

# OCHA Flash Update

## Iraq Crisis – Anbar Displacement

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### Situation

1. On 26 May, Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) and Popular Mobilisation Forces (PMF) launched an operation to regain control of Anbar Governorate, focusing on Ramadi District and Al Karma Sub-District in Falluja District, according to public statements by government officials. On 28 May, Anbar Operations Command stated that ISF, PMF and tribal fighters had regained control of a number of areas south of Ramadi. In areas east of Falluja District, clashes continued between the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) located along the city's perimeter and ISF located within the city, reportedly causing civilian casualties.
2. In western Anbar, ISF and ISIL clashed during an attempted ISIL attack on the besieged town of Haditha.
3. Attacks and military operations occurred in Salah al-Din and Diyala Governorates, disrupting supply routes with Anbar and Baghdad Governorates.

### Displacement

4. Updated figures from the International Organisation for Migration's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) indicate that 14,240 families (approximately 85,440 individuals) have been displaced from Ramadi District since 15 May.
5. Local authorities reported on 26 May that approximately 400 families entered Kirkuk through the Taza checkpoint due to local sponsorship. Some families reportedly stayed in Kirkuk, while others moved towards Sulaymaniyah Governorate.
6. On 25 May, the Kirkuk Governor announced the re-opening of the Kirkuk-Baghdad highway which had been closed for nearly three months due to military operations. For security reasons, the highway is currently accessible only to small vehicles, taxis and buses for 12 hours a day, according to public statements. Humanitarian actors welcome the re-opening of this road for civilian use, and hope it will positively impact the further normalization of commercial routes and the freedom of movement for civilian Iraqis.
7. Unconfirmed reports state that scores of families have moved to areas in Kifri District (Diyala Governorate) and Kalar District (Sulaymaniyah Governorate) after having been denied access to Tooz District, Salah-Al-Din Governorate. Humanitarian partners in the area are following up to confirm the information and provide assistance as necessary.

### Needs and Response

8. Starting 25 May, UN agencies conducted several joint assessment missions to Abu-Ghraib District, Bzbiz Bridge and Habbaniya Tourist City in Anbar and Baghdad Governorates. In Abu Ghraib, the assessment team noted inadequate sanitation facilities and the presence of skin and water-borne diseases, including a high incidence of diarrhoea amongst children under five years. Many of the IDP families in the area are female-headed households. The Primary Health Centre is functional, although overwhelmed, and is unable to make referrals to the Abu Ghraib Hospital due to the lack of an attending physician. In Habbaniya Tourist City, the assessment team noted insufficient access to clean water, health services, proper sanitation,

and emergency shelter. Full assessment reports have been shared with all clusters to ensure a coordinated response to identified needs.

9. On 25 May, hygiene kits were distributed to 250 IDP families at the Al-Kimioi IDP Camp in Ameriyat al-Fallujah by Rebuild Iraq Recruitment Program, an implementing partner of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).
10. Between 25 and 26 May, the World Food Programme (WFP) and its local partner the Iraqi Salvation Humanitarian Organization, distributed 850 family food rations in Abu Ghraib District, Baghdad Governorate to 3,156 IDPs. In the same area, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), a partner of WFP, distributed 100 immediate response rations.
11. On 26 May, IOM distributed 900 summer non-food item (NFI) kits to IDPs in Sulaymaniyah, Basrah and Baghdad governorates. Kits consist of blankets, cooking equipment, mattresses, pillows, towels, plastic mats, an emergency light, fan, hygiene kit and plastic cabinet.
12. From 24 to 27 May, the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), through their partners Muslim Aid and the Youth Activity Organization, distributed 409 Core Relief Item Kits to an estimated 2,454 IDPs located in Ameriyat al-Fallujah in Anbar Governorate and Quarato IDP Camp in Sulaymaniyah Governorate. The CRI Kits include blankets, tarpulins, jerry cans for water and fuel, cooking stoves, hygiene items, mattresses and cooking equipment.
13. On 25 May, the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA), through its local partner Tajdid, dispatched 13,000 dignity kits to Kerbala, Baghdad, Najaf and Babylon governorates to respond to the urgent needs of women and girls. Additionally, UNFPA dispatched emergency reproductive health kits and medical supplies to its partner United Iraqi Medical Society in Ameriyat al-Fallujah to support the establishment of a delivery room.
14. On 26 May, the Danish Refugee Council and the NRC distributed 1,337 Rapid Response Mechanism kits containing ready-to-eat food, bottled water, hygiene supplies and other items to 1,000 IDP families in the town of Al-Nakheeb, southern Anbar Governorate and to 294 IDP families in Shaqlawa District, Erbil Governorate, on behalf of WFP and UNICEF.
15. Up until 27 May, Caritas reached 1,000 households with family food parcels containing flour, rice, lentils, salt and bulgur, as well as hygiene and kitchen items in areas on the periphery of Baghdad and close to Anbar Governorate.
16. On 27 May, UNICEF provided bottles of drinking water to 12,000 IDPs in Al Habbaniya (24,000 litres), and Ameriyat al-Fallujah (3,000 litres) within Anbar Governorate.
17. UNICEF established a tent school at the Takiya Collective Center, Baghdad Governorate which is operating triple shifts in order to accommodate the educational needs of all IDP children at the center. On 27 May, UNICEF dispatched additional furniture and supplies to the school including cupboards, desks, chairs, shades, one additional classroom tent, whiteboards, stationery, and bags for 200 students and 50 teachers.
18. ACTED is currently providing emergency food, water, mattresses and blankets to an estimated 100 families stranded at the Kalar-Kuluju checkpoint (between Anbar and Sulaymaniyah governorates) who do not wish to move to the Quarato IDP Camp.

The information in this note was compiled by OCHA Iraq based on a variety of sources, including the Government of Iraq, local authorities, UN agencies, international non-government organizations, media reports, and key informant interviews.

The next Flash Update will be issued as required. For more information, contact David Swanson [swanson@un.org](mailto:swanson@un.org) or visit the Humanitarian Operations Centre, Erbil.

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