


www.ifrc.org
Saving lives,
changing minds.

Information bulletin

Iraq: Civil unrest

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Information Bulletin n° 01 09 Jan, 2014

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. After the retreat of the Iraqi Army from Ramadi city and Fallujah city with shortage in the main services which led to internally displacement for 13,500 people from most affected areas to more stable and safer places inside Anbar governorate.

In response, The IRCS has provides its humanitarian services through the provision of more than 7,000 food parcels, relief items and first aid units in 15 centres in Ramadi City and 3 centres in Fallujah City.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **Iraqi Red Crescent Society:** Mr. Mohammed Khuzai, Under Secretary General, Email: ircinfo@yahoo.com or International department; Email (ircs_int_dep@yahoo.com)
- **IFRC Iraq Representation:** Farid Aiywar, IFRC Iraq country representative; Phone +964 7901922416; Email: Farid.Aiywar@ifrc.org
- **IFRC MENA Zone:** Dr Hosam Faysal, DM Coordinator, Phone +961 71 802 916; Email: hosam.faysal@ifrc.org
- **In Geneva:** Christine South, Operations Quality Assurance Senior Officer; Phone: +41.22.730.45.29; Email: christine.south@ifrc.org

For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

- **In IFRC MENA Zone:** Samah Hassoun, Senior Resource Mobilization Officer, Phone: + 961 70 480 488, Email: samah.hassoun@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)

- **In IFRC MENA Zone:** Nadine Haddad, Senior PMER Officer, Phone +961 70 802 775, Email: nadine.haddad@ifrc.org

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.



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.
-