

Agenda

1. Review of Action Points from 12.11.20
2. Strategic & Thematic Updates:
 - a. Strategic Update from Ninewa / KR-I PWGs
 - b. Strategic Update from C/S PWG
 - c. Thematic Update from GBV Sub-Cluster
 - d. Thematic Update from Child Protection Sub-Cluster
 - e. Thematic Update from Mine Action Sub-Cluster
 - f. Thematic Update from HLP Sub-Cluster
 - h. Update from NPC – Update on Global HNO; Update on HRP; Update on Emergency Response for new returnees & Overview of advocacy initiatives; Launch of Protection Monitoring System
3. AOB

1. Review of Action Points from 12.11.20

N/A

2a. Strategic Update from KRI & Ninewa PWGs

Erbil

- Camp closure for IDP camps in KR-I have been suspended until 2021.
- As a result of the camp closures in Ninewa, a number of families of the closed Ninewa camps have arrived in the East Mosul camps. Camp management is yet to provide precise numbers on such families. Based on the information received by one of the protection partners in the camp the majority of these families are female headed-households with relatives in the camps. Reportedly the families are travelling with their belongings/NFIs are stopped at the PMF checkpoint, while the families who were able to pass the checkpoint travelled without luggage. The respective Camp managements have registered these families in the camps.
- One of the protection partners in Erbil has started conducting exit surveys for IDPs in the urban area to find out their reasons for deciding to their areas of origin. The exit survey developed by CCCM has been modified to reflect the urban context. The protection partner is conducting these surveys for returning families who are identified through other protection activities as well through MoDM Erbil. After greenlight from MoDM Baghdad, MoDM Erbil has started to share the information of IDP families who have approached MoDM for their return letter. MoDM Erbil will share this list every 2 weeks. The first results of the exit surveys conducted will be shared in January.

Sulymaniah

- **Camp closures in Suleymaniah postponed:** During October, 62 exit survey were conducted. Out of the 62 cases, 17 cases were forced to depart from the camp, while the remaining 45 cases returned voluntarily (15 cases from Arbat IDP camp, 42 cases from Ashti camp, one case from Qoratu camp, and four cases from Tazade camp).

Dohuk

- **Assist resumption:** UNHCR together with its implementing partners is in final stages of the plan to start resuming household level assessments through household visits/observations in urban locations and enrolment at IDP camps with strict compliance of COVID 19 prevention and health/hygiene measures.
- **Returns to Ninewa:** Overall, since June 2020, as per the latest DJCC/DMCR statistics of 23 November, some 7,281 families of 36,754 individuals returned from Duhok governorate (4,874 families of 24,768 individuals from camps and 2,407 families of 11,986 individuals from urban locations) to their areas of origin, primarily within Sinjar of Ninewa. Returns reasons remain the same: lack of job opportunities in the area of displacement; employment opportunities in the area of origin/intended return; family reunification; and perception of improved security situation in the area of origin/intended return. UNHCR trend analysis suggest that returns will continue in the coming weeks as at least another 47 families /238 individuals have signed up for return and are awaiting the

subsequent clearance. Some sources (yet to be verified) indicate the return of 200 IDP families back to Duhok (previously returned from Duhok to Ninewa), but none of the actors on the ground in Duhok is in the position to corroborate such information.

- **Covid-19** infection rates in Duhok are reportedly on the rise, especially in IDP camps. It was reported that POCs avoid doing Covid-19 test fearing to be isolated and therefore be unable to carry out income-generating activities they rely on for survival.

Ninewa

- **Camp closures:** HAA and Jeddah 1 were closed and the families from those camps left to areas of origin, or other areas in Ninewa governorates where they have been secondary displaced. Some 120 HHs moved from HAA to Jeddah 5. Protection partners conducted initial protection needs assessments and identified shelter, food and wash as main needs. The inter-cluster response is being coordinated by OCHA, and in the ICCG Ninewa a mapping tool as been shared and all clusters, including protection partners have participated to identify areas in which support can be provided.

- **Protection partners have started conducting protection monitoring, some on HH level especially in areas of return due to camp closures:** UNHCR together with its implementing partners has resumed ASSIST enrolment activities targeting areas of return from HAA and other IDP camps and it will pave the way for future multi-purpose cash assistance if found to be vulnerable according to the criteria. Protection Monitors have been active in the following neighbourhoods of Mosul: Intessar, Samah, Zahra, Nabi-Younis, Hermat, Mamoon, Rajem Haded, Wadi Hajar, Zenjili, Tal Aroman, Nahrawan, Hemedat, Yarimja, Al Resala, Nables, and Hammam Al-Alil. This has resulted in the enrollment of 170 families to date.

