

KEY FIGURES

600,000+

IDPs provided with shelter and core relief items since January 2014

816,989

IDPs reached through protection monitoring

27,758

Families approved for cash assistance

16,805

Individuals received special needs support

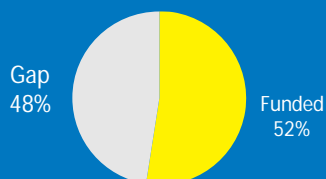
43,935

People provided with legal assistance

FUNDING

USD 337 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

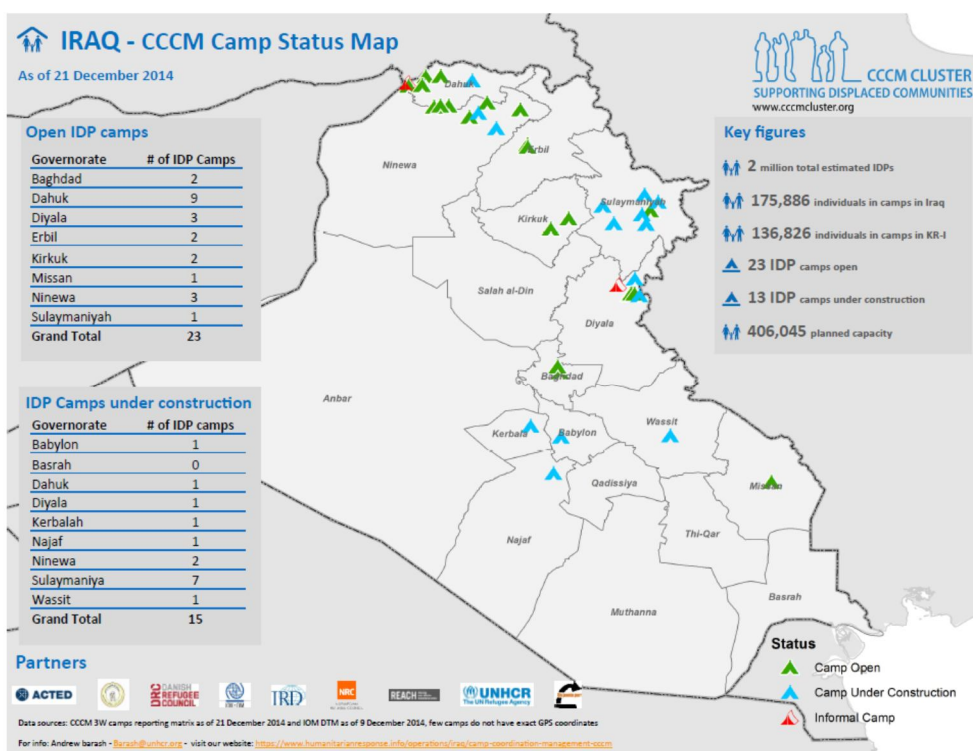
IRAQ

UNHCR IDP OPERATIONAL UPDATE

16-31 December 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

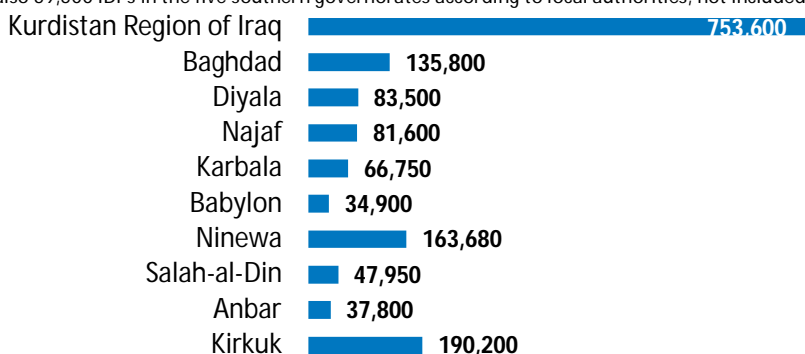
- Laylan camp in Kirkuk governorate was inaugurated on 17 December. The Governor of Kirkuk, Dr. Najmuldin Karim, and the UNHCR Representative in Iraq, Mr. Neill Wright, officiated at the ceremony.
- By the end of December 2014, a total of 40,249 families in the KR-I and 19,022 families in southern and central Iraq had received winterization core relief items.
- UNHCR had also distributed 4,101,600 litres of kerosene to 23,295 families across Iraq.



