

Operations update

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Middle East: Population Displaced from Iraq

Emergency appeal n° MDR81002
Operations update n° 5
28 August 2008

Period covered by this Ops Update: 1
April to 30 June, 2008.

Appeal target: CHF 17, 072,655 (USD
17,072,655 or EUR 10,846,668).

Appeal coverage: 48% [<click here to go directly to the interim financial report or here to link to contact details>](#)

Summary:

The continuous generous support from the donors has made the International Federation and host National Societies in Jordan and Syria able to provide the needed humanitarian assistance to the displaced Iraqi population in these two countries. The donors included the American Government PR&M and American Red Cross, OPEC Fund for International Development, Swedish

Government through Swedish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, British Red Cross, Hong Kong Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross, and other contributors.

The status of the majority of displaced Iraqis in Jordan and Syria remains largely unchanged; however, it is evident that the economic hardships aggravated by price hikes coupled with the depletion of personal resources increased the vulnerability. This situation has increased the pressure on the basic infrastructure of the health, education and general public services of the host communities. Despite the general security level in Iraq slightly improving and the visa restrictions introduced by Jordan and Syria increasing, according to the recent reports of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Iraqis are still leaving their country rather than returning to it, due to safety and security concerns.

Through the implementation of the current Emergency Appeal which was extended until the end of March 2009, the International Federation support to the host national societies in Syria and Jordan will continue to include humanitarian assistance to 50,000 Iraqi displaced families (30,000 in Syria and 20,000 in Jordan). The services include basic health and care, psychosocial support, distribution of non-food items (NFIs) and capacity building.



The Syrian Arab RC volunteers providing relief items to externally displaced Iraqis

Syria

The second phase of the emergency operation has seen the completion of the distribution of 20,000 hygiene kits and 20,000 kitchen sets. The procurement of the second round of 20,000 hygiene kits and 10,000 kitchen sets is under way and distribution is expected to commence in August. Plans are also underway to procure 10,000 mattresses, blankets and additional school kits. School kits should be ready for distribution before schools open in September. Three of the mobile health units (MHUs) were put into operation in Deir ez Zor, Hassakeh and Homs and procurement of equipment for a fourth unit is underway. An existing Syrian Arab Red Crescent (Syrian Arab RC) unit was also fully equipped. Rehabilitation and equipping of five basic health care (BHC) units has been completed. Capacity building support continued and included staffing at headquarters and branches, training of volunteers in disaster management, planning, monitoring and reporting. Procurement of equipment to establish a VHF radio network to support five Syrian Arab RC disaster management units will start in August. Preparations and training are continuing to prepare staff and volunteers for the opening of the psycho-social support programme (PSP) social centres in August and September.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reports that there is a rising anxiety among Iraqi refugees due to a belief that visas for families with children enrolled in schools will no longer be automatically extended at the end of the school year and that they will be forced to return to Iraq. The Syrian authorities have assured UNHCR that Iraqi families with school aged children will be issued with one to three month residencies to allow them to stay over summer until the commencement of the new school year. UNHCR advises that, as far as they are aware, visa overstay does not automatically lead to deportation. The International Medical Corps (IMC), Danish Refugee Council and Premiere Urgence have now all signed agreements with UNHCR.

Jordan

The beginning of April marked the start of the second phase of the operation which saw the delivery of the MHU and the ambulance which were procured through the International Federation's regional logistics unit (RLU) in Dubai. The two units are fully equipped to extend the health services to displaced Iraqis and host communities in rural areas. The two BHC centres consolidated their primary health care services providing 5,323 consultations during the reporting period; bringing the total number of consultations performed by the two centres since the beginning of the operation in August 2007 to 15,347. 13% of the consultations were children below the age of five and 59% of adult consultations were females. The location of the third BHC centre was identified, and it was renovated and equipped in order to be operational by mid July. The volunteers outreach services to monitor the general health welfare of the displaced families and provide psychosocial support services during the reporting period reached 2,525 beneficiaries; bringing the total number of beneficiaries since the beginning of the operation in August 2007 to 6,084. A new batch of volunteers were recruited and trained to provide the outreach services to the population to be served by the new BHC centre in Jabal Al Hussein. The 34 volunteers recruited consist of 15 Iraqis selected among the displaced population in Jabal Al Hussein, and 19 of the volunteers recruited are female. The third round of non-food items distribution reached 3,500 families who received blankets, bed sheets, kitchen sets, hygiene kits and school kits. The International Federation placed an order to the RLU in Dubai to procure two general service vehicles for Jordan Red Crescent (Jordan RC) to enhance its logistical capacity. The two units are expected to be delivered in August.

The situation

The overall general security situation in Iraq remains volatile and fluid. Despite claims that the security situation in the country has improved, the general conditions on the ground are not conclusive for the displaced Iraqis in Syria and Jordan to return. In many occasions, the UNHCR declared that they are not encouraging voluntary repatriation; however, they stand ready to assist those who wish to go back. Although the Jordanian authorities announced an exemption of Iraqis from the accumulated overstay fines on their residencies, very few Iraqis came forward to rectify their legal status. According to the sources of the Ministry of Interior, only 3,000 Iraqis have left the country after the Jordanian authorities offered the exemption package. Even with the introduction of the new visa regime which limited the free access to Jordan and Syria, the flow of Iraqis heading to these two countries are continuing. In view of the increase in food prices and other necessities and with little chances of repatriation or settlement in third countries, Jordan and Syria are obliged to cope with the increasing presence of Iraqis. Accordingly, the International Federation will step up its activities to provide the needed humanitarian assistance to the displaced Iraqis, hence, contributing to easing the pressure on the host communities.

