

# WINTER SITUATION REPORT

IRAQ | 2019 - 2020 FINAL REPORT



**Shelter Cluster Iraq**

ShelterCluster.org

Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter

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**Report date:** 8<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**Time period covered:** 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019 – 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020 (Report #5 - FINAL)

## Partners' achievements (1<sup>st</sup> November – 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020)

**352,486 individuals have been assisted with winter support during the 2019 – 2020 season.**

**95% of the assistance was done through the distribution of winter cash to cover people's needs in the most effective and efficient way.**

- **245,269 IDPs** living in formal camps have been assisted with winter items by **UNHCR**, **SWEDO**, **Caritas Iraq** and **IOM**. **94%** of assistance was done through cash-based interventions.
- **107,217 IDPs** living outside of camps have been assisted with winter items by **UNHCR**, **CRS** and **IOM**. **90%** of assistance was done through cash-based interventions.
- More than **21,000 tents** in critical condition have been replaced since November 2019 by **MoMD**, **ACTED**, **IOM** and **UNHCR**.
- **100,277 children** received winter clothing in Anbar, Dohuk, Ninewa, Kirkuk and Salah al-Din governorates through **UNICEF**, **Tearfund** and **BCF**.
- **33 camps** reported **kerosene distributions** by **MoMD** from October 2019 to March 2020 with close to **5 million liters distributed**. **44,627 HHs** in camps received on average 106 liters with the highest volume received in Diyala and Sulaymaniyah camps (240l per HH) and the lowest in Kirkuk camps (10l per HH).
- Outside of the HRP, **46,284 returnees** received winter items in-kind through **IOM**.

## Overview

Thanks to the generosity of donors, partners have been able to cover the winter needs of the most vulnerable people in Iraq. Winter needs, as identified by the Shelter Cluster in October 2019, amounted to 23,800 HHs out of camps and 1,200 HHs in camp settings, based on the declared needs for winter heaters through MCNA VII.

**For more detailed needs and gap analysis and planning, please see [Winter Report #1 \(31 October 2019\)](#)**

### IDPs in Camps

**46,308 HHs** were covered with cash for winter by **UNHCR** in Al-Sulaymaniyah, Baghdad, Diyala, Dohuk, Erbil, Kirkuk and Ninewa camps. Additionally, winter NFI needs of camp populations have been covered through in-kind distributions: 1,011 HHs in Dohuk (Bersive 2, Bajet Kandala and Khanke) by **SWEDO**, 949 in Anbar (AAF and HTC) by **Caritas Iraq**, 344 in Baghdad (Abu Ghraib) by **IOM** and 222 in Salah al-Din (Al-Karamah) by **UNHCR**.

At the beginning of the winter season, a significant number of IDPs in camps resided in tents beyond their lifespan – more than 22,000 tents (MoMD and AFAD type) were identified as in critical need of replacement across Iraq. From 1<sup>st</sup> Nov 2019 to 5 March 2020, **15 IDP camps<sup>1</sup> in 6 governorates had tent replacement activities. 19,836 tents were replaced** on large scale by **MoMD** (13,000 tents), **ACTED** (5,130 tents) and **IOM** (1,706 tents).

<sup>1</sup> Al Tahrer 1, Al Tahrer 2, Al Tahrer Central, Ashti IDP, Bajet Kandala, Berseve 1, Hasansham U2, Hasansham U3, Kabarto 1, Laylan 2, Laylan IDP, Qoratu, Shariya and Yahyawa.

Additional to the number above, **UNHCR** replaces tents based on continuous needs assessment in camps and have provided new tents for **1,222 HHs** during the winter reporting period. The gap between the critical needs for replacement and the actual number implemented is due to the closure of certain camps in Ninewa and the consolidation of Jad'ah camps.

### IDPs out of Camps

Across Iraq, covering 18 governorates affected by the conflict, partners managed to assist **107,217 IDPs** living out of camps. Cash modality was mainly used along some in-kind distributions of winter kits.

