



# Framework for Voluntary Relocations of IDPs elsewhere in the Country

## I. Background

In situations of peace and armed conflict, the State is responsible for the safety of its citizens and those within its territory; it is therefore their primary responsibility to conduct relocations/evacuations if necessary. Humanitarian actors, however, in cooperation with States, have exceptionally resorted to emergency evacuations or relocations in extreme circumstances, when there was no other way to provide urgent assistance or protection to respond to severe threats to life and security.

In the context of Yemen, relocations of IDPs from IDP sites to other areas is increasingly observed. Reasons for relocations vary. They are mainly due to:

- a) expiry of verbal/written occupancy agreements from state (public) or privately owned land;
- b) when the landowner wants the land back for their own personal or investment purposes; and
- c) for reasons of safety and security reasons: moving IDPs further away from the frontlines.

In such contexts, the humanitarian community endeavours to understand the perspective of all parties to determine the nature of any potential relocation, including the involvement and voluntariness of affected people.

The purpose of the ***Framework for Voluntary Relocation of IDPs Elsewhere in the Country*** is to set out the minimum standards that will guide the engagement of humanitarian actors in relocations in line with humanitarian standards, International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law. The framework also includes **Cluster Relocation Support Packages** that will be implemented through each phase of the relocation process when the minimum standards are met.

## II. Minimum Standards for Relocations

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Lifesaving:</b> Relocation movements should be undertaken only <b><i>as a measure of “last resort”</i></b>, after all other alternatives have been explored, to save lives. <b><i>Relocations are not permanent solutions and should not substitute political solutions.</i></b> As such, it is necessary to prioritize individuals and groups facing an immediate threat of physical harm or prolonged denial of access to lifesaving services and protection, and where mediation efforts have</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Voluntary:</b> Facilitated onward movements should be strictly voluntary, with the expressed consent of the affected individuals. To this effect, dialogue with the affected individuals is essential in determining intentions, needs and expectations, which will also feed into the design of the modalities of the movement and selection/preparation of a safe and suitable location for the final destination. Prior to departure and during the movements, affected individuals will should receive as much information as possible, through verbal and written</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Civilian:</b> Preserving the civilian character of facilitated onward movements will be paramount. To this end, a basic screening will be used to ensure that individuals benefiting from this assistance are unarmed and that no</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Humanitarian:</b> Humanitarian actors will ensure a physical presence at the point of departure and on arrival (and if feasible, during the movement itself)</li> </ul>
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not had the desired impact. This includes situations where conditions endanger the lives of IDPs and/or prevent them from any type of meaningful activity to support their livelihoods and ensure basic self-reliance.	communication in a language that can be understood, on the decided modalities of the movements, the intended destination and the services available during the movement and at the final destination (including who will provide these services).	weapons, arms or ammunition are boarded on the civilian means of transport used for the movements.	
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### Pre-conditions for Engagement of Humanitarians in Relocations

- Credible assurances for freedom of movement of IDPs from national and local authorities, and military actors;
- Effective humanitarian monitoring and intervention to ensure voluntariness of choice; and
- Effective support mechanisms put in places of voluntary relocation, including presence of humanitarian agencies; identification of suitable land; completion of intention surveys and focus group discussions with the affected population;
- Effective absorption mechanisms in the place of voluntary relocation, including provision of suitable plot of land identified by local authorities to shelter those individuals who do not have access to property in the place of relocation
- From a coordination standpoint: to ensure comprehensive assistance, a well-coordinated multi-cluster approach as outlined here must be in place before humanitarian actors are engaging in relocations of IDPs

The following set of guiding questions aim to support humanitarians in making a collective decision on whether or not to engage in relocations:

- ✓ Which actor or mechanism is able and/or has the expertise/resources to support each stage of the relocation?
- ✓ Do all parties agree to the negotiated terms of the relocation and commit to guarantee the security, safety and dignity of civilians at all times?
- ✓ Were civilians informed about their options (implications of leaving/ staying; relocation area; services available) and risks of relocations?
- ✓ Will civilians who choose to remain have unhindered access to life-saving humanitarian assistance?
- ✓ What are the anticipated benefits of doing this relocation, at this time and with this population?
- ✓ What risks do they face in their current situation, and how do these compare against the risks associated with relocating?

