Rehabilitation, Education and Community Health (REACH) is a non-governmental, non-profit and independent Iraqi organization, conducting its activities in Diyala, Kirkuk, Erbil, Duhok, Ninevah and Sulaimaniya governorates of Iraq. REACH provides humanitarian aid to IDPs, refugees and host communities, by assisting and supporting their efforts to make a difference in their lives and developing their capacity to respond to emergencies with the support of partner agencies.

REACH works in the following sectors:

- **Food security**
- **Protection and respond to Gender-Based Violence**
- **Livelihood and social cohesion**
- **Water, sanitation and hygiene**
- **Non-food items**
- **Shelter**
Food security

While the overall food security situation in Iraq continues to fluctuate due in part to the inconsistent distribution of the PDS rations for Iraqis and funding shortages. Recent reports show that more than half of the IDPs in Iraq are reporting the use of negative food coping strategies\(^1\). The prolonged use of negative coping strategies will lead to greater food insecurity.

In coordination with WFP, HEKs and Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe, REACH organized both food package and food/hygiene voucher distribution for Iraqi IDPs and Syrian refugees who are living in Sulaimaniya, Duhok and Kirkuk governorates. The results of distributions are the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sulaimaniya</th>
<th>Duhok</th>
<th>Kirkuk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of IDP households, received food packages</strong></td>
<td>640</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Syrian refugees’ households, received food/hygiene vouchers</strong></td>
<td>760</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of IDP households, received food/hygiene vouchers</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>784</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1—Food vouchers and food items distribution by REACH

\(^1\) Iraq Food Market Monitoring Bulletin 18 - May 2016, WFP
Syrian woman is buying food with the help of food voucher, Sulaimaniya

Iraqi IDP family pictured with items they bought with the help of food voucher, Duhok
Protection and respond to Gender-Based Violence

The protection sector reports that the protection environment for Syrian refugees in KRI is stable thanks to PARC and other local infrastructures. There are however some gaps especially related to children and SGBV. Negative coping strategies have been reported by many families, especially those living out of the camps. For these families there is a need for further infrastructure and protection in order to reduce the negative coping strategies.2

REACH Women centers in Baynjan (Sulaimaniya) and Khanaqin (Diyala)

REACH Women centers in Baynjan and Khanaqin, with the support of UNFPA, support IDP and Syrian refugee women, and provide them with psychosocial support, shelter and psychosocial activities. Women centers provided the following activities in June:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Center</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Number of participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baynjan IDPs and Refugees living in Baynjan</td>
<td>Hairdressing trainings</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sensitization dialogues</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sweets making training</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khanaqin IDPs located in Allyawa Camp</td>
<td>Sensitization dialogues</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hairdressing training</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sweets making training</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 Regional refugee and resilience plan 2016 – 2017, UNHCR, Iraq
Livelihoods and social cohesion continue to be major priorities in order to assist all vulnerable populations including host community members, refugees and IDPs. Social tensions continue to be high especially as the conflict continues and the chance for return for many seems slim. The economic crisis among the host community has continued to exacerbate this as job opportunities are not available for any member of the community, be that host community, IDP or refugee.

- **Psychosocial support and peaceful co-existence**

  REACH is currently running 3 community centers in Bazyan, Baynjan and Rapareen districts of Sulaymaniya, where various psycho-social activities are provided for camp and non-camp Syrian refugees and IDPs, as well as for host community members, including art courses, kindergarten sessions, dancing, football and volleyball, tennis, study support, English & Sorani courses.

  In June, 950 beneficiaries participated in Community center activities, child friendly spaces and job center.

  This month was highlighted by providing an event for International Children's Day. The event was held in June in Sargrma park in Bazian. Beneficiaries of community centers provided several performances for event guests and showed their skills in music, dance, art and theater.

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Participants from music activity are performing a music play during World Children’s Day, Sulaimaniya
Livelihood activities

REACH provided the following livelihood activities in June:

**Job center**
- 19 males and 14 females registered their names to find a job;
- CVs of 9 males and 3 females were sent to local businesses

**Cash for work/Cash assistance**
- Cash for work activities were conducted in partnership with Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe, HEKs and AA in Sulaimaniya for 95 beneficiaries, Erbil for 94 beneficiaries and in Duhok for 107 beneficiaries.
- 11 households received cash assistance
Water, sanitation and hygiene

Needs

There is a continued need for WASH systems among the newly displaced in several areas of Iraq including Kirkuk governorate. For the camps being established for these displaced people there is a need to ensure access to water and sanitation facilities. There is also a great need for those who are living outside of the camps as they are in many cases for taxing the existing systems and are put at risk for disease.

- Under the support of Oxfam REACH started new project with a range of activities dedicated to providing access to safe water in Kirkuk. Immediate needs of newly displaced IDPS will be covered by water trucking and ensuring that line departments and municipalities have continued operation of water systems where displaced populations are residing or likely to arrive. Protracted displaced, returnees and newly accessible IDPs will be supported through household water treatment (chemical or filters), provision of household water storage, repair and extension of networks, and ensuring sustained functioning of water systems through Operation and Maintenance (O&M) training.

- With the support of UNICEF, REACH distribution teams started hygiene kits distribution on June 16, 2016 in Laylan/Khalo Bazeani village and ended it on July 4, 2016 in Yaychi sub-district and Al niadd to cover 10,224 IDP families

Distribution of Hygiene kits to IDPs in Kirkuk
Non-food items

Needs

There are still shortages of essential NFIs experienced by Iraqi IDPs in both camp and non-camp settings. This need is strongest among those who have been recently displaced and who have not had a chance to establish themselves. With the onset of summer, seasonal relief kits are of great need for many as well as CRI kits.

Distribution of Non-food items to IDPs in Kirkuk

With the support of UNHCR REACH provides Iraqi IDPs with non-food and core-relief items (CRI) in Kirkuk governorate. In June 410 CRI kits were distributed for the new arrivals, as well as 36 Tents.
Displaced people continue to experience unmet shelter needs. Two years into the current crisis, nearly 650,000 people live in critical shelters. About 70 per cent of displaced people live in rented accommodation or with host families, and will face critical shelter decisions as financial and economic pressures mount.³

REACH currently is implementing rehabilitation of 136 shelters in Hamzaly area of Kirkuk and Daquq district.

Renovation includes installing doors, windows, Filling the joint between the hollow blocks in the wall by cement mortar, floor casting.

³ OCHA Iraq Humanitarian Needs Overview 2016
With the support of: