

Iraq

March 2019

253,085

Syrian refugees registered as of 28 February

22,715

Persons of concern reached with protection monitoring in February

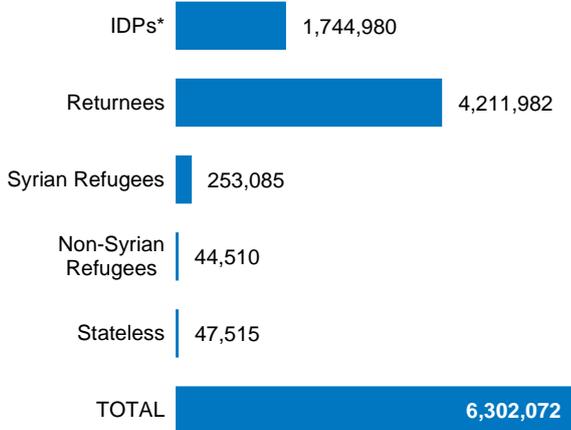
32,928

Vulnerable displaced families received cash assistance in February

16,261

Persons of concern received CRIs in February

POPULATION OF CONCERN

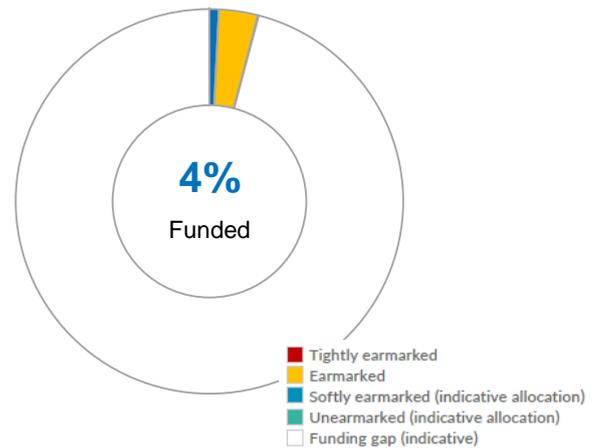


* Internally displaced persons (IDPs) since 2014, as of 28 February 2019, in accordance with IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)

FUNDING (AS OF 20 MARCH 2019)

USD 607.7 M

requested for the Iraq operation for 2019



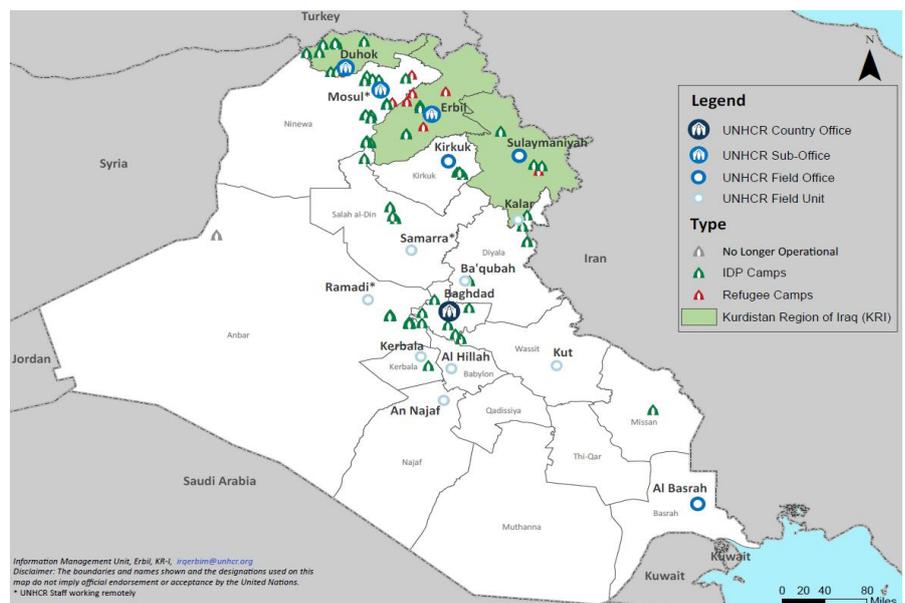
UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

