



General data of the country

a. Data¹

Country	Iraq
Population	34 millions
HDI	121/188 classified countries
Surface area	435,240 sq.km
Income per Capita	\$7,000
Life expectancy	69.4 years ^{**2}

b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

→ Mine Ban Treaty / Status:	Ratified 20/03/2013
→ Convention on Cluster Munitions / Status:	Ratified 05/11/2010
→ UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities / Status:	Ratified 20/03/2013

c. Geopolitical analysis

Iraq is struggling to find stability and still faces a tremendous humanitarian crisis. The access of the most vulnerable persons to humanitarian assistance remains limited. Unexploded Ordnance and Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) continue to impose a devastating human toll. At the same time, health professionals are unable to fully meet people's needs and health facilities are in a worrying state of disrepair. Furthermore, the country lacks of qualified professionals specialized in the provision of essential care to people with disabilities.

Iraq is hosting more than 250,000³ Syrian refugees, primarily in the north of the country, in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. In the camps where many of these people have sought refuge, access to essential services and health care is especially difficult for the most vulnerable groups. 2.1 million Iraqi people are still displaced while 3.7 million have returned home⁴. Given the already overwhelming needs of these groups, people with disabilities and injuries and psychosocial distress are particularly vulnerable as they are frequently overlooked by the humanitarian response. The prevailing insecurity and uncertainty about Iraq's immediate future and the undetermined status of the disputed territories are severely delaying preliminary efforts to rebuild health facilities and further complicating access to health care and essential services.

¹ <http://www.iq.undp.org/content/iraq/en/home/countryinfo/>

² World Bank

³ <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/syria/location/5>

⁴ <http://iraqdtm.iom.int/>



Presence of HI in the country

HI has been working in Iraq since 1991 in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) and Central Iraq. Historically, the organisation has always worked with representatives from disabled people's organisations, service providers with a particular focus on health structures and national and local authorities to identify practical solutions, meet the specific needs of the most vulnerable persons, and ensure their access to key services. HI has also regularly been running awareness-raising campaigns on the risks associated with landmines and unexploded ordnance and provides support to the victims of explosive hazards.

In June 2014, Handicap International launched an emergency response to the double humanitarian crisis affecting the country: providing assistance to the most vulnerable Syrian refugees living in camps as well as to internally displaced Iraqis. The emergency largely increased in 2016 with the Mosul emergency response following the launch of the military operations to retake the city of Mosul. The emergency response is still being deployed in the governorates of Ninewa, Kirkuk, Diyala, Anbar and Baghdad.

In 2016, Handicap International launched non-technical survey and clearance activities in the governorates of Kirkuk and Diyala. Due to decades of war and a new wave of violence since 2014, Iraq is one of the most contaminated countries in the world with a high diversity of explosive hazards.. This contamination impedes the safe movement and return of civilians and hampers stabilization and economy recovery in these areas.

With the end of the military operations to retake control of the main cities of Iraq from the group Islamic State (IS), the end of 2017 has marked the beginning of the recovery period, in which HI is playing a key role in order to ensure a safer and more inclusive return and reconstruction process. The reconstruction of areas affected by the conflict provides an opportunity to achieve the inclusion of vulnerable populations and people with disabilities and to address physical accessibility in designing or rehabilitating buildings inclusive of people with disabilities.

The organisation's actions are re-assessed on a regular basis, in order to respond to the volatile situation across the whole of Iraq and adapt to the context and needs of the population.

In summary, through a Comprehensive Approach to Mine Action, HI aims at:

- assisting victims of the conflict through: physical and functional rehabilitation services, psychosocial and psychological support, transportation and tailored support to access external services, support to health centres including equipment for physiotherapy rooms, training of physiotherapists, donation of assistive devices, training of non-specialized actors on psychosocial support, awareness-raising on inclusion of persons with disabilities, technical support to external service providers to improve the inclusiveness of their services
- preventing the risk of death and injuries through: carrying out risk awareness sessions on conventional weapons and improvised explosive devices, non-technical surveys of suspected hazardous areas, and clearance activities.
- supporting a safe and inclusive return process in schools through: repair of classrooms, Risk Education to children, provision of training to teachers on Risk Education, psychosocial support and inclusion awareness.



