



Country Card

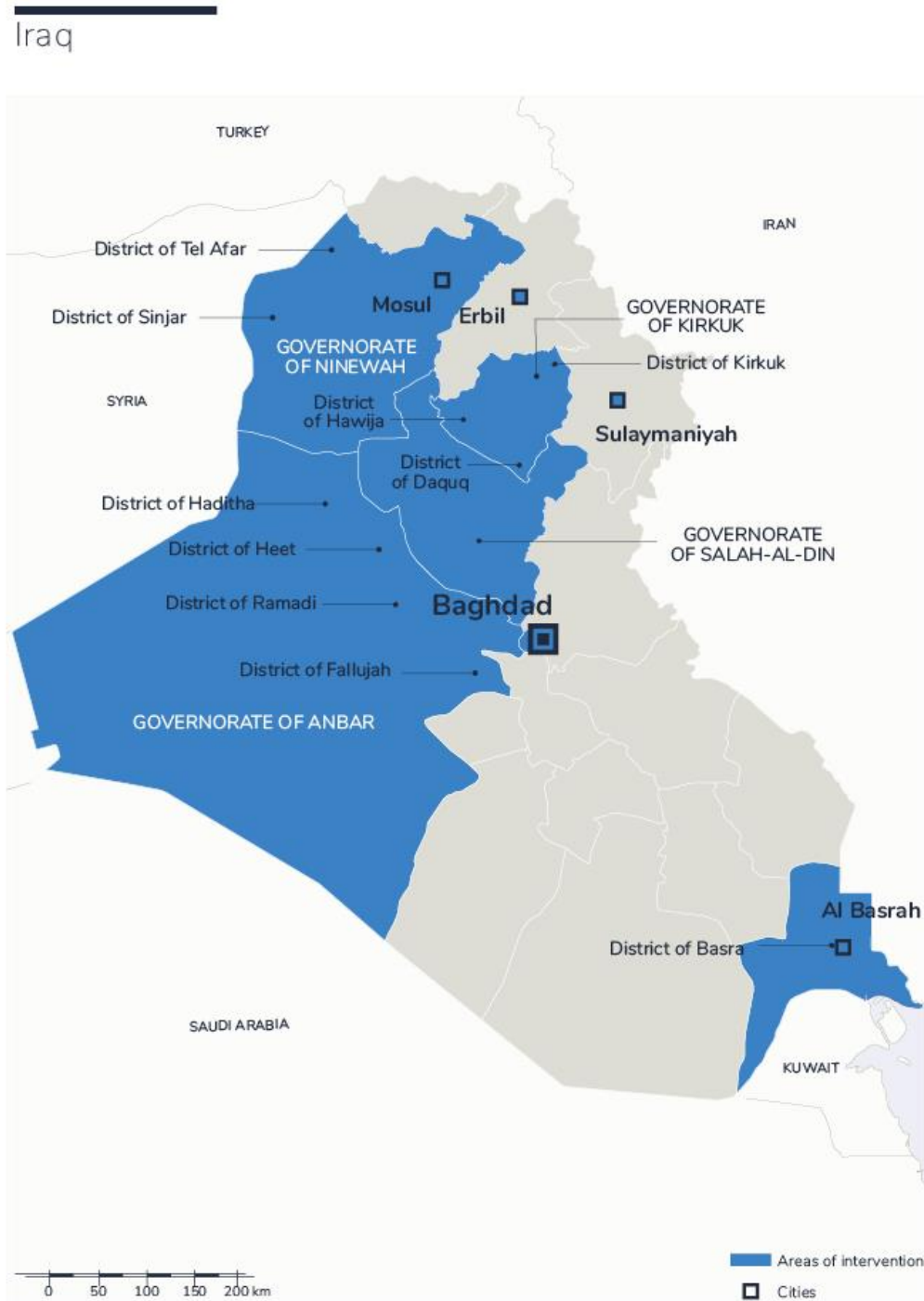
IRAQ 2023





HI Team and intervention areas

The Iraq team consists of 128 staff members.





