

IOM EMERGENCY NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

DISPLACEMENT DUE TO FLOODING IN NORTHERN IRAQ



During the week of April 20th, several governorates in northern and central Iraq experienced heavy storms, causing severe flooding which damaged or destroyed the homes of many vulnerable families. Many of the families affected by the flooding had been living in squatter settlements in improvised shelters generally built out of mud and reeds, making them especially fragile and unable to withstand the flooding and heavy rains.

In cooperation with local authorities, the Governorate Emergency Cells (GECs), local mukhtars, NGOs, and other UN agencies on the ground, IOM field monitors assessed families in the Kerbala, Ninewa, Sulaymaniyah, and Erbil governorates. For families who experienced significant damage to their homes, assistance was provided in the form of non-food items (NFIs) such as bed frames, mattresses, blankets, pillows, plastic furniture, gas stoves, ice chests, and water purifiers, as well as emergency tents to help alleviate the affects of such sudden displacement. Though assessments were conducted in Sulaymaniyah field monitors determined that families there were not in need of emergency assistance.

The following is an update regarding the situation on the ground and the assistance provided to date in Kerbala, Ninewa, Erbil, and Sulaymaniyah. IOM field monitors continue to assess the situation and deliver emergency assistance, and updates will be provided as information becomes available.



Child Affected by Storms in Kerbala Receiving IOM Assistance

KERBALA

On 21 April, a number of areas in Kerbala experienced heavy rains, leaving tens of families without shelter or with significant damage to their property. Many of these families were living in improvised shelters built of wood and reed ceilings and mud walls which could not withstand the severe storms.

There are approximately 350 vulnerable families in the affected area in Kerbala, most of them displaced from southern Iraq due to water scarcity prior to 2006. Of the 350, 50 families in the al-Rafidain neighborhood experienced significant damage to their homes and were provided with IOM NFI kits. Assistance to the 50 families was coordinated with the Kerbala Provincial Government, the GEC in Kerbala, the Security Committee, Al-Hur sub-district's mayor, and the Al-Hur Municipal Council.

NINEWA

Within 48 hours of the storms, IOM field monitors from Ninewa and Dahuk assessed villages affected by flood damage to determine their needs for emergency assistance. After an initial assessment, IOM monitors, in cooperation with other agencies on the ground such as UNHCR, provided NFI kits to families left with damaged or destroyed homes.

According to information provided by the GEC in Ninewa, two flash floods on 22 April caused severe floods in the Sinjar and Telafar districts. At least 10 villages in Rabia sub-district of Telafar suffered significant damage, with 250 mud homes completely destroyed and 500 partially damaged. 6 villages were similarly affected in Sinjar. IOM field monitors faced significant difficulties in accessing the affected locations, as many of the roads and bridges leading to the villages were either destroyed or badly damaged. The most severe damage occurred in Sinjar district, where 5 individuals died as a result the severity of the storms.



Severe Flooding in Ninewa's Telafar District

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Warte Resident Receiving IOM Assistance

ERBIL

On 22 April, parts of Erbil governorate were hit by heavy storms, causing extensive damage to 22 homes in the Warte sub-district of Rawaduz. Shortly after, IOM field monitors, with the assistance of the local GEC, collected information regarding the extent of the damage in the community.

Once assessments were completed, IOM field monitors distributed NFIs such as gas cookers, plastic cabinets, ice chests, pillows, beds and UNICEF hygiene kits to the 22 families, while UNHCR distributed mattresses, quilts, kerosene heaters, jerry cans, and kitchen utensils. IOM monitors note that several members of the community helped in distributing the items, making the distribution a community effort.

Status of Locations Affected by Flooding in Kerbala, Ninewa, Erbil, and Sulaymaniyah

Governorate	District	Sub-District	Neighbourhood	Number of Families Affected	Date and Type of Assistance
Kerbala	Kerbala	Al-Hur	Al Rafidain	50 houses affected	23 April/50 NFI kits by IOM
Ninewa	Telafar	Rabia	Na'iyim	40 houses destroyed and 50 damaged	24 April/100 NFI kits and 40 tents by IOM
Ninewa	Telafar	Rabia	Bir Uglah	30 houses affected	None to date
Ninewa	Telafar	Rabia	Hay al Libin and Al Jaish al Shabi	160 houses affected	15 NFI and tents by IOM
Ninewa	Telafar	Rabia	Al Jasim	25 houses affected	None to date
Ninewa	Telafar	Rabia	Al Shalan	120 houses in the village and 50 in the periphery affected	None to date
Ninewa	Sinjar	Qerwan	Tal Al-Banat and Tal Al-Qasab	35 houses and one major bridge destroyed and 5 deaths	23 April/100 NFI kits distributed by IOM
Ninewa	Sinjar	Al-Shamal	Dokarey, Borek, Dahola, Gohabl, Gar Shbak, Hardin, Umm al-Khabari, Al-Saer	5 homes destroyed, 115 homes damaged	UNHCR distributed 65 NFI kits and IOM distributed an additional 50 NFI kits and 5 tents
Ninewa	Al Baaj	District Centre	Glemeed	15 homes destroyed and 15 damaged	Families are in need of assistance
Ninewa	Sinjar	Al Qayrawan	Centre	75 homes fully destroyed and 100 damaged	Red Cross has contributed NFI kits
Ninewa	Sinjar	District Centre	Abu Khashab	14 houses destroyed and 5 houses damaged	Families are in need of assistance
Sulaymaniyah	Chamchamal	Shoresh	Multiple Locations	17 homes affected	No emergency assistance required
Erbil	Rawaduz	Warte	Multiple Locations	22 homes damaged	22 NFI kits were distributed in coordination with UNHCR

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IOM Field Monitors Distributing NFIs in Ninewa



Flood-Damaged Home in Kerbala

IOM Assistance to Flood Affected Families

