

I. Objectives

Iraq is hosting some 2.8 million internally displaced persons¹ (1.2 million was displaced before February 2006; almost 1.6 million in 2006-2008) and is also home to 41,860² refugees, primarily located in the Kurdistan Region and the Governorates of Baghdad and Al Anbar. UNHCR strives to ensure that protection and assistance are provided for displaced persons, returnees, refugees and asylum-seekers, through:

II. Operations

II. 1. Support to IDPs and Returnees:

- Direct humanitarian relief assistance to IDPs, vulnerable host community members and returnees with special focus on emergency shelter rehabilitation and shelter kits distribution;
- Community-based assistance in displacement / return-impacted areas in watsan, protection, income generation, transportation and education;
- Support for community-based organizations to meet IDP and returnee needs or referral to appropriate sectoral authority or organization;
- Provision of protection services and monitoring through countrywide network of Protection and Assistance Centres (PACs) and Mobile Teams;
- Emergency preparedness & response for 100,000 persons through contingency stock and NFI distributions;
- Strengthening national capacities to respond to displacement-induced emergencies through provision of support to Governorate Emergency Cells.

II. 2. Support to Refugees and Asylum Seekers:

- Life-saving assistance to refugee populations;
- Registration of and assistance to asylum-seekers;
- Targeted assistance to the most vulnerable cases, including income generation support or subsistence allowances;
- Monitoring conditions for voluntary repatriation;
- Resettlement of those with protection needs, women-at-risk and on medical grounds;
- Registration and issuance of identity documents;

III. UNHCR and its Humanitarian Partners for Iraq:

Protection and Shelter Sector Outcome Teams: Protection UNHCR (Lead), UNAMI (HRO) & UNICEF (Co-leads), Shelter UN-Habitat (Lead) & UNHCR (Co-lead); other partners are: IOM, OCHA, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNIFEM, UNOPS, WHO, WFP as well as international and national NGOs.

Signed Agreements: Ministry of Displacement and Migration and twelve NGO partners covering all Governorates.

IV. Staffing

International Staff: 33 (including consultants and volunteers, and deployments in Amman, Kuwait, Erbil and Baghdad)

National Staff: 76 (44 inside Iraq)



Distribution of NFIs in Zharawa Sub-District, Sulaymaniyah, April 2008

V. Population of Concern:

Internally Displaced Persons

Timeframe	Individuals
Pre-Feb. 2006	1,212,108
Post-Feb. 2006	1,596,448
Total	2,808,556

Registered Refugees in Iraq

Origin	Individuals
Palestine	14,640
Syria	581
Iran	10,801
Turkey	15,700
Sudan	138
Total	41,860

Asylum-Seekers Hosted in Iraq

Origin	Individuals
Iran	859
Syria	979
Turkey	411
Ethiopia	3
Total	2,252

VI. UNHCR 2008 Programme for Iraq

Total Operational Budget	\$37,343,260
Implementation rate (as of September 2008)	65%

¹ IDP WG, *Internally Displaced Persons in Iraq*, June 2008

² Statistics as at 30 September 2008