- 280 National Staff
- 111 International Staff

Offices:

- 7 Offices located in Baghdad, Basrah, Duhok, Erbil, Kirkuk, Mosul and Sulaymaniyah
- Field presence in Hilla (Babylon), Ba'quba (Diyala), Kerbala (Kerbala), Najaf (Najaf), Samarra (Salah al-Din), and Khanaqin (Diyala) based in Kalar (Sulaymaniyah)



UNHCR produces regular updates on its response in Iraq, which can be found at UNHCR Global Focus <http://reporting.unhcr.org/>

Working with Partners

- UNHCR is engaged in the inter-agency response for ongoing displacement and returns, leading the Protection, Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), and Shelter/Non-Food Items (also known as core relief items or CRIs) clusters, as part of the cluster coordination mechanism for the IDP response. UNHCR is also co-leading, with WFP and the World Bank, the Working Group on Social Protection and Inclusion within the Resilience and Recovery Programme (RRP) for Iraq.
- Through the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP), UNHCR leads the humanitarian response for Syrian refugees in close coordination with humanitarian actors and government authorities to protect and assist refugees and asylum-seekers, and to prevent statelessness.

Main Activities

Protection

- **Refugees** – UNHCR coordinates with the government, UN agencies, and local and international partners on the response for refugees, including activities related to registration, protection monitoring and advocacy, legal aid, psychosocial support, child protection, and prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Resettlement to third countries is pursued for a small number of refugees with acute vulnerabilities.
- **IDPs** – Direct interventions are undertaken with local, regional and national authorities to ensure that the displaced can access safety in camps and in non-camp locations. Protection monitoring teams have been deployed to identify protection and assistance needs, which directly inform protection responses, including provision of legal assistance on a range of issues such as missing civil documentation, prevention and response to SGBV and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), child protection, reunification of separated families, and the coordination of IDP protection responses with the government, NGOs and other UN agencies.
- **Returnees** – Voluntary, safe and dignified return is a strategic priority for UNHCR and the humanitarian community in Iraq. UNHCR monitors the return of displaced persons to their areas of origin and advocates with authorities when there are incidents of barred returns, or risks of forced or coerced returns to areas that are unsafe due to contamination of explosive remnants of war (ERW) and improvised explosive devices (IED), presence of militias, widespread destruction of property, and absence of critical infrastructure and basic services.

Shelter and NFIs

- UNHCR provides shelter assistance and core relief items, and coordinates with humanitarian actors to complement the work of local authorities to improve living conditions of vulnerable IDPs in camp and non-camp settings throughout Iraq.
- Approximately 442,500 IDPs in Iraq are hosted in 109 camps. UNHCR is also engaged in the provision of assistance to out of camp IDPs.
- 99% of Syrian refugees in Iraq live in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I); 37% reside in 9 camps, while the remainder live in urban and peri-urban areas. Shelter priorities for Syrian refugees include the improvement and upgrading of shelters. Of the approximately 18,000 plots in refugee camps in KR-I, over 98% have been improved with concrete bases and an individual kitchen, latrine, and shower. Over 88% have been upgraded with solid house-like structures, which include concrete bases, concrete block walls, sandwich panel roofs, and an individual kitchen, latrine, and shower.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- As the CCCM Cluster lead, UNHCR works with local authorities and humanitarian actors to provide coordinated services to IDPs. In camps, this translates to ensuring adequate shelter, delivery of food and water, presence of education and health facilities, and capacity building for camp management actors and service providers. Mobile teams from partners provide CCCM services to camps and out-of-camp settlements throughout Iraq. UNHCR, alongside other humanitarian partners, are advising on a government-led process for the responsible consolidation of camps in line with the Principled Returns Framework.

Special thanks to major donors of un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as donors who have contributed directly to the Iraq operation in 2019 (as of 25 February)

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