



**Iraqi Red Crescent
Organization bringing
changes to the new Iraq
through community
empowerment
and partnership**

**The Iraqi Red Crescent
Organization
Annual report
2006-2007**

Our principles are:

Humanity

Impartiality

Neutrality

Independence

Voluntary service

Unity

Universality



***Our mission is to
improve the lives of
vulnerable people by
mobilizing the
power of humanity.***

Empowering the Iraqi local communities

- ◆ We mobilize the Iraqi population to help prevent, prepare for and respond to disasters and other emergencies using a participatory approach with our partners.
- ◆ Our programs respond to local vulnerability and focus on the areas where they can have greatest impact.
- ◆ Our activities inspire a new generation of youth and volunteers, which is expanding the community support to our humanitarian mission.
- ◆ We work with our partners to establish long-term support and to promote advocacy.
- ◆ We continuously improve our service delivery system through strengthening our financial base, infrastructure and support systems.

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Message from the President of the Iraqi Red Crescent Organization

In 2007, Iraq experienced an escalating deterioration in the humanitarian situation never seen before. This situation demanded an increased mobilization and effective relief efforts from all humanitarian agencies, civil society and national authorities.

The beginning of 2007 indicated clearly the continuation of the suffering of the Iraqi people as a result of the disasters and the complex emergency countrywide. In particular, Baghdad and several other governorates witnessed conflicts and their negative effects on the humanitarian situation. The vulnerable civilians became targets for violence and endured the consequences. Attacks on the humanitarian workers continued, which resulted in several casualties and hindered the response of many humanitarian agencies. This lack of security also caused deterioration in the economic situation. Over two million Iraqis became internally displaced and another two million became externally displaced, which created unusual phenomena and had exhausted the social structure of the country.



The last months in 2007 indicated a decline in violence, which is providing opportunities for positive changes in the humanitarian situation and for expanded community development. If this improving security situation continues, it will encourage reconstruction efforts and social development programs.

Throughout this humanitarian crisis, the Iraqi Red Crescent Organization has been the primary humanitarian provider on the ground working hand in hand with the government of Iraq, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other providers. The Iraqi Red Crescent staff and volunteers in all 18 branches and 365 offices worked under difficult conditions where safety was not guaranteed to promote the capacity for prevention, preparedness and response to disasters. The aim was to minimize the effects of the crisis on the civilians.

During the past two years, the Iraqi Red Crescent responded to the needs of the Internally Displaced People as well as to the external displacement problem. It worked along with its offices in Jordan, Syria, and Iran to bring the technical and financial support to ensure a rapid and successful response to the present crisis facing the Iraqi people. The new humanitarian reality in Iraq had motivated the Iraqi Red Crescent to build its response capacities and scale-up its response while facing the challenges created by the emerging needs created by the situation.

The Iraqi Red Crescent's initiatives aimed at reducing vulnerability and suffering of the affected people through humanitarian aid distribution, preventive and curative health care, rehabilitation of health facilities and schools, community development, finding the missing and dissemination of Red Cross and Red Crescent Fundamental Principles and International Humanitarian Law. A total of 26,053 trained volunteers supported the Iraqi Red Crescent programs like disaster management, dissemination of information, health and finding the missing.

The Iraqi Red Crescent carried out 28 relief operations in 2006 and 2007 in the different Iraqi governorates. In 2007, the Iraqi Red Crescent increased its food aid distribution by 254 percent compared to 2006 and significantly increased the size of health relief operations. The Iraqi Red Crescent sheltered 27,026 internally displaced people in 37 camps set-up in 11 governorates. Camps were set up according to international standards.

In November and December 2006 heavy rains in nine governorates resulted in floods causing the displacement of 11,000 families. Those families received emergency assistance from the Iraqi Red Crescent branches and volunteers.

The Iraqi Red Crescent distributed 4,768 wheelchairs to people who became disabled as a result of violence and assisted 3,150 patients to get treatment abroad.

