



LIVELIHOOD BASELINE ASSESSMENT REPORT

SINJAR DISTRICT

OCTOBER 2019

Project title: Building Resilient Livelihoods for Conflict Affected Communities in Sinjar District project

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

DoLSA	Directorate of labour and social affairs
KII	Key informant interview
PHCC	Public Health Care Center
CFW	Cash for Work
FGD	Focus group discussions
PWD	People with disability
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
PDM	Post distribution monitoring
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
KRI	Kurdistan regional of Iraq
HNO	Humanitarian needs overview
ISIL	Islamic state of Iraq and the levant

Executive Summary

Introduction

By end of November 2017, the military offensive led by the Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) and its coalition partners brought an end to IS territorial control and restored government authority that has created some stability across the country. Due to the conflict an estimated 4.1 million people have been displaced¹. The Islamic State's (IS) brutal attack on the Yazidi community in Sinjar district in Northern Iraq in August 2014, displaced thousands of Yazidi families with nearly a hundred thousand fleeing to Sinjar Mountain for safety. A significant number of Yazidis took refuge in neighbouring Duhok governorate where they have remained until today. Following the defeat of IS, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) estimates about 4,113,624 people have returned to their areas of origin by end of 2018. Ninewa governorate is leading with a returnee caseload of 1,591,734 people, of which 944,718 are in Mosul.

CARE Iraq with support from the Australian Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) will contribute to CARE's work on enabling internally displaced people (IDPs), returnees and host communities, particularly the vulnerable youth, ISIL survivors and female headed households (FHHs) in Sinjar Mountain and Sinjar Town, Ninewa governorate of Iraq, to rebuild their lives through a sustainable livelihood program. Sinjar is located 50 kilometres (km) east of the border with Syria, 120 km west of Mosul and around 120 km south-west of Duhok governorate in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI). Sinjar Mountain, a 100-km long ridge located directly north of Sinjar town, divides the area into northern and southern sectors². The area's inhabitants are mostly Yazidi and Sunni Muslim³. Yazidis are an ethnic and religious minority, constituting less than 3% of Iraq's population of over 37 million that is largely dominated by Muslims that make-up over 95% of the populace⁴.

CARE's livelihood intervention employs an inclusive approach, consulting the affected community to identify viable livelihood opportunities that suit their specific context whilst building on lessons from other actors implementing livelihoods interventions in Sinjar district. The mutually reinforcing interventions are designed to increase incomes of participating women and men of all diversities, thus contributing to mitigating the worsening negative coping strategies influenced by the acute shortage of livelihood opportunities in the post conflict setting. The intervention provides culturally appropriate and gender sensitive vocational training (VT) to enhance employable skills for both women and men of all diversities with a high vulnerability profile and provide start-up capital to selected women and men for micro-businesses identified by local community committees. The project implementation period is from June 13, 2019 to December 12, 2020.

¹ Humanitarian needs overview 2020: https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/iraq_hno_2020.pdf

² PAX, "Sinjar After ISIL: Returning to Disputed Territory", June 2016

³ The area also has Kurdish and Christian populations

⁴ CHR IST IANS AND YAZ ID IS IN IRAQ: CURRENT SITUATION AND PROSPECTS

Summary of Key Findings and Recommendations

- As per the result of Washington group questions used in the survey to identify difficulties that respondents may have doing certain activities because of a health problem among participants in the survey. 67% (n=290 out of 431) (31% F, 36% M) reported that they don't face difficulties doing such activities due to health problems which considered not having disabilities. However; 33% (n=142 out of 431) reported having difficulties doing such activities due to health problems which they are considered people with disabilities (PWDs). Of those considered PWDs, 18% (n=76) are female and 15% (n=66) are male with majority of them claiming that the cause of disability is illness or disease and from birth.
- Baseline findings support that 80% (n=350 out of 431) (40% M, 40% F) of head of households reported that households didn't have access to the livelihood activities (such as Vocational training, agricultural support (E.g. greenhouses, home/farm garden), micro grants, village saving loans associations (VSLAs) and Apprenticeships) in last six months, 10% (6% M, 4% F) of households have vocational training and micro-grants projects particularly in Sinjar city but in Sardashte (Sinjar mountain) 5% of households had access to agricultural inputs activities in last six months.
- Head of household respondents reports, that average expenditures for basic needs⁵ which includes (health, education, food, clothes, personal hygiene and shelter) is more than 800,000 IQD in Sardashte, while monthly average income is around 360,000 IQD, but in Sinjar city expenditures are about 435,000 IQD, while monthly average income is around 560,000 IQD, which is almost half of Sinjar mountain due to unavailability of health service in the mountain, their shelters (tents) are not qualified for healthy living conditions, water & sanitation infrastructure is poor and there are only two primary schools available (high school students have to travel to Sinone for education which is costly).
- Findings support that 94% (n=403 out of 431) (47% M, 47% F) of respondents reported that they haven't used loans or saving on productive investments in the last six months due to mainly financial constraints and fear of losing products because of not having enough costumers. Moreover; the remaining 5% (2% M, 2% F) from Sinjar town and surrounding villages stating using loans and saving on productive investments; such as; Adding on or maintaining productive assets such as Livestock, machines or equipment to scale up already existing income activities, Investment in skills buildings or capability strengthening and Investment to access further financial services.
- Household survey and FGD results show the primary source of income for the household. Its noted that 17% (12% M, 5% F) are depending on temporary jobs, daily labour and/ or not able to work because of not enough job opportunities for everyone. Few people reported that having personal or family connection in area it helps head of household to find job easily. While; 31% (15% M, 16% F) are depending on either humanitarian

⁵ Basic need is defined cost for food, shelter/housing, clothing, personal hygiene items, health care and education

assistances or support from the community, families and/or friends. For more details see below figure. 31% (15% M, 16% F) of the respondents stated that they depend on government employment.

<p>Challenges and Opportunities for Youth</p>	<p>The survey and qualitative results suggest the following challenges and opportunity facing youth in Sinjar district:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In Sinjar town and mountain, FGDs results with men and 65% (30% F, 35% M) of household survey reported that around 60% of families in Sinjar town and mountain are below the poverty line, with a third estimating this rate to be closer to 70%. youth unemployment and underemployment are estimated to be anywhere from 65 to 75%. The reported percentage of heads of households who have migrated from south of Sinjar to Mountain and town was quite high as well, ranging from 67% to 81%. All FGDs with men agreed that youth had a small, if any, role to play in insecurity issues in Sinjar, instead requesting government support and job creation as more important interventions. All FGDs also agreed that increased economic opportunities would prevent youth from joining the security sector. Courses already on offer by other actors in the last two years that youth noted were oversaturated were in hairdressing, haircutting, tailoring, photocopying, mobile phone repair, electrical skills, baking and general trade. Skills still in demand noted included ice-cream making and refreshments, women’s accessories, butchers, car mechanics, electrical installations and false ceilings. English language, computer skills, textiles and sewing, medical skills and agriculture, were also mentioned as in demand. Desirable jobs included working with NGOs, in agriculture, sewing and hairdressing, and in the commercial or private sector. The largest employer of local youth included a local flour factory and PVC factory, while NGOs, agriculture, local cafes and the military were also mentioned. - Sinjar, courses already on offer that youth noted oversaturated in hairdressing, haircutting, tailoring, photocopying, mobile phone repair, electricity, baking, and general trade; - Skills still in demand included ice-cream making and producing refreshments, women’s accessories, butchers, car mechanics, electrical installations, and false ceilings; - English language, computer skills, textiles and sewing, medical skills, and agriculture, were also mentioned as in demand; and - Needed skills noted in Sinjar town were English language, photocopying and computer services, electricity, sweets making, yoghurt production, carpentry, PVC, photography and design skills.
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	<p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <p>Avoid providing haircutting and tailoring-related trainings; Provide refreshment making, car mechanics, English language, computer, electricity and construction-related trainings instead.</p>
<p>Challenges and Opportunities for Jobseekers</p>	<p>The results from Sinjar town, mountain area and surrounding villages indicate that the majority of respondents agree on the following challenges and opportunities facing jobseekers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In Sinjar town and mountain 65% of Women and girls’ respondents believe they would be least likely to be employed, including orphans, widows, and persons with disabilities also mentioned due to the current traditional norms leaving constrains for women and girls to work outside. The most common group of people that respondents felt should be targeted for livelihood assistance were lower-income persons (mentioned by 70% of respondents), with widows and orphans also frequently mentioned. 45% of respondents in the town noted that the main source of information about current hiring is social media, and the remaining 65% mentioning internet, friends and work or study connections. Approximately 95% of mountain respondents also thought that there was no job centre in their community. Those who thought so felt that it would be best to establish one either at the junction of Karsi (Mountain), or Those in Sinjar, were most likely to propose Sinjar centre as an ideal location for a job centre. - However; with majority of adult (18 to 40 years old) men and women FGDs, result shows the largest current employers mentioned by this group included the commercial sector, agriculture, NGOs and security sector jobs. The sports sector (including gyms), childcare, language courses and painting were the most mentioned jobs having difficulty in finding skilled workers. NGOs were noted as desirable to work with, while security sector were not. - The most common group of people that respondents felt should be targeted for livelihood assistance were lower income households (mentioned by 73%), with widows and orphans, or those who have lost one parent, also frequently mentioned; - About 95% of respondents noted that the main source of information about current hiring is social media and friends. - Businesses related to sports (including gyms) childcare and language courses mentioned difficulty in finding skilled workers.

