

# **Emergency Response for Internally Displaced People**

# in Anbar, Iraq

# Supplementary Budget Appeal

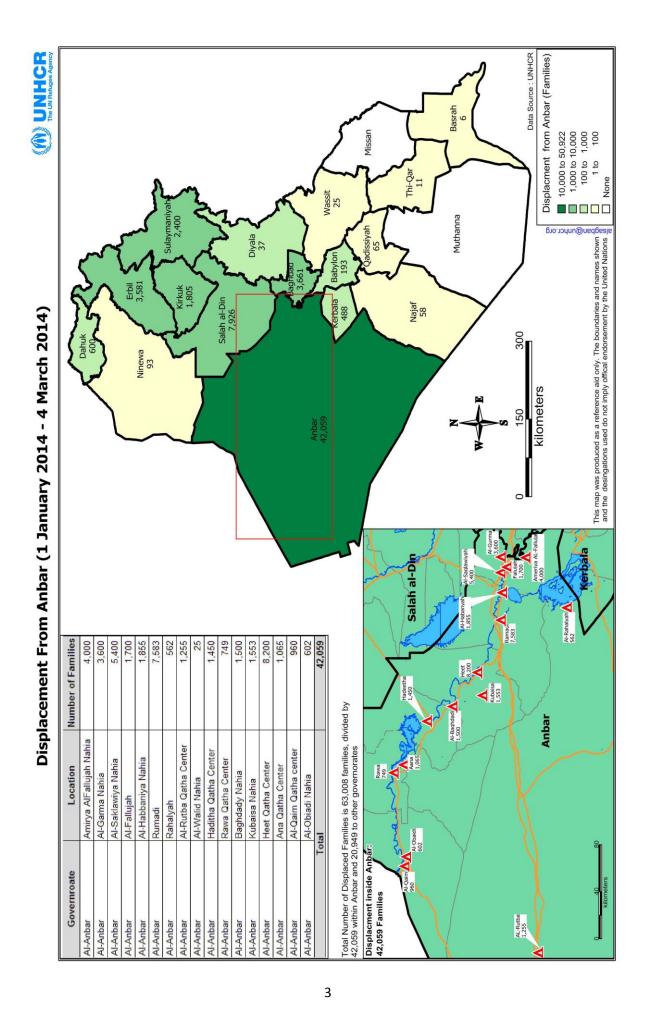


Donor Relations and Resource Mobilization Service March 2014



Information at a glance		
Targeted beneficiaries in 2014	40,000 IDP families (some 240,000 individuals) who have fled armed conflict in Anbar province in Iraq	
Total requirements for UNHCR activities in Iraq (excluding activities budgeted for the Syria Situation)	USD 147.2 million in total including this appeal for USD 26.4 million (for the period 1 January – 31 July 2014)	
Overall goal Main activities	<ul> <li>Provide protection and humanitarian assistance to respond to the emergency needs of internally displaced people (IDPs) from AI Anbar province through the following activities:</li> <li>Provide adequate supplies of basic and domestic items</li> <li>Establish, improve or maintain shelter and infrastructure</li> <li>Improve/maintain registration and profiling</li> <li>Increase access to legal assistance</li> <li>Build peaceful co-existence between displaced people and local communities</li> <li>Reduce risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and improve quality of response</li> <li>Provide technical support on collective center management and coordination Strengthen services for people with specific needs</li> <li>Assure satisfactory conditions of sanitation and hygiene for people of concern</li> <li>Strengthen and optimize operations management, coordination and support</li> <li>Assure optimal logistics and supply in support of operational needs</li> </ul>	

**Cover photo:** One-year-old Mohammed arrived in Al Qa'im with his mother and siblings from Fallujah. Their house was destroyed during the bombardment but the family managed to escape. UNHCR/N. Prokopchuk



### Background

Armed conflict in Al Anbar province of Iraq was triggered in early January 2014 following dissent over measures taken by the central Government which were widely perceived to be sectarian. The unrest spread to Fallujah city and after a subsequent withdrawal of security forces from areas of Ramadi city, insurgent groups moved in. As a result, it is estimated that some 400,000 people have been displaced from their homes to date.

The Prime Minister has recently announced an allocation of some USD 83 million to compensate the losses of the people displaced (IDPs) by this conflict, along with some USD 8 million to assist displaced families who are residing outside of Anbar province. The Government has also officially welcomed international support to complement its efforts in order to respond adequately to the needs of those affected.

