

Situation Report

Anbar Humanitarian Crisis



Report #: 21

24 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 72,910 families as per Government figures of 23 April 2014.*
- *SRSO on April 23, 2104, chaired a meeting between the Baghdad Governorate Council Chairman Mr. Riyadh Al-Adhadh and UN Country Team in Iraq to discuss how the UN can assist in dealing with the devastating effects of flooding in Abu-Ghraib and Fallujah. A UN Inter-Agency Mission along with Government counterparts is fielded for April 24, 2014*
- *Lot Quality Assurance Sampling reveals 7 districts (6 provinces) reported less than 80% polio immunization coverage.*
- *Islamic Relief –Iraq distributes 400 food parcels in Fallujah City*
- *Nearly half the students in Anbar province have been prevented from attending school due to the ongoing conflict.*

Situation overview

The ISF and the Armed Opposition Groups (AOGs) fighting continue within the Ramadi-Fallujah corridor. Reports indicate significant casualties and artillery fire directed at Fallujah. Mobile phone communications in Ramadi were blacked out on 19 April allegedly in preparation for a large military operation targeting an ISIS stronghold in the Al-Hamera area. The Government of Iraq has reportedly agreed to loan the province approximately US\$86 million to address their reconstruction needs.

Humanitarian Response

The number of IDP families stands at 72,910 as per Ministry of Displacement and Migration (MoDM) latest registration report, with 50,922 families inside Anbar and 21,988 in other Governorates.

As per official Government reports, the Ministry of Displacement and Migration has distributed 5,400 food parcels, and 49,700 blankets to the IDPs in governorates outside of Anbar throughout the country.

The Government reported that; 1) MODM has stopped distributing financial assistance to the IDP's. This arrangement is in line with the Ministerial Order #163 in 2014. 2) The distribution of the second financial assistance (300,000 IQD = \$250 USD) was ceased in Karbala, Erbil, Sulimaniyah, Dohuk, and Salah El Din governorates. 3) Over 76 IDP families have left Karbala and returned to their places of origin. 3) IDP's continue to be provided with confirmation letters to return to their places of origin. 4) Financial assistance (batch # 5, 6, 7) to the IDPs in the Karkh area in Baghdad has also ceased.

The Government also reports the responsibility for transporting items in the food ration for Anbar has been transferred from the Ministry of Trade to the Anbar Provincial Council.

NFI and Shelter Sector

UNHCRs cumulative distribution since the commencement of the conflict has reached 6,219 CRI kits.

UNHCR has received additional letters from the Anbar local council requesting further stocks of tents to assist the new IDP families' influx in Heet. In line with this UNHCR is planning to send 20 additional tents to Heet district to allow for the establishment of another collective center.

299 Kerosene Jerry Cans, 299 Hygiene kits, 302 Stoves, 299 Plastic sheets, 790 Mattress, 790 quilts and 39 kitchen sets were replenished in Al-Qa'im Warehouse.

WASH

UNICEF provided 9,700 IDP Families with Hygiene and Family Kits, in Anbar (Heet, Al-Qaim, Al-Rutba) and Salah El Din (Al-Dholayah, Yathrib and Ishaqi.) Additionally 15,000 IDPs were reached with the hygiene promotion campaigns in Heet and Al-Qa'im.

For the reporting period, the water trucking activities provided 300,000 liters on a daily basis which benefited 15,126 IDPs in Heet, Rutba and Al-Qaim. Meanwhile the garbage collection services were conducted on a daily basis benefiting 10,000 IDPs in Al-Qaim, Anah and Heet.



UNICEF Photo: Garbage Collection campaign in Heet-Anbar



UNICEF/Photo: Water Trucking in Heet-Anbar

500 IDPs benefited from the installation and/or rehabilitation of 15 latrines and showers in Al-Obaidi, and Heet.

Meanwhile 300 families benefitted from the installation of water tanks in Heet, Al-Khaldiay and Al-Obaidi.

