RAPID ASSESSMENT ON RETURNS AND DURABLE SOLUTIONS   October 2021
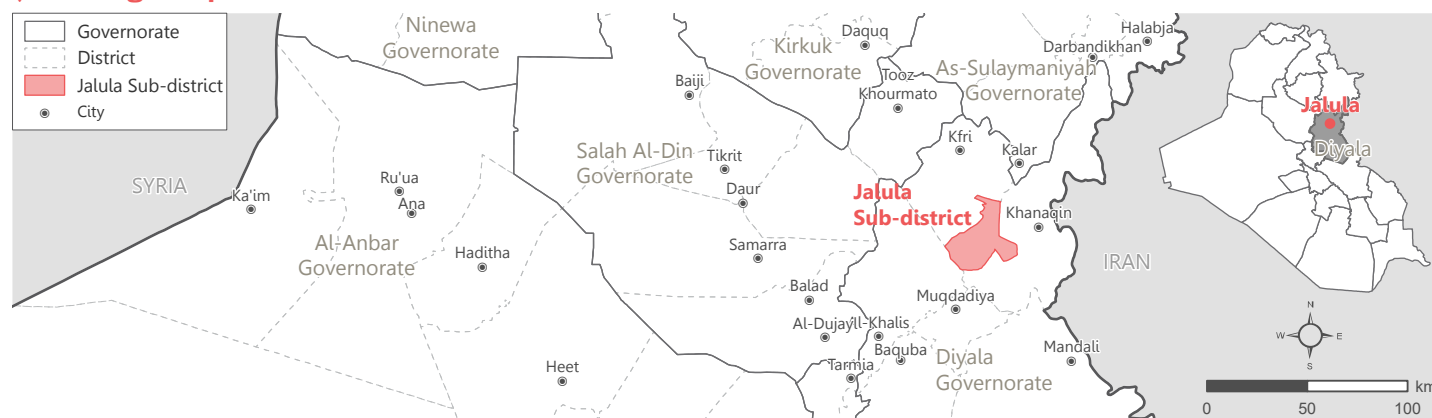## Jalula Sub-district - Khanaqin District - Diyala Governorate, Iraq

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 AoOs.[1] Increased returns and secondary displacement were driven primarily by the closure and consolidation of IDP camps.[2] As of October 2021, 16 formal camps and informal sites have been closed or reclassified as informal sites since camp closures started in mid-October 2020. For the camps that remain open across Iraq, there is an ongoing planning procedure to determine their future.[3] The International Organization for Migration (IOM) Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)'s returnee master list recorded over 4.5 million individuals returning to their AoOs across the country, as of September 2021.[4]

There were no additional camp closures between January and October 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.

Jalula Sub-district

Jalula is a sub-district of Khanaqin District, in Diyala Governorate. The sub-district faced an on-going conflict in Diyala as a primary location of the armed conflict involving the so-called Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and the Iraqi armed forces and its allies throughout 2014.[5] Between August and November 2014, the sub-district was mostly under the control of ISIL.[6] In late November 2014, Iraqi army forces and their allies liberated the sub-district.[6] According to an IOM Integrated Location Assessment (ILA) Round VI, as of July and August 2021, households residing in the assessed villages in Jalula (36 out of 52 assessed villages) were still somewhat concerned about possible ISIL operations in the area.

Reported Population Profile[7]

30,610-33,017 households were residing in Jalula before the events of 2014.

93%-97% of households in Jalula are displaced since 2014.

89%-94% households displaced since 2014 had returned to Jalula at the time of data collection.

8-11 IDP households (AoO not specified) were displaced in Jalula at the time of data collection.

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.[8] 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 AoO 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 the 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 Jalula Sub-district to provide an in-depth profiling of needs and understanding of social relationships between returnee[9] and/or IDP populations.[10]

Jalula Sub-district was selected for the assessment as: social cohesion and safety perceptions severity[11] was classified as 'high' or 'medium' in 51 out of 52 assessed villages;[12] it was classified as a priority location for the Diyala Area-Based Coordination group (ABC) under the Durable Solutions Technical Working Group (DSTWG) in Iraq;[13] and it was an AoO for IDPs in formal camp(s) recently closed or at risk of closure.[14] The findings are based on 60 key informant (KI) interviews conducted between 26 and 30 October 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.

KI Profile   Jalula Sub-district

Community leaders[15]	21 KIs
Returnees (more than 3 months ago)[16]	14 KIs
IDPs (displaced from the area)[17]	13 KIs
IDPs in the community[18]	7 KIs
Subject matter experts (SMEs)[19]	5 KIs

60 KIs[20]

RWG Iraq - Returns Working Group

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🔍 Key findings

- The situation regarding returns to Jalula remained stable, with KIs reporting a **few ongoing returns.** There were **no returns projected in the six months following data collection**, mainly attributed to the lack of job opportunities and basic public services.

- All KIs believed that **recent returns had positively impacted the community**. Humanitarian actors reportedly supported the local government to restore some of the departments and facilities in Jalula. However, **these movements** also reportedly **had negative impacts** in the community, mainly around the local authorities' lack of a preparedness plan to absorb the increase in the population.

- The majority of KIs reported that **households faced challenges in accessing housing rehabilitation** in the sub-district, as well as difficulties in accessing government compensation for damaged properties.

- **Access to housing rehabilitation** was the **second most commonly** reported **primary community need** and the **most needed activity to encourage further returns.**

- KIs from different profiles prioritized community needs differently. Further efforts to develop the **water infrastructure** was the most reported primary community needs **by community leader KIs**. SME, **returnee** and **IDP KIs - from and in the community - ** commonly reported the need to ensure access to housing rehabilitation as the primary community need.

- All KIs reported that **the majority of households faced challenges in accessing basic public services**. The most affected sector was reportedly **healthcare** mainly due to the damage or destruction to healthcare facilities in the sub-district and the lack of healthcare service providers in some villages.

- 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 oil industry, manufacturing, and transportation jobs reportedly not available at the time of data collection. Findings suggested that there were also sectors less affected, such as finance, construction, and public education.

- **Education** was the most commonly reported **livelihood sector of interest for returnee**, IDP in the community, and **IDP from the community KIs**. However, community leader and SME KIs reported **agriculture** as **the livelihood sector with the greatest growth potential** in the 12 months following data collection.

- Generally, **tribal leaders** were reportedly the **most influential bodies regarding governance** and the most effective body in resolving disputes within the sub-district. All KIs reported that the **presence of formal security forces** contributed **positively to a feeling of safety** between community members and the most effective in resolving disputes between the sub-district and other areas.

- The majority of returnee and IDP KIs noted that **community members felt safe or very safe in Jalula**. Additionally, almost two thirds of these KIs reported that **the majority of households in the community felt welcome or very welcome** to the sub-district. According to KIs, this was mainly driven by the prevalence and strength of different tribes in the area, causing households to feel protected since they belong to them.

- Less than half of returnee and IDP KIs reported that **the majority of households** from these displacement groups **mainly interacted with returnees** and **IDPs in the community**. This was reportedly attributed to social and work inter-relations.

- All returnee and IDP KIs reported that households **participated in decision-making processes**. One possible reason for this could be the connection that household had with existing tribal systems and their bonds with the community in Jalula.

- Perceptions on durable solutions varied between KI profiles. **All returnee KIs** reported that **returnee households felt reintegrated in the community** of Jalula, while **all IDP KIs** reported that **IDP households did not feel integrated in their areas of displacement (AoD)**.

Findings are based on the perceptions of KIs who were purposively sampled; all data should therefore be considered as indicative. The occasionally large variation between perceptions is potentially due to KIs varying profiles and personal interests. For further details on the methodology, please see the ReDS Terms of Reference (ToR).

