

# Longitudinal Study of Iraqis Displaced by ISIS: Assessing Durable Solutions

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# Outline

- ❖ Project Overview
  - ❖ Study Purpose and Background
  - ❖ Methodology
- ❖ Findings From Rounds 1, 2, & 3
  - ❖ Progress & Stagnation in Access to Durable Solutions Among Iraqi IDPs
  - ❖ Research Publications and Products
  - ❖ Conclusions and Paths for Future Research
  - ❖ Special Topics

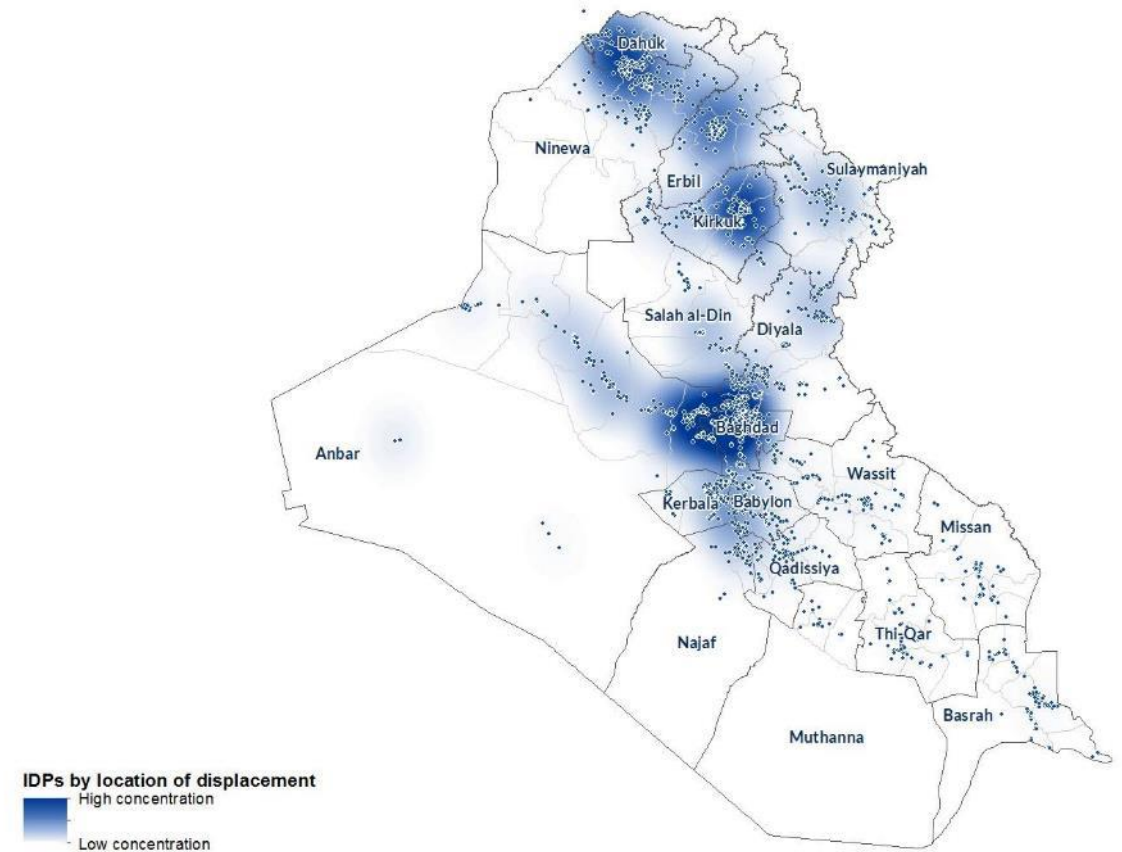


## PROJECT OVERVIEW

ISIS/ISIL-induced migration creates largest wave of IDPs in recent history

# Research Questions

- ❖ How do displacement and access to durable solutions among IDPs in Iraq change over time?
- ❖ What are the needs, coping strategies, and aspirations of IDPs, and what events and factors are perceived to influence these needs, coping strategies, and aspirations over time?
- ❖ To what extent do the experiences of IDPs in Iraq inform our conceptualization and operationalization of quasi-durable and durable solutions?



# Defining Durable Solutions

- Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC) on Durable Solutions:
  - ❖ A *rights-based process* around the principles of **choice, access and participation**.

“A durable solution is achieved when internally displaced persons no longer have any specific assistance and protection needs that are linked to their displacement and can enjoy their human rights without discrimination on account of their displacement.”
  - ❖ Three durable solutions
    - ❖ **return** to their place of origin,
    - ❖ **integration** in their current place of residence
    - ❖ **relocation** elsewhere

# IASC Framework on Durable Solutions



## 8 Criteria

### IASC FRAMEWORK FOR DURABLE SOLUTIONS



Long-term safety  
and security



Family reunification



Access to livelihoods  
and employment



Access to effective  
remedies and justice



Access to personal  
and other  
documentation  
without discrimination



Enjoyment of an  
adequate standard  
of living without  
discrimination



Participation in  
public affairs without  
discrimination



Effective and  
accessible mechanisms  
to restore housing,  
land and property

# IOM Framework on Progressive Resolutions of Displacement Situations

- The IOM Framework integrates a mobility perspective to solutions and is based on a recognition that individuals are **agents of their own recovery**.
- It emphasizes **self-reliance and coping capacities** by affected populations, across four pillars, applying a mobility approach to each pillar:
  - ❖ Protection, safety and security
  - ❖ Adequate standard of living
  - ❖ Sustainable livelihoods and employment
  - ❖ Inclusive governance

# Survey Design

- ❖ Panel Study: Re-interviewed same families in each of three rounds of data collection
- ❖ Data collection Dates:
  - Round 1: March-April 2016
  - Round 2: February-March 2017
  - Round 3: July-August 2017
  - FORTHCOMING:** Round 4: July-August 2018
- ❖ Each Round, 2 components (2 surveys)
  - 1. Roster of Household Members** both present with & absent from households
    - ❖ Individual- Level Data
    - ❖ Demographic information, movement history, employment and education history, personal documentation, vaccination of children



# Survey Design

## 2. Household Survey

- ❖ Main survey instrument with household-level data
- ❖ One section for each of the 8 durable solutions
- ❖ Additional sections: Migration and Movement History, Social Capital, Perceptions of Stability, Preferences for Resettlement, and Health Status
- ❖ Approximately 100 close-ended questions per survey (30- 40 minutes to complete) conducted in Arabic in person or by phone (Rounds 2 and 3)

# Survey Sample Frame

- ❖ Sample frame provided by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)
- ❖ Survey fielded in four governorates of displacement hosting 34% of all Iraqi IDPs

DTM Reported IDP Population, December 2015								
Governorate of Displacement	Governorate of Origin							TOTAL
	Anbar	Babylon	Baghdad	Diyala	Kirkuk	Ninewa	Salah al Din	
Baghdad	66286	1183	5295	2979	583	7643	10004	93973
Basrah	434	20	42	65	124	679	384	1748
Kirkuk	20992	30	275	1360	16748	5418	16340	61163
Sulaymaniyah	14053	615	1322	3784	0	2265	1572	23611
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>101765</b>	<b>1848</b>	<b>6934</b>	<b>8188</b>	<b>17455</b>	<b>16005</b>	<b>28300</b>	<b>180495</b>

# Survey Sampling Method

- ❖ Stratified random sample with disproportional allocation to strata
- ❖ Findings generalize to non-camp population of Iraqi IDPs from one of seven governorates of origin displaced to one of four governorates of displacement

Target Sample for Study								
Governorate of Displacement	Governorate of Origin							TOTAL
	Anbar	Babylon	Baghdad	Diyala	Kirkuk	Ninewa	Salah al Din	
Baghdad	219	247	185	181	20	187	162	1200
Basrah	73	10	21	33	62	64	137	400
Kirkuk	157	15	132	129	518	134	116	1200
Sulaymaniyah	252	128	212	207	-	215	186	1200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>4000</b>

# Longitudinal Advantage: Distinguishing Among IDPs, Movers, & Returnees

- **IDPs:** Families forcibly displaced from their districts of origin and residing in the same district of displacement reported in Round 1.
- **Movers:** Families forcibly displaced from their districts of origin who are no longer in the same district they reported in Round 1 and have not returned to their districts of origin.
- **Returnees:** Families forcibly displaced from their districts of origin who have returned to their districts of origin as reported in Round 1.

# Longitudinal Advantage: Distinguishing Among IDPs, Movers, & Returnees

IDP Status, Rounds 1-3			
STATUS	ROUND 1 N (%)	ROUND 2 N (%)	ROUND 3 N (%)
IDP	3852 (100)	3020 (81)	2883 (76.2)
MOVER	-	250 (6.7)	275 (7.4)
RETURNEE	-	454 (12.2)	610 (16.4)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3852 (100)</b>	<b>3724 (100)</b>	<b>3718 (100)</b>

# Longitudinal Advantage: Retention

- ❖ By survey method standards, retention rates are very high
- ❖ Of the 3,852 households who participated in Round 1
  - 3,718 households participated in Round 3
  - 96.5% of Round 1 households participated in Round 3

# Qualitative Methodology



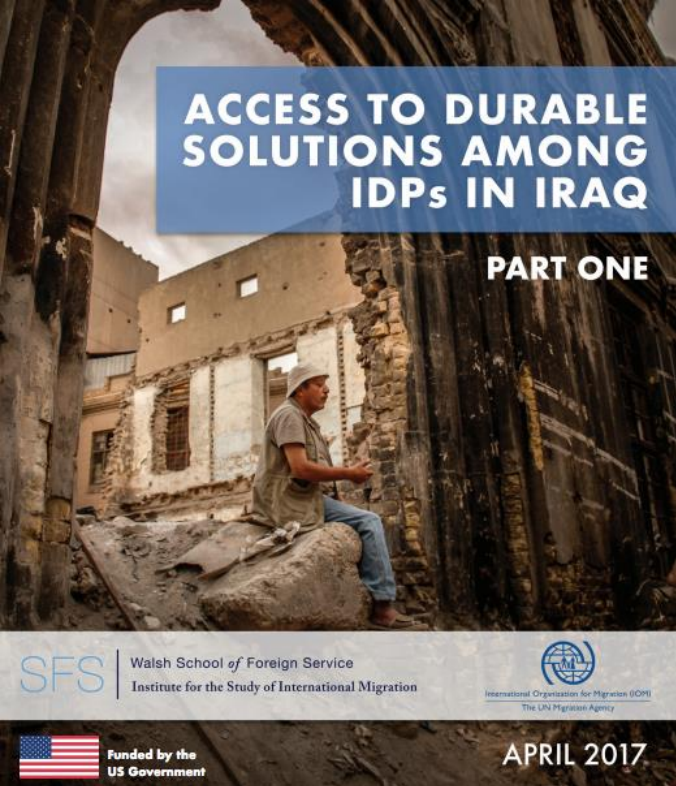
- ❖ Each Round: 160 interviews
  - ❖ (80 with IDPs + 80 with Host Community Members)
- ❖ Round 3: Added ~20 returnees
- ❖ Total to date: 500 qualitative interviews in Arabic and English
- ❖ Translation & Coding of Qualitative Interviews all done at Georgetown (Dedoose Coding Program)
- ❖ 10 student research assistants from Iraq, Syria, Egypt, and the US
- ❖ Student Analysis of findings part of 2 classes + RA projects



FINDINGS FROM ROUNDS 1, 2, & 3



# Reports, Publications & Infographics



I O M I G	12491	WILEY	Dispatch: 22.6.18	CE: Wiley
Journal Code	Manuscript No.		No. of pages: 17	PE: Deivapriyadharsini D.

doi: 10.1111/imig.12491

## Iraqi IDPs Access to Durable Solutions: Results of Two Rounds of a Longitudinal Study

Lorenza Rossi\*, Rochelle Davis\*\*, Grace Benton\*\*, Sinan Zeyneloglu\* and Salma Al-Shami\*\*

