

Essential facts	
Crisis	Iraq
Covering period	01/10/2014-31/10/2014
Crisis Location	Kurdistan Region of Iraq
Date Issued	18/11/2014
Beneficiaries Reached	IDPs



MONTHLY SITUATION REPORT

Provides a snapshot of the UNFPA's response and intervention programmes geared towards the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the North of Iraq.

HIGHLIGHTS

- UNFPA responded to the needs of displaced women in Ramadi of Anbar and distributed 4,000 dignity kits in addition to 1,000 clean delivery kits.
- UNFPA established Reproductive Health services in Baharkah camp, Erbil.
- UNFPA is participating in a 'winterization' response strategy, involving the distribution of 20,000 dignity kits containing warm clothes for women and girls of reproductive age including 5000 winterised kits for Pregnant Women and 5000 for their new born babies.
- UNFPA helped secure the provision of 9,200 warm long traditional dresses 'dishdashas' that were sent to Duhok (8000) and Erbil (1200) and distributed to women and girls of reproductive age.
- UNFPA distributed a total of 2,154 dignity kits to women and girls of reproductive age in October.
- UNFPA ensured that approximately 621 women and young girls benefited from psychosocial support and awareness sessions this month.
- UNFPA contributed to the safe delivery of 1,076 newborn Iraqi IDPs in Duhok in October.
- UNFPA established new Women Social centres in Turaq and Daratoo for IDP women Psychosocial and recreational services
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UNFPA FIELD TESTIMONIES

UNFPA RESPONDS TO WOMEN AND GIRLS HEIGHTENED NEEDS:

Duhok, Iraq – In a crisis the need for shelter, food and security are given urgent attention. Yet the specific needs of women and girls are too often overlooked. Some [1.9 million people](#) are internally displaced in Iraq, and a total of 5.2 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance. Women and girls have heightened needs – including a greater need for protection from gender-based violence (GBV) and special health and hygiene needs. UNFPA is working to meet these needs, providing [safe spaces for women](#), psychosocial support for survivors of violence and [sexual and reproductive health \(RH\) services](#) for women and girls. UNFPA is also distributing thousands of dignity kits – which contain hygiene supplies such as: toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, sanitary pads and underclothes – to women and girls of reproductive age



UNFPA, Dignity kits distributed to Iraqi IDPs, Khanke Camp. Photo: MillatHoriri

“Basic needs for every woman”

Maintaining proper hygiene is a common problem in displaced communities. "I take a shower with water alone – with no shampoo or any sanitizer," said Ansam, 26.

She and her three young children were forced to flee their home in Bashiqa when fighters of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as ISIS) approached the town.

They left in the middle of the night, when she only wearing her pajamas. For a month and a half, these were her only clothes. "It is hard to stay healthy," she said.

But she also noted that women’s hygiene needs were going unmet.

"I need pads, underclothes, shampoo. This is not luxury. They are basic needs for every woman," she said. Purchasing feminine hygiene products and the other supplies to maintain her health was "impossible," she added.

Ansam is now staying in a school that has been turned into host site for displaced people in Duhok, northern Iraq. She says she was relieved to receive a UNFPA dignity kit containing these essential supplies.

Winterization

Since June, UNFPA has distributed 18,000 dignity kits to displaced women and girls of reproductive age. The dignity kits offer more than the basic necessities. They are also a vital opportunity for UNFPA staff and partners to meet displaced women to assess their well-being and raise awareness concerning the RH services and counseling programmes available. But as the crisis in Iraq escalates and more people are displaced, the needs are growing rapidly. Winter is approaching, and many displaced families are without heavy clothes or blankets.

"We want to be warm in winter," said Bervan, a 45-year-old grandmother who also fled Bashiqa with her family.

UNFPA is now preparing to distribute winter clothes with the dignity kits. For pregnant women, the kits will also contain warm baby clothes. In collaboration with UN Women and a local NGOs, UNFPA is supporting safe women’s spaces where displaced Iraqi and Syrian women can learn to make winter items, which they can sell to UNFPA.

"We lost our house in Bashiqa, our money," Bervan told UNFPA. "We do not want to lose our dignity."

In its 2014-2015 response, UNFPA is planning to procure and distribute at least 95,000 dignity kit



Warm baby clothes made by internally displaced women



KEY INDICATORS

LEVEL 3 EMERGENCY *Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC) 12th August 2014

- Number of Iraqi IDP affected by the crisis + 1.9 million
- Number of Iraqi IDPs women and girls of reproductive age = 475,000
- Number of Iraqi IDPs pregnant women = 76,000
- Number of newborn Iraqi IDPs supported by UNFPA (in October) = 1,076 newborn Iraqi IDPs in Duhok. *Currently establishing a database, figures for deliveries in other hubs will be included in the upcoming SitRep.
- Number of youth Iraqi IDPs = 380,000
- Number of women's spaces = 4 in Erbil. In Duhok, services are provided through 4 mobile teams.
- Number of RH clinic or mobile teams = 1 in Erbil, in Duhok UNFPA received the approval to establish 5 women's spaces and RH clinics in IDP camps.
- Number of youth centers = Emergency situation youth centers for IDPs not a priority.
- Number of Health facilities supported by UNFPA = UNFPA supports DoH to provide services to health facilities.
- UNFPA Humanitarian team = 14