	<p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <p>The sports sector could also be targeted; and Advertisement for opportunities such as Cash for work (CFW) and vocational training (VT) can and might be done on Facebook to reach more people or to conduct door to door assessments in the targeted neighbourhoods or villages in coordination with Mukhtars.</p>
<p>Challenges and Opportunities for Employers</p>	<p>The data suggests that across targeted baseline survey locations, the majority of respondents had mutual understanding of the following challenges and opportunities facing employers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All businesses reported using raw material purchased from other areas of Iraq as opposed to imported goods, including goods from Mosul, Telafar, Duhok and Zakho. Over 30% of businesses also noted that the inputs they purchased for their business were not enough, occasionally noting that this was due to either high costs or lack of funds. The most common issue noted with suppliers was, in turn, the inability to purchase on debt, indicating a supply side limitation not generally noted in other areas where shop visit surveys have been conducted. The most common complaint about buyers included low purchasing power, late repayment of debts and weak demand. Six blacksmiths reported good demand, as did a series of businesses related to electrical appliances, building material stores, food stores, salons and two sweets makers. Meanwhile, a vehicle repair shop, a carpenter, a blacksmith, a medicinal herbs shop, a fabrics shop, a restaurant, the owner of a confectionary and oven factory, and a women’s salon all mentioned difficulty in finding skilled workers. For both cases (having good demand and finding it hard to find skilled workers), blacksmiths, women’s salons, and sweets makers stood out as potential business types to target. - Over half of the respondents (53%) felt that the number of businesses like theirs had remained stable over the last 6 months; - Out of an average of 6 workers per business, an average of 4 were related to every business owner; - 30% of businesses also noted that the inputs or raw materials they purchased for their business were not enough, occasionally noting that this was due to either high costs or a lack of funds; - Blacksmiths all reported good demand, as did electrical appliances sellers, building material suppliers, food resellers, salons and sweets making businesses; and - A vehicle repair shop, a carpenter, a blacksmith, a medicinal herbs shop, a fabrics shop, a restaurant, the owner of a confectionary and oven factory, and a women’s salon all mentioned difficulty finding skilled workers.

	<p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <p>Contribute to economic revitalization by supporting the establishment of new businesses through project; Provide on-the-job training (OJT) with employers surveyed. Promote inclusion in hiring where appropriate, and Target OJT towards blacksmithing, salon services, and sweets making.</p>
<p>Challenges and Opportunities for Consumers</p>	<p>Data collected both from surveys and from qualitative interactions suggest that the below are the most common challenges and opportunities facing consumers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consumers were found to spend significantly more on transportation in Sinjar district than in other areas of Iraq, this is mainly due to transporting of goods from Duhok, Erbil and Mosul, informal fees of Miliat check points on the way to Sinjar, having difficult procedures to get permission to enter Sinjar. - A total of 85% of consumers in both Sinjar city and Sinone noted a lack of medical services, while others noted furniture and household appliances, car maintenance services, and clothes as needed but not readily available. - 90% of consumers mentioned having to travel outside of Sinjar and Sinone to purchase or access these goods or services. <p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <p>Support trainings as such; (vehicle repair shops, carpenters, blacksmith, medicinal herbs shops, fabrics shops, restaurants, the owner of the confectionary and oven factory, and women’s salons), job placement, or business support package for medical services, car mechanics, and clothing, etc.</p>
<p>Providing Relevant Focused Education</p>	<p>80% of adult male and female respondents across Sinjar town and surrounded villages indicated that they had not or very few of them received any training or education in vocational training, agricultural inputs and VSLA. Providing such trainings, particularly ones designed to address economic issues relevant to the community, could help expand community education and experience about general challenges listed about points towards, youth, jobseekers, employers, consumers, etc.</p>
<p>Developing Systems & Structures for Addressing Sexual Violence</p>	<p>The collected data indicates that there is a clear problem with sexual violence within Sinjar district, likely with serious implications for the protection of women and children. Moreover, because of the nature of such crimes, it is likely that the actual problem is much more extensive than the data suggests as a result of underreporting.</p> <p>Developing meaningful systems and structures for preventing sexual violence as well as providing support for survivors of sexual violence could be an effective next step in Sinjar district. This is particularly true given</p>

	<p>that the only 25% of women and 30% of men believe that, external of family members, there is no support or little support provided in the targeted communities about sexual violence, either in prevention, case management, or counseling.</p>
<p>Developing Child Protection and Psychosocial Support Systems & Structures</p>	<p>Several child protection issues, including sexual violence and recruitment into armed groups, were apparent across the Sinjar district appears to be exceptionally fragile along all the relevant, evaluated axes.</p> <p>Developing support systems and structures – particularly those with roots in the community established through training, volunteering, etc. – for dealing with some of the most pressing child protection issues evident in each of the targeted locations is likely to be important in the improvement of the child protection situation in the targeted locations. This will be particularly true in Sinjar town, where there seem to be multiple, serious issues about different aspects of child protection and well-being.</p> <p>Relevant psychosocial issues collected from child respondents suggest that there may also be issues about mental health and psychosocial well-being, particularly in terms of uncertainty or even pessimism about the future. In addition to addressing the more immediate and physical issues of sexual violence and under-aged armed forces recruitment, these more psychological issues should be taken into consideration during the formulation and implementation of livelihood activities in order to promote the wellbeing of children in the targeted communities.</p>
<p>Developing & Improving Child Friendly Spaces</p>	<p>in Ninewa governorate, especially Sinjar/Sinone, children appear to have very little knowledge about any child friendly spaces that might be open to them in their community. However, those who do seem to have some knowledge about the CFSs generally appear to enjoy them.</p> <p>Developing new CFSs as well as expanding the capacity (both in terms of number of children engaged as well as the range of subjects/activities available) of existing CFSs could be a positive step to take not only to support child protection and children’s psychosocial wellbeing but also to provide environments in which livelihood activities and trainings could be undertaken.</p>

Study background and rationale

Purpose of the baseline assessment

The purpose of this baseline was to provide an information base on which to monitor and assess an activity's progress and effectiveness during implementation and after the implementation. The objective of the baseline was to:

- To consolidate information in relation to livelihood indicators, gender inequality and information on existing protection risks;
- To identify the major risk factors influencing the vulnerability of the population within the Livelihood system and their coping strategies.
- To identify what is the structure of the market system, and how has it been impacted by the conflict (how is the current situation compared to the pre-conflict one)? How do target groups engage in the system?
- What are the opportunities and inefficiencies in the current market system enabling or hindering the ability of target groups to sustain their livelihoods?
- To streamline activities according to the context based on findings from the baseline.
- To identify the specific livelihood needs of the IDPs, returnees and host communities in Sinjar district
- To assess the availability of livelihood opportunities in assessed areas.
- To identify gaps and propose interventions to improve the level of access to income generating activities

The data collection included qualitative and quantitative approaches (Key Informant Interviews-KIIs, Household visits, shopkeeper visits, Focus Group Discussion-FGD and interviews). Due to the sensitivity of data collected on gender roles the enumerators and team leaders conducting the data collection are trained on how to handle this information to ensure the safety and confidentiality of the individual.

Scope of the baseline

The baseline was conducted in Ninawa governorate, Sinjar district which covers Sinjar town (Azadi, Al-Shuhada, Qadisya, Yarmouk and Al-Nasser neighbourhoods), Sinjar mountain (Karse and Sardashte villages) and Sinone markets as well as surrounded villages, such as; Zomani, Kani sark, Nisisriya, Gri Bedri and Hamadan villages). The baseline primarily targeted the project's expected direct target locations but included sampling of the indirect locations to provide indication of the project's extended impact. Baseline took place within 7 days in October 20 – 27th 2019.

Description of Program Interventions

Project Description

Project Objective:

To improve the economic well-being of 8,290 conflict-affected women, girls, men and boys in displacement, returnees and host populations by enhancing livelihoods through rehabilitation/creation of productive assets using cash for work, agricultural production, vocational skills training, supporting microenterprises, linkages to markets and village savings and loan schemes to strengthen resilience of vulnerable households, particularly female headed households, youth and IS survivors.

Summary of project outputs

- Conflict-affected individuals provided with market-appropriate and gender-sensitive vocational skills training.
- Beneficiaries supported by apprentices and micro-grants
- Conflict -affected individuals provided with agronomic training and agricultural inputs
- Productive assets rehabilitated or newly-built greenhouses
- Rehabilitated or newly built small enterprises (e.g. poultry farms/houses, irrigation structures, green grocery collection points and sale outlets, etc.)
- Beneficiaries participating in VSLAs by the end of the project
- Beneficiaries participating in cash for work activities

Summary of project activities

- Enhancing market-appropriate technical and vocational skills and linkages to 150 people (50% female / 50% male)
- Building technical capacity in agricultural production for 500 beneficiaries (50% female / 50% male)
- Business capacity enhancement for microenterprises through small business grants reaching 25 people (including 20 women), while another 25 (including 5 women) will benefit from apprenticeships. These 25 small business grants and 25 apprenticeships will go to 50 of the 650 beneficiaries that have taken part in the vocational training or agricultural technical capacity building mentioned above.
- Providing cash for work opportunities on public infrastructure and livelihoods assets targeting 400 (25% female / 75% male) beneficiaries.
- To introduce Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) and relevant training to 300 beneficiaries (80% female / 20% male), 250 of which will be drawn from the beneficiaries targeted in the above activities.

Methodology

The methodology for baseline assessment was based on using mixed-method participatory approach as baseline team believes that participation improves quality and enhances ownership. The three phased proposed methodology is constructed on the basis of project proposal as well as the desk review.

Timeframe:

The assessment took place 7 days from October 20 – 27th 2019. Four days allocated to collecting the quantitative data using household and shop keeper visits tools in the targeted locations and two days to qualitative data collection using track transporter tool, community members FGDs and I/NGOs tools in the targeted locations as stated in below sections. Four enumerators (two men and two women that speak the local language) allocated to each location to conduct FGDs. team conducted 2 FGDs (1 with women & girls and 1 with men & boys) with residents on a daily basis for two days. The women enumerators conducted the FGD with woman & girls and the men with men & boys.

Desk Review

The unstructured desk review analysed internal and external documents to allow the baseline team to better understand the context, to draw on the knowledge gained from previous studies or research, identify potentially key issues for later fieldwork, and identify potential judgement criteria, sources, and methods for the evaluation matrix. The baseline team leader was responsible for the desk review which included the HRP 2019, project proposal, assessments previously done on Sinjar situation. Etc.

Household visits

A simple random sampling method was used among Sinjar town, mountain and villages around Sinjar town as those mentioned locations are the main focus of the baseline. The sample size for the household survey was calculated using a 5% margin of error and a confidence level of 95% of the total population per each location as stated below table. Female headed-households, child headed-households, households with elderly people, households with many dependents and households with people with disabilities will be prioritized because they have been identified as particularly vulnerable.

Table 1 Number of household visits targeted neighbourhoods and surrounded villages in Sinjar district.

Location	Total populations	Sample size
Al-Shuhada and Azadi neighbourhood - Sinjar	544 HHs and 403 HH	90 interviews
Al-Qadisiya neighbourhood – Sinjar	95 HHs	45 interviews
Azadi neighbourhood – Sinjar	HHs	78 interviews
Al-Naser neighbourhood - Sinjar	HHs	79 interviews
Sinjar mountain – Karsi village	HHs	109 interviews
Sinjar mountain – Sardashti village		

Zomani and Kani sark villages – close to Sinjar town	35 HHs	15 interviews
Nisisriya and Gri Bedri villages – close to Sinjar town	45 HHs	15 interviews
Total		431 HH interviews

The survey was conducted by 10 enumerators (5 F, 5 M) whom received training on conducting the surveys using the KoBo Collect survey tool on tablets. All of the enumerators were native Kurdish speaking from Sinjar district.