Health

The results of the post-campaign monitoring for the Polio National Immunization Days conducted from 6-10 April 2014 have been released. The independent monitoring has been undertaken in partnership with the Iraqi Red Crescent Society. The Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) methodology has been applied throughout the monitoring survey. LQAS is a rapid survey method used to assess the quality of vaccination coverage following supplementary immunization activities (SIA) in pre-defined areas such as a health districts (known as "lots"), using a small sample size.

The main findings of the monitoring campaign are as follows:

- ✚ A total of 3,811 children under five, 2,373 households, 19 provinces and 57 districts were included in the post-campaign monitoring exercise;
- ✚ Reported as of April 2014 the polio campaign immunization coverage is 91.5% with variation by province and district (95% CI 90.6 – 92.4);
- ✚ 7 districts (6 provinces) reported less than 80% polio immunization coverage, this is considered not acceptable in line with the Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS methodology);
- ✚ Households were more likely to be vaccinated if they had prior knowledge of the campaign;
- ✚ Polio immunization coverage was equitable according to the household socioeconomic index (range 88.7 – 93.2%).

The report provides data on disaggregation and mapping of results by geographic area, socio-economic index and social data (i.e. reasons for missed vaccination and refusal etc...)

It is important to emphasize this is the first time a post-campaign monitoring for polio has taken place in Iraq since the outbreak. Additionally it is the first time in the region that the mobile information technology is being used in the post-campaign monitoring in Iraq and in fact the Middle East. The Electronic data collection enabled: 1) enhanced data collection in real-time and standardized; 2) integration of GPS and timestamp information; 3) accountability with respect to methods of data collection and sampling and 4) real-time analysis and mapping of data to be used as decision-making tool.

Due to the ongoing conflict surrounding Ramadi, reports indicate access to the compound where the Anbar Department of Health normally operated out of is proving to be difficult for employees who are unable to report regularly to their work place. Information received also indicates that patients are facing great difficulties in reaching the Ramadi General Hospital, as well as the Obstetric and Pediatric Hospital due to the insecurity. This is a major concern from the public health perspective, therefore they are calling on all parties to respect international protocol and ensure health facilities and access to basic health services by the population in need are protected.

Food Security



WFP Photo: Food distribution in Al-Rutba April, 2014

Since the onset of the crisis WFP has distributed 12,006 food parcels, assisting 60,030 IDPs.

WFP currently has 1,680 food parcels in storage facilities in Ramadi. In the past week, WFP's partner IOM distributed 1,250 food parcels in Rutba city centre. Distributions are planned to continue in April and May 2014.

Islamic Relief -Iraq, funded by Islamic Relief Worldwide have 1,100 food parcels available for distribution inside Fallujah city. They have so far distributed 400 out of the 1,100 food parcels. Each parcel is designed to cover 60% of the calorific requirements for 10-12 days for a family of 6 individuals. It is worth noting that Islamic Relief is using small vehicles to access Fallujah city.



Photo: Islamic Relief Worldwide distribution in Fallujah City

Protection

To-date the IRC/PARC protection monitoring teams have conducted in-depth household level assessments for 87 families/539 Individuals newly displaced from Ramadi, Fallujah and Al Khaldiya district. Individual needs include legal assistance for documentation, registration by MoDM, medical assistance, food, Core Relief Items, cash assistance, assistance to identify shelter or affordable accommodation, as some are temporarily residing either with relatives, in rented houses, in schools, or in unfinished or abandoned housing, and assistance to access education. Some cases with specific needs have also been identified including female headed families, persons with disabilities (mental and physical), serious medical conditions and needs for urgent cash assistance. All families assessed had not been previously displaced, although some have had to move 1 – 2 times since their recent displacement from Anbar governorate. All indicated an intention to return their place of origin once the situation permitted.

