

# Situation Report

## Anbar Humanitarian Crisis



**Report #: 17**

**27 March 2014**

The information presented in the Situation Report is based on data received from UN agencies and JAU up to the time of publishing

## Highlights

- Number of displaced stands at **66,520 families** as per Government figures of 26<sup>th</sup> March.
- 336 Iraqi civilians killed and 1562 injured since January 2014.
- WHO and UNICEF have completed the detailed epidemiological investigations on the wild polio virus case.

## Situation overview

The situation in Anbar Province remains deadlocked as much politically as militarily. The Ramadi corridor, stretching from Ramadi to Abu Ghraib in Baghdad Province, remains the primary theatre of conflict. Local reports from Fallujah indicate that militants are now allegedly providing social services, policing the streets and implementing Shariah rulings in a bid to win the support of the Sunni population.

On 22 March, PM Maliki issued a statement re-affirming his commitment to implement the plan for the reconstruction of the province while adding that the Iraqi Security Forces will continue to confront the terrorists until training and equipment have been provided for police and volunteers to do so independently.

Spillover violence in other Governorates has led to further displacement this week. On 22 March, unidentified armed groups reportedly moved into Buhriz (Diyala), after SWAT forces (previously deployed to protect the city late in February) had vacated the city center. Reports indicate ISF started shelling the town early morning on 23 March, leading hundreds of families to flee the town.

## Humanitarian Response

The number of IDP families total 66,520 as per Ministry of Displacement and Migration (MoDM) latest registration report, with 50,922 families in Anbar and 15,598 more in other Governorates. Note that the figures for inside Anbar are based on information received from the local councils in Anbar.

In close coordination with UNHCR and in response to the increased number of IDPs from Anbar, MoDM deployed mobile teams to register IDPs from Anbar who are living in remote areas outside of the Province and cannot approach the MoDM Branch Office for registration. Mobile Teams are serving areas where high numbers of IDPs from Anbar reside such as Abu Ghraib, Al Rasheed, Al Adamiya and Al-Yarmouk.

## Casualties

Anbar Medical Directorate announced 336 Iraqi civilians killed and 1,562 injured since January 2014 as a result of the ongoing fighting, while Fallujah Hospital announced 154 killed and 855 wounded in Fallujah alone since the start of the conflict.

## NFI and Shelter Sector

In the past week, UNHCR distributed 100 CRI kits in Mosul city and 50 CRI kits in Kirkuk to Anbar IDP families. UNHCR has distributed 6,124 CRI kits and 215 tents (40 brand new Light Weight Tents and 175 used Family Tents) to date.

IOM Iraq distributed 1,502 NFI family kits to displaced families within Anbar and other Governorates. This brings the total NFIs distributed by IOM to date to 7,507 in response to the Anbar crisis.



Photo 2: Distribution of NFIs by IOM in Annah



Photo 1: Distribution of CRI kits by UNHCR in Mosul City, Ninewa



Photos 3: UNICEF distribution of Prefab latrines in Heet

## WASH

UNICEF is currently undertaking garbage collection and disposal using local laborers and 4 tractors in Al-Qa'im. Water trucking continues in Heet and Al Qa'im and has reached 146,000 Liters benefiting 1,000 IDPs.



Photos 4: UNICEF water trucking in Heet

Since the beginning of the Anbar crisis and up to 24 March 2014, UNICEF WASH programme has reached 27,380 IDP families (164,280 persons) within and outside Anbar Governorate, through:

- The distribution of 23,640 WASH Emergency kits including hygiene kits for adults and babies, bottled water, jerry cans, soap, disinfectant, garbage bins and bags, blankets, purification tablets and cleaning materials.
- Garbage collection services on daily basis benefiting 1,400 IDP families.
- Installation of 100 Prefab latrines and showers; benefiting 500 families.
- Installation of water tanks with capacity of 240,000 liters benefiting 2,160 IDP families.
- Distribution of Hypothermal kits to 2,750 IDP families.