- **Civil Affairs Directorate (CAD) missions in IDP camps in Ninewa:** Protection partners have discussed pending cases from HAA camp which were not completed before camp closure, agreed that CAD would share the list of cases to allow the follow up once they are processed. Regarding the issue of missing documentation in Jeddah 5 and Salamiyah camps, CAD agreed to send a mobile team from its Qayyarah centre. Ninewa intelligence has agreed to provide an officer to join the CAD team. As per the recent practice in HAA camp, intelligence will stamp the files of all persons without documentation regardless if they have perceived affiliations or not. Only those persons against whom the authorities hold an arrest warrant will be denied documentation. Protection partners have conducted awareness raising sessions with the camp populations prior to the first visit of the CAD mobile team. The first ever mobile CAD mission took place to Jeddah camp on 8 of December and 240 individuals submitted their requests for new IDs.

- **Access to legal services:** last week the legal task force meeting in Ninewa was held with all active legal actors in the governorate. The Tabreea process was discussed a mapping is to be initiated on how many cases in Ninewa are approaching legal partners asking for assistance with the Tabreea process. Protection partners also reported on serious MHPSS issues affecting FHHs especially in relation to Tabreea and perceived affiliation, which have worsened in the context of recent camps closure. In particular, the following issues/incidents have been reported:

- Complex protection cases of FHH with perceived affiliation, in which undergoing the Tabreea process is often required, are affecting the mental health of the concerned individuals and leading to attempted suicides. There have been at least two cases of widows with their children who tried to commit suicide near the Old Bridge in Mosul, due to their husbands' affiliation.
- Fear is widespread among widows whose husbands were with perceived affiliations. In particular, they are afraid of being identified and are unable to proceed with legal procedures to obtain birth certificates or other civil documents. Some have been harassed and are afraid of sexual exploitation and arrests. Many cases of harassment were reported when widows or divorced women have tried to obtain legal certificates.
- The refusal of the HHs and FHH to complete the Tabreea process results in lack of security clearances, which in turns leaves the families without the appropriate legal documentation and unable to register their children at school.
- These issues were especially prevalent in camps have become more acute after camps closures. Many HHs were unable to return to their AoO and are facing difficulties in terms of access to legal documentation, which stigmatizes them even further and risks further marginalization.

- **Syrian family detained in Mosul:** A Syrian family was detained while irregularly crossing the border from Syria into Iraq. The family was initially detained in the main intelligence office in Mosul city center. It appears that this family may have been picked up by the new deployment of federal police along the border, and brought to Mosul, instead of being kept at the border areas in Rabia'a or Sinuni, as was done previously. One of the protection partners was informed later that the family would be transferred to Faysalyah Police station in Mosul. Protection colleagues visited the detained family and conducted a protection assessment.

2b. Strategic Update from Central-South PWGs

Anbar

- At least 4 families who recently returned from camps to their places of origin in Ramadi and Fallujah have decided to sell their homes and buy new ones to change residency given fear of community retaliation due to perceived affiliation with extremists.
- At least 68 HHs in AAF originating from Khairat sub-district and Zoba'a area (Anbar/Baghdad border) have been informed they may return to their AoO if they wish. Anbar and Baghdad Operations Commands have discussed coordination of the returns, but no timeline has been provided as of now. 12 HHs thus far have registered.
- Two men with a perceived affiliation with extremists were arrested in the marketplace of AAF camp. Forces were thought to be from Baghdad Operations Command working with Anbar security actors. A partial curfew was imposed and weapons were carried into camp.

Baghdad

- There are indications that Baghdad Operations Command is conducting a campaign in the governorate to identify persons living there without residency. An unknown number of IDPs from Al Shams and Al Ahel camps have remained in Abu Ghraib district and have been approached.

Kirkuk

- Following closure of Laylan camp, some returnee families have reported both problems with community members in their areas of origin and shelter damage/lack of services. At least four HHs who moved to Hawiga instead of their AoO have been asked to move back to their villages, despite their villages being totally destroyed. Kirkuk authorities noted that families not originating from Kirkuk city should not be allowed to settle, creating fears of HHs who are living there informally of eviction.

