



**CENTER OF EXCELLENCE**  
IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT  
& HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

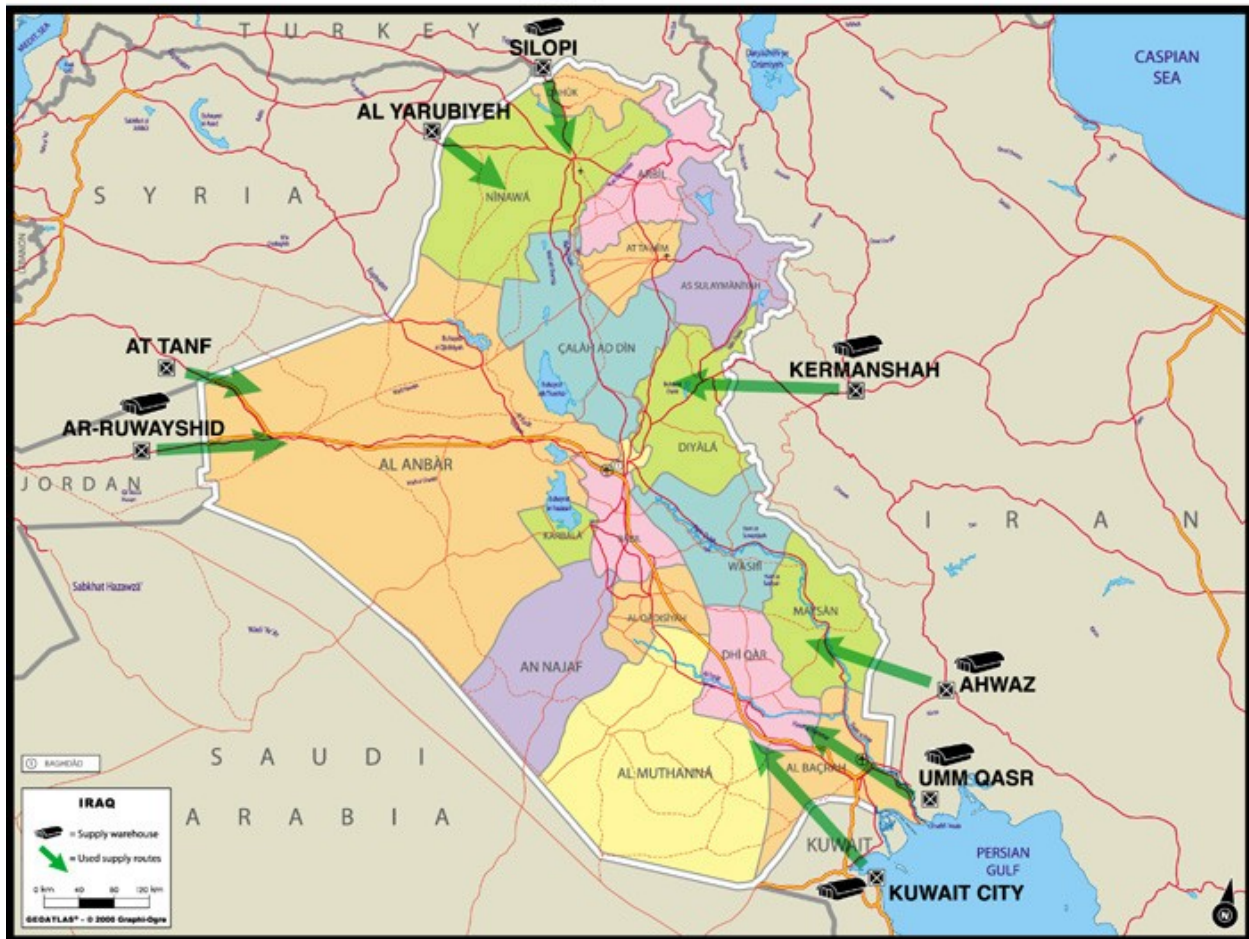
**PACIFIC DISASTER MANAGEMENT INFORMATION NETWORK (PDMIN)**

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**IRAQ HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE REPORT**

June 4, 2003

**Supply Routes**



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## Routes for Humanitarian Aid

