

SITUATION REPORT #17: UPDATE FOR 29/4 - 14/5



IOM Iraq staff assist displaced beneficiaries at a distribution of 500 tents in Al Hardainya, Salah al-Din governorate | 4 May 2015

Displacement continues to rise in Iraq, as the IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) now identifies 2,834,676 persons displaced by violence since January 2014. Within the last two-week reporting period, the DTM identified 133,104 persons newly displaced as a result of the conflict around the Ramadi area in Anbar governorate.

After the liberation of Tikrit, a high number of returnees to Salah al-Din governorate found their homes damaged, destroyed or rigged with explosives. As a result, IOM Iraq has been distributing shelter in the areas of Al Dhuluiya sub-district, especially in Al Alam and Al Hardainya.

On 30 April, IOM distributed 50 tents in Albzeekhah village, Al Alam sub-district, to families who returned to their area. From 1 to 4 May IOM distributed 500 tents to internally displaced families in Al Hardainya village, Al Dhuluiya sub district, and provided instruction in tent installation. The distribution was carried out in close coordination with local government and security forces.

In Al-Amirya, Fallujah, from 9 to 12 May, IOM distributed 8,000 “Rapid Response Mechanism” kits provided by UNICEF to recently displaced persons in Anbar district. The kits include a plastic bucket, water bottles, and a UNICEF hygiene kit. Through the partnership between IOM and UNICEF, over 46,000 of the kits will be distributed in the districts of Anbar, Baghdad, and Salah al Din through early June.

### Displacement

According to Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) data collected by IOM Rapid Assessment and Response Team (RART) from January 2014 - 25 April 2015



To access the IOM Iraq DTM, please visit:  
<http://iomiraq.net/dtm-page>

### Emergency Relief Distribution



Numbers as of 13 May 2015

# Students from Al-Anbar University

“ Not knowing what has happened to my family makes it nearly impossible to concentrate on my studies.”



Displaced students from Anbar Agricultural College living in their dorm room in Baghdad. These students live as many as twelve to one room.

On 16 April, Students in the Agricultural College on the outskirts of Ramadi in Anbar governorate didn't expect to wake up and have to leave their dorms immediately, but the violence in Anbar was drawing closer. "We could hear the shelling already. The deputy director of the university gathered us in the morning and announced we had to leave. He had rented busses for us to go. He gave us about \$40 USD and wished us luck," said Khadum Ali. "I don't think he ever expected this would be part of his responsibilities as a deputy director!"

The students rode the busses to Bezaibez crossing, where they had to disembark in order to cross the Euphrates by foot. Once arriving on the other side and gaining permission to enter Baghdad governorate, the students used the \$40 to hire taxis to bring them to Baghdad.

Now the students attend the College of Agriculture in west Baghdad, and live together in dorms that, after decades of disuse, were specifically reopened for their arrival. They consider themselves lucky to continue classes with little break in their curriculum.

An IOM needs assessment revealed that the newly displaced students did not have basic essentials. IOM staff returned with 100 NFI kits, and provided one NFI kit for each room of students. The kits included mattresses, blankets, pillows, pots, kitchen set, plastic cabinet, rechargeable light and a water jug.

IOM Iraq staff met with the students in the old dorms. They were unfurnished and not fitted with windows. Each dorm room houses six to twelve of the displaced students. "We had to clean the rooms, as there was dust everywhere. We only had one mattress which we shared as a pillow, but with these non-food item kits delivered by IOM, we're relieved to sleep on something other than the floor," said Mohammed Khalid, another displaced student. "We only had two pots. We are happy to have these additional pots from IOM so we can cook food for everyone at the same time."

Mohammad Hussein Khudair, the administrator who was responsible for the dorms in Anbar governorate, was the last on the bus to escape the violence in Ramadi. "Some of these students haven't heard from their families in four months because of the fighting. They have no money, no jobs, and no one to rely on except themselves. The dorms here are full because some of the students from al-Anbar brought their displaced families to live with them here, so we had to live in the old, damaged dorms."

Despite their struggles, the students are studying for finals, but admit it can be hard given their current situation. "I think about my family all the time but have not heard from them in months," Khadum told IOM staff. "Remembering what I went through and the nightmare of not knowing what has happened to my family makes it nearly impossible to concentrate on my studies."

IOM is responding to life-threatening needs in a rapidly changing environment, in addition to monitoring movements on the ground.

