



# Returns and Durable Solutions (ReDS) Governorate Profiles

IRAQ | **March 2023**



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01

# Context & Methodology

# Context & Methodology

## Overall objective

The governorate profiles are part of the ReDS research cycle, and review data gathered through the ReDS assessments to summarise findings at the governorate level.

The profiles aim to provide findings to support humanitarian and development actors to promote durable solutions for returnees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in situations of protracted displacement, including the development of localised interventions, dialogue, policy planning and resource mobilisation.

## Governorates

- 1. Ninewa Governorate:** accommodates the largest number of Iraq's returnee population (1.9 million) and hosts most of the displaced populations (around 250,000 IDPs) nationwide.<sup>1</sup>
- 2. Salah al-Din Governorate:** in addition to Ninewa, remains one of the governorates hosting the highest number of returnees living in high severity conditions,<sup>2</sup> around 200,000 individuals.<sup>3</sup>
- 3. Diyala Governorate:** accounts for the area with the least amount of governmental and non-governmental assistance. The challenging security situation in the governorate made access for non-governmental organizations to the different affected areas of return difficult.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> IOM DTM Masterlist, Ninewa Governorate, Round 5, December 2022,

<sup>2</sup> Severity is calculated in the IOM DTM Return Index with 16 indicators related to livelihoods and basic services and safety perceptions and social cohesion,

<sup>3</sup> IOM DTM Return Index, Salah al-Din Governorate, Round 17, December 2022,

<sup>4</sup> IOM DTM Return Index, Diyala Governorate, Round 17, December 2022

# Context & Methodology

Sub-Districts assessed in each governorate

8

Ninewa Governorate

6

Salah al-Din Governorate

4

Diyala Governorate

Year	Sub-district	Sub-district	Sub-district
2020	Markaz al-Baaj	Markaz Tooz	Markaz al-Muqdadiya
	Al-Qairawan		
	Markaz Sinjar		
2021	Markaz Mosul	Yathrib	Jalula
	Al-Qahtaniya	Suleiman Beg	
	Al-Ayadiya	Markaz Samarra	
2022	Markaz Hatra	Al-Amerli	Al-Atheem
	Zummar		Al-Saadiya

# Context & Methodology

## Limitations

- **Geographical scope:** not all the governorates' territory covered
- **Timeframe:** data collection occurred between 2020 and 2022
- **KIs:** only a subset of potential KIs and community representatives interviewed
- **Gender:** predominantly male KIs interviewed
- Findings are to be considered **indicative** only and not comparable

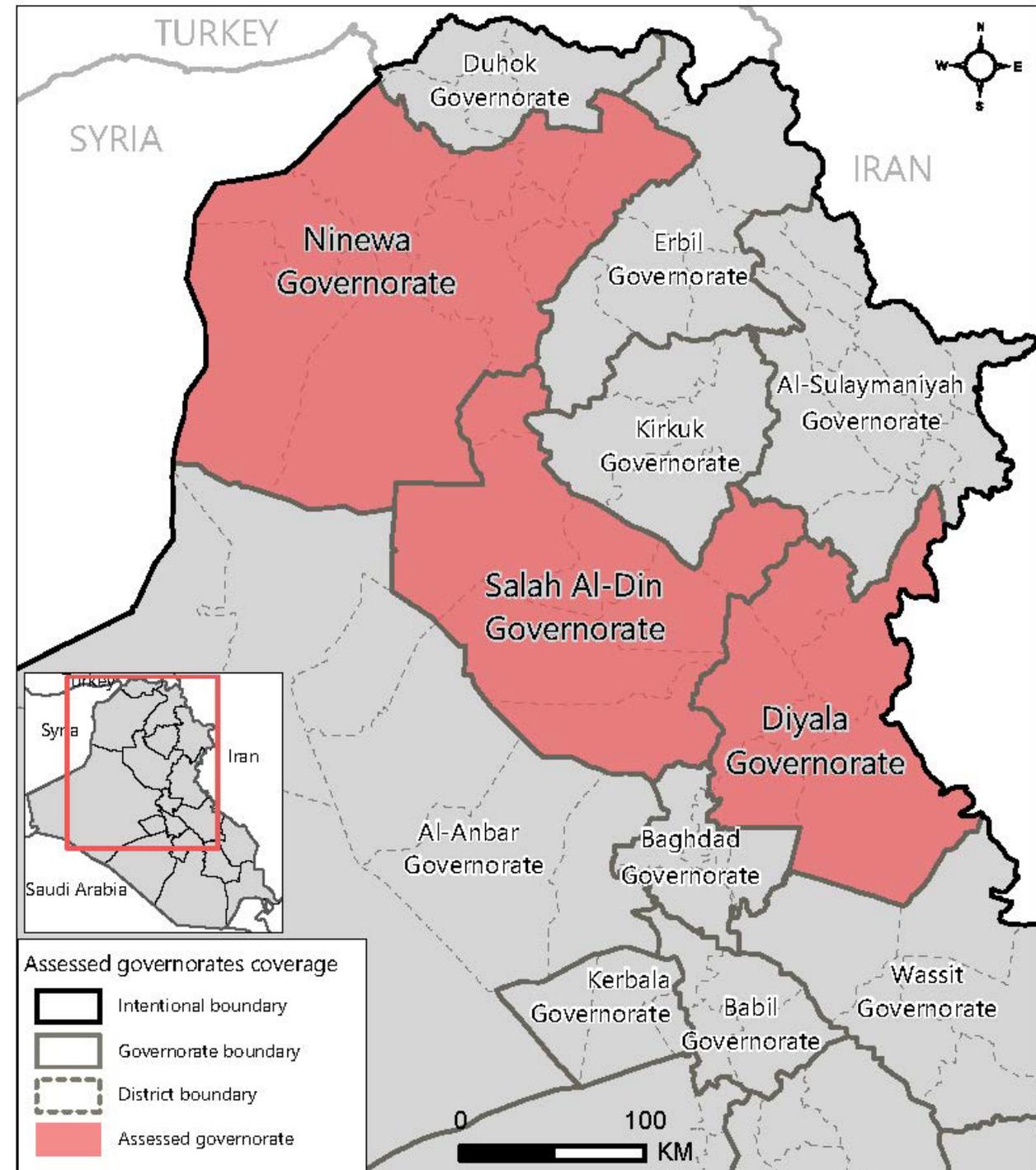
A light gray world map is centered on the page, overlaid on a background of a light gray geometric pattern of interconnected lines forming various polygonal shapes. The map shows the outlines of continents and countries. In the center of the map, over the European continent, the number '02' is displayed in a bold, red, sans-serif font.

**02**

# **Cross-Governorate findings**

# Cross-governorate findings

- **Reasons for returns:** reportedly improved security conditions, followed by nostalgia for previous life in Ninewa and Diyala and family reunification in Salah al-Din. Camp closure was reported mostly in 2020 and 2021.
- **Barriers to returns:** House, Land and Property (HLP) issues, most notably housing damage; followed by a lack of livelihoods and a lack of public services in the AoOs.
- **Livelihood opportunities and barriers:** agriculture construction and public education were reportedly the main available sectors. Barriers mentioned by KIs: lack of reconstruction projects, water scarcity and a lack of financial assistance.
- **Access to public services:** healthcare, water and education were the services most difficult to access due to infrastructural damage, lack of infrastructure rehabilitation projects and lack of staff.
- **Social cohesion:** perceived safety and security stability increase within the assessed sub-districts and interaction among the different population groups.