Salah al-Din

Al Karama

- Al Karama camp officially closed, with a majority of HHs being sponsored by local authorities in Beiji, Al Siniyah and Al Shirqat. For at least four days before the camp was closed, local police – reportedly on orders of Salah al-Din Operations Command—would not allow NGOs to access the site without obtaining permission from the Governor of Salah al-Din's Advisor for IDPs. This was not communicated in advance, and partners were forced to meet with families at the fence when possible. A handful of families have faced issues with return, including community members or local sheikhs not accepting return despite pleas from the Governor of Salah al-Din and MoDM to expedite reconciliation processes. An attack on one HH in Al Shirqat was reported on 8 December. No casualties were reported.
- A large number of returnees in Shirqat and Seneya districts have expressed their concerns in relation to lack of basic services and livelihood opportunities. Further, it is also reported that some families are facing difficulties in terms of accessing health facilities as they have elderly people who need specialized medical assistance. Returnees have raised the issue of not having received the return grant until now.

Returns to Sayed Ghareeb

- On 3 December, 25 HHs returned to Sayed Gharib in Al Dujail under the supervision of the Governor of Salah al-Din and the head of PMF In Dujail and Yahtrib and the MoDM Director for SAD. Families completed procedures for return, including reception of returns badges. However, as a majority of shelter, health care and water infrastructure remain completely destroyed, families will remain in rented homes in other areas of Al Dujail as they rebuild their homes. The director of the SAD MoDM has asked for support from the humanitarian community given that the area has not had returns due to occupation by security actors and no services.

Security in Yathrib

- Fear and anxiety among returnee families is reported in Al Mazarea area in Yathrib sub district due to the instability of the security situation, especially after the recent security incidents in the area. Some HHs have voiced they will be renting homes in Ad-Duluiyah if the situation worsens.

2c. Thematic Update from GBV Sub-Cluster

- **IHF:** The cost extension + geographical expansion requests have been fully approved, following which, the consortium partners will begin interventions in the newly added geographical areas. In view of the possible IHF funding to support rapid response to new arrivals due to camp closures, the GBV SC shared with IHF team, target and funding requirement, with proposed interventions. The target is based on the most recent DTM data and is subject to change in the coming weeks because of a very fluid situation.
- **16 Days of Activism Campaign:** The campaign remained highly engaging among the GBV SC members. Members of other clusters, and UN agencies also took part in the campaign, in partnership with members of the GBV SC. The campaign emphasized that gender-based violence (GBV) is a violation of human rights; is a public health issue, and that the consequences could be life threatening, hence, working together to address GBV is a shared responsibility. The campaign also emphasised on the need of engaging govt partners, to foster greater initiative, leadership and ownership of addressing GBV in Iraq.
- **GBVIMS+ Roll-out updates:** Translation of the GBVIMS+ tools to Badini and Sorani is completed, pending validation, after which the system will be set up with the two Kurdish dialects. Arabic is already set up in the system.
- **GBVIMS Data Analysis of Quarter 3** is shared widely with relevant stakeholders, including NPC coordination for wider dissemination. The narrative report highlights some of the key trends and emerging issues of GBV. The analysis indicates that incidents of GBV increased against people living with disabilities in the third quarter, which is a cause of concern for all humanitarian actors, and requires prioritization of the protection needs of people living with disabilities.

2d. Thematic Update from Child Protection Sub-Cluster

- **HRP 2021:** The CP intervention/activities for HRP 2021 are: (Case Management, CBCPM, Identification & Referral, Awareness Raising, PSS, Parenting Program, Civil Documentation, Child/Youth Clubs, Legal Services, Training of Gov. & NGO staff, Coaching of Gov. & NGO staff and Advocacy). The prioritized districts are similar to HRP 2020 but in different order.
- **CMWG** conducted Case Trends Analysis for partners providing CM services. 8 NNGO, 10 INGO and 2 Gov. partners participated in the exercise. Neglect, emotional and physical abuse and child labour were the highest. Other sensitive issues like UASC, sexual abuse, CAFAAG, and Child Mother were also reported. The narrative and will be shared soon.
- **PSS TF** is compiling the content used by partners for remote PSS. With the school re-opening, the TF is preparing for the possibility of resuming structured PSS in smaller groups with developing a guidance for using safe spaces during the COVID-19 outbreak.
- **Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring CCPM:** email has been shared with partners to share their feedback on the cluster performance and the deadline has been extended to January 2021. Partners can access the CCPM through this [link](#).
- **Capacity Building:** Open session on Prevention and Respond to WFCL will be on 15th Dec. at 10 am invitation has been shared with partners. MRM Training for partners operating in Erbil is ongoing in Dec. and new MRM trainings will be planed for other location in 2021.