The Iraqi Red Crescent increased its outreach to every village and neighborhood in Iraq. The 18 branches established 365 offices and representations, which were staffed by trained staff and volunteers. The warehousing capacity was also increased to 101,625 square meters by end of 2007.

Volunteers are the backbone of the Iraqi Red Crescent. To build the capacity of volunteers, branches trained a total of 3,060 volunteers in Community Based First Aid. In addition, volunteers in nine governorates undergoing deteriorating security situation conducted first aid training for 49,100 school children, which led to recruitment of new volunteers.

The Iraqi Red Crescent maintained its partnership with the public authorities. Working together with the Iraqi ministries to serve humanity in Iraq resulted in ensuring the delivery of basic food items and medicines to conflict areas, rehabilitating schools, providing school kits to needy children and cooperating in sheltering the displaced families and combating the spread of Cholera.

The Iraqi Red Crescent cooperated with the International Committee of the Red Cross in developing the tracing program. Trained volunteers distributed 19,080 Red Crescent Messages, interment cards and release checks. Moreover, 6,380 people benefited from the Explosive Remnants of War Awareness program.

The Information/Communication program reflected the work of the Iraqi Red Crescent. A total of 17,340 people benefited from 1,020 dissemination sessions in the 18 Iraqi Red Crescent branches. And, 58,275 people received publications and promotional materials.

The Iraqi Red Crescent expanded its relief operation to reach out to the Externally Displaced families in the neighboring countries. A total of 695,000 USD were distributed to families in Jordan and Syria to cover cost of medicines, hospitalization, basic needs and schooling.

In the coming two years, the Iraqi Red Crescent will scale-up its humanitarian activities and will take actions to contribute to poverty reduction and reducing the impact of disasters and diseases. This will be achieved through implementing projects that aim at re-construction of medical establishments and rehabilitating the infrastructure (like establishing water treatments plants). Special vulnerable groups will be assisted to regain their lost livelihoods through creating job opportunities and constructing appropriate shelter, thus contributing to the promotion of human dignity. In 2008, the Iraqi Red Crescent will launch its Neighborhood Reconstruction Program, which will lead to stabilizing 600,000 Internally Displaced People into 120 Reconstructed Neighborhood Units in Baghdad. This project will lead to 50 percent decrease in the number of displaced people in Baghdad.

The Iraqi Red Crescent will fill in existing gaps in the present health care system in Iraq, like manufacturing wheelchairs for the use of an increasing number of people with disabilities; deploying road safety units for timely first aid and transport of victims to health centers; deploying mobile medical units to make health care accessible to isolated and remote communities; and most importantly, establishing a cancer center and pharmaceutical factory to meet the diagnostic and treatment needs of the increasing number of cancer patients in Iraq. Also shortages of some medical supplies will be addressed.

This comprehensive report was compiled by all Iraqi Red Crescent departments to reflect our achievements by end of 2007 and to inform our partners about our future plans and how they can help us do more. Finally, I would like to thank all Iraqi Red Crescent volunteers and employees for their commitment to bring better life to the Iraqi people. Many thanks to all our partners who believed in the Iraqi people and are helping us bring positive changes to a new Iraq through strong partnerships and empowerment of the local communities.

Dr. Said Hakki, M.D., Ph.D

President

254% increase in food aid distribution carried out by the Iraqi Red Crescent

Our programs have impact

Responding to one of the most severe humanitarian crises in the world

The current complex security situation in Iraq had exhausted the social structure of the country. This had its effects on the economic situation and on every aspect of life.

The Iraqi people living in Iraq endure the negative effects of insecurity and deteriorating economic situation on their lives. The most affected people are the Internally Displaced and the destitute families.