Population of concern

Over **2,086,000** people of concern (Source: IOM-DTM 9 Dec, 2014).

There are also 59,500 IDPs in the five southern governorates according to local authorities, not included below.



UPDATE ON ACHIEVEMENTS

Operational Context

The estimated number of Iraqis internally displaced since January 2014 has exceeded 2 million, according to IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). IDPs have settled in more than 2,000 locations across the country. Approximately 753,600 IDPs are in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I).

- Internal displacement continues in areas where international agencies have limited access. Conflict in **Anbar** continues to impact road access preventing people from escaping conflict near Heet, Al Baghdadi, Ramadi and Al Wafa areas; these areas also lack fuel, food and medicine. Curfews were imposed in Haditha and Al Baghdadi due to poor security. Conflict continues to affect **Salah al Din**, with shortages of basic supplies reported.
- The overall security situation near **Kirkuk** city and its surrounding areas continues to be volatile, with ongoing reports of clashes in Hawija and Daquq district. Sunni Arab IDPs continue to be denied access to **Kirkuk** governorate.
- Reports have been received that families continue to be displaced within **Ninewa** governorate as conflict continues in the western region near Sinjar; limited humanitarian access to these families remains a concern. Needs include food, cooking gas, clothing, medicines, and fuel. Some families have returned to liberated villages in the Sinjar area, but there is still a risk of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and basic services are lacking.
- Spontaneous returnees were reported in areas of Zummar in **Ninewa** as security improved; however food, water, electricity and health care are needed. In Ninewa and across Iraq, IEDs need to be removed and homes and infrastructure reconstructed, before returns are sustainable.

Protection

In line with the protection cluster strategy and needs, the monitoring teams of UNHCR and its partners have reached a total of 816,989 individuals throughout Iraq, to determine needs, vulnerabilities, registration status, demographic information, and accommodation circumstances.

CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR protection teams continue regular visits to IDP camps in the **KR-I** for monitoring and direct service provision. IDPs have voiced concerns regarding poor living conditions in some camps.
- Protection staff conducted focus groups with IDP students in Arbat IDP camp in **Sulaymaniyah** to address tensions between IDPs and local students; teachers and partners were also involved in these discussions.
- Two cash distributions took place in **Ainkawa** in Erbil for urban IDPs.



IDP boy in Kirkuk. Kirkuk hosts some 190,000 IDPs mainly from Salah al Din and within Kirkuk. UNHCR/S. Al-Juboori

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Monitoring teams report numerous cases of IDP arrivals who are refused entrance into the KR-I at several checkpoints into Erbil governorate.
- The expired residency status of IDPs in the **Baharka** and **Harshm** IDP camps in Erbil has been raised with the Erbil Refugee Council, which will work with local officials to address the problem.
- Families continue to arrive at camps in **Diyala**. IDPs living at a government caravan camp staged demonstrations due to poor water access and leaking in the caravans.

- UNHCR has requested UNICEF and local authorities to respond to the lack of education equipment and supplies in Arbat IDP camp in **Sulaymaniyah**. The poor sanitation situation and road construction in this camp also pose protection concerns.
- A child protection management team is needed in Barmani, **Duhok**. A mobile team is covering the area.
- Unexploded ordnance (UXOs) have been reported near some IDP camps in **Duhok**, posing a risk to women collecting firewood. Also in some camps in Duhok, security, including access control, needs to be improved.