A world map is shown in a light gray, semi-transparent style, overlaid on a background of a light gray geometric pattern of interconnected lines forming various polygonal shapes. The map is centered on the Atlantic Ocean. A red number '03' is positioned in the upper-middle part of the map, over the European continent.

**03**

# **Ninewa Governorate**

# Ninewa Governorate

## Profile overview

- Returning population

### Drivers

- Improved security conditions
- Nostalgia for previous life
- Camp closure

### Barriers

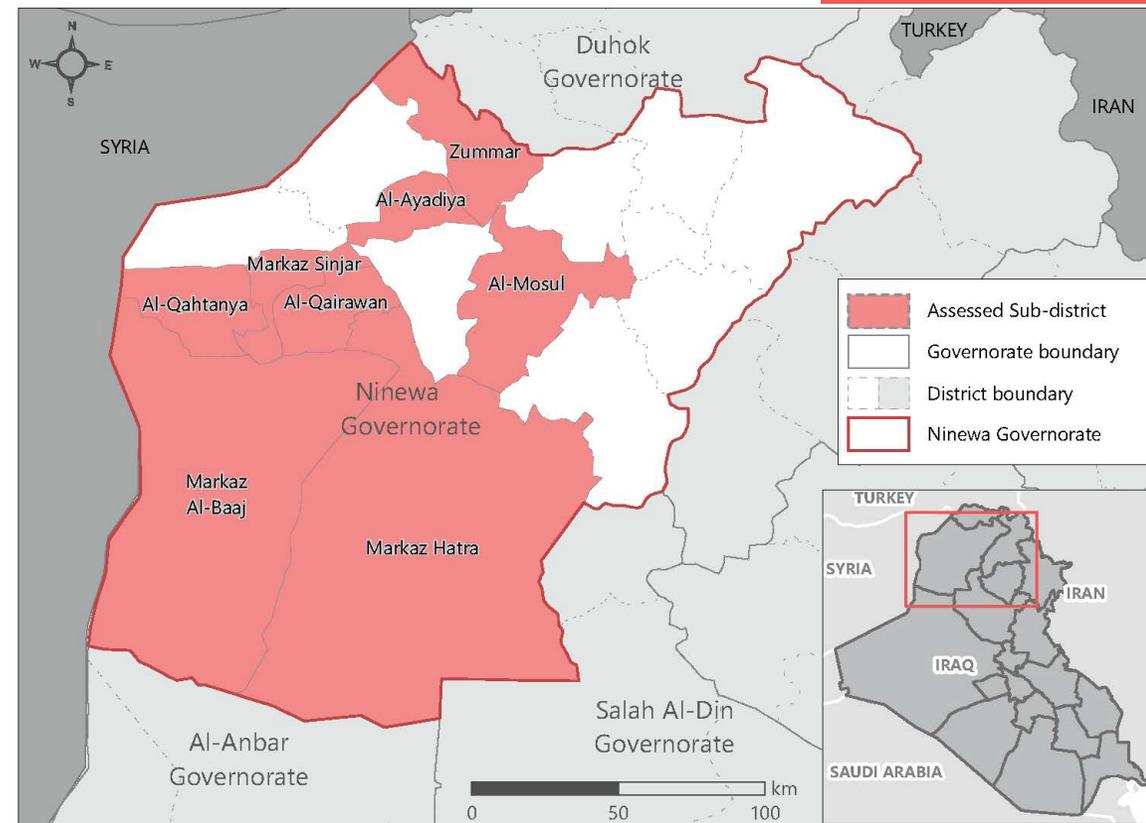
- House, Land, Property issues
- Lack of livelihoods
- Lack of public services

- Community needs

- Livelihoods
- Healthcare
- Housing rehabilitation and compensation

- Social Cohesion

- Stable in most of the assessed sub-districts.
- Interaction sometimes hindered by fear, discrimination and ethnic divisions



Data collection method	KI typology	#	Total
Key Informant Interviews (KII)	274 Male KIs	44 Female KIs	<b>318</b>
	Community leaders	80	
	Returnees	78	
	IDPs from the community	69	
	IDPs in the community	40	
	Subject Matter Experts (SMEs)	27	
	Remainees	24	

# Return Movements

	2020			2021			2022	
	Markaz al-Baaj (16 KIs)	Qairawan (5 KIs)	Markaz Sinjar (11 KIs)	Markaz Mosul (14 KIs)	Qahtaniya (15 KIs)	Ayadiya (1 KI)	Markaz Hatra (14 KIs)	Zummar (11 KIs)
<b>Drivers for returns</b>								
Increased security	11	3	9	7	8	-	2	5
Nostalgia	-	-	2	2	4	1	13	10
Family reunification	15	1	-	-	6	-	3	2
Camp closure	1	1	-	3	1	-	-	-

