

KEY FIGURES

600,000+

IDPs provided with shelter and core relief items since January 2014

1,121,977

IDPs reached through protection monitoring

31,534 (as of 25 February)

Families approved for cash assistance

24,191

Individuals received special needs support

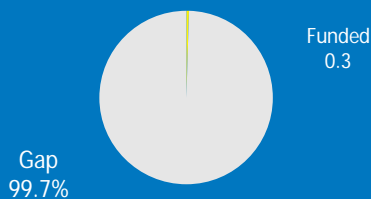
57,606

People provided with legal assistance

FUNDING

USD 405 million

requested for the operation



PRIORITIES

- Registration and needs profiling
- Increase access to legal assistance
- Prioritize the most vulnerable
- Reduce risk of SGBV
- Provide essential CRIs
- Winterization support
- Service providers in camps
- WASH facilities in camps

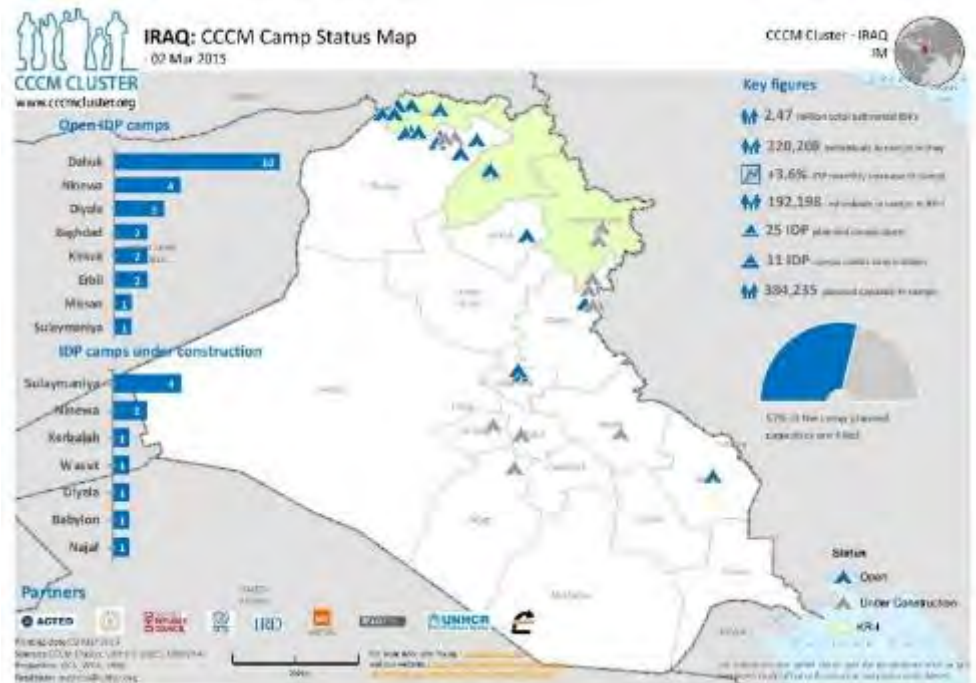
IRAQ

UNHCR IDP OPERATIONAL UPDATE

16-28 February 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- UNHCR and partners have reached more than 1.1 million individuals throughout Iraq, to determine needs, vulnerabilities, registration status, demographic information, and accommodation circumstances. This represents more than 200,000 IDPs reached since the first half of February.
- UNHCR and partners responded to the displacement of IDPs from al-Baghdadi in Anbar Governorate, distributing core relief items including blankets, mattresses, water cans, and kitchen sets.

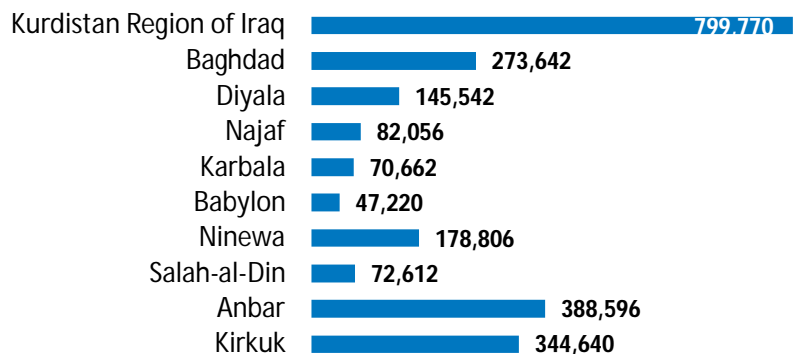


NB: This map reflects IDP figures as of 2 March 2015.

Population of concern

Over **2,472,444** people of concern (Source: IOM-DTM 12 February, 2015).

There are also 68,898 IDPs in the five southern governorates according to local authorities, not included below.



UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

The estimated number of internally displaced Iraqis now exceeds 2.4 million, according to IOM's February Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), representing an increase of more than 200,000 IDPs since the end of January. IDPs are found in 2,744 locations across the country with approximately 800,000 in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I).