### III. Protection Principles

- **Family unity preserved:** Facilitated onward movements will, to the extent possible, preserve family unity. All efforts will be made to move entire families in the same vehicles or grouped vehicles. Efforts will be made to keep children and minors with their parents or guardians, and suitable arrangements will be made for UAC
- **Responsive to basic needs:** The majority of persons in need of facilitated onward movements are in dire conditions, As such, to the extent possible, basic humanitarian assistance will need to reach these individuals prior departures as well as during the movements and on arrival.

- **Responsive to persons with special needs:** Persons on the move will include those with special needs, including survivors of violence, unaccompanied and separated children, women, persons with disabilities and elderly. Humanitarian actors organizing and monitoring movements will need to have the expertise to identify these persons with special needs, as well as to ensure measures are in place at the time of departure, during the journey and on arrival to prevent their exposure to sexual or gender based violence or mistreatment.
- **Relocation site is safe & habitable through the conduct of Land Suitability Assessments:** In certain instances, humanitarian assistance will need to be pre-positioned in relocation areas/sites. Land suitability assessments led by the HLP Working Group is the assessment of the fitness of a given parcel of land for a defined use, based on the Sphere and other standards – standards for Land (HLP), WASH, Accessibility & Basic Services and Protection.
- **Information gathering and registration:** Onward facilitated movements need to be well informed and based on the needs and profile of the persons of concern. As such, interviews and protection monitoring through intention surveys and focus group discussions will be used to determine the intention of those concerned.
- **Data Protection and Confidentiality:** Towards the promotion of accountable use of personal data, and to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of individuals, in particular the right to privacy, the data on the persons of concern may be shared amongst humanitarian actors only on need basis and for the facilitation of assistance.

#### IV. Risk and Mitigation Measures

- **In situations of armed conflict and civil unrest, uprooted communities face a particular risk of gender based violence, exploitation, trafficking and smuggling.** In facilitating onward movements, humanitarian actors will need to design measures that can mitigate these risks, as well as the risk of infiltration and attack by armed elements, or individuals seeking to undermine the movements.
- **Presence of humanitarian actors, especially those with expertise in GBV prevention and response as well as child protection, is essential before, during and after the movements. “Protection by presence”** can serve to deter persons seeking to cause harm while also allowing for closer monitoring and immediate intervention. At the same time, intention surveys and focus group discussions by protection partners with persons considered to be in need of supported/ assisted and/ or facilitated onward movements will help to determine whether onward movements are indeed voluntary as well as to detect protection concerns and needs. Equally important, through dialogue, humanitarian actors can raise awareness on risks associated GBV and other protection risks, and to advise communities and individuals on self-protection mechanisms.
- **Preserving family unity**, to the extent possible, will likewise be a key mitigating measure. In cases where families are already split, family tracing will need to be immediately undertaken.
- **Movements will need to be organized in such as way as to prevent exposure to the risk of GBV**, including the type of logistical arrangements and means of transport. It will likewise be necessary to ensure an AGD approach with food and NFI distribution, access to sanitation facilities and shelter. While security of the movements will be at different stages responsibility of relevant authorities, , continuous communication with concerned authorities prior to organizing movements will be necessary. Outreach with concerned communities will be essential.

#### V. Procedures

1. Ensure inter- cluster coordination led by the HC to develop a division of labor, design the modalities for the movements, draw up an action plan ensuring clear roles and responsibilities of all actors including the

community (*See Annex I for example on roles and responsibilities of humanitarians in relocations - Al Haymah Relocation Exercise*)

2. Pre-position means of transport , sufficiently provisioned and equipped to transport persons with special needs as well as persons with serious injuries or medical conditions. These civilian vehicles will also need to be visible distinguishable from military vehicles.
3. Pre-position humanitarian (including food, water and non-food items) and medical assistance for pre-departure distribution as well as during the movement (giving consideration to materials and provisions that can minimize exposure during a long overland journey).
4. Identify humanitarian actors to be involved in the movements and ensure sufficient training and preparation including ensuring PFA capacity of all actors.
5. Identify and train drivers/staff to facilitate the movements of persons, giving consideration to the need for impartiality, medical expertise (first aid) as well as expertise in protection (e.g. child protection and victims of GBV).
6. Seek to involve communities affected by the exercise, including those identified for the actual movements, to reach agreement and understanding on the modalities of the movements, final destinations, needs required throughout the journey, modalities of communication and information sharing.
7. Using the collected data and inputs from the communities, determine final destination for the movements and pre-position humanitarian assistance, including shelter, NFIs, food, water and medical care while also ensuring that areas are conducive for return based on appropriate assessments conducted (security assessments, service mapping, absorption capacity)