The following partners have assisted highly vulnerable families in out of camp locations: **UNHCR** (72,635 IDPs), **CRS** (23,566 IDPs) and **IOM** (11,016 IDPs).

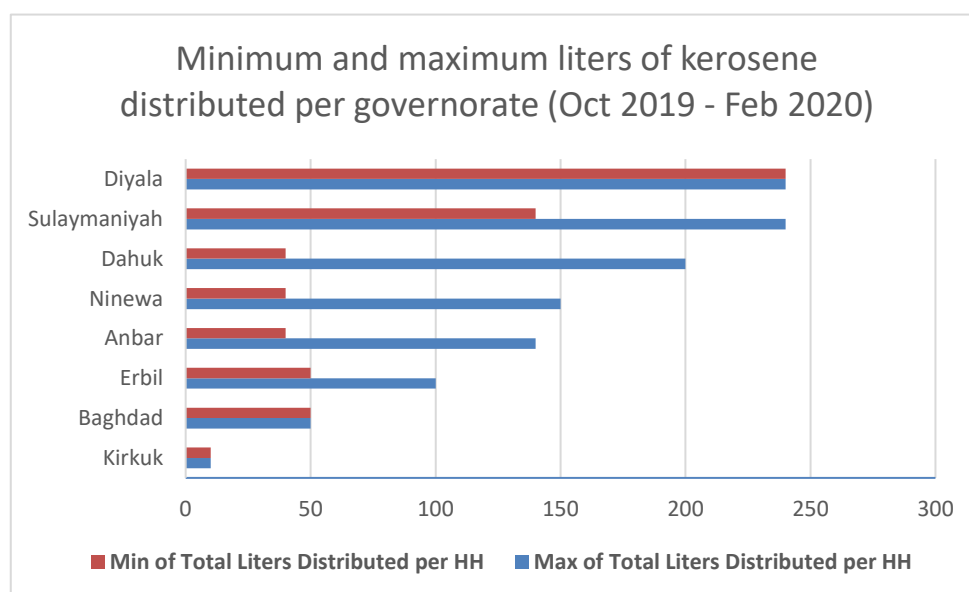
### Returnees

Under the HRP 2019, shelter support for returnees has been prioritized above NFI support, including seasonal assistance. This decision accounted for the plans of MoMD to scale up their assistance in areas of return, including regular distribution of kerosene, disbursement of return grants, payment of compensations claims and resumption of all social services through PDS<sup>2</sup>. Following Ninewa camp closures in 2019, families were displaced to out of camp locations or have been forced to return to areas of origin. **IOM** assisted **7,714 newly returned families** (46,284 individuals) with winter items in-kind.

## Government support

The Government of Iraq is responsible for providing kerosene for heating and cooking to Iraqi citizens, which is especially crucial for IDPs in camps living in sub-standard shelter and without adequate protection from the cold weather. The Shelter Cluster has designed a reporting tool for Camp Management agencies to report regular kerosene distribution to allow for gap identification and concerted advocacy messaging towards MoMD to scale up support. The Shelter Cluster has a clear position on kerosene distribution, and the identification of responsibilities - solely the duty of the government<sup>3</sup>.

**33 out of the 44<sup>4</sup> formal camps** in Iraq have received kerosene distributions even though volumes per family vary greatly from 10 liters per HH in Kirkuk governorate to 240 liters per HH in Sulaymaniyah and Diyala.