- Across central Iraq, new displacement continues and humanitarian access remains limited. The on-going conflict in Anbar Governorate, affecting Al-Baghdadi, Haditha, Ramadi and Fallujah is causing fresh displacement and/or complete suspension of freedom of movement leaving the civilian population in urgent need of water, food and medicines. Reports have been received of families attempting to return to Ramadi and Falluja areas as they lack financial resources to remain in safer areas.
- The Iraqi Government Forces (ISF) airlifted some of the most vulnerable families from Al-Baghdadi to Baghdad, after the siege of the area was lifted. UNHCR and its partners met with some of the displaced families upon their arrival to Baghdad to assess their immediate needs and provide core relief items (CRIs), legal assistance, psychological counselling and cash assistance for the most vulnerable.
- On 18 February, the Council of Ministers of Iraq approved the mobilization of efforts to rehabilitate and reconstruct infrastructure in Diyala Governorate to assist with the return of IDPs to their places of origin. Families were reported to be returning to their homes in Diyala Governorate.
- The Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi has announced that planning is underway to retake Mosul by the end of 2015.
- The Government of Iraq announced plans to retake Tikrit, Salah al Din Governorate.
- The security situation in Kirkuk remains highly volatile, with reports of sporadic clashes between the pro-government forces and armed opposition groups (AOG) in many frontline areas surrounding the city.
- In Baghdad, attacks involving Improvised Explosive Devices (IED), small arms fire (SAF) and indirect fire (IDF) show no sign of abating, causing many civilian casualties.

Protection

Monitoring teams of UNHCR and its partners have reached a total of 1,121,977 individuals throughout Iraq, to determine needs, vulnerabilities, registration status, demographic information, and accommodation circumstances.

CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- Protection staff conducted follow-up on Best Interest Determination for minors living in Baharka IDP camp, Erbil Governorate to support the possibility of family reunification.
- UNHCR conducted participatory assessments across Dohuk and Erbil Governorates inside and outside of IDP camps to identify gaps and priorities within the communities UNHCR.
- Awareness sessions for women and men on the prevention and response to gender-based violence were held at New Al Yawa/Aiden Camp, Diyala Governorate.



IDP children in Baharka IDP Camp, Erbil Governorate (UNHCR/V.Lionetti)

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In the Dohuk Governorate, the number of Child Friendly Spaces (CFSs) need to be expanded. On average, existing CFSs accommodate around 800 children per day, while there are more than 7,000 children in several camps.
- The lack of employment opportunities for IDPs in Missan Camp, Missan Governorate, remains of concern.
- Improvements in electricity service are needed in IDP camps in Diyala Governorate.

NON-CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- On 17 February, UNHCR participated in a planning meeting with Kurdistan and Central Statistics Office to prepare for the verification of the Ministry of Migration and Displacement's registration of IDPs in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I).

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Evictions remain a concern for many IDPs in Kerbala and Kirkuk Governorates.
- Many families are unable to sustainably return to their places of origin in Diyala Governorate due to lack of water and electricity services.



Shelter and NFIs

As the inter-agency Shelter/NFI Cluster lead agency, UNHCR is promoting the implementation of the national Shelter/NFI Cluster shelter and winterization strategy, complementing the work of local authorities and other humanitarian actors in meeting the needs of the most vulnerable IDPs throughout Iraq. People living outdoors, in sub-standard structures, in colder climatic conditions, or with particular individual vulnerabilities were prioritized for assistance.

CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- The first phase of the extension of Baharka IDP Camp, Erbil Governorate, is complete and 308 families have moved from temporary areas of the camp into the extension where tents are placed on concrete bases and kitchen/washing facilities are available for families. Construction work continues on the second phase of the extension, expected to be completed by mid-March 2015.
- In Qoratu IDP Camp, Sulaymaniah Governorate, all 510 tent bases with kitchens and earthwork are complete; the camp will be ready to receive families in March. Also in Sulaymaniah Governorate, 669 tents were setup in Arbat IDP Camp. The development of the Ashti IDP Camp was briefly delayed due to rainy conditions.
- In Garmawa Camp, Ninewa Governorate, the construction of 1,165 out of 1,200 concrete tent slabs is complete.
- The construction of UNHCR offices was completed in Khanke Camp, Dohuk Governorate, whilst 3,500 out of 4,000 concrete tent slabs were erected in Sharia IDP Camp, Dohuk Governorate.



Communal tents in Bersive 1 Camp, Duhok Governorate (UNHCR/A. Othman)

- UNHCR set up five communal tents donated by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) to be used as multi-purpose facilities in the following camps in Bersive 1, Qadia, Chamishko, Kabarto 2 and Bajet Kandala 1 camps, Dohuk Governorate.
- Construction on al-Wand Camp in Diyala Governorate is 70% complete; the camp will house some 512 families and is expected to be completed mid-March.
- The land for the expansion of Laylan Camp, Kirkuk Governorate, is being cleared of unexploded devices; as is the land proposed for a new nearby camp site.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gap

- In Diyala Governorate, tents in camps were damaged by wind storms and require replacement.

