
Situation Report

Anbar Humanitarian Crisis



Report #: 18

3 April 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 **71,184 families** as per Government figures of 2nd April.
- Instability continues to spread into north-central regions.
- GOI through MoH has declared the polio outbreak officially on 30th March.

Situation overview

The Anbar situation remains unchanged as clashes continue primarily between the ISF and AOGs in the Ramadi-Fallujah corridor. There are reports of ISIS now providing services and imposing Shari'a law in Fallujah in an apparent show of full control of the city. A number of bridges have been bombed and damaged, with main highways exiting Baghdad to the North and the South under threat.

The Anbar Provincial Council held an emergency meeting on 26 March 2014 to discuss a new initiative to resolve the crisis. The new initiative includes the withdrawal of military forces, amnesty for militants and compensation for those affected. Additionally, the Council announced the formation of three negotiating committees to engage with central government, tribal elders opposed to Government and religious scholars and tribal elders whose areas are controlled by AOGs. The Ministry of Defence announced that the ISF has recently distributed humanitarian aid inside Anbar Province, in areas controlled by Anbar operations command.

Meanwhile, instability continues to spread into north-central regions with most major cities in Salah-Al-Din Province seeing AOG attacks against ISF. Clashes in Diyala Province are increasing as AOGs pressure local security forces in Baqubah and surrounding villages. Military action in response to the attempted occupation of Buhriz by ISIS has led to unconfirmed number of displaced persons. As of 31 March, more than 200 families had reportedly left their houses in the villages near Qara Tappa sub district and moved to Khanaqin and other areas because of the presence of ISIS in their areas.

Humanitarian Response

The number of IDP families total 71,184 as per Ministry of Displacement and Migration (MoDM) latest registration report, with 50,922 families in Anbar and 20,262 more in other Governorates. Note that the figures for inside Anbar are based on information received from the local councils in Anbar.

As per Government official report, a total of 9,867 IDP families have received the GOI cash assistance. The Directorate of Displacement and Migration (DoDM) in Kirkuk started on 31 March the distribution of cash assistance for 500 displaced families from Anbar. The amount is 300,000 IQD (250\$). All Anbar IDPs in Kirkuk will be reached within the upcoming weeks.

NFI and Shelter Sector

In response to Anbar crisis, UNHCR has distributed 6,124 CRI kits and 215 tents (40 brand new Light Weight Tents and 175 used Family Tents) and IOM distributed 7,507 NFI kits to displaced families within and outside Anbar Governorate.

The Shelter & NFI cluster met on 1 April. The cluster members reported on the worsening conditions within Fallujah and Ramadi cities. Very little assistance is getting through to the affected population. Steps are being taken by the Cluster to improve the coordination of collection of data.

WASH

UNICEF WASH programme continues to deliver emergency supplies, Hygiene kits for adults and babies, garbage containers, family water kits, in addition to water trucking, garbage collection and disposal campaign in Heet and Al Qa'im.

UNICEF distributed 200 Hygiene kits (in addition to 1000 previously provided) benefiting 1200 most affected families in Fallujah city. This was the first successful distribution by a UN agency within the City limits.

Based on the rapid needs assessment results which covered Samarra and Salah El Deen districts, UNICEF and its implementing partner distributed the following emergency supplies to the most affected families: 5,000 adult hygiene kits; 4 water family kits (each kit serves 10 families); PVC tanks (10,000 liters) benefiting 50 families; and 4 large garbage containers (240 liters).

In Dohuk, UNICEF distributed 236 hygiene kits benefiting 118 families.

In response to the displacement of families from Suleiman Beik (Salah El-Deen) to nearby villages; UNICEF supported 280 IDP families with 280 hygiene kits, 28 family water kits (each kit serves 10 families) and 23 large garbage bins (240 liters).



Photo (1): UNICEF distributing hygiene kits in Fallujah city



Photo (2): UNICEF distributing hygiene and water kits to Suleiman Beik IDPs.

Food Security

WFP is preparing new distributions, especially in and around Heet. WFP is awaiting additional supplies in order to continue the humanitarian operation in Anbar. Due to pipeline constraints, the delivery of food parcels has been delayed and the food convoys are scheduled to reach Iraq during the second week of April. In the meantime, WFP has held discussions with potential NGO partners with the aim of expanding outreach and distribution efficiency.

Health

WHO provided two Inter Emergency Health Kits to the DOH in Anbar, each kit is sufficient to provide essential medicines and supplies for 10,000 individuals for a period of one month.

GOI through MoH has declared the polio outbreak officially on 30th March. A supplementary top up vaccination throughout Anbar Governorate was carried out by Iraq's Ministry of Health with support from UNICEF, WHO and partners to reach the population. This resulted in reaching 56,273 under-five unvaccinated children by end-March achieving a total coverage of 95% in the Anbar province.

WHO and MOH conducted training for the supervisors and monitors from DoH Anbar for the forthcoming polio immunization round starting 6 April 2014. Additionally, WHO trained the Iraq Red Crescent staff in independent monitoring of the polio immunization campaigns in Anbar.

Protection

The Protection Cluster met on 31 March. The issue of reluctance of IDPs in approaching MoDM for registration was raised as a protection concern. Some are afraid of potential reprisal from their own communities upon eventual return to the place of origin, or fear for being targeted for arrest and/or detention. The problem seems to be particularly serious in Baghdad where IDPs from Anbar are reported to be harassed or being labeled as "terrorists".

In order to register displaced children in schools in the location of displacement, the IRC/PARC teams in all the governorates follow-up on a regular basis with the Education Directorates in the concerned governorates. Through this intervention, the Najaf PARC successfully managed to have issued 10 formal letters to register 34 displaced children in schools in Najaf. Similar successes were achieved in other governorates.

Coordination & Funding

To date, the financial contributions received for the Strategic Response Plan (SRP) total Nine million USD; Five million USD from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), 1.8 million USD from Japan and 1.7 million USD from Canada. Turkey has indicated it will provide 500,000 USD. Note, not all contributions have been reflected on the Financial Tracking System (FTS) yet.

UN agencies are now warning that without substantial additional financial contributions they may need to cease operations – some as early as within a month. The SRSG in his report to the UN Security Council on 26 March underlined the gravity of the situation and requested the Government of Iraq and members states to respond positively to the SRP.

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