The Iraqi Red Crescent reports indicated that there were 2,179,614 Internally Displaced People by end of November 2007 and more than two million externally displaced Iraqis in neighboring countries. More than 80 percent were women and children less than 12 years old. More than 62 percent of the internally displaced people were in Baghdad. This reality had accelerated the Iraqi Red Crescent response to alleviate the suffering of the displaced people without discrimination while maintaining neutrality. Table 1 illustrates distribution of the Internally Displaced People by governorate.

Food distribution

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) reported that one million Iraqi children are chronically malnourished, which will harm the prospects of Iraq's future generations. Children are the most affected when disasters strike. In the current crisis in Iraq, children had to suffer from displacement, loss of family members and security, poverty and many related problems.

The Iraqi Red Crescent responded to this crisis by increasing its emergency food distribution to displaced and destitute families in all 18 governorates in Iraq by 254 percent compared to 2006. This distribution took place through the 18 Iraqi Red Crescent branches and 365 offices countrywide. Other humanitarian organizations, orphanages, and institutions serving special groups of vulnerable people benefited from this distribution.

A total of 11,570 Iraqi Red Crescent volunteers assisted in the distribution of relief items.

Table 1: Geographical distribution of Internally Displaced People as of November 2007

Governorate	Number of individuals	% of total
1. Anbar	53,925	2.5
2. Babil	60,297	2.8
3. Baghdad	1,367,823	62.8
4. Basrah	34,172	1.6
5. Diwanyah	16,986	0.8
6. Diyala	44,850	2.1
7. Dohuk	111,436	5.1
8. Erbil	37,469	1.7
9. Kerbala	39,756	1.8
10. Kirkuk	19,534	0.9
11. Missan	43,394	2.0
12. Muthanna	5,131	0.2
13. Najaf	41,861	1.9
14. Ninawa	65,826	3.0
15. Saladin	111,503	5.1
16. Sulaimaniyah	57,435	2.6
17. Thi qar	11,246	0.5
18. Wassit	56,970	2.6
Total	2,179,614	100



Number of food parcels distributed in 2007	Number of food parcels distributed in 2006
2,490,000	703,204

27,026 internally displaced people were sheltered in camps set-up by the Iraqi Red Crescent

Shelter

When families become forcefully displaced they flee their homes and neighborhoods to seek safety and security somewhere else taking with them few belongings and resources. They quickly start to suffer from hardship and inability to meet their basic needs.

In addition to poverty, the Internally Displaced People faced many problems including inaccessibility to health services, inappropriate shelter, lack of job opportunities, and disruption of schooling for children.

Shelter became the main problem for more than two million internally displaced Iraqis. Displaced families dwelled with relatives, in governmental buildings and rented apartments. Others built mud houses on vacant lands. Many families were sheltered in Iraqi Red Crescent refugee camps.

In 2006 and 2007, the Iraqi Red Crescent branches had set-up 37 camps with a total of 4,125 tents in 11 governorates to shelter 4,534 displaced families. Sixteen of these camps were in Baghdad governorate. By end of 2007, most of the camps were dismantled.

The Iraqi Red Crescent camps were set up according to international standards and were equipped with water and sanitation facilities and health posts.

Volunteers made arrangements for camp management, dug wells whenever needed, assisted displaced children to return to schools and provided psychological support. Displaced families received regularly food parcels, hygiene kits and shares of relief items.

In 2008, the Iraqi Red Crescent will launch its Neighborhood Reconstruction Program, which will lead to stabilizing 600,000 Internally Displaced People into 120 Reconstructed Neighborhood Units in Baghdad. This will lead to 50 percent reduction in the number of Internally Displaced People in Baghdad governorate. The Iraqi Red Crescent will use a community participation approach through organizing the communities to Help Themselves and providing the necessary services to stabilize.