The survey plan aimed for a gender-balanced sample, however, due to job commitments of the men, the distribution shifted towards a higher percentage of female respondents with about roughly double the number of males. Also, the majority of the respondents were in the 18-59 years old (see Table 2).

Table 2: Gender and age distribution of the household survey sample, percentages of total number of respondents.

Age Group	Sample size					
	Female		Male		Total	
	Responses	percentage	Responses	percentage	Responses	percentage
Adult (18 - 59)	193	45%	190	44%	383	89%
Elderly (Over 60)	14	3%	28	6%	42	10%
Adolescent between (15-17)	2	0%	4	1%	6	1%
Total	209	48%	222	52%	431	100%

Key informant Interviews

Seeking to maximise efficient use of resources, the baseline assessment team undertook high-level stakeholder KIIs, such as; Sinjar Mayor, Sinone sub-mayor, big and medium sizes of truck transporters, shopkeepers. Baseline team met with Sinjar and Sinone district mayor, focal points (Mukhtars), local employers and agricultural department director in Sinjar locality, municipality in order to document:

- Perceived needs across training programs, micro grants, and apprenticeships in the locality with focus on specific needs faced by vulnerable populations and women.
- Perceived barriers in employment for job seekers in the locality.
- Perceived effectiveness of programming in mitigating barriers to employment for job seekers.
- Perceived effectiveness of staff training on gender sensitivity, protection and CORE humanitarian standards.
- Perceived program planned impact on social cohesion and the building of social networks.

The key informant Interview was done through the usage of KoBo using on paper with the consent of respondents. The major questions fed with more probing questions to gather more information on the relevant topic and to align the statements as structured and planned. After collection of the information the enumerator made verbatim of the transcripts, which have been given to the team lead, who refined the transcripts and shared it for data analyst who coded the data accordingly and develop summaries to incorporate parts in the final report.

Shopkeeper visits:

A simple random sampling method used among Sinjar town, mountain and villages around Sinjar town as those mentioned locations are the focus of the baseline. The sample size for the shopkeepers' survey calculated using a 5% margin of error and a confidence level of 95% of the total population per each location. Total shops visited 110 such as; in Sinjar town (40 shop visits in different neighbourhoods), Sinjar mountain (10 shops visits in Sardashte and Karsi villages) and Sinone town (60 shops visits in different neighbourhoods)

Track Transporters visits:

A simple random sampling method used among Sinjar town, mountain and Sinone sub-district. The sample size for the track transporters was calculated based on the availability of small, medium and big sizes of transportation tracks per each location, such as; in Sinjar town 10, mountain 5 and Sinone town 10 transporters).

Community members focus groups and Discussions

Baseline team, lead the group discussions with community members, transporters in Sinjar town and mountain as well as Sinone in order to document:

- Perceptions of the ability of team to identify and address gender related barriers to participation.
- Perceptions of gender inclusion as it relates to and or impacts programme impact
- Perception on the appropriateness and relevance of VSLA, apprenticeships and micro grants
- Perception of the needs of community members and barriers are facing to employment.
- Perceptions of the ability of community members to participate in various activities and programs

FGDs were conducted same as key informant interviews through on paper with the consent of respondent. Same as key informant interviews major questions fed with more probing questions to gather more information on the relevant topic and to align the statements as structured and planned. Separate FGDs conducted with women, men, girls and boys. Besides the household visit a series of FGDs were conducted with men and with women in each location as stated below. FGD included with a minimum 10 and maximum 15 participants and last about 60-90 minutes.

Table 3: Number of FGDs conducted in the targeted neighbourhoods and surrounded villages in Sinjar district.

Location	FGDs with men and boys	FGDs with women and girls
Al-Shuhada and Azadi neighbourhood – Sinjar	One FGD (12 participants)	One FGD (9 participants)
Yarmouk neighbourhood – Sinjar	One FGD (10 participants)	One FGD (9 participants)
Al-Nasser neighbourhood – Sinjar	One FGD (14 participants)	One FGD (13 participants)
Sinjar mountain – Karsi village	One FGD (14 participants)	One FGD (14 participants)
Sinjar mountain – Sardashti village	One FGD (9 participants)	One FGD (12 participants)
Zomani and Kani sark villages – close to Sinjar town	One FGD (12 participants)	One FGD (11 participants)
Nisisriya and Gri Bedri villages – close to Sinjar town	One FGD (13 participants)	One FGD (11 participants)
Total	7 FGDs (87 participants)	7 FGDs (92 participants)

Results and analysis

Analysis of results are divided into two main sections: the first section presents residents & infrastructure and baseline survey sample characteristics of Sinjar district. Second section presents benchmarks for the required outcome and output indicators to be able to measure with endline evaluation at the end of the project; and the third section depicts the project's activities.

SECTION ONE Residents & Infrastructure and Survey Sample Characteristics

Residents in Sinjar Town and Mountain

The below data are collected from the local authorities such as Mayor, Mukhtars and community leaders as well as NGOs responsible for the coordination of people's movement such as Barzani charity foundation. It must be noted that due to the lack of a centralized database that tracks movement of people, a few percentages of error are expected in the data.

Table 4: available statistics of residents in Sinjar town, mount and surrounded villages.

AGE GROUP	SINJAR TOWN			SINJAR VILLAGES			SINJAR MOUNTAIN		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
< 18	1243	1346	2589	491	531	1,022	5,580	3,092	8,672
18-59	5628	5796	11424	2,221	2,287	4,508	3,066	1,758	4,824
60 and >	1325	1296	2621	523	511	1,034	984	1,648	2,632
Total	8196	8438	16,634	3,234	3,330	6,564	9,630	6,498	16,128

Household (HH)	3,262	1,230	2,304
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Infrastructure and Property damage:

Sinjar Town

The first observation of the assessment team was the visible, total and severe destruction of Sinjar city caused by heavy fighting, airstrikes and IEDs planted by ISIL. The city is heavily damaged, and most of the private homes are looted. Public buildings, schools, hospitals and social service infrastructures are destroyed. Public and private assets were either destroyed or looted including equipment, furniture and machinery of government institutions, private property, material possessions and livestock of local people and the property of businesses. The nature and scale of the damage varies from one area to another. The neighbourhoods surrounding public buildings in the city town are destroyed as many of the multi-store public buildings and facilities were used as operational base and fighting positions for ISIL. The local shops and markets are levelled to the ground, some due to the fighting and others burned or blasted selectively and deliberately by ISIL. The deliberate targets were primarily the properties of the Yazidis and other religious minorities as indicated by the signs and markings left by ISIL to indicate which building should or should not be destroyed. The general damage to social services infrastructure is estimated at 70%, and for private houses around 30%⁶.

Sinjar mountain

There are three villages on Sinjar mountain called Karse, Kolka and Qobane. People of those villages belong to the Faqire tribe., Administratively and economically the mountain area belongs to Sinone sub-district with a distance of about 18 Km. During ISIL attack the mountain was not taken but served as a safe haven for thousands of Yazidis under ISIL attack. Sinone district was taken by ISIL, most of the properties were stolen and got partially damaged with severe damage of infrastructure. The existing mountain shelters, currently approximately 2,500 tents, are mostly made from mud, and in bad conditions.

Demographics of respondents

Over half of all the respondents, 52% (n=222) were males with 86% of them are in adult in between (18 – 59), while the remaining were female (n=209) with 92% of the female respondents are also adult in between (18 – 59). Over half of respondents 69% (n=299) are head of household and their ages are in between 18 – 40 years old. Moreover; 85% (n=368) of the respondents are internal displaced people (IDPs) living in rental, unfinished building, informal camps, tents shelter due to the ongoing insecurity of their original places. Major families whose living in Sinjar mountain are IDPs been allocated to mount since 2014 due to ISIS attack to Sinjar, most of them are from villages south of Sinjar mountain refusing to return back due to ongoing military activities and political problems between both Iraqi and KRI governments, all of them are living

⁶ Post conflict assessment, Samaritan’s purse, February 2019 [Post conflict assessment, minority communities in Ninawa](#)

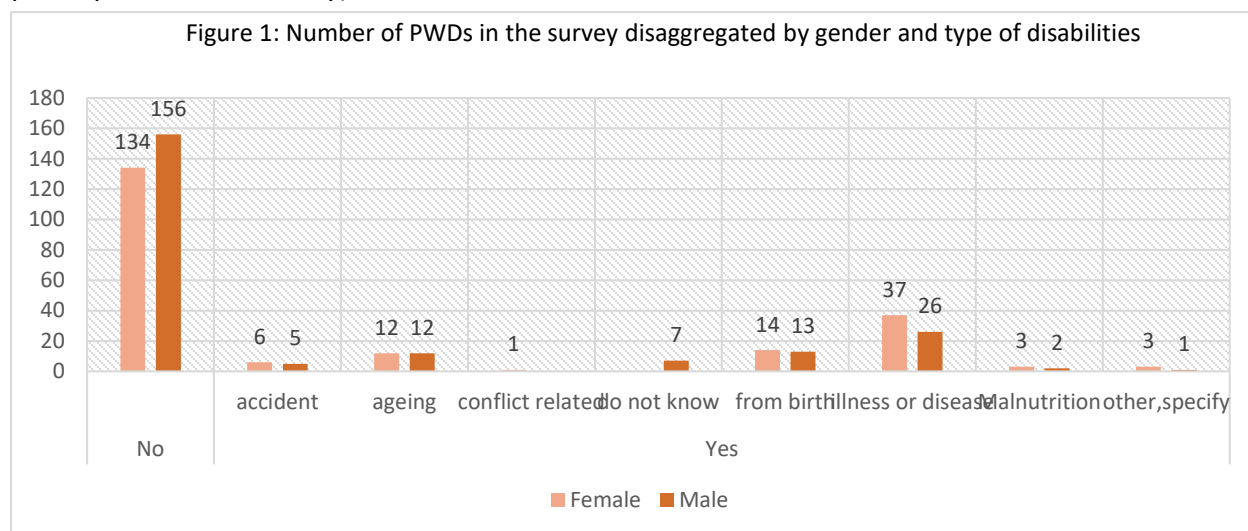
in tents distributed along Sinjar mountain with wide area. However; there are three villages with few numbers of families are living in concrete shelter and donated their agricultural land to IDPs to build tent on it. In Sinjar City, majority of people been interviewed are IDPs living in concrete shelters, mostly belong to original people whose are IDPs living in IDP camps of KRI.

