



3.3.1 Climate change-induced displacement

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As of March 2025, IOM reported that over 172 000 individuals in Iraq remained displaced across 12 governorates due to climate-related factors, highlighting the urgent need for climate adaptation measures like sustainable water management, rural support, and urban planning.

[1194](#) (See section 3.1 on [Impact of climate change](#))

Climate-related challenges [1195](#) triggered families' displacement, impacted services for children [1196](#) and often led to violence, conflicts, and the growth of informal settlements. [1197](#)

Climate change has also negatively affected agriculture, the main livelihood for many returnees, reducing economic stability and hindering durable solutions. [1198](#) An increasing number of Iraqis are moving to urban areas in search of employment due to the lack of arable land and the disappearance of waterways essential for fishing. [1199](#) Weak governance and poor resource management exacerbate these issues, undermining stability. [1200](#) Thi Qar [1201](#) and Missan [1202](#) governorates are particularly affected by drought-related displacement whereas limited access to farmland and irrigation affect both returnees and displaced people. [1203](#)

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