Coordination and partnerships

Syria

The new International Federation representative resumed his responsibilities in Syria as of 15 June 2008, replacing the outgoing representative who completed his mission on 18 June, 2008. The International Federation continued to assist Syrian Arab RC to meet its coordination responsibilities with partner National Societies (Netherlands Red Cross, French Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, and Qatar Red Crescent); International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC); international non-governmental organisations (NGOs); as well as liaison with UN Agencies like UNHCR, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and World Food Programme (WFP). This includes harmonization of support to Syrian Arab RC, standardization of reporting, security and related issues plus updating partner mapping.

The ICRC is sponsoring a workshop in July addressing the need for a standard National Society logo and for the production of a Syrian Arab RC logo standards manual. The International Federation will support this initiative plus the development of a Syrian Arab RC communications guide and the design of a website. ICRC and the International Federation are also cooperating in the procurement of VHF handsets, base stations, mobile units and repeater stations to establish networks to support operations in five key Syrian Arab RC disaster management units with procurement to commence in August 2008.

The program coordinator of the International Federation has visited Syria regularly to inspect Syrian Arab RC clinics, attend interagency meetings and participate in ongoing discussions regarding user fees. A Syrian Arab RC health information system workshop and a disaster management planning, monitoring and reporting workshop supported by the Netherlands RC and the International Federation are scheduled for July.

In May and June, the Danish Red Cross conducted additional training of trainers (ToT) for two workshops to be held in July and August to prepare staff and volunteers for the opening of PSP social centres in Qamishley, Aleppo and Rural Damascus in late August and early September 2008.

The French RC received an assessment report in May 2008 that will allow it to start planning for the opening of a nursing school in April 2009. In addition, the International Federation will support the conduct of two Syrian Arab RC disaster management exercises to be held in August 2008.

The Turkish Red Crescent is negotiating an agreement with the Syrian Arab RC for the construction of two schools in Rural Damascus and for the distribution of some NFIs. In the meantime, the Netherlands RC completed the distribution of medical equipment to ten clinics. An additional three clinics will be equipped from the next shipment due in August with sufficient stock to equip two new clinics currently under consideration. The Netherlands RC has also sponsored the upgrade of the Syrian Arab RC health information system and a workshop to be held in July to train clinic staff on the upgrade.

Jordan

Regular consultation meetings on bilateral basis were maintained with partner National Societies' (PNSs) representatives based in Jordan and ICRC to harmonize support to Jordan RC. The International Federation's representative met with the head of ICRC Jordan delegation and discussed the activities in support of the National Society, where the ICRC expressed readiness to support integration of components like tracing, restoration of family links and dissemination of Red Cross/Red Crescent (RC/RC) principles and values in the disaster risk reduction training workshops supported by the International Federation. The ICRC also expressed interest to support the process of reviewing and updating the National Society's strategic plan for 2008-2012.

The Jordan RC and the Danish RC signed a letter of intent, marking the beginning of a bilateral cooperation between the two National Societies. The technical teams from the two National Societies started consultations to develop a project proposal to be funded by the Danish Partnership for Progress and Reform Programme (DAI). The time frame for the first phase will cover 16 months from the date of signing the memorandum of understanding (MoU), which is expected in the middle of August 2008. Areas of cooperation include volunteers and staff exchange, disaster risk reduction, and dialogue on culture, religious tolerance and neutrality.

The programme coordinator and the health programme manager regularly attended the partners' health coordination meeting co- chaired by UNHCR and WHO, in addition to interagency meetings hosted by UNHCR. Meetings with other organizations involved in PSP activities included Terre des homes and Medecins Sans

Frontieres (MSF) France on support to Iraqi displaced with special needs for surgical operations and treatment. The programme coordinator also attended the annual consultations of UNHCR with NGOs hosted by UNHCR headquarters in Geneva during 24-27 June and made a presentation on the user fee in the health facilities. The consultation was also attended by two representatives from Jordan RC.

The International Federation's head of zone, Jordan representative and Iraq programme coordinator attended the Global Humanitarian Platform organized by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Amman during 19-20 May. The platform was attended by the UN System, the RC/RC movement and international and national NGOs.

In the meantime, the German RC and French RC independent evaluators completed their assessment/evaluation of the Jordan RC health centres according to agreed joint assessment tools. The final report will be circulated in due course.

National Society Capacity Building:

Syria

The International Federation is supporting Syrian Arab RC with core staff at headquarters (nine positions), in addition to staff at six National Society clinics and four MHUs. Technical support and training is also provided to the key staff to enhance their monitoring, administration and reporting capabilities. This includes the national headquarters as well as the branches.

Support is also being provided through replenishment of emergency stocks (mattresses and blankets) and to the volunteers through disaster management trainings at headquarters and branch level. As mentioned above, the International Federation has supported a disaster management planning, reporting and monitoring workshop, which will be conducted in July for the National Society's disaster management coordinators. Two disaster management exercises are planned for August 2008.