Over 54% of similar male and female respondents are illiterate with a smaller percentage goes for primary and high school and only 1% attended university. In Sinjar district average family size is 3.5 male & 3.5 female and average total family members are 7 people. (see table 1) below shows demographics for the beneficiaries who participate in the survey and provides more details on the number and percentage of participants disaggregated by gender, educational level and age.

Table 5: Demographics of baseline household survey.

Question	Options	Household Survey Participants		
		Sex	%	Responses
Are you head of the household?	Yes	Men	45%	196
		Women	24%	103
	No	Men	6%	26
		Women	25%	106
Age of respondent?	Adolescent (15- 17)	Men	1%	4
		Women	0%	2
	Adult (18 - 59)	Men	44%	190
		Women	45%	193
	Elderly (Over 60)	Men	6%	28
		Women	3%	14
Education level	illiterate	Men	22%	96
		Women	32%	138
	Primary school	Men	20%	85
		Women	13%	55
	High school	Men	7%	32
		Women	3%	14

As per the result of Washington group questions used in the survey to identify difficulties that respondents may have doing certain activities because of a health problem among participants in the household survey. 67% (n=290 out of 431) (31% F, 36% M) reported that they don't face difficulties doing such activities due to health problems which considered not having disabilities. However; 33% (n=142 out of 431) reported having difficulties doing such activities due to health problems which they are considered people with disabilities (PWDs). Of those considered PWDs, 18% (n=76) are female and 15% (n=66) are male with majority of them claiming that the cause of disability is illness or disease and from birth. (figure 1 shows types of disabilities as reported by participants in the survey).



When asked what category of household best describes the age range of respondent's head of household, 90% (n=386 out of 431) of the respondents in the survey claimed that "male headed household" (of these 84% (n=326 out of 386) are adult male headed household. Only 10% (n=45) are "adult female headed household". Key informant agreed that the majority head of households in Sinjar are male due to male dominated community, especially in mountain and Sinjar town. The figure below shows percentage of male and female households categorized by age as described by the survey participants.

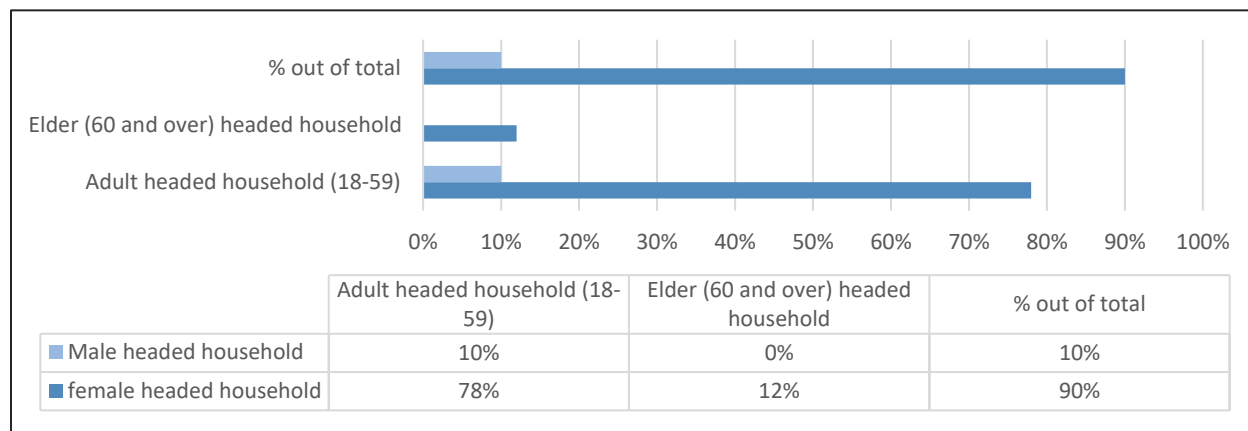


Figure 1: What category best described the age range of your head of household

SECTION TWO: Benchmark of Project Outcome Indicators

This section of the document seeks to provide more detailed analyses than those offered within the logframe (refer to annex A). This is with the intent of both contextualizing the logframe indicators, as well as providing the broader analyses and data requested by the livelihood team, seeking inform future delivery. These have been broken down by outcomes and outputs results, to ensure relevance and promote understanding:

Project indicators

The final findings of the baseline conclude to set a benchmark for outcome and output project indicators to be able to measure after the project is implemented. Below are the specific indicators as per project logframe that needs to have a benchmark:

Outcome Indicators	Baseline results	Explanation
Percentage of beneficiaries of cash for work (CFW) that report increased income and ability to meet basic needs	20%	80% of baseline respondents, which is expected to be project beneficiaries don't have access to cash for work and agricultural support. In other words; 20% of respondents claimed having access to CFW and agricultural support through other humanitarian actors in the last six months. Their average monthly income in mount is 360,000 IQD and expenses are 800,000 IQD, but in Sinjar town monthly income is 560,000 IQD and expenses is 435,000 IQD. However; due to the limited available job opportunities and high percentage of jobless; the remaining percentage who have been given trainings by other actors are finding difficulties getting employment due to lack of job opportunities.
Percentage of beneficiaries of agricultural support that report increased income and ability to meet basic needs	20%	

In order to set a benchmark for the above outcome indicators to be able to measure with endline evaluation at the end of the project, CARE has put in place a mechanism to set a benchmark under which the overall calculation was based on respondent's average monthly income in the last 3 months and how that income is spent to meet the one or more of basic needs. The respondents who have enough income to meet at least 4 elements are able to meet their basic needs. The following 6 elements were defined as basic needs:

1. Costs for food (including water)
2. Costs for shelter/housing
3. Costs for Clothing
4. Costs for personal hygiene items

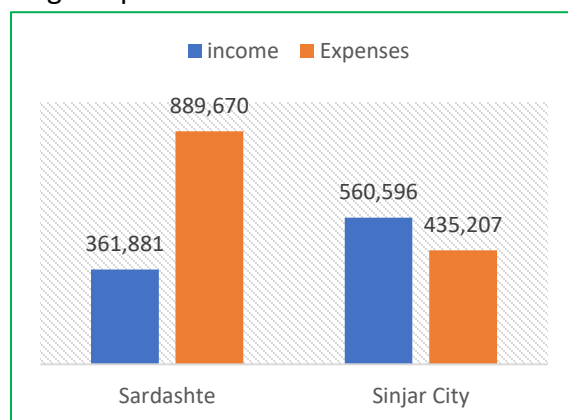
5. Costs for Healthcare
6. Cost for Education

Baseline findings support that 80% (n=350 out of 431) (40% M, 40% F) of head of households reported that households didn't have access to the livelihood activities (such as Vocational training, agricultural support (E.g. greenhouses, home/farm garden), micro grants, village saving loans associations (VSLAs) and Apprenticeships) in last six months, 10% (6% M, 4% F) of households have vocational training and micro-grants projects particularly in Sinjar city but in Sardashte (Sinjar mountain) 5% of households had access to agricultural inputs activities in last six months.

In addition, households that participated to livelihood program mostly were not able to find employment after graduating from training because of lack of job opportunities and financial constraints in the area.

Household's financial condition:

Head of household respondents reported, that average expenditures for basic needs⁷ which includes (health, education, food, clothes, personal hygiene and shelter) is more than 800,000 IQD in Sardashte, while monthly average income is around 360,000 IQD, but in Sinjar city expenditures are about 435,000 IQD, while monthly average income is around 560,000 IQD, which is almost half of Sinjar mountain due to unavailability of health service in the mountain, their shelters (tents) are not qualified for healthy living conditions, water & sanitation infrastructure is poor and there are only two primary schools available (high school students have to travel to Sinone for education which is costly). In addition to that most expenditures in Sinjar Mountain go for food and clothing due to the harsh weather and also because of most people are IDPs living in the tents.



On the other hand, in Sinjar city most of expenditure goes to food and health care and education, "I need to buy bag, books, pens and all other needs to my five children to be ready for school, and also monthly transportation, because government are not active to support schools in Sinjar city" Khalata Gule⁸. Below figure shows monthly average expenditures of respondents in Sinjar town and mountain.

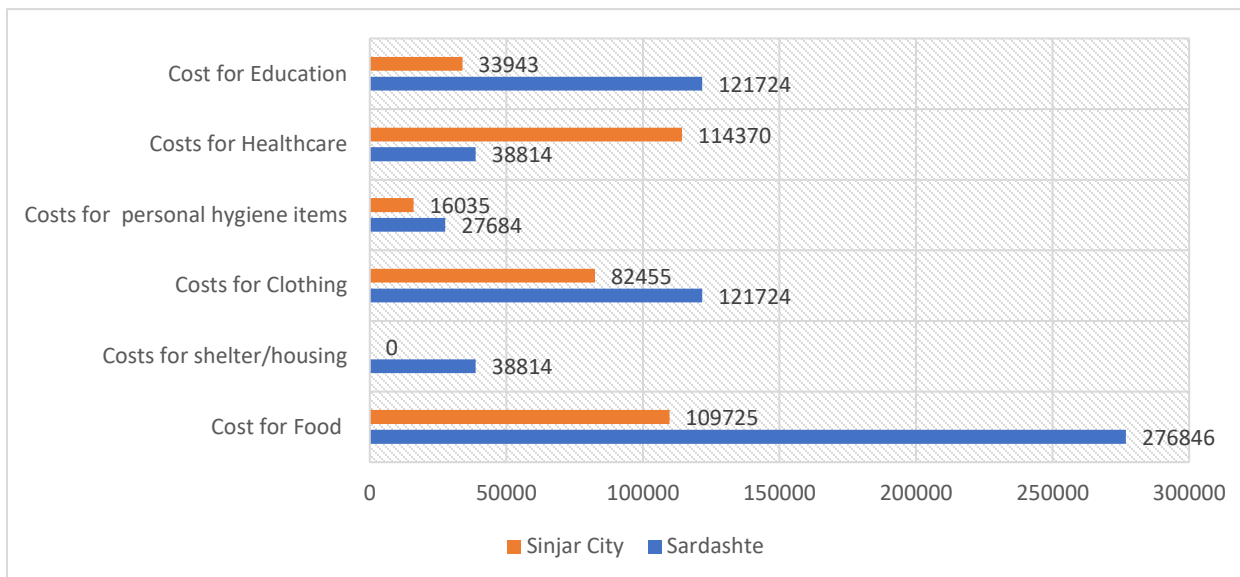
According to household respondents report, in Sardashte (Sinjar mountain) value of expenditure is twice than the value of income of each family, due to lack of income and increase in expenses many households borrow money from relatives and friends (due to unavailability of health service in the mountain, their shelters (tents) are not qualified for health living condition and

