

# SUPPORTING DURABLE SOLUTIONS TO DISPLACEMENT

## DOHUK, SINJAR, AND BA'AJ





Kingdom of the Netherlands

## FROM 2020 TO MARCH 2024

### OVERVIEW

Facilitated voluntary returns and relocation<sup>1</sup> interventions aim to support affected populations addressing their situations of protracted displacement respecting voluntariness, in safety and with dignity. Interventions utilize a multisectoral holistic approach to respond to household and community level needs and enable access to durable solutions pathways and sustainable reintegration. Between 2020 and 2024, IOM has supported 4,021 HHs displaced in Anbar, Diyala, Ninewa and Salahaddin with the full program package, in addition to 2,881 HHs were provided with assistance after they returned or relocated through other processes



4,021

HHs supported to return or relocate.



6,286

HHs supported with grants.<sup>1</sup>



1,543

HHs supported with Livelihood.



1,338

HHs supported with reconstruction.



### A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH

#### PHASE 1

Decision Making grants.

Activities aim to support displaced people in their decision-making process regarding their preferred solutions, ensuring decisions are voluntary and informed.

#### PHASE 2

Preparing with Communities

Activities to facilitate assessment and planning processes to improve conditions in areas of settlement.

#### PHASE 3

Departure

Activities to facilitate safe departures and provision of services.

#### PHASE 4

Multi-sectoral Interventions

Multi-sectoral area-based interventions to support reintegration efforts and post return monitoring.

<sup>1</sup> Including household departing through FVM and post departure from Jadaa (household supported by Iraqi government)

## MULTI-SECTORAL AREA-BASED PROGRAMMING IN AREAS OF ORIGIN

IOM has worked for many years in Sinjar to support communities affected by the conflict to recover and thrive again. Through the Durable Solutions programme, IOM has been linking support in areas of origin that have so far witnessed limited returns, with FVM support to IDPs from these areas to enable them to have a possibility to return and reintegrate if they choose to do so. In using a settlement approach, the IOM intervention includes infrastructure rehabilitation and restoration of access to basic services, housing rehabilitation and reconstruction, access to legal assistance and HLP rights, economic recovery, strengthening of community participation and initiatives, and civil society engagement.










Since 2019, IOM has been working in the following communities:

Sinjar district	Markaz Sinjar - Duguri
Baaj district Qahtaniya sub-district	Tel Qassab - Tel Banat - Tel Ezer - Seebay Shekheder - Rambousi Wardiya - Sikiniya - Ger Zerek

**Infrastructure rehabilitation** in areas of origin is an essential part of the multi-sectoral approach benefiting host communities and supporting returnees to better integrate.

Since 2017, IOM implemented **40 infrastructure projects** in Sinjar district.

Over **196,600 individuals** benefited from the below projects:

	<b>Electricity</b>	<b>9</b>
	<b>Education</b>	<b>8</b>
	<b>Health</b>	<b>8</b>
	<b>WASH</b>	<b>8</b>
	<b>Environmental</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>Income generation</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>Recreational</b>	<b>2</b>

In addition, **housing and livelihood assistance** is provided based on eligibility to returnees through the FVM programme, spontaneous returnees and to community members already residing in those areas. Since 2018, IOM have provided and plans to provide:

Services	Completed	Ongoing and planned in 2024
<b>Housing rehabilitation or reconstruction</b>	<b>533 houses</b>	<b>73 houses</b>
<b>EPW</b>	<b>475 individuals</b>	
<b>ILA</b>	<b>560 businesses</b>	
<b>EDF</b>	<b>156 businesses 710 jobs created</b>	

## PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL ORGANISATIONS IN SINJAR

Since March 2023, IOM have a partnership agreement with Sinjar Consortium formed by four organisations including Youth Bridge Development Organization, Sinjar Academy, Bassma Organization for Development, and We Are With You Organization. The Consortium had implemented various community activities including:

### Activities in schools

Planting trees	Seven schools in Tel Ezer, Sibay Shaikhedre, Aamara, Rambousi, Wardiya, and Raska.	100 trees were planted and over 70 students were enrolled in these activities.
Mural painting	Seven schools in Tel Ezer, Sibay Shaikhedre, Aamara, Rambousi, Wardiya, and Raska.	70 students were enrolled in these activities.
School marathon	Five schools in Tel Ezer, Sibay Shaikhedre, Rambousi, Wardiya, and Raska.	50 students participated.
Sports competition for teachers	14 schools in Sinjar and Qahtaniya.	210 teachers participated.
Scientific competition	Five schools in Tel Ezer, Sibay Shaikhedre, Rambousi, and Wardiya.	75 students participated.



## Activities in community

Streets and communal areas cleaning campaign and awareness raising	In Tel Ezer	50 volunteers participated.
Painting the sidewalk in Qaytanyah	In Sibay Shaikhedre	25 volunteers participated.
Planting trees in public services departments	In Tel Ezer	15 volunteers participated.



