



A national polio vaccination campaign led by the Ministry of Health and supported by WHO and UNICEF was conducted in 18 governorates around Iraq. Photo: Dr. Nima Abid/WHO

## Iraq crisis



**1.5 MILLION**  
IN NEED



**1.8 MILLION**  
DISPLACED



**800,000**  
BENEFICIARIES



**28.2 MILLION VACCINATED<sup>1</sup>**

### WHO

- 3** HUBS
- 3** SUB-HUBS
- 19** MEETING POINTS (ESTABLISHED & FORECASTED)
- 72** STAFF IN COUNTRY

#### MEDICINES PROVIDED BY WHO



From 9 June to 31 August, WHO provided medical kits and medical supplies for 950,000 beneficiaries for a period of three months.

#### FUNDING US\$

**150 MILLION** REQUESTED  
**51.17 MILLION** FUNDED

#### HEALTH SECTOR

**11** HEALTH CLUSTER PARTNERS  
**1.5 MILLION** TARGETED POPULATION

#### VACCINATIONS

**28.2 MILLION** POLIO & MEASLES VACCINES TO CHILDREN BELOW THE AGE OF 5 SINCE 6 APRIL 2014

### HIGHLIGHTS

⇒ The national polio immunization campaign scheduled from 14-18 September has concluded successfully in all 18 governorates throughout the country. The campaign was the first national polio vaccination activity since May.

⇒ H.E Prime Minister of KRG visited Duhok Governorate and convened a meeting with UN agencies and a number of ministers at the Governor's house on 21 September. WHO attended the meeting and briefed H.E. on its response to IDPs in Duhok in terms of provision of medicines and medical supplies, disease surveillance system activities, recruitment of health staff, national capacity building, and supporting polio/measles immunization campaigns.

<sup>1</sup> Number of polio/measles vaccine doses administered to children under the age of five since April 2014

## **DOHUK GOVERNORATE, KRG**

WHO accompanied Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos in her visit to Khanke Camp in Duhok on 13 Sept and briefed her on WHO's response to IDPs there. WHO highlighted the 10 mobile medical teams supported by WHO providing health care services in Sumail, Zakho and Duhok district to IDPs in 315 locations/sites and treating 33,311 IDPs to 22 sept 2014.

WHO also supported Duhok DoH with the provision of 15 mobile medical teams to provide general health services to the non-camp population in Sulimanya; each team is formed of 4 medical staff.

WHO convened a meeting with IOM counterparts to discuss cooperation for supporting the existing clinics with further (Doctors, nurses, paramedics, pharmacy assistants and medication) enough to serve an average of 100-150 patients per day. WHO and IOM teams also discussed coordination of efforts in support of the TB program in Duhok governorate. A meeting was held on 8 Sept with officials from the Health Planning Department in Duhok DOH to discuss the finalization of linking birth registry with EPI programme. WHO's support was requested by the attendant Health officials to implement the updated International Classification of Disease- ICD 10 in hospitals and PHCCs run by doctors or paramedics. Also in Duhok, WHO team joined Duhok DOH central supervisory team visit to Zawita and Mangish sub districts to monitor the second polio/measles vaccination teams performance towards the IDPs children (from 9 months till 15 years old).

## **NINEWA GOVERNORATE**

On 19 Sept, WHO assessed the functionality status of the health facilities in 5 districts with Disputed Internal Boundaries (DIBs) namely: Telkyef, Telafar, Sinjar, Shikhan and Al-Hamadaniya, and is working closely with DOH Dohuk to ensure that the returnees have access to health services over there. WHO coordinated with Ninewa DOH to ensure the provision of medicines to Al-Jussa Primary Health Care Centre in Zummar where more than 11,000 IDPs have returned to their homes.

The health care network in Ninewa has been severely affected. Latest reports from WHO show that only 107 out of 164 PHCCs and 11 out of 14 hospitals in the governorate's eleven districts are functional. An estimate of 20% of the governorate health staff have left Ninewa to the KRG governorates of Duhok & Erbil mostly.

Sinjar Hospital was re-opened for outpatient health services on 6 September servicing average of 50 people daily; no inpatient services are available yet due to shortages in medical staff, especially anaesthetists.

Almost 200,000 doses of polio vaccine, 12 trucks of medicines and medical supplies, in addition to a shipment of anti TB drugs were moved by the MOH from Baghdad at the beginning of September and stored in Kirkuk Governorate warehouses. However, due to the increasing insecurity, the warehouses are now inaccessible and the supplies are unable to be distributed to their final destination in Ninewah Governorate.

## **KIRKUK GOVERNORATE**

A WHO team conducted a mission to Kirkuk on 14 September to support the establishment of PHC facility in the new Laylan Camp, which is expected to host 8000 IDPs. The support

will include constructing the facility and providing the medicines and medical supplies.