2e. Thematic Update from Mine Action Sub-Cluster

- **Operations update:** New clearance programs in Sinjar and Hamdaniya in 2021. Non-Technical Survey started in Al- Qaim in Anbar in November. New clearance partnership between national and international NGOs in Ramadi and another new partnership for explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) capacity building in Anbar. EORE continues in Salamiya and Jedaa5 camps and a discussion is ongoing to cover AAF camp. Visa issue still a challenge for international NGOs and impact their operations
- **Meetings of the Directorate of Mine Action (DMA) with NGOs** to discuss operational issues such as task orders, visas and priorities for 2021. The DMA advised partners to submit project proposals to receive recommendation letters before submitting to donors. The DMA stressed the priority activities are clearance and technical survey, and to increase victim assistance. In addition to address mine action gaps in the central and southern parts of Iraq.
- **Coordination meeting in Anbar** was held with the Deputy Governor, ISF, DMA, DNGO and mine action partners to advocate for more clearance efforts of contaminated lands in areas prioritized by the DMA and the government of Anbar. The authorities agreed to address access and visa issues of humanitarian partners to facilitate operations.

- **MA AoR and CP AoR donor event- explosive ordnance child casualties** will be held to mobilize support for HRPs proposed activities and projects in aim to reduce casualties and support child survivors in most affected countries such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria and Yemen.

2f. Thematic Update from HLP Sub-Cluster

- **Second Workshop on Compensation:** HLP Sub-cluster, in close coordination with TtDPK organized the second (to days) workshop on 4-5 December with Central Compensation Committees, Martyrs Foundation, Public Prosecutor Office, Human Rights Commission and Shoura Council. to draft the new guidelines for the compensation-related issues based on the newly amended law (Law 2 of 2020) and how to operationalize the guidelines. It is expected that the new compensation guidelines, will clarify the roles of the committees, will divide the competences between the property compensation committees and the Martyrs Foundation and the rest categories entitled for compensation, as well as to clarify the geographical coverage between central compensation committees. HLP Sub-cluster highlighted the issues, challenges and recommendations related to process, procedures based on the surveys, assessments and the work monitored by HLP partners, and presented some examples of how to simplify the process and the procedure for filing the compensation claims. The draft will be submitted to COMSEC for review and comments.
- **Property Compensation Claims Submitted in 2020:** In December, HLP Sub-cluster had a meeting with Judge Ameer Al Bayati, the Head of Central Compensation Committee to discuss the prioritization of the disbursement for the damaged/destroyed properties. The Head of Compensation Committee highlighted that this year the amount for financial disbursement is lower than previous years due to pandemic COVID-29 and delay approval of 2020 budget. The Central Compensation Committee highlighted that as of September 2020, there are 4,100 claims submitted and approved by the Central Compensation Committee. Of them 3,000 cases in Anbar, 700 in Ninewa, 250 in Kirkuk and 150 in Baghdad. In addition, from February to September 2020, approximately 53,404,600,703 IQD were disbursed to 1,423 successful claimants to compensate for their damaged properties.
- **Awareness Activities in Sinjar:** In Sinjar, HLP SC partners started to distribute legal awareness-raising material on the issues related to the Iraqi law on rent. The awareness material aims to inform the returnees and tenants about the importance and the rental procedures, a how they can be protected in case of any threat of eviction. Additionally, HLP partners have been distributing information material on the HLP services and the availability of the hotlines for the ones who are at risk of eviction or if their properties are occupied illegally to seek legal support. Community focal points are in the process to be established to monitor the situation with forced evictions that may occur due to the increased number of returns. This will be coordinated with community leaders who will be supporting HLP partners to address the issues related to evictions and also it intends to develop a reporting mechanism through a communication network to report eviction cases in Sinjar

2h. Updates from NPC

Global Humanitarian Overview (GHNO)

- Launched on 1 December 2020. 235 million people worldwide recorded as being in need of humanitarian assistance in 2021 - an increase of 40 per cent in a year. UN-coordinated response plans aim to reach 160 million of those most in need of life-saving support in 56 countries affected by humanitarian crisis. The estimated cost is \$35 billion.

