

METHODOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

CONTEXT

With the end of the conflict with the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), protracted displacement has come to characterize the post-conflict environment in Iraq. Around 1.2 million people remain internally displaced, nearly all of whom fled their areas of origin more than three years ago. In light of the above, it is essential to advance durable solutions to displacement in Iraq through improving the living conditions that will enable internally displaced persons (IDPs) to voluntarily take the first steps towards return, local integration or settlement in new locations.

DATA COLLECTION APPROACH






The Displacement Index (DI) is a tool designed to measure and monitor the living conditions of IDPs. Data collection for the DI take place across 18 governorates, around 100 districts and 2,700 locations of displacement in Iraq. The unit of the analysis is the location, which can be a town, village or neighbourhood in a city. Data is collected through IOM's Rapid Assessment and Response Teams (RARTs), composed of over 80 staff members deployed across Iraq

(20% of enumerators are female). IOM's RARTs collect data through structured interviews with key informants (KIs) using a large, well-established network of over 2,000 KIs (5% are female) that includes community leaders, mukhtars, local authorities and security forces.

DI INDICATORS

The DI is based on 22 indicators across five domains: (1) livelihoods, (2) housing, (3) infrastructure and services, (4) safety and security, and (5) social inclusiveness. The indicators were selected upon consultation with stakeholders, descriptive and exploratory statistical analysis using DTM datasets, including Integrated Location Assessments and Master Lists, and pilot rounds of data collection. Each indicator was formulated into a survey format, with a pre-set of answers and associated values, ranging from 0 (the most positive option) to 5 (the most negative option). For instance, in the case of water sufficiency, answers range from "all or nearly all IDPs can access water" (0 value) to "no one has access" (5 value).

Figure 1. Displacement index domains and indicators

 LIVELIHOOD	 HOUSING	 INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES	 SAFETY AND SECURITY	 SOCIAL INCLUSIVENESS
Households without income sources, who rely on aid	Households who live in separated/isolated areas	Access to health care	Concerns among IDP families of revenge attacks	Unequal access to fair employment
Are there IDP families without income sources who are only relying on aid? Note: This includes all types of assistance (including food), including provided by the government	Are there IDP families who are settled in separated/isolated areas?	Were IDP families able to access health care (doctor/health centre/hospital) in the past 90 days?	How concerned are IDP families about revenge attacks?	In the past 90 days, have IDPs encountered cases of discrimination or unfair treatment due to their status when it comes to access to employment?
Households without enough funds for food	Households who live in critical shelters	Water sufficiency	Concerns among IDP families of ISIL attacks	Unequal access to rental house
Are there IDP families who did not have enough funds for food in the past 90 days?	Percentage of families	Did IDP families have enough water for their drinking and domestic needs in the past 90 days?	How concerned are IDP families about ISIL attacks?	In the past 90 days, have IDPs encountered cases of discrimination or unfair treatment due to their status when it comes to access to rental housing?