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Since January 2014, the numbers of Iraqi IDPs has reached approximately **1.9 million**, dispersed across 1,928 locations in Iraq. Of the total 475,000 are women and girls of reproductive age and 76,000 of them are pregnant women. About 47 per cent (889,878 individuals) are located in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq

In Kurdistan, Dohuk Governorate is the recipient of almost a quarter (24 per cent) of Iraq's IDP caseload, with 452,004 displaced individuals seeking refuge across its four districts of Sumel, Zarko, Dohuk and Amedi, followed by Erbil that is currently home for more than 156,522 individuals, while Sulaymaniyah hosts 100,968. Most vulnerable displaced families sought refuge in unfinished buildings, while hosting other IDPs in schools has delayed the start of academic year 2013/2014.

The recent advancement of ISIL on the Anbar governorate has triggered significant displacement. According to current reports, the number of IDPs in Heet and the surrounding areas is estimated at 34,344. The city was already hosting 11,000 IDP families (66,000 individuals). IDP movement's from Heet and those able to escape clashes in Ramadi, are also being blocked by fighting in other areas, such as Falluja, as stated in OCHA situation report.

The number of IDPs from January to 26 October 2014 has increased from 1.8 million to 1.9 million people across 1,928 sites. Recent displacements in October 2014 largely occurred in the governorates of Anbar, Ninewa, and Diyala. About 47 per cent of all Iraq's displaced people (148,313 families, about 889,878 individuals) are located in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) and the disputed border regions of Akre and Shikhan, in the Ninewa Governorate; and Kifri and Khanaqin in Diyala Governorate. Source: OCHA

RH SERVICES

Number of supplies and Iraqi IDPs benefited from UNFPA supported RH services:

UNFPA provided health facilities in Kurdistan region in September with 61 RH kits to meet the emergency obstetric needs of a population of 2.410,000 for 3 months.

Overall health care beneficiaries:

UNFPA supported 26 hospitals and maternities, 3 blood banks and 14 primary healthcare units that were supported with family planning methods. In addition 2 referral facilities were supported to respond to potential victims of GBV.

Supporting human resources:

UNFPA supported 2 staff (a doctor and a midwife) in Sulaymaniyah, Arbatcamp. In Erbil UNFPA is supporting 9 doctors and midwives and 50 medics at the public health facilities in Duhok; in addition a new doctor was appointed in Bajtkendala.



Gender Based Violence (GBV)

Key GBV Activities Implemented by UNFPA:

Approximately 521 internally displaced women and young girls benefited from UNFPA psychosocial support sessions in October. In Duhok, 491 individuals benefited from the psychosocial support in the period in question. In Erbil host community (including Ainkawa) and Bahirka camp (Erbil Governorate), 30 women and girls IDPs benefitted from UNFPA services. In October 20 GBV survivors were identified, provided psychosocial support, including referrals to specialised services and referred to specialists.

Other related UNFPA Services:

In addition, 1,972 families were reached with key messages on RH and GBV such as family planning, GBV and early marriages.

INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

UNFPA implementing partners in Iraq include: MoH, DoHs, Ministry of Culture, Sport and Youth (MCSP), Ministry of Labor & Social Affairs (MLSA), UN agencies and local NGOs.

UNFPA is member of Protection working Group and Health Working group in KRI. UNFPA is a Co- chair of GBV Working Group in Dohuk and Erbil Governorates

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Key Donor:

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is the principal donor. In July the Kingdom provided the most significant contribution, a sum of \$10 million to complement the Government-led response.

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

Recent Products include:

- [Nine Months Pregnant and Fleeing ISIS "Huffington Post"](#)
- [UN releases food, medical supplies for displaced people in western Iraq](#)
- [Dignity kits meet hygiene needs of displaced women and girls in Iraq](#)
- [Slogans were created for the use of UNFPA visibility in areas of intervention](#)

Key Challenges

Obstacles Affecting all Agencies Involved in IDP Crisis:

- Complexity of the crisis creates uncertainty, for instance in recent weeks there was an unanticipated mass influx of new IDPs following ISIS's capture of the city of Heet.
- To date there has a significant increase in the number of IDPs since UNFPA received the funds in July.
- Additional staffing required as all authorities are overwhelmed with mounting demands.
- High illiteracy amongst IDPs creates educational barriers regarding RH issues.
- Inaccessibility of some of the areas especially those controlled by ISIS, which is affecting the humanitarian response by all agencies including UNFPA.

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