🏃→ Recent household return movements

Returnee, IDP from the community, SME, and community leader KIs were consulted for this section (53 out of 60 KIs). The majority of KIs reported that no recent returns occurred to the sub-district (43 out of 53 KIs) or did not know about these movements (6 KIs). However, four KIs reported that there were some returns.

Returns from non-camp areas

4-7   **households returned** to Jalula from non-camp areas in the six months prior to data collection, according to 2 KIs (out of 4 KIs). Returns were reported from Diyala Governorate, namely from Khalis District (1 KI) and Markaz Khanaqin Sub-district (1 KI).

Reported drivers for returns from non-camp areas

According to the KIs reporting returns from non-camp areas, households' decisions to return were affected by pulling factors in their AoO. These were reportedly due to nostalgia about their previous life and the perception of increased security in the sub-district.

Returns from camps

40-50   **households returned** to Jalula from AlWand 1 camp in Diyala Governorate due to camp closure.[21]

Reported impact of returns in the community

Over a third of KIs (20 out of 53 KIs) reported that most recent returns to the sub-district (regardless the time-frame for these movements) had **positive impacts** in the community. With these movements, stability reportedly increased in the sub-district (12 KIs). According to 18 KIs, humanitarian actors supported the local government to restore some of the departments and facilities. KIs also mentioned that humanitarian actors implemented rehabilitation projects to operate some of the water treatment plants, electrical networks, roads, schools, and health facilities. Additionally, returnee households (the ones with sufficient financial resources) reportedly rehabilitated their damaged/destroyed houses (16 KIs).

According to 15 KIs, economic activity was reportedly affected by the:

» Reopening of shops, workshops, and markets, which consequently increased job opportunities (7 KIs),

» Resumption of agricultural activity, supported by humanitarian actors through the provision of seeds, fertilizers, and other agricultural materials (6 KIs),

» Reactivation of trade and commerce links, which enhanced access to food and non-food items (5 KIs), and

» Implementation of cash-for-work programmes by humanitarian actors (3 KIs).

One KI (out of 53 KIs) reported that recent returns had a **negative impact** in the community of Jalula. Reportedly, the increased number of households in the sub-district affected access to basic services, food, and non-food items. The same KI also reported that the situation in Jalula was worsened by the presence of the higher number of vulnerable households with increased needs, the lack of preparedness from the local government, and the limited support provided by humanitarian

actors. The rest of KIs did not know about impacts of recent movements (32 KIs).

🏃 Reported barriers for further returns

Returnee, IDP from the community, SME, and community leader KIs were consulted for this section (53 out of 60 KIs). **Access to livelihoods and basic services** was the most commonly reported **barrier for further returns** (49 KIs).

Reported barriers for further returns (out of 53 KIs)[22]

Access to livelihoods and basic public services

Lack of job opportunities	**43 KIs**
Lack of basic public services	**36 KIs**
Absence of specialised medical treatment in AoO	**15 KIs**

Access to housing

Destroyed/damaged housing	**46 KIs**
Housing was rented in AoO	**1 KI**

Safety and security

Fear of being perceived as affiliated with ISIL	**17 KIs**
Denied security clearance to return[25, 27]	**3 KIs**
Concerns about security in AoO	**3 KIs**
Fear of discrimination or persecution in AoO	**2 KIs**
Presence of informal security or armed actors	**1 KI**

Other barriers

Fear of contracting COVID-19	**11 KIs**
Preferred life in AoD	**5 KIs**

👪 Family separation and reunification plans

Returnee, IDP from the community, SME, and community leader KIs were consulted for this section (53 out of 60 KIs). **The majority of KIs did not know about family separation cases** (26 out of 53 KIs) or reported that there were **no family separation cases** in the sub-district (24 KIs).
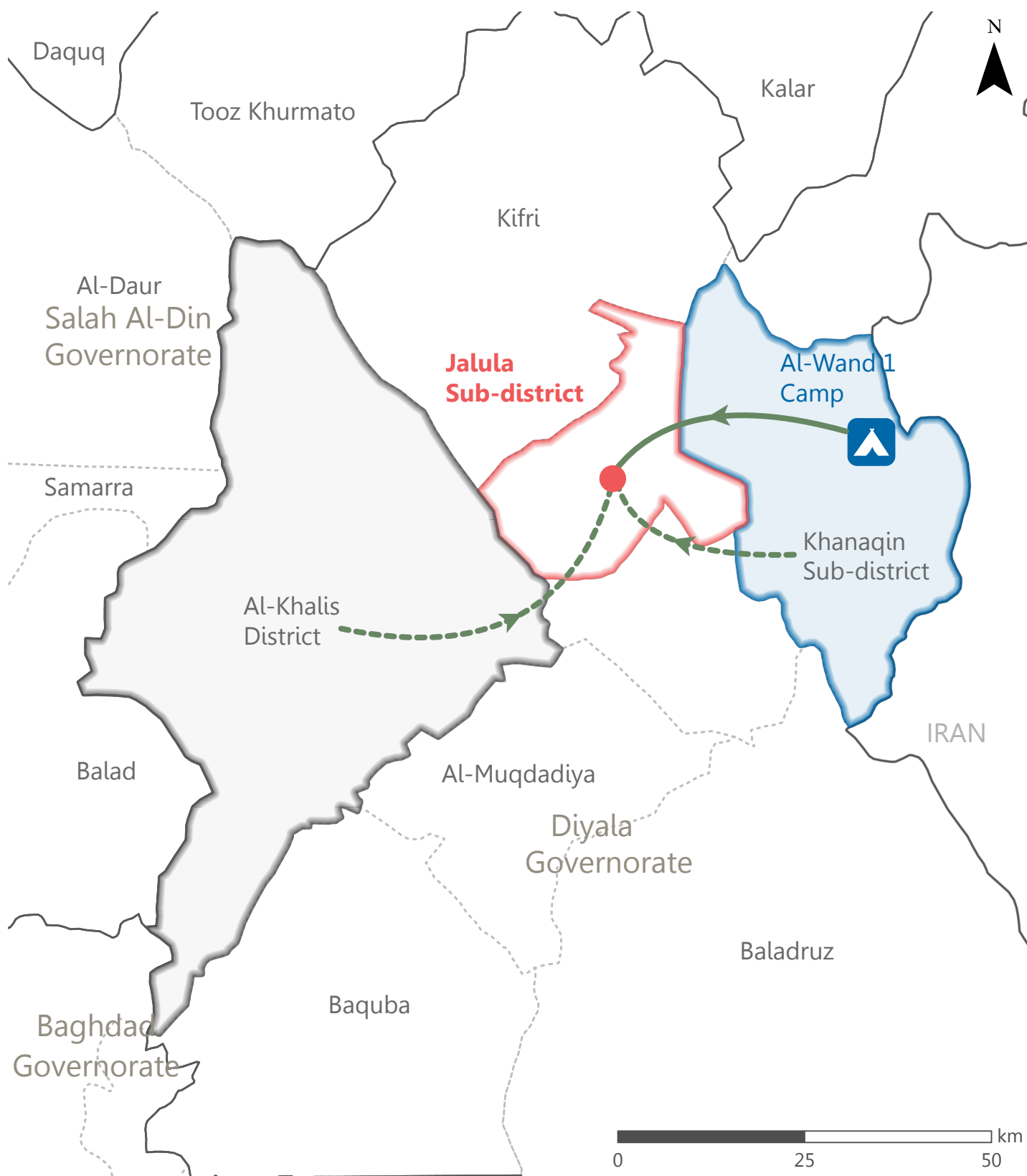
However, three KIs reported that some households had at least one adult male who remained in displacement due to available jobs in AoD being unavailable in AoO (3 KIs) and due to damaged/destroyed housing in AoO (2 KIs). One KI reported that there were some family members who remained in displacement due their children being involved at school in the AoD, which affected their intentions to return.