Projects

Domain	Title of action	Donor	Duration
Victim Assistance (rehabilitation and psychosocial support); Risk Education; Inclusion	Enhance the protection of the civilians affected by the crisis in Iraq	Global Affairs - Canada	January 2017 – December 2019
Victim Assistance (rehabilitation and psychosocial support), Risk Education	Comprehensive first and second line assistance to conflict-affected populations through the delivery of emergency specialized services and Risk Education	German Ministry of Foreign Affairs	April 2017 – Sept. 2019
Victim assistance (rehabilitation and psychosocial support); Risk Education	Supporting persons affected by conflict: from emergency response to development	Office for US disaster assistance - OFDA	August 2017 – November 2018
Clearance of explosive hazards; Risk Education	Integrated Mine Action to enhance resilience of conflict-affected communities in Northern Iraq	EU MADAD / CDC (Centre de Crise Français)	October 2017 – December 2019
Victim assistance (rehabilitation and psychosocial support) and Risk Education	Support to the return process and recovery of conflict-affected populations in Ninewa and Kirkuk Governorates, through the delivery of specialized protection and health services	ECHO 2018	May 2018 – March 2019
Education, Inclusion and Risk Education	Improved Health and Education outcomes of Conflict-Affected Iraqi IDPs and Returnees	Bureau of Population Refugees and Migration (US) - BPRM	September 2017 to September 2018
Inclusion, Support to civil society	Building Peaceful Future	DFAT (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade) - Australia	June 1 to December 31 2018

