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Information bulletin

Iraq: Civil Unrest

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. More information will be communicated soon and most likely a larger scale operation will be launched by Iraqi Red Crescent Society and IFRC response tools may be considered.

[<click here to view the map of the affected area, or here for detailed contact information>](#)



Iraqi Red Crescent response teams erecting emergency shelters to accommodate the displaced families from Mousl. Photo: IRCS

The situation

The humanitarian situation in Iraq has taken a dramatic turn with the deterioration of the security situation in the regions of Ninewa, Salaheddin, and Diyala provinces. Fighting carried out by armed groups reached several major cities in the country such as Mosul, Samara, Baquba, and Ramadi. Mosul, the second largest city of Iraq, has fallen under the control of armed groups along with most of the province of Ninewa. Accurate figures of casualties are unavailable, but reports claim the figures stand in the hundreds. 500,000 people are estimated to have become IDPs and moved to locations like Erbil, Dohuk and Basheeqa.

Displaced families are residing either in schools, with relatives, in mosques, tents, incomplete building constructions, and senates. They are in dire need of food, water, and shelter and NFI assistance. Possibilities of opening camps are being assessed by the Ministry of Displacement and Migration, which will also establish an operational room in Erbil. Temporary transit facilities are being set up by the Erbil governorate that installed tents and generators as well as secured ambulances. UN agencies are in process to provide latrines, water trucking, bottled water, hygiene supplies, and other core relief items. Mattresses are being distributed by Turkish relief groups. The



Massive waves of Iraqis moved to Kurdistan region seeking safety. Photo: IRCS

The Governor of Dohuk requested the establishment of a camp for 2,000 families. The checkpoints' area allowing access between Mosul and Erbil is overcrowded with thousands of people awaiting relatives to pass. Five ambulances and two mobile clinics are available on both sides of the checkpoint where one patient of old

age was reported to have passed away. The situation is rendered more complex with the fact that IDPs need resident permit before being referred as patients in Erbil. Additionally, the overcrowded traffic is making it very difficult for ambulances to reach out to patients. In Mosul, most health facilities are inaccessible or damaged.

The crisis has continued to seriously deteriorate on the 12th of June as armed opposition groups have progressed south-eastwards and captured Tikrit City in Salah Al Din Province, 150km north of Baghdad. Several news sources mentioned that the next target will be Baghdad based on the ongoing fighting in Samaria, and Diyala which is about 55 KM northeast of Baghdad.

The Prime Minister of Iraq called on the Parliament to meet urgently to declare a state-of-emergency to enable the state to deal with the crisis, and a vote is expected to take place today (Thursday, 12 June)

More than 32,000 new IDPs towards Kurdistan Region were reported by Iraqi RC, while an additional 25,000 displaced within Mosul City itself (OCHA). Government sources in the Kurdistan Region Government state that three camps will be established to accommodate IDPs and two more camps are planned to be established, with UNHCR providing technical assistance. The possibility of negotiating a humanitarian corridor needs to be explored to provide material assistance to those trapped.

Both the government of Iraq and the Kurdistan Region Government have officially requested assistance from the UN. The Ministry of Displacement and Migration has distributed 300,000 IQD to families in Dohuk—but due to curfew and no commodities available beneficiaries were not able to use this support extensively.

The UN has initiated a CERF request process aiming to target up to one million people (half a million from Anbar and half a million newly displaced from Mosul and other areas). The CERF will likely cover a three month period.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Iraqi Red Crescent Society had immediately responded and activated operations rooms in Erbil, Dohuk, Sulaimaniah and Kirkuk governorates (close to Ninawa governorate) and started to mobilize all resources to assist the displaced families by providing food aid, water and tents.

Iraqi Red Crescent teams in Dohuk and Erbil have distributed food aid and water for more than 20,000 displaced people in the past two days as well as provided tents in some areas.

IRCS Assistant to the Secretary General expressed concern about the humanitarian situation of citizens within the city of Mosul due to the lack of electricity, health services and other essential requirements.

IRCS's volunteers are doing their best to assist the displaced people from Ninawa governorate where more than 300,000 individuals have entered Kurdistan region during the last two days. Kurdistan region authorities allowed 150,000 displaced persons to enter Erbil governorate and for another 150,000 displaced persons to enter Dohuk governorate. IRCS provided the displaced people in Erbil & Dohuk governorates with more than 60,000 hot meals.

IFRC country representative is working closely with the IRCS HQ team to support and to plan the response support plan which will start in the form of DREF request to support quickly the scaling up to the emerging and mounting needs.

A coordination meeting between ICRC, IRCS and IFRC will be organized to ensure the synergies and to coordinate the response.



[Click here](#)

1. [Map below](#)
2. [Click here](#) to return to the title page
3. [Click here](#) to see the contact details

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 (ircs_int_dep@yahoo.com)
- **IFRC Iraq Representation:** Farid Aiywar, Federation Representative, Iraq country representative; phone: Mob: +964 7901922416; Email: Farid.Aiywar@ifrc.org
- **IFRC MENA Zone:** Dr Hosam Faysal, DM Coordinator, Phone: +961 (0)5956058; mob+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, Mobile +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.

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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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Legend

Provinces

0 100 Km

Sources: UNCS, OCHA, IFRC
 Map produced by Disaster Management Unit, MENA Zone