### INTRODUCTION

This article discusses the findings from a longitudinal study conducted by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Georgetown University's Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM) to understand the experiences of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Iraq in accessing quasi-durable and durable solutions to their displacement. Internal displacement has a long and painful history in Iraq, and at the beginning of 2018, the estimates of the number of IDPs stood at over 2.57 million (and 3.27 returned IDPs) out of a total Iraqi population of 36 million people (IOM, 2018). Recent estimates suggest that displacement in Iraq is at an all-time high, and even as new displacement is taking place, those living in displacement from prior conflicts have not found solutions (Edwards, 2016). For millions of Iraqi IDPs, finding solutions means an end to

18  
19  
20  
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25



- *“IDPs who have achieved a durable solution enjoy physical safety and security on the basis of effective protection by national and local authorities. This includes protection from those threats which caused the initial displacement or may cause renewed displacement... IDPs who have achieved a durable solution also enjoy freedom of movement. They can freely leave their areas of settlement and return and come back.”*
- The Inter-Agency Standing Committee’s Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons (2010)

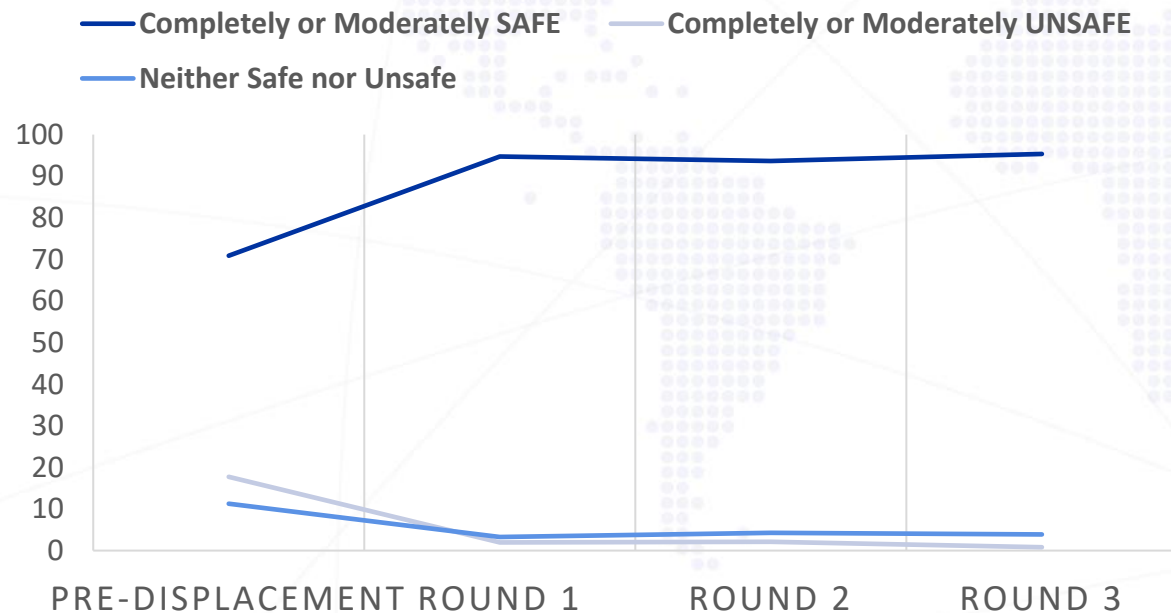


## SAFETY & SECURITY

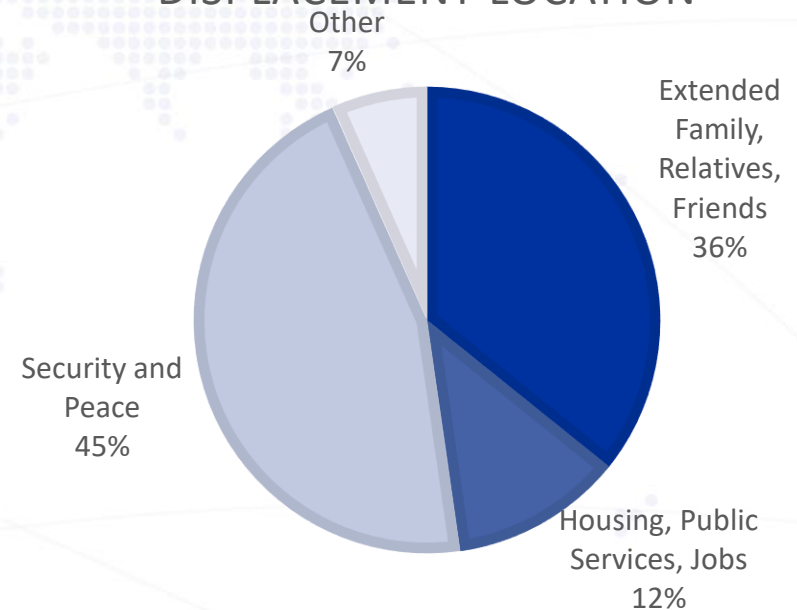
# Safety & Security

- ❖ IDPs feeling of safety and security significantly increases after displacement and remains high and stable between 2016 and 2017.

REPORTED FEELINGS OF SAFETY

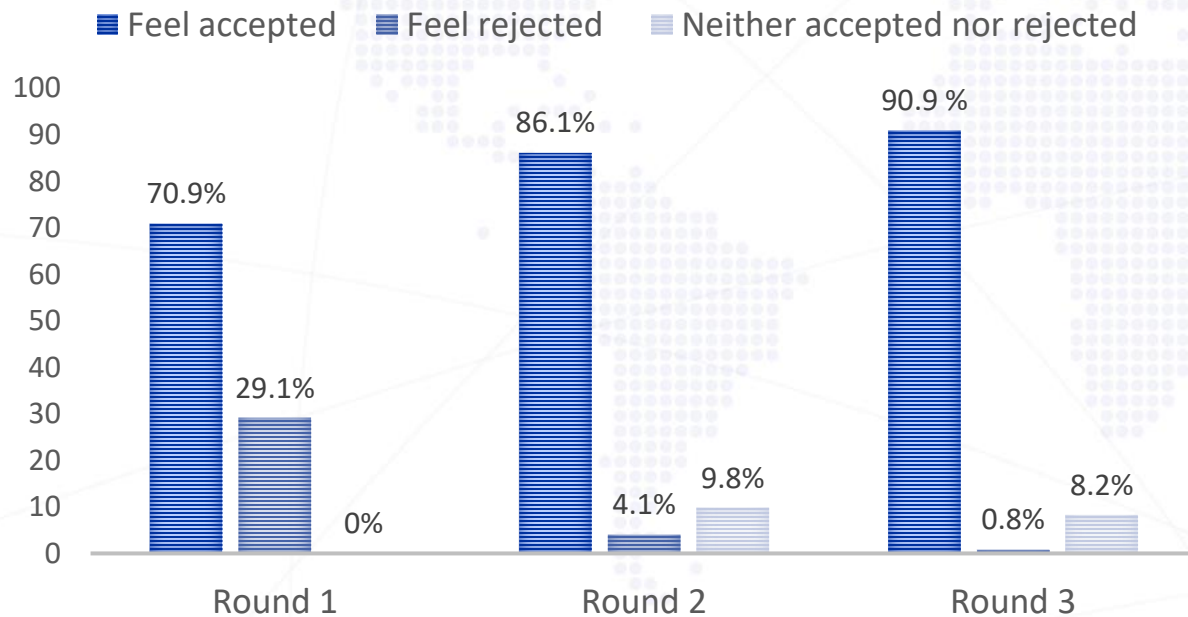


ROUND 1: REASON FOR CHOOSING DISPLACEMENT LOCATION



# SAFETY & SECURITY

## FEELINGS OF ACCEPTANCE AMONG IDPS & MOVERS



- ❖ Over 90% in each round report they have **not** faced security threats
- ❖ Overwhelming majorities each round report they can move freely:
  - ❖ Round 1: 81%
  - ❖ Round 3: 95%
- ❖ Overall, the feeling of being accepted by the community increases over time.

- *“IDPs who have achieved a durable solution enjoy, without discrimination, an adequate standard of living, including at a minimum shelter, health care, food, water, and other means of survival.”*
- The Inter-Agency Standing Committee’s Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons (2010)

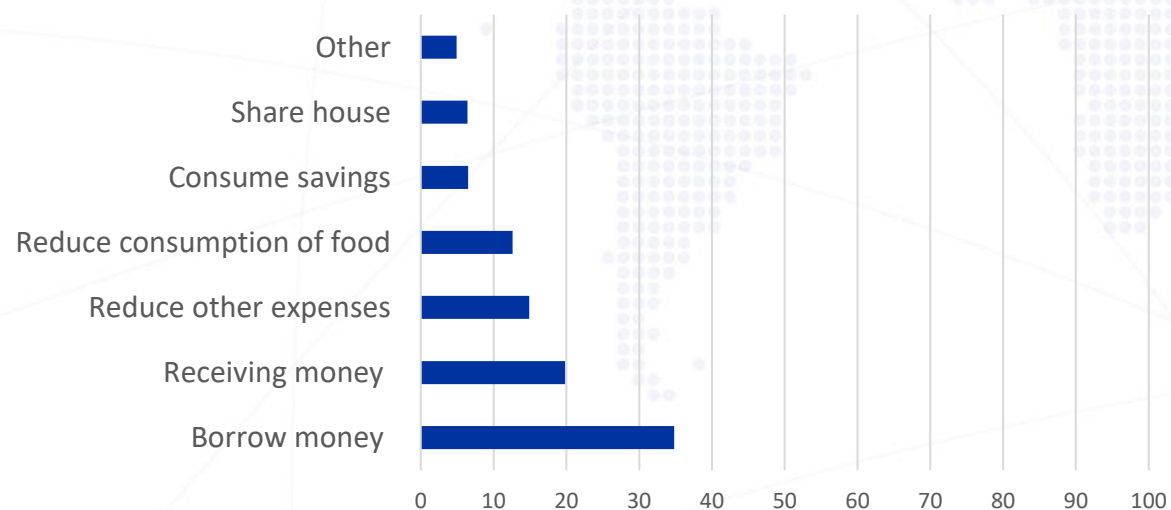


## STANDARD OF LIVING

# Standard of Living

Able to Provide for Basic Needs	Pre-Displacement %	Round 1 %	Round 2 %	Round 3 %
IDP	95.6	60.8	74.8	69.8
MOVER			64.9	92.4

ROUND 3:  
COPING STRATEGIES TO PROVIDE FOR BASIC NEEDS (%)



❖ Over time, IDPs find jobs and other ways of making ends meet.