Family reunification plans

As reported by the three KIs, displaced members will return when job opportunities are available in Jalula.

"There is a number of family members who remain displaced because of the availability of jobs in the areas of displacement. If job opportunities are ensured in the future in the sub-district, they will return."

- Male SME KI -

N

Daquq

Tooz Khurmato

Kalar

Kifri

Al-Daur
Salah Al-Din Governorate

Jalula Sub-district

Al-Wand 1 Camp

Samarra

Khanaqin Sub-district

Al-Khalis District

IRAN

Balad

Al-Muqdadiya

Diyala Governorate

Baladruz

Baquba

Baghdad Governorate

km
0   25   50

Reported recent return movements to Jalula (6 months prior to data collection)

→ Return movement from camp

⇢ Return movement from non-camp area

● Jalula Sub-district

☐ Governorate

☐ District

Displacement location

☐ District

☐ Sub-district

🏕 Camp

🌾 Primary community needs

Primary community needs in Jalula
(out of 60 KIs)[22]

	First Need	Second Need	Third Need
Livelihoods	13 KIs	15 KIs	11 KIs
Housing rehabilitation	21 KIs	10 KIs	7 KIs
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	11 KIs	17 KI	9 KIs
Education	8 KIs	5 KIs	8 KIs
Healthcare	3 KIs	6 KIs	7 KIs
Electricity	1 KI	1 KI	8 KIs
Infrastructure rehabilitation	0 KIs	5 KIs	5 KIs
Security	1 KI	1 KI	1 KI

The most commonly reported primary community need was **access to livelihoods** (39 out of 60 KIs). The vast majority of these KIs (38 out of 39 KIs) reported that there was a lack of job opportunities in the sub-district. It was reportedly affected by the limited livelihood projects implemented by organisations, including cash-for-work (10 KIs), and the lack of governmental job appointments assigned to the sub-district (4 KIs).

The second most reported primary community need was **access to housing rehabilitation** (38 out of 60 KIs). KIs reported a high level of housing damage or destruction in the sub-district (27 KIs). According to 11 KIs, access to housing rehabilitation was affected by the lack of compensation to impacted households and the long process to access compensation.

The third most reported primary community need was **access to WASH**, mainly concerning access to water (38 out of 60 KIs). See section on access to basic public services on page 7.

📊 Most commonly reported primary community needs per KI profile[22, 25]

Community leader KIs (out of 21 KIs)
WASH	20 KIs
Education	10 KIs
Electricity	8 KIs

SME KIs (out of 5 KIs)
Livelihoods	5 KIs
Infrastructure rehabilitation	5 KIs
Housing rehabilitation	3 KIs

IDP KIs (out of 20 KIs)[17,18]
Livelihoods	19 KIs
Housing rehabilitation	18 KIs
WASH	9 KIs

Returnee KIs (out of 14 KIs)
Livelihoods	12 KIs
Housing rehabilitation	10 KIs
WASH	7 KIs

🚚 Access to durable solutions' assistance and impact on returns

Returnee, IDP in the community, SME, and community leader KIs were consulted for this section (47 out of 60 KIs). Almost two thirds of consulted KIs (30 out of 47 KIs) reported that **there were humanitarian activities or projects implemented** in Jalula. The rest of the KIs (17 KIs) believed that there were no activities implemented in the sub-district.

The most reported humanitarian activities implemented in the sub-district were livelihood programmes (22 KIs).

Reported activities implemented in Jalula
(out of 30 KIs)[22, 26]

Livelihood programmes	22 KIs
Cash assistance	18 KIs
Food security programmes	15 KIs
WASH	11 KIs

Activity implementers

All consulted KIs reporting the implementation of activities (30 KIs) also reported that these **activities or projects were implemented by humanitarian actors**. According to KIs, local authorities were mainly involved in livelihood programmes (16 out of 30 KIs) and local community members supported in the implementation of almost all activities (5 out of 30 KIs).

Reported groups less involved in activities

Almost three quarters of KIs reporting the implementation of activities (21 out of 30 KIs) also reported that none of the displacement groups or vulnerable categories[27] faced challenges in accessing durable solutions' assistance. The rest of KIs believed that **IDPs in the community were less involved** in activities or projects (8 out of 9 KIs), followed by IDPs from the community (3 KIs), returnees (2 KIs), and remainees[28] (2 KIs). Regarding vulnerable groups, KIs reported that **older persons** (5 KIs) and persons with disabilities (5 KIs) were less involved in these activities or projects than other vulnerable groups. According to a couple of KIs (2 KIs), households with alleged links to ISIL were excluded from humanitarian activities.

Durable solutions' assistance as a factor to encourage returns

Returnee and IDP KIs from the community were consulted for this section (27 out of 60 KIs). All consulted KIs reported that the **availability of durable solutions' assistance would be a factor encouraging returns** to Jalula.

Reportedly, **housing rehabilitation** was the **most needed activity to encourage further returns** (17 out of 27 KIs), followed by livelihoods (8 KIs), security (1 KI), and WASH (1 KI).

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

Returnee, IDP in the community, SME, and community leader KIs were consulted for this section (47 out of 60 KIs). All consulted KIs reported that the majority of households in Jalula resided in **houses**.

Reported type of housing vs tenure agreement

All returnee, SME, and community leader (40 out of 47 KIs) reported that the majority of households in the sub-district resided in owned houses.

Findings showed that **the majority of IDP households in the community** resorted to less secure tenure **under verbal rental agreement** (7 KIs). KIs who reported that households resorted to rental housing agreement also reported that it was due to households not owning houses in the sub-district even before 2014.

Access to housing, land, and property (HLP) documentation for owned housing

The vast majority of KIs reporting that households owned housing in the sub-district (40 KIs) also reported that **the majority of households** in Jalula **had ownership documents** to prove housing ownership.

Additionally, over two thirds of IDP KIs from the community (9 out of 13 KIs) reported that **the majority of IDP households from the community had ownership documents** to prove housing ownership, mostly those displaced in Markaz Khanaqin and Beni Saad. The rest of IDP KIs from the community did not know about households access to HLP documentation (4 KIs).

Access to housing rehabilitation

Returnee, IDP in the community, SME, and community leader KIs were consulted for this session (47 out of 60 KIs).

48%-57% of houses in Jalula reportedly remained destroyed or heavily damaged at the time of data collection, according to all consulted KIs.

Challenges to access housing rehabilitation

All KIs reported that households faced challenges in accessing housing rehabilitation, and it was the second most reported primary community need. Half of KIs (30 out of 60 KIs) reported a high level of housing damage or destruction in the sub-district. According to KIs, access to housing rehabilitation was affected by the lack of compensation (31 KIs), the long process to access compensation (2 KIs), and that affected households needed to travel to the district center to present their claims (1 KI).

Additionally, four KIs reported that impacted households were forced to pay bribes to governmental officials or intermediaries to present and process their claims. One community leader KI reported the exclusion from compensation for some households without being presented a proper explanation for this decision. According to KIs, affected households lacked financial resources to rehabilitate their homes (37 KIs). Overall, this situation reportedly led to households only partially rehabilitating their homes following minimum standards or having to reside in shared shelters (2 KIs).

Other reported challenges included:

- » The lack of financial support for housing rehabilitation from the government and humanitarian actors (35 KIs),
- » Limited housing rehabilitation projects led by the government or organisations (24 KIs), and
- » The area being perceived as neglected by the government due to being a rural area (4 KIs).[29]

Reported groups with less access to housing rehabilitation

Regarding affected groups, IDP households in the community reportedly faced more challenges when attempting to access housing rehabilitation (59 out of 60 KIs), followed by returnees (57 KIs), IDPs from the community (56 KIs), and remainees[28] (50 KIs).