⁷ Basic need is defined cost for food, shelter/housing, clothing, personal hygiene items, health care and education

⁸ Real name is been changed, a women FGD participant in Sinjar mountain

water & sanitation infrastructures is poor), take loans and buy materials for credits, and also sell their assets, “I sold all my gold accessories that was a gift from my husband to live on it “ Shamme Hussein Saed⁹

Figure 2: Expenditures in your current location for the past 3 months (per month) in IQD



Household’s agricultural technology:

Outcome Indicators	Baseline results	Explanation
Percentage of beneficiaries applying at least 2-3 agricultural technologies promoted/supported by the project	5%	95% (n=409) of baseline respondents, which is expected to be project beneficiaries don’t have experience and/ or access to more than 3 agricultural technologies (Land preparation (climate sensitive), Post Planting (Crop Management, Wheedling, Thinning etc.), Integrated Pest Management System (IPMS), Pre-and Post-Harvest (Handling and Storage) and Crop Marketing). In other words, 5% (n=22) noted having access and experience to agricultural technologies listed above.

In order to set a benchmark for the above outcome indicator to be able to measure with endline evaluation at the end of the project, CARE has put in place a mechanism to set a benchmark under which the overall calculation was based on respondent’s current skills in term of agricultural technologies and the 5 elements (Land preparation (climate sensitive), Post Planting (Crop Management, Wheedling, Thinning etc.), Integrated Pest Management System (IPMS), Pre-and Post-Harvest (Handling and Storage) and Crop Marketing) were defined as agricultural

⁹ Real name is been changed, a women FGD participant in Sinjar mountain

technologies. The respondents who are applying at least 2 -3 agricultural technologies elements in their current jobs are considered to be able to run their own farming without project’s support.

Findings support that 95% (n=408 out of 431) (47% M, 48% F) of respondents reported that head of households don’t have experience with agricultural technology and mostly in the town and mountain. Community leaders reported, despite; they don’t have agricultural technology experience but main business of family income in Sinjar area is agricultural and crops, because all their skills and experience are transferred from last generation to recent generation through father to son. On the other hand, more than 95% of head of households are not ready to use loans or saving to do investment of business or new product in the area due to insecurity in their locations and fear of new conflict among the present different military militia in Sinjar district.

Household’s familiarity with VSLA

Outcome Indicators	Baseline results	Explanation
Percentage of VSLAs Member who use loans or savings on productive investments	6%	94% (n=405) of baseline respondents, which is expected to be project beneficiaries haven’t used loans or saving on productive investments in the last six months. However; 6% (n=26) stated using loans and saving on productive investments; such as; Adding on or maintaining productive assets such as Livestock, machines or equipment to scale up already existing income activities, Investment in skills buildings or capability strengthening and Investment to access further financial services.

In order to set a benchmark for the above outcome indicator to be able to measure with endline evaluation at the end of the project, CARE has put in place a mechanism to set a benchmark under which the overall calculation was based on respondent’s loans or saving on productive investments and the 5 elements (Investment in new or existing Home-based businesses, Investment in new or existing Small to medium scale businesses, Adding on or maintaining productive assets such as Livestock, machines or equipment to scale up already existing income activities, Investment in skills buildings or capability strengthening; and Investment to access further financial services) are defined as productive investments. The respondents who are using at least 3 productive investments elements in their current jobs are considered using loans or saving.

Findings support that 94% (n=405 out of 431) (47% M, 47% F) of respondents reported that they haven’t used loans or saving on productive investments in the last six months due to mainly financial constraints and fear of losing products because of not having enough costumers. Moreover; the remaining 6% (4% M, 2% F) from Sinjar town and surrounding villages stating using

loans and saving on productive investments; such as; Adding on or maintaining productive assets such as Livestock, machines or equipment to scale up already existing income activities, Investment in skills buildings or capability strengthening and Investment to access further financial services.

SECTION THREE Analysis of Project activities

Participant's Experience

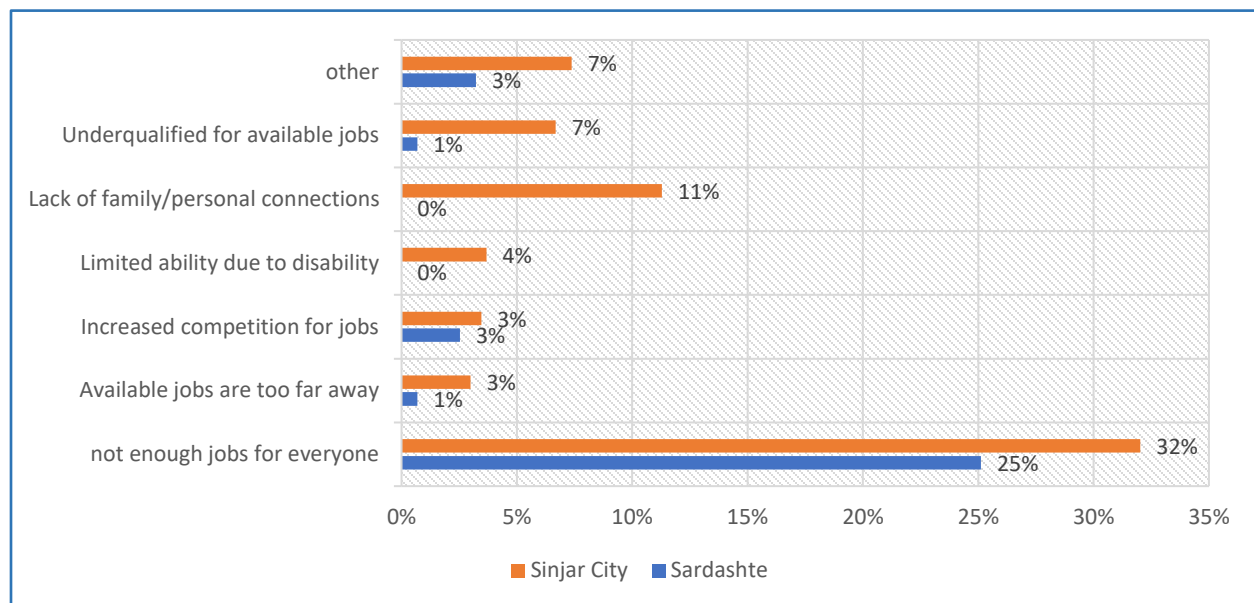
From the point of view of respondents were asked about their current employment or receiving an income through both formally or informally working. 70% (n=301 out of 431) (35% M, 35% F) of survey respondents claimed not currently "jobless". Of those who are currently working, 26% (17% M, 9% F) are currently working on daily basis for private sectors; such as; agricultural business owners, restaurants, small size markets, rehabilitation of habituates, others are either employed by government or working in animal, husbandry, hairdresser/Barber, education (teacher, trainer), domestic work (cleaning, gardening), etc.

Only a small percentage of respondents with 20% (15% M, 5% F) household members over 18 have not worked in the past months, including head of HH. 52% (27% M, 24% F) of the working household members don't have regular or permanent job (20 or more days per month) and of these 83% (47% M, 36% F) are expecting the level of employment with the regular jobs would be less than now keeping in mind the situation Iraq general goes through and more specifically Sinjar district due to ongoing safety/security issues. Also, the instability of the area for citizen was one of the reasons to not expect the level of job opportunities to increase. Moreover 34% (21% M, 13% F) of survey respondents stating having regular employment with either employed by government, private sector and/or they have their own business such as farming.

People were asked about their primary source of income for the household. It came out that 17% (12% M, 5% F) are depending on temporary jobs, daily labor and/ or not able to work because of not enough job opportunities for everyone. Few people reported that having personal or family connection in area it helps head of household to find job easily. While; 31% (15% M, 16% F) are depending on either humanitarian assistances or support from the community, families and/or friends. For more details see below figure. 31% (15% M, 16% F) of the respondents stated that they depend on government employment.

Experience of respondents are various, 69% (34% Female, 35% Male) are unemployed and not getting any income through work, but 10% of employed head of household are governmental employee for different sectors such as; security, education and health, few households receive income through agriculture, trade, hairdresser, or other private business. Also, mostly of employed head of households have experience between 5 to 20 years. In addition, more than 60% of household's primary source of income is loan, debt and selling of house assets.

Figure 3: For those who are not able to find work, what are the obstacles?



Participant’s interest to project activities:

Almost all respondents (99%) want to have member of the family to be as a beneficiary of one of the project activities, and more than 38% (19% M, 19% F) of respondents would like to participate in vocational training and 34% (22% M, 11% F) agricultural inputs ((E.g. greenhouses, home/farm garden), and only 9% (3% m, 5% F) village saving and loans associates (VSLA) activities due to their unfamiliarity with this mechanism.

Head of households reported, that 65% of respondent didn’t participated in any type of activities and workshops regarding microcredits and livelihood programs, even the 35% that participated in activities rarely related to similar program.

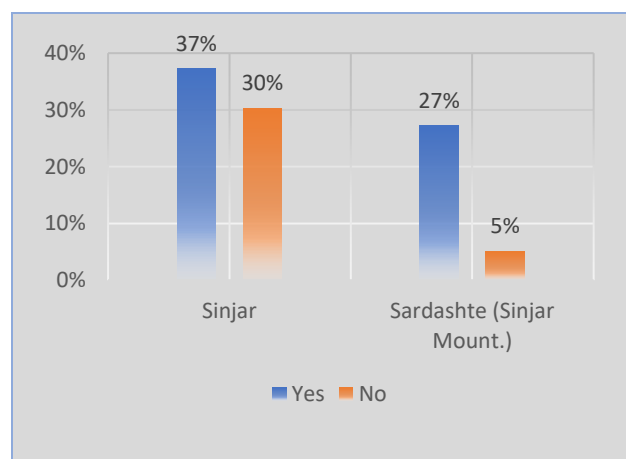


Figure 4: Do you need chosen activity in order to find employment outside the home?