NON-CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- To date, 11,266 IDP families have received cash assistance from UNHCR across Iraq: 5,727 families in **KR-I** and 5,539 families in the **central and southern governorates** of Iraq. Cash assistance to families in **KR-I** is being distributed as part of UNHCR's winterization strategy.
- UNHCR continues to monitor and provide legal assistance to facilitate access to civil documentation, legal services and advocacy for IDPs across Iraq.
- In **Duhok**, UNHCR and a partner conducted a mass information workshop for IDP community mobilizers on cluster coordination, UNHCR's role in protection coordination, and the role of community mobilizers in protection programming.
- UNHCR partners conducted seven awareness-raising sessions throughout Sulaymaniyah reaching some 450 IDP women on topics ranging from women's empowerment to prevention of gender-based violence. Also in **Sulaymaniyah**, some 30 families were identified for micro-finance projects including vocational training and small businesses such as sewing.
- Protection monitors conducted an education awareness campaign in **Basra** reaching 100 participants, including teachers, parents and children; school kits were distributed to participating children.
- Rapid needs assessments were conducted in **Babylon**, **Baghdad**, and **Kerbala** for newly arriving families.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Reports continue to be received of IDPs being denied access to Khanaqin city in **Diyala**, **Kirkuk** and **Sulaymaniyah**. Many of these IDPs are women and children. UNHCR is monitoring the situation.
- Unfinished buildings throughout Iraq pose a risk for children living or playing inside, as they can easily fall from unsecured windows, staircases or other openings.
- Reports were received of families fleeing **Anbar** being unable to pass through **Kerbala** on their way to Baghdad.
- Reports have been received of security personnel requesting IDPs to sign documents assuring they will leave **Kirkuk** if they do not have a local sponsor and complete security registration.
- IDPs have been detained in some governorates. UNHCR is engaged in a dialogue with local authorities on the matter.
- UNHCR has received reports of some 12,000 IDPs moving from **Najaf** to **Babylon** to have better access to services.
- The lack of Arabic-language schools across **KR-I** continues to prevent IDP children from accessing education. Transportation fees and lack of school supplies also pose barriers to education, particularly in Chamchamal, **Sulaymaniyah**.
- Regular food distribution is required for IDPs living in the outskirts of **Sulaymaniyah** city.



Shelter and NFIs

As the inter-agency Shelter/NFI Cluster lead agency, UNHCR is implementing the national Shelter/NFI Cluster's shelter and winterization strategy, to complement the work of local authorities and other humanitarian actors in meeting the needs of the most vulnerable IDPs throughout Iraq. Assistance targets those people living outdoors, in sub-standard structures, in colder climatic conditions or with particular individual vulnerabilities.

CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- 200 concrete slabs have been cast in the expansion site of the **Baharka** IDP camp in Erbil.
- As of 31 December, UNHCR has been supporting four IDP camps accessible from **Duhok**: Bajid Kandala, Khanke, Berseve 2 and Garmawa (in Ninewa), housing 43,191 people. Construction is still continuing in these camps.
- In **Sulaymaniyah**, Arbat camp currently houses 3,057 people. Qoratu camp in Kalar district is under construction and is expected to receive families in early February 2015.
- In the Al Wand camp in **Diyala** governorate, UNHCR's partners continue construction of 600 concrete tent slabs, concrete kitchen slabs, and the internal road network. The camp will house some 512 families. 960 winterization kits were distributed to families living in camps in **Diyala**.
- **Laylan** camp in Kirkuk was officially inaugurated on 17 December 2014, and now houses 7,486 people.

Winterization Update

A special winterization factsheet is available summarizing UNHCR's activities until 31 December 2014.

As of the end of December 2014, UNHCR has distributed winterization items including blankets/quilts, plastic sheeting, stoves, kerosene jerry cans, and water jerry cans to 59,271 families across Iraq (19,022 families in central and southern Iraq, and 40,249 in the KR-I). Additionally, tent insulation kits and polystyrene flooring were distributed to 31,250 families across Iraq (13,630 families in the KR-I, and 1,250 in Diyala).