## Impact of returns

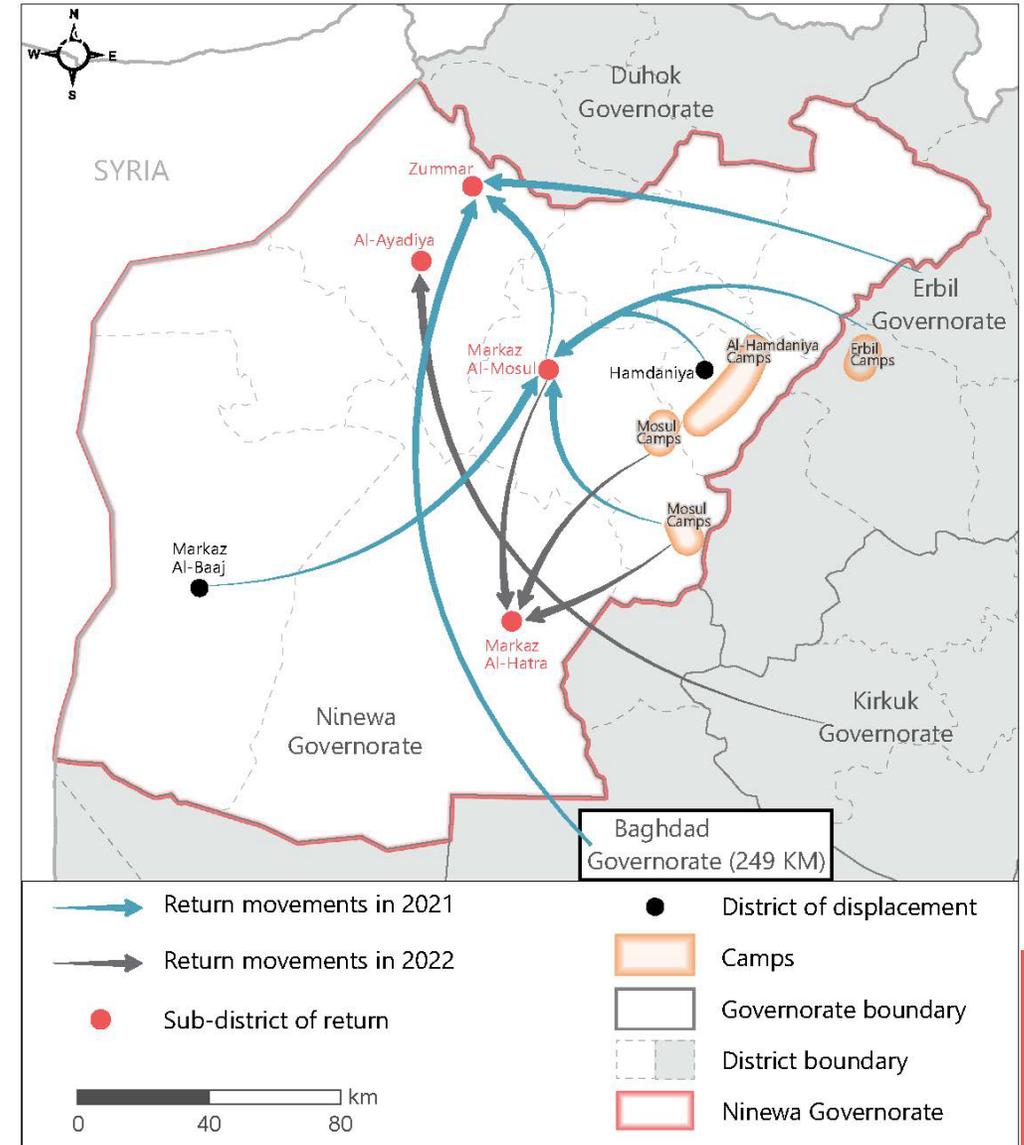
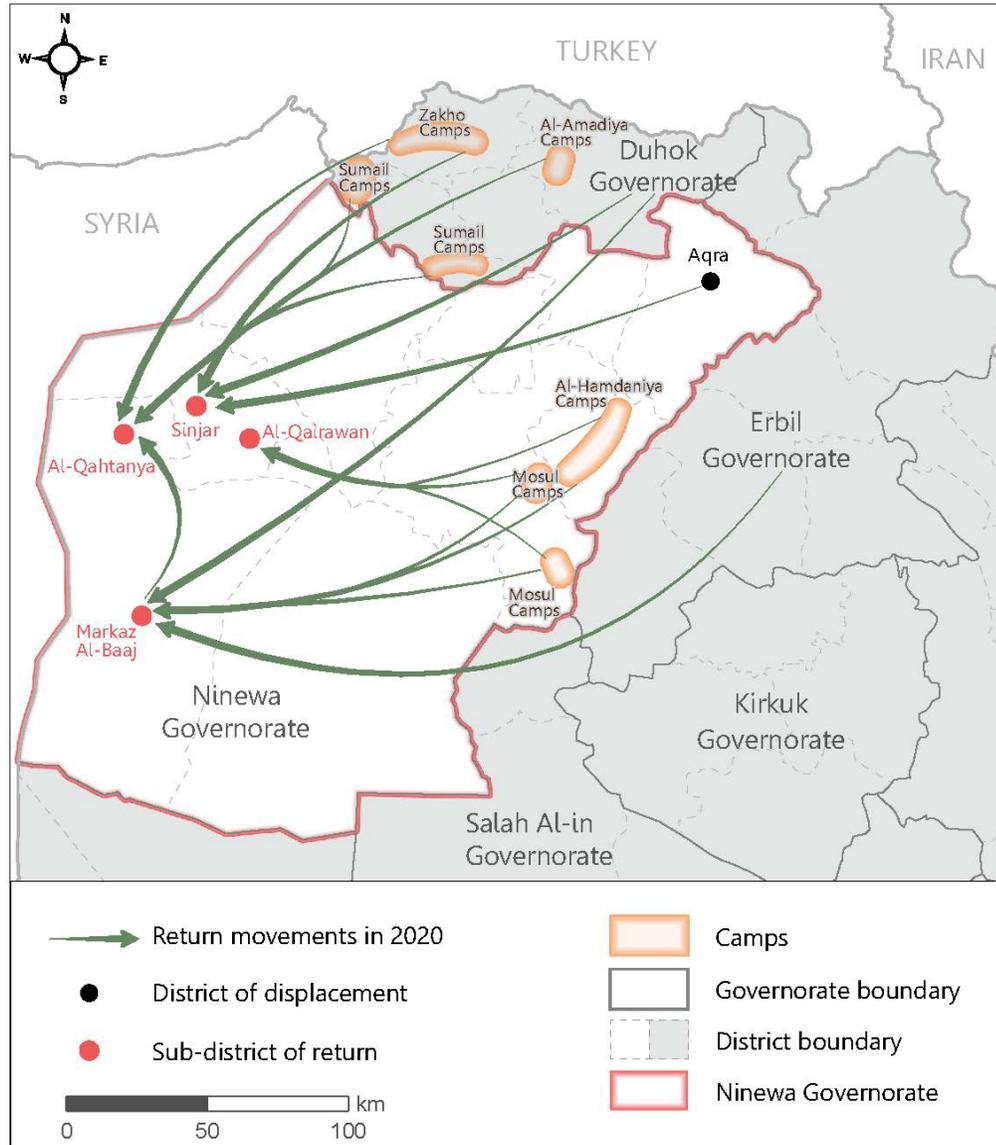
### Positive:

- Increased stability due to family reunification
- Increased job opportunities

### Negative:

- Increased competition for jobs
- Increased number of households in need

# Return movements to assessed sub-districts in Ninewa Governorate 2020-2022



# Barriers to return

## Top 3 reported barriers to return

- Housing damage (262/298 Kis)
- Lack of job opportunities (174/298)
- Lack of public services (150/298)

	2020			2021			2022	
	Markaz al-Baaj (29 Kis)	Qairawan (36 Kis)	Markaz Sinjar (44 Kis)	Markaz Mosul (42 Kis)	Qahtaniya (23 Kis)	Ayadiya (33 Kis)	Markaz Hatra (34 Kis)	Zummar (57 Kis)
<b>Access to housing and housing rehabilitation</b>								
Housing damage	27	30	38	39	21	31	23	53
Lack of property documents	2	-	10	1	-	-	-	-
House rented in AoOs	7	-	1	2	-	-	1	-
<b>Access to livelihoods and basic public services</b>								
Lack of job opportunities	19	14	8	6	20	29	24	54
Limited access to basic public services	7	25	16	7	16	22	17	40
Limited access to medical treatment	-	3	3	1	4	-	2	-
<b>Access to safety and security</b>								
Fear of being perceived as ISIL affiliated	3	-	4	2	2	2	3	1
Security concerns in AoOs	1	-	2	3	3	-	-	-

# Community needs | Livelihoods

Sectors in which jobs were perceived to be more available

## Agriculture

## Construction

## Private sector

### Barriers to accessing jobs in respective sectors

- Lack of government support
- Lack of financial resources to afford seeds and fertilizers
- Water scarcity
- Damages to irrigation systems
- Presence of ERWs

- Lack of government support
- Lack of reconstruction projects

- Lack of investments
- Lack of compensation for damaged businesses
- Lack of factories
- Lack of trade

### Coping mechanisms for lack of access to livelihoods:

- Remain in displacement
- Move to another location to work
- Abandon agricultural fields
- Dig water wells illegally

# Community needs | Housing rehabilitation and compensation

## Barriers to accessing housing rehabilitation and compensation

### Housing rehabilitation

- Limited/delayed reconstruction projects
- Lack of HH financial resources
- High level of destruction
- Government neglect / lack of financial support

### Compensation

- Compensation not paid
- Process long and complex
- Expensive process
- Lack of legal support
- Lack of awareness
- Lack of financial allocation

### Coping mechanisms

- Remain in displacement
- Paying bribes
- Sharing shelter with multiple HHs
- Illegal occupation

# Community needs | Healthcare

## Barriers to access:

- Lack of medications
- Lack of staff
- Lack of equipment
- Lack of emergency facilities
- Lack and poor conditions of infrastructure
- Insufficient facilities capacity
- Absence of public health centres in smaller villages