Country	Supply Routes From:	Supply Routes To:	Comments
Turkey	Iskenderun (port) Mersin (port) Silopi	North	Open for humanitarian supplies
Iran	Ahwaz	South	Open for humanitarian supplies
	Kermanshah	Northeast	Open for humanitarian supplies
Iraq	Shipping Umm Qasr (port)	South, Central	Accommodates shallow-draft vessels
Kuwait	Kuwait City (port)	South, Central	Open for humanitarian supplies; also military use
Jordan	Aqaba (port) Ar Ruwayshid	Central	Volume increasing; planned major WFP supply route of 300,000 MT per month
Syria	Latakia (port) Abu Kamal	Central	
	Tartus (port) Beirut, Lebanon (port) Al Tanf	Central	Low volume to date
	Al Yarubiyeh	North	Low volume to date

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## Overview

### Today's Highlights

**Humanitarian Situation:** Continued concern about security, looting, reinstating civil institutions, unemployment and payment of workers; Power and water supplies improving slowly; Water treatment, sewage, waste, and related disease remain concerns; Nation-wide food distribution underway;

**Political:** World leaders at G8 meeting in France agree to cooperate in developing a fully sovereign, stable, and democratic Iraq at peace with its neighbors and on the road to progress; NATO foreign ministers agree to take on new challenges including supporting Poland in its security role in the upper south;

**UN:** Special Representative of the Secretary General to Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello, and US Chief Administrator L. Paul Bremer, agree to work together to create a democratic, independent, and peaceful Iraq; Value of Oil-for-Food program priority items reaches US\$1.2 billion; Secretary General Kofi Annan reminds coalition that they will assume responsibility for essentials in November 2003;

**Refugees:** Refugees starting to return home; Iraqi returns: 600 from Lebanon, 320 expected from Saudi Arabia this week, and 200 expected from Iran in early June as first wave of 200,000; Nearly 200 Iranians returned home after camping on Iran-Iraq border for weeks;

**Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):** In central and southern Iraqi regions, International Organization for Migration (IOM) lists 35,000 IDPs;

**Rule of Law/Civil Society:** Workforce estimated at about 5 million; Unemployment estimated at 20%; 30% of workers are government employees; Dismissal of military and security forces will affect 1 in 10 workers nationwide; New military may absorb 100,000 people starting later in June;

**Coalition – Iraqi Interaction:** Iraqi opposition parties' Leadership Council to defy coalition and hold meeting of 250 – 300 delegates later this month to select interim government—some parties vow not to participate in coalition-selected council of 25 - 30; Coalition establishing Baghdad neighborhood advisory councils;

**Humanitarian Access to Iraq:** 85 NGOs active in Iraq; Many roads are not safe, including those from Jordan to Baghdad, from Baghdad to central Iraq, and from southern Iraq to Baghdad; Supplies coming in from surrounding countries—Turkey, Iran, Persian Gulf, Kuwait, Jordan, and Syria; Security relaxation allows more humanitarian staff in country and smaller convoys;

**Water/power:** UN Development Program reports capacity to improve soon; Problems continue in many parts of the country including looting; Power-generating capacity meeting about half of demand; 400,000-volt nationwide distribution grid to be repaired within a week;

**Food:** World Food Program (WFP) has been distributing food in northern Iraq at pre-conflict level; Ministry of Trade has restarted distribution through 44,000 agents to rest of population; Oil-for-Food program funds will be used to purchase, mill, and distribute Iraqi wheat, which is now ready for harvest;

**Health and Medical:** No major outbreaks of disease, although malnutrition rate is higher than before conflict; Continuing problems with security, intimidation, water, electricity, and staff salaries; Distribution of drugs and medical supplies from Baghdad warehouses to governorates reactivated.