To enhance the National Society's response capacity, two mobile operations room caravans have been procured and fully equipped with furniture/tools to be mobilized and deployed in short notice in case of an emergency. In addition, the procurement of VHF radio equipment to establish networks in five Syrian Arab RC disaster management units will further enhance the disaster response capacity of the National Society.

Jordan

The International Federation representation supported the National Society technically and financially in conducting two workshops on disaster risk reduction. The first one took place in Al Balqa'a branch during 12-15 June and was attended by 20 participants. The second workshop was conducted in Al Ashrafia, a densely populated neighbourhood of Eastern Amman, during 19-22 June and was attended by 15 participants. Working with the communities in two locations, the two branches are expected to develop and submit disaster risk reduction projects to be implemented during this year.

To encourage and support the branches engaged in the National Society disaster risk reduction initiative, the International Federation representation donated one laptop, two desktops and two printers to Al Balqa'a branch to facilitate their work in related projects and other activities.

The International Federation's country representation attended and facilitated the Jordan RC's planning meeting on 16 June, ahead of the zone planning meeting which took place during 17-19 June. The National Society planning exercise focused on the review of the strategic plan 2003-2007 in order to update the priorities for the coming two years. The outcome was shared with the zone team during the planning meeting. It is envisaged that the focus of Jordan RC during the coming two years will be on disaster risk reduction as a flagship programme. Other priority areas include health and care (HIV and AIDS, PSP, community based first aid), and organizational development (leadership development, volunteers management, and gender mainstreaming). The International Federation will complement the input from the ICRC in supporting the dissemination and promotion of principles and values.

To kick start the process of reviewing the strategic plan, the National Society appointed a task force comprising representatives from the branches and the national headquarters to take stock of the achievements of the previous strategy (2003-2007) and develop a new strategy for 2009-2012. The International Federation representation is working closely with the task force to provide technical and financial assistance to facilitate the process. The exercise is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

The finance manager of the International Federation's representation conducted a one day training workshop on working advance management and financial reporting for Al Aqaba branch staff and volunteers to enhance the branch capacity in fulfilling the reporting requirements while implementing the disaster risk reduction projects funded by the International Federation. Continuous technical support is also extended to the headquarters staff to improve the financial reporting.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Progress towards objectives

Goal: The health status and living standards of Iraqi externally displaced persons (EDPs) in Syria and Jordan will be maintained or improved through the curative and preventive primary health care services, water and sanitation activities and essential non-food assistance of the host Red Crescent National Societies.

Basic Health Care

Objective: Externally displaced Iraqi families and vulnerable local host communities in Syria and Jordan have access to good quality curative and preventive basic health care services (general medical and dental) provided by BHCs and MHUs to maintain a satisfactory health status.

Progress:

Syria

The first phase of the primary health care program has begun with the local procurement of four MHUs, three of which were delivered to Syrian Arab RC branches in Deir ez Zor, Hassakeh, and Homs. A fourth existing MHU was equipped for Rural Damascus. The procurement and delivery of medical supplies and consumables to the MHU has been completed which enabled the units to provide the needed health services to the rural communities. The procurement of medical equipment for a fifth unit has been initiated to increase the services coverage in the remote areas.

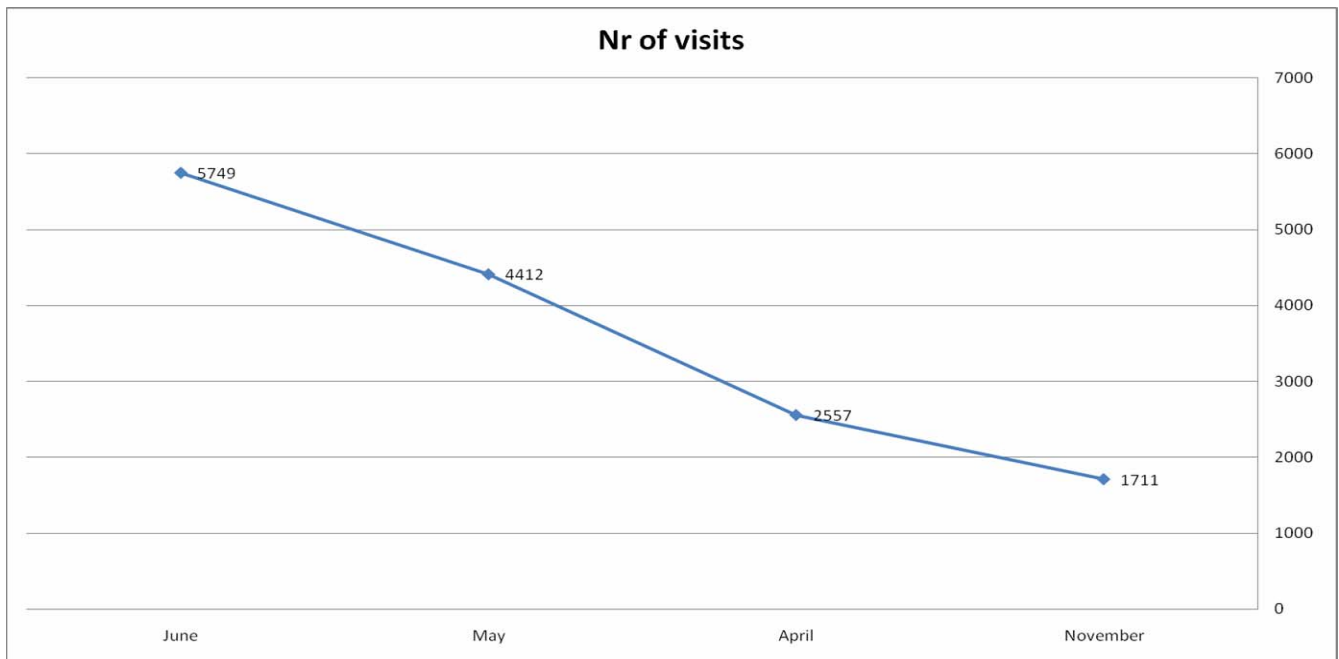
The International Federation support will continue to complement the activities of the Qatar RC and Netherlands RC to provide primary health care services in the north at Syrian Arab RC clinics in Hassakeh, Qamishli, Raqqa and Albukamal. Support will also be provided to National Society clinics in Idlib and Dara'a.