General data of the country

a. HI internal classifications of the country context

Level of violence	Operations Director Focus	Health Focus	Positioning Focus	Emergency Focus
	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

b. General Data

DATA	Iraq	Neighbour - Iran	France
Population	44,496,122	82 028 760	67 499 343
IHDI	0.554	0.686	0.825
Gender-related Development Index	0.803	0.880	0.990
Maternal mortality	76	7	4
GINI Index	29.5	40.9	32.4
Population within UNHCR mandate	1502061	802 087	580 898
INFORM index	6.6	4.9	2.3
Fragile State Index	91.4	84.1	30.9
Population covered by at least one social protection benefit (%)	40.5	27.8	100
Net official development assistance received	1809,4	210.4	

c. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

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

d. Geopolitical Analysis

Six years after the end of military operations against Islamic State Movement, Iraq continues to experience a protracted humanitarian crisis. Internal displacement, explosive ordnance threats and limited availability of basic services and livelihoods have left 2.5 million people still in need of humanitarian assistance. As of August 2023, there are about 5 million returnees and, over 1 million internally displaced



people¹, most of whom are located in Ninewa, Duhok, Erbil, Sulaymaniyah, Kirkuk and Salah al Din Governorates.

In recent months and following the formation of the new government, the country witnessed a range of reconstruction works focusing on infrastructure reformation and maintenance. The projects are limited to the capital and some large cities, but it is expected to expand to other areas as far as the situation remains stable.

A new constitution forms the basis of the current democratically elected government. But the country is struggling to appease the existing ethnic, religious and cultural divisions. Political divisions contribute to the inability of institutions to develop or deliver services in an equitable way.

Much of the political agenda is enforced by numerous heavily armed auto-protection units. Although formally part of the government, these units are not directly controlled by the country's leadership. Consequently, any disagreement between politicians or their followers is often resolved through fighting outside the political spectrum, further contributing to the instability of the country.

The internal divisions are also exploited by regional countries including Iran, Turkey and Israel to extend their influence or extend the fight against internal opposition groups in their countries. The involvement of many of western countries is linked to the international fight against the Islamic State Movement and the oil and gas exploitation.

The continued impact of climate change is adding to this complexity as previously viable agricultural opportunities are proving more and more difficult. The shortage of water linked to changing weather patterns but also the actions of neighbouring countries to limit the flow of Iraq's rivers is impacting the daily lives of many Iraqi already.

Summary of HI presence in the country

HI has been working in Iraq since 1991 in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and Federal Iraq with a valid registration since 2018. During this initial phase, the organization focused on working with representatives from organizations for people with disabilities, and 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, HI launched an emergency response to the humanitarian crisis affecting the country: providing assistance to the most vulnerable

¹ <https://dtm.iom.int/iraq>



Syrian refugees living in camps as well as to internally displaced Iraqis.

In 2016, HI launched non-technical survey and clearance mine action 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 economic 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.

HI currently 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, provision of assistive devices, training of non-specialized actors on psychosocial support, awareness-raising on the inclusion of persons with disabilities, technical support to external service providers to improve the inclusiveness of their services;
- Carrying out risk awareness sessions and promoting safer behaviour about the impact of explosive ordinances including explosive ordinances, targeting at-risk groups such as children, provision of training to community focal points, supporting creation of community safety committees, safe spaces for children and communities. As for clearance activities, HI performs land release activities on contaminated land through non-technical and technical survey, manual clearance, EOD and spot tasks;
- Enhance awareness of people with disability rights, roles and value of their participation.



Overview on ongoing projects

Sectors where HI conducts projects and focus on beneficiaries and operational partnerships

Project title & Main Sectors	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Duration	Donors
Health & Protection for Persons with Disabilities and other vulnerable groups	Provision of physical and functional rehabilitation and mental health and psychosocial support services to the most vulnerable men, women, girls, and boys through direct delivery, outreach/mobile capacity support, and a cash-for-health system;	Persons with disabilities and persons injured, Caregivers	Directorate of Health Anbar Directorate of Health Ninewa	Anbar and Ninewa Governorate	April 2022 - September 2023	Affaires Mondiales Canada (GAC/AMC)
Rehabilitation Health Armed Violence Reduction	Provision of tailored technical support to selected health facilities; Provide women, girls, men, and boys in the targeted areas with life-saving messages tailored to their different experiences with exposure to EO including improvised explosive devices; Train and support new and existing Community Focal Points that include men and women and Community Safety Committees for sustainable Risk Education activities in the areas of intervention	Staff of the health facilities Communities impacted by presence of Explosive Ordnance Community representatives Total Targeted beneficiaries: 21,405				