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*Note: New content has been inserted in red, italicized, bold font.*

## In Country Humanitarian Assistance Preparations

### North Region

<b>Kurdish Autonomous Region: Erbil, Dahuk, Salaymaniyah</b>	
<b>Coordinator</b>	UN Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq (UOHCI) is aware of 36 NGOs in northern Iraq
<b>Affected Population</b>	
<b>IDP Movement</b>	
<b>Food</b>	
<b>Health</b>	In Dahuk, all hospitals are functioning normally
<b>NFIs –Shelter</b>	Of the 24 sites and shelters established for new caseload IDPs, only 1 remains, hosting a total of 17 people
<b>Water &amp; Sanitation</b>	All water projects in urban and semi-urban areas in Erbil are functioning properly
<b>Security</b>	Security is tense, particularly in areas under Kurdish control, <b><i>Erbil is reported calm, with Kurdish forces and coalition providing law and order</i></b>
<b>Other/Comments</b>	Power in Dahuk has been restored; Electric power is available for 20-22 hours per day in Erbil; Fuel quality and availability have improved in all three northern governorates and fuel prices have been decreasing

<b>Kirkuk (Attamin), Mosul (Ninawa), Tikrit (Salahaddin)</b>	
<b>Coordinator</b>	
<b>Affected Population</b>	
<b>IDP Movement</b>	Estimates of 15,000 IDPs in Kirkuk, most of whom are old caseload Kurds, are now returning from the three northern governorates, Anbar, and Ramadi; World Vision has registered more than 2,000 IDPs in Mosul and has received funding from Japan Platform to provide assistance
<b>Food</b>	Produce is available in Kirkuk, but prices have been rising considerably
<b>Health</b>	<b>Kirkuk:</b> Hospitals have returned to pre-war working schedules; The medical distribution system is intact and functioning; WHO has initiated malaria, leishmaniasis, and diarrhoeal disease control programs in Mosul and Kirkuk <b>Mosul:</b> World Health Organization reports a five-fold increase in diarrhea and a seven-fold increase in acute hepatitis; <b>Tikrit:</b> The WHO called for a vaccination campaign against whooping cough after 30 cases were reported since May 3, mostly among children under 5.
<b>NFIs –Shelter</b>	
<b>Water &amp; Sanitation</b>	A UN Security Assessment Mission to Mosul reported that the water and health systems are in relatively good condition with facilities unaffected by looting, but the sanitation system remains a concern; 70% of Tikrit is connected to the sewage system and water is also available; Mercy Corps is providing water test equipment to Kirkuk to monitor the water quality and vehicles to water department staff

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<b>Security</b>	There are reports that the Baghdad-Kirkuk-Erbil route is unsafe due to a large car-smuggling operation; ICRC has suspended its shuttles to Erbil following a shooting incident on the Baghdad-Erbil route; The Amman-Baghdad road is considered dangerous and off-limits to ICRC operations; Security in Kirkuk is volatile
<b>Other/Comments</b>	The main airport in Mosul is being repaired and should be operational in about two weeks to receive cargo type aircraft;

## Central/West Regions

<b>Najaf, Kerbala, Hilla, Maymoudiyah, Amara, Ar Rutbah, Baaquba, Haditha, Hit</b>	
<b>Coordinator</b>	
<b>Affected Population</b>	
<b>IDP Movement</b>	Rapid assessments found about 2,000 IDPs in Badra, Wassit, Babil, Kerbala, and Najaf
<b>Food</b>	Food distribution system in Najaf is functioning; Sufficient food and water supplies are available in Hilla; <b><i>A five-vehicle convoy carrying food supplies from the Bahraini Red Crescent Society is en route to Al-Amarah, where it will be distributed according to need</i></b>
<b>Health</b>	The Humanitarian Operations Center (HOC) reports that Najaf Hospital is operational; The Amara General Hospital is back to its normal level of activity; International Rescue Committee (IRC) reports that there is no public health emergency in Karbala or Najaf Governorates, however, preventable chronic diseases are still problematic
<b>NFIs –Shelter</b>	World Vision is delivering more than 3,600 relief packages to residents of Ar Rutbah containing clothing, blankets, plastic sheeting, and water containers
<b>Water &amp; Sanitation</b>	The Humanitarian Operations Center (HOC) reports that water treatments plants are operating at 75% of capacity in Hilla
<b>Security</b>	<b><i>Night shootings in Hilla and Kut continue</i></b>
<b>Other/Comments</b>	Power to Ar Rutbah has been restored and piped water is slowly returning