Agreement has been reached with Syrian Arab RC, Netherlands RC and Qatar RC to provide assistance to the patients who need essential medicines for chronic diseases using local pharmacies as outlets for dispensing the agreed medicines. The International Federation, Netherlands RC and Syrian Arab RC will develop the appropriate procedures to be followed by the host National Society's clinics in dispensing medication for patients with chronic diseases. This will become the International Federation's total responsibility at the completion of ECHO funding (Netherlands RC-1 September 2008).

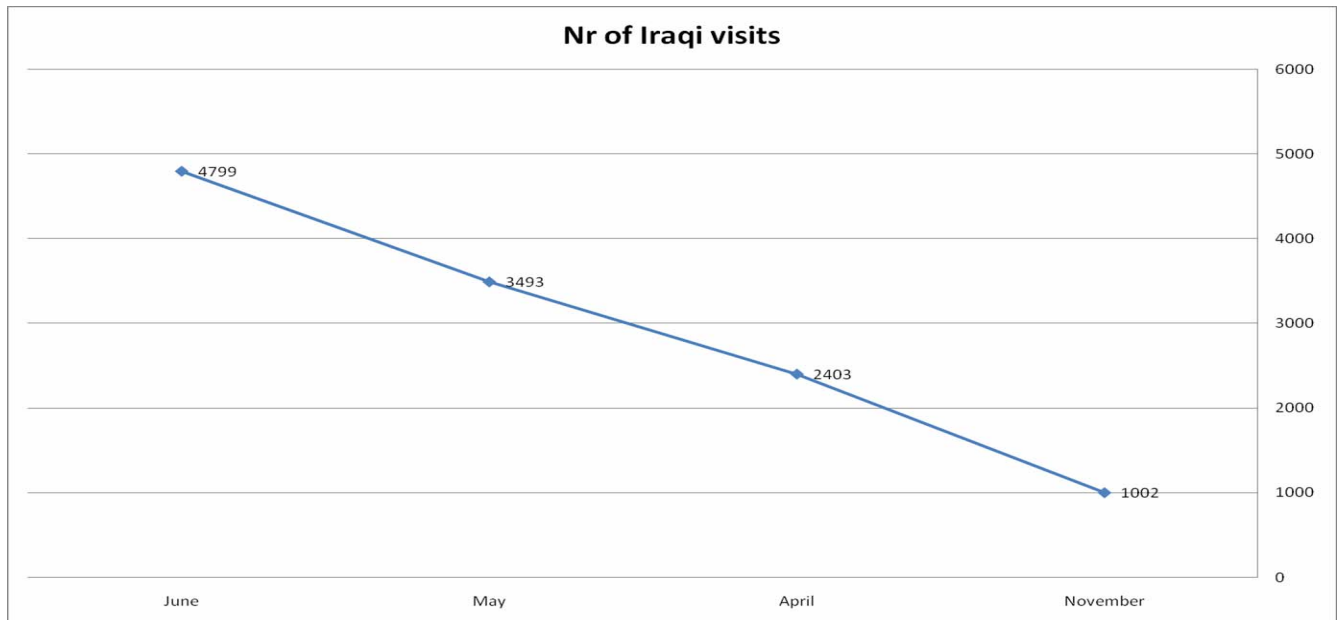
The Netherlands RC has further developed the Syrian Arab RC's health information system and will conduct a workshop in July to train clinic staff on implementation of the upgrade. The system will be introduced into two new clinics and the MHUs after training of staff scheduled for August 2008.

The total number of visits to Syrian Arab RC clinics in June 2008 has reached 5,749. Out of this figure, 4,799 are Iraqis. The below two graphs indicate the total number of visits and visits of Iraqis in November, and during the months this reporting period covers (April, May and June 2008).