**VI. Cluster relocation support packages by phase (the availability of funding will determine the ability to implement packages)**

<b>Cluster</b>	<b>First-Line Response</b>
<b>HLP AoR</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal counselling, mediation/negotiation between the parties based on the preference of the IDP community</li> <li>• Formulation of the Relocation Plan</li> <li>• Coordination with ExU or SCMCHA together with CCCM for the identification of suitable land</li> <li>• Multi Cluster Land Suitability Assessment</li> <li>• Support with the drafting of the Occupancy Agreements between the landowners and ExU or SCMCHA</li> <li>• Post eviction/relocation cash assistance (limited)</li> </ul>
<b>Shelter-NFI</b>	<p><b>NFI:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard NFI kit containing essential household items such as blankets, mattresses, kitchen sets, water buckets and sleeping mats.</li> <li>• Renewable energy sources such as lighting and cooking equipment and facilities wherever unavailable.</li> </ul> <p><b>Shelter:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency shelter</li> </ul>

Cluster	First-Line Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shelter Maintenance and Upgrade</li> <li>• Rental support (especially in urban or semi-urban context)</li> <li>• Settlement Planning support</li> </ul>
<b>Food</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crucial life-saving interventions that improve access/availability to food.</li> </ul>
<b>WASH</b>	<p><b>Water Supply:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rapid provision of water (installation of water tanks, tap stands and trucking if urgently required)</li> <li>• Rapid repair of basic communal water infrastructures (tanks, pumps or wells)</li> <li>• Distribution of household water storage (buckets/ jerry cans)</li> <li>• Water treatment supplies (chlorination, water filters, treatment supplies)</li> </ul> <p><b>Sanitation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency sanitation services (latrines, bathing facilities if urgently required)</li> <li>• Emergency sanitation measures (closure of open sewage pits and damaged septic tanks)</li> <li>• Distribution of waste collection items, supporting initiation waste management services</li> </ul> <p><b>Hygiene:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distribution of hygiene kits including soap, hygiene items, female dignity items</li> <li>• Basic hygiene awareness sessions</li> </ul>
<b>Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temporary, safe learning spaces identified and established,</li> <li>• Provide teaching and learning materials,</li> <li>• Advocate with communities to send boys and girls back to school / learning</li> <li>• Identify and mobilise community members with previous teaching experience</li> <li>• Life-skill training including Mine Risk Education (MRE) messages for children</li> <li>• Orientation of teachers and education personnel on education in emergencies and psychosocial support</li> <li>• Provision of organized Recreational activities</li> <li>• Advocate for integration of IDPs into public schools if available in or near relocation area.</li> <li>• Advocate for vacation of occupied schools</li> <li>• Support reopening of closed schools, if appropriate.</li> </ul>
<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support community based health interventions through medwivery, Community health workers and Community health workers (to incentivized them and provide essential supplies and medications)</li> <li>• Outreach visits from the nearest static health facilities for IMCI (including vaccination) and Rh services</li> <li>• Deployment of mobile units (MMU) to provide MSP including PSS</li> <li>• CASH for referral support to pregnant women and children with SAM &amp; complication, and emergency critical cases to the nearest functional fixed health facility or higher level for those in need</li> <li>• Procure and pre-positioning of essential medications and supplies in the nearest functional Health facilities</li> <li>• Mosquito nest distribution to HH where children and pregnant women</li> <li>• Clean delivery kits to pregnant women</li> </ul>
<b>Protection</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection monitoring (including child protection and GBV)</li> <li>• Mobile legal aid teams particularly for critical protection services; documentation, HLP and where applicable detention cases</li> <li>• Mine Risk Education.</li> </ul>

Cluster	First-Line Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distribution of dignity kits.</li> </ul>
<b>CCCM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination with other clusters, especially to ensure establishment or maintenance of basic services</li> <li>• Alert system (for potential case of evictions or threats)</li> <li>• Information management and data collection</li> <li>• On the ground monitoring</li> <li>• Coordination with Site Administrators, landowners, and with host communities</li> <li>• Establishment of committees and support for two-way communications</li> </ul>
<b>MPCA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targeting exercise for the distribution of emergency on-off and multi-month multipurpose cash transfers.</li> </ul>