The quarterly meeting on cholera prevention was held on 11 September with the DG of Public Health Department and representatives of government health departments to discuss the Executive Committee plan for the control of cholera.

#### **AL- ANBAR GOVERNORATE**

In Anbar the Federal Ministry of Health has provided Anbar DOH with 10 trucks of medicines and medical supplies on 5 Sep 2014. (247) wheelchairs, (60) walkers, and (20 packages) of elbow crutches were also supplied to the Disabled Patients' Centre in Ramadi City.

A field survey was conducted by the Directorate of Health in the IDPs concentrated areas of Heet, Khalidia and Al-Ramadi in Al-Anbar Governorate on 14 September to assess the health needs of the population sheltered there. The survey included 879 families equal to 4721 persons disaggregated into 2344 males, 2377 females and 756 children. The survey concluded with the following findings:

- The main problems in the areas sheltering IDPs are solid waste accumulation, disrupted clean water supply, increased presence of insects and rodents, and unsanitary living conditions.
- Many cases of acute and watery diarrhea were diagnosed during the survey in addition to cases of scabies, one case of TB, two cases of leishmaniasis, many cases of skin rashes, and a few cases of chickenpox and Hepatitis.

#### **SALAH AL-Din GOVERNORATE**

Two PHCs were reopened in Tikrit, the main city of Salah Al Din governorate, on 8 September.

WHO and UNICEF supported a 5-day polio campaign in Amerli concluded on 6 Sep with one day suspension on the 5<sup>th</sup> due to the worsening security situation in some areas, causing many physicians and health staff to flee.

The total number of vaccinated children under the age of 5 in Amerli was 2324 (47% of all child population). The routine immunization program began at the beginning of September with all vaccines supplied to the two PHCs in the town by Al Tooz Health Center in Coordination with WHO and UNICEF.

#### **KERBALA GOVERNORATE:**

- Karbala DOH on 9 Sep stated that estimated (60150) IDPs have attended various health facilities in the governorate in August 2014. Those patients visited various health clinics distributed across (Kerbala/ Najaf, Kerbala/ Baghdad and Kerbala/ Hilla roads) areas, including the 23 temporary clinics and 27 mobile teams with cases of Skin diseases such as allergies, itching and scabies; gastroenteritis; and Respiratory infections.

The governorate health directorate has also implemented the seasonal spraying of insecticides and vectors control campaign in areas where IDPs are concentrated especially in peripheral and rural areas in August.

In Kerbala, WHO focal point reported that a daily schedule of five specialist doctors visit the IDPs through the many mobile clinics serving the three Visitors Cities where IDPs are concentrated. The team conducts an average of 120-150 consultations daily which is around 10% of total daily consultations for IDPs in that area. Moreover, mobile teams are visiting the IDPs sheltered in religious houses and doing registration duties in addition to examining patients, vaccinating children, and treating various other IDPs' health problems such as scabies, gastroenteritis, and Respiratory infections. Official sources in the governorate stated earlier that number of IDPs in Kerbala province has reached 70,000.

## Public health concerns

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### COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

The Polio NID campaign 14-18 Sept 2014 went smoothly in all non-conflict affected governorates. Initial reports of the intra-monitoring campaign conducted by IRCS indicated good achievement rates so far. As for the affected governorates, the following *preliminary* data was received:

- The campaign has been conducted in all districts of Salah Eldin except Aldour which has been scheduled for a later round due to inaccessibility reasons and Baiji which started an extended 5-day campaign on 21 Sept targeting 23,800 children under the age of five years old.
- In Mosul, 75% of the targeted children received their vaccines with the exception of Sinjar and Telkef cities due to lack of staff and vaccines. All villages surrounding Sinjar have been reached by the vaccination teams of Baiji health sector. The campaign in Left Side and Right Side areas of Mosul district has been deferred for a later stage pending the arrival of vaccine from Kirkuk
- Number of vaccinated children in Kirkuk including IDPs is 204,936 visiting 170,825 houses.
- Number of vaccinated children under the age of five years in Anbar is 233,672 which is higher than the targeted number of 231,933, raising the achievement rate to 100.75%.

Duhok Governorate in KRG also concluded the polio NID campaign in all 7 districts through 47 PHCCs from September 14-18. The campaign achieved 98.4% coverage, vaccinating 213,298 children under the age of 5.

