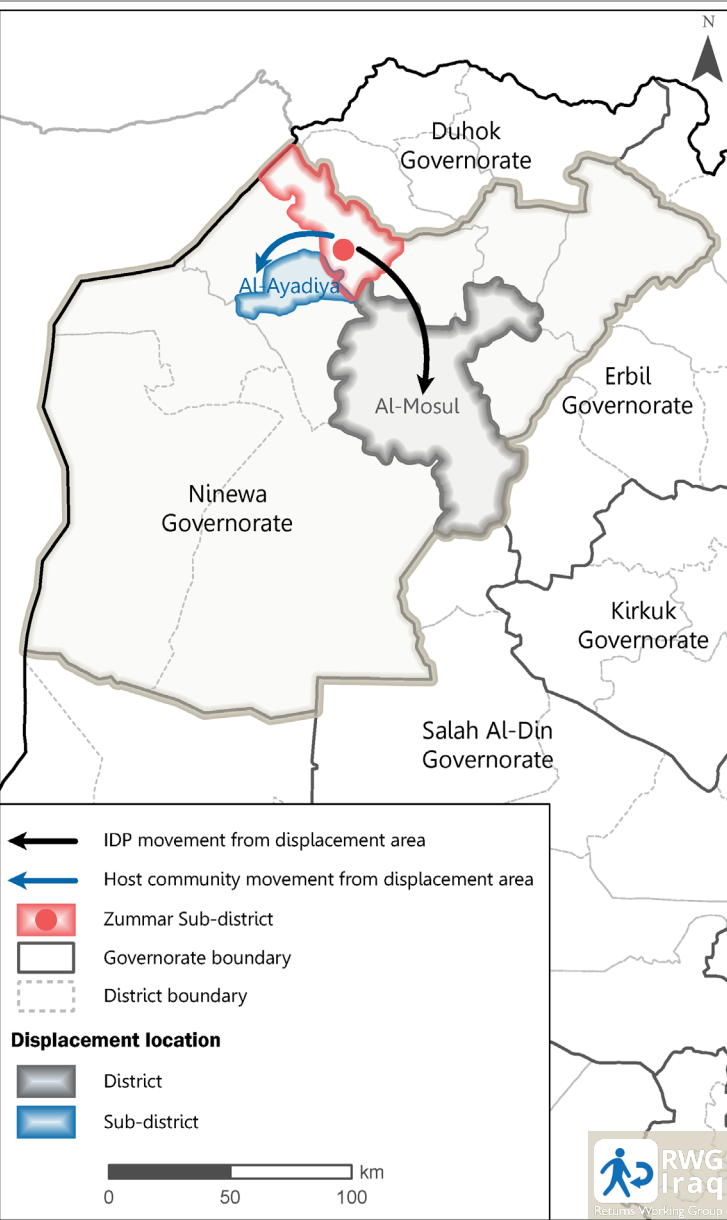
Nostalgia for their previous life in their areas of origin (AoOs), followed by the return of other family members, and increased security were reported reasons for return.

Barriers to return

The most frequently cited barriers for further returns included:

- Lack of/limited jobs in AoOs;
- Damaged/destroyed housing and challenging access to rehabilitation;
- Lack of/limited access to basic public services, primarily healthcare and water;
- Security concerns in AoOs; and
- Missing personal documentation, namely IDs.

Host Community and IDP Movements



Host community movements

4-6 households

reportedly moved from Zummar Sub-district to Ayadiya Sub-district, according to one KI.

Lack of job opportunities was the reported push factor for these movements.

Note: Host and IDP household departures noted refer to movements that took place within the six months prior to data collection.

IDP departures

3-4 households

reportedly departed from Zummar Sub-district and may have returned to their AoOs. One KI reported IDP households returned to their AoOs in Mosul District.

Reported reason for departures included:

- Lack of/limited jobs in Zummar;
- Lack of/limited access to basic public services; and,
- Improved security in their AoOs.



Family Separation

A few KIs reported that **adult males remained in displacement** at the time of data collection due to **the lack of jobs in their AoOs, while these were available in their areas of displacement (AoDs).**

According to one KI, another cited reason for displacement was to generate income to finance **housing rehabilitation in their AoOs.**

One KI also reported that there were cases of separation of **minor males** due to their **enrollment in schools in their AoDs.**

Access to Durable Solutions Assistance¹

Activity/project implementation

Reportedly, **there were activities and/or projects** implemented by **humanitarian/development actors, local authorities** and **security actors** in the area.

The frequently reported activities/projects implemented:

- Housing rehabilitation,
- Reconciliation and social cohesion,
- Livelihoods, and
- Food assistance.

Assistance as a factor to encourage returns

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

The most reported humanitarian activities needed were:

- Housing rehabilitation; and,
- Social cohesion.

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



Photo credit: Zummar ©Noe Falk Nielsen/NurPhoto
via Getty Images/2016

Challenges with Food Security

KIs reported that the **challenges affecting the agriculture sector was impacting food security.**

The most commonly reported challenges to agriculture sector:

- **Climate change** has affected the agriculture sector with reports of reduced water levels in the Tigris river and drought; and,
- **Decrease in agriculture production** due to farmers leaving the sector.

Due to changes in agricultural production, food was reportedly imported to the Sub-district.

Access to Housing and Type of Tenure

Reportedly, **the majority of households** in the sub-district resided in **owned houses** and had housing, land, and property **(HLP) documents proving ownership**.

IDP KIs in Zummar reported households were **renting or being hosted by families**. Top two reasons for these housing arrangements included **not owning houses** and **owned houses being destroyed**.

Families with alleged links to ISIL were commonly reported as being at higher risk of eviction compared to other vulnerable groups.



