



Situation report
01 SEPTEMBER – 31 NOVEMBER 2019

IRAQ HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY



5.5 MILLION
IN NEED (HEALTH)



1.5 MILLION
DISPLACED
INTERNALLY



0.25 MILLION
REFUGEES



1.7 MILLION
TARGETED



4.3 MILLION
RETURNEES

WHO

TOTAL POPULATION
REACHED WITH WHO
MEDICINES AND KITS **380 462**

WHO FUNDING US\$ *****



90 % FUNDED
25 M REQUESTED

HEALTH SECTOR

23 HEALTH SECTOR PARTNERS
1.7 M TARGETED POPULATION

HEALTH FACILITIES DAMAGED/DESTROYED



48 TOTAL NUMBER FULLY DAMAGED ***
122 TOTAL NUMBER PARTIALLY DAMAGED

HEALTH ACTION



981 668 CONSULTATIONS+*****
109 882 UNDER 5 CONSULTATIONS

ROUTINE VACCINATION AGAINST



5 512 607 POLIO+*****

EARLY WARNING ALERT AND RESPONSE NETWORK



209 REPORTING SITES

HEALTH CLUSTER FUNDING US\$ (HRP 2018)*****



95 % FUNDED
US\$ 60 M REQUESTED

HIGHLIGHTS

- WHO supported the Regional Ministry of Health, Kurdistan to open the Neonatal/Pediatric Gastroenterology Unit in Rapareen Hospital. The support included Gastroscopy & Colonoscopy machines (under PBRM). Opening this facility has ensured the management of GIT diseases such as pediatric Crohn's disease and pediatric Ulcerative Colitis in children aging a few months to 15 years in Erbil.
- WHO also equipped the Neonatal Semi-Intensive/Critical Care Unit of the same hospital with 10 beds making the total bed capacity of critical care 25, 10 monitoring machines, 10 infant incubators, six infant phototherapy, three Continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) and three spiral phototherapies were supported under PBRM.
- The agency procured and distributed essential lines medicines sufficient for a population of 380 462 for a period of 3 months. The supplies were distributed to seven DOHs and eight NGOs serving internally displaced persons, host communities, returnees, and refugees.

*** coverage for the reporting period
**** hospitals in all governorates that were affected by the four years crisis in Iraq
***** Consultations for the reporting period
+***** Total number of vaccination against polio during the national campaign all over Iraq for the reporting period
***** Financial Tracking System, Iraq

Situation update

- As the security situation in northern Syrian improves, the number of refugees crossing into Iraq has reduced significantly. As at the end of November 2019, only 36 refugees had crossed into the Dahuk governorate as compared to more than 300 arrivals during the first weeks of November. These numbers are expected to even drop further as the situation gets better by the day. As of 1 December 2019, a total of 17 425 individual refugees had crossed into Iraq since the start of the crisis in northern Syrian and 85 returned to Syria on 25 November 2019. The refugees are being hosted in three refugee camps of Domiz, Gavilan, and Bardarash. WHO continues monitoring the situation as it works with local health authorities to respond to immediate lifesaving needs through coordination and active surveillance.
- More than 400 people have died since the civil unrest in Iraq started close to two months ago today. Most died as a result of secondary gunshot wounds or tear gas canisters following clashes with security forces in Baghdad and the other southern governorates. The most affected areas include Baghdad, Kerbala, Nasiriyah, Najaf and Basra governorates. The reasons for the unrest remain the same since the start i.e the demand for better social and economic services and reforms. Since the start of the crisis on 1 October 2019 to date and more than 5000 injuries have reported (These figures are estimates and not confirmed by official government sources like the MOH and Ministry of Interior).
- WHO continues to work with health authorities to monitor the situation and where needed to fill the gaps required. It also continues to deliver according to its mandate in areas affected by the conflict

Epi update

- To strengthen the pandemic influenza surveillance activities and virological isolation capacity in the country, the pandemic influenza preparedness plan was reviewed, terms of reference for all the partners, the protocols updated, and a training plan developed. To strengthen response in the event of an occurrence of outbreaks, WHO and MOH pre-positioned laboratory supplies, and created awareness on priority diseases in high-risk locations.
- In addition, the WHO also supported the Central Public Health Laboratory (CPHL/MOH to install a pulsed-field gel electrophoresis (PFGE) equipment and train two technicians on the use of this new technology. This installation will enable the CPHL to trace the type of food and waterborne bacteria and their origin.
- Through its Early Warning Alert Response Network and System (EWARN), WHO supported the local health authorities to effectively detect, verify and respond to three suspected clinical outbreaks of measles and two suspected meningitis cases.



WHO action

- In September 2019, the National Immunization Days was conducted with the support of WHO and UNICEF targeting 5 802 745 children of 0-5 years of age in all governorates with the Oral Polio Vaccine through a house to house strategy complemented by fixed posts. The campaign achieved over 95% coverage.



- In this reporting period, WHO supported the Regional Ministry of Health, Kurdistan to open the Neonatal/Pediatric

Gastroenterology Unit in Rapareen Hospital. WHO support included Gastroscopy & Colonoscopy machines (under PBRM). Opening this facility has ensured the management of GIT diseases such as pediatric Crohn's disease and pediatric Ulcerative Colitis in children aging a few months to 15 years in Erbil. The unit currently conducts 20 to 30 surgeries in a month

- WHO also equipped the Neonatal Semi-Intensive/ Critical Care Unit of the same hospital with 10 beds making the total bed capacity of critical care 25, 10 monitoring machines, 10 infant incubators, six infant phototherapy, three Continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) and three spiral phototherapies were supported under PBRM. The current bed occupancy in the health facility is at 100%. Other medical products delivered to the unit also include ultrasonic nebulizers and syringe pumps.