While analysing vulnerabilities,[27] KIs reported that persons with disabilities (47 KIs), older persons (42 KIs), and female-headed households (33 KIs) encountered more difficulties to access housing rehabilitation compared to other groups. Additionally, 10 KIs reported that households with alleged links to ISIL faced greater challenges to access housing rehabilitation mechanisms.

Access to compensation mechanisms

Over half of KIs believed that there were no challenges to access compensation claims (35 out of 60 KIs). However, over one third of KIs reported that the majority of households in Jalula **faced difficulties in accessing government compensation for damaged properties** (23 KIs). A couple of KIs did not know about access to compensation mechanisms (2 KIs).

Reportedly, out of 23 KIs, perceptions toward the compensation process included:[22]

Households will not be compensated at the end	**21 KIs**
Long and complicated process	**17 KIs**
Lack of legal assistance for compensation	**5 KIs**

Challenges to access compensation mechanisms

According to 21 KIs, access to housing rehabilitation was affected by the lack of compensation to impacted households and the long process to access compensation. In addition, one community leader KI reported that some households were excluded from the compensation process without providing an explanation for this decision. KIs further reported that affected households lacked financial resources to rehabilitate their homes by themselves (23 KIs). Allegedly, several houses in the sub-district were reportedly vandalized and robbed of all their goods (5 KIs). Overall, this situation reportedly led to households only partially rehabilitating their homes following minimum standards or having to reside in shared shelters (2 KIs).

Taking into consideration the above challenges, KIs recommended the government and humanitarian actors to:

- » Provide financial support for housing rehabilitation directly to affected households (12 KIs) and
- » Implement housing rehabilitation projects in the sub-district (9 KIs).

🏛 Perceptions on access to basic public services

All KIs reported that **households faced challenges in accessing basic public services** in the sub-district (60 KIs). The majority of KIs reported that **education** and **water** were the most affected sectors.

Reported affected basic public services (out of 60 KIs)[22]

Education	**51 KIs**	███████
WASH	**51 KIs**	███████
Healthcare	**50 KIs**	███████
Electricity	**18 KIs**	██

Challenges to access basic public services

All KIs reported that households faced challenges in accessing basic public services. Allegedly, the limited availability of basic public services was due to the lack of attention from the government in the sub-district, due to its considering Jalula as a rural area and not a well-developed urban area or main city (14 out of 60 KIs). In addition, four KIs reported the lack of public employees assigned by the government to the sub-district public departments, which also affected the presence of municipal employees. According to four KIs, the local government was perceived to have neglected the budget allocation for the sub-district and to have misused the available funds. This was reportedly worsened by the lack of control and monitoring mechanisms from the local government to this regard (2 KIs).

Other challenges affecting access to basic public services were the level of damage or destruction to the public facilities and the lack of plans or projects assigned for rehabilitation works (2 KIs), as well as the perception that the increased number of households in the sub-district made services overcrowded (1 KI).[30]

Access to public education

Over three quarters of KIs (46 out of 60 KIs) reported that households faced challenges for their children and youth accessing public education services. School facility conditions were reportedly the main element affecting access to education. KIs reported that the majority of schools in the sub-district needed rehabilitation or reconstruction, and some areas needed new schools entirely (44 KIs). According to 14 KIs, active schools were crowded and operated in more than one shift, which negatively affected the quality of education. One community leader KI believed that the low quality of education in public schools was a result of the lack of supervision from the Ministry of Education (MoE). To alleviate problems in the education system, the local government reportedly installed provisional classrooms in the form of caravans. Additionally, in some areas several schools were merged into one building (5 KIs), and mosques were used as provisional education centers (2 KIs). However, some children were forced to travel to neighbouring areas to attend school, according to one community leader KI.

In previous years, students used to receive free learning materials, including books, notebooks, and transportation from the MoE. These distributions were halted in the 1990s, and the situation reportedly remained unchanged at the time of data collection.[31] According to four KIs, students' parents purchased books and other educational materials from private libraries at the time of data collection. These KIs emphasized the need for the MoE to replicate the previous model and start free distributions of learning materials for students in the coming academic years. Additionally, five KIs recommended to the central government the urgent assignment of educational personnel to the sub-district or to promote the return of teachers and other educational staff.

Access to public water, sanitation, and waste management

The majority of KIs (51 out of 60 KIs) reported that households faced challenges in accessing public water services. KIs reported that some water treatment plants and water networks in the sub-district were damaged and in need of rehabilitation (31 KIs) and that some neighbourhoods/villages lacked a water network (13 KIs). One KI perceived that this may be a result of the neglect from the relevant authorities to restore the water public service. Three KIs believed that access to this resource was seriously affected by the population growth with recent returns. According to seven KIs, the water collection pools needed to be enlarged since the current capacity did not meet the demand of the sub-district. One SME KI reported that historically access to water in Diyala Governorate was affected by Iran and Turkey cutting off vital water sources from main rivers in Iraq.[32]

Reportedly, access to sufficient water quantity and quality was challenging, especially in the summer (24 KIs).[33] KIs reported that water scarcity and pollution affected households' daily personal and domestic water usage (13 KIs), the agricultural sector with limited irrigation opportunities and farming for animal domestication (9 KIs), and workshops and factories which depended on water to operate (4 KIs).

KIs also reported that households adopted coping strategies to overcome the lack of sufficient water (15 KIs). The most commonly reported strategies were:

» Resorting to illegally drilling water wells for private use (13 KIs), and

» Resorting to purchasing bottled water or water filters to be used at household level (5 KIs).

KIs reported that some houses were connected to the public sewage network, however that others were not (4 KIs). This reportedly led to households building sanitary pits for black water disposal (2 KIs). In addition, KIs reported that the available sewage network needed rehabilitation (4 KIs). One community leader KI reported that the rubble from housing destruction blocked the sewage pipes and needed to be cleaned.

According to six KIs, there was a limited presence of operational vehicles for waste collection and a lack of sanitation workers, which led to an accumulation of waste in the sub-district's residential areas (5 KIs). In addition, five KIs believed that it was seriously affected by the lack of financial resources the municipality had assigned for sanitation work and general neglect from the local government towards the sub-district. Reportedly, households threw garbage in the streets as a result of the lack of garbage collection containers (2 KIs), and other households resorted to burning waste (2 KIs). One community leader KI reported that the waste management situation worsened with the increased number of households due to the higher volume of waste being generated.

Access to public healthcare

Almost three quarters of KIs (42 out of 60 KIs) reported that households faced challenges in accessing healthcare services. According to eight KIs, access to healthcare services was affected by the level of damage or destruction to healthcare facilities in the sub-district and the damage or destruction to the old hospital building (15 KIs). Three community leader KIs reported that these damages led to the inability of the healthcare facilities to meet the needs of the population in the sub-district, caused the hospital to have limited admission capacity (2 KIs), and affected the healthcare facilities' working hours (1 KI).

The majority of KIs reporting challenges to access healthcare services (33 out of 42 KIs) reported factors which affected the quality of healthcare in the sub-district, including the lack of:

» Medication in the operational facilities, especially medicine for chronic diseases (32 KIs),

» Medical personnel due to their lack of interest to be assigned to the sub-district as a rural area (16 KIs), and

» Materials, supplies (such as bandages and other emergency room materials), equipment, and medical machines (16 KIs).

Additionally, 10 KIs reported the presence of different coping strategies adopted by households to access medical treatment. These reportedly included:

» Households having to purchase medicine from private pharmacies, due to the lack of available medicine in health facilities (4 KIs),

» Having to transfer emergency cases to the district center (3 KIs),

» Households having to resort to private clinics for medical attention, which were perceived as expensive (3 KIs),

» Households being forced to travel to the district center for specialized medical treatment (2 KIs), and

» Households with less resources approaching pharmacies for remedies to their diseases instead of seeking medical attention (2 KIs).