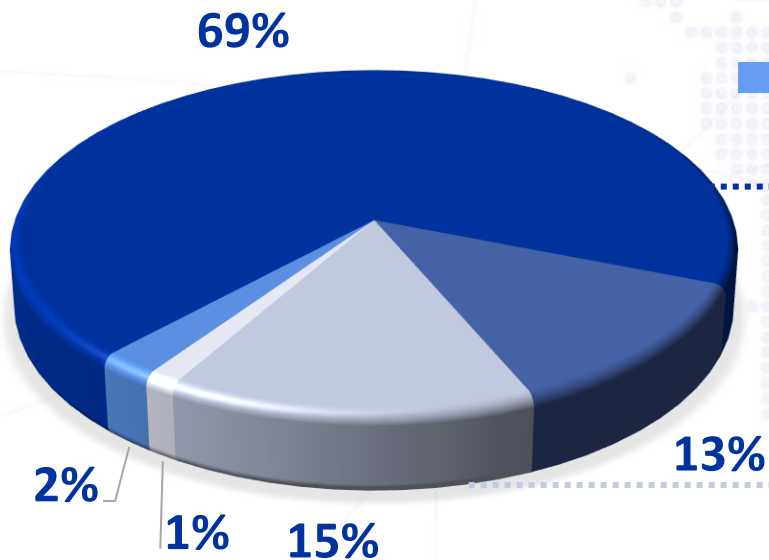
❖ Notably absent coping strategies: employing children, withdrawing children from school, limiting medical care (all under 1%); selling assets or properties (under 3%)

# Standard of Living

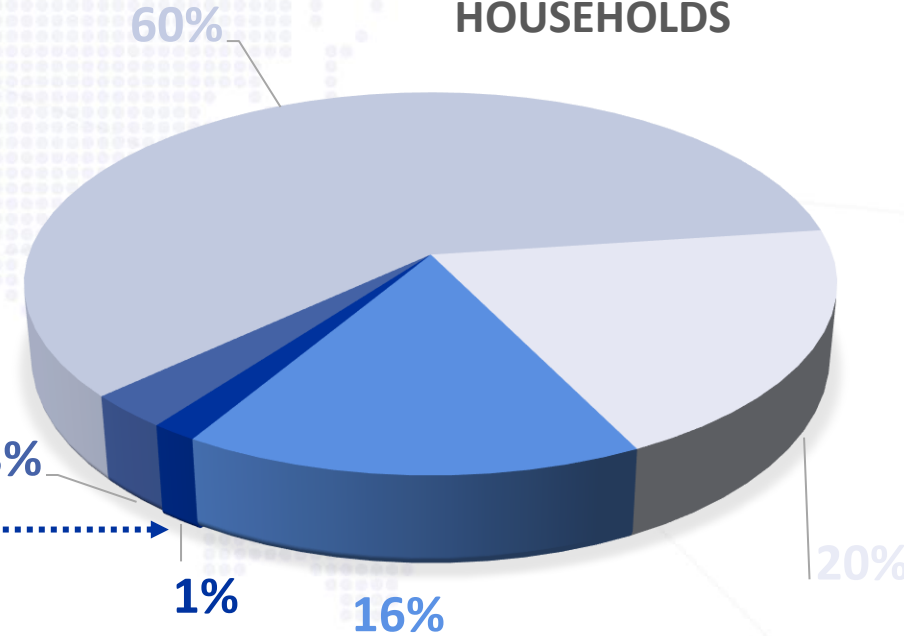
## Housing Arrangements, Pre- & Post-Displacement

- Owned house- own family
- Owned house- extended family
- Rented accommodation- own family
- Rented accommodation- shared
- Other

PRE-DISPLACEMENT



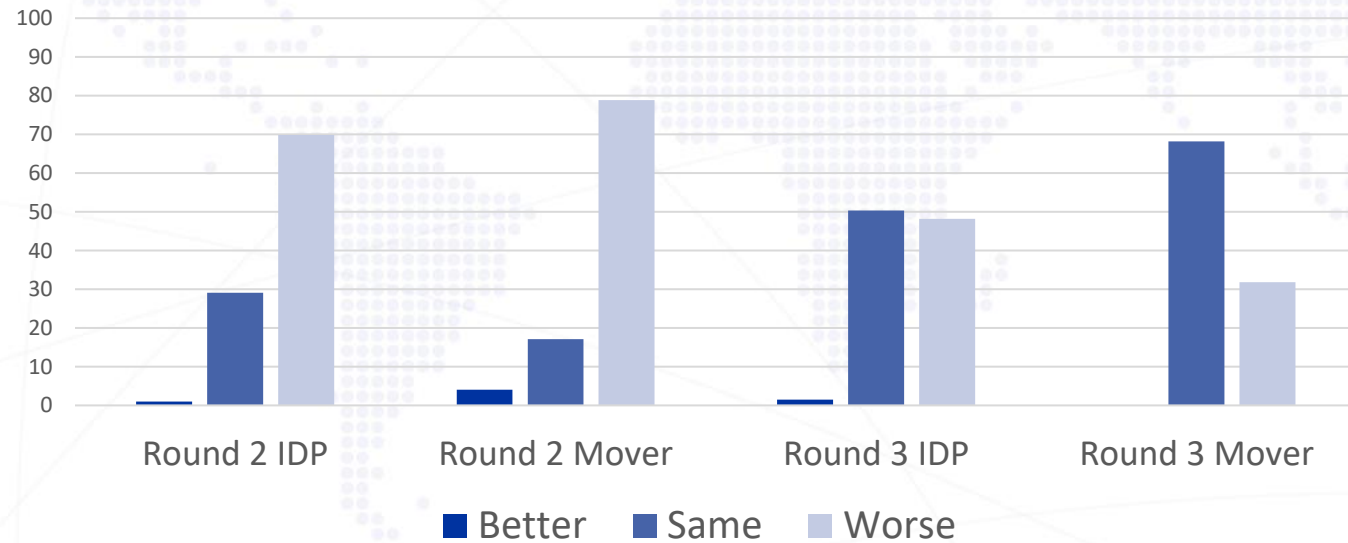
ROUND 3 IDP & MOVER HOUSEHOLDS



# Standard of Living

❖ Comparison with host community: variation between IDP and mover perceptions

IDP AND MOVER HOUSEHOLDS:  
STANDARD OF LIVING COMPARED TO HOST COMMUNITY





# Standard of Living – Student Project

## Graphic novel of a girl from Ramadi

By Cassidy Gasteiger



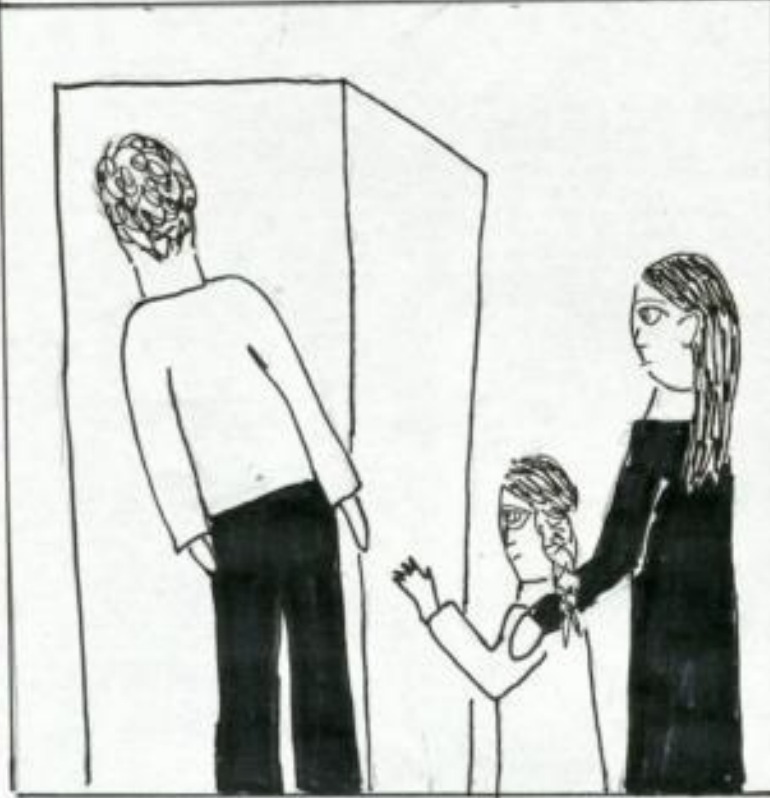
One day my mother came home from the market crying.

A Daash soldier questioned me because I didn't have a Mahram.

Maybe we should leave.



My father went to tell his brother we planned to leave the city.



He never came back.



This is me, on the first day of my new school.



I am staying in a house with relatives in Taji now. There are four families staying here, and there is barely room to breathe.



Every day Haidar and Uncle Khalil go into Baghdad seeking work. Haidar won't go back to school.

Did you get a job today?



No. I'm competing with a thousand others from Anbar and Nineveh.



# Standard of Living – Student Research Project

- Health in Crisis: A Report on Health Needs and Perceptions of Iraqi IDPs
  - By Matthew Robinson



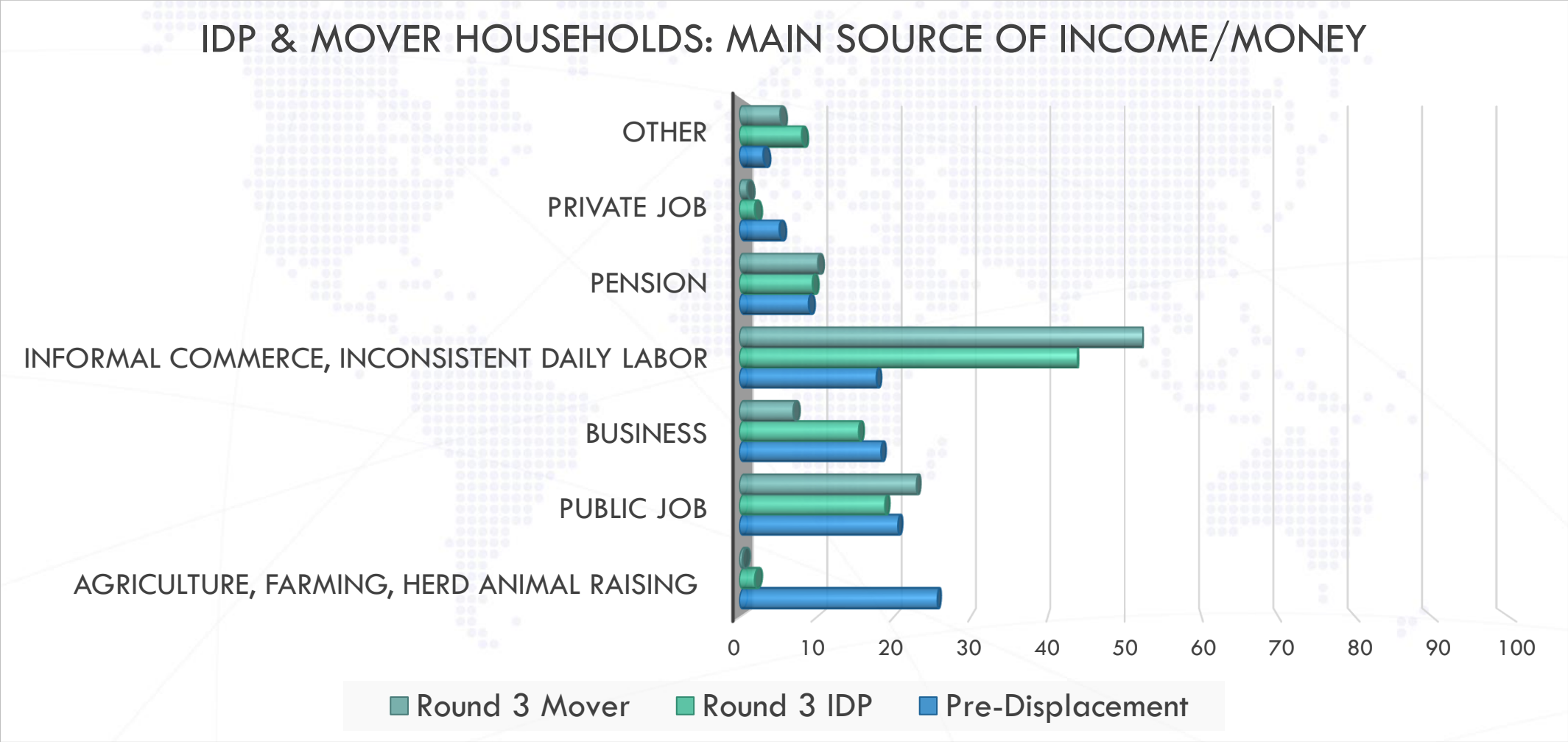
- *“IDPs who found a durable solution also have access to employment and livelihoods. Employment and livelihoods available to IDPs must allow them to fulfill at least their core socio-economic needs, in particular where these are not guaranteed by public welfare programs.”*

- The Inter-Agency Standing Committee’s Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons (2010)