#### Impacted areas and populations

As of early March, the situation in Al Anbar province remains volatile and complex, as the ongoing regional fighting involves multiple actors. The Iraqi Security Force (ISF) has maintained its offensive of Fallujah and surrounding areas, in an attempt to eliminate pockets of insurgents.

While across much of Iraq, UN security is operating at levels 4 and 5, the security level for Anbar governorate is set at level 6, characterizing an extreme situation. The consequences of this conflict include the imposition of a curfew on major cities from evening until early morning; the lack of operational services and infrastructure (including police functions and transport); and widespread destruction of roads, most notably the road network between Baghdad and western Anbar, which also runs through to Syria and Jordan. Beyond Ramadi and Fallujah, the security situation in many other areas of Anbar province and across Iraq is volatile. Safe passage of humanitarian aid remains highly problematic.

The numbers of displaced continue to grow. Estimates by the Ministry of Displacement and Migrations (MoDM) suggest that by mid-February, at least 67,000 families (some 400,000 people) had been displaced. UNHCR has so far registered more than 53,000 families. Because of limited access, gathering information on the exact numbers and locations of the affected populations, many of whom have been displaced several times, is a challenge. The majority of the 67,000 families are displaced within Anbar province, while some 16,000 families have fled to other provinces.

#### **Population data**

	People displaced	Anticipated total new displacement numbers January-July 2014	Total IDPs assisted by UNHCR January- July 2014
Within Anbar province	300,000	350,000	180,000
Other provinces	100,000	150,000	60,000
TOTAL	400,000	500,000	240,000

Some families have sought shelter in government buildings, including schools; others are surviving in open fields and even cars. Many fled with few or no personal belongings, so their priority needs include: stoves, cooking equipment and other life-sustaining items required for winter survival, such as blankets and clothing. Hospitals and health-care clinics are running short of medical supplies and doctors are unable to reach the health facilities owing to the security situation. Water infrastructure has been damaged, markets are not functioning and food supplies have been significantly affected. Waste management is also a significant concern as garbage collection has ceased. The inter-agency Strategic Response Plan targets over 240,000 displaced people. Further efforts to cover the needs of the communities who remain in conflict areas will depend largely on humanitarian access. The current displacement from Anbar affects the entire Iraqi population, including Iraqi returnees from Syria. In 2012 and 2013, large numbers of Iraqi refugees returned to Anbar province from Syria. The armed conflict in Anbar has forced the returnees to flee once again and they are in urgent need of assistance, including core relief items (CRIs), cash and shelter.

### **Identified needs (January-July 2014)**

Information collected through assessments carried out by UNHCR's partners reveal that the most immediate needs include: CRIs, food, fuel, water and shelter, and the initial humanitarian response has focused on addressing these needs.

Recently displaced families are also in urgent need of protection, including the identification and addressing of specific vulnerabilities. Protection needs include: registration; legal assistance; replacement of lost documentation; identification and provision of support for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV); as well as access to basic services. Support networks will also be established by protection teams on the ground.

While many families have been able to rent houses or are being hosted by relatives, most have had to seek refuge in empty public buildings, schools and mosques. As their resources dwindle, however, the families residing in rented houses can no longer afford to stay there and are now confronted with shelter problems. In several locations, IDP families are being sheltered in official or informal collective accommodation centres, such as in Baiji, in Salah Al-Din Governorate, where the local government authorities have settled some 60 families in an oil industry compound. As the displacement is becoming prolonged and the resources of the displaced are depleted, collective centres may have to become alternative accommodation solutions.

## Strategy and main activities (January-July 2014)

### UNHCR's overall strategy for the Anbar situation

The humanitarian response strategy for the IDP crisis resulting from the Anbar armed conflict, has, from the outset, been an inter-agency cluster approach to support the efforts of the Iraqi Government.

In January, at the request of the Government, the United Nations activated several clusters to enhance the response. The Humanitarian Country team (HCT) prioritized the following clusters: water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), food security, CRIs, health, protection and education. UNHCR As cluster lead for protection and shelter/NFIs, UNHCR is focusing its response accordingly.

UNHCR's strategy is being implemented in collaboration with the MoDM, the Iraqi Red Crescent Society (IRCS), the Emergency Crisis Cell, comprised of local authorities and the broader humanitarian community. UN agencies, in collaboration with the MoDM and other international and national humanitarian actors, are coordinating their efforts to ensure that the basic needs of the displaced and other conflict-affected populations are met.

UNHCR's protection assistance includes supporting increased engagement by the authorities in addressing IDP needs, for example supporting the MoDM to facilitate the registration of IDPs which is currently slow and lacks consistency. Protection monitoring of IDPs and IDP returnees has been regularly conducted throughout Iraq by UNHCR and its mobile partner teams. Advocacy with the HCT/Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) and other key stakeholders is a daily priority for key protection actors such as UNHCR. Central to UNHCR's work at all stages of the displacement cycle are its rights-based approach, community-based protection strategy and the age, gender and diversity approach.

UNHCR, as the shelter/NFI cluster lead, will implement a shelter rehabilitation project in order to improve living conditions, particularly for those in communal accommodation locations. UNHCR will also provide technical guidance and support for the respective government officials in identifying and establishing collective centres, based on agreed standard operating procedures. Core relief items will be distributed to alleviate the effects of the harsh winter, as well as to supplement items left behind in flight.

Identified needs	UNHCR's main targets for 2014
Delivery of protection assistance	<ul> <li>Quality of registration and profiling improved or maintained for 240,000 displaced people</li> <li>Access to legal assistance provided to 26,000 people affected by the conflict</li> <li>Peaceful co-existence with local communities supported through implementation of 50 Quick Impact Projects</li> <li>Risk of SGBV reduced and quality of response improved</li> </ul>
Provision of basic needs	<ul> <li>Shelter and infrastructure established, improved and maintained for 1,000 shelter units</li> <li>120,000 individuals have sufficient basic and domestic items</li> <li>Services for persons with specific needs strengthened for 36,000 displaced people</li> </ul>
Logistics and operations support	<ul> <li>Operations management, coordination and support strengthened and optimized</li> <li>Logistics and supply optimized to serve operational needs</li> </ul>

#### **Response through UNHCR-led clusters**

UNHCR's protection response is in line with the Protection cluster strategy. UNHCR leads through the <u>Protection</u> <u>cluster</u>, which will ensure that displaced and affected populations have access to legal assistance and protection services. This includes enhancing protection monitoring mechanisms through the provision of: legal assistance by mobile teams, including issuance of documentation; cash assistance to persons with specific needs; and psychosocial counselling and legal services for affected populations in need, including survivors or those at risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Grave violations against women, girls, men and boys will be monitored and psychosocial needs of children affected by the conflict will be met through referral and direct provision of services, including legal assistance to juveniles. Dignity kits will be procured for women. The cluster will ensure protection mainstreaming in the overall humanitarian response.

The <u>Emergency Shelter/NFI cluster</u> will address the basic needs of IDPs who are currently in inadequate shelters, many of which will require rehabilitation. UNHCR will provide technical support on management of collective centers including capacity building of government authorities and others involved in the day to day running of the centers. UNHCR will distribute 5,000 tents to families living in open areas or in inadequate temporary shelters; rehabilitate 1,000 units (residential buildings, schools or public buildings in a dilapidated state), and provide 20,000 core relief item kits.

Essential logistics and operations support related to UNHCR's Emergency Shelter/NFI cluster leadership responsibilities will include identifying and maintaining supply chain corridors and strategic storage facilities, i.e.

warehousing in strategic locations. Logistics support will also include transport and storage services for core relief items, shelter equipment and other items. Support for partners involved in the humanitarian response will also be provided.

### Challenges

Humanitarian access to the affected population remains limited. Several bridges have been destroyed, disrupting main delivery routes for humanitarian supplies into Anbar. Other key roads may be open but passage remains highly insecure due to daily clashes, and multiple checkpoints hinder the delivery of fuel, food and CRIs. Internet and mobile networks are often down across the entire Anbar province, further affecting communications and response to the crisis.

The escalating political tensions and the upsurge of violence to levels not seen since 2008 are triggering additional displacement in the north of Diyala province. The United Nations has expressed serious concern over the heightened level of violence and the danger that the country could fall back into sectarian strife if decisive action is not taken.

### Coordination

Under the leadership of the Deputy Special Representative to the Secretary-General (DSRSG)/Humanitarian Coordinator (HC)/Resident Coordinator (RC), the Integrated Coordination Office for Development and Humanitarian Assistance (ICODHA) is coordinating the development of the inter-agency response plan for the humanitarian situation in Anbar province.

Daily HCT meetings are chaired by the DSRSG/HC/RC to continuously assess the situation and plan the response accordingly. This coordination mechanism involves key ministries.

Following the Government's official request for support, the Humanitarian Coordinator, in consultation with the HCT, requested the activation of seven clusters in Iraq in order to coordinate humanitarian assistance for the families displaced from Anbar. Subsequently, the Emergency Relief Coordinator announced the official activation of the following clusters, with their corresponding cluster leads:

Cluster	Cluster Lead		
Shelter/NFI	UNHCR		
Food	WFP		
Protection	UNHCR		
Logistics	WFP		
WASH	UNICEF		
Health	WHO		
Education	UNICEF		

## **Financial information**

UNHCR's assistance through the Protection and Shelter/NFI clusters will target 40,000 families, while different clusters will address other humanitarian needs. A revision of the entire Strategic Response Plan will be conducted in the second quarter of 2014, if needed.

The total requirements for UNHCR's immediate response to the Anbar armed conflict are USD 26,351,265. A breakdown of these requirements is provided in the table below.

### Requirements

Objective	2014 ExCom- approved Budget for Iraq* (USD)	Additional requirements (USD)	Total budget* (USD)
Favourable Protection Environment	10,547,636	261,381	10,809,017
Access to legal assistance and legal remedies improved	7,366,431	261,381	7,627,812
International and regional instruments acceded to, ratified or strengthened	318,827		318,827
Law and policy developed or strengthened	1,367,345		1,367,345
Public attitude towards persons of concern improved	1,495,034		1,495,034
Fair Protection Processes and Documentation	2,863,019	527,990	3,391,010
Access to and quality of status determination procedures improved	476,173		476,173
Identification of statelessness improved	632,287	527.000	632,287
Quality of registration and profiling improved or maintained	1,754,559	527,990	2,282,550
Security from Violence and Exploitation Protection of children strengthened	6,164,733	313,658	6,478,391
_	2,061,382	212 (50	2,061,382
Risk of SGBV is reduced and quality of response improved Basic Needs and Essential Services	4,103,351	313,658	4,417,008
	52,482,975	18,296,694	70,779,669
Health status of the population improved	1,446,102 2,894,734		1,446,102
Population has optimal access to education Population has sufficient access to energy	2,894,734		2,894,734
Population has sufficient basic and domestic items	4,166,691	5,227,627	9,394,318
Population lives in satisfactory conditions of sanitation and hygiene		2,718,366	2,718,366
Services for persons with specific needs strengthened	9,450,970	2,509,261	11,960,231
Shelter and infrastructure established, improved and maintained	27,848,031	7,841,440	35,689,471
Supply of potable water increased or maintained	6,676,446		6,676,446
Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance	21,671,421	2,613,813	24,285,234
Peaceful co-existence with local communities promoted	8,183,682	2,613,813	10,797,496
Self-reliance and livelihoods improved	13,487,739		13,487,739

Durable Solutions	5,437,229		5,437,229
Comprehensive Solutions strategy developed, strengthened or updated	2,085,813		2,085,813
Greater reduction of statelessness is achieved	482,860		482,860
Potential for integration realized	599,612		599,612
Potential for resettlement realized	828,907		828,907
Potential for voluntary return realized	1,440,036		1,440,036
Leadership, Coordination and Partnerships	5,055,798		5,055,798
Camp management and coordination refined and improved	710,403		710,403
Coordination and partnerships strengthened	3,048,028		3,048,028
Donor relations and resource mobilization strengthened	1,297,367		1,297,367
Logistics and Operations Support	16,673,888	2,613,813	19,287,701
Logistics and supply optimized to serve operational needs	4,889,742	2,091,051	6,980,793
Operations management, coordination and support strengthened and optimized	11,784,145	522,763	12,306,908
Total	120,896,699	24,627,350	145,524,049
Support costs		1,723,915	1,723,915
GRAND TOTAL (USD)	120,896,699	26,351,265	147,247,963

\*excluding activities budgeted for the Syria Situation