HRP 2021

- In 2021, NPC plans to reach 155,000 IDPs in camps, 444,800 IDPs out of camps and 1,646,000 returnees with protection services in 34 priority districts.
- NPC's response strategy: (i) delivery of protection assistance to the most vulnerable IDPs in- and out-of-camp and returnees; (ii) scale-up of outreach and services in out-of-camp locations for IDPs and returnees; (iii) prioritization of community-based protection programming in out-of-camp and returnee areas; (iv) addressing barriers to durable solutions for IDPs in- and out-of-camps and returnees; (v) strengthening the capacity of authorities, communities and existing protection systems. Linkages with stabilization and development actors will represent a strategic priority. Direct and remote implementation of services and monitoring will be implemented based on need and context for a flexible response.

Response to camp closure

HCT Approach and principles

- **Overall approach:** Recognition that camp closure require specific attention due to increased vulnerabilities. There is no dedicated response plan since the caseload and activities are already integrated into HRP 2020/2021. Focus on timeliness & sequencing of the response to adapt interventions
- **Guiding principles:** Focus on a needs based rather than a status based response (impartiality). Avoid creating tensions between returnees/IDPs/host communities (do no harm, conflict sensitivity). Provide assistance to all vulnerable HHs based on needs assessments. Do not target solely new returnees/IDPs only because of their status. Include previous returnees & host communities through area-based interventions

HCT Sequencing of interventions

- **Phase 1 – During camp closure & movements:** No interventions that would facilitate camps closure process ⇒ GoI's decision (independence) and coerced movements (do no harm). Assistance during preparations or movements limited to life-saving interventions to mitigate worst effect of camps closure
- **Phase 2 – Upon arrival at destination:** To take place both areas of return and secondary displacement. Focus on priority activities to address acute needs (reference to ICCG guidance below). Rapid & flexible interventions by using existing programmes and shifting resources.
- **Phase 3 – Post immediate response:** Inclusion of the caseload into regular programming, i.e. all HRP activities. Long-term assistance referred to Durable Solutions & Stabilization actors.

ICCG response plan

- **Overview:** Developed by ICCG at national level. Corresponds to "Phase 2" of sequenced intervention, i.e. immediate response. It covers both areas of return and secondary displacement. It is built into the HRP and outlines priority activities and technical standards.
- **Protection: Priority activities include** protection monitoring, case management, PSS, cash for protection, community-based protection, Explosive Ordnance Risk Education, dignity Kits and GBV information dissemination.

NPC/CCCM response plan

- **Overview:** It complements the ICCG response plan and includes actions in camps & during transit (phase 1) and at destination (phase 2). It can be used for preparedness and planning in remaining camps in Ninewa (Salamiyah, Jeddah) and KRI.
- **In-camps:** It covers key actions related to Communication with Community (messaging, information on services at destination etc.), movement tracking (process to track departures and monitor intentions) and protection (protection by presence & protection monitoring, identification of HH unable to return, prioritization of high-risk cases and transfer actors in areas of destination etc.)
- **During transit:** It outlines limited interventions related to material assistance (only to life-saving interventions) and protection (ad hoc protection monitoring).
- **In areas of return / secondary displacement:** The plan outline and further describe key protection interventions identical and is coherent with the broader ICCG response plan.

Advocacy

- **Engagement with GoI:** Regular and bilateral meetings between the RC/HC and MoDM Minister have taken place. A high-level meeting involving the GoI (Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Planning and Displacement, KRG Ministry of Interior), the UN (RC/HC & heads of agencies), as well as foreign diplomats took place. The GoI announced that 3 camps would remain open in federal Iraq for the time being (Jeddah, Salamiyah & AAF). The KRG committed to not forcibly close camps in the near future. The humanitarian leadership restated that it is not opposed to closing camps as such and is ready to support the GoI to achieve durable solutions, but also advocated for the respect of IDPs' rights and requested sufficient time for preparations. It was also pointed out that the forced camps closure and related displacement and acute humanitarian needs adversely impacts Iraq's development & stabilization

Protection Monitoring System

- **Updates:** 12 partners are involved and will cover a total of 18 governorates, 106 districts, 156 sub-districts. Over 200 staff members have been trained on Community-level monitoring in November. Trainings on Incidents reporting will take place in January.
- **Timeline:** 1st round of data collection to take place on 6-31 December 2020. The new dashboard will be developed throughout January 2021. The dashboard and first report will be published early February 2021. Thereafter, the cycle of data collection and analysis will be quarterly.

3. AOB

N/A