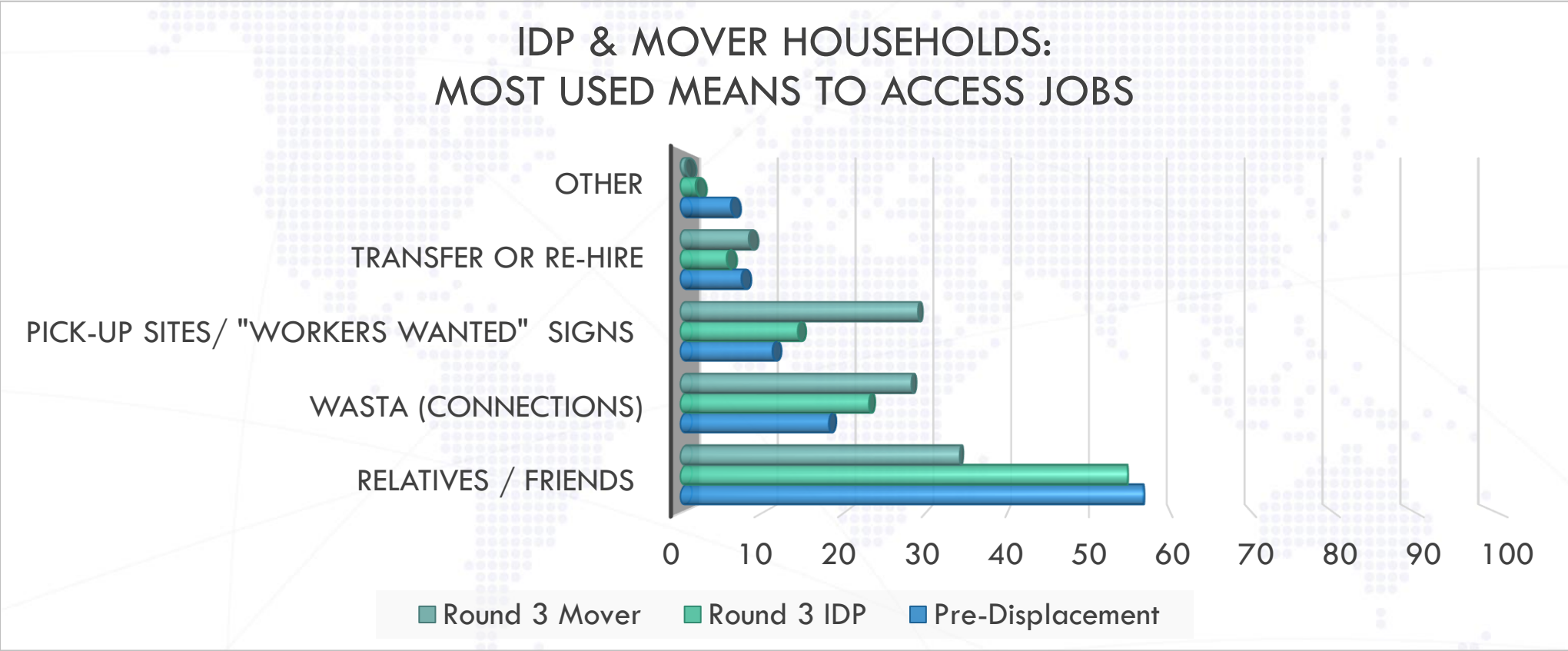


## LIVELIHOOD & EMPLOYMENT

# Livelihood & Employment

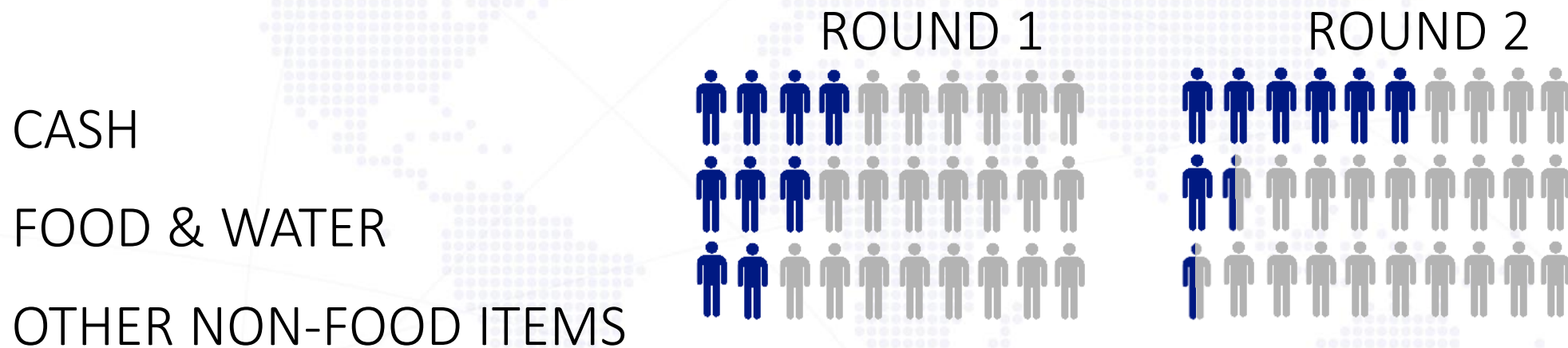


# Livelihood & Employment



# Livelihood & Employment

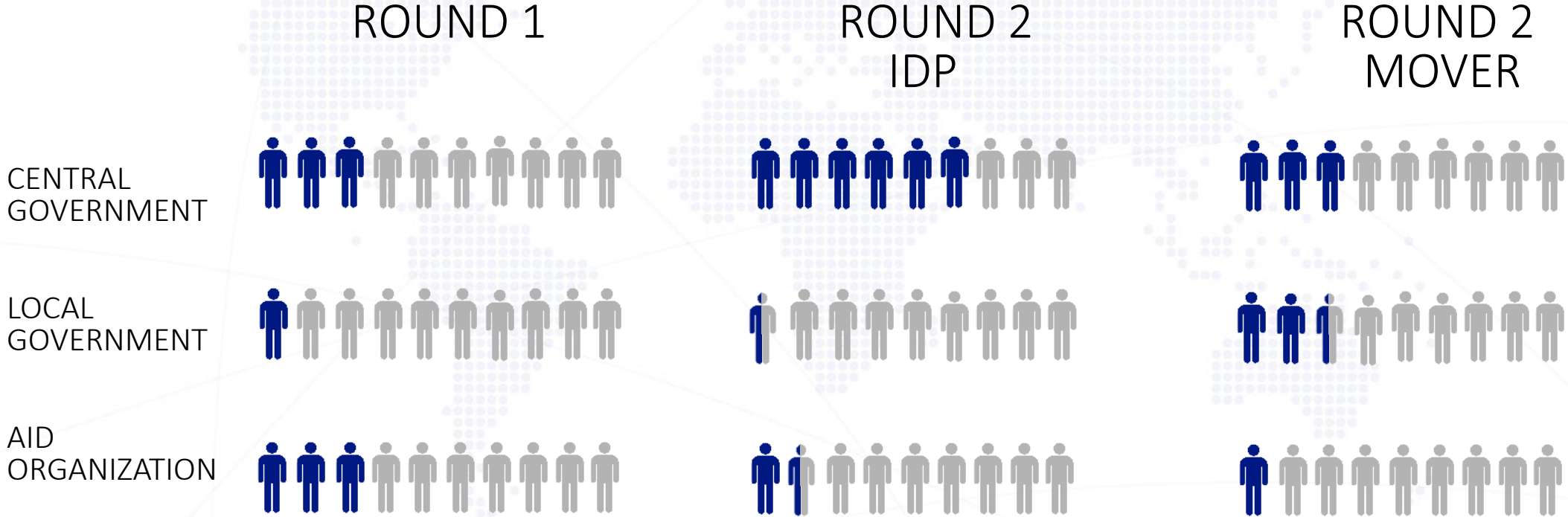
- Main TYPE OF AID Received by IDP and Mover Households





# Livelihood & Employment

- Main PROVIDER OF AID Received by IDP and Mover Households



# Female-Headed Households

- 574 of the 3,852 IDP families in the study are female headed households
- Women face more challenges after the men in their lives are no longer able/present to provide a living. WHY?
  - Most were housewives in their place of origin
  - Women tend to have less access to assistance
  - Women struggle more to access adequate training and livelihoods (Why?)
  - Women face difficulties in exercising rights to housing, land and property, and are often excluded from decision-making processes

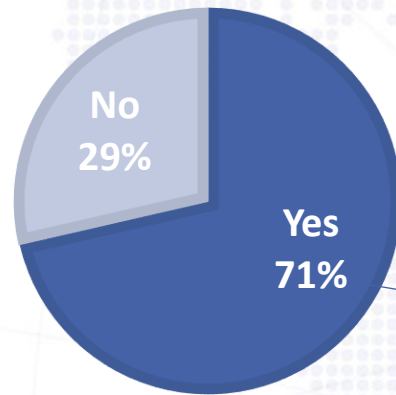
- *“IDPs who have achieved a durable solution have access to effective mechanisms for timely restitution of their housing, land and property, regardless of whether they return or opt to integrate locally or settle elsewhere in the country.”*
- The Inter-Agency Standing Committee’s Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons (2010)



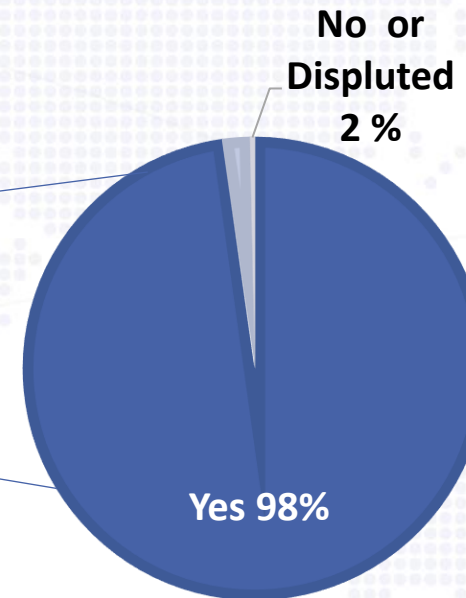
# HOUSING, LAND, & PROPERTY

# Housing, Land, & Property

OWN PROPERTY PRIOR TO  
DISPLACEMENT



ROUND 3: RETAIN OWNERSHIP OF  
PROPERTY



# Housing, Land, & Property

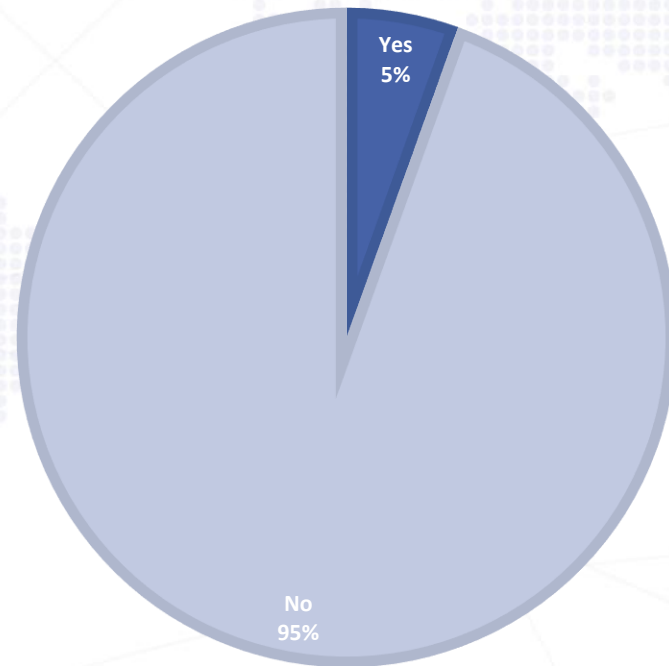
CONDITION OF PROPERTY	ACCESS PROPERTY?		
	Yes (%)	No (%)	Do not know (%)
Heavily Damaged	5.6	93.9	0.5
Partially Damaged	7.7	88.6	3.7
Good Condition	17.0	80.1	2.8
Do not know	0.2	82.8	17.0

# Housing, Land, & Property - Compensation

Creation of Central Committee for Compensation the Affected (CCCA)

اللجنة المركزية لتعويض المتضررين جراء العمليات الحربية والأخطاء العسكرية والعمليات الإرهابية

ROUND 3: APPLIED TO COMPENSATION



# Housing, Land, & Property - Compensation

## Creation of Central Committee for Compensation the Affected (CCCA)

اللجنة المركزية لتعويض المتضررين جراء العمليات الحربية والأخطاء العسكرية والعمليات الإرهابية

Brief Summary of findings

Last Updated March 6, 2018

Tameem Al-Talabani, Georgetown University

Central Committee for Compensating the Affected (CCCA)

### Introduction:

The **Central Committee for Compensating the Affected (CCCA)** is a formation established based on the law number (20) issued in 2009 which orders the establishment of a centralized committee based in Baghdad and its directly linked to the Directorate of the Prime Minister. Its main purpose and objective is to coordinate, manage, and lead the sub-committees that are operating in the field. Additionally, the CCCA will validate, modify, repeal the recommendations that are issued by the sub-committees which are addressing the cases of those missing and destruction of property. Moreover, the CCCA will look into the appeal processes that are voiced by the citizens (those affected) to the recommendations, decisions, and the modifications issues by the sub-committees.