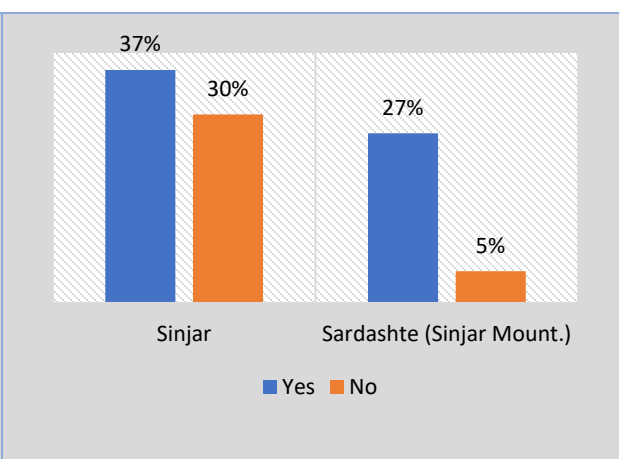


Figure 5: Have you previously participated in the chosen activity?

Head of household respondents reported, that everyone attending program are willing to attend trainings and activities regularly, and 64% of respondents claiming to participate training and activities to get skills that might be help them to find employment outside their homes, however; 35% of households don't prefer to be away from homes due to security constrains, taking care homes and children, difficulties in public transportations, etc.

72% (37% M, 35% F) of the respondents would like to participate in vocational activities; such as; (Sweets making, Mobile phone repair, English language, Computer skills, Hairdressing, Haircutting, Blacksmithing, Photography, Sewing, Car mechanic, Electrical skills, etc.) and agricultural inputs; such as; greenhouses and home/farm garden) and apprenticeships activities for their future incoming generating activities to advance in their careers; such as; getting practical and academic experience to be able to have regular employments.

Respondents have been given the opportunity to reflect what time is most convenient for them to attend the activities if successfully chosen, it has been realized that majority of people don't have a concrete decision at the time being, claiming that it depends on when activities might start. However; 42% (25% M, 16% F) agreed that both morning and afternoon time can work for them to attend trainings and 54% with majority of them are women (41%) reported afternoon time might give them a better opportunity due to their home care responsibilities in morning shift.

Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA)

Head of Households reported, 54% (40% in Sinjar , 14% in Sinjar mount.) that the head of households or a member of their family have skills that can be improved and marketed, they are mostly distributed to bakery, barbers and salon, tailors, restaurants, poultry, farming, electrical, mechanical, sweet shops and other skills includes micro-markets, construction works, and agricultural skills, particularly for people on mountain of Sinjar. Also 61% of head of households and their members are willing to start their own family business.

Head household respondents stated 68% of households have neighborhood families with more than 4 female that are ready to join microcredit groups and to have shared micro-business, in addition more than 90% of respondents confirmed that they understand the microcredit loans and they need to re-pay loan from revenues as soon as are gained.

Despite of many head of households willing to get microcredit loans, however; 59% of respondents foresee barriers to repeat loans for several weeks, because of feasibility not to have revenue, financial constrains to repay loans, and security constrains in general.

Over 90% of head of household reported are willing to be part of microcredit program and participate on bi-weekly meeting within neighbor members and to be part of the training that will be long for a year.

Physical capacity & Transportation

Wholesaler respondents interviewed were mostly 77% (n=83) from Sinjar town and 23% from Sinone and Sinjar mountain (Sardashte), only 24 % of wholesalers and traders use its own truck for transporting goods and commodities to market, 71% hire trucks for transporting and others rely on the wholesalers, relative’s trucks and public transportation for transiting and delivering commodities to the market place.

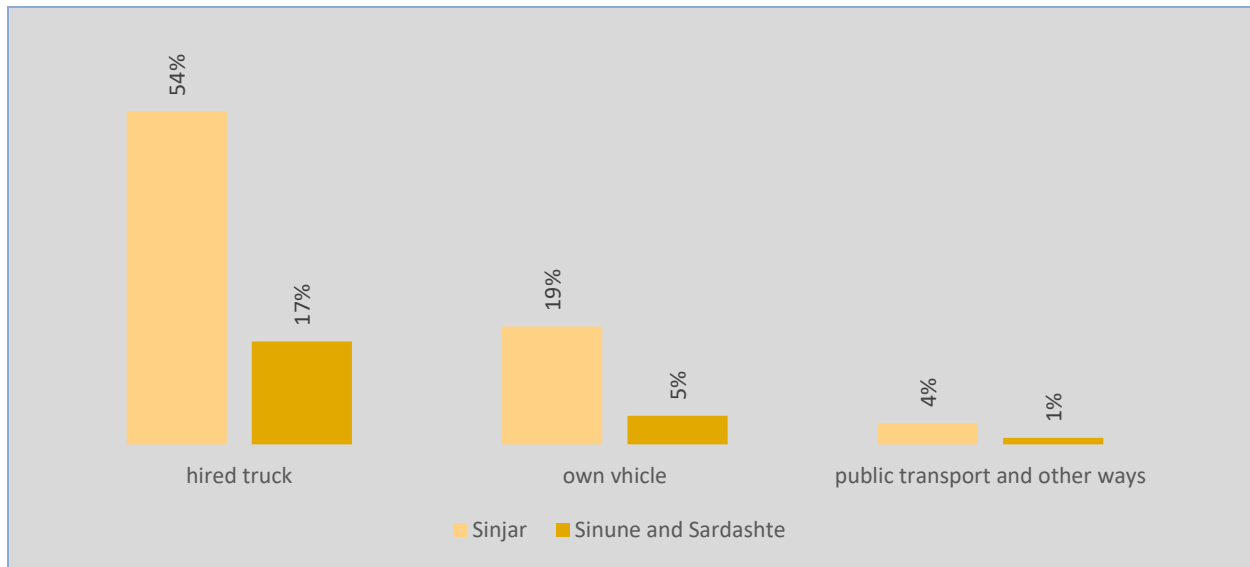


Figure 6: How do you transport goods to your warehouse/store?

In other hand respondents with 51% Male and 49% Female from both Sinjar city and Sinjar mountain reported that 46% of household members use taxis, 33% use their own cars and some households use other ways of transportations such as’ relaying on their friends and relatives. Moreover; in more rural area such as Sinjar mountain, households mostly rely on both their own cars and relatives/friend’s car.

Also 58% of household respondents reported that different group of population don’t have regular access to public transportation (4% children, 32% Female, and 16% others), due to different barriers and constrains security and different political parties, sexual harassments, damage of road infrastructure, poverty and other barriers.

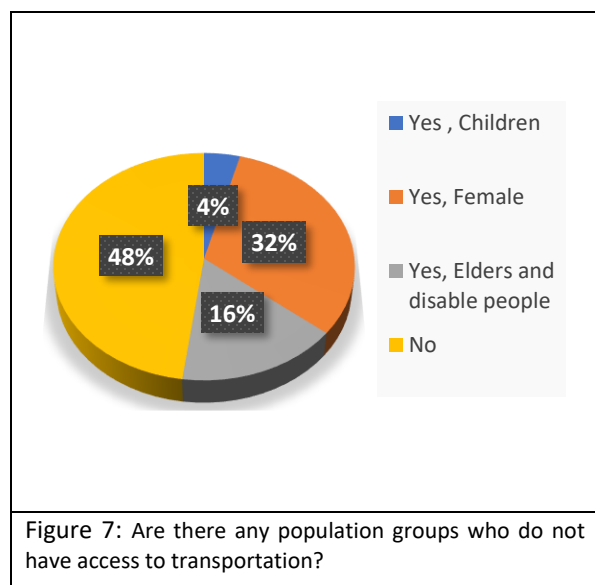


Figure 7: Are there any population groups who do not have access to transportation?

Mid-size truck respondents in Sinjar and Sinone claiming that all trucks belong to individuals that working independently, and transportation companies do not exist in the area. Most of trucks are determined for identified items' transportation.

IDPs, returnees and host communities are main consumers for purchasing goods and most of transporters are willing and have capability to supply more commodities while there is increase in demand. Food item wholesalers' respondents, most of food items sources are majorly from Mosul and minority from Erbil and Duhok.

Due to access and security and also taxes constrain by "Hashed Al Shabi" while transporting good from Duhok and Erbil. Mosul city became the main source of purchasing commodities for the time being. Security constrains, and damage of road infrastructure are main constrains for de-accelerating smooth running of the transporters business, but distance of roads, type of commodities, size of commodities, source of supply and delivery locations are main components to set up price of delivering.

Financial service providers:

Wholesalers in Sinjar reported, there are only a few financial providers, who two of them opened recently. The reason of having a gap in financial service providers, is due to the security constrains and the politically uncontrolled situation. Most traders and trailers in Sinjar rely on Sinone sub-district for different sort of financial service providers.

In Sinjar mountain, financial service providers do not exist, all trailers and mid-size shops and even people travel to Sinone sub-district (~ 17 Km away) to get all kind of financial services.

Financial service providers reported, there are only five officially registered financial service providers in Sinone, which have ability to offer loans for both traders and community members through official agreement between two parties and with revenue percentages. In addition, those providers have the ability to handle more than 150 Million IQD. Most relevant agreement is contract between main office in Sinone and providers with 2% of fees.

Mukhtars reported, all financial service providers request ID (Iraqi ID) and name of the actor who completes the transaction process. The procedure for international transactions is more restricted and requires a call from the sent side with the exact amount and currency type. In this case having both electricity and internet is facilitating the process of transaction.

Governance/legalities of market traders

Sinone sub-mayor reported 90% of traders and trailers are not registered in all Sinjar district including Sinone and Sinjar Mountain, due to non-functionality of the local government departments, security constrains, lack of information and guidance to register shops, avoid taxes, in addition many of the shops are temporary.

