Highlights

On 19 August the European Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response Ms. Kristalina Georgieva and Sweden's Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Carl Bildt, are visiting the Kurdistan Region to assess the current humanitarian situation.

UNICEF signed a $5 million agreement with the Government in Dahuk to support direct cash transfers to displaced families within the Governorate. The partners are still working on the details of the program, which should be launched shortly after the Government's completion of a census of all IDPs in the area.

Humanitarian Situation and Response

North

Dahuk

The Dahuk Governorate Emergency Cell shared updated IDP figures, based on information received from district authorities. The total IDP population is reported to be 462,270. Numbers by districts are: Dahuk - 80,000; Amedi - 6,150; Sumel - 155,000; Zakho - 166,000; Akre - 18,200; Shekhan - 10,520; Bardarash - 26,400.

The Department of Education reported that 644 schools host 21,488 families (128,958 individuals).

UNHCR border team at the Pesh Khabour Border crossing (pontoon bridge) reported the arrival of 965 individuals from Syria, mostly Yazidis who were in Nawroz camp (Syria) coming to join families who already reached Kurdistan. Some were those who went back from KR-I to Sinjar and brought their family members who were left-behind. Some IDPs continued to return from Kurdistan (mainly adult males) to Sinjar using the safe route via Syria to reach Sinjar mountain to search for their relatives.

Progress in building camps: The AFAD advance team and equipment are on site at Shariya. Approximately 650 tents have been erected in one part of the site at Khanke camp. Site preparation and demarcation is ongoing in the part of the site planned for slabs construction. Approximately 700 tents have been installed and occupied by IDPs staying in the "old" part of Bajet Kandala camp.

In Zakho, 6,000 people were assisted with immediate response rations (portable, ready-to-eat food for families on the move, sufficient to sustain a family of five for three days), distributed by WFP partner ACF. In Zawita, another 6,000 people were assisted with immediate response rations, distributed by WFP partner BCF.

UNICEF launched psychosocial support activities for IDP children in Shariya and at the border crossing in Pesh Khabour. UNICEF with the support of DoLSA, Nujeen, SOSD, Kurds, Hari-kari, and the VOP CP mobile team are providing psychosocial support activities in eight different IDP locations in Dahuk: Dahuk city, Zakho, Shekhan, Kani, Lalesh and Bajet Kandala. During Monday sessions, 716 IDP children (435 boys and 28 girls) attended the activities throughout the Governorate.

UNICEF, with the support of ACF, installed one bladder tank with tap stands in Dalal camp, distributed 97 hygiene kits and jerry cans in Dalal camp and in the unfinished building besides Zakho military academy road, and initiated latrine and environmental cleaning at Dalal camp and Hindaf school. Additionally, UNICEF and ACF provided 18,000 litres of water to Hindaf school and Kindergarten school at Zakho and conducted a door-to-door hygiene promotion campaign.
WHO’s team visited IDP families in Ibrahim Al-Kalil area on the Turkish border where they are living in the open. Those families were encouraged to move to Bajet Kandala for better health services and water quality.

WHO supported public health surveillance teams who visited IDP locations in Sharya and Sumel districts to monitor water quality and communicable diseases situation among IDPs living in schools and empty buildings there.

On Monday 18 August, IOM distributed 500 non-food item kits and 100 UNFPA women dignity kits in Zakho and Amedi.

**Erbil**

As of 18 August, 443 families are accommodated in Baharka camp. UNHCR provided electrical fans were to all families in Baharka camp on 17 August, through the Barzani Charity Foundation. Additional fans are stored in Baharka camp for distribution to new arrivals.

On 18 August, 297 tents were erected at the Ministry of Agriculture site. Technical assessments continue on three adjacent pieces of land that can shelter 900 families in Ainkawa and the expansion of Baharka camp to accommodate an additional 1,100 families.

As part of protection monitoring, on 18 August in Khabat, UNHCR team met with 28 families of 127 individuals to identify vulnerable cases.

A three day Camp Coordination/Camp Management (CCCM) Training, led by UNHCR, commenced on 17 August in Erbil. Participants include UN agencies, government organizations, international and local NGOs.

WHO and UNFPA conducted a visit to Baharka camp to follow up on the provision of health services. Water sanitation facilities are few and poor, with water taps not functioning and no lighting at night. Discussions are ongoing between health partners and the Department of Health to identify a suitable location for a primary health care clinic in Baharka.

IOM reports that in Shaqlawa town there are 1,003 IDP families spread through the community. Approximately 360 families have sought refuge in Shaqlawa church or halls belonging to the church. IOM also reports that in Koysinjaq district there are 150 IDP families accommodated in churches. They are in need of food and non-food items urgently.

In Soran, 375 people were assisted with family food parcels.

**Kirkuk**

As of 17 August, according to local authorities, 55,000 people are displaced in Kirkuk. UNHCR continues to collaborate with local authorities to establish a camp for IDPs.

**Suleymaniyah**

UNHCR reports that the Government of Suleymaniyah put the figure of recent IDP arrivals to the governorate since the first week of June at 141,000.

The Government shared with UN agencies a comprehensive needs list for IDP camps to be established in the governorate and asked for feedback within 3 days.

As of next week the Arbat transit camp, currently hosting Syrian refugees, will be ready to host IDP families. Relocation of remaining Syrian refugees from there will be completed by 21 August.

In Khalakan, 350 people were assisted with family food parcels (basic essentials to sustain a family of five for 30 days).
Central

Anbar

Displacement continues in Anbar with a total of 138,311 families displaced from Anbar or some 829,866 people. As the security situation continues to worsen, a lot of families are urgently in need of non-food items, food, shelter, water, healthcare, sanitation and protection from violence. Children are especially vulnerable to outbreaks of disease and malnutrition, made worse by poor conditions and searing summer temperatures.

UNICEF, with the support of ISHO, initiated daily water trucking of 26,000 litres of drinking water in Al-Khalidyah and 13,000 litres of water in Madani (Ramadi District), benefitting approximately 345 IDP families. This is in addition to the ongoing water trucking activities in five other locations inside Anbar, benefitting additional 1,250 IDP families (7,500 IDPs).

South

Baghdad

According to local authorities, as of 18 August, there are 12,115 displaced families in Baghdad, or some 72,690 IDPs.

Basra

On 18 August, 81 newly arrived displaced families were registered by local authorities bringing the total to 996 families or some 5,976 people. Local authorities also distributed cash grants to 45 newly arrived families. Due to a fire in a hotel housing IDPs on 17 August, the local government will relocate 150 families staying in hotels to an unfinished public building.

UNHCR staff report that the local government allocated 100 more tents to the IDP camp at Shat-al Arab, bringing the total to 300 tents. Electrical work at the camp is completed. UNHCR partners visited 18 newly arrived families living at an informal shelter.

Kerbala

IOM reports that there are 132 new IDP families spread in different locations across the districts of Hay Al-Askary, Jadwal Al-Gharbi and Wlaij. According to a city council member the majority of these families are from Telefar district (Ninewa).

Najaf

According to UNHCR field staff, local authorities have allocated a plot of land to establish an IDP camp for 12,000 families, or some 72,000 people. There are some 11,000 families currently in Najaf.

Approximately 11,400 litres of bottled water was distributed by UNICEF Alataba Al Alawiya to 3,800 IDPs on the road between Najaf and Kerbala.