The law also orders of the formation of sub-committees in every governorate in Iraq. The sub-committees will receive applications from the relatives of those died, kidnapped, and those who had their personal belongings and property affected. The assessment of these cases will be analysed accordance to how it has been affected; whether if it's related to a military operation, military mistake, or a terror act. Based on those, the committee will issue recommendations and a decision will be made.

In conclusion, the law sets the main definition of a those Affected ( المتضرر ) as follows : "Any person who was damaged or affected by an act of terrorism, military operation, or military mistake since **March/20/2003** and these would lead to the death (martyrdom), injury, loss/missing, damage in personal property, and damage in the educational progress or career path.<sup>1</sup>

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Date: June/17/2015

Subject: Fourth Distribution batch in Wasit

Summary:

The CCCA announced that the sub-committee in Wasit province distributed the fourth batch of compensation checks. The checks covered 124 with a total amount of ID 296,300,000. Additionally, The subcommittee of Wasit confirmed that it will send the application of the families of the martyrs and the injured, who have disability rate of more than 65%, to the Directorate of Pension and Municipality of the province to allocate for them a pension salary and plot of land.

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56.

Date: June/ 3 / 2015

Subject: 4413 compensation application completed

Summary:

The CCCA mentioned that the committee has processed 4413 compensation applications in the last 5 months in 12 provinces. The mentioned applications fall under the Damaged Property Compensation. the CCCA mentioned that there were 2788 Valid applications and 1625 invalid applications. The valid applications were sent to their designated processing sectors to compensate those affected.

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57.

Date: July/7/2015

Subject: AL- Nairiyah incident ( military mistake)

Summary: According to the direction released by the Cabinet, the CCCA conducted an immediate field visit to the location of the incident happened in AL- Nairiyah district in Baghdad. the visiting team assessed the damage caused by the military error in the mentioned location and will start to compensate the victims as soon as possible.

# Housing, Land, & Property - Compensation

10/10/2017 Translation by Tameem al-Talabani, Georgetown University  
CCCA documents analysis

## Required Documents to apply for compensation

The Central Committee for Compensation the Affected (CCCA) defines those affected as follows: “Any person who was damaged or affected by an act of terrorism, military operation, or military mistake since **March 20, 2003.**” There are five cases that are eligible and fall under the law: death (martyrdom), missing persons, complete or partial disability, damages that affect property, and damages that affect educational progress and career path (“Compensation Committee Report,” <http://cccv.gov-iq.net/ind2/Docs/Law.pdf>)

<http://www.cabinet.iq/PageViewer.aspx?id=20>

Compensation for relatives of those who died (martyrs)	
Arabic	English
1. تكون عن طريق تقديم طلب أصولي معنون إلى اللجنة الفرعية لتعويض المتضررين في المحافظة التي وقع فيها الحادث.	1. Applicants should fill and submit an official (letter-headed) application addressed to the CCCA sub-committees located in the same province where the event/incident took place.
2. صورة مصدقة من شهادة الوفاة أو صورة من شهادة الوفاة مع صورة قيد الوفاة الأصلية.	2. An authenticated/ validated copy of death certificate <b>OR</b> a copy of the death certificate with an original copy of the death registration/registry
3. نسخة مصدقة من القسم الشرعي	
4. نسخة مصدقة من حجة الوصاية إن كان للشهيد ورثة قاصرين.	
5. نسخه مصدقة من الأوراق التحقيقية مسجلة بتاريخ	

The screenshot shows the official website of the General Secretariat for the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Iraq. The page is titled "لتعويض ذوي الشهداء" (Compensation for Martyrs) and lists the required documents for application. The website header includes the national emblem and the text "REPUBLIC OF IRAQ" and "General Secretariat for the Council of Ministers". The navigation menu includes "الرئيسية", "الامانة العامة", "الاجراء", "قرارات مجلس الوزراء", "اجتماعات مجلس الامانة", "دوائر الامانة ولجانها", "التقارير", "اعلانات", and "خدمة RSS". The main content area lists the following requirements:

- 1- طلب معنون الى اللجنة الفرعية في المحافظة المعنية
- 2- شهادة الوفاة الأصلية ( أن وجدت ) أو نسخة ملونة مع صورة قيد وفاة أصلية
- 3- القسم الشرعي للشهيد (نسخة أصلية أو ملونة ) مصدقة
- 4- حجة وصاية أن كان للشهيد ورثة قاصرين
- 5- نسخة مصدقة من الاوراق التحقيقية مصدقة من مركز الشرطة أو القاضي المختص
- 6- نسخة ملونة من المستمسكات الرسمية للشهيد
- 7- نسخة ملونة من المستمسكات الرسمية للورثة
- 8- نسخة ملونة من المستمسكات الرسمية لمن ينوب عن الورثة قانونياً
- 9- نسخة ملونة من الوكالة لمن ينوب عن الورثة مصدقة من كاتب العدل الرسمية

The right sidebar contains a search bar and a menu with the following items: "مجلس الوزراء - المسير الذاتية", "جائزة الناصر الاصلاحي", "النشاط الحكومي اليومي", "المركز المشترك للتسويق", "قاعدة النشريات العراقية", "الانفاذية الاستراتيجية", "ستراتيجية القطاع الخاص", "البرامج الحكومي 2014", and "جريدة الوقائع العراقية".



# Housing, Land, & Property - Compensation

“If the government implemented compensation, IDPs’ opinion of them would be good since it would show that the government had not forgotten them.”

-IDP Man from Mosul, living in Basrah (Round 2, Spring 2017)

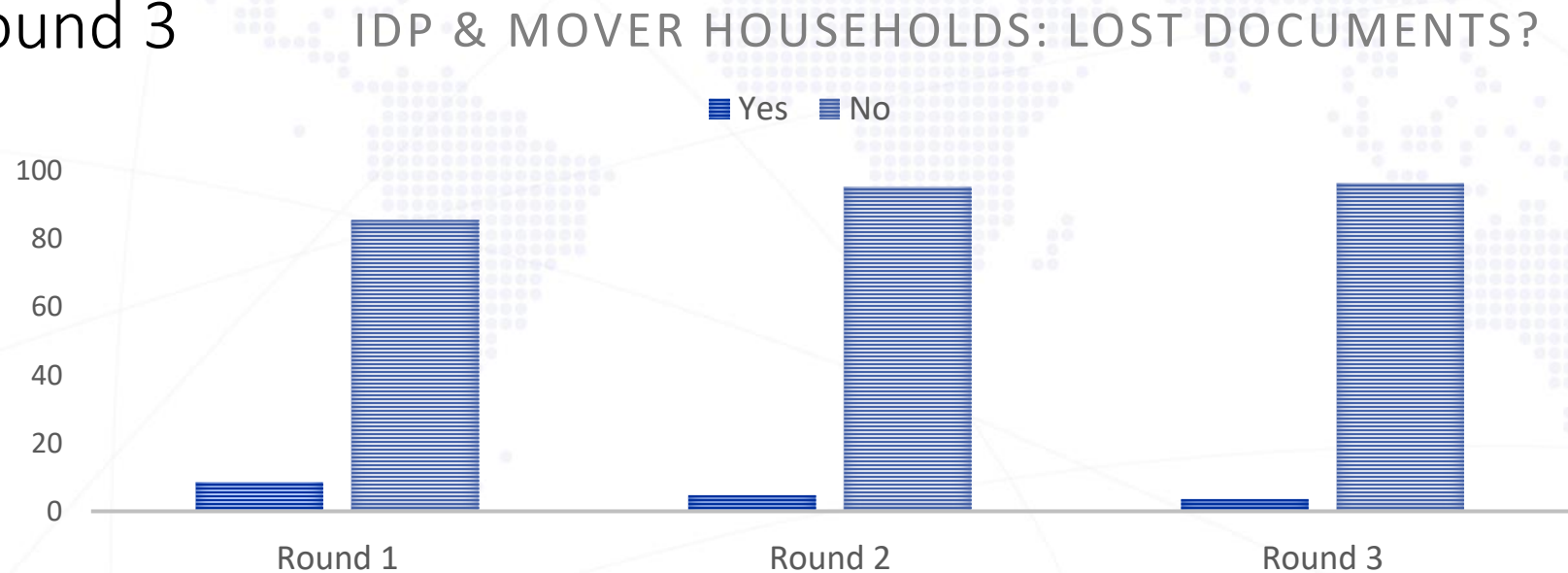
- *“IDPs who wish to reunite with family members from whom they were separated have been able to do so and can seek a durable solution together.”*
- The Inter-Agency Standing Committee’s Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons (2010)



## PERSONAL & OTHER DOCUMENTATION

# Personal & Other Documentation

- ❖ Very few IDPs and mover households have lost personal documentation
- ❖ Among the few who did lose documentation, 46% of IDPs, 89% of movers have been able to completely or partially replace documents by Round 3



- *“IDPs who wish to reunite with family members from whom they were separated have been able to do so and can seek a durable solution together.”*
- The Inter-Agency Standing Committee’s Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons (2010)



