

# Operations update



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Iraq: Expanding Response to Humanitarian Crisis

Emergency appeal n° MDRIQ003  
Operations update n° 1  
16 May 2008

**Period covered by this Ops Update:** 12 February to 25 April, 2008

**Appeal target (current):** CHF 20,679,198 (USD 18,991,820 or EUR 12,799,985)

**Appeal coverage:** 6% [<click here to go directly to the interim financial report, or here to link to contact details >](#)

### Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on 12 February 2008 for CHF 20,679,198 (USD 18,991,820 or EUR 12,799,985) for 12 months to assist 150,000 families (900,000 beneficiaries) with food and non-food relief items; 50,000 beneficiaries in public health in emergencies; and 10,000 disabled individuals.



Presentation of branch activities for 2008 by directors and coordinators during the branch development, planning and reporting workshop

### Summary:

In line with the existing funds to date, the International Federation's country representation was able to proceed in three main directions within the reporting period:

1. The consultant completed the final touch of the design of the regional Baghdad warehouse construction project, along with the re-evaluation of the bills of quantities at the present market level. Results were shared with Malaysian Red Crescent, the major donor of this project.
2. There has been a delay in the scheduled starting date of the school first aid programme due to late arrival of funds and response of the National Society. The programme which was supposed to embark on 1 April will start on 27 April.
3. As part of capacity building of the Iraqi Red Crescent (Iraqi RC), the representation organized two workshops on branch development, planning and reporting for branch directors. Both of the courses were conducted in Amman, Jordan, during 27 February - 7 March (with the participation of eight branch directors and 16 coordinators from headquarters and branches) and 9 - 15 April (with the participation of seven branch directors and 18 coordinators from headquarters and branches).

**The Iraq representation has developed a resource mobilization plan for 2008 operations and intensive work measures are put in place to make sure that the Emergency Appeal is communicated to the widest possible donor audience.**

**The International Federation appreciates the contribution of Swedish Red Cross and Government, American Red Cross, Hellenic Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross and Kuwait Red Crescent through the Arab General Secretariat; and continues to seek for support from donors within and outside the Movement.**

## The situation

Despite the fact of relative stabilization and decrease in security related tension in the last quarter of 2007, recent deterioration of the situation in Iraq showed that these developments had a temporary character. Sadr city (part of Baghdad), along with major southern cities, saw fierce clashes and heavy fighting between Iraqi government security forces and militias over the past months. Tensions remained high in the southern port of Basrah and its outlying areas.

Iraq continues to be one of the most dangerous places in the world for humanitarian agencies to work. Humanitarian access is limited due to armed conflict, general insecurity and crime, restrictions on movement, and in some cases deliberate obstruction by authorities. Humanitarian workers must operate cautiously as in many cases they are deliberately targeted by armed groups.

The international humanitarian action in Iraq has been considered as inadequate compared to the nature and scale of the situation. A third of the population lack access to adequate food, and one in five has no clean water. The intention to run and maintain basic services does not show progress.

According to the report published by the World Organization for Human Rights recently, more than one million Iraqis have been killed until late August 2007, more than half of them being in Baghdad. 40 percent of the families have lost at least one family member, leaving three million widows and seven million orphans in very bad conditions; suffering mostly from malnutrition and infectious and chronic diseases.

Humanitarian sources stress on the need to scale up the humanitarian response. 2008 is expected to see a substantial increase in humanitarian assistance in central and southern Iraq. The United Nations (UN) has been attempting to transform its role in coordinating operations, funding and analyses. Reference is made to the 2008 Consolidated Appeal, which refers to the need for a “systematic transformation of UN assistance to Iraq” to create a “more responsive and flexible system”.

Based on the obvious needs of the socially vulnerable segment of the Iraqi society, the International Federation, in coordination with the Iraqi RC, has extended the scope of humanitarian assistance in 2008.

## Coordination, partnerships and resource mobilization



**Meetings were organised with major donors' country representations and agencies in order to disseminate the Emergency Appeal 2008**

The Emergency Appeal was launched on 12 February and up to the end of the reporting period has been covered 6%. The country representation has worked out a resource mobilization plan for 2008 operations which was approved by the MENA zone and communicated to the resource mobilization department of the secretariat.

Based on the experience and good practices implemented in February-April 2007, the country representation organized meetings with and visits to major donors' country representations and embassies based in Amman in order to disseminate the Emergency Appeal 2008. In addition, targeted meetings were organized with the following agencies: Bureau of Population, Refugees and

Migration (BPRM), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), UK Department for International Development (DfID), European Commission Humanitarian Aid Department (ECHO), Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Spanish International Development Cooperation Agency (AECI<sup>1</sup>), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), and Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). In the meantime, the Iraq representation developed project proposals within the context of the Emergency Appeal to approach the donors. The proposals are being disseminated to donor National Societies based on their interest and expertise.

In addition, the International Federation invited selected embassy representatives to participate in a round table discussion with the branch directors of the Iraqi RC. The agenda of the round table discussion was to share the experience of working in Iraq, give analyses and realities of the humanitarian context and access to the beneficiaries, along with problems and challenges the branches encounter during their daily work. Representatives of Australia, Malaysia, Netherlands, Canada and Belgium were present in the discussion.

Regular cooperation meetings with International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and UN Agencies were held as part of the cooperation and coordination mechanism. The International Federation representative took part in the Consolidated Appeal process workshop of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and shared views and approaches related to the International Federation-Iraqi RC operations in Iraq.

**National Society Capacity Building:**

Today the Iraqi RC is the only countrywide organization that can deliver critical humanitarian services to the most vulnerable in all parts of the country under the current extreme circumstances. This is provided thanks to its effective branch structures along with its dedicated staff and volunteers. During the reporting period the National Society, with support from the International Federation, has continued to focus on health and care services (mainly in school first aid) and building its capacities through substantial training of staff.

Iraqi RC re-structured its setup and is progressing to better access the socially vulnerable and displaced, as a result of the security situation especially in Baghdad and the south of Iraq.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

### Progress towards objectives

#### Building Additional Warehouse Capacity of the Iraqi RC

<b>Objective: The constructed regional warehouse in Baghdad has increased Iraqi RC's disaster preparedness and response capacities.</b>	
<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Warehousing capacity of the Iraqi RC in the central governorates has increased.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and contract an external consultant in order to provide project support services.</li> <li>Qualify and tender a number of construction companies to deliver turn key construction services.</li> <li>Oversee the programme implementation and financial management (International Federation Baghdad office).</li> <li>Monitor and report periodically (International Federation Iraq representation).</li> </ul>

**Progress:**

The independent consultant firm has been engaged in the final revision of plans and development of the bills of quantities (BoQs). There are six construction companies pre-qualified. Final negotiation with the Iraqi RC over the project documentation is in process. Construction/building permits and soil test results are documented for future reference and are available at the International Federation Baghdad office.

<sup>1</sup> Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo

**Table No. 1 Anticipated project budget for construction activities**

Budget item	Price in USD
Consultation fee	12,000
Construction company fee	770,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>782,000</b>

**Note:** The above calculation does not include programme support recovery (PSR) and operational support costs.

**Challenges:**

The situation remains violent although there are some positive aspects and development. Difficulties are experienced in forecasting the security progress for the period of the implementation, which is an estimated 10-12 months.

**School First Aid (extended)**

**Objective: The first aid awareness and skills of the students and teachers in schools have improved in the selected schools (500 in Baghdad and 660 in other governorates) covering 18 governorates of Iraq.**

Expected Results	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The school first aid programme has been extended from nine (in 2007) to 18 governorates of Iraq, to provide essential basic first aid knowledge to students of primary and secondary schools.</li> <li>200 Iraqi RC branch trainers have received first aid advanced training as refresher course to conduct professional follow up.</li> <li>360 teachers and 92,000 students received training in school first aid.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Train 360 teaching staff from selected schools in advanced first aid.</li> <li>Train 92,000 students in first aid for two days in topics such as burns, bleeding, fractures and wounds (4,600 courses with 20 participants in each).</li> <li>Refresh the knowledge of 200 Iraqi RC branch trainers in school first aid (20 ToT courses of 10 participants each).</li> <li>Provide a total of 4,320 first aid promotion courses for students, each for two days.</li> <li>Conduct 18 first aid ToT workshops of five days for 360 volunteers in nine governorates.</li> </ul> <p>Teaching material required: 12,000 standard first aid kits in bags</p>

**Progress:**

Plan of action has been developed and consulted by all parties involved. The starting date of the operation was postponed from the beginning of April to 27 of April, due to the late arrival of funds and response of the Iraqi RC.

**Table No 2: Plan of Action for the School First Aid Programme  
Phase I**

Branch and training location	Primary schools	Intermediary schools	Secondary schools	Total courses	Starting date	Finishing date	Number of trained students
Baghdad	120	70	120	310	27 April	20 June	6,200
Al Anbar	40	20	30	90	27 April	20 June	1,800
Diyala	40	20	30	90	28 April	20 June	1,800
At Ta'mim	40	20	30	90	29 April	20 June	1,800
Salah ad Din	40	20	30	90	30 April	20 June	1,800
Ninawa	40	20	30	90	27 April	20 June	1,800
Karbala	40	20	30	90	28 April	20 June	1,800

<b>An Najaf</b>	40	20	30	90	29 April	20 June	1,800
<b>Babil</b>	40	20	30	90	30 April	20 June	1,800
<b>Al Basrah</b>	40	20	30	90	27 April	20 June	1,800
<b>Al Qadisiyah</b>	40	20	30	90	28 April	20 June	1,800
<b>Al Muthanna</b>	40	20	30	90	29 April	20 June	1,800
<b>Dhi Qar</b>	40	20	30	90	30 April	20 June	1,800
<b>Maysan</b>	40	20	30	90	27 April	20 June	1,800
<b>Wasit</b>	40	20	30	90	28 April	20 June	1,800
<b>Dahuk</b>	40	20	30	90	29 April	20 June	1,800
<b>Arbil</b>	40	20	30	90	30 April	20 June	1,800
<b>As Sulaymaniah</b>	40	20	30	90	1 May	20 June	1,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>1,840</b>			<b>36,800</b>

School first aid programme for primary and intermediary classes are held as one training per school. For secondary classes, the programme is planned as three trainings.

The implementation has been divided into two phases. Phase I is to be implemented within this semester of the school year, covering a period of 27 April – 20 June 2008. Phase II is planned from September to December 2008.

**Table No 3: Plan of Action for the refresher trainings of school first aid trainers  
Phase I**

<b>Branch and training location</b>	<b>Starting date</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>
<b>Baghdad</b>	26 April	30
<b>Al Anbar</b>	26 April	10
<b>Diyala</b>	27 April	10
<b>At Ta'mim</b>	28 April	10
<b>Salah ad Din</b>	29 April	10
<b>Ninawa</b>	26 April	10
<b>Karbala</b>	27 April	10
<b>An Najaf</b>	28 April	10
<b>Babil</b>	29 April	10
<b>Al Basrah</b>	26 April	10
<b>Al Qadisiyah</b>	27 April	10
<b>Al Muthanna</b>	28 April	10
<b>Dhi Qar</b>	29 April	10
<b>Maysan</b>	26 April	10
<b>Wasit</b>	27 April	10
<b>Dahuk</b>	28 April	10
<b>Arbil</b>	29 April	10
<b>As Sulaymaniah</b>	30 April	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>200</b>

Refresher courses are planned to be launched in all governorates at the end of April 2008 for some 200 school first aid trainers all over the country.

## Organisational Capacity of the Iraqi RC

**Objective: The Iraqi RC has enhanced its organizational and operational capacity at all levels.**

<b>Expected Results</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The financial system of the Iraqi RC headquarters and Baghdad branch has been developed and upgraded to meet international standards by installation of a new software system.</li><li>• The headquarters and branches have improved their programme planning, monitoring and reporting systems.</li><li>• Coordination and communication between the headquarters and the branches has improved through structured meetings and regular information sharing.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Obtain locally and install the software for the accounting system.</li><li>• Introduce the system in the headquarters of the National Society and extend to the Baghdad branch offices at a later stage.</li><li>• Train the staff of the accounting department of the headquarters and the Baghdad branches.</li><li>• Develop a tailor-made training for selected staff and volunteers at headquarters and in the branches focusing on project planning, writing and reporting. The trained staff and volunteers will conduct further trainings and convey the knowledge to other staff on the grass root level.</li></ul>

### **Progress:**

#### **Branch development, planning and reporting workshop**

In response to the needs of the Iraqi RC in capacity building, the Iraq representation extended training in branch development, planning and reporting through two consecutive courses. The first course was held during 27 February - 7 March 2008 with the participation of eight branch directors and 16 coordinators from the National Society's headquarters and branches. The second course was implemented during 9 - 15 April 2008 for seven branch directors and 18 coordinators from the headquarters and branches. The planning part of the training was adapted from the standard project planning process (PPP) module, based on the needs of the Iraqi RC.

Special attention was paid to the identification of the target beneficiary groups in the community and importance of monitoring and reporting as essential components of the project management cycle.

### **Outcome:**

1. Based on the general feedback received after the first workshop, stating that the inclusion of all three components in the agenda of the workshop made it too intensive and heavy, a decision was taken to alter the thematic of the second workshop. Accordingly, the latter focused only on planning and reporting.
2. The workshop led to extensive communication between the branch directors, disaster management coordinators and the secretary general, which generated internal decisions on procedures and regulations in reporting on branch and headquarters level.
3. The workshop provided a unique opportunity by serving as a forum of brainstorming, sharing information on branch and headquarters activities, and having direct discussions with the secretary general and International Federation representatives.

Further capacity building of the Iraqi RC is planned within the current Emergency Appeal including strengthening the financial management and monitoring mechanism of the National Society. The planned series of capacity building measures will contribute to further enhance effectiveness of operations of the National Society, along with transparency and accountability towards the donors and international community.

## 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 \(NGOs\) 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

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

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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

MDRIQ003 - Iraq - Response to Humanitarian Crisis

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/02-2008/04
Budget Timeframe	2008/02-2009/01
Appeal	MDRIQ003
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
<b>A. Budget</b>	2,006,194	18,170,539		502,466	0	20,679,198
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	0	0		0	0	0
<b>Income</b>						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>American Red Cross</i>				269,249		269,249
<i>Arab General Secretariat (from Kuwait Red Crescent)</i>		9,985				9,985
<i>Hellenic Red Cross</i>				31,480		31,480
<i>On Line donations</i>		5,612				5,612
<i>Swedish Red Cross</i>	42,000	25,200		16,800		84,000
<i>Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)</i>	168,000	100,800		67,200		336,000
<b>C1. Cash contributions</b>	<b>210,000</b>	<b>141,597</b>		<b>384,729</b>		<b>736,326</b>
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
<i>Canadian Red Cross</i>				16,251		16,251
<i>Swedish Red Cross</i>	43,125	25,875		17,250		86,250
<i>Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)</i>	172,500	103,500		69,000		345,000
<b>C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</b>	<b>215,625</b>	<b>129,375</b>		<b>102,501</b>		<b>447,501</b>
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)</b>	<b>425,625</b>	<b>270,972</b>		<b>487,230</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,183,827</b>
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>	<b>425,625</b>	<b>270,972</b>		<b>487,230</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,183,827</b>
<b>Appeal Coverage</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>1%</b>		<b>97%</b>	<b>#DIV/0</b>	<b>6%</b>

## II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	0	0		0	0	0
<b>C. Income</b>	425,625	270,972		487,230	0	1,183,827
<b>E. Expenditure</b>	-5,312	-50,108		-86,930	0	-142,350
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>	<b>420,313</b>	<b>220,864</b>		<b>400,300</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,041,476</b>

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRIQ003 - Iraq - Response to Humanitarian Crisis

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/02-2008/04
Budget Timeframe	2008/02-2009/01
Appeal	MDRIQ003
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
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		<b>2,006,194</b>	<b>18,170,539</b>		<b>502,466</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20,679,198</b>	
<b>Supplies</b>								
Construction Materials	850,000							850,000
Clothing & textiles	4,820,000							4,820,000
Food	1,750,000							1,750,000
Medical & First Aid	437,350							437,350
Utensils & Tools	6,200,000							6,200,000
Other Supplies & Services	1,170,000							1,170,000
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>15,227,350</b>							<b>15,227,350</b>
<b>Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>								
Vehicles	395,000							395,000
Computers & Telecom	140,000							140,000
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.	60,000							60,000
Medical Equipment	120,000							120,000
<b>Total Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>	<b>715,000</b>							<b>715,000</b>
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Transport & Vehicle Costs	181,738		4,304		240		4,544	177,194
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>181,738</b>		<b>4,304</b>		<b>240</b>		<b>4,544</b>	<b>177,194</b>
<b>Personnel</b>								
International Staff Payroll Benefits	298,800	2,119	20,106				22,225	276,575
National Staff	609,228	2,818	19,892		4,016		26,726	582,502
National Society Staff	38,880							38,880
Consultants	20,000		6,500		3,650		10,150	9,850
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>966,908</b>	<b>4,937</b>	<b>46,498</b>		<b>7,666</b>		<b>59,101</b>	<b>907,807</b>
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	1,738,000				73,241		73,241	1,664,759
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>1,738,000</b>				<b>73,241</b>		<b>73,241</b>	<b>1,664,759</b>
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	100,000		2,466				2,466	97,534
Information & Public Relation	154,710		102				102	154,608
Office Costs	234,389	375	8,240		3,909	4,365	16,889	217,500
Communications	16,955		41		341	624	1,006	15,949
Professional Fees					678		678	-678
Financial Charges			-19,635		-1,801	2,340	-19,095	19,095
Other General Expenses			7,496			-7,329	168	-168
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>506,054</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>-1,289</b>		<b>3,127</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,214</b>	<b>503,840</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>								
Depreciation			593				593	-593
<b>Total Depreciation</b>			<b>593</b>				<b>593</b>	<b>-593</b>
<b>Programme Support</b>								
Program Support	1,344,148		1		2,655		2,657	1,341,491
<b>Total Programme Support</b>	<b>1,344,148</b>		<b>1</b>		<b>2,655</b>		<b>2,657</b>	<b>1,341,491</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>20,679,198</b>	<b>5,312</b>	<b>50,108</b>		<b>86,930</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>142,350</b>	<b>20,536,848</b>
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>		<b>2,000,882</b>	<b>18,120,430</b>		<b>415,536</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20,536,848</b>	