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## Baghdad

**An additional 1,500 combat troops were moved to Fallujah, 40 miles west of Baghdad, and Habaniyah, 45 miles west of Baghdad, on Wednesday, June 4. The two cities have been known for their anti-American sentiments and recent demonstrations against the presence of foreign troops.**

**Seven experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) are expected to arrive in Baghdad on Friday (June 6) to investigate the looted nuclear Tuwaitha facility, about 30 miles south of Baghdad, where there have been reports of radiation sickness among residents. The team, however, is only authorized to check whether nuclear material is safe and accounted for, not to check on other wider safety issues.**

Baghdad	
<b>Coordinator</b>	UNOCHI is aware of 40 NGOs operating in Baghdad
<b>Affected Population</b>	Population: 5.8 million
<b>IDP Movement</b>	An IDP working group has been established to coordinate a response to a reported total of 3,000 families in Baghdad who have been displaced; The French NGO Premiere Urgence is acting as the focal point for IDPs in Baghdad; Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) has established a camp on the outskirts of Baghdad for 1,000 people, which is being managed by the Iraqi Red Crescent society in cooperation with the Palestinian Red Crescent Society
<b>Food</b>	
<b>Health</b>	The UN Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq (UNOCHI) reports that drug distribution from the main warehouses in Baghdad to governorates has been reactivated and that a WHO warehouse assessment indicates that most warehouses are functioning normally; The cholera section in the Central Public Health Laboratory is expected to resume activities by the end of the week; Immunization activities will recommence in Baghdad with the arrival of Hepatitis B and Oral Polio vaccines expected this week; NCA is assisting ICRC to rehabilitate the Al Rahaad Mental Hospital and will conduct a psychosocial needs assessment in Baghdad
<b>NFIs –Shelter</b>	
<b>Water &amp; Sanitation</b>	The Office of Coalition Provisional Authority (OCPA) has reported that 40% of the water network in Baghdad is damaged; UNICEF has started rehabilitation of the Al-Wihda water treatment plant and is supplying fuel to keep the plant running
<b>Security</b>	The number of shooting incidents seems to have decreased in recent days; Coalition forces are conducting raids to confiscate weapons; Attacks on Highway 10 (Ramadi-Fallujah area) are continuing;
<b>Other/Comments</b>	UNICEF and Enfants du Monde have begun an assessment of street children, whose numbers seems to have increased; UNICEF is providing a team of social workers to look after abandoned children at the Al-Rahma Center.

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## South Region

### Basra

Basra (Basrah)	
Coordinator	
Affected Population	Population of Basra: 1.5 million
IDP Movement	Assessments indicated that 612 IDPs are in Basra
Food	Wheat flour is reportedly available at the local markets, however, most local residents cannot afford to buy it
Health	Basra's 4 hospitals are operational; Surveillance systems for diarrheal cases have been put in place in Basra hospitals; A workshop on communicable diseases will take place in Basrah June 3-5
NFIs –Shelter	
Water & Sanitation	The Basra water treatment plant is now operating; The “Cleaning Basrah City” project, funded by UNICEF and OCPA, began yesterday (June 2) to remove garbage from residential areas
Security	The UN has tightened security restrictions on travel in southern Iraq and now requires at least four vehicles in a convoy and a minimum two persons per vehicle; <b>Night shootings have been reported, as well as armed clashes between rival gangs</b>
Other/Comments	Electricity has been restored to about 60% of pre-war levels; Schools have reopened; The Humanitarian Open Forum will be held daily (except on Fridays) at 1700hrs at the Al-Iyoon Hotel; Train service for passengers between Basra and Baghdad began May 7

Umm Qasr, Al Zubayr, Nasiriyah, Al Kut, Amarah	
Coordinator	UNOHCI is aware of 22 NGOs operating in southern Iraq
Affected Population	
IDP Movement	Save the Children reported about 190 IDPs in public buildings in Umm Qasr and Al Zubayr; Assessments found 12,000 IDPs in Amarah and Missan
Food	The vessel M/V Thor Sky and the M/V Sea Express, carrying a total of more than 23,500 metric tons (MT) of wheat and rice, have docked at Umm Qasr port
Health	Oxfam now has a Public Health Team and an operational base with four staff in Nasiriyah; Oxfam will assist with a leishmaniasis prevention and control program in Nasiriyah after reporting that the incidence of disease, which affects mainly children under five, has increased
NFIs –Shelter	
Water & Sanitation	ICRC water tankers are being used to supply parts of Al Zubayr where the pumping station was looted; Only 6 of the 21 pumping stations in Nasiriyah are working; Raw sewage is backing up in open sewers due to the lack of functioning de-sludging pumps
Security	<b>Drug and arms trafficking has increased, especially in Amarah</b>
Other/Comments	

