

# Emergency Response to the Conflict in Iraq

## Report to the Jersey Overseas Aid Commission

July 2014



Since January 2014 the prolonged sectarian violence in Iraq has escalated even further causing hundreds of thousands of people to become internally displaced. JOAC generously donated £30,000 to support internally displaced families affected by violence in the Anbar province in South West Iraq.

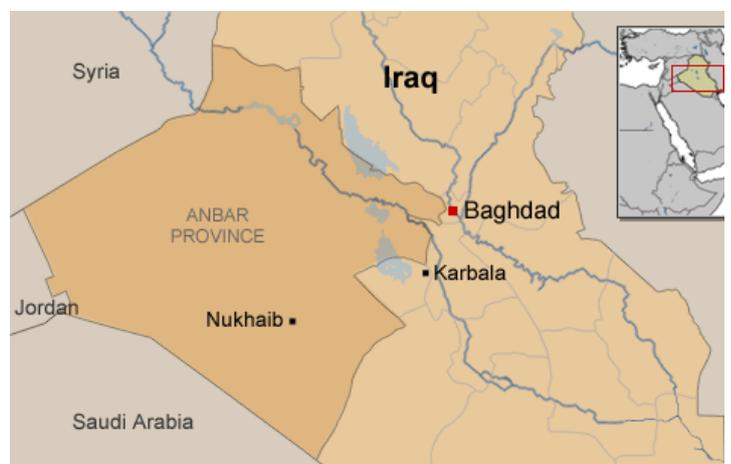
Your support has allowed us to support 600 displaced families in Karbala (3,900 people) – nearly double the initial target of 600 displaced families. On behalf of Christian Aid's partner and the beneficiaries we are extremely grateful for your kind support.

### The Emergency

At the time of our application it was estimated that around 12,000 families had to leave their homes, towns, cities because of the conflict in Anbar. Since then we have seen the numbers rise to up to **200,000 families**. Unfortunately the escalation of violence has pushed Iraq closer to becoming a fragmented state due to sectarian politics.

### Project activities and achievements

The focus of the emergency response was for internally displaced families from Anbar in the city of Karbala located just South West of



Baghdad. In total your donation allowed our partner to support 600 families (3,900 people), with food and non-food items. Each household received approximately:

- ▶ Two mattresses and large pillows
- ▶ One blanket
- ▶ One plastic mat
- ▶ Food packages containing grains to feed a family for up to one month
- ▶ One chicken weighing 1.5kg

The support from JOAC also included the cost of distribution and transportation of all the humanitarian packages to the communities.



Christian Aid partners worked alongside other local and international organisations to ensure that the families most in need received the non-food and food packages. Many families were forced to flee with nothing and many were even unable to even bring ID cards and forms with them. This was a challenge that slowed down the process as many families had to fill in forms during the day of distribution. However it ensured that people did not receive packages twice and that the most in need were reached.

### Challenges and next steps



The main challenge as stated above was that many IDP families had concerns that many of them had to flee their homes and cities without anything not even their identification documents. Christian Aid's partner overcame this problem by asking local authorities to provide a list of the families that entered the city and registered as IDPs.

Due to security risks our partner had to make arrangements with military commanders in order to allow IDPs from Al Rahaliya (Anbar province) to enter Karbala. This meant that our partner was responsible for their transportation and had to rent buses to bring them and get them back to Al Rahaliya.

### Conclusion

While the violence is likely to continue for some time, your support towards our emergency response is ensuring that innocent displaced families have access to essential items that will help them to survive this terrible time.



**On behalf of the partner and beneficiaries thank you to the Jersey Overseas Aid Commission for your kind support towards the Iraq conflict**