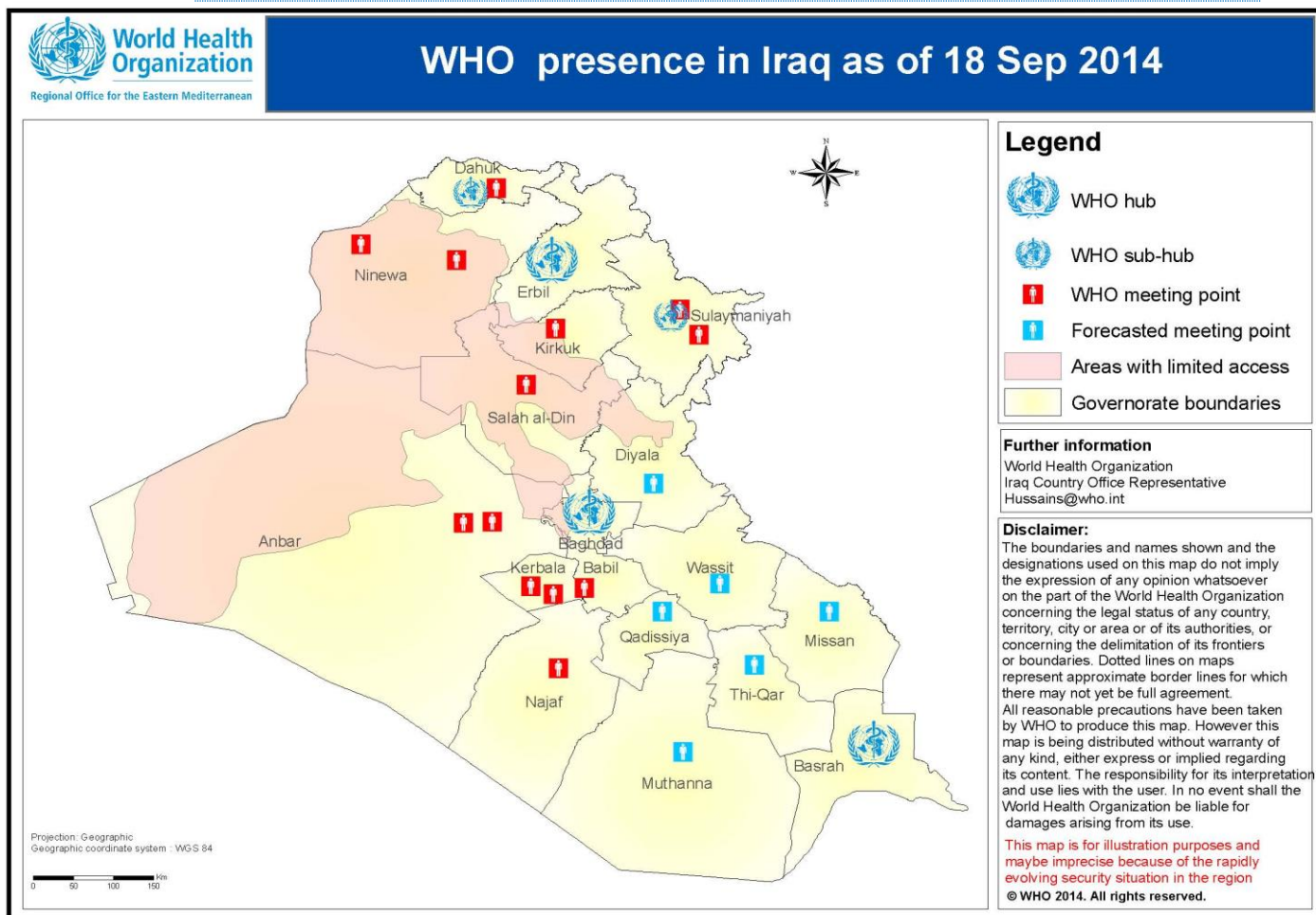
Although the current season is in favor of a cholera epidemic as cholera is endemic in the Kurdistan Region and the current pattern of recurrence is 2-4 years, there is no current alarming signal for its appearance as the cases of diarrhea are not acutely increasing either among the Syrian Refugees or the IDPs and host communities.

## WHO action

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- In support of Suleimaniya DoH, WHO sponsored 15 mobile medical teams to provide health services to the non-camp population in Sulaimaniya. Each team is formed of 4 medical staff.
  - WHO is supporting Emergency NGO for the provision of primary health care services in Khanakin camp in Dyala.
  - The active public health surveillance of water quality and communicable diseases among IDPs in Duhok Governorate is ongoing through WHO supported teams which are visiting schools and event halls. The teams visited on 25 August the IDPs locations in Sharia and Sumail Towns to test water quality in terms of chlorine levels and take samples for bacteriological examination.
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Resource mobilization

- WHO estimates that approximately USD 150 million is required to respond to the health needs of more than 5 million beneficiaries (1.8 million IDPs and 3.5 million from host communities).
- Since the beginning of the IDP crisis in June 2014, WHO has received support from DFID (UK), Italy, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, South Korea and Kuwait.



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