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## **Neighboring Countries' Humanitarian Activities/Preparations**

### **Jordan**

The Government of Jordan has stated that borders with Iraq are open for the flow of goods. The Humanitarian Assistance Coordination Center (HACC-West) has advised that it needs 24-hour advance notice of vehicle movement into Iraq from Jordan. Travel on this route in the short-term may be dangerous due to the threat of hijacking while on the road.

Many NGOs are shifting staff and supplies from Jordan into Iraq, especially Baghdad. All NGO staff intending to travel to Iraq should obtain a visa from the Iraqi Embassy in Amman.

A total of 800 people are currently staying at the Ruweished refugee camp, all of Palestinian origin. Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) has constructed latrines and is responsible for sanitation and solid waste management in the camp.

Approximately 1,500 people, mostly Iranian Kurds, remain stuck in no-man's land between Iraq and Jordan after being refused entry into Jordan. They are staying at the Al Ramada emergency camp while UNHCR looks for potential sites inside Iraq.

### **Iran**

The Bureau for Aliens and Foreign Immigrants Affairs (BAFIA) has stated that requests of convoys crossing the Iranian border could be processed within 24 hours, once the Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides clearance.

The Government of Iran has decided to strip hundreds of thousands of Iraqis of their refugee status stating that they now must be considered migrants in light of developments in Iraq. About 200,000 Iraqis may begin returning to Iraq by the first week of June with assistance from the UN. The Government of Iran stated that the security of the returnees would be guaranteed.

### **Turkey**

The border with Turkey remains open to diplomatic and press missions only. Discussions are underway with the government of Turkey to open the border to enable returnees to go home.

As there have been no reports of refugees crossing into Turkey and requesting asylum as a result of the recent war, UNHCR has said it is scaling down its operations along the border between Turkey and Iraq in order to focus on relief efforts already underway in Iraq. Turkey has said it would continue assistance to Iraqi refugees who fled Iraq prior to the recent war and who now wish to return to Iraq. UNHCR said it could facilitate such repatriations, but could not guarantee the returnees' safety upon return and thus would not encourage them to do so at this time. IOM is also scaling down their operations in Silopi, but said it would be ready to assist in the repatriation of Iraqis.

The Gaziantep, Mardin, and Van airports are open to humanitarian flights.

### **Kuwait**

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The Umm Qasr border is now closed for civilian traffic. Entry and exit of Iraq is possible only in Abdali. There have been reports that people moving in and out of Kuwait may be screened for infectious disease with a health center in Abdali now being reactivated for this purpose. The Humanitarian Operations Center (HOC) in Kuwait requests a maximum of 96 hours to issue a clearance to agencies to carry out cross-border operations. Humanitarian flights are now exempt of all landing and parking fees. The Government of Kuwait has issued a statement that it must be notified 24 hours in advance to issue approved legal passes.

## **Syria**

The Government of Syria has granted UN agencies and IOM a number of exemptions for fees, taxes and levies related to the import/export of humanitarian transit cargo to Iraq. New border crossing procedures are improving cross border movements. UNICEF is encouraging the use of Syria as a corridor for entry of humanitarian aid into Iraq.

***The Syrian Arab Red Crescent Society (SARC) is continuing operations at the Al Tanf and Al Bukamal transit camps on the border with Iraq. The Al Tanf camp is now empty while the Al Bukamal camp population continues to decline. SARC has asked the Syrian government to consider closing the camps and is awaiting a response.***

## **Saudi Arabia**

The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (GoKSA) has issued a blanket authorization for overflight and landing for an unspecified period of time. These clearances apply to flights between Kuwait and Amman.

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