Reported Proportion of Damaged Housing

43%-50%

Access to Housing Rehabilitation

Challenges

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

The most reported barriers were:

- Affected households having limited access to financial resources for housing rehabilitation;
- Lack of government compensation for housing rehabilitation; and,
- Lack of housing reconstruction projects.

Frequently suggested recommendations were:

- Provision of financial compensation;
- Implementation of (re)construction projects; and
- Removal of debris.



Access to Basic Public Services

Challenges

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

The most commonly reported challenges to access healthcare were:

- Shortages in medicine and vaccines;
- Shortages in healthcare staff, including medical staff and specialized doctors; and,
- Lack of operational hospitals that meet the needs of households in the area.

It was reported that households would leave Zummar Sub-district to access medicine and treatments.



Photo credit: Zummar ©Noe Falk Nielsen/NurPhoto
via Getty Images/2016

Access to Livelihoods

Potential for sectoral growth

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

Livelihood sectors of interest for returnee and IDP households

The most commonly reported sectors in which returnee and IDP households were interested in working were **agriculture** (including animal husbandry), **construction**, and **private healthcare**.



Access to Livelihoods

Challenges

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

The most reported challenges were:

- Lack of job opportunities across various sectors, mainly affecting youth;
- Lack of support from the local government towards the reactivation of agriculture; and,
- Lack of jobs in construction.

Economic support

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

Frequently reported economic development needed included:

- Revitalization of the agricultural sector by providing seeds and fertilizers; and,
- Support for construction projects, including housing rehabilitation.



Perceptions on Social Cohesion

Social cohesion bodies

Durable solution actors were perceived by KIs as the **main body promoting social cohesion**.

KIs believed that **humanitarian actors**, **local authorities**, and **security actors** played an important role in improving social cohesion.

Improving social cohesion

Reported strategies to improve social cohesion:

- Organising seminars, awareness sessions, and conferences;
 - Suggested topics: cooperation and peacebuilding; discrimination; security and extremism; and, social cohesion between different ethnicities.
- Initiatives promoting access to work for all; and,
- Initiatives promoting community inter-relationships.



Perceptions of IDP KIs from Zummar

Feeling welcome

KIs reported that the majority of IDP households from Zummar **felt they may be very welcome and accepted** by the community in their AoOs if they decided to return to the sub-district.

Interaction

Reportedly, the majority of IDP households from Zummar **interacted with all groups**, according to a few IDP KIs.

Work was the most commonly reported way **IDP households interacted** with other groups.

Feeling integrated

All IDP KIs from the sub-district reported that **IDP households from the community did not feel integrated in their AoD** because they were displaced in areas they were not originally from.

"Because our homes are destroyed, and we are still displaced."

Perceptions of IDP KIs in Zummar

Feeling welcome

KIs reported that the majority of IDP households in Zummar **felt very welcome and accepted** by the community in Zummar Sub-district.

Interaction

Reportedly, the majority of IDP households in Zummar **interacted with all groups**, according to one IDP KI.

Three KIs reported that interaction took place in **religious/social events**, through **kinship ties** and **supporting vulnerable groups**.

Feeling integrated

Almost all IDP KIs in the sub-district reported that they did not know if **IDP households in the community felt integrated**. One KI reported that households did not feel integrated.

"Because they are still outside their area, and far from their homes."



Perceptions of returnee KIs

Feeling welcome

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

Interaction

KIs reported that the majority of returnee households **interacted with all groups**.

The **most frequently reported** means of interaction was through **households supporting other financially vulnerable households** in the community.

Feeling re-integrated

All returnee KIs reported that **returnee households felt re-integrated** in Zummar where they felt at home and had a **strong sense of belonging**.

“Back to our homes and lands.”

Key Findings

- Recent returns reportedly **positively impacted the community** with the **return of farmers and the recultivation of their lands which reactivated the agricultural sector; and an increase in construction activities** due to a reported increase in housing (re)construction and rehabilitation.
- Expected returns **may reportedly positively impact trade and commerce, the private sector, agriculture, social inter-relations in the community, reconstruction, and access to services** in the sub-district.
- **Lack of jobs in Zummar Sub-district** was one of the most reported barriers for returns, the third most commonly reported community need, and the third most needed activity to encourage further returns to Zummar.
- Further efforts to support **healthcare, housing rehabilitation, public infrastructure, water, electricity** were frequently reported as primary community needs by **SME, community leader, returnee, IDP KIs from and in the community**.
- The most challenging public sector service to access was reportedly **healthcare**, followed by **public water**. **Lack of medicine, shortages in healthcare staff, and lack of operating hospitals** were reportedly the main factors impacting access to healthcare in the sub-district.

Key Findings

- **Agriculture** was the most frequently reported **sector with the highest growth potential** in Zummar for the 12 months following data collection.
- **Tribal leaders** were reportedly the **most effective at resolving disputes** within the sub-district. Almost half of the **IDP KIs from the community reported that IDP households may feel very welcome and accepted** if they return to Zummar. KIs reported that these households **interacted with all groups** in the sub-district and **participated in decision-making processes in their AoOs**.
- Almost all IDP KIs reported not knowing if **the majority of IDP households in Zummar felt integrated** in their AoDs. However, one KI reported that the majority of households did not feel integrated in Zummar.
- **Returnee KIs** reported that returnee households **interacted with all groups in the community** and felt welcome or very welcome in Zummar. Also, **all returnee KIs** reported that **returnee households felt reintegrated in the community** of Zummar.
- Returnee and IDP KIs frequently reported that the **majority of households** from their respective **communities interacted with other groups**. The most commonly **reported way of interacting was through work and kinship ties**.

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION



Erbil, Iraq



aaishah.karim@reach-initiative.org;
cristina.carrandi@impact-initiatives.org



Upon request