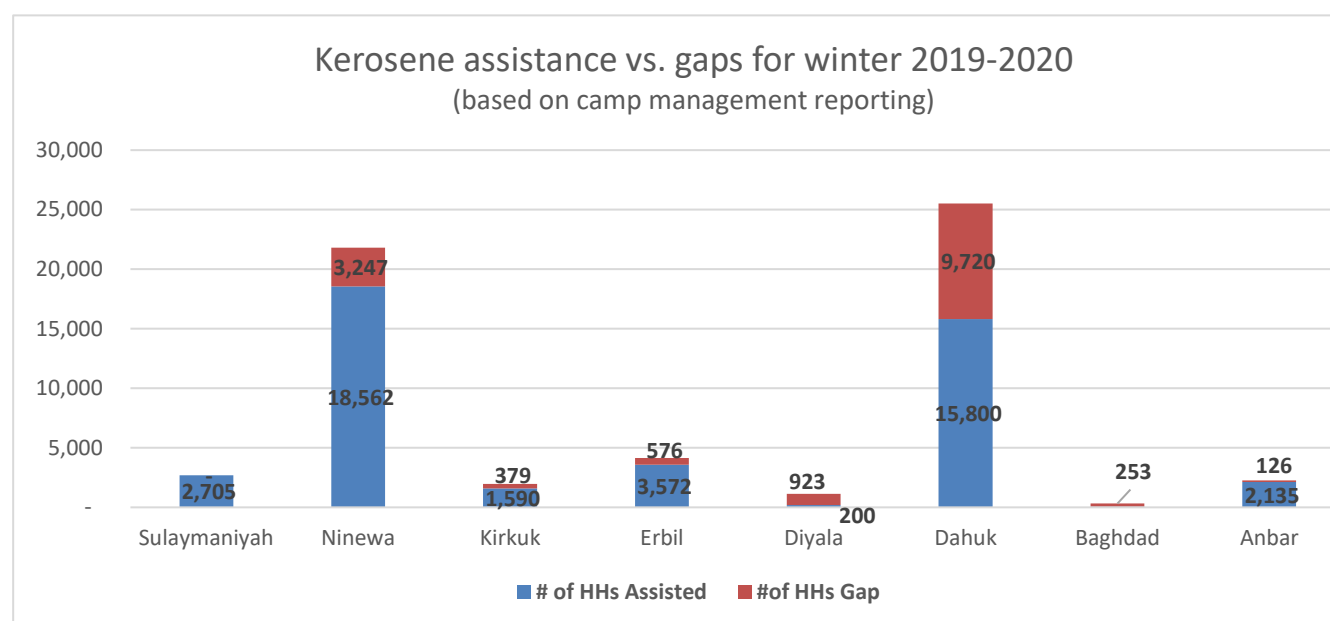


<sup>2</sup> Iraq Public Distribution System (PDS). This scale up of Government' support is meant to address broad barriers to return.

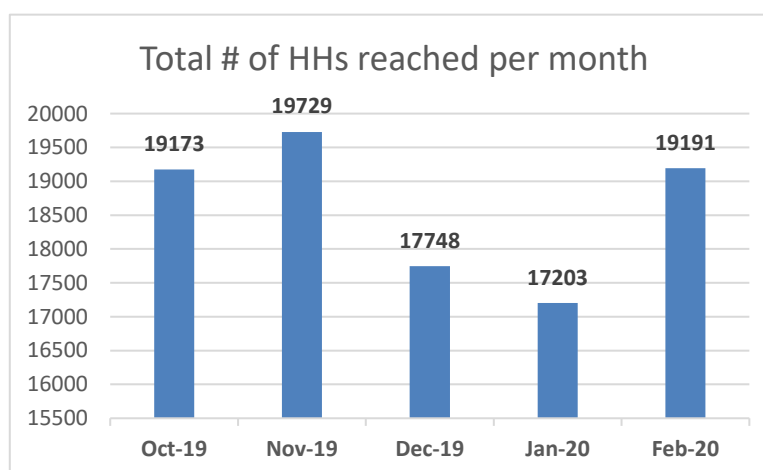
<sup>3</sup> Reference to the [Kerosene Position Paper of the Shelter Cluster](#).

<sup>4</sup> AAF, BzBz and HTC complexes are counted as single camps.