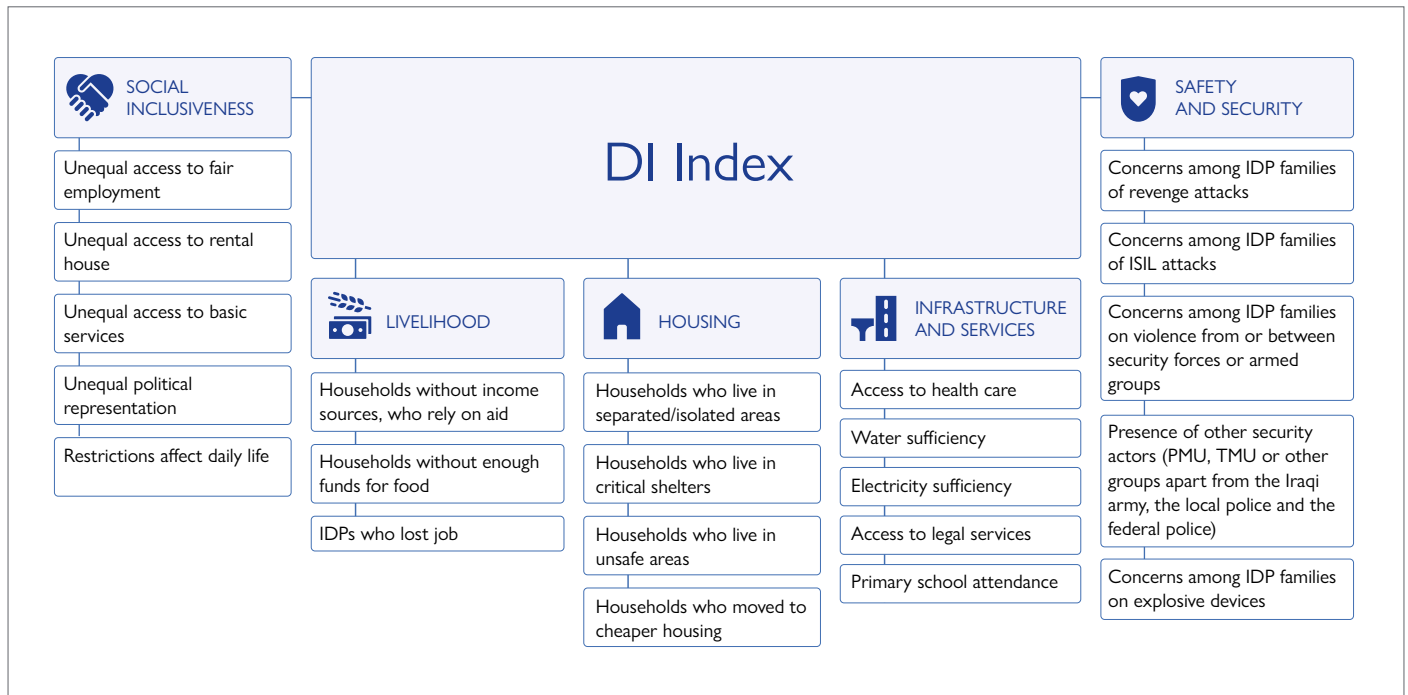
 LIVELIHOOD	 HOUSING	 INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES	 SAFETY AND SECURITY	 SOCIAL INCLUSIVENESS
IDPs who lost job	Households who live in unsafe areas	Electricity sufficiency	Concerns among IDP families on violence from or between security forces or armed groups	Unequal access to basic services
Are there IDPs who lost their job, closed their business or suffered significant reduction of earnings in the past 90 days?	Are there IDP families who are settled in unsafe/insecure areas? Note: This could be due to contamination from explosive remnants of war, risks of flooding or landslides, solid waste dumping site, etc.	Did IDP families have enough electricity for their needs in the past 90 days?	How concerned are IDP families about violence from or between security forces or armed groups?	In the past 90 days, have IDPs encountered cases of discrimination or unfair treatment due to their status when it comes to access to basic services as health or education?
	Households who moved to cheaper housing	Access to legal services	Presence of other security actors (PMU, TMU or other groups apart from the Iraqi army, the local police and the federal police)	Unequal political representation
	Are there of IDP families who moved to cheaper housing or co-shared housing in the past 90 days?	Were IDP families able to access legal services (office/lawyer/court) in the past 90 days?	How many different security groups/actors are present in this location?	<p>In the past 90 days, have IDPs encountered cases of discrimination or unfair treatment due to their status when it comes to political representation?</p> <p>This relates to IDPs having someone to talk on their behalf, to IDPs feeling they can access support from the authorities.</p>
		Primary school attendance	Concerns among IDP families on explosive devices	Restrictions affect daily life
		<p>Were IDP children aged 6-12 attending primary school regularly (at least 3 days per week) in the past 90 days?</p> <p>This includes both online or in-person education. Include any method that will lead to children graduating the school year.</p>	How concerned are IDP families about explosive devices (mines, UXOs, IEDs)?	Are restrictions of movement (requirement of special permit from police, army, etc.) affecting the daily life of IDPs

STATISTICAL MODEL

Confirmatory factor analysis was used to examine the relationship between these observed indicators and their domains (constructs) and capture both the relevance of each indicator for a certain domain and the importance of each domain for the overall index. In line with the previous studies, (1) livelihoods and (2) housing are domains with the highest impact on the overall living conditions of IDPs. Domains with the second highest impact are (3) services and (4) security, followed (5) social inclusiveness.

Scores are computed separately for each domain and then normalized to a common scale which ranges from 0 (where all essential living conditions are met) to 100 (where no essential living conditions are met). Higher scores denote more severe living conditions for IDPs. Scores of the overall index are calculated as logical conditions considering the importance and severity of each domain. The scores of each domain and overall index are grouped into three categories: low, medium, and high severity of living conditions.

Figure 2. Measurement model¹ of the living conditions of IDPs in Iraq



LIMITATIONS

The data of the DI is collected through KI interviews in each location with IDPs. This methodology has the advantage of allowing extensive coverage over a short period of time but relies on one representative per location, mainly mukhtars and community or local council representatives, who

report on the views of a potentially large and diverse population, which might lead to limited representation for smaller groups with distinct characteristics or discrepancies caused by social desirability bias, particularly regarding the domain of social inclusiveness.

1 Goodness of fit: Estimator DWLS, CFI = 0.975 (good if >0.95), TLI=0.968 (good if >0.95), RMSEA= 0.045 (good if <0.06), SRMR= 0.078 (good if <0.08)