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## Information bulletin

### Iraq: Civil unrest

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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#### Information Bulletin n° 01

#### 09 Jan, 2014

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**This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Iraqi Red Crescent Society (IRCS) with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has determined that external assistance is not required, and is therefore not seeking funding or other assistance from donors at this time.**

### Summary

The latest upsurge in violence in Anbar began after troops broke up a protest camp in Ramadi last month. Tensions have been rising over the past few weeks in Anbar, a province that makes up a third of Iraq's territory. Thousands of people have been affected by the fighting between the armed personnel and the military thus needing support.

Iraqi Red Crescent has responded to the situation and has provided relief and food items to the displaced as well as people inside the city.



A displaced woman receives relief items from IRCS. Photo IRCS

### The situation

Al Anbar Governorate (or Anbar Province) is the largest governorate in Iraq geographically. Encompassing much of the country's western territory sharing borders with Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia. The provincial capital is Ramadi; other important cities include Fallujah and Haditha. According to a 2003 estimate by the NGO Coordination Committee in Iraq, the population was 1,230,140.

Heavy fighting took place between the Iraqi military and fighters in Anbar province that affected a number of cities including Fallujah and leaving tens of casualties. Thousands of civilian have fled the city due to violence and shortage of services and facilities.

### Red Cross and Red Crescent action

In response to the civil unrest leading to displacement of people inside and around the city, the IRCS have responded quickly in moving aid convoys to affected locations after making the necessary relief plans in collaboration with the crisis cell that consist of several of government parties.

The IRCS staff and volunteers have distributed food and relief items to the most vulnerable affected men and women in collaboration with the local communities. Few locations could not be accessed due to the ongoing fighting; therefore these sites remain under monitoring pending decision of the authorities so that the necessary aid could be delivered on time.

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**Distribution of food and relief items by site**  
**Families reached: 6387**

| Site                                | Item                           | quantity |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| Al Ramadi and areas around Fallujah | Food parcel                    | 1,627    |
|                                     | Hot meals                      | 1,600    |
| A'meria al Fallujah                 | Food parcel                    | 1,000    |
|                                     | Blanket                        | 1,000    |
| Al Ramadi                           | Relief items included blankets | 450      |
| Al-Rahaliah                         | Food parcel                    | 160      |
|                                     | Relief items                   | 160      |
| Ain-Tamer                           | Food parcel                    | 50       |
|                                     | Relief items                   | 50       |
| Al-Rathwaniya                       | Tents                          | 3        |
| Cross al Nekheab road to Al Ramadi  | Food parcel                    | 1,000    |

## Contact information

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**

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## How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
  2. Enable healthy and safe living.
  3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
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