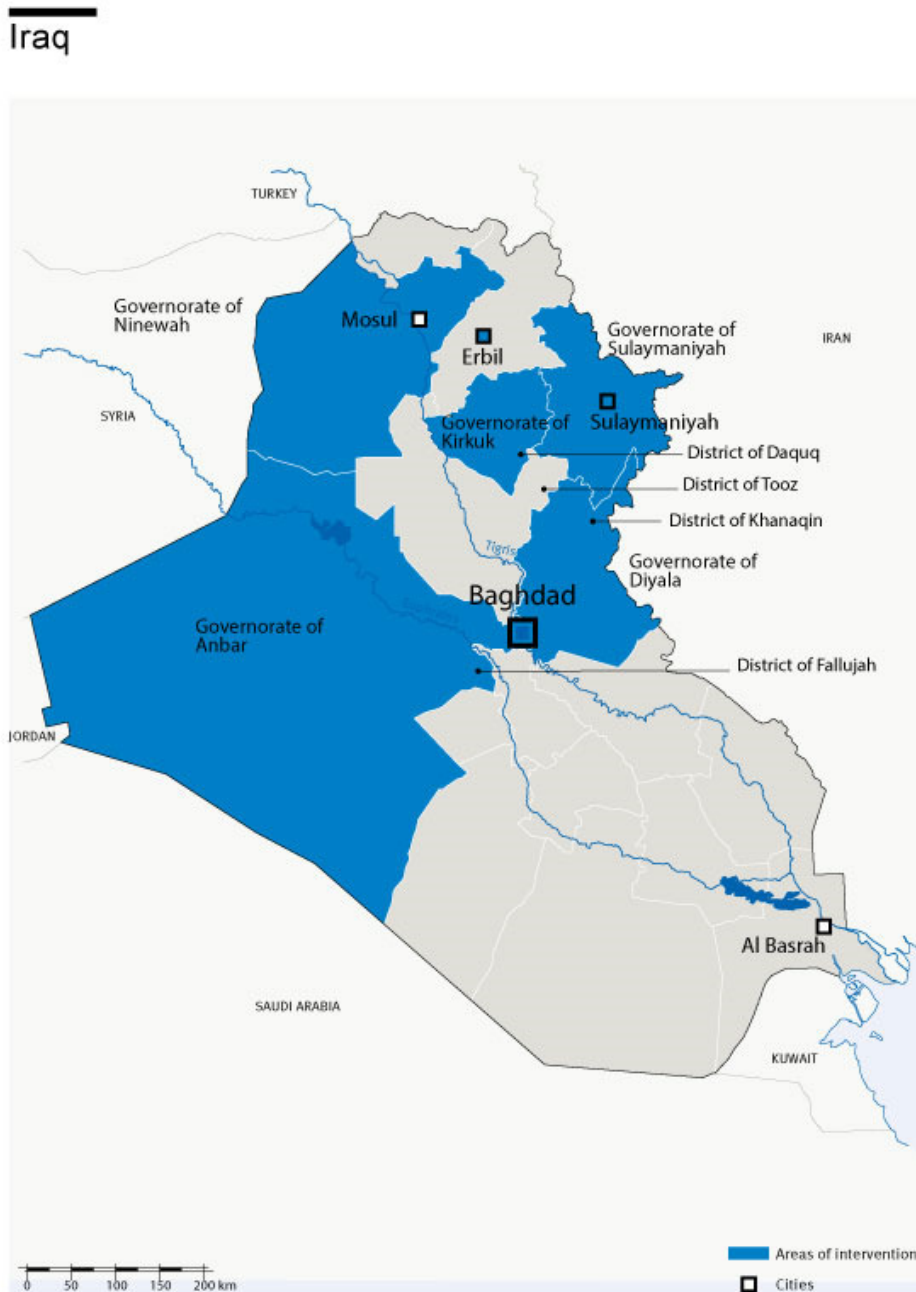


<p>European Union (DEVCO)</p> 	<p>German Ministry of Foreign Affairs (GMOFA)</p>  <p>Federal Foreign Office</p>	<p>European Commission (ECHO)</p> 
<p>Global Affairs Canada (GAC)</p>  <p>Government of Canada</p>	<p>Norway Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Norway MOFA)</p> 	<p>Iraq Humanitarian Pooled Fund (IHPF)</p> 
<p>Bureau for population, refugees and migration</p> 	<p>French Ministry of Foreign Affairs Centre de Crise</p> 	<p>USAID - Office for US disaster assistance (OFDA)</p> 
<p>Belgium Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p>  <p>KINGDOM OF BELGIUM Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation</p>		

Donors



HI team in Iraq

HI staff in Iraq counts 300 people






Projects ongoing: Sectors of services where HI conducts projects and focus on operational partnerships

Sector	Objectives	Type of intervention	Target Beneficiaries	Partners	Place
<p>Emergency</p> 	<p>To reduce the vulnerability of crisis affected people and improve their access to services, with particular attention to internally-displaced people with physical and functional limitations and/or psychosocial distress.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of the specific needs of people with injuries or disabilities and/or psychosocial/psychological distress • Provision of direct physical and functional rehabilitation services (physiotherapy sessions, donations of assistive devices, advice for caregivers) and psychosocial/psychological support (individual, group sessions, family counselling and referral to external actors). • Provision of support to local rehabilitation centres through equipping of physiotherapy rooms, training of physiotherapists, donation of assistive devices, and PSS training to non-specialized staff. • Provision of training and/or direct technical support to providers of essential services 	<p>Persons with disabilities and persons injured</p> <p>Caregivers</p> <p>Staff of the health facilities and centers supported</p>	<p>The Directorates of Health in Kirkuk, Ninewa and Diyala, MSF Belgium, MSF France, Jalawla and Saadiya Youth Centers, Iraqi Health and Social Care Organization (IHSCO)</p>	<p>Governorates of Ninewa, Diyala, Kirkuk, Suleymaniya, Baghdad and Anbar</p>
<p>Mine Action</p> 	<p>To enhance the security of the civilian population through provision of Non Technical Survey, marking and reporting of contaminated areas, clearance of confirmed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct non-technical survey of areas suspected to be contaminated with unexploded ordnance and/or Improvised Explosive Devices. • Marking of suspected hazardous 	<p>People living in contaminated area (especially the children)</p> <p>Community leaders (Community Focal Points)</p>	<p>Iraqi Health and Social Care Organisation (IHSCO), Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Agency (IKMAA), Directorate of Mine Action (DMA),</p>	<p>Governorate of Ninewa, Diyala, Suleymaniya, Anbar, Baghdad, Kirkuk</p>

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	<p>hazardous areas and through provision of risk education to IDPs, returnees and local populations.</p>	<p>areas (SHAs) in preparation for future clearance operations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supply of data to the Iraqi Kurdish Mine Action Agency, the Directorate of Mine Action, and IMMAP • Clearance activities in cities, villages and/or rural areas known to be heavily contaminated with Improvised Explosive Devices, landmines, booby traps and unexploded ordnance. • Provision of direct risk awareness sessions to promote safe behaviours and inform affected population on the immediate threat • Provision of risk awareness messages on the threat posed by unexploded ordnance, and/or Improvised Explosive Devices, through mass media. • Design and distribution of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials regarding the risks posed by Conventional Weapons and Improvised Explosive Devices. • Training of Community Focal Points to spread sustainable awareness and promote safe behaviours to minimize the risk of accidents 			
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<p>Recovery</p> 	<p>Improved Health and Education Outcomes of Conflict-Affected Iraqi Internally Displaced Persons and Returnees</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rehabilitation of schools in neighbourhoods affected by the conflict, including addition of accessibility features Involvement of the school community. Provision of psychosocial support sessions to children • Risk Education sessions for children in schools, especially in highly contaminated neighbourhoods (in Mosul city, Ramadi). • Provision of support to local rehabilitation centres through equipping of physiotherapy rooms, training of physiotherapists, donation of assistive devices, and PSS training to non-specialized staff • Provision of support to youth centers in psychosocial and recreational activities. 	<p>Children and youth affected by the conflict</p> <p>Teacher, Parents association, schools staffs</p> <p>Social workers</p> <p>Rehabilitation centers staffs (including physiotherapist)</p>	<p>Iraqi Health and Social Care Organisation (IHSCO), Representative of Ninewa Voluntary for IDPs (RNVDO), Directorate of Education, Directorate of Health Jalawla and Saadiya Youth Centers,</p>	<p>Governorate of Anbar, Kirkuk and Ninewa</p>
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