**Graph no.1 Total number of visits to Syrian Arab RC clinics
(November 2007, April-May-June 2008)**

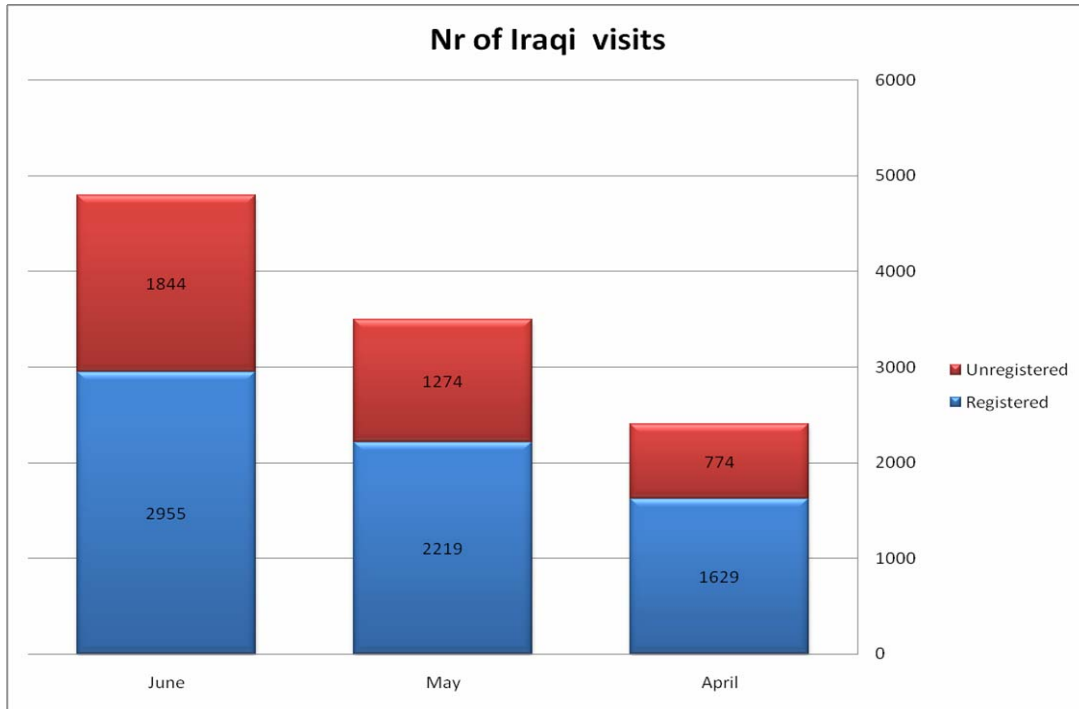


**Graph no.2 Total number of visits to Syrian Arab RC clinics by Iraqis
(November 2007, April-May-June 2008)**



The below graph demonstrates the number of registered and unregistered Iraqi visits, taking into consideration the figures in the table above.

Graph no.3 Number of registered and unregistered Iraqi visits during the reporting period (April-May-June 2008)



Jordan

During the reporting period, the number of consultations carried out by the two BHC centres - Al-Taj and Marka - reached 5,323, bringing the total number of consultations since the start of the emergency operations in August 2007 to 15,347. The statistical data showed that there is no disease outbreak among the displaced Iraqis. It also showed that 13% of consultations were children below the age of five and 59 % of adult consultations were females.

Renovation of the selected building for the third BHC centre in Jabal Al-Hussain has been completed. The procurement of furniture, medical equipment and supplies is underway. The inauguration of the centre is scheduled for mid July.

The International Federation representation and Jordan RC completed the clearance of the MHU and ambulance procured from Dubai. The two units were handed over to the National Society and are expected to be operational by the end of July.

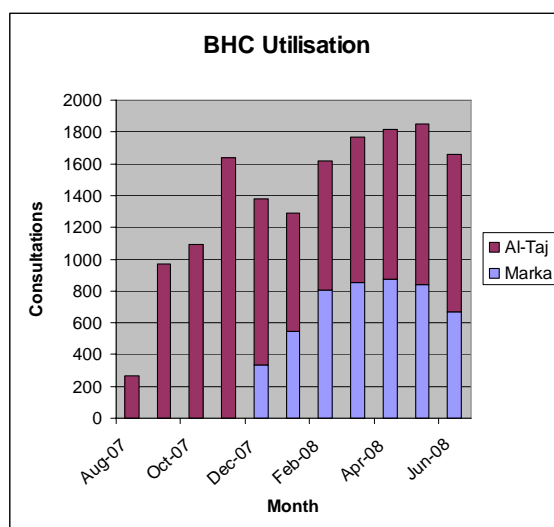
The International Federation representation has sent a requisition to the RLU in Dubai to procure two Toyota Prado vehicles for Jordan RC to enhance the logistical capacity of the National Society and to support the Iraqi displaced programme. The delivery of the two units is expected in August 2008.

Recruitment of a new batch of volunteers to support the primary health care services to be provided by the new BHC - Jabal Al-Hussain - was completed. The basic health training course to train 34 volunteers (15 females and 19 males) started on 24 June at Jordan RC headquarters for six days. The new batch includes 15 Iraqi volunteers drawn from the Iraqi displaced communities of Jabal Al Hussein neighbourhood. The six days course covered topics on the RC/RC Movement, international humanitarian law (IHL), hygiene promotion, water/sanitation, communicable diseases, nutrition, first aid, PSP, and a general highlight and briefing on the main features of the

Iraqi displaced programme in Jordan. Facilitators were from the International Federation, Jordan RC and Ministry of Health (MoH). The course included field visits to Jordan RC BHC in Al Taj and Marka, Jordan RC hospital and some Iraqi displaced families.