Cluster	Second-Line Response
<b>HLP AoR</b>	<p>Monitor and liaise with ExU or SCMCHA and the landowners with regards to conditions of the occupancy agreements – permissions to construct durable shelter, WASH/latrines facilities etc, diffuse and conflict.</p> <p>Continue to monitor and mediate on any HLP related disputes arising from the relocation between the host community and local authorities</p>
<b>Shelter</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NFI Kit if not delivered in emergency phase (see above)</li> <li>• Winterization support</li> </ul> <p><b>Shelter:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Localized emergency shelter</li> <li>• Emergency shelter repair kit</li> <li>• Transitional shelters</li> <li>• Natural hazard mitigation solution (i.e., flood)</li> <li>• Provision of shelter and settlement technical support</li> </ul>
<b>WASH</b>	<p><b>Water Supply:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rehabilitation and repair of water supply systems including replacement of pumps, generators, treatment systems and provision of consumables</li> <li>• Installation of solar panels and systems</li> <li>• Community water supply treatment and water quality monitoring</li> <li>• Support local authorities, community structures to assume O&amp;M responsibility</li> </ul> <p><b>Sanitation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rehabilitation and repair of sanitation facilities</li> <li>• Distribution/installation of waste bins</li> <li>• Support of regular solid waste removal</li> <li>• Support local authorities, community structures to assume O&amp;M</li> </ul> <p><b>Hygiene:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic hygiene awareness sessions</li> <li>• Distribution of critically required feminine/infant hygiene items, laundry and bathing soap, or vouchers and/or cash to purchase critical supplies</li> <li>• Establish/support community structures to undertake hygiene promotion activities</li> </ul>

Cluster	Second-Line Response
<b>Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish, expand and rehabilitate new classrooms (temporary or permanent), including gender-sensitive and disability-sensitive WASH facilities and school furniture</li> <li>• Support children with non-formal education programs (Accelerated learning/Remedial catch-up classes)</li> <li>• ,</li> <li>• Support children with non-formal education programs</li> <li>• Provision of learning materials to learners in formal and non-formal settings</li> <li>• Provide teachers/facilitators with training on Inclusive Education in Emergencies, Mental Health and Psychosocial support and referral mechanisms, and school based risk reduction and safety training</li> <li>• Provide awareness sessions, outreach and Referral to formal schools and facilitate examinations</li> </ul>
<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustaining community based surveillance system for early detections and response to communicable and outbreak-prone diseases (training, incentivize them and provide essential tools)</li> <li>• Ensuring the full functionality of the nearest fixed health facility (medication/supplies, operational support, Essential rehabilitation, HCWs financial support, cold chain equipment, training) to provide MSP and MHPSS and social mobilization</li> <li>• CASH support for cases in need for advanced and chronic care (including MHPSS) to cover the medication cost, transportation for advanced care</li> </ul>
<b>Protection</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection monitoring (including child protection and GBV)</li> <li>• Mobile legal aid teams particularly for documentation, HLP, referrals and PSS</li> <li>• Protection Case Management</li> <li>• Quick impact projects and cash assistance focusing on community and peaceful coexistence</li> <li>• Mine Risk Education, Mine Removal</li> </ul>
<b>Emergency Livelihood /Social Cohesion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social tensions assessments,</li> <li>• Start short-term emergency livelihoods interventions (cash for work, asset restocking, small business grants)</li> </ul>
<b>CCCM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alert system</li> <li>• Information management</li> <li>• On the ground monitoring</li> <li>• Coordination of service providers</li> <li>• Act as last resort to provide temporary services</li> </ul>
<b>MPCA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cash used to provide targeted population with access to services</li> <li>• Establish linkages and referrals to protection, livelihoods interventions and governmental social protection programmes</li> <li>•</li> </ul>

Cluster	Full Cluster Response
<b>HLP AoR</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to monitor the site for HLP disputes and required response</li> </ul>
<b>Shelter</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• House Rehabilitation and Reconstruction</li> </ul>
<b>Food</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food assistance</li> </ul>