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## Food Security

Since the commencement of the crisis WFP has distributed 9,765 food parcels to IDPs, in partnership with IOM. There have been no distributions since 13 March 2014 due to a commodity pipeline break. A WFP commissioned monitoring survey of IDP beneficiaries has commenced. Preliminary results are expected in the first week of April.

WFP plans future distributions and is processing a loan of 5,000 food parcels from the Syrian Emergency Operation for distribution to Anbar IDPs. Further, WFP has initiated the procurement of additional food parcels from the CERF funding. These parcels are expected to be delivered towards the beginning of May 2014.

During the inter-agency assessment mission to Kirkuk on 18 March, the Governorate requested assistance for 2,200 families. WFP is yet to verify IDP numbers and their food security status.



Photos 4: WFP food parcels distribution in Anbar

Despite the presence of IDPs, the local authorities in Kurdistan have not requested food assistance from WFP and no distributions have taken place.

## Health

WHO conducted a detailed health needs assessment in all the IDP dwellings in and around Anbar showing that there are key gaps in service delivery and availability of medications. Responding to this challenge, WHO dispatched one truck load of essential medicines to the Directorate of Health in Anbar through the Iraq Red Crescent. Furthermore, WHO has procured 10 trauma kits which are ready to be dispatched to Fallujah and Ramadi Hospitals.

There have been confirmed Wild Polio virus cases identified in Babal Shom area of Nassiriyah, Baghdad Rasafah. WHO and UNICEF has completed the detailed epidemiological investigations which reveals that six months old child has paralysis of the lower limbs, was not vaccinated and has no travel history outside the area. However, it was found that the area is frequented by IDPs from Anbar. The child 3 years old sister is also positive but not paralyzed. She is also not vaccinated. The MOH with support from WHO and UNICEF; started an immediate vaccination in the area, and conducted a door to door surveillance targeting 8,000 children. The next round of national polio round will be conducted from 6-10 April in all Iraq.

The genetic sequencing results received by WHO Iraq illustrate that the virus found in Baghdad is of Syrian Origin. The three siblings of the case (one sister and two brothers) have also tested positive and stool specimens have been sent to WHO Reference lab in Cairo for confirmation.

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## Protection

In the last two weeks the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) has conducted assessments in several locations in Baghdad and has documented 100 cases. Through this monitoring the following protection issues were identified:

- IDPs complained that they are perceived and referred to as terrorists. One family received a threat letter, urging them to leave the house.
- Students complained that they had been denied entry into Universities.
- Many IDP children are not enrolled in school, including due to the fear of harassment.

The IRC/PARC protection monitoring teams has completed in-depth household level assessments for 194 IDP families/1,000 Individuals in Kerbala. All are living in a building owned by the Shia'a Endowment and all were displaced as a result of the military operations in their places of origin. The families reported feeling safe in the location but indicated that they do not wish for their children to attend school as they hope to return to Anbar once the security situation permits. The needs that have been identified relate to medical assistance and registration by MoDM. Some families requiring legal assistance with documentation were identified as well as 94 cases with serious/chronic medical conditions including heart disease mental-health problems, diabetes, epilepsy, disabilities and kidney problems.

## Coordination & Funding

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To enhance inter-cluster coordination, an information management working group has been established.

The IOM will make available to the Humanitarian Country Team their Data Tracking Matrix to identify concentration points, vulnerabilities, and assistance required for the IDPs.

The Clusters will hold their upcoming meetings at the Ministry of Displacement and Migration Office on 1<sup>st</sup> April with their respective counterparts (government and Civil Society), where discussion will focus on the priorities and needs.

To date, the financial contributions received for the Strategic Response Plan (SRP) are; Five million USD from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), 1.8 million USD from Japan and 1.7 million USD from Canada. Note, not all contributions have been reflected on the Financial Tracking System (FTS) yet.

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