In collaboration with Jordan RC, the International Federation representation in Jordan organized a consultative meeting to review the health information system (HIS) developed by Syrian Arab RC with the aim to adapt it to the Jordan RC health centres. The meeting was attended by all health staff from the two centres in addition to the Al-Hashemi health centre team supported by the French RC. The meeting was also attended by the French RC representative, IMC representative and Syrian Arab RC health coordinator who presented the HIS. A joint technical meeting for the health staff of the three Jordan RC health centres was organized by the programme coordinator and the health programme manager. The agenda of the meeting included discussions on the referral system of the patients, HIS and presentation of two case studies as part of knowledge sharing to enhance the continuing education.

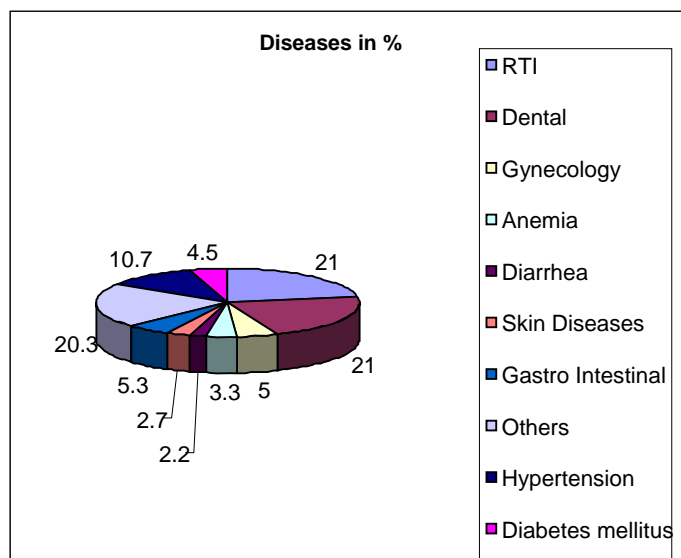
The utilization of the health facilities in Al-Taj and Marka BHC centres is shown in the graph below:



The table below shows the percentage of diseases during the reporting period:

Disease	%	Notes
Acute Respiratory Infection	21%	
Dental Cases	21%	
Gynaecology /Obstetric/ Reproductive Health	5%	
Anaemia	3.3%	All ages
Diarrhoea	2.2%	
Eye Infections	2%	
Ear Infections	2%	
Skin Disorders	2.7%	
HIV/AIDS (suspected or confirmed)	0%	
Malnutrition	0.4%	
Hypertension	10.7%	
Diabetes mellitus	4.5%	
Gastro-Intestinal diseases	5.3%	
Others	20.3%	

Observed diseases:



Among children below five years of age, the observed malnutrition rate is 0.4% and the percentage of other individual diseases is less than 2%.

Psychosocial Support

Objective: The impact of war related psychological traumas among externally displaced Iraqi families in Syria and Jordan is alleviated through qualified psychological/social support and rehabilitation programmes of Syrian Arab RC and Jordan RC, supported by the International Federation.

Progress:

Syria

In May and June, the Danish RC conducted a ToT to increase the capacity of PSP staff and prepare them to participate in workshops to be conducted in July and early August in order to train 43 PSP volunteers. The workshops are designed to prepare volunteers for the opening of PSP social centres in Qamishley, Aleppo and Rural Damsacus in late August and September 2008. Additional admin staff and a PSP coordinator were hired to facilitate this process. Community outreach programmes will commence once the social centres are opened.

Jordan

The psychosocial counsellors in the two BHC centres and their teams of volunteers provided psychosocial support to the Iraqi displaced families through home visits. Through the outreach services, the volunteers identify the psychosocial needs of the families and discuss with them in focus group sessions how to cope with the stress of being displaced.

In coordination with Jordan RC vocational training centre, 16 Iraqi displaced women participated in a one day training workshop on "dealing with behavioural difficulties in children". The workshop which was organized on 8 May 2008 aimed at empowering the Iraqi mothers to address the psychological needs of their children.

To enhance their knowledge and technical skills, the two PSP counsellors attended a two day training course on post traumatic stress disorders, organized by Nour Al-Hussein Foundation in collaboration with the International Relief and Development Organization. To ensure the continuous learning and update on latest developments in the field of psychosocial learning, the two doctors from Marka and Al Taj attended an eight day mental health care workshop conducted every week on Saturdays organized by Jordan University and the MoH in collaboration with

Jordan RC and IMC. In addition, the doctor from Al-Taj centre attended a three weeks course on primary health care organized by the MoH.

The International Federation health programme manager and the two psychological counsellors from Marka and Al Taj BHC centres attended the collaborative workshop for psychological/mental health workers in Jordan. The one day workshop which was held on 11 June was organized by UNICEF and IMC with the aim to enhance the knowledge, understanding and share best practices documented by local and international professionals engaged in PSP activities in the region.

Community Based Health Care

Objective: The ability of externally displaced Iraqi families and vulnerable local host communities in Syria and Jordan to prevent disease and injury is strengthened through community based first aid activities managed by the Syrian Arab RC and Jordan RC headquarters and local branches.