- In addition, the Organization supported the opening of a Neonatal/Pediatric Intensive Care Unit of the same hospital and delivered medical equipment to support the opening of the unit of 4 beds capacity.



- The agency procured and distributed essential lines medicines sufficient for a population of 380 462 for a period of 3 months. The supplies were distributed to

seven DOHs and eight NGOs serving internally displaced persons, host communities, returnees, and refugees. A total of 981 668 consultations were recorded by WHO and its implementing partners recorded more in WHO supported primary healthcare centers and mobile medical clinics during the reporting period in governorates hosting internally displaced persons (IDPs) including 109 882 children less than 5 years. The governorates include Anbar, Dahuk, Diyala, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salahadin, and Sulaymaniyah.

- In Ninewa and Anbar governorates, 14,160 kilograms of medical waste were collected and disposed of with the support of WHO. Most wastes collected included plastic bags and safety boxes.
- To ensure the required standard of clean and safe drinking water for the communities in Ninewa, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah is met, WHO supported the DOHs to collect and test 5 044 samples during this reporting period. Of these 1493 samples were tested for bacteriological, 303 for chemical analysis and 1823 were tested for Vibrio Cholera (VC Culture). Although 124 samples of water in Erbil was found to be contaminated, All samples tested for vibrio cholera were negative.

- WHO continues to support health authorities to fill critical gaps in areas displacement, return and host communities. In this reporting period, 910 pieces of lifesaving, diagnostic, laboratory equipment, reusable devices, assistive products, and medical furniture worth more than USD 717 million were distributed in conflict-affected governorates to address the needs of IDPs, Refugees and host communities in 20 health care facilities in Duhok, Erbil, Kirkuk, Salah-adin and Sulymaniah Governorates. These included:



- ✓ 349 pieces of lifesaving, diagnostic, laboratory equipment, assistive products, and medical furniture worth were distributed to support nine health care facilities in Erbil Governorate (Rapareen Pediatric Hospital, East Emergency Hospital, Helena Rehabilitation Center, 2 IDPs PHCCs camps and 4 Refugee PHHCs camps).
- ✓ Sixteen pieces of assistive products and laboratory equipment were distributed to support two health care facilities in Kirkuk governorate (Kirkuk Rehabilitation Center and Hawija PHCC).
- ✓ 126 pieces of life-savings, diagnostic equipment, assistive products and medical furniture worth of USD 100 529, distributed to support six Refugee PHCCs camps and two hospitals in Dohuk Governorate (Akre PHCC, Domiz 1 PHCC, Domiz 2 PHCC, Gawilan PHCC, Heivy Hospital and Azady Hospital).
- ✓ 201 pieces of electromechanical medical devices and medical furniture were distributed to support Arbat PHCCs refugee camp and Shar hospital in Suleimaniyah Governorate.
- ✓ 218 pieces of life-saving electromechanical and reusable medical devices and medical furniture were distributed to support Tikrit Hospital in Salah Al-Din Governorate.
- In this reporting period, WHO continued to support the implementation of the WHO mhGAP-Intervention Guide training courses by training 28 health care providers (14 female and 14

male). These pieces of training are aimed at equipping health personnel with skills and knowledge to bridge the gap in human resources. Those trained are being supported with field-based technical follow-up in order to provide quality MHPSS services to the affected people with mental health challenges.

- In addition, 124 (65m and 59 F) health care providers were trained on psychological first aid and WHO clinical handbook for Gender-Based Violence. Those trained are drawn from 55 different PHCCs and hospitals in Ninewa, Erbil, Dohuk, Baghdad and Sulaymaniyah

Partnership and coordination

- Under the HRP 2019, the Health Cluster partners were able to reach 588,950 individuals between September to November 2019 with health services.
- The Cluster along with Camp Management coordinated the provision of services in Basateen IDP camp, Salah Al-Din, for the population that arrived from Ninewa. This group of people was restricted from moving out of the camp to access healthcare in clinics that serve host communities. With the health cluster coordination under the leadership of WHO, IOM dispatched a mobile team at short notice, as soon as security approvals were obtained.
- The Health Cluster presented key findings in terms of priority needs; severity mapping and response analysis in a Joint Need Analysis workshop organized by OCHA in preparation for the HNO/HRP 2020.
- To ensure that returnees from Ninewa are not restricted from accessing health services in the areas of Al Karama camp, Salah al-Din governorate, the Health Cluster worked with OCHA and the Directorate of Health (DoH) to develop a response plan for access to services in Al Karama camp.
- In order to take stock of the actual funding received by the 23 health cluster partners with approved projects under HRP 2019, the cluster rolled out the 'Traffic Light' document. The overall funding received by the HRP partners during 2019 stands at USD 53,974,655, i.e., about 88.5% of the original request.
- The Cluster is requesting an overall of USD 60.3millions to cover 1.25 million target individuals (IDPs, returnees and vulnerable host communities) through nine areas of intervention in 2020. The narrative for the HRP 2020, the draft activity-based costing and the target locations have been shared with OCHA.
- During the reporting period, 17,179 Syrian refugees crossed the border into Iraq from 14 October to 28 November 2019 and were transported to Bardarash, Domiz and Gawilan camps. The Health Cluster coordinated the response efforts for service delivery.

Contacts:

1. Dr Adham Ismail, Acting Country Representative, WHO Iraq, email: ismaila@who.int
2. Dr. Wael Hatahit, Technical Officer, Mobile: +9647510101456, email: hatahitw@who.int
3. Ms Pauline Ajello, Communications Officer, mobile: +9647510101460, email: ajellopa@who.int
4. Ms Ajyal Sultany, Communications Officer, mobile: +9647510101469, email: sultanya@who.int