Access to public electricity

Almost half of KIs (26 out of 60 KIs) reported that households faced challenges in accessing electricity services. The majority of these KIs (23) reported that organisations rehabilitated the electrical network in some areas of the sub-district and other areas remained without functional service. Three KIs believed that the relevant authorities in the sub-district neglected the electricity service. Additionally, one IDP KI from the community reported that the lack of electricity affected households' access to water. Two KIs reported that this situation led to households resorting to private generators to access electricity. One community leader KI reported that the increased population, after household returns to their AoO, demanded bigger electrical transformer installations to service the sub-district.

Reported groups with less access to basic public services

KIs reported that returnees were the group who faced the largest challenges when attempting to access basic public services (55 out of 60 KIs), followed IDPs in the community (44 KIs), IDPs from the community (41 KIs), and remainees[28] (40 KIs).

Regarding vulnerabilities,[27] persons with disabilities (53 KIs) and older persons (47 KIs) reportedly faced more challenges when attempting to access basic public services compared to other groups. According to four KIs, households with alleged links to ISIL also faced challenges to access basic public services.

Perceptions on access to livelihoods

All KIs reported that **the majority of households faced challenges in accessing livelihoods** (60 KIs).

Challenges to access livelihoods

Three quarters of KIs (45 out of 60 KIs) reported that there was a lack of job opportunities in the sub-district, especially for youth. It was reportedly affected by the lack of governmental job appointments (34 KIs) and the need to pay bribes to intermediaries or governmental employees to access employment (8 KIs). Additionally, 25 KIs reported that there was a lack or limited implementation of livelihood projects by organisations, including cash-for-work projects. Two KIs reported that there was an increased competition for the limited job opportunities due to the increased population after returns.

Ten KIs reported that there were additional challenges to develop or activate the private sector, including:

» The lack of financial assistance and interest in investment in new start-ups or small businesses from the government or other relevant stakeholders (10 KIs),

» Skilled workers and manufacturers from the sub-district having moved to the district center to reopen and develop their businesses (2 KIs),

» The confiscation of basic items by security forces at checkpoints (1 KI), and

» Food shop owners facing delays to have products delivered to the sub-district (1 KI).

KIs reported that there was a high level of destruction in the agricultural sector, mainly orchards, and that the government did not compensate farmers for their losses (9 KIs). Several KIs (16 KIs) reported that there were challenges to develop or activate the agricultural sector. These reportedly included:

» The lack of governmental compensation and financial support for agriculture and farming (30 KIs),

» Water scarcity affecting irrigation processes for agricultural lands and orchards (8 KIs),[34] and

» The perceived neglect by the local government to properly sustain the agricultural sector, being a rural area, which affected food and job opportunities (5 KIs).

In addition, two community leader KIs reported that the high level of damage to the orchards and the abandonment of agricultural lands due to the prolonged displacement of landlords were factors affecting agriculture. One community leader KI reported the lack of support to reactivate aquaculture projects.

KIs also reported that community members, especially youth, resorted to different strategies to access job opportunities (16 KIs). The most commonly reported were being forced to travel to other areas seeking jobs (11 KIs) and some households' members being obliged to remain in displacement due to the better availability of jobs to sustain their families in their area of displacement (3 KIs). Two community leader KIs reported that shop owners had to pay bribes at checkpoints to be allowed to bring products into the sub-district. One returnee KI reported that returnee households' members depended on low daily wage jobs in agriculture and construction.

To enhance access to livelihoods, half of KIs (30 KIs) provided some recommendations to the government and humanitarian actors, which included:

» Implementing rehabilitation and construction projects, which will encourage the return of skilled construction workers and ensure several job opportunities (21 KIs),

» Ensuring compensation for the rehabilitation of workshops, factories, shops, and other businesses in the sub-district for them to reopen and enhance trade and commerce (9 KIs), and

» Encouraging investment in the private sector, which was considered inactive, for skilled returnee workers to be able to open small businesses (7 KIs).

Reported groups with less access to livelihoods

IDPs in the community were reportedly the group who faced the largest challenges when attempting to access livelihoods in the sub-district (55 KIs), followed by IDPs from the community (51 KIs), returnees (41 KIs), and remainees[28] (40 KIs).

Regarding vulnerabilities,[27] persons with disabilities (47 KIs) and older persons (44 KIs) reportedly faced more challenges when attempting to access livelihoods compared to other groups. Additionally, eight KIs reported that households with alleged links to ISIL also faced challenges to access livelihoods.

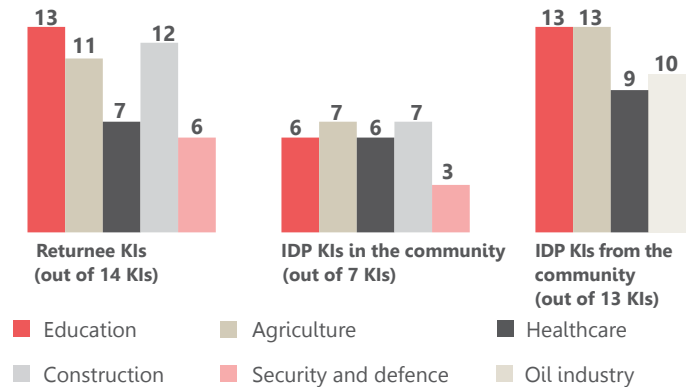## Most reported livelihood sectors available in Jalula at the time of data collection (out of 47 KIs)[22]

Sector	
Construction	35 KIs
Public education	28 KIs
Private education	23 KIs
Agriculture	16 KIs
Public healthcare	16 KIs
Public administration and defence	13 KIs
Finance	2 KIs

Findings indicated that the availability of some livelihood sectors was affected at the time of data collection.[35] The oil industry, manufacturing, and transportation were reportedly not available at the time of data collection.

Livelihood sectors of interest for returnees and IDPs from the community

Returnee, IDP in the community, and IDP KIs from the community were consulted for this section (34 out of 60 KIs). The most commonly reported livelihood sector of interest for returnee and IDP households from the community was **agriculture** (26 KIs).

The top five most reported livelihood sectors interests included:[22]

	Returnee KIs (out of 14 KIs)	IDP KIs in the community (out of 7 KIs)	IDP KIs from the community (out of 13 KIs)
Education	13	6	13
Agriculture	11	7	13
Healthcare	7	6	9
Construction	12	7	10
Security and defence	6	3	

Additionally, other commonly reported livelihood sectors of interested were trade and commerce (2 KIs), animal breeding (2 KIs), and aquaculture (1 KI).

Challenges to access livelihood sectors of interest[22]

IDP and returnee KIs were consulted for this section (34 out of 60 KIs). All consulted KIs reported that households in their respective displacement groups faced challenges in accessing jobs in livelihood sectors of their interest. Reported challenges included:

Agricultural sector (including farming and aquaculture) (out of 28 KIs)[36]

» The area highly depended on agriculture. There was a reported lack of governmental support to compensate farmers, to revitalize agriculture and farming, and to reclaim lands (25 KIs),

» The water scarcity situation in the sub-district and the damage to the irrigation mechanisms seriously affected the agricultural sector and farming (especially livestock) (8 KIs), and

» The lack of financial resources farmers had affected their ability to purchase seeds and fertilizers (7 KIs).

Governmental employment (including public sector employment) (out 25 KIs)

» The lack of government job appointments (22 KIs) and

» The presence of intermediaries and the need to pay bribes to public officials to access government jobs (5 KIs).

Construction sector (out of 19 KIs)

» The limited quantity of rehabilitation and construction projects (19 KIs) and

» Skilled workers in the construction sector remaining displaced, which affected rehabilitation in the sub-district (1 KI).

The private sector was also reportedly affected by the lack of financial support and investment in small businesses (4 KIs).

