GP20 in Iraq

Global Protection Cluster Conference

1 June, 2018

Iraq Context

- Formal **declaration of end of conflict** by GoI (Dec 2018)

- As of 15 April 2018, DTM has identified 2,145,594 IDPs across Iraq, and 3,675,876 returnees

- **HRP 2018 is 18% funded** as of 15 May 2018

- **General protection**: access to civil documentation remains a challenge; significant protection incidents related to armed actor presence in camps; collective punishment against families with perceived affiliations; forced returns

- **GBV**: High numbers of female headed households; Low reporting on GBV cases due to fear and retaliation; high trauma needs and long term psychosocial needs; GBV /risk due to armed actors in camps/settlements; limited capacity of government to provide GBV support; poor quality of safe houses for survivors

- **CP**: Access to birth certificates and ID; children w/ perceived affiliations (denial of services, sexual exploitation, revenge, detention); child recruitment/ children associated with armed groups; psychosocial distress from prolonged displacement and uncertainty

- **HLP**: Widespread HLP damage and destruction (incl. lost, missing, damaged HLP documents), secondary occupation, forced evictions, unlawful seizure of HLP, in retaken areas; establishment of HLP compensation mechanisms uneven and no budgetary allocation; HLP restitution tied to restoration of rule of law/courts; barriers for women to access HLP rights

- **MA**: Widespread explosive hazard contamination in retaken areas, impeding safe returns and humanitarian access; liability issues related to clearance activities in private homes, some used as munition factories; data collection and reporting mechanism issues

Participation of IDPs

- **Communication with Communities (CwC) Task Force**, under the NPC, with a focus on inter-Cluster technical support and coordination on two-way communication and AAP
  - **"Know Before You Go" messaging** for IDPs contemplating return to their areas of origin
  - Leaflets on legal assistance using non-technical language
  - Non-politicization of humanitarian aid, during electoral period
  - Measles prevention campaign
  - AAP: harmonization of Complaint & Feedback Mechanisms (CFM) across Clusters
- **AAP: IDP Call Centre** receives complaints & feedback from IDPs & returnees, including on protection issues, and is the primary data source on SEA allegations for PSEA Network
- **CCCM Intentions Survey**s in camps in context of camp consolidation & closure, as well as premature and forced returns to areas of origin
- Facilitating **IDP participation in parliamentary elections** of 12 May 2018:
  - PC's Operational Elections Guidance
  - Election Incidents Tracking and related advocacy
- **Challenges**: engagement of IDPs with perceived affiliations w/o contributing to their stigmatization; ensuring due regard to data privacy considerations vs. demands for IDP data from government / security actors; uneven commitment to IDP participation and their expressed intentions among all stakeholders (particularly government authorities)

Laws and Policies on Internal Displacement

▶ **Humanitarian policy:**

  ▶ HCT Protection Strategy of 2015 (largely no longer referenced, and outdated);

  ▶ Principled Engagement Framework 2017 (endorsed by ICCG, not by HC/HCT)

  ▶ ToRs for Governorate Returns Committees (focused on camp consolidation and closure)

  ▶ Principled Returns Framework (to be redrafted to include barriers to return and proposed solutions)

▶ **Government policy and legal frameworks:**

  ▶ MoMD's National IDP Policy of 2008 (largely no longer referenced)

  ▶ Freedom of movement and residence per the Constitution vs. per practice (residency restrictions)

  ▶ Prime Ministerial directive on 'preserving the civilian character of camps' (April 2017) vs. ongoing incursions by armed actors into camps and related protection violations

▶ **Challenges**: questionable commitment of humanitarian leadership to centrality of protection i.e. tick box formality, absent ownership; existing government policy framework disregarded (no concurrent action plan); divergence b/w law and practice

Data & Analysis on Internal Displacement

- Baseline: DTM (IOM); Integrated Location Assessment (IOM); MCNA (Reach)

- **Integrated data sources:**

  - Intentions Surveys (camps/settlements), Exit Surveys (camps), Returns Monitoring Surveys (areas of origin) (NPC/CCCM/IDP Call Centre)

  - Formal Site Monitoring Tool (NPC/CCCM)

  - Urban Data Portal on War Damaged Shelter (UN Habitat, Shelter Cluster, HLP Sub-Cluster)

- **Protection-specific data sources:**

  - Protection monitoring through UNHCR's Comprehensive Household Assessment Tool

  - Rapid Protection Assessments in areas of displacement & origin (DRC/NPC)

  - Forced Eviction/Return Tracking Matrix (NPC)

  - IDP Call Centre referrals and monthly Bulletins

  - **GoI database of explosive hazard contamination and survey/clearance**

- **Protection analysis:**

  - RPA presentations at ICCG to enable inter-cluster response

  - Critical Protection Issues Notes for HCT to enable high-level advocacy

  - Return Profiles in prioritized governorates & Thematic Return Assessments (UNHCR/NPC)

  - Returns Procedures Flowcharts and Narrative (NPC/RWG)

- **Challenges:** harmonization of assessment indicators to ensure comparability (Common Database of Indicators); sharing of assessments to avoid duplication, while ensuring data privacy (Assessment Registry); challenges related to no/limited/unreliable data; data collection timelines clashing with the HNO timeline

Addressing Protracted Displacement

▶ The UNCT's two-year Recovery and Resilience Programme (RRP, 2018-2020): launched at Kuwait Conference in Feb 2018; requests $482 million for the first year

▶ RRP aims to bridge the nexus between humanitarian and development response, and focuses on social reconstruction

▶ RRP contains 9 "petals" of the lotus flower: **(1) Promoting Sustainable Returns;** (2) Decentralizing Basic Services; **(3) Supporting Survivors;** (4) Engaging Youth; (5) Expanding Political Participation; **(6) Promoting Community Reconciliation;** (7) Preventing Violent Extremism; (8) Revitalizing Communities; (9) Restoring Agriculture and Water Systems

▶ **RRP Challenges**: Concrete mechanisms to enable coordination between HRP & RRP efforts are yet to materialize (e.g. RRP coordination forum uncertain t/f no linkage w/ Clusters). Ad-hoc information-sharing (b/w RC's Office and Clusters; NGOs not involved in formulation of RRP petals). Consequently, overlaps in programmatic interventions evident. Harmonization in terms of geographic coverage, technical standards for sectoral interventions, and vulnerability criteria are needed. Donor commitments to RRP have not progressed beyond pledges.

▶ **GoI's Reconstruction & Development Framework (RDF)** was prepared by MoP and WBG, and provides plans for short, medium and long-term reconstruction needs, and costs $100 billion. At Kuwait Conference: $30 billion of pledges from international community (governments and development banks); contribution by regional actors (Gulf donors) and private sector investment was emphasized to cover the shortfall

▶ **RDF Challenges**: current humanitarian coordination architecture lacks a natural interface with national reconstruction/development planning, development partners and international financial institutions; an adapted and holistic model is needed for situations in transition (per Grand Bargain commitments).