FGD participants reported, *"You can find hundreds of expired commodities in these markets and also we wish to have quality control from health department, particularly for both Food items, and Medical clinics."* Hay Shahada Mukhtar-Sinjar city said. Quality control and observation of

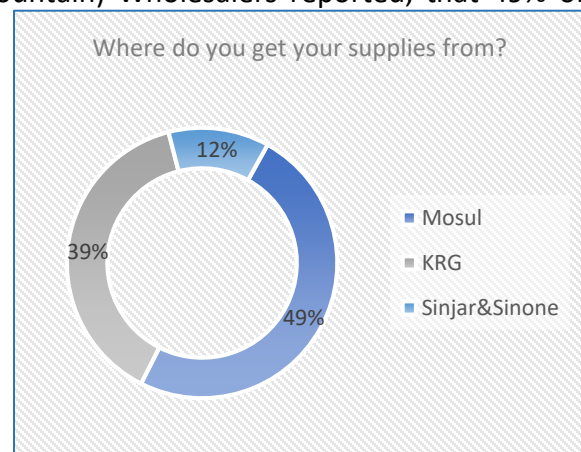
the goods quality, prices are not guided by local government, and everybody sell and buy commodities randomly, without observation from local government. In addition, Mosul government almost doesn't have any control on Sinjar area.

Agricultural and Municipality departments in Sinjar city reported, 85% of traders do not follow any regulation and even local authorities do not offer any kind of certificate or even do not have technical officer to set up prices in the market.

FGD participants reported "Women and girls have rights to open shop and there are no constrains from government side, particularly sewing shop, clothes sellers and salon business, but they need financial support to encourage them, therefore more than 15% of women have their own business" Mukhtar of Karse village said.

Source of supply/Re-stocking capacity

In both Sinjar city and Sinone (includes Sinjar mountain) Wholesalers reported, that 49% of wholesalers and traders get their products and supplies in KRG cities and mostly in Duhok and Erbil governorates. However; there are still 39% of traders get their supplies in Mosul city and surrounded area, and other small shops get supplied inside Sinone and Sinjar city.



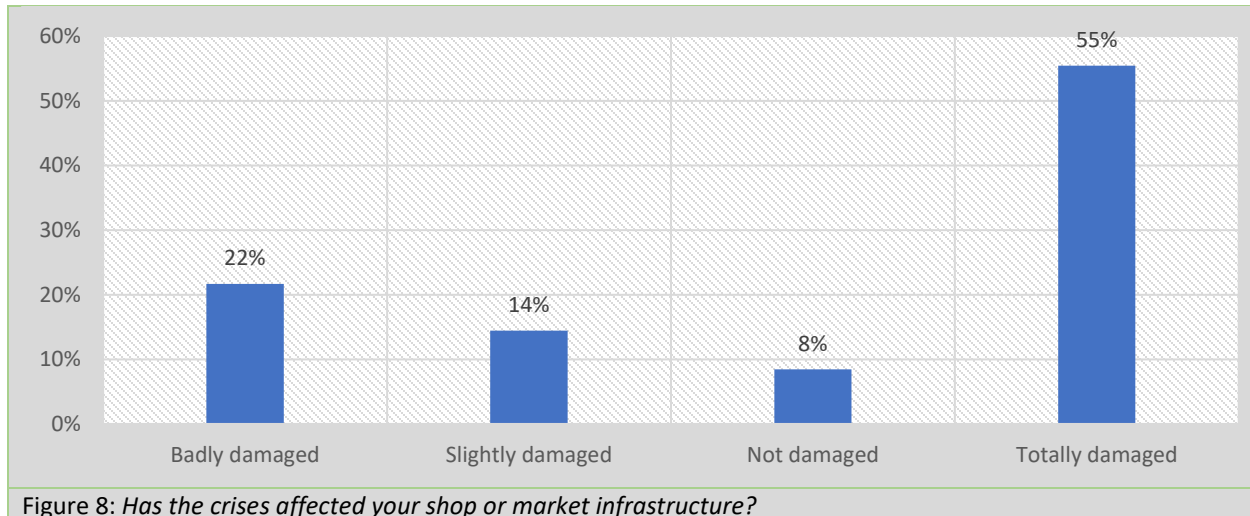
Wholesalers claiming that 45% of traders because of both financial and security constrains are not willing to increase capacity of stocks, also others reported that closing of borders such as Syrian-Sinjar border or closing road between both Duhok and Sinjar from time to time are another constrains of increasing the stock.

Also, Sinjar Mayor have commented that lack of people inside Sinjar city, and current crisis in both Syria and Iraq has affected movement of people and traders in the town as well are not taking risk on increasing stock on the area.

Functionality and Accessibility of Markets

Sinjar City

Sinjar town marketplaces are distributed in different neighbourhoods of Sinjar such as Al-Shuhada, Al-Nasser, Yarmouk, Azadi and Al-Qadisiya neighbourhoods. There are more than two Km distance between those neighborhoods. According to the data collection team 70% of public places have been severely damaged and destroyed due to ISIL attack. Regarding market infrastructure; 77% totally damaged, besides many other markets have slight damaged includes break in roof, damage of both windows and doors.



The same roads, electrical services, pavements, sewage, and most of infrastructures services severely damaged and need reconstruction. Quality control and governmental market observation is not existing in the town. Everyone has access to open shops or even increase or decrease prices. Most of the shops are not registered or the registration already is expired. No governmental agencies are following up on this.

Sinone and Sinjar Mountain

Community members in Sinjar Mountain reported 90% of shops are temporary and tents. Its infrastructure is at risk to be damaged during winter season due to heavy rains and strong winds. Also, a bad drainage and narrow sewerage channel system strain those facilities. Those shops have very small space and there is only about three hours of public electricity, some shops are using small private generators and some others are operating without electricity.

Marketplaces infrastructure in Sinone is in a good condition, but roads are only partially paved, no proper sewage and poor garbage collection system, lack of public electricity, lack of internet signal from time to time. All mentioned infrastructure components need to be improved to support movements and services of market actors and people as well.

Most of the shops in Sinone are not registered or re-opened after liberation of Sinone, but quality control and observation of market is not functional in both Sinone and Sinjar Mountain.

Market competition

In both Sinjar city and Sinone includes Sardashte an average number of shops and markets that selling the same items and products are from 9 to 15 shops respectively.

Traders respondents reported that 82% (n=83) of traders and shopkeepers in both Sinjar city and Sinone, Sardashte are able to provide all the needed items to people with verity type and qualities. However; there are still few numbers of traders were not able to provide all required needs, because of financial constraints of people and their poverty to buy high quality and new items, security constrain of families that they don't have trust to buy and sell products.

Also, 34% of traders are in strong competition, it's mostly done through providing better services, medium quality commodities, selling by low revenue and giving credit to customers. "There is illegal competition between traders, by stealing each other's customers" Shop keepers said.

Access to and Provision of credit

Wholesalers reported, that 87% of traders and shopkeepers in both Sinjar and Sinone (includes Sardashte) are willing to give credit to their customers, most of traders reported because they don't want to lose their customers, supporting each other's, people have financial constraints, poverty and lack of job among people in the area. Besides that, their customers are IDPs, returnees and host communities, and most of IDPs are from Sinjar mountain, which they are originally are from south of Sinjar city. In other hands, wholesaler reported, that just 25% of traders are able to have access to loan and also credit been given to them from wholesalers' suppliers to their customers and particularly from Mosul and KRG area suppliers.

Also 63% of shopkeepers claiming that almost there is no change in the demand of buying product in credit since crisis, it's because of financial constraints, security barriers and also many people are not able to re-turn credit to shopkeepers.

Presence of non-governmental humanitarian organizations

The Assessment team collected data to understand the services provided in Sinjar district and Sinjar mountain by NGOs/INGOs in the livelihood sector. Following Organization are currently present in that area: International organization for migration (IOM), Welthungerhilfe (WHH), MISSION EAST, International Rescue Committee (IRC), YAZDA, Harikar, Norwegian Refuge Council (NRC), Samaritan's purse (SP), Action Against Hunger (ACF).

Households respondents reported, that 76% (63% Sinjar city, 13% Sinjar Mount.) of households didn't get any kind of financial, food and material support from NGOs and other organizations.

Despite of that 25% of households got support from NGOs and other organizations in monthly basis, in Sinjar city supports were Cash, material and food items, but in Sinjar mountain were mostly distribution of food items.

In the key informant discussion with NGO employees' respondents reported, that they target most vulnerable households, and the selection of beneficiaries been done through criteria that been set by program and Livelihood cluster, also integrating community members in selection committee and validating names, been checked through different levels to mitigate in-appropriate of cash.

In the discussion with selected NGO livelihood teams. The well ongoing livelihood activity-based in Sinjar district and Sinjar Mountain implemented by other INGOs are expected to be as below:

- House gardening: by distributing vegetable seeds for families that have garden in house and female can be engaged in house through cash for work (CFW) activities.

- Rehabilitation of boreholes: rehabilitation and maintenance borehole including supplying of submersible pumps, generators, and superstructures rehabilitation through CFW based activities.
- Small business grants: currently some INGOs implement small grant business projects by giving 1,500 -2,000 USD to youth and skilled people to open small business, such as; barbers, car technicians, beauty salon, supermarkets etc.
- Distribution of greenhouses in villages surrounded Sinone and Sinjar could be an option and giving enough training to people to be able to run the work after distributions.
- Vocational training-based activities for farmers can be an option, because vocational training directorate in both Mosul and Duhok are willing to travel to Sinjar for training, but in Sinone subdistrict capable trainers for different field of trainings can be found as well.
- According to the experiences of INGOs implementing livelihood-based activities in Sinjar district, 30% of CFW beneficiaries can be women.
- Distribution of seeds: such as potato, tomato, onion, eggplants, ochre and other vegetable seeds among farmers or families that have interest to do irrigation projects.
- Distribution of irrigation tools and pesticides for farmers.

Recommendations and Considerations

The recommendations were developed by the baseline team. The team focused on the challenges of the livelihood sector and its possibilities for improvement, while ensuring relevance for the living conditions for the most vulnerable population in Sinjar district, and taking into consideration existing gender roles and responsibilities as well as aimed to set a benchmark of the required project outcome and output indicators.

- Sinjar was found to have a business environment characterized by local imports, high costs of transportation (not just for businesses but for all residents), and a stagnation in the number of businesses created recently. CARE can revitalize local economies here by offering different training options than are currently on offer - youth express a desire for English language and computer trainings and feel that NGOs jobs are desirable, so CARE may wish to promote skills training in language and IT. Refreshment making, including sweets and ice cream, were also mentioned on multiple occasions, so food processing may be a promising initiative to support through trainings and business support packages.
- The area seems like a good location for on-the-job training, as many employers are interested in or have experience with training apprentices, and some good demand is noted among local shops, which DHA project could focus on including blacksmithing and electrical shops. Medical services were also mentioned as a priority good or service lacking in the area, so while CARE's DHA project may be limited in its capacity to rebuild the health sector, related

business endeavors such as the expansion of pharmacies, first aid courses, or support to community health structures would likely be welcome interventions in Sinjar town and some villages surrounded.