## Coping mechanisms:

- Travel to bigger centers for emergencies or specialized medical treatment
- Resort to private and more expensive clinics
- Remain in displacement
- Resort to local/private pharmacies for treatment and medications



# Access to public services

	2020			2021			2022	
	Markaz al-Baaj (3 KIs)	Qairawan (15 KIs)	Markaz Sinjar (22 KIs)	Mosul (4 KIs)	Qahtaniya (12 KIs)	Ayadiya (37 KIs)	Markaz Hatra (41 KIs)	Zummar (57 KIs)
Healthcare	-	15	22	4	9	36	34	49
Water	1	13	20	4	9	33	25	28
Education	-	1	1	-	9	32	19	28

## Focus on access to water:

### Professional use:

- Not enough for irrigation | 4/8 sub-districts (SDs)
- Not enough for livestock | 1/8 SDs

### Domestic use:

- Not enough quantity | 7/8 SDs
- Bad quality | 7/8 SDs
- Poor/destroyed infrastructure | 6/8 SDs

## Coping mechanisms:

- Bottled water
- Private water services (e.g. Water trucking)
- Digging illegal wells
- Illegal connections to the public network



# Integration and Social Cohesion

	2020			2021			2022	
	Markaz al-Baaj (16 KIs)	Qairawan (5 KIs)	Markaz Sinjar (11 KIs)	Markaz Mosul (14 KIs)	Qahtaniya (15 KIs)	Ayadiya (1 KI)	Markaz Hatra (14 KIs)	Zummar (11 KIs)
<b>Access to participation in decision making processes</b>								
Yes	-	-	22	-	11	20	21	30
No	-	-	-	15	4	1	1	7
<b>Barriers to participation</b>								
Lack of interest	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-
Neglected	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-

## **Safety and Security perceptions:**

- Population groups feeling safe | 8/8 SDs
- Population groups not feeling safe | 1/8 SD (Sinjar)

## **Population groups feeling welcome:**

- Welcome or very welcome | 8/8 SDs
- Not welcome | 1/8 SD (Sinjar)

## **Disputes:**

- No disputes within the community | 6/8 SDs
- Disputes within the community | 3/8 SDs

## **Interaction among different groups:**

- Good interaction | 8/8 SDs
- No interaction | 2/8 sdd (Baaj, Sinjar)

High percentage of KIs refused to answer social cohesion questions

A world map is shown in a light gray, semi-transparent style, overlaid on a background of a light gray geometric pattern of interconnected lines forming various polygonal shapes. The map is centered on the Atlantic Ocean. A large, bold, red number '04' is positioned in the upper-middle part of the map, over the European continent.

**04**

# **Salah al-din Governorate**

# Salah al-Din Governorate

## Profile overview

- Returning population

### Drivers

- Improved security conditions
- Nostalgia for previous life
- Camp closure

### Barriers

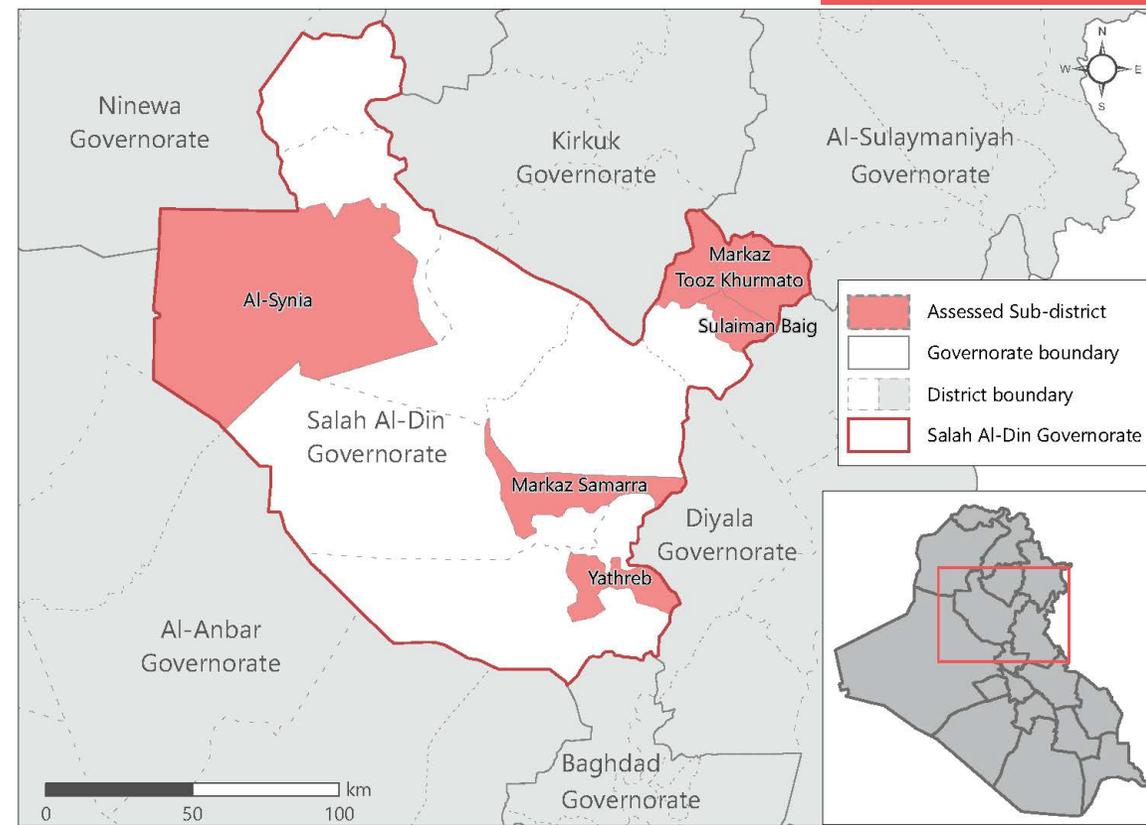
- House, Land, Property issues
- Lack of livelihoods
- Lack of public services

- Community needs

- Livelihoods
- Healthcare
- Housing rehabilitation and compensation

- Social Cohesion

- Stable in most of the assessed sub-districts.
- Interaction hindered sometimes by fear, discrimination and ethnic divisions



Data collection method	KI typology	#	Total
Key Informant Interviews (KII)	 <b>218</b> Male KIs  <b>44</b> Female KIs		<b>261</b>
	Community leaders	68	
	Returnees	75	
	IDPs from the community	51	
	IDPs in the community	30	
	Subject Matter Experts (SMEs)	26	
	Remainees	11	



# Return Movements

	2020	2021				2022
	Markaz Tooz (11 Kis)	Yathrib (25 Kis)	al-Siniya (26 KIs)	Suleiman Beg (26 KI)	Markaz Samarra (12 KIs)	al-Amerli No returns reported
<b>Drivers for returns</b>						
Increased security	11	16	2	16	3	-
Family reunification	6	7	6	12	3	-
Camp closure	1	4	19	-	-	-
Nostalgia	-	-	1	12	10	-