# FAMILY REUNIFICATION

# Family Reunification

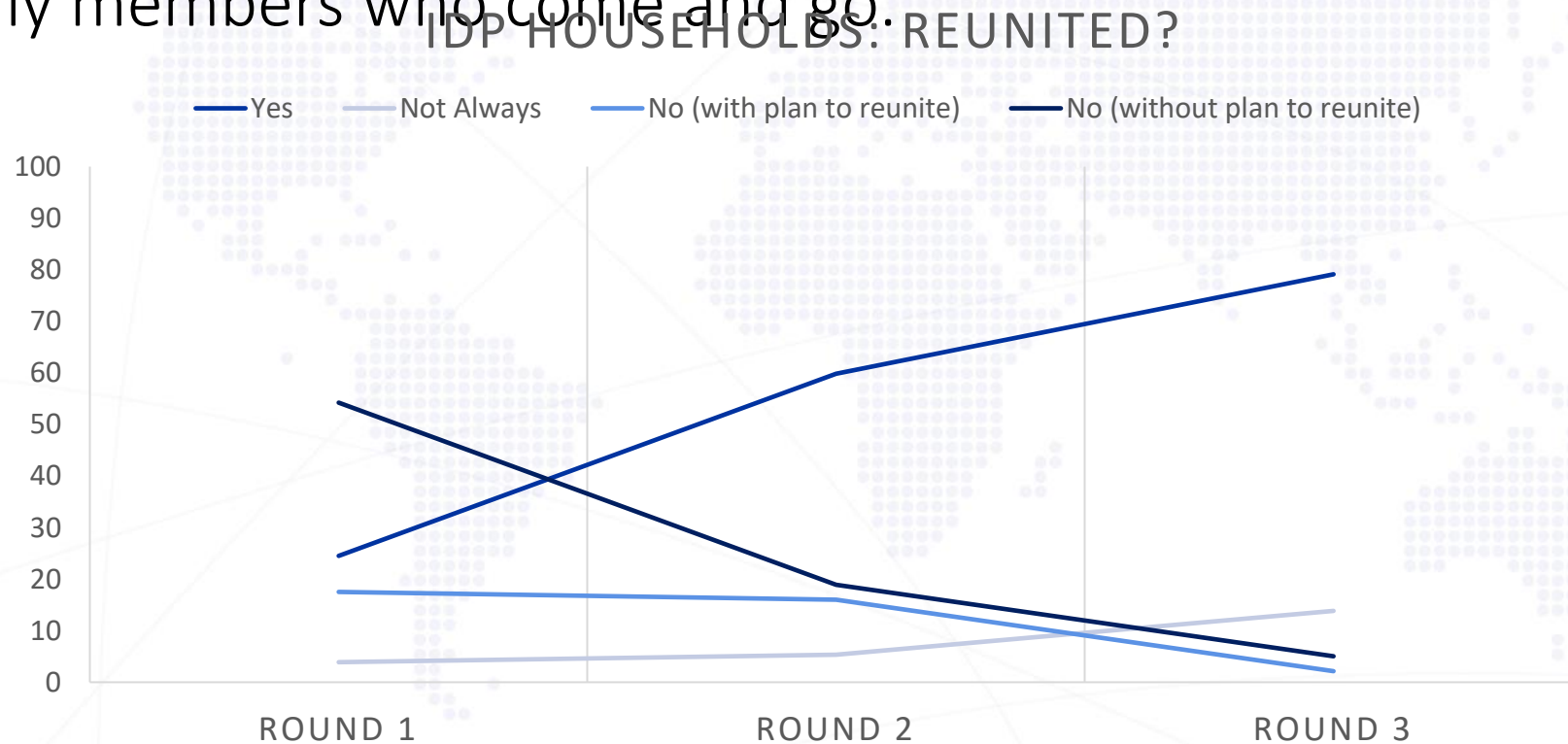
- ❖ Less than 5% of IDP and mover households have had usual members of the family separated for more than three months
- ❖ Among this 5%:

## Round 3 : IDP & Mover Family Separation by Governorate of Origin, Governorate of Displacement

Governorate of Origin	Governorate of Displacement	Families Separated > 3 Months (%)
Salah al-Din	Basrah	27.1
Diyala	Basrah	20.0
Kirkuk	Baghdad	23.5
Ninewa	Baghdad	10.1

# Family Reunification

- ❖ Among 5%, steady increase in reunification, but also number of family members who come and go.



# Family Reunification – Student Projects

- Theatre piece: a conglomeration of stories extracted from Yazidi storytellers, books on the community's experiences, government reports, and personal interviews conducted which were then dramatized.
- By Aly Panjawani

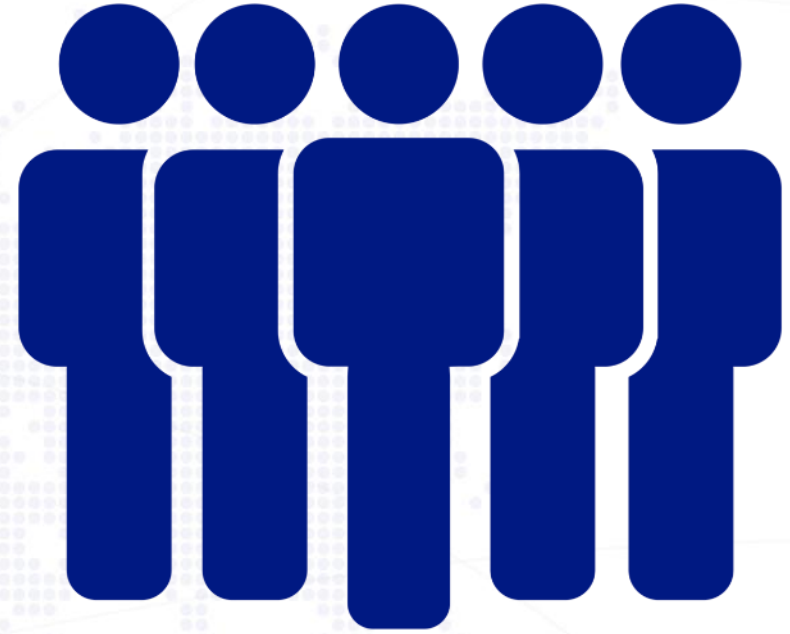
Book for Children on Yazidi traditions, Sinjar, and family separation

By Shifaa Alsairafi



Hi  
My name is Layal  
You probably have not heard my name before, but it's an arabic name that means nights  
even though I don't speak Arabic at home, my parents chose an Arabic name for me  
I speak *Kurmanji* at home, a language that my village speaks, but one I cannot speak at school

- *“IDPs who have achieved a durable solution are able to exercise the right to participate in public affairs at all levels on the same basis as the resident population and without discrimination owing to their displacement. This includes the right to associate freely and participate equally in community affairs, to vote and to stand for election, as well as the right to work in all sectors of public service.”*
- The Inter-Agency Standing Committee’s Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons (2010)

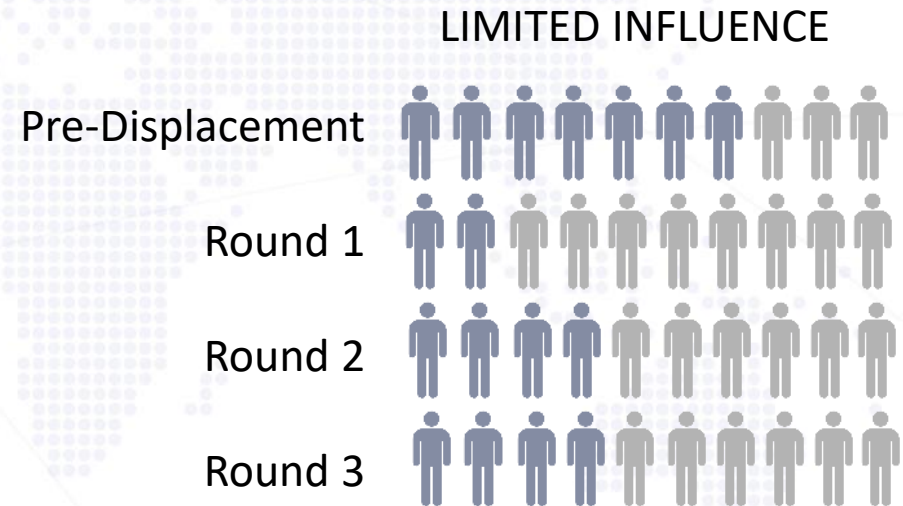
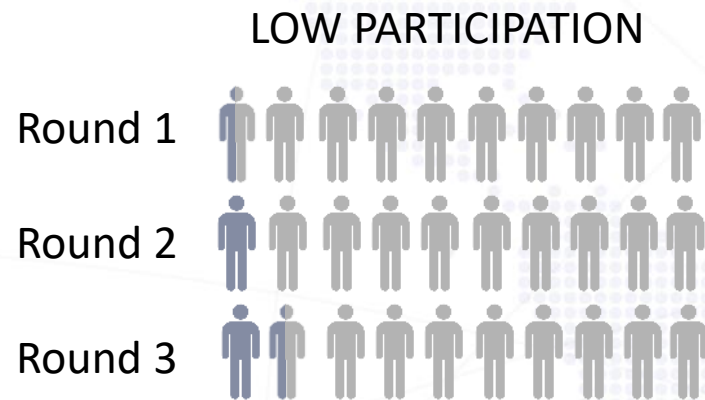


# PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS



# Participation in Public Affairs

❖ Throughout displacement:



# Participation in Public Affairs

- ❖ Participation and influence appear to be related (Round 3 Data)

	PARTICIPATION*	
INFLUENCE	A lot or some	63.3 %
	Little or none	36.6%

\*In one or more groups. In Round 3, ~15% of IDP/Mover households reported participating in 1 or more groups

	INFLUENCE*	
PARTICIPATION	A lot or some	21.6%
	Little or none	8.9%

\*A lot or some

- *“IDPs who have achieved a durable solution are able to exercise the right to participate in public affairs at all levels on the same basis as the resident population and without discrimination owing to their displacement. This includes the right to associate freely and participate equally in community affairs, to vote and to stand for election, as well as the right to work in all sectors of public service.”*
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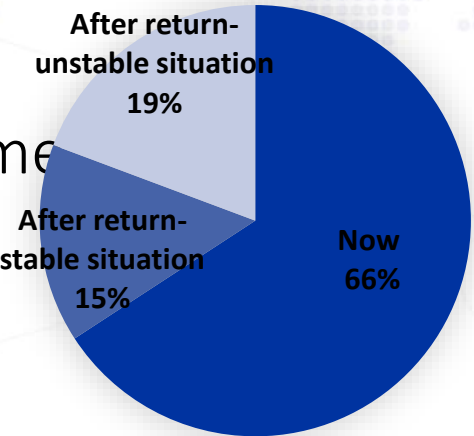
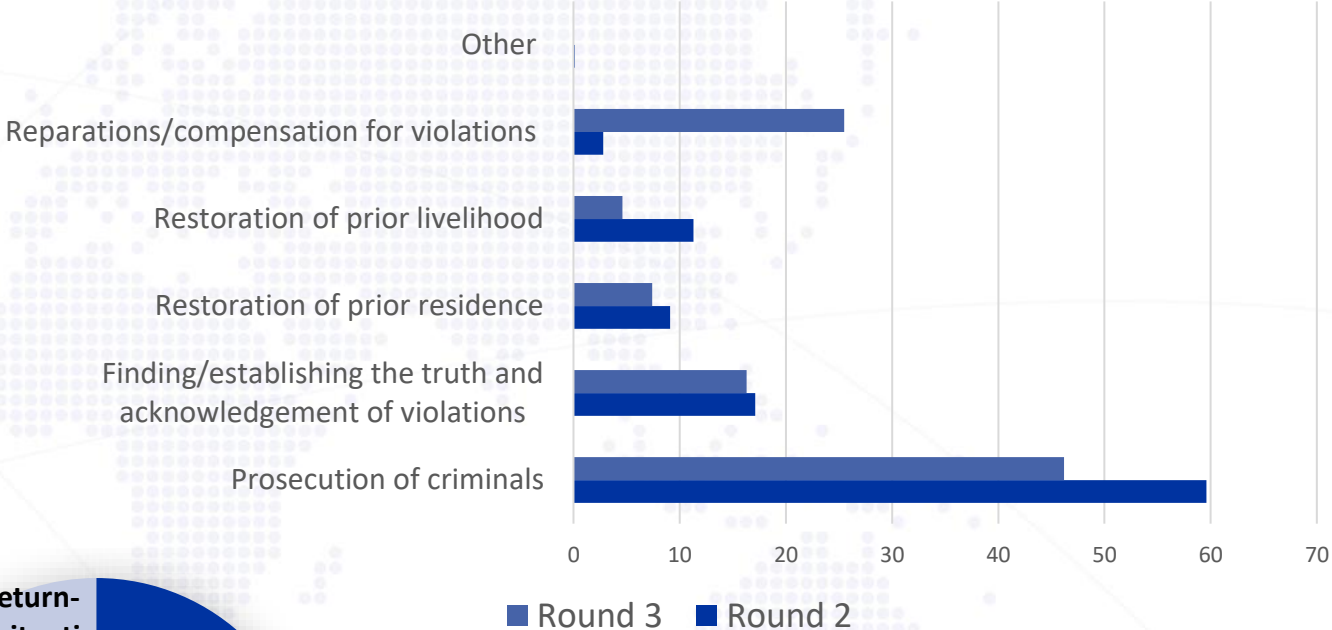
## EFFECTIVE REMEDIES AND JUSTICE

