



Photo: Jakob Dall

FACTS:

- **Operational Presence:** DCA has been in Iraq since 2017.
- In 2022, DCA **reached 16,644 people**
- **Annual turnover in 2022:** 21.8 million DKK
- **Operational Areas:** The Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) and Government of Iraq (GoI), with offices in Erbil & Baghdad.
- **Projects:** In 2022, DCA Iraq had 7 projects, which were mainly implemented through local partner organisations.
- **Partners:** Judy Organization for Relief and Development (JORD), The Iraq Health and Social Care Organization (IHSCO) and Women Rehabilitation Organization (WRO), and Mile Organization for Environmental Protection (MOEP).

CONTACT:

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OPERATIONAL CONTEXT:



Following decades of armed conflict, 2,236 km² of land remains contaminated by Explosive Ordnances, 27% of which is found in agricultural areas.



Iraq has ranked the 5th most vulnerable country to climate change, exacerbating the needs of vulnerable populations.



2,5 people remain in need, with a minimum of 50% being women and girls facing threats of gender-based violence and being more vulnerable in situations of displacement.



Widespread closures of IDP camps have been ongoing since 2019, however, 1,2 million people remain internally displaced as of 2022, with a lack of access to basic services and livelihood opportunities.

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 is present in both the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and in Federal Iraq, with the main areas being Erbil, Dohuk, Ninewa and Salah al-Din Governorates.
- DCA Iraq mostly works through national and local partners and supports partners with capacity-strengthening activities in all its projects.
- DCA Iraq prioritise the Localisation agenda under the Grand Bargain and through its commitment to the Charter4Change. More than 47% of all funds in 2022 are transferred directly to national partners, and in 2023 it will be above 50%.
- DCA Iraq supports vulnerable IDP, refugee and host communities and aims to provide integrated responses that can cater to the compounded needs present in Iraq.
- DCA Iraq emphasises community involvement and thus focuses on community-led response, in which communities themselves identify and implement initiatives.



WHAT WE DO:

Localisation: DCA advocates for localisation and actively promotes local leadership and coordination to support sustainable solutions to the challenges across Iraq. DCA focuses on strengthening the capacity of national and local organisations through participatory approaches that are aimed at sharing knowledge, expertise, and good practices.

Mine Action: DCA and local partners are addressing the widespread explosive contamination in Iraq through the clearance of landmines, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices to ensure a safe environment for communities across Iraq. Further to this, DCA and partners are engaging in post-land-release studies and activities, focusing on climate and displacement, to explore how previously contaminated land is or can be utilised following the land-release process.

Survivor and Community-Led responses: DCA and local partners support communities in identifying and addressing their own risks and needs through community-led initiatives by providing trainings and micro-grants. In addition to responding to community needs, the approach has shown to increase resilience, facilitate inclusive spaces and contribute to fostering social cohesion.

Protection: DCA and local partners provide protection activities (with a focus on Gender Based Violence and Child Protection) to vulnerable groups, including children, youth and women, to promote their well-being, and resilience and support them to better cope with the effects of armed conflict and displacement.

Livelihood Opportunities: DCA and local partners are providing vocational training to vulnerable groups to generate employment, reduce poverty, avoid the risks of child labour and early marriages due to increased income, and strengthen social cohesion between different communities.



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