## Impact of returns

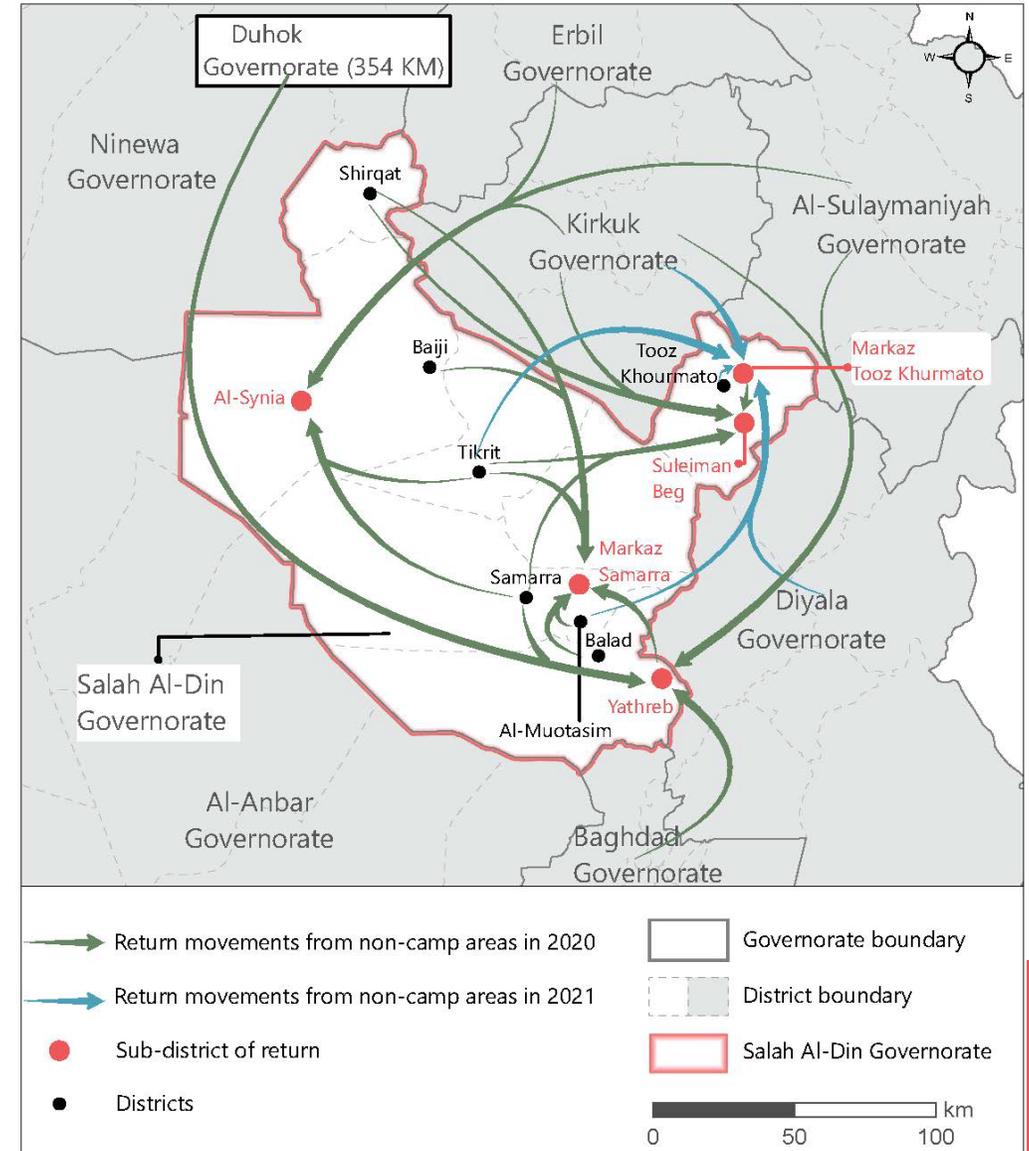
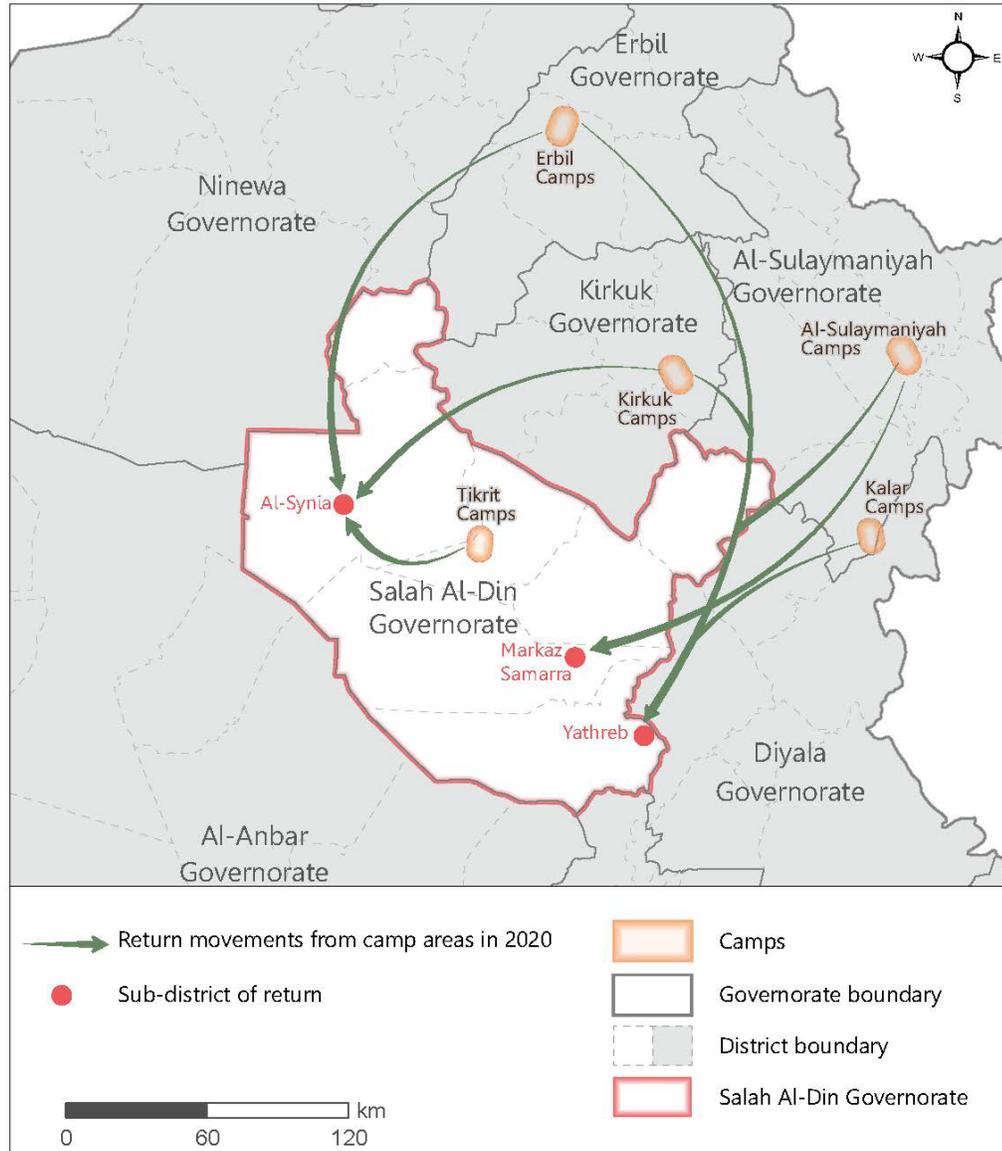
### Positive:

- Increased stability due to family reunification
- Increased job opportunities

### Negative:

- Increased competition for jobs
- Increased number of households in need

# Return movements to assessed sub-districts in Salah al-Din Governorate 2020-2022



# Barriers to return

## Top 3 reported barriers to return

- Housing damage (205/248 Kis)
- Lack of job opportunities (155/248 KIs)
- Lack of public services (142/248 Kis)

	2020	2021				2022
	Markaz Tooz (11 Kis)	Yathrib (25 Kis)	al-Siniya (26 KIs)	Suleiman Beg (26 KI)	Markaz Samarra (12 KIs)	al-Amerli No returns reported
<b>Access to housing and housing rehabilitation</b>						
Housing damage	33	36	45	37	24	30
Lack of Property documents	3	8	7	2	-	-
House rented in AoOs	1	-	4	-	1	-
<b>Access to livelihoods and basic public services</b>						
Lack of job opportunities	20	24	34	24	28	25
Limited access to basic public services	26	22	28	19	23	24
Limited access to medical treatment	11	2	-	2	3	4
<b>Access to safety and security</b>						
Security concerns in AoOs	6	2	10	6	5	1
Fear of being perceived as ISIL affiliated	-	1	5	9	11	1

# Community needs | Livelihoods

Sectors in which jobs were perceived to be more available

## Agriculture

- Water scarcity
- Damage to irrigation systems and infrastructure
- No compensation for damages
- Lack of government support
- Lack of financial resources for seeds and fertilizers

## Construction

- Lack of government support
- Lack of reconstruction projects

## Public Education

- Lack of staff
- Lack of facilities
- Lack of reconstruction projects
- Lack of capacity in existing facilities

### Barriers to accessing jobs in respective sectors

### Coping mechanisms to accessing livelihoods:

- Move to another location to work
- Remain in displacement
- Abandon agricultural fields
- Dig water wells illegally
- Engage in daily labour
- Rely on imported agricultural products

# Community needs | Housing rehabilitation and compensation

## Barriers to accessing housing rehabilitation and compensation

### Housing rehabilitation

- Lack of HH financial resources
- High level of destruction
- Lack/limited/delayed reconstruction campaigns
- Government neglect / lack of financial support
- Lack of required documentation

### Compensation

- Process long and complex
- Lack of legal support
- Compensation not paid
- Presence of intermediaries
- Selective allocation of funds
- Lack of awareness

### Coping mechanisms

- Living in partially rehabilitated house
- Remaining in displacement
- Paying bribes
- Sharing shelter with multiple HHs
- Travel to other location to file the compensation claim

# Community needs | Healthcare

## Barriers to access:

- Lack of medications
- Lack of staff
- Lack of support and rehabilitation of existing facilities
- Lack and poor conditions of infrastructure
- Lack of equipment
- Not enough capacity
- Absence of public health centres in smaller villages

## Coping mechanisms:

- Resort to private and more expensive clinics
- Travel to bigger centres for emergencies or specialized medical treatment
- Resort to local/private pharmacies for treatment and medications
- Remain in displacement
- Remain at home despite hospitalization needed



# Access to public services

	2020	2021				2022
	Markaz Tooz (11 Kis)	Yathrib (25 Kis)	al-Siniya (26 KIs)	Suleiman Beg (26 KI)	Markaz Samarra (12 KIs)	al-Amerli No returns reported
Healthcare	13	15	22	23	37	26
Water	9	15	14	9	32	25
Education	2	-	17	23	32	16
Courts	-	-	13	2	10	-

## Focus on access to water:

### Professional use:

- Not enough for irrigation | 2/6 sub-districts (SDs)
- Not enough for livestock | 1/6 SD
- Not enough for workshops and factories | 1/6 SD

### Domestic use:

- Not enough quantity | 6/6 SDs
- Bad quality | 4/6 SDs
- Lack of sewage and waste management | 4/6 SDs
- Poor/destroyed infrastructure | 5/6 SDs

### Coping mechanisms:

- Bottled water | 6/6 SDs
- Private water services (e.g. Water trucking) | 5/5 SDs
- Digging illegal wells | 3/6 SDs
- Travelling to locations with functioning plants | 1/6 SD
- Using irrigation water for domestic use | 1/6 SD
- Remaining in displacement | 1/6 SD



# Integration and Social Cohesion

	2020	2021				2022
	Markaz Tooz (11 Kis)	Yathrib (25 Kis)	al-Siniya (26 KIs)	Suleiman Beg (26 KI)	Markaz Samarra (12 KIs)	al-Amerli
						No returns reported
<b>Participation in decision making processes</b>						
Yes	-	-	8	20	29	12
No	-	2	11	-	7	-

### Safety and Security:

- Population groups feeling safe | 1/6 SDs
- Population groups not feeling safe | 0/6 SDs

### Feeling welcome:

- Welcome or very welcome | 6/6 SDs
- Not welcome | 1/6 SD (Suleiman Beg)

### Disputes:

- No disputes within the community | 6/6 SDs
- Disputes within the community | 0/6 SDs

### Interaction among different groups:

- Good interaction | 5/6 SDs
- No interaction | 2/6 SDs (Markaz Samarra, Amerli)

High percentage of KIs refused to answer social cohesion questions



**05**

# **Diyala Governorate**

# Diyala Governorate

## Profile overview

- Returning population

### Drivers

- Improved security conditions
- Nostalgia for previous life
- Camp closure

### Barriers

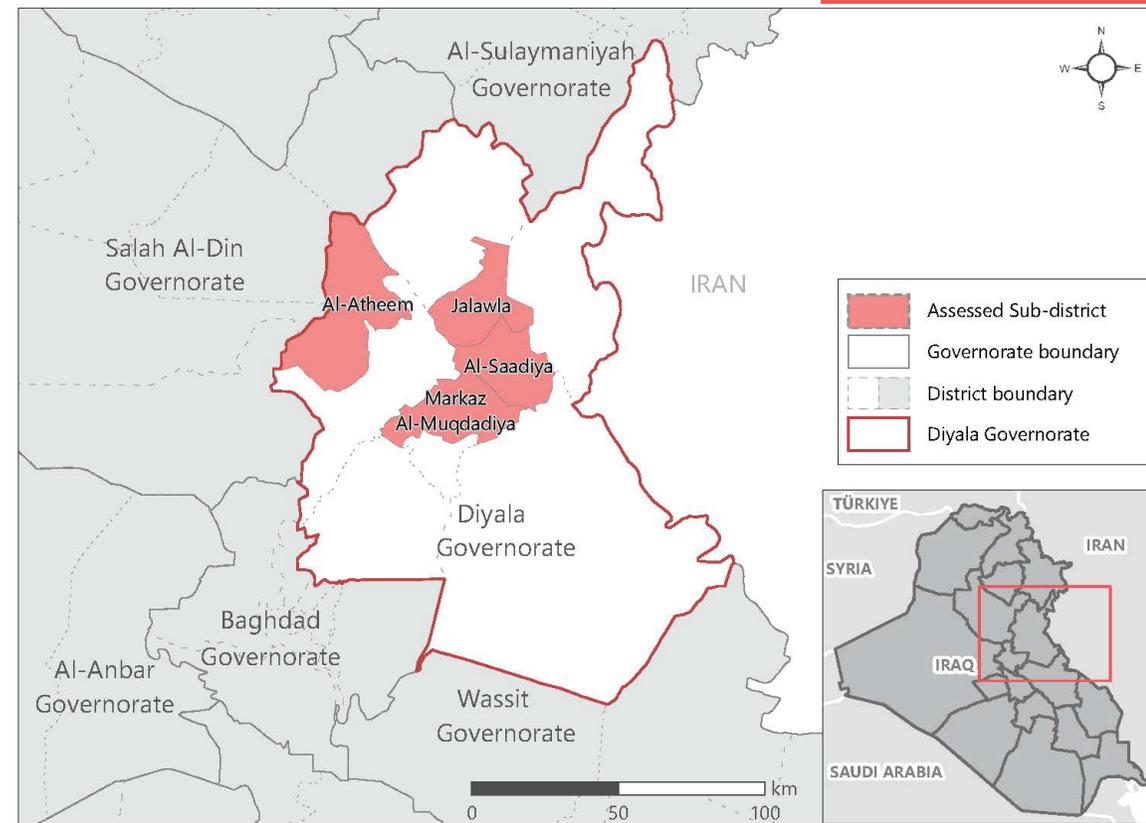
- House, Land, Property issues
- Lack of livelihoods
- Lack of public services