Cluster	Full Cluster Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cash assistance to help meet basic needs</li> <li>• Support to protect livelihoods,</li> <li>• Support that restarts disrupted livelihoods and small business activities.</li> </ul>
<b>Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools or classrooms repaired</li> <li>• Securing additional spaces for schools and learning</li> <li>• Community involvement to seek solutions in education</li> <li>• Catch up classes and formal education</li> <li>• Continue support for life skills messaging (hygiene and health promotion, mine risk awareness, Immunizations)</li> <li>• Advocacy and messaging to children.</li> </ul>
<b>WASH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retain transitional support (under Second-Line) to bring coverage, services to acceptable standards</li> <li>• Create linkages to enable handover to government, community and/or development/stabilization actors</li> </ul>
<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance existing disease surveillance</li> <li>• Rehabilitate, Renovating, and equip health facilities (Primary and secondary level)</li> <li>• Technical capacity building (Training doctors, nurses and midwives)</li> <li>• Support to the Ministry of Health including upgrading drug supply and health information Management systems HIMS</li> <li>• Establishing a temporary health points to provide essential health services in IDPs camps with &gt;1000 individual</li> </ul>
<b>Protection</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection monitoring (including child protection and GBV),</li> <li>• Mobile teams particularly for critical protection services, documentation, HLP, referrals, and PSS.</li> <li>• Protection Case Management</li> <li>• Quick impact projects and cash assistance focusing on community and peaceful coexistence</li> <li>• Awareness raising and information sharing including mine risk education</li> <li>• Victim Assistance</li> <li>• Mine Removal</li> </ul>
<b>CCCM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination with other clusters, especially to ensure establishment or maintenance of basic services</li> <li>• Alert system (for potential case of evictions or threats)</li> <li>• Information management and data collection</li> <li>• On the ground monitoring</li> <li>• Coordination with Site Administrators, landowners, and with host communities</li> <li>• Establishment of committees and support for two-way communications</li> <li>• Information management and data collection</li> <li>• On the ground monitoring</li> <li>• Coordination with Site Administrators, landowners, and with host communities</li> <li>• Establishment of committees and support for two-way communications</li> </ul>



## Annex I

### Al Haymah Relocation ACTION PLAN

#	Action/Activity	Responsible Cluster/Working Group	Timeline	Remarks
1	Engagement with authorities including WCOAO, Hodeidah Local Authorities and the Military (Joint Forces).	OCHA and the RCT	16-18 January	Done. 4 consultations with WCOAO and Hodeidah Local Authorities.
2	<p>The displaced population is formally informed by local authorities about relocation and options available to them.</p> <p>Specific needs, concerns and intentions of the IDPs should duly be considered throughout the process.</p> <p>Where possible and feasible, information channels and contents of messages should be adapted to different audiences, e.g. children or persons with hearing, visual and/or intellectual difficulties to reduce risks, as well as promote their right to make informed decisions on whether to stay or move.</p>	The WCOAO, Hodeidah Local Authority and the Ex. Unit.	16–19 January	Done. Local authority informed the IDPs are aware of their impending relocation and are well briefed of the options available to them.
3	Identified sites assessed by relevant humanitarian actors for suitability through the formal MCLA survey.	HLP Working Group.	22–31 January	Assessment completed. Awaiting report by 31 January 2023.
4	CCCM partners to review current site populations and capacity (with EXU as relevant) to determine any available space in current sites for relocated families.	CCCM Partners (IOM and DRC)	29 January-5 February	Assess the capacity of all existing sites in Alkhukha, as alternate options for the relocation.
5	<p>Humanitarian partners engage with IDPs to support community consultation through information sharing, providing further details on option and site(s) provided by local authorities.</p> <p>Specific needs, concerns and intention of the IDPs should duly be considered throughout the process.</p> <p>Where possible and feasible, information channels and contents of messages should be adapted to different audiences</p>	CCCM partners (IOM and DRC)	Ongoing process; will start upon the availability of new updates.	Make sure IDPs are properly consulted and informed of all possible alternatives. IDPs empowered to make informed decision through CCCM's community mobilizers.

	(e.g., children or persons with hearing, visual and/or intellectual difficulties) to reduce risks, as well as promote their right to make informed decisions on whether to stay or move.			
6	Protection Cluster preparations for intention survey: determine scope, outline framework and redlines, and training enumerators.	Protection Cluster	5–9 February	Protection cluster already working on assessment tools.
7	Humanitarian partners carry out the intentions survey to allow and ensure IDPs and host community can make informed and voluntary decisions.	Protection Cluster	12–29 February	After confirming access and community engagement with the IDPs and HC in Al Haymah area.
8	Analysis and release of the intention survey report	Protection Cluster	1 March	By the Protection Cluster
9	Review and final decision by ICWG and AHCT	OCHA Aden, ICWG and AHCT	5 March	Final ICWG and AHCT decision and endorsement
10	Draft contingency plan based on the Assessment findings, community engagement and context updates	OCHA and Al Makha RCT	9 March	Relocation plan determined by the intention survey report.