Winterization Update

Winterization items distribution was concluded on 25 February 2014 in the Erbil Governorate, reaching a total of 12,000 families with winterization packages. The kits were distributed to the most vulnerable IDPs in the camps, collective centres, non-camps and urban areas. Distribution was organized in close collaboration with the local authorities, camp management and mayors of the respective areas.

In Dohuk Governorate, UNHCR distributed 25,437 heating stoves to families in camps and non-camp settings and 17,565 tent insulation kits with insulated floor boards to camp and tent settlements.

Finally, UNHCR distributed winterization kits to 241 families displaced to Kirkuk Governorate.

NON-CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- In Dohuk Governorate, UNHCR has distributed 3,717,400 litres of kerosene to 25,312 families both in camps and non-camps locations.
- Rehabilitation works on unfinished buildings were completed in Banye, Zawita and Khanke, Dohuk Governorate.
- UNHCR and partners distributed 150 CRI kits to families in the Missan Governorate and 200 CRI kits to families in Basra Governorate, benefiting some 2,100 people. UNHCR and partners also distributed 550 CRI kits, reaching some 3,300 people in Babylon Governorate.
- UNHCR partners completed rehabilitation works in 36 collective centres in Wassit Governorate, benefitting some 1,530 people, and work in 75 collective centres was completed in Diyala Governorate, benefitting some 1,794 people.
- In Baghdad Governorate, 96 shelters and 25 shelters were completed in the Abu Ghraib sub-district and in the Latifiya sub-district, respectively.



Kerosene distribution in Chamishko camp, Dohuk Governorate (UNHCR/ A. Othman)

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Additional collective centres are needed to meet the shelter needs of IDP families in Baghdad. UNHCR continues to work with local authorities to identify suitable sites.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

Achievements and Impact

CAMPS

- In the Dohuk Governorate, 15 IDP camps (including Garmawa Camp, Ninewa Governorate) are currently hosting 28,328 families (168,679 individuals). Relocation from unfinished buildings and informal settlements to the camps is on-going. The camps still have vacant shelter capacity for nearly 4,394 families (30,000 individuals).
- In Mam-Rash village, Sheikhan sub-district of Dohuk Governorate, KR-I authorities have started the site-preparation for a new IDP camp with a capacity of 2,000 caravans.
- In the Dohuk Governorate, the Mentoring Consortium teams of ACTED, DRC and NRC continued to conduct their daily activities in 11 IDP camps assessing the camp management, information management, protection and community participation capacity and gaps.
- On 15-19 February, UNHCR and partner Danish Refugee Council (DRC), in collaboration with the Mentoring Consortium and the CCCM Cluster, delivered a CCCM Training of Trainers (ToT) in Erbil Iraq. Trainers will be conducting training for Government officials and project officers to continue to build the emergency preparedness and response capacities of the authorities at central, governorate and local levels.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Overall, improvements in camp management structures remain a priority, particularly in adequate staffing and care and maintenance services. In response, the CCCM Cluster developed a draft sample camp management team structure for consideration and adoption across camps. Also, the CCCM Cluster in cooperation with the WASH Cluster, consolidated the list of identified problems and technical issues, and submitted it to the Board of Relief and Humanitarian Affairs (BHRA) for action.

Working in Partnership

- On 22-26 February, a delegation of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) visited the Erbil and Sulaymaniah Governorates.

Schools of Hope

Mamilian IDP Camp, Duhok Governorate, February 25, 2015 - Internally displaced children sit in groups on an empty piece of land in Mamilian IDP Camp. Enthusiastic volunteer teachers give lessons to each group on different subjects. It is a school, but without classrooms, offices, uniforms, stationary, books or academic curriculum. However, it is going very well for the children.

The young man who initiated the educational activities is an IDP. Firas, 23, fled his hometown of Sinjar with his parents and siblings six months ago to the Zakho area in northern Iraq. With a degree in education, Firas decided that the displaced children should occupy their free time with learning. So he started organizing teaching activities and talking with parents. Now, there are two locations inside the camp where children can gather and learn.

"I wanted the displaced children to have hope and build their confidence", says Firas. There are more than one thousand registered children in the camp, and the number is increasing.



Classes in the open for IDP children, Mamilian camp, Duhok Governorate (UNHCR/ H. Suliman)

The schools run in two different shifts, the first in the morning from 10-12 am and the second from 14-16 pm. Though they do not have a specific academic curriculum at the moment, the focus is on allowing the kids to socialize and learn the basics. "We have future doctors, engineers, pharmacists, police officers, all here", proudly concludes Firas.

By Husam Eldin Mustafa

Contacts:

Katie Lo, Associate Field Officer, lok@unhcr.org, Cell +964 (0) 780 921 7336

Vincenzo Lionetti, External Relations Officer, lionetti@unhcr.org, Cell +964 (0) 780 921 7338

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FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 1.22 million**.

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation, especially to those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

Funding received (USD)

Switzerland	652,174
Italy	566,893
Private Donors	1,004