- Community needs

- Livelihoods
- Housing rehabilitation and compensation
- Healthcare

- Social Cohesion

- Stable in most of the assessed sub-districts.
- Interaction hindered sometimes by fear, discrimination and ethnic divisions



Data collection method	KI typology	#	Total	
Key Informant Interviews (KII)	171 Male KIs	23 Female KIs	<b>194</b>	
	Community leaders			49
	Returnees			67
	IDPs from the community			36
	IDPs in the community			18
	Subject Matter Experts (SMEs)			19
	Remainees		5	



# Return Movements

	2020	2021	2022	
	Markaz al-Muqdadiya (11 Kis)	Jalula (4 KIs)	al-Atheem (5 KIs)	al-Saadiya (5 KI)
<b>Drivers for returns</b>				
Increased security	11	1	4	-
Nostalgia	-	1	2	5
Camp Closure	3	2	-	-
Family reunification	-	-	1	-

## Impact of returns

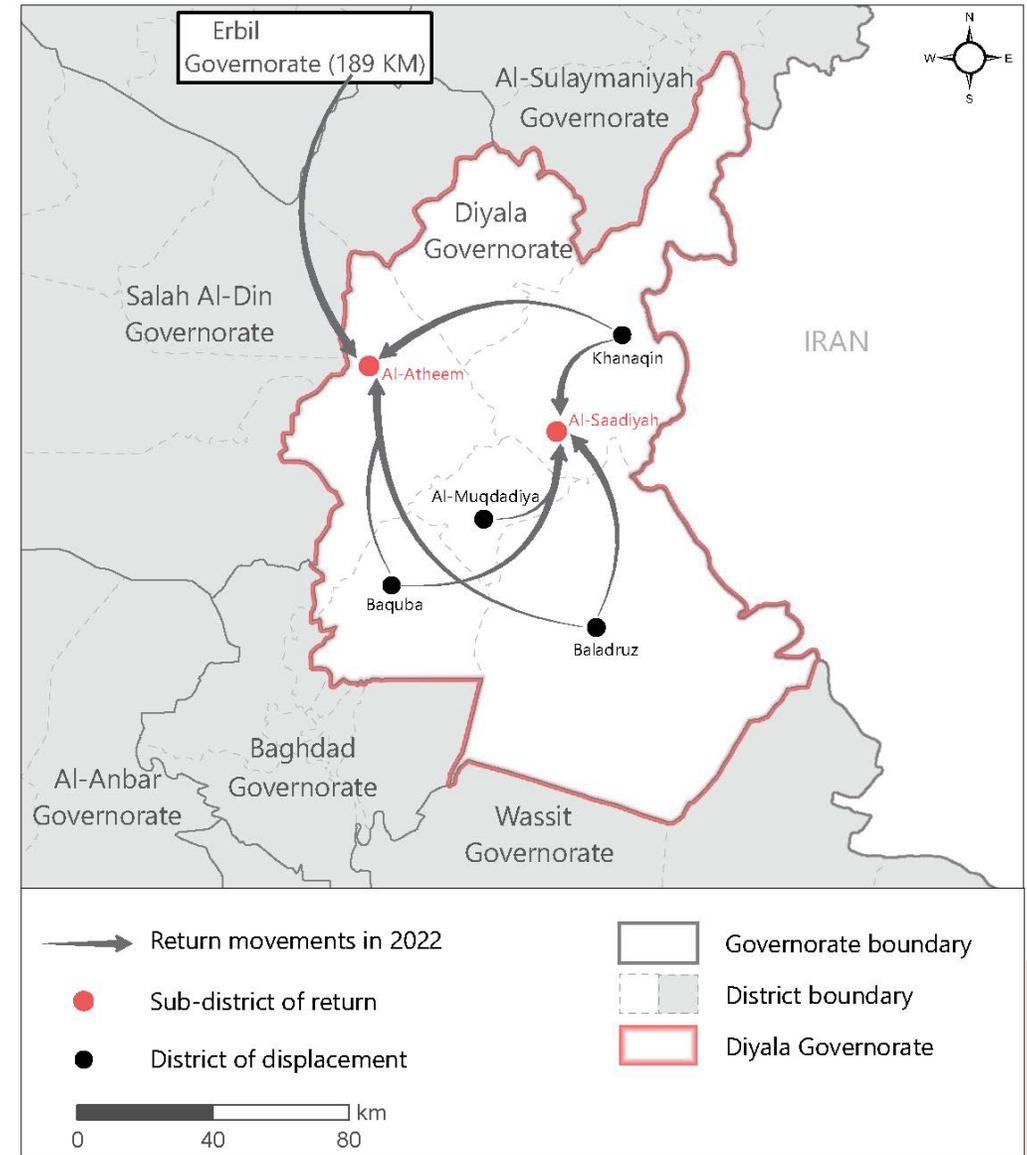
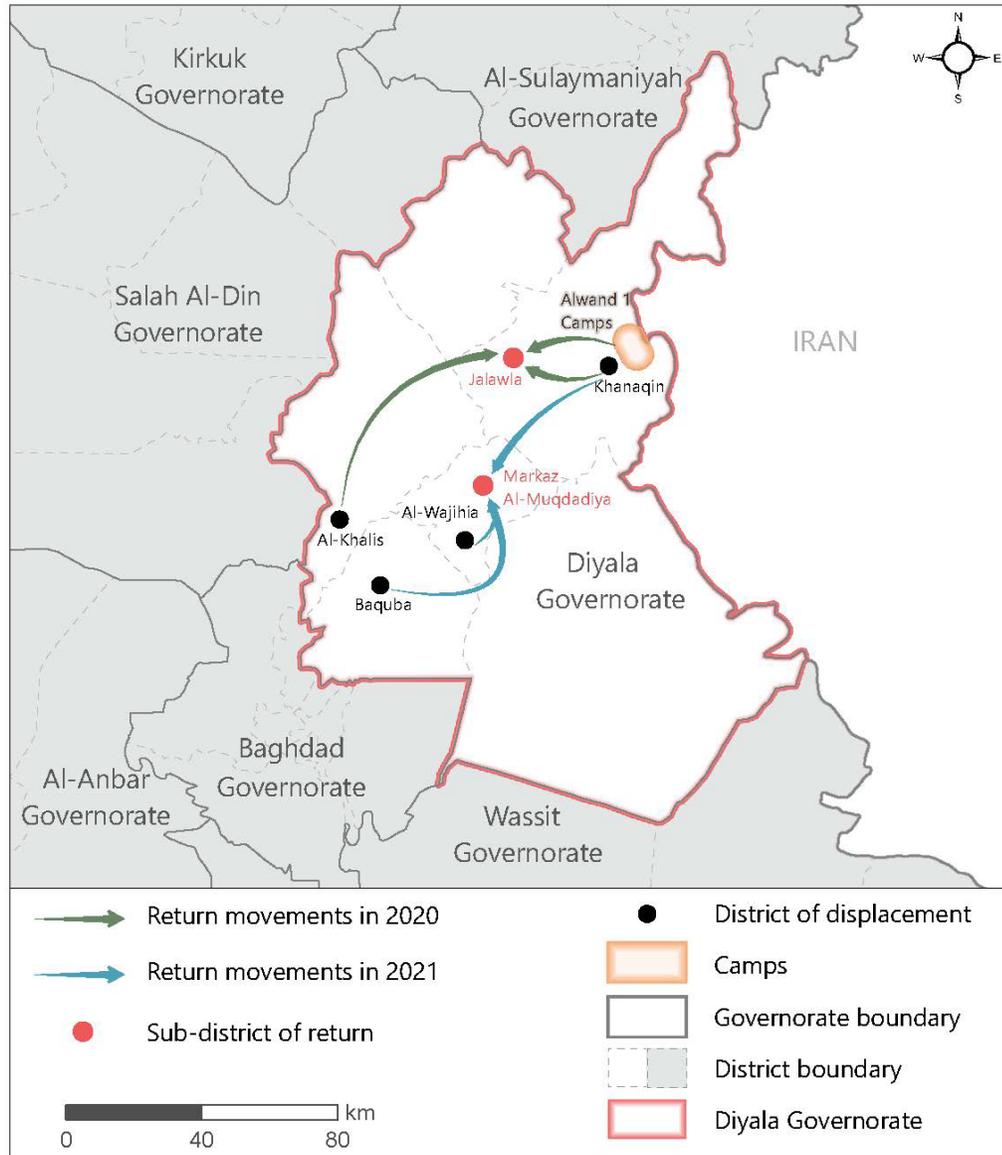
### Positive:

