



Photo: DCA staff

FACTS:

- **DCA has operated in Iraq since 2017.**
- **Beneficiaries:** In 2021, DCA reached 92,085 people.
- **Turnover in 2021:** 3.309.000 EUR
- **Projects:** 8 projects in 2021.
- **Employees:** 28 national employees and 5 international employees.
- **Partners:** DCA has 3 partners in Iraq; Judy Organization for Relief and Development (JORD), Iraqi Health and Social Care Organization (IHSCO) and Women's Rehabilitation Organization (WRO).

CONTACT:

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OPERATIONAL CONTEXT:



Following decades of armed conflict, the context of Iraq remains increasingly complex. 2.5 million people depend on humanitarian assistance, with more than 961,000 people in acute need, based on the 2022 revised assessment of humanitarian needs.



Iraq has approximately 3,016 km² of recorded contaminated areas, with 27 percent of explosive ordnance contamination found in agricultural areas, and 18% of households reportedly impacted by the perceived presence of explosive hazards (EH).



1.18 million people are internally displaced in Federal Iraq (FI) with around 623,331 Internally Displaced Peoples (IDPs) within the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) alone, in addition to 250,419 Syrian refugees. Due to widespread closures of IDP camps ongoing since 2019, many displaced populations now find themselves in secondary displacement and are unable to meet their basic needs.

HOW AND WHERE WE WORK:

- DCA's response in Iraq focuses on two of DCA's global goals: To **Save Lives** and to **Build Resilient Communities**.
- DCA operates in both the **Kurdish Autonomous Region of Iraq (KRI) and Federal Iraq**, with offices in Erbil, Baghdad and Shirqat in Salahuddin Governorate, where DCA conducts clearance as the only INGO.
- DCA Iraq **supports vulnerable IDP, refugee and host communities** and aims to provide integrated responses that can cater to the needs present in areas free of mines and IED/UXO contamination.
- Prioritizing **the Localization agenda** under the Grand Bargain and through its commitment to the Charter 4 Change, DCA supports implementation by National partners. **More than 51% of all funds are transferred directly to national partners.**
- DCA Iraq emphasises **community involvement** and thus focuses on **community led response**, in which communities themselves identify and implement initiatives.



WHAT WE DO:

Clearance: DCA has the capacity to conduct **technical survey and disposal of UXO/IEDs** through the Iraq task order system. Furthermore, DCA is currently strengthening the capacity of a local NGO in conducting both non-technical surveys and clearance activities in contaminated areas.

Risk Education: DCA is, in collaboration with a local partner, providing **Risk Education to adults and children** living in, or planning to return to, contaminated areas. Risk Education is a vital step of equipping people properly to identify explosive hazards, mitigate the dangers towards themselves, and reporting the location of the item to local authorities.

Psychosocial Support: Through local partners, DCA is providing **psychosocial support to vulnerable groups** with the aims of encouraging peaceful coexistence and improving the well-being of those affected by conflict. This support is tailored to both children, youth and adults.

Livelihood Opportunities: DCA is offering **vocational training to vulnerable groups to strengthen and create new livelihood opportunities**, which is key to facilitate the return of vulnerable populations to their original locations.

Capacity Strengthening: DCA focuses on **strengthening the capacities of national actors** thereby helping them prevent, mitigate and recover from future crisis.

Community Led Action: DCA supports **inclusive and representative self-help groups** that identify and implement initiatives according to the needs of their community. These initiatives are improving **access to basic services** such as water, health and school facilities while **strengthening social cohesion** within the community including refugees, IDPs and host-community.



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