# Effective Remedies & Justice

## JUSTICE: WHAT & WHEN

- ❖ Prosecution of criminals consistently cited as most important aspect of achieving justice
- ❖ Over time, significant increase in share that believes reparations and compensation are key for justice.
- ❖ Majority believes best time to pursue justice is “now”

Most Important Aspect of Achieving Justice

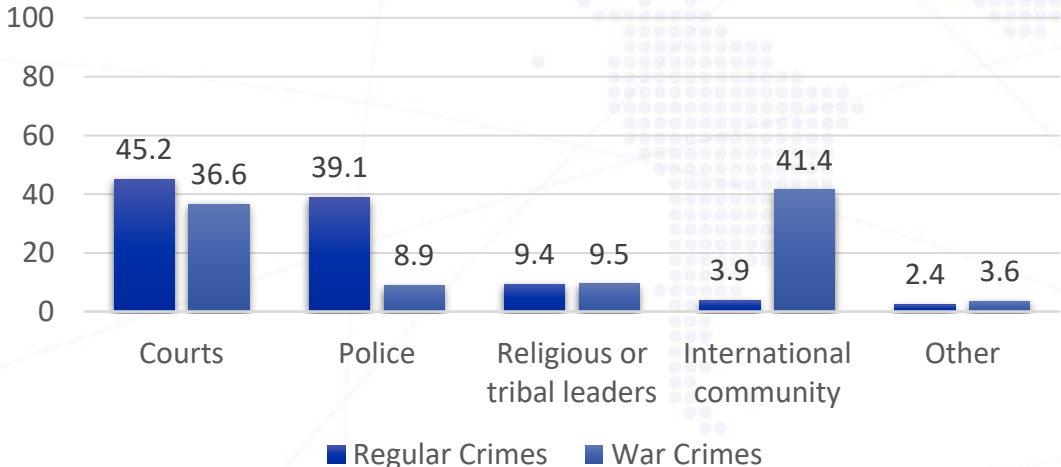


# Effective Remedies & Justice

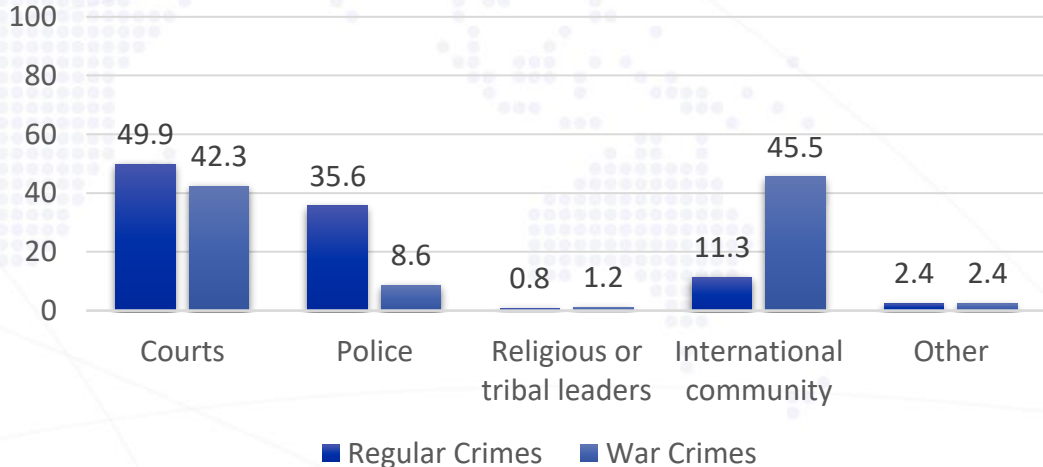
## JUSTICE: HOW

❖ IDPs overall retain a high level of confidence in the ability of traditional state enforcement institutions to pursue and achieve justice

Round 2: Who do you trust to achieve justice?



Round 3: Who do you trust to achieve justice?



# Effective Remedies & Justice

- ❖ Overwhelming majorities are very or somewhat supportive of international community playing role in transitional justice

<b>Comfort with International Organizations Playing Role in Transitional Justice</b>	<b>Round 2 %</b>	<b>Round 3 %</b>
<b>Very comfortable</b>	16.2	13.1
<b>Somewhat comfortable</b>	58.6	67.3
<b>Neither comfortable nor uncomfortable</b>	17.3	12.5
<b>Somewhat uncomfortable</b>	7.2	6.0
<b>Very uncomfortable</b>	0.6	1.1

# Returnees



## ARTICLE

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### HOME AFTER ISIS: A STUDY OF RETURN AS A DURABLE SOLUTION IN IRAQ

ROCHELLE DAVIS, GRACE BENTON, DANA AL DAIRANI,  
MICHAELA GALLIEN AND SALMA AL-SHAMI

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#### Abstract

*Return to one's place of origin is considered to be one of the three 'durable solutions' whereby the displaced can effectively end their situation of displacement. However, to consider return to the place of origin, which in many cases has been transformed by war and conflict, without considering the conditions that people have returned to is to elide a whole host of challenges facing people upon their return. In Iraq, as military actors have reclaimed territory from the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), internally displaced persons (IDPs) have begun to return to their homes in these liberated areas. While the liberation of these territories from ISIS signals the beginning of the end of a conflict that has persisted for almost four years, preliminary data from an International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Georgetown University longitudinal study on displacement in Iraq reveals that the security and material conditions for returnees are precarious. Using the Inter-agency Standing Committee (IASC) Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons, which offers criteria for whether a durable solution has been accessed, our paper draws on quantitative data and qualitative interviews with returnees to explore the material and security conditions for recent returnees and the strategies returnees employ to cope with these issues.*

## Ongoing Student Projects –

- \* Understanding what “home” means and how Iraqis think about home in considering return vs. integration
- \* Compensation – The Governmental Processes and the Longitudinal Study Data on Compensation

# Returnees – Provider of Assistance

Main Type OF Aid Received by Returnee Households

Round 1

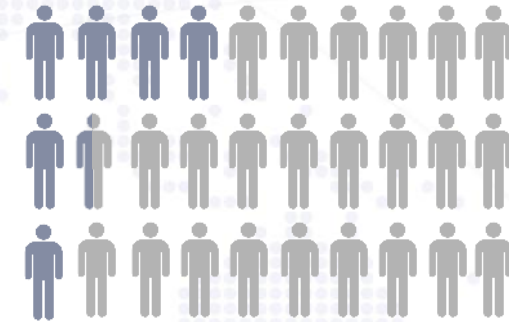
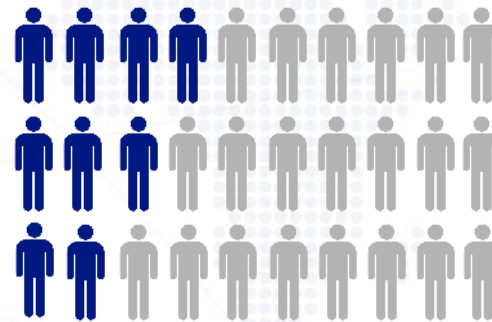
Round 2

