

CCCM Iraq IDP Site Typologies & Duties and Responsibilities

This document describes the CCCM Cluster's classification of the various types of sites in Iraq and the distinction between so-called **formal** and **informal** settlements. Duties and responsibilities to the inhabitants of these settlements may also differ between formal and informal settlements.

1. Site Typologies

CCCM typology divides sites in Iraq into two categories of settlements: **formal** and the **informal**. **Formal** settlements are those that are recognized by the government which in turn provides administration and management. Such settlements are expected to provide shelter over a longer period, and access to basic services. Formal settlements fall under the remit of the CCCM cluster to ensure equitable access to assistance and protection through the management and coordination of assistance in formal settlements, including ensuring minimum standards are met. **Informal** settlements are spontaneous sites not recognized, managed or significantly assisted by the authorities. These should be considered as short-term emergency transit sites, and assistance should reflect the temporary nature of the sites. These sites are subject to monitoring and advocacy by the CCCM cluster and humanitarian partners.

1.1 Formal Settlements:

Definitions: A formal settlement is a site that is recognized by the government which in turn provides administration and management. The site can be planned or self-settled. Formal sites fall under the remit of the CCCM Cluster. Formal settlements include:

1. Camps:

- Sites built to accommodate internally displaced persons (IDPs);
- Are located in an open field;
- Government is responsible for management and administration; and,
- Government and partners provide basic services infrastructure.

2. Formal Collective Centers:

- Sites not built to accommodate the displaced but modified for that purpose;
- Most of the time, are located in a pre-existing building (school, religious building, mall, warehouse, public building, and others)
- Government responsible for management and administration; and,
- Government and partners provide basic services as appropriate to the context.

3. Reception/Transit Centers:

- Sites dedicated to accommodate the displaced for a short and set period;
- Government is responsible for management and administration; and,
- Government and partners provide basic services as appropriate.

1.2 Informal Sites:

Definitions: An informal settlement is by definition not recognized or regularly supported by the government. Informal settlements are subject to CCCM monitoring, referral and advocacy. Common characteristics are as follows:

- Sites not built to accommodate the displaced, but serving that purpose;
- Authorities have not assumed responsibility for management and administration;
- Services and assistance may be available but are not provided regularly; and,

Informal settlements include:

1. Informal Settlement:

- Used by the displaced population as accommodation;
- Sites can be inside buildings or in open air;
- Buildings mostly owned privately, they may be unfinished or abandoned. Differs from Collective Centers as they are usually private owned;
- Spontaneous and not recognized by authorities;
- More than 5 displaced households living in the site;

2. Informal Collective Centers:

- Sites in specific type of structure not built to accommodate the displaced and not modified for that purpose; mall, school, religious edifice, collective accommodation, public building, hospital; and,
- Self-settled/spontaneous

3. Location

- Under 5 displaced households living in one building;
- Different to informal sites in that they are not in open air; and,
- Spontaneous

4. Urban Dispersed IDP Location

- Urban areas accommodating over 5 displaced households;
- Area consists of several distinct buildings of a suburb or center of a city; and differ from “locations” in that they are not in one building; and,

- Self-settled/spontaneous

1.3 When does an informal site become a formal collective center?

The authorities should assume formal management and administration of an informal settlement, making it a formal collective center, when the following elements exist:

- Site not built to accommodate the displaced but can be modified for that purpose;
- Government agrees to manage and administer the site;
- Government and partners can provide basic services and infrastructure;

2. Types of assistance associated with the formal/informal nature of sites

The government is the primary duty bearer towards IDPs, who are citizens of the state. Where government support falls short of the applicable minimum standards, the international community and NGOs may provide appropriate assistance sufficient to enable the government to effectively assume its responsibilities, provide the necessary protection and look after the welfare of the displaced. Thus, the government has both *de jure* responsibility to the displaced, as well within the context of Iraq, should *de facto* have or be provided with the capacity to carry out this responsibility.

2.1 Services in Formal Settlements

Through CCCM Cluster coordination support the government and the international community should work together to ensure equitable access to services and protection for people living in formal settlements and support opportunities for durable solutions. Aid and service packages should consistently be delivered to ensure minimum standards are met. Specifically in collective centers, the levels of assistance may vary from full provision of services to encouraging varying levels of self-reliance. Collective centre management can have a strong role to play in terms of coordinating services. A non-exhaustive description of these services follows:

- **Settlement management and coordination** -- upholding the rights of displaced persons by coordinating, managing and monitoring the equitable access to minimum standards of services and protection.
- **Protection** – ensuring physical security (protection against physical harm), legal security (including access to justice, a legal status and respect of the right to self-defense) and material security (identifying the most vulnerable and ensuring equal access to basic goods and services).

- **Food Security and Non-Food Items** -- ensuring that the displaced have enough food to eat, sufficient supplies and items for personal hygiene, well-being and household activities.
- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene/WASH** – providing safe drinking water and appropriate sanitation and hygiene facilities to avoid epidemics and diseases and keep people in good health.
- **Shelter** – ensuring not only people’s physical protection against the weather, but providing a space of privacy and dignity.
- **Health and Nutrition** – raising awareness of the most crucial risks to the physical and mental health of settlement residents as well as appropriate measures to avoid or treat the most common illnesses.
- **Education** – highlighting the importance of providing education and training particularly to children and youth in order to facilitate their personal development and make (re-) integration upon return or re-settlement easier.
- **Livelihoods** – outlining the possibilities for implementing and promoting livelihoods and income-generating activities to increase the camp population’s self-esteem, food security and economic independence.

2.2 Services in informal settlements

The international humanitarian community, in principle, has a *monitoring* and *advocacy* role with regards to informal settlement residents. International agencies must ensure that the rights of the displaced are respected. Close monitoring and advocacy is crucial, especially when national legislation or applied policies differ from international practices or standards. The levels of assistance may vary from minimal assistance to encouraging varying levels of self-reliance.