## YOUTH GROUP SUPPORT

In Sibay Shaikhedre IOM identified a volunteer youths' group which actively supported their communities, the majority of whom were recent returnees. The activities conducted by this group included collecting community statistics, raising awareness, and cleaning the homes of households planning to return. IOM collaborated with the youth group to establish a community center which was officially open in March 2024.

In addition, IOM has been implementing a comprehensive capacity building plan designed with the youths and tailored to cover their learning gaps. These trainings aimed to address needs in the community and other areas of interest for the youths related to protection, PSEA, safe identification and referrals of vulnerable groups/individuals, services and stakeholders mapping, community mobilization techniques, conflict resolution, communication with communities, proposal writing and budgeting, information management and data protection.

## MOVEMENTS FROM SINJAR MOUNTAIN INFORMAL SITES

In 2022, IOM facilitated departures for IDPs in Sinjar Mountain informal sites. After a sensitization campaign between August and September 2022, in different sites in Sinjar Mountain, 1,402 households registered with the IOM facilitated Voluntary Movement (FVM) programme. In the first phase, 205 households attended Go-and-See visits to their AoOs as of November 2023. Since December 2022 till November 2023: 175 households returned to their areas of origin in Sinjar, Qahtaniya, and Al Jazira. Following their return, all households received supporting grants. In addition, 41 of these households benefitted from shelter rehabilitation or reconstruction assistance and 21 households of livelihoods assistance. Post-return protection monitoring and reintegration monitoring was then carried out with a sample of the households that had been supported.



### GO & SEE VISITS

During the visits, help desks are established in areas of destination:

- IOM engineers conduct technical assessments of shelter damage,
- IOM legal teams gather necessary information to verify families' housing, land, and property ownership documentation.
- MHPSS teams are available to support families that are experiencing stress of trauma as a result of the visit.

## MOVEMENTS FROM DOHUK CAMPS TO SINJAR AND BA'AJ



In 2021, IOM initiated discussions with officials in the governorates of Duhok and Ninewa to launch the FVM programme for IDPs in Duhok camps wanting to return to Sinjar. On October 2021, Durable Solutions Workshop was conducted for officials from Ninewa and Duhok to agree on launching the FVM programme. For the pilot phase and in coordination with relevant authorities in Dohuk and Ninewa, Shariya and Bersive 1 camps were selected for the FVM programme based on pre-identified factors such as IDPs return levels, service conditions in the camps, and main AoOs of camps population.

In the summer of 2023, after completing the pilot phase, IOM organised a lesson-learnt workshop with community representatives, authorities from Ninewa, Dohuk and Sinjar, to identify strengths and weaknesses of the initial implementation phase and discuss an appropriate way forward. As a result of these discussions, a number of changes were made to the programme, some key ones included registration carried out across all camps and the most vulnerable informal settlements across Dohuk and Zakho and strictly linked to areas of origin of the IDPs.



## PILOT PHASE - BERSIVE 1 AND SHARIYA CAMPS

In June 2022, in coordination with DMCR Dohuk, IOM registered in Bersive 1 camp 327 IDP households and in Shariya 364 households interested in the FVM program. As of November 2023, 67 households from Bersive 1 and 158 from Shariya participated in Go-and-See visits to Markaz Sinjar, Tal-Azer, and Sibay Shaikhedre.

Five rounds of facilitated voluntary returns were supported by IOM between January and November 2023, involving 142 households from Bersive 1 camp and 243 from Shariya camp returning to multiple locations across Sinjar and Qahtaniya sub-district. Following their return, all households received DS grants. For households returning to Markaz Sinjar, Tel Ezer and Seebay Shekheder housing assistance was given to 169 households and livelihood support were provided to 206 households. A sample of 109 households were surveyed as part of the programmatic reintegration monitoring to understand their experience and needs post-return and their progress towards solutions.



## SECON PHASE – DOHUK AND ZAKHO CAMPS AND VULNERABLE INFORMAL SITES

In late 2023, IOM launched a new registration for families originating from: Ger Zerek, Rambousi, and Sikiniya in Qahtaniya sub-district of Ba'aj, and from Duguri in Sinjar district. As of February 2024, a total of 4,795 households across 13 camps (Kabarto 1, Kabarto 2, Essyan, MamRashan, Sheikhan, Shariya, Dawoudiya, Rwanga, Bersive 1, Bersive 2, Darkar, and Khanke, Bajid Kandala, Chamishko, Derabon) and 10 vulnerable informal sites (Seje, Shariya complex, Kharbabka, Firqa, Darka, Kochka Honari, New Zinya, Qasr Yazdin, Old Mam Shvana, Kherava, and Feishkhabour) have expressed their interest in the project and registered to take part in the FVM. As of March 2024, 87 households returned to Ger Zerek, Rambousi, Sikiniya, and Duguri. IOM will support the families through the same process as during the pilot phase.