**11 camps across Iraq<sup>5</sup>** did not receive or did not report kerosene distributions, leaving a 100% gap in the residents' winter fuel needs. From the **33 camps assisted**, only Sulaymaniyah camps had all camp population covered, the rest have a gap in distribution, as per below table.



Close to **39,000 HHs** were assisted in advance of the winter season (October and November 2019). Distributions slowed down in December 2019 and January 2020 and scaled up again in February 2020.



## Accountability to Affected People

During the winter period (November 2019 – February 2020), **787 calls were received by the IIC (Iraq Information Center)**, asking for assistance to cope with the cold season through winter or basic NFIs. Considering a total population of 58,748 families served with winter assistance, **the number of calls represents 1.3% of the reached population.**

In 96% of cases (752 calls), the request was resolved by using the Shelter Cluster standard messaging. The remaining 5% of cases (35 calls) were referred to partners. Of the referred cases, 34% of the calls (12) were successfully resolved, while 66% of the calls (23) are pending resolution at the time of this report. These cases are mainly related to cash for winter (issues with registration of the sim card or difficulties in accessing the e-wallet). The Shelter Cluster is monitoring the resolution of these cases, in close collaboration with relevant

<sup>5</sup> Anbar (part of AAF), Baghdad (Al-Ahel, Latifiya 1&2, Zayona), Dahuk (Bajet Kandala, Rwanga Community, Chamishku), Diyala (Muskar Saad, Al-Wand 1&2), Kerbala (Al-Kawthar), Kirkuk (Yahyawa), Ninewa (Jad'ah 1) and Salah al-Din (Al Karamah).

partners, noting that these are a minor proportion (3%) of the callers and of the overall caseload assisted with winter assistance.

**Top three reported issues:**

1. Request for NFI partial kit (1 item or more) in kind – (25%)
2. Request for winter kit essential in kind – (22%)
3. Request for full NFI kit in kind – (15%)

**Top three caller district locations:**

1. Erbil and Mosul (13% each)
2. Falluja (4%)
3. Zakho (3%)

**Top three caller camp locations:**

1. Hamam Al Alil 2 (3%)
2. Amriyat Al Fallujah and Jaddah 5 (3% each)
3. Hassan Sham U2 (2.2%)

## Constraints

- The **the Government of Iraq (Gol)** did not share plans with humanitarian partners to indicate that adequate quantities of heating and cooking fuel will be provided to people in need in a timely manner.
- **MoMD** was not able to send the full number of tents needed for the replacement in Chamishku camp, Dohuk – 1,400 tent covers are missing.
- **MoMD** did not communicate plans for distribution of winter items and clothing for IDPs in and out of camps.
- **Access** in some of the targeted areas in Centre and South such as Anbar, Baghdad & Diyala, remains a big constraint due to the ongoing demonstration in that part of the country. Partners are closely collaborating with the Cluster, to make sure the targeted beneficiaries in those locations will be reached in a timely manner.
- **Access letters** for humanitarian partners have been significantly delayed in 2020, which affected the movement of personnel and humanitarian aid and delay assistance.
- **The COVID-19 mitigation measures** implemented by **Gol** and **partners** might cause delays on winding-up winter activities.

## HRP 2020 strategy

In a reducing funding landscape, linked to the transition of humanitarian programs toward the local Government, the Shelter Cluster has not prioritized large-scale winter assistance under its HRP 2020 strategy. Winter items may still be provided as part of the regular NFI kit, mainly in IDP camps. MPCA for the most socio-economically vulnerable people living out of camps would also cover some key winter needs. Advocacy with MoMD will nonetheless continue, to ensure that heating fuel, winter clothes and tents in IDP camps are accessible to the most vulnerable people in Iraq.

## Coordination

For information and coordination, please contact the relevant Sub-National SNFI Cluster Coordinators:

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**Tent replacement in Jad'ah camps, Ninewa, October 2019**