UNHCR has revised the target for protection monitoring that is conducted by the International Rescue Committee (IRC) as the target has already been met and exceeded through a combination of rapid, community and household level assessments. The target of 6,250 families/37,500 individuals was set for the planning figure of 40,000 families/240,000 individuals, which constituted approximately 15%. Applying the calculation to the current figure of approximately 70,000 families, the target is thus adjusted to 10,500 families (x 6 per family = 63,000 individuals).

As a result of the recent floods caused by the closing of the Fallujah Dam, different villages surrounding Baghdad, including Al-Awad, Al-Dheban, Al-Ma'ameer, Al-Imheireja and Al-Es'eidan have been affected, and 1,500 families were forced to flee to Al-Nasar & Al-Salam and other areas within Abu Ghraib district particularly the areas which are close to the Baghdad administrative border. Reports have indicated large displacements occurring in the area since mid-March and as the total actual numbers of persons that have been displaced have not yet been confirmed, preliminary indications are that as much as 38,000 families residing in 80 villages located on the outskirts of Abu Ghraib near the Fallujah and Al Radwanayah area affiliated to Abu Ghraib district have been displaced to the Centre of Abu Ghraib district, the KR-I, and Samarra district in Salah El-Din governorate.

Education

The total number of students in Anbar covering (primary and intermediate secondary) is 510,000. The number of students displaced due to the ongoing conflict to areas inside and outside Anbar has reached 200,000 students. In Fallujah students have not been attending school due to the deteriorating security situation. As for Ramadi city the attendance is partial, provided the security situation permits. Meanwhile in Al-Gharbiah and other areas in Anbar students continue to attend their sessions.

The general situation for schools is they are occupied by IDP families, forcing the students to either attend other schools, which is leading to over-crowding, and/or shorter session of 2 hours per group. Additionally, due to lack of space the teachers are forced to conduct classes in the corridors or the courtyards of the schools.

UNICEF/Photo: Tents provided for Al-Bitar school for girls in Khalidia, the school is partially occupied by IDP families.



UNICEF has received a request for tents from 29 schools in Khalidia and 17 schools in Amirayat Al-Fallujah, to be used as make shift classrooms; as their schools are either totally occupied or partially occupied by IDP families. UNICEF has commenced delivery and installation of tents along with recreation kits, first aid kits, and educational materials.

UNICEF continued to provide support to Child Friendly Spaces, over the past week, out of which 44 IDP children benefited from these activities.

Coordination & Funding

The Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Iraq (SRSG), Nikolay Mladenov, on April 23, 2104, chaired a meeting between the Baghdad Governorate Council Chairman Mr. Riyad Al-Adhadh and his accompanied delegation, and representatives of the UN Country Team in Iraq. The discussions centered on how the UN can assist in dealing with the devastating effects of the flooding in Abu-Ghraib and Fallujah that now endangers other areas. The SRSG consequently requested the UN Country Team to work together with the Iraqi authorities to identify critical needs. In line with this an Inter-Agency Assessment is taking place on April 24, 2104, comprised of UNAMI, WHO, UNDP, WFP, UNHCR, and UNICEF.

Round I of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) concluded on March 31, 2104 is now available. In this round IOM staff verified, assessed, and profiled 85% of the identified locations outside of Anbar. Verification visits and assessments could not be conducted in Anbar during Round I due to the security situation. Several of the trends indicated (however not limited to) that the vast majority of individuals are displaced from Fallujah. IOM identified Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) to primarily settle in Salah al-Din, Baghdad, Erbil, and Sulaymaniyah. It was also noticed that displacement has not just occurred only from Anbar; Baghdad and Babylon have also witnessed displacement. Secondary displacement is reportedly caused by a need to seek better and more affordable accommodation and easier registration procedures.

Financial Contributions-Strategic Response Plan (SRP)

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, and 500,000 USD from Turkey.

Note, not all contributions have been reflected on the Financial Tracking System (FTS) yet.

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