Jalula Sub-district
Perceptions on Access to Livelihoods and Public Judicial Mechanisms, Governance, and Safety and Security

October 2021

Livelihood sectors with reported growth potential

Community leader and SME KIs were consulted for this section (26 out of 60 KIs). **Agriculture** was commonly reported by all consulted KIs as **the livelihood sector with the most growth potential** in the 12 months following data collection.

KIs also reported that other sectors showed growth potential such as public healthcare (20 KIs), construction (19 KIs), public education (18 KIs), construction (6 KIs), private healthcare (17 KIs), the oil industry (14 KIs), and trade and commerce (10 KIs). Less reported sectors with growth potential included finance (7 KIs), transportation (4 KIs), and manufacturing (3 KIs).

Livelihood activities support to economy growth

Community leader and SME KIs were consulted for this section (26 out of 60 KIs). All KIs reported that livelihood programmes implementation in the sub-district may support economic development.

Revitalization of the agricultural sector (including livestock and aquaculture) (out of 20 KIs) depended on:[22]

» Providing financial assistance for agricultural materials, such as fertilizers, and other supplies for aquaculture (18 KIs),

» Promoting the marketing of local products outside the subdistrict (3 KIs),

» Encouraging youth to find jobs in agriculture (2 KIs),

» Building irrigation channels and networks and rehabilitating the existing ones (1 KI), and

» Providing agricultural equipment and machinery (1 KI).

Ways to activate the private sector (10 KIs) included:[22]

» Providing financial support to the private sector, specifically to owners of shops and small businesses to help their development (8 KIs),

» Encouraging investment for new startups (1 KI), and

» Implementing mega projects, which may ensure a high number of job opportunities (1 KI).

Additionally, three KIs reported that livelihood programmes will promote job creation for women, such as sewing, and will provide job opportunities for youth. According to three KIs, the provision of cash-for-work programmes may enhance households' monthly income and would improve the economic situation in the area.

⚖️ Access to public judicial mechanisms

All KIs (60 KIs) reported that **households did not face challenges in accessing public judicial mechanisms** in Jalula. However, according to 10 KIs, households with members with alleged links to ISIL may face challenges to access legal services and courts.
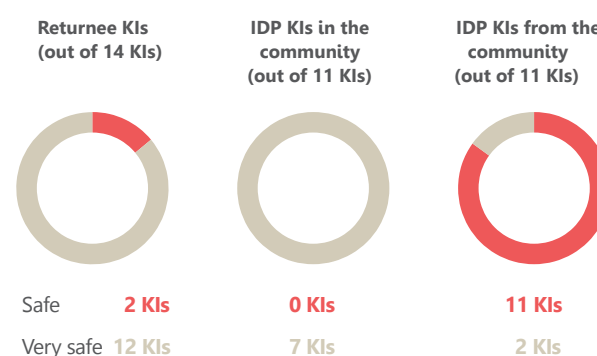
🏛️ Perceptions on governance[37]

Community leader and SME KIs were consulted for this section (26 out of 60 KIs). The majority of consulted KIs (7 out of 26 KIs) believed that **tribal leaders** were **the most influential bodies in terms of governance**.

Reported influential local actors regarding governance (out of 26 KIs)[22]

Tribal leaders	**20 KIs**	
Formal security forces	**18 KIs**	
Mukhtars[38]	**17 KIs**	
Local authorities	**8 KIs**	

❤️ Perceptions on safety and security[37]

Returnee, IDP in the community, and IDP KIs from the community were consulted for this section (34 out of 60 KIs). All consulted KIs reported that households in their respective displacement groups felt safe or very safe in Jalula.

Returnee KIs (out of 14 KIs)	**IDP KIs in the community (out of 11 KIs)**	**IDP KIs from the community (out of 11 KIs)**
Safe	**2 KIs**	**0 KIs**	**11 KIs**
Very safe	**12 KIs**	**7 KIs**	**2 KIs**

However, a few KIs (3 out of 60 KIs) reported that security was one of the primary community needs in Jalula. These KIs reported that ensuring security for the community members in the sub-district was highly relevant due to continued ISIL attacks in Diyala Governorate. According to two community leader KIs, there was a high need to ensure local security forces presence in the villages located in the outskirts of the sub-district where the majority of attacks occurred or may occur.

Freedom of movement

Returnee, IDP in the community, SME, and community leader KIs were consulted for this section (47 out of 60 KIs). All consulted KIs reported that there were no restrictions of movement imposed in the sub-district. All returnee and IDP KIs in the community (21 out of 60 KIs) also reported that the majority of returnee households could freely move during the day and at night in Jalula if they desired. This situation was reportedly the same for women, girls, men, and boys,[39] according to all consulted KIs.

☀️ Explosive remnants of war (ERW) land contamination

All KIs (60 KIs) reported that **there were no fields contaminated with ERW** in Jalula at the time of data collection.

One community leader KI reported the presence of ERW contaminated areas in the surroundings of the sub-district. The KI believed that there was a lack of clearance mechanisms and efforts for the ERW removal from the local relevant authorities and specialized NGOs. This reportedly led to households' fear that incidents would mainly affect children.

🚶 Perceptions on community disputes[37]

Returnee, IDP in the community, community leader, and SME KIs were consulted for this section (47 out of 60 KIs). All consulted KIs reported that **there were no disputes** between the sub-district and other areas (external disputes) or disputes within neighbourhoods/villages (internal disputes) in Jalula in the six months prior to data collection.

Retaliation incidents

Additionally, all KIs (60 KIs) reported that there were no retaliation incidents in the sub-district in the six months prior to data collection.

🏃 Role of different bodies in solving disputes

Internal disputes (within the sub-district)

Returnee and IDP KIs in the community were consulted for this section (21 out of 60 KIs). All KIs consulted for this section reported that **tribal leaders** were the body who effectively intervened to resolve disputes within the sub-district. KIs reported that households perceived tribal leaders as playing an essential role to ensure security and stability in the area and the ones responsible for resolving small internal disputes (21 KIs). Reportedly, this was because of the tribal nature of the sub-district and tribal leaders having a high influence on community members (20 KIs).

External disputes (between the sub-district and other areas)[22]

Returnee and IDP KIs in the community were consulted for this section (21 out of 60 KIs). Almost three quarters of KIs (13 out of 21 KIs) did not know about the bodies intervening to resolve these disputes. The rest of the KIs (8 KIs) reported that the formal security forces and local authorities were effective in resolving disputes between the sub-district and other sub-districts.

Formal security forces (out of 5 KIs)

KIs reported that the formal security forces were perceived as the highest authority to ensure security and impose the law (4 KIs) and that they were responsible for resolving external disputes between the sub-district and surrounding areas (4 KIs). Additionally, all KIs reported that the presence of formal security forces contributed positively to a feeling of safety between community members.

Local authorities (out of 3 KIs)

Two older returnee KIs reported that community members resorted to involving the local authorities when disputes outside the sub-district could not be resolved by tribal leaders. According to three KIs, local authorities were responsible for ensuring security and applying the law.

🤝 Perceptions on community inter-relations
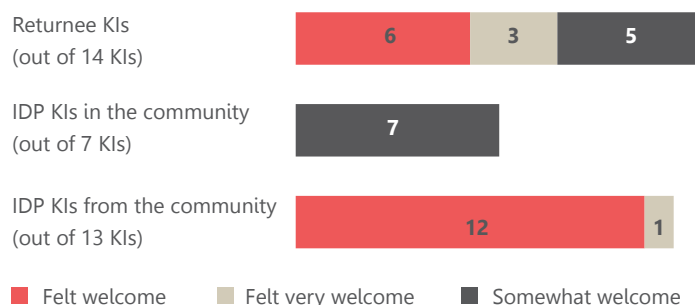
Feeling welcome in Jalula

Returnee, IDP in the community, and IDP KIs from the community were consulted for this section (34 out of 60 KIs). Almost two thirds of consulted KIs (22 out of 34 KIs) reported that the majority of households felt welcome or very welcome to the sub-district.

The reported reasons included:

- » Most of households having kinship ties, bonds and relationships with households and tribes in the sub-district (16 KIs),
- » Households having returned home to their areas of origin where they belong (6 KIs),
- » The prevalence and strength of different tribes in the area, causing households to feel protected since they belong to the prevalent tribes (3 KIs), and
- » Pre-existing strong cooperation relationships through trade, commerce, and work to reactivate the economy in the sub-district (1 KI).

The rest of the KIs (12 KIs, all IDP KIs in the community and almost a third of returnee KIs) reported that households felt somewhat welcome. This was allegedly due to challenges such as:[22]

- » Discrimination based on their displacement status, ethnicity, religion, and tribal roots (5 KIs),
- » Some households having been displaced from their AoO for a long time, causing the loss of their networks and connections within the sub-district (3 KIs), and
- » Existing unresolved outstanding intercommunal disputes (2 KIs).

Returnee KIs (out of 14 KIs)	6	3	5
IDP KIs in the community (out of 7 KIs)	7
IDP KIs from the community (out of 13 KIs)	12	1

🟥 Felt welcome   ⬜ Felt very welcome   ⬛ Somewhat welcome

Interaction between displacement groups

Returnee, IDP in the community, and IDP KIs from the community were consulted for this section (34 out of 60 KIs). Over half of consulted KIs (19 out 34 KIs) reported that the majority of households did not interact with other groups. However, the rest of consulted KIs (15 KIs) reported that households from all displacement groups mainly interacted with **returnees** and **IDPs in the community**.

Findings showed the variation of interaction between groups (out of 34 KIs).[22]

Returnee KIs (out of 14 KIs): 12, 2, 2, 2, 2
IDP KIs in the community (out of 7 KIs): 7, 9
IDP KIs from the community (out of 13 KIs): 13, 13, 11, 6

🟥 Did not interact with other groups

⬜ Interacted with returnee households

⬛ Interacted with IDP households in the community

⬜ Interacted with IDP households from the community

🟪 Interacted with remainees[28]
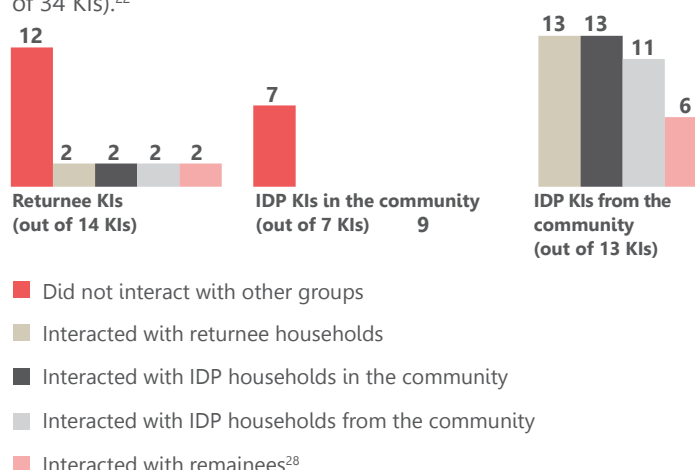
Reported types of interaction between groups

This question was asked to IDP and returnee KIs who reported interaction with other community groups (15 out of 34 KIs). The most commonly reported ways of interaction included:[22]

Socially related interactions (out of 13 KIs)

» Providing support to returnee households to rehabilitate their houses or temporarily hosting them (7 KIs),

» Providing financial support and in-kind donations to vulnerable households, especially recent returnees (5 KIs).

» Attending social events and supporting each other to organize weddings or funerals (1 KI),

» Temporarily hosting, returnee households, mainly reported by relatives (1 KI), and

» Actions of solidarity, such as financial support or voluntary work to rehabilitate schools (1 KI).

Work related interactions (out of 3 KIs)

» Providing support to farmers to resume agricultural activities (2 KIs) and

» Supporting lower-income households to reopen their small businesses, which helped reactivate commercial activity (1 KI).

Challenges for interaction between groups

Almost two thirds of consulted KIs (22 out of 34 KIs) reported that **there were no challenges for interaction between groups**. However, 12 KIs reported that there were challenges for interaction including:[22]

» Presence or fear of discrimination, abuse, or exploitation from the community (10 KIs),

» Feelings of marginalization by other groups (5 KIs),

» Lack of interest to interact or lack of trust in other groups (3 KIs),

» Presence or existing inter-communal disputes (3 KIs),

» Some households having alleged links to ISIL (2 KIs), and

» Lack of communication between groups or lack of common views (2 KIs).

Participation in decision-making processes

Returnee, IDP in the community, and IDP KIs from the community were consulted for this section (34 out of 60 KIs). All consulted KIs reported that the majority of households participated in decision-making processes.

Perceptions on durable solutions

Returnee, IDP in the community, and IDP KIs from the community were consulted for this section (34 out of 60 KIs).

Returnee households

All returnee KIs (14 KIs) reported that **the majority of returnee households felt reintegrated** in the community of Jalula. The most reported reason was the fact that the households returned to their original areas and claimed to be *"the original population and the decision-makers in the sub-district"* (13 KIs). KIs also reported that the households were forced to displace due to the fear of ISIL presence after 2014 (10 KIs), however they returned to the sub-district where they belong (4 KIs).

Additionally, the majority of these KIs (13 KIs) also reported that households felt **strongly belonging** to the sub-district. One KI reported that some households felt somewhat belonging to the sub-district.

IDP households

All IDP KIs, from and in the community, (20 KIs) reported that the majority of **IDP households did not feel integrated** in the locations where they were displaced at the time of data collection. This was attributed to the fact they did not own a house in the AoDs.

🤝 Perceptions on social cohesion

Social cohesion influencing actors[22]

The majority of KIs (42 out of 60 KIs) reported that **the most influencial actor in terms of social cohesion** was the **local authorities**.

Local authorities	**42 KIs**	
Humanitarian actors	**39 KIs**	
Local authorities	**39 KIs**	
Formal security forces	**29 KIs**	

Improving social cohesion

KIs reported strategies or initiatives to be considered to accelerate or enhance social cohesion processes.

Initiatives promoting community inter-relationships

Almost half of KIs (25 out of 60 KIs) reported that initiatives strengthening community inter-relationships and interaction may improve social cohesion in the sub-district, such as:[22]

» Promoting participation in social events and visits to vulnerable households and relatives (21 KIs),

» Rejecting discrimination based on ethnicity, religion, or displacement status (6 KIs),

» Providing assistance to ensure housing rehabilitation, focusing on priorities and vulnerabilities (5 KIs), and

» Promoting or reactivating voluntary work and encouraging women and youth to actively participate in these activities (1 KI).

Initiatives promoting access to work for all

Almost half of KIs (25 out of 60 KIs) reported that initiatives promoting access to work for all should be considered to improve social cohesion. These included:[22]

» Supporting job creation projects, especially for youth and women (21 KIs),

» Implementing skill building and educational programmes for youth and women (6 KIs), and

» Promoting equal chances to access jobs and fair working conditions (1 KI).

Seminars, awareness sessions, and conferences

KIs believed that organising seminars, sport programmes, conferences, awareness sessions, and workshops was an effective way to promote social cohesion (21 KIs). The most recommended topics for these activities were:

» Coexistence and peace building (13 KIs),

» Security and conflict resolution (9 KIs), and

» Acceptance of differences (4 KIs)

Other activities proposed by KIs were sport programmes for youth (2 KIs) and dialogue focusing on reconciliation involving tribal leaders and local authorities (1 KI).