Progress:

Jordan

The Jordan RC volunteers continued monitoring the health and social well being of the Iraqi displaced families, disseminated health messages and provided basic psychological support through home and school visits.

The regular rounds of the home visits meant to give assurances to the displaced families, build confidence, and strengthen the relationship with the beneficiaries. The number of beneficiaries benefited from the volunteers' home visits during the reporting period reached 2,525 persons, bringing the total number of beneficiaries reached since the beginning of the operation in August 2007 to 6,084.

Number of families/beneficiaries reached through volunteer visits

Month	Number of families	Male beneficiaries	Female beneficiaries	Total number of beneficiaries
September 2007	128	314	327	641
October 2007	158	304	328	632
November 2007	165	349	289	638
December 2007	36	79	67	146
January 2008	64	174	148	322
February 2008	102	238	204	442
March 2008	162	360	378	738
April 2008	273	594	540	1,134
May 2008	192	390	352	742
June 2008	181	327	322	649
Total	1,461	3,129	2,955	6,084

Non-Food Items (NFIs) Assistance

Objective: The material needs of vulnerable displaced Iraqi families and local host communities in Syria and Jordan are covered through the ad hoc distribution of essential items by the host National Societies, supported by the International Federation.

Progress:

Syria

The first phase of distribution of 20,000 hygiene kits, 20,000 kitchen sets and 9,732 school kits and uniforms has been completed.

The procurement of the second phase of 20,000 hygiene kits and 10,000 kitchen sets is underway and distribution is planned to commence in August 2008. The procurement of 10,000 mattresses and blankets is under review with procurement pending for August 2008.

The second phase of procurement and distribution of school kits will begin before the start of the school year in September 2008.

Jordan

During the reporting period, the Jordan RC distributed the third round of NFIs for 3,500 Iraqi displaced families and some poor families from the local host communities, bringing the total number to 9,500. A new distribution centre was used and a relief officer was recruited to strengthen the capacity of the distribution team. The distributed packages included blankets, bed sheets, hygiene parcels, kitchen sets and school kits.

Distribution of Non-Food Items

Items	Number of distributed kits/sets *	Details
Blankets	9,500	
Bed sheets	9,500	
Hygiene parcels	9,500	Washing powder – 5 kg Toilet paper – 10 rolls Toilet soaps – 12 pieces Tooth paste – 3 tubes Tooth brush – 5 pieces Shampoo (250 gm) – 2 tubes Shaving machine – 5 pieces Women hygiene towels – 30 pieces
Kitchen sets	9,500	1 tea pot 1 coffee pot 6 knives 6 spoons 1 small cooking pot 1 large cooking pot
* Number of beneficiaries is 9,500 families and each family includes approximately five people.		
Items	Number of Children	Details
School Kits	9,500	1 bag 2 notebooks 2 drawing books 12 pencils 12 pens 4 colour drawing pens 4 sharpeners 4 erasers 2 rulers 2 mathematics tools

Water and Sanitation

Objective: Externally displaced Iraqi families and vulnerable local host communities in Syria have access to safe and good quality drinking water.

Progress:

Syria

This component of the Emergency Appeal is being covered by the ICRC. Through cooperation with Syrian Arab RC, the ICRC provided water and sanitation needs to the public schools in Damascus and Rural Damascus.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

The Syrian Arab RC and Jordan RC activities are regularly highlighted in the local media giving space and recognition to the two National Societies in the humanitarian work. The host National Societies are regularly invited to the humanitarian fora organized by international organizations and the governments.

Syria

The Syrian Arab RC and the International Federation regularly attended the inter-agency meetings and highlighted the role of the National Society and the RC/RC Movement in supporting the displaced Iraqis. A communications guide and website is being planned by the National Society.

Jordan

The International Federation's representation and Jordan RC regularly attended coordination and inter-agency meetings. The advocacy on behalf of the vulnerable displaced Iraqis and promotion of the National Society activities is enhanced through meetings with and visits of the donors and other stakeholders. During the reporting period, the British and Danish ambassadors to Jordan visited Al Taj BHC centre to acquaint themselves with services provided to the displaced population and to meet some of the beneficiaries. The International Federation representative and president of the National Society and the team met with US Government Accountability Office (GAO) delegation on 28 April. The meeting with the visiting delegation took place at the National Society headquarters where the International Federation representative and the president of the Jordan RC briefed the delegation about the services provided. The visiting delegation was accompanied by staff from the American Embassy's Regional Refugee Coordinator Office.

The International Federation's Middle East and North Africa (MENA) deputy head of zone and Jordan country representative briefed the British Red Cross head of disaster management department and the disaster preparedness coordinator who visited the delegation on 14 April on the MENA zone structure, strategies and the humanitarian assistance provided to the displaced Iraqis in Jordan. In addition, the country representation briefed the Swedish and Norwegian RC MENA desk officers who attended the Yemen partnership meeting on the progress of the Iraqi displaced operation.

Impact:

The generous contribution from the donors has enabled both host National Societies to provide the much needed assistance to the externally displaced Iraqis. The free health services provided and the free distribution of NFIs to the most vulnerable enabled the displaced Iraqi families to save on the meagre financial resources they have and allowed them to use these resources to meet other urgent needs. The two National Societies' volunteers and staff gained more experience in handling emergency situations and enhanced their response capacities. Through the implementation of the emergency operation, both Syrian Arab RC and Jordan RC gained more confidence and recognition which allowed for the expansion of their partners network.