UNHCR has also distributed 4,101,600 litres of kerosene to 23,295 families across Iraq, complementing the Government's provision.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Some families, especially larger ones in **Duhok**, require additional core relief items. Distribution of additional kerosene is urgently required as the government allocation is almost finished.
- In **Ninewa** governorate, poor weather is delaying the construction work in Garmawa camp.
- At **Kabarto** camp in **Duhok**, repairs are still required; UNHCR has informed the responsible authorities.

NON-CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR partners continue construction work on four unfinished buildings in **Khanke** and **Zawita** in **Duhok**, to make them suitable for housing purposes.
- Construction work continues on 256 shelters in **Baghdad**. 146 shelters in **Diyala** were completed.
- 300 tents were distributed in **Anbar** to provide shelter for up to 1,800 people.
- In **Kirkuk** governorate, 393 families (3,588 individuals) received winterization core relief items (blankets, heaters, water jerry cans, kerosene jerry cans, and plastic sheets).
- 200 families in **Basra** collective centre and 200 families at **Missan** camp and collective centres received winterization items. An additional 120 families in Missan received stoves.



Winterization kits ready for distribution to IDPs in Khanaqin, Diyala. UNHCR/A. Abbass

- Shelter rehabilitation work began on 258 collective centres in **Thi Qar**, **Muthanna**, and **Qadisiyah**. Some 3,000 families will benefit from this shelter activity.
- UNHCR partners distributed winterization kits to families in **Anbar** and **Salah al Din**.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Government authorities have provided some IDP families with kerosene, largely in KR-I. However, IDP families in **Sulaymaniyah** have not received kerosene from the Government as the distribution mechanism is not yet in place. Kerosene is urgently required in Chamchamal, **Sulaymaniyah**, due to electricity cuts in the evenings.
- Female IDPs in Arbat IDP camp in **Sulaymaniyah** need culturally-appropriate winter clothing. Winter clothing is also required for IDPs in general in Chamchamal, **Sulaymaniyah**.
- UNHCR is receiving more reports of evictions across the KR-I where private owners have requested IDPs to move to camps. A protection reporting mechanism has been established to refer these individuals to the authorities for relocation to camps.
- Winterization items, winter clothing, heaters, and blankets are needed for IDPs in **Missan**.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

Achievements and Impact

CAMPS

- During the reporting period, UNHCR facilitated camp management meetings in **Bajid Kandala**, **Sharia**, **Khanke**, and **Garmawa** camps. UNHCR provided support to camp management staff in mapping services, scheduling meetings and collating contacts.
- UNHCR trained 75 people working in IDP camps in camp management and coordination in **Duhok**. The participants came from various districts, and received training in emergency standards, protection, and camp management, administration and coordination.



Construction for tent bases at Wand camp in Diyala. The camp will house 2,500 people. UNHCR/J. Jawad

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Training is required in **Duhok** on topics specific to refugees, protection and community services. Registration is a key gap in Duhok camps and non-camps affecting activities and planning.

NON-CAMP

Achievements and Impact

- CCCM training sessions in central and southern Iraq are planned for early 2015 to build the capacity of camp managers and government authorities.

Working in Partnership

- On 24 December 2014, UNHCR staff met with the Italian Foreign Minister to provide an update on activities in Iraq during a visit to **Baharka** IDP camp, where the Minister visited the child friendly space, met with IDP families and was briefed on the living conditions of IDPs in the camp.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 176.9 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.

Contacts:

Karoline Gerber, External Relations Officer,
gerberk@unhcr.org, Cell +964 (0)770 494 5866
Russell Fraser, Reporting/External Relations Officer,
fraser@unhcr.org, Cell +964 (0)771 994 5708

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Funding received (millions of USD)