Initiatives promoting safety and security

KIs believed that tribal leaders and local authorities played an essential role to ensure security and peace in the sub-district (15 KIs). Other perceived ways to improve social cohesion in the area were reportedly related to the responsibility and commitment from community members to report "suspicious activities" related to potential terrorist actions (2 KIs). Four KIs believed that local authorities should proactively remove all unofficial armed groups from the sub-district and that only the official security forces should remain and take control over the area to promote safety.

End Notes

1. IOM DTM Return Index
2. Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster Iraq, Iraq Informal Sites Overview, September 2021
3. A total of 16 IDP camps and informal sites have now been closed or reclassified since mid-November 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 additional 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, November 2021
4. IOM DTM Master List, Returnees rounds 120 and 122, January-February 2021 and June-July 2021
5. Save the Children, Jalula, Diyala Assessment Report, February 2016
6. Combating Terrorism Center, The Cult of the Offensive: The Islamic State on Defense, April 2015
7. 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 Jalula, there were 21 community leader and 5 SME respondents. Population figures for returns and IDP populations in Al-Forat are based on their estimates at the time of data collection.
8. 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 antici-pation of closures to better understand and map AoR and secondary displacement.
9. For the purpose of this research, "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.
10. 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.
11. "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
12. The most severely affected areas in Jalula in terms of social cohesion were reportedly Kibae, Zawiat Al-Wustaa, Zoyah Al-Gharbiyah, Zoyah Al-Sharqiyah, and Tal Aswad villages. - IOM DTM, Return Index Round 13, August and September 2021
13. Durable Solutions Technical Working Group's (DSTWG), Terms of Reference Durable Solutions Area-Level Coordination (ABC) Iraq
14. Households originally from Jalula Sub-district were displaced in Muskar Saad and AlWand 1 camps. These camps were closed in 27 October 2020 and 28 November 2020 respectively. - CCCM Cluster Iraq, Iraq: Camp Closure Status, 30 November 2020
15. Community leaders are members of the host community. For this assessment they were represented by 12 public representatives, 8 mukhtars, and 1 religious leader.
16. "Older returnees" refers to households who returned to Jalula Sub-district more than three months prior to data collection.
17. "IDPs (displaced from the area)" refers to households from Jalula displaced during the events of 2014 to areas different than their AoO. The majority of these KIs were reportedly displaced in Diyala Governorate (Markaz Khanaqin, Beni Saad, and Buhriz sub-districts). Other KIs were displaced in Baghdad Governorate (Mansour Sub-district) and in Suleimaniyah Governorate (Markaz Kalar Sub-district).
18. "IDPs in the community" refers to households originally from sub-districts different than Jalula displaced in Jalula during the events of 2014. All these KIs were originally from Diyala Governorate, specifically from Saadiya and Atheem sub-districts.
19. SMEs are members of the community with a high level of expertise in different sectors or topics. These were represented by: two senior officials both experts on youth and sports affairs, one official in the agricultural sector, one senior official expert in the electricity sector, and one senior representative on migration and reconciliation.
20. There were 60 individuals interviewed for the Jalula assessment aged between 21 and 62 years old. The majority were male (54 KIs, with a large majority of them from community leader profiles).
21. AlWand 1 camp, in Diyala Governorate, was closed on 28 November 2020 affecting 2,423 individuals. - CCCM Cluster Iraq, Iraq Camp Master List and Population Flow, November 2021

RWG Iraq
Returns Working Group

REACH Informing more effective humanitarian action

22. KIs were able to select multiple responses to this question.

23. "In order to leave IDP camps and return to their home communities, families with alleged ISIL association are required to obtain a security clearance from Iraqi government authorities." - UNDP, Pathways to Reintegration: Iraq, February 2021

24. "The reasons for no returns taking place in these sub-districts relate to security forces blocking families from returning, as well as continued conflict between groups associated with ISIL and Iraqi government forces." - IOM Iraq, Protracted displacement in Iraq: District of origin profiles, August 2021

25. Findings were indicative of each population group and not representative.

26. Other less reported humanitarian activities implemented in the sub-district were non-food item distributions (3 KIs), COVID-19 awareness sessions (3 KIs), and psycho-social support (1 KI).

27. For this assessment, "vulnerable groups" included female heads of households, older persons, people with disabilities, unaccompanied/separated children (UASC) and minor heads of households. Other groups mentioned in the report were reported by KIs under 'other vulnerable groups' option.

28. "Remainees" refers to households who did not displaced from Markaz Samarra Sub-district in 2014 and after.

29. All KIs reported that the most difficult assistance to obtain regarding housing rehabilitation was the financial support (59 out of 60 KIs), followed by reconstruction and rehabilitation projects (40 KIs) and legal support for HLP (5 KIs).

30. "The water network does not reach all the residents of Jalula, with major access issues reported for electricity as well. Schools have to operate in up to three shifts. While there is an operational hospital in Jalula, it experiences many limitations such as lack of equipment, medicines, and other needs. Many houses remain destroyed, which prevents return." - IOM Iraq, Labour market opportunities and challenges, May 2020

31. "During the 1970s and 1980s, primary and secondary schools developed to provide learning materials, free meals, public healthcare, and transportation for their students. [...] particularly for the country's isolated rural and semi-rural populations. [...] This system suffered under international sanctions in the 1990s, creating infrastructure shortages and competing exigencies for students and teachers that undermined education provision. [...] Widespread looting after the 2003 events gutted many schools of their supplies and equipment, including computers, desks, pens, and copper wiring. Entire libraries burned. [...] In November 2016, over 4,000 textbooks were stolen from the Ministry of Education and sold on the black market, following a nationwide shortage." - EPIC, Empty classrooms and black-market textbooks, December 2016: https://reliefweb.int/report/iraq/empty-classrooms-and-black-market-textbooks

32. 1 Iraqi News Agency, Minister of Water Resources: water releases from Iran have reached zero, November 2021

33. "Diyala is another governorate at risk of drought and water shortage, due to its reliance in Lake Hamrin, fed by the Diyala River, which originates as the Sirwan River in Iran. The water levels in Lake Hamrin have dropped significantly over the past year, with the surface area covered with water shrinking by half, affecting irrigation and agriculture, and impacting potential returns. In inter-agency missions undertaken by the Diyala sub-office, IDPs from Saadiya sub-district mentioned the dried-out irrigation channel from the Diyala River as one obstacle to return. Host communities in villages in Markaz Khanaqin and Jalula also mentioned dried-out irrigation channels would require water pumping to continue agricultural activities. The Ministry of Water Resources prevented most farmers in Diyala from planting summer crops due to concerns about diminishing water levels, which will negatively affect their income and may cause food insecurity. Areas potentially affected by water scarcity and drought in coming months include return areas in North Muqdadiya, Jalula and Saadiya in Khanaqin, as well as Jbara and Qaratapa in Kifri, and Mandaly and Qazanya in Baladruz." - OCHA Iraq, Humanitarian Bulletin, May 2021

34. "[...] the adoption of the winter agricultural plan for the season 2021-2022 of the irrigated areas and by 50 % from the previous agricultural season plan, with the exception of the province of Diyala because of the scarcity of water and low water revenue." – Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Iraq, The Ministry of Agriculture approves the winter agricultural plan 2021-2022, October 2021

35. When KIs were asked to compare which types of jobs were available in the sub-district before 2014 and at the time of the data collection, the overall availability had reportedly decreased. The KIs were asked to recall the period before 2014 and the perceived difference was hence to be understood keeping this in mind. In addition, the seasonality aspect of the situation at the time of data collection might have had an impact on the perceived availability.

36. "Jalula depends on agriculture and produces wheat, corn and beans. However, the area lacks an irrigation system and agriculture, in general, is neglected by the government." - IOM Iraq, Labour market opportunities and challenges, May 2020

37. The findings of this section represent the perceptions of a relatively small group of respondents. Therefore, they 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.

38. A "mukhtar" can be defined as the head of a village or neighbourhood in some Arab countries, this position is officially recognised as local authority.

39. 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.