# NORWEGIAN CHURCH AID IRAQ EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) has undertaken its humanitarian emergency response in Iraq since 2005 to assist people caught in a deadly cycle of violence. NCA has closed its emergency response from south and central Iraq and is primarily focusing on IDPs in northern Iraq, where it opened its Dohuk office in 2014.



Water tank for refugees in Kabarto camp, Iraq. Photo: Håvard Bjelland/Norwegian Church Aid



# **GOALS FOR NCA'S IRAQ EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

An estimated 1 million people are seeking shelter in and around Dohuk, after fleeing armed conflict and hardships in other parts of the country. NCA's Iraq emergency response is designed to address the urgent priorities in WASH, shelter, and F/NFIs identified by the refugees and IDPs. Anchored in a contextually appropriate conflict sensitive design, NCA's emergency response adheres to humanitarian principles, ensuring provision of emergency relief in an impartial manner

- Bringing assistance to people most in need across conflict lines.
- Advocate for humanitarian access and protection of civilian population.

## SCOPE OF NCA'S IRAQ EMERGENCY RESPONSE

While the focus of NCA's emergency response remains on lifesaving interventions for WASH, GBV support, Protection and WASH cluster coordination, the broader scope also involves the following:

- Emergency preparedness and risk mitigation
- Recovery and Rehabilitation
- Capacity building and Accountability
- Advocacy

# WHAT WE DO

NCA's expertise and main delivery in humanitarian response operations is the provision of WASH services, support to the survivors of gender base violence (GBV) and vulnerable livelihoods support, often combined with other sector responses such as distribution of food and non-food items and provision of shelter.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Responding to the immense number of refugees and IDPs in north Iraq, NCA commenced its WASH in emergency operations in early 2015. Initially, assigned two camps, NCA was able to meet the needs of the 28,000 camp residents in one month. NCA has now expanded its operations to an additional camp and in 2016, NCA hopes to cover needs of the returnees by setting up local self-help groups, in a bid to build local capacity for the sustainability of these programmes.

### **Gender Based Violence (GBV)**

NCA's GBV program is implemented in partnership with national, local and/or



Children in Kabarto camp learn about good hygiene. Photo: Håvard Bjelland/Norwegian Church Aid

community-based organizations with experience from GBV, gender and/or protection programs. Prioritized program components include psychosocial support and complementary medical services, protection from violence, awareness-raising, advocacy and capacity-building of partners and relevant government offices.

NCA's emergency WASH programming has integrated gender and conflict sensitive design to curb GBV instances in IDP camps and in host-communities.



### WHERE WE WORK

In Iraq, NCA's geographical focus for its emergency response is in Dohuk and Nineveh Governorate.



Distribution of hygiene kits in Qadiya camp, Iraq. **Photo: Norwegian Church Aid** 

### **HOW WE WORK**

NCA has utilized direct management modality of the operation of its programmes, due to lack of competent local partners. NCA is part of the relevant UN clusters and has continued to expand the coverage of its operations in norther Iraq.

### **RESULTS**

In 2015, NCA emergency response in Iraq covered the WASH needs for 76,605 beneficiaries (38,437 male and 38,168 female).

However results for 2016 are as follows:

- $\bullet$  NCA provided access to safe water, sanitation facilities and promoted appropriate hygiene practices to 44,190 displaced and war-affected women, girls, men and boys in three camps for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): Kabarto 1 & 2 and Qadiya in Dohuk Governorate.
- $\bullet$  Hygiene kits distributed to 30,000 families and mobile medical units provided health services to 6,327 beneficiaries.
- Pyscho social support was provided to 1,583 beneficiaries, whereas NCA safe houses provided security and assistance to 285 women and 129 children.
- $\bullet$  NCA also funded and oversaw the construction of three boreholes for Shaykhan, Chamisko and Essyan IDP camps in Dohuk and Ninevah governorates with a total population of 21,216 IDPs.
- NCA constructed and improved sanitation facilities for 30,000 IDPs in Kabarto 1 & 2 and Qadiya camps.



Children in Kabarto camp learn about good hygiene. They bring this new knowledge home with them and spread good practices that contribute to fewer people becoming vulnerable to infection and disease. **Photo: Håvard Bjelland/Norwegian Church Aid** 

# TOGETHER FOR A JUST WORLD

**Norwegian Church Aid** works to save lives and seek justice. Our support is provided unconditionally with no intention of influencing anyone's religious beliefs and affiliation.

**Norwegian Church Aid** is a member of the ACT Alliance, one of the world's largest humanitarian coalitions. Together, we work throughout the world to create positive and sustainable change. To save lives and seek justice is, for us, faith in action.

**Norwegian Church Aid** works through an integrated and rights-based approach with:

- Long-term development
- Emergency preparedness and response
- Advocacy

### STANDARDS AND COMMITMENTS:

- Norwegian Church Aid is HAP certified, enabling accountability to rights-holders, host communities, partners and stakeholders
- ACT Alliance Code of Conduct
- Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief (1994)
- The Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response, the Sphere Project
- IASC Gender Handbook and Gender Marker
- Do No Harm