- Also, the agriculture sector was noted as high priority before the crisis and was still noted as a desirable type of job, so agricultural activities may be undertaken under this project as well, either through farmer training, cash-for-work (given low purchasing power notes), or direct support through DHA grant.

MODALITY OF ACTIVITIES

- Cash-for-work (CFW) is a demanded model of programming with an impact, if it covers areas that experience returns or have the potential to. CFW activities should consider rebuilding community infrastructure, such as water sites, garbage collection, debris removal, clearance of mines.
- From a market perspective, mid and long-term Cash Based Transfer programming should be reassessed, if the transfer modality of public distribution systems (PDS) is shifted to cash. This major paradigm shift could have a significant impact on markets; thus, requiring an in-depth update of market analysis.

RECOMMENDED TYPES OF LIVELIHOOD ACTIVITIES

- Vocational training followed by offering micro –business grants, distributing of agricultural seeds and tools (greenhouses) and renting farm lands for vulnerable people and establishing factories to process agricultural products into a market product, will support selected participants to get an opportunity to work and settle in.
- Ensure vocational and technical training and skills building include options suitable for women to start earning an income, which require less mobility or provide activities for which they are able to gain family/husband approval to attend.
- Implementing high-sum micro-grants or micro-credits to restart larger businesses in the district. This could also include organizing savings groups and matching the amount of funds the groups pool, to increase investment capacity.
- Promote an expansion of the existing value chains in Sinjar district through facilitating agricultural extension programs, which are currently not in place. This should support increased productivity of farming and allow farmers to adopt new techniques and crops (including the production of winter crops through greenhouses).
- Livelihoods trainings should involve opportunities for access to capital, particularly for vulnerable communities. Moreover, it should incorporate life skills and confidence-building, particularly for women and youth.

- Rehabilitation of public shelters by distribution of building materials or use cash or voucher schemes.
- Expand vet services. Provide support to expand stocks.

RECOMMENDED LIVELIHOOD SECTOR FOCUS

- Stimulate redevelopment of cottage agro industries: cheese, yoghurt, preserved fruits etc.
- Invest and stimulate the poultry sector.
- Rehabilitation of boreholes: rehabilitation and maintenance borehole including supplying of submersible pumps, generators, and superstructures rehabilitation through CFW based activities.
- Small business grants: currently some INGOs implement small grant business projects by giving 1,500 -2,000 USD to youth and skilled people to open small business, such as; barbers, car technicians, beauty salon, supermarkets etc.
- Distribution of greenhouses in villages surrounded Sinone and Sinjar could be an option and giving enough trainings to people to be able to run the work after distributions.
- Vocational training-based activities for farmers can be an option, because vocational training directorate in both Mosul and Duhok are not willing to travel to Sinjar for training, but in Sinone sub-district capable trainers for different field of trainings can be found.
- Distribution of seeds: such as potato, tomato, onion, eggplants, ochre and other vegetable seeds among farmers or families that have interest to do irrigation projects.

LOCAL AUTHORITY INVOLVEMENT

- Clarify with local authorities the official requirements for business registration.
- Support local authorities in restoring key value chain links in agriculture, including provision of seeds and fertilizers, veterinary services, and the reconstruction of key infrastructure such as silos.
- Advocate with authorities to ensure that checkpoints halt any ad hoc taxation of goods coming in and out of Sinjar district and ease restrictions on trading such as limiting the amount of livestock coming through. Such measures may further build back trust among local investors.
- CARE should work with the government to support longer-term strategy that promotes inclusive private sector development and linkages in Sinjar and decrease reliance on the public sector.

SOCIAL COHESION AND INCLUSION

- To promote women's access to income generating opportunities, CARE should involve women in every stage of the project, work on raising awareness among communities to gather support for women participating in income deriving activities, and build technical and vocational skills of women, as women face a multitude of societal, religious, and cultural restrictions resulting in marginalization and inequality.
- Begin to establish appropriate channels of interaction for returning Arab community leaders to be able to access markets in Sinjar without fear of retribution, to be able to purchase food and goods for their communities. This may be a start to opening other forms of interaction, including recognizing emerging consumer markets that are slowly returning.
- CARE can play a role in supporting trust building and market linkages between communities to reduce potential barriers to market access.

MONITORING

- Markets should be carefully monitored as the situation in Sinjar district particularly and in Ninawa governorate generally evolves. In this context, monitoring should not only track price and availability, but also incorporate security analysis to be aware of the impact armed control of different areas may have on supply routes. The information and analysis in this report should be used considering the current situation and ever-changing conflict areas.

Annexes: Annex A – A summary of project Logframe Matrix & (benchmark for only required indicators). Updated October 2019

INDICATORS	INDICATOR TYPE	TARGET # AND/OR %	BASELINE RESULT	BASELINE STATUS (OCTOBER 2019)
Indicator 1: # of conflict-affected individuals provided with market-appropriate and gender-sensitive vocational skills training.	Output	- 150 VT participants (50% female)	All areas: 0	Actual activity has not yet started
Indicator 2: % of beneficiaries using skills obtained in vocational training for income generation.	Outcome	85% of total beneficiaries of vocational training (50% female) 25 (20% female) Apprenticeships successfully engaged	38%	62% of baseline survey participants didn't participated in any type of vocational trainings in the past and are not familiar with VTs. In other words; 38% of respondents participated in VT activities.
Indicator 3: % of participants in vocational training that report increased income and ability to meet basic needs.	Outcome	70% of total VT participants (50% female)	38%	62% of baseline survey participants didn't participated in any type of vocational trainings in the past and are not familiar with VTs. In other words; 38% of respondents participated in VT activities.
Indicator 4: % of total female vocational training beneficiaries who report enhanced control over financial resources.	Outcome	70% female beneficiaries of vocational training	15%	85% of female baseline survey participants didn't participated in any type of vocational trainings in the past and are not familiar with VTs. In other words; only 15% of female respondents participated in VT activities.
Indicator 5: # of beneficiaries supported by apprentices and micro-grants	Output	50 beneficiaries (80% female)	All areas: 0	Actual activity has not yet started



Indicator 6: % of beneficiaries of apprenticeships and micro-grants who achieved employability and/or started their own businesses.	Outcome	85% recipients of apprenticeships and microbusiness grants (50% female)	0%	This indicator will be measured with endline evaluation
Indicator 7: # of conflict -affected individuals provided with agronomic training and agricultural inputs	Output	500 Farmers (50% female)	All areas: 0	Actual activity has not yet started
Indicator 8: # of productive assets rehabilitated or newly-built greenhouses	Output	50 green houses	All areas: 0	Actual activity has not yet started
Indicator 9: # of rehabilitated or newly built small enterprises (e.g. poultry farms/houses, irrigation structures, green grocery collection points and sale outlets, etc.)	Output	25 productive livelihood assets	All areas: 0	Actual activity has not yet started
Indicator 10: % of beneficiaries applying at least 2-3 agricultural technologies promoted/support by the project	Outcome	85% of total beneficiaries of agricultural support (50% female)	5%	95% (n=409) of baseline respondents, which is expected to be project beneficiaries don't have experience and/or access to more than 3 agricultural technologies (Land preparation (climate sensitive), Post Planting (Crop Management, Weeding, Thinning etc.), Integrated Pest Management System (IPMS), Pre-and Post-Harvest (Handling and Storage) and Crop Marketing). In other words, 5% (n=22) noted having access and experience to agricultural technologies listed above.



<p>Indicator 11: % of beneficiaries of agricultural support that report increased income and ability to meet basic needs</p>	<p>Outcome</p>	<p>70% of beneficiaries (50% female)</p>	<p>20%</p>	<p>80% of baseline respondents, which is expected to be project beneficiaries don't have access to cash for work and agricultural support. In other words; 20% of respondents claimed having access to CFW and agricultural support through other humanitarian actors in the last six months. Their average monthly income in mount is 360,000 IQD and expenses are 800,000 IQD, but in Sinjar town monthly income is 560,000 IQD and expenses is 435,000 IQD. However; due to the limited available job opportunities and high percentage of jobless; the remaining percentage who have been given trainings by other actors are finding difficulties getting employment due to lack of job opportunities.</p>
<p>Indicator 12: # of beneficiaries participating in VSLAs by the end of the project</p>	<p>Output</p>	<p>300 beneficiaries (80% female)</p>	<p>All areas: 0</p>	<p>Actual activity has not yet started</p>
<p>Indicator 13: # of VSLAs that meet regularly throughout the project cycle</p>	<p>Outcome</p>	<p>80% attendance (80% female)</p>	<p>All areas: 0</p>	<p>Actual activity has not yet started</p>
<p>Indicator 14: Total savings in USD (cumulative) deposit by project supported VSLAs</p>	<p>Outcome</p>	<p>(to be determined with beneficiaries)</p>	<p>All areas: 0</p>	<p>Actual activity has not yet started</p>
<p>Indicator 15: % of VSLAs Member who use loans or savings on productive investments</p>	<p>Outcome</p>	<p>50% (80% female)</p>	<p>6%</p>	<p>94% (n=405) of baseline respondents, which is expected to be project beneficiaries haven't used loans or saving on productive investments in the last six months. However; 6% (n=26) stated using loans and saving on productive investments; such as; Adding on or</p>



				maintaining productive assets such as Livestock, machines or equipment to scale up already existing income activities, Investment in skills buildings or capability strengthening and Investment to access further financial services.
Indicator 16: # of beneficiaries participating in cash for work activities	Output	400 beneficiaries (25% female)	All areas: 0	Actual activity has not yet started
Indicator 17: % of beneficiaries of CFW that report increased income and ability to meet basic needs	Outcome	400 CFW participants (25% female)	20%	80% of baseline respondents, which is expected to be project beneficiaries don't have access to cash for work and agricultural support. In other words; 20% of respondents claimed having access to CFW and agricultural support through other humanitarian actors in the last six months. Their average monthly income in mount is 360,000 IQD and expenses are 800,000 IQD, but in Sinjar town monthly income is 560,000 IQD and expenses is 435,000 IQD. However; due to the limited available job opportunities and high percentage of jobless; the remaining percentage who have been given trainings by other actors are finding difficulties getting employment due to lack of job opportunities.
Indicator 18: # of Community Committee Members trained in Gender topics and reporting raised awareness.	Outcome	40 committee members (50% female)	All areas: 0	Actual activity has not yet started