Returnee Sample

CASH

FOOD & WATER

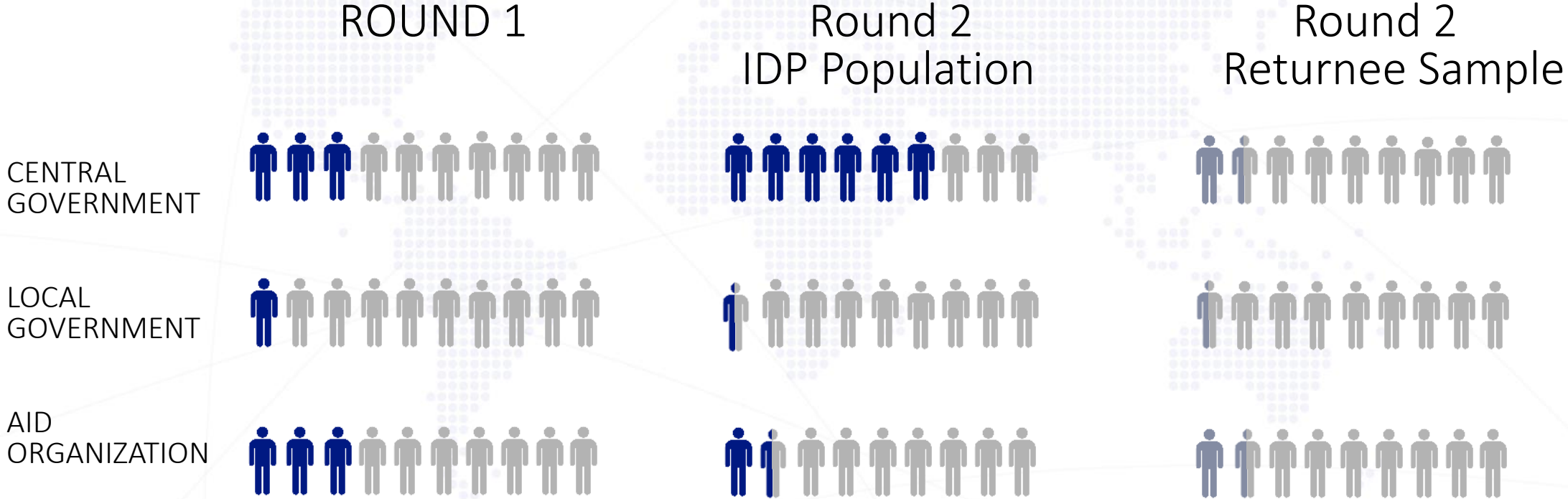
OTHER NON-FOOD ITEMS





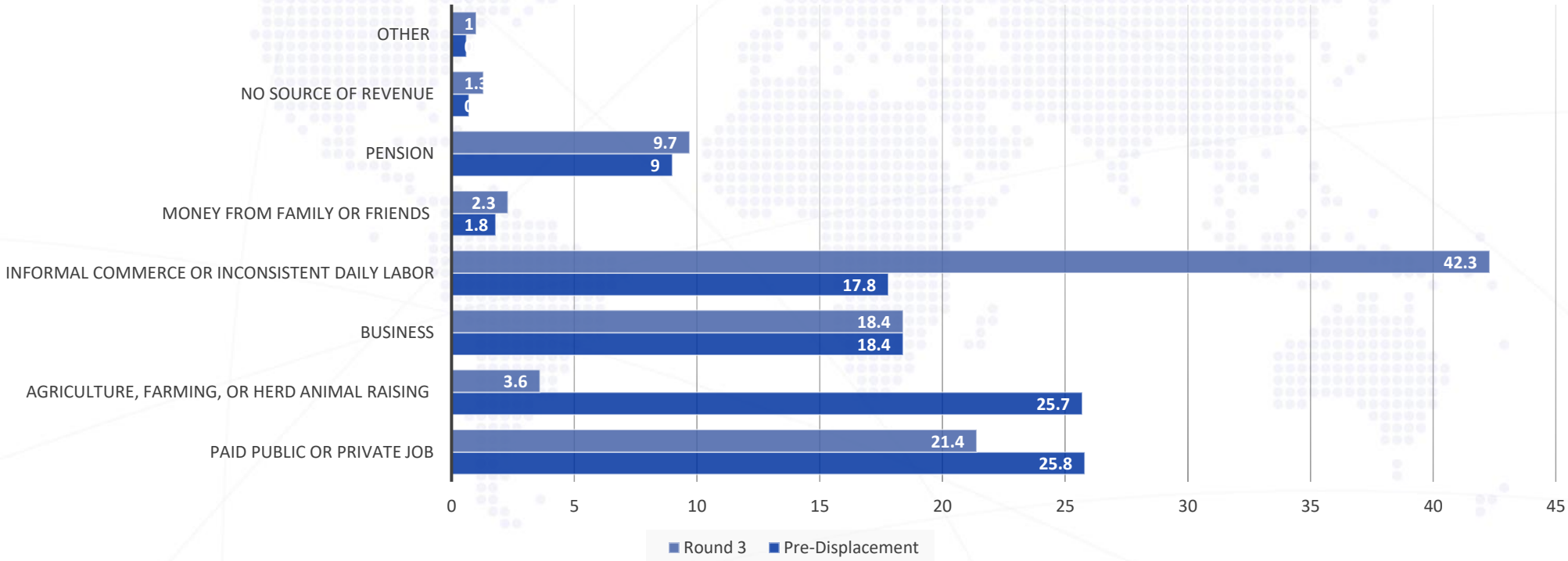
# Returnees – Provider of Assistance

Main Provider Of Aid Received by IDP and Returnee Households



# Returns – Employment

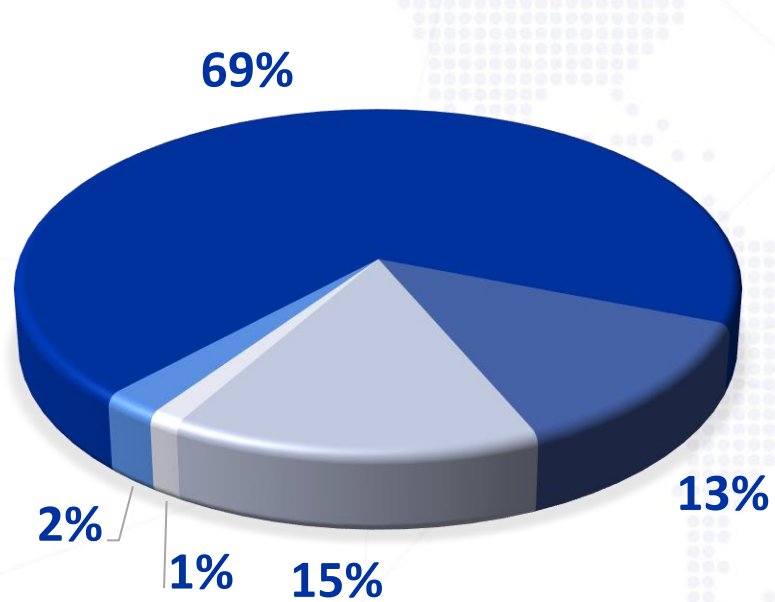
SAMPLE RETURNEE HOUSEHOLDS: MAIN SOURCE OF INCOME/MONEY



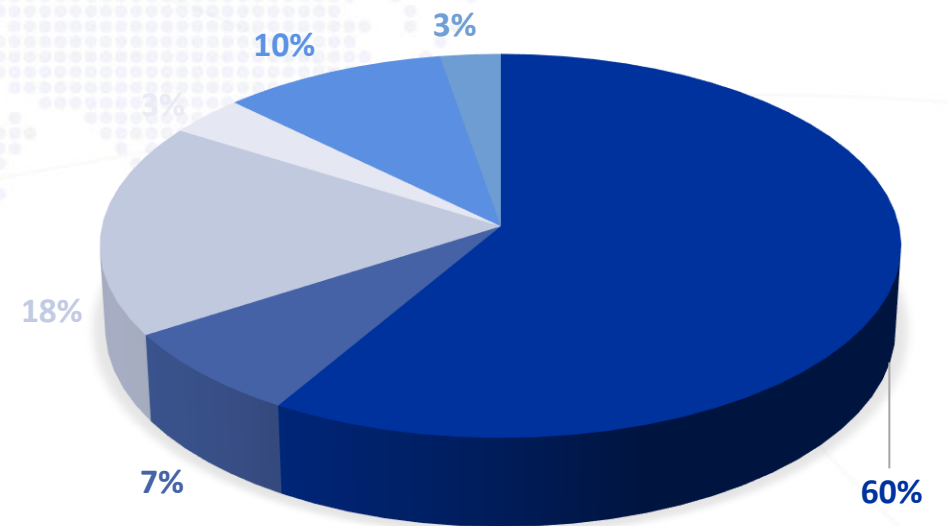
# Returnees – Housing

## ROUND 3: SAMPLE RETURNEE HOUSEHOLDS

### PRE-DISPLACEMENT

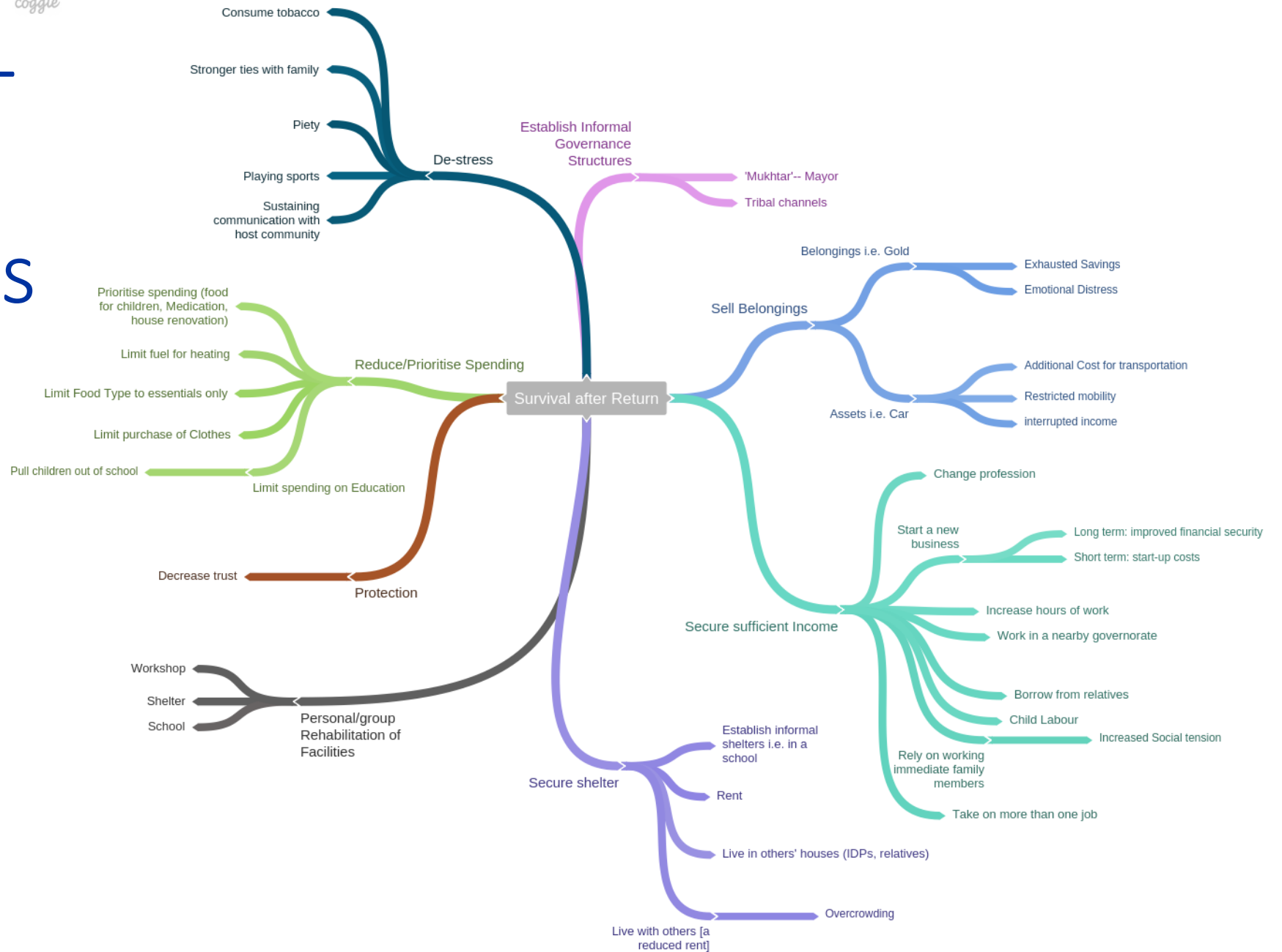


- Owned house for my family only
- Owned house for the extended family
- Rented accommodation for my family only
- Rented accommodation shared
- Hosted by friends, relatives, host community
- Other



# Returnees – Coping Mechanisms

coggle



# Summary & Preliminary Conclusions

- ❖ General Trends:
  - ❖ Safety and security achieved at the onset
  - ❖ Family reunification and documentation never a prevalent problem, participation always low
  - ❖ Progress made in standard of living, access to livelihood and employment, access to housing
- ❖ Criteria-Specific Trends
  - ❖ Types of solutions in standard of living, housing, and employment are temporary

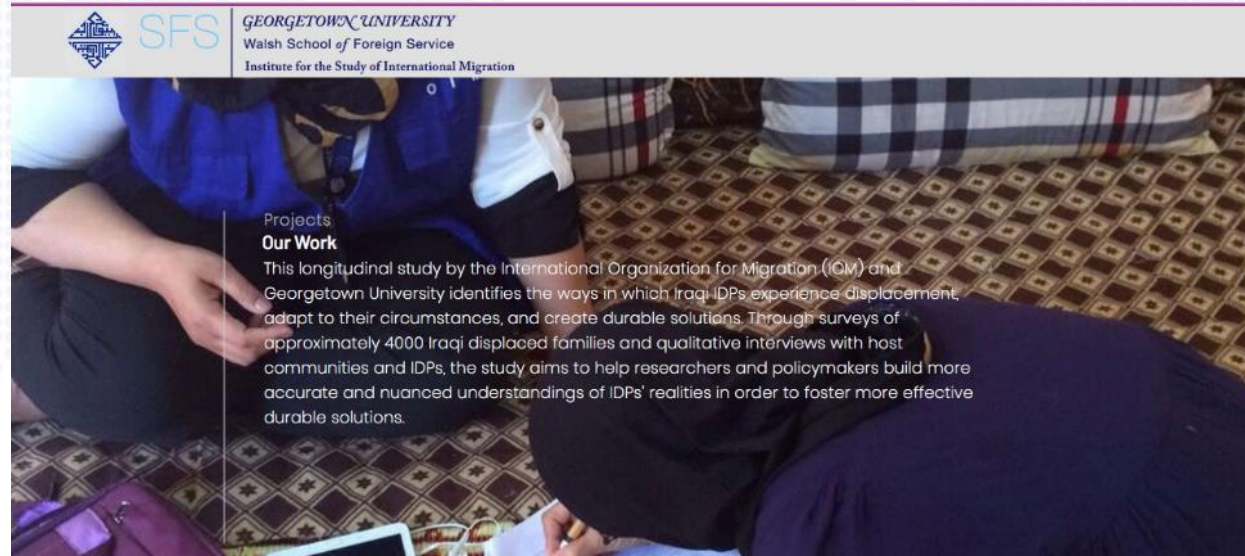
# Summary & Preliminary Conclusions

- ❖ How can this Longitudinal Study data contribute to the understanding of what it means to be in 'protracted displacement'?
- ❖ Livelihoods data shows that protracted displacement seems to be a way to come up with temporary solutions to meet primordial needs

# Recommendations

WHAT WE ARE SEEING	WHAT IS NEEDED
Standard of Living: Borrowing money = coping strategy	More avenues for loans, micro-finance opportunities
Employment: High shares in informal sector = temporary	Solutions for individuals in agriculture and business sectors <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vocational training</li></ul>
Employment: Agriculture sector most adversely affected	Sector specific aid: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Irrigation key problem</li><li>• Clearing land of UXOs</li><li>• Loans</li></ul>
Housing, Land, & Property: Destroyed houses, new housing = substantial, new expense	Integrated rebuilding efforts create opportunities for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New business (construction)</li><li>• Labor</li></ul>

# Findings from Study Available at:



<https://taa607.wixsite.com/iomgeorgetown>

Password: durablepass



*The study is funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of  
Population, Refugees, and Migration.*