Mine Action and Cluster Munitions Programme	Provision of direct risk awareness sessions to promote safe behaviours and inform affected population on the immediate threat;	20,000 direct and indirect beneficiaries of land released	National Mine Action Authorities	Governorate of Kirkuk	September 2020 - August 2023	Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (BuZa)
Armed Violence Reduction	Provision of risk awareness messages on the threat posed by Explosive Ordnance (Eos), through mass media;	25,200 beneficiaries of direct Risk Education sessions	representatives (Directorate of Mine Action, Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Agency)			
	Training of Community Focal Points to spread sustainable awareness and promote safe behaviours to minimize the risk of accidents;	7,875 indirect beneficiaries of Explosive Ordnance Risk Education				
	Development and support of Community Safety Committee to reduce the impact of EOs on local communities;					
	Prioritization and implementation of Community Safety Plans, including the rehabilitation of inclusive safe spaces;	National Mine Action Authorities representative				
	Conduct non-technical survey of areas suspected to be contaminated with EOs including IEDs. / Marking of suspected hazardous areas (SHAs) in preparation for future clearance operations.;	s (Directorate of Mine Action, Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Agency)				
	Clearance activities in cities, villages and/or rural areas known to be heavily contaminated with EOs including IEDs;					



Land release through survey/manual clearance and handover to local authorities and NMAAs;

Technical support to National Mine Action Authorities to plan and respond to the needs of victims

Support to populations affected by Explosive Ordnance through a comprehensive approach to Humanitarian Mine Action

Improved safe access of local communities to land released through the reduction of the threat posed by Explosive Ordnance including IEDs;

Increased awareness on safe practices through effective mine action community liaison;

Improved access to, and quality of, physical and functional rehabilitation services including referrals for

Direct beneficiaries: 25,238

Indirect beneficiaries: 250,000

National Mine Action Authorities representatives (Directorate of Mine Action)

Salah al Din, Kirkuk Governora tes

July 2022 - June 2024

German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO)

Armed Violence Reduction Rehabilitation People affected by conflict are at the heart of HI's response

Up to date service mapping produced and disseminated;

Victims provided with case management support to access to services;

2000 victims received update on the available service mapping

50 service providers and Civil Society Organizations/ Organizations of Persons

Directorate of Health Civil Society Organizations/Or ganizations of Persons with Disabili ties

Governora te of Ninewa

June 2022 - December 2024

Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMOFA)

Armed Violence Reduction (Victim Assistance)

Civil Society Organizations/Organizations of Persons with Disabilities increase their capacity to support victims;

Accessibility works on facilities;



<p>Inclusion trainings to service providers</p>	<p>with Disabilities 600 beneficiaries of case management services</p>	<p>Directorate of Mine Action</p>			
<p>Safe and secure environments for a sustainable and inclusive educational path for vulnerable boys and girls in the governorates of Nineva, Salah Al Din and Sulaymaniyah in Iraq.</p>	<p>1080 trips for the Beneficiaries of cash to access services</p>	<p>145 teachers and school management staff receiving capacity building trainings on EORE and Inclusion</p>	<p>Consortium with Intersos Directorate of Mine Action</p>	<p>Governorates of Ninawa and Sallahadin Jan 2023-Dec 2023</p>	<p>Italian Agency for Development Cooperation</p>
<p>Armed Violence Reduction</p>	<p>1040 Direct EORE beneficiaries</p>	<p>Directorate of Education</p>			



Inclusion

Promoting Effective and Active Civic Engagement among persons with disabilities in Iraq (PEACE)	Increase capacities of, and resources for, representative organizations for persons with disabilities to promote political, social, and economic rights of persons with disabilities and enhance their democratic and political participation;	60 OPDs and CSCs supported 105 staff from OPDs provided with capacity building trainings	Consortium with Sheyawa and IADO	Baghdad Ninawa Sulaymani Basrah	Sep 2023-Feb 2026	Democracy Human Rights and Labour
Inclusive Governance	Empower women with disabilities to advocate for their rights and political participation and foster conditions for inclusion in existing OPDs, CSOs, and women-led organizations;	Distribute 10000 Accessible source of services				
	Establish OPD-led disability alliances and stakeholder coordination forums to foster dialogue and cooperation at the governorate, regional and national level to further the political, social, and economic rights of persons with disabilities	3 governorate level Forum				



Donors

Global Affairs Canada/Affaires
Mondiales Canada (GAC/AMC)



Global Affairs
Canada
Affaires mondiales
Canada

Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(BuZa)



Ministère des Affaires étrangères

German Federal Foreign Office



german
humanitarian
assistance

DEUTSCHE HUMANITÄRE HILFE

Norwegian Ministry of Foreign
Affairs



Norwegian Ministry
of Foreign Affairs



Italian Agency for Development
Cooperation (AICS)



Democracy Human Rights and Labor
(DRL) of the US department