- Increased stability due to family reunification
- Increased job opportunities

### Negative:

- Increased competition for jobs
- Increased number of households in need

# Return movements to assessed sub-districts in Diyala Governorate 2020-2022



# Return barriers

## Top 3 reported barriers to return

- Housing damage (157/194 Kis)
- Lack of job opportunities (120/194 KIs)
- Lack of public services (87/194 Kis)

	2020	2021	2022	
	Markaz al-Muqdadiya (11 Kis)	Jalula (4 KIs)	al-Atheem (5 KIs)	al-Saadiya (5 KI)
<b>Access to housing and housing rehabilitation</b>				
Housing damage	33	46	32	46
Lack of property documents	11	-	-	-
<b>Access to livelihoods and basic public services</b>				
Lack of job opportunities	1	42	32	45
Limited access to basic public services	5	36	24	22
Limited access to medical treatment	9	15	2	-
<b>Access to safety and security</b>				
Fear of being perceived as ISIL affiliated	-	17	3	-
Security concerns in AoOs	-	3	3	1

# Community needs | Livelihoods

Sectors in which jobs were perceived to be more available

## Agriculture

- Lack of government support
- Lack of financial resources to afford seeds and fertilizers
- Water scarcity
- Damages to irrigation systems and facilities/machines
- No compensation for damage
- Presence of ERWs

## Construction

- Lack of reconstruction projects
- Lack of skilled labour
- Limited access to construction material

## Private sector

- Lack of investments
- Lack of compensation for damaged businesses
- Lack of trade

### Barriers to accessing jobs in respective sectors

#### Coping mechanisms to accessing livelihoods:

- Remain in displacement
- Move to another location to work
- Abandon agricultural fields
- Dig water wells illegally

# Community needs | Housing rehabilitation and compensation

## Barriers to accessing housing rehabilitation and compensation

### Housing rehabilitation

- High level of destruction
- Lack/limited/delayed reconstruction campaigns
- Lack of HHs financial resources
- Government neglect / lack of financial support
- Difficulties in accessing construction materials
- NGOs limited intervention

### Compensation

- Compensation not paid
- Lack of legal support
- Process long and complex
- Presence of intermediaries
- Lack of awareness
- Lack of financial allocation by the government
- Lack of advocacy to ensure compensation

### Coping mechanisms

- Living in a partially rehabilitated house
- Paying bribes
- Sharing shelter with multiple HHs
- Remain in displacement
- Renting house

# Community needs | Healthcare

## Barriers to access:

- Lack of medications
- Lack of staff
- Lack of equipment
- Lack and poor conditions of infrastructure
- Not enough capacity and poor quality of service
- Absence of public health centres in smaller villages

## Coping mechanisms:

- Travel to bigger urban centres for emergencies or specialized medical treatment
- Resort to local/private pharmacies for treatment and medications
- Resort to private and more expensive clinics
- Remain in displacement



# Access to public services

	2020	2021	2022	
	Markaz al-Muqdadiya (11 Kis)	Jalula (4 KIs)	al-Atheem (5 KIs)	al-Saadiya (5 KI)
Healthcare	18	23	36	51
Water	18	50	23	38
Education	-	50	31	8
Electricity	-	-	34	-

## Focus on access to water:

### Professional use:

- Not enough for irrigation | 2/4 SDs
- Not enough for livestock | 1/4 SD
- Not enough for workshops and factories | 2/4 SDs

### Domestic use:

- Not enough quantity | 4/4 SDs
- Bad quality | 4/4 SDs
- Poor/destroyed infrastructure | 4/4 SDs
- Lack of sewage and waste management | 3/4 SDs
- Access to water reduced due to returns | 2/4 SDs

### Coping mechanisms:

- Bottled water | 4/4 SDs
- Private water services (e.g. Water trucking) | 2/2 SDs
- Burning waste | 2/2 SDs
- Digging illegal wells | 1/4 SD
- Remaining in displacement | 1/4 SD
- Rationing water | 1/4 SD



# Integration and Social Cohesion

	2020	2021	2022	
	Markaz al-Muqdadiya (11 Kis)	Jalula (4 KIs)	al-Atheem (5 KIs)	al-Saadiya (5 KI)
Participation in decision making processes				
Yes	-	34	22	29
No	-	-	6	3

### Safety and Security:

- Population groups feeling safe | 4/4 SDs
- Population groups not feeling safe | 0/4 SDs

### Population groups feeling welcome:

- Welcome or very welcome | 4/4 SDs
- Not welcome | 0/4 SDs

### Disputes:

- No disputes within the community | 4/4 SDs
- Disputes within the community | 1/4 SD (al-Atheem)

### Interaction among different groups:

- Good interaction | 4/4 SDs
- No interaction | 1/4 SD (Jalula)

High percentage of KIs refused to answer social cohesion questions

A world map is shown in a light gray, semi-transparent style, overlaid on a background of a light gray geometric pattern of interconnected lines forming various polygonal shapes. The map shows the outlines of continents and countries. In the center of the map, the number '06' is displayed in a bold, red, sans-serif font.

**06**

# **Focus on Climate Change**



# Climate Change

## Cross-governorate findings on climate change

### Main reported phenomena:

- Water scarcity
- Droughts
- Increasing temperatures
- Crop failure
- Death of livestock
- Secondary displacement

### Coping mechanisms

- Digging illegal water wells
- Rationing water
- Remaining in displacement
- Abandoning agricultural fields

# Thank you for your attention



**REACH** Informing  
more effective  
humanitarian action