Constraints and challenges:

The distribution of the NFIs has faced some problems at the beginning and one of the main constraints was the accessibility to the beneficiaries. This is not a classical refugee operation where the beneficiaries are confined to specific location with a tented camp and are easy to access. The majority of displaced Iraqis in Syria and Jordan are middle class urban population who entered these countries during intervals and found their way to the different urban neighbourhoods of Greater Damascus and Amman. The vulnerability of many displaced Iraqis is aggravated by their legal status (visas and residence permits). This has discouraged many eligible beneficiaries to come forward to the distribution centres or the BHC centres to seek assistance. This is compounded by problems around registration as many beneficiaries are hesitant to come out fearing of being apprehended for

violating immigration laws. Verification of documentation to ascertain the eligibility of the beneficiaries to receive assistance takes a lot of time as the beneficiaries are scattered in different urban neighbourhoods where they are integrated with the host communities. Inflation is becoming a considerable source of concern as well.

How we work

All International Federation 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 is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

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[<Interim financial report attached below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDR81002 - Middle East - Displaced From Iraq

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/3-2008/6
Budget Timeframe	2007/4-2009/3
Appeal	MDR81002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget		17,041,693			30,963	17,072,655
B. Opening Balance		0			0	0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
American Red Cross		301,000				301,000
British Red Cross		2,265				2,265
Finnish Red Cross		165,700				165,700
German Red Cross		436,050				436,050
Hong Kong Red Cross		5,936				5,936
Japanese Red Cross		303,000				303,000
Monaco Red Cross		3,780			29,360	33,140
On Line donations		31,954				31,954
OPEC Fund For International Developm		1,203,000				1,203,000
Polish Red Cross		152				152
PRM, US Dept. Population Refugees & Migration		3,150,000				3,150,000
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)		1,607,000				1,607,000
Switzerland - Private Donors		500				500
United States - Private Donors		185				185
C1. Cash contributions		7,210,522			29,360	7,239,883
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
PRM, US Dept. Population Refugees & Migration		775,200				775,200
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)		0				0
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)		775,200				775,200
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
British Red Cross		85,850				85,850
German Red Cross		31,000				31,000
C4. Inkind Personnel		116,850				116,850
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)		8,102,572			29,360	8,131,933
D. Total Funding = B + C		8,102,572			29,360	8,131,933
Appeal Coverage		48%			95%	48%

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0			0	0
C. Income		8,102,572			29,360	8,131,933
E. Expenditure		-4,713,737			-29,360	-4,743,098
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		3,388,835			0	3,388,835

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDR81002 - Middle East - Displaced From Iraq

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/3-2008/6
Budget Timeframe	2007/4-2009/3
Appeal	MDR81002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A		B					A - B	
BUDGET (C)		17,041,693					30,963	17,072,655
Supplies								
Construction Materials	20,663		663				663	20,000
Clothing & textiles	2,081,411		126,856				126,856	1,954,555
Medical & First Aid	2,975,709		316,476				316,476	2,659,234
Teaching Materials	456,482		357,087				357,087	99,394
Utensils & Tools	1,495,408		893,065				893,065	602,343
Other Supplies & Services	4,053,588		735,432				735,432	3,318,155
Total Supplies	11,083,262		2,429,580				2,429,580	8,653,682
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles	522,600		245,560				245,560	277,040
Computers & Telecom	70,021		3,661				3,661	66,360
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.	142,450		10,850				10,850	131,600
Medical Equipment	630,000							630,000
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	1,365,071		260,071				260,071	1,105,000
Transport & Storage								
Storage			3,447				3,447	-3,447
Distribution & Monitoring	95,016		584				584	94,431
Transport & Vehicle Costs	128,427		14,518				14,518	113,908
Total Transport & Storage	223,442		18,550				18,550	204,893
Personnel								
International Staff Payroll Benefits	943,958		287,176			25,802	312,978	630,981
National Staff	134,425		35,431				35,431	98,994
National Society Staff	1,513,082		197,982				197,982	1,315,100
Consultants	108,610		65,733				65,733	42,877
Total Personnel	2,700,075		586,322			25,802	612,124	2,087,952
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	290,190		22,591				22,591	267,600
Total Workshops & Training	290,190		22,591				22,591	267,600
General Expenditure								
Travel	41,266		22,188				22,188	19,077
Information & Public Relation	81,915		4,152				4,152	77,763
Office Costs	54,710		6,815			1,650	8,465	46,245
Communications	68,265		7,996				7,996	60,270
Professional Fees			915				915	-915
Financial Charges	25,485		14,714				14,714	10,771
Other General Expenses	29,250		275				275	28,975
Total General Expenditure	300,891		57,056			1,650	58,706	242,186
Programme Support								
Program Support	1,109,723		301,823			1,908	303,732	805,991
Total Programme Support	1,109,723		301,823			1,908	303,732	805,991
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			1,037,745				1,037,745	-1,037,745
Total Operational Provisions			1,037,745				1,037,745	-1,037,745
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	17,072,655		4,713,737			29,360	4,743,098	12,329,558
VARIANCE (C - D)			12,327,955			1,602	12,329,558	