Table 2: Distribution of camps set-up by the Iraqi Red Crescent to shelter displaced families by governorate

Governorate	Number of camps	Number of tents	Number of sheltered families	Number of individuals
1. Baghdad	16	1,348	1,378	8,220
2. Suleimaniah	1	105	135	810
3. Diyala	3	275	300	1,800
4. Erbil	1	260	270	1,890
5. Duhok	3	280	305	1,830
6. Ninawa	1	389	400	2,400
7. Najaf	1	108	108	648
8. Anbar	4	390	500	2,600
9. Basra	3	410	450	2,700
10. Missan	1	60	75	450
11. Kerbala	3	500	613	3,678
TOTAL	37	4,125	4,534	27,026



Iraqi Red Crescent volunteers setting up camps to shelter displaced families, digging a well and providing psychological support to children

11,000 families affected by floods in nine governorates received emergency assistance from the Iraqi Red Crescent

Emergency relief to flood victims

In 2006 and 2007, the Iraqi Red Crescent responded to several natural disasters resulting from floods. Heavy rains in Erbil, Suleimaniya, Duhok, Ninawa, Saladin, Kirkuk, Diyala, Missan and Thi qar governorates in November and December 2006 resulted in floods that caused the displacement of 11,000 families. The Iraqi Red Crescent branches in the affected governorates assessed the situation and provided the necessary emergency relief to the affected families.



Iraqi Red Crescent volunteers in Thi qar using one of the available boats to get to flood victims [Iraqi RC photo]

Sinking huts

Osama, an Iraqi Red Crescent volunteer in Thi qar, used to go to cafes in Nasriah city every now and then. One morning, while sitting to a table with his friends, he overheard some people in the café talking about a flood that is endangering Araithim tribe. His hands shivered; the tea cup almost fell from his hand before he laid it down.

Osama stood up quickly, astonished by the news, he thought about the people affected by the flood, the town surrounded by water and the people who just recently celebrated the return of water to the canals. What would happen to their fragile bamboo houses?

Osama ran towards the Iraqi Red Crescent office in Nasriah to tell the officials about the flood. In a short while, a number of volunteers gathered in the corridor of the building ready to help the flood victims. Osama was more than ready to help. His hand softly trembled when he touched the Red Crescent on his vest. He wore the vest and the cap quickly and got into one of the trucks carrying the relief aid to the victims.

The convoy of Red Crescent trucks moved towards the town on a dangerous muddy road. One of the trucks almost fell in the water.

The volunteers started working in an organized unit. They distributed food, blankets and water to the flood victims and rescued the people stuck in their bamboo huts, which were surrounded by water in the middle of the swamps. They were able to rescue the people by using the people's boats; these boats saved the lives of their owners when the flood happened.

Osama looked far away where he saw a family caught in the middle of the flooding water and shouting for help. He used one of the boats to get to the family. The water had already damaged the family's house and strong wind was blowing in all directions. Courage came to Osama's heart when he saw a child scared and cold to death, and his mother yelling for help. The kid shivered and was unable to breathe normally.

Osama held the kid and took him out of the mud and the cold water. Osama was jumping from one boat to the other and the kid was shaking. Asthma got harsher on the child due to moisture and cold. The child's face was pale and his breathing was unstable, his mother was running behind Osama crying and asking all whom she runs into to save her child.

Osama blew warm air into the child's mouth while he carried him to the health center in Al-Islah neighborhood. The child was still shivering and Osama tried to warm him up in his own clothes. The mother was still following her child weeping in sorrow and pain.

The doctor examined the child. The child's hands and palms were stiff, yellow and couldn't move. The doctor told the mother that she could have lost her child had she been a bit late. The mother said that without Osama her kid would have been in God's hands by then. She held Osama, hugged him and kissed him, she thanked him and thanked the Iraqi Red Crescent saying: "may God keep you my sons".

At least 28 relief operations were carried out by the Iraqi Red Crescent in 2006 and 2007 in the different Iraqi governorates.

Distribution of relief items

The most significant relief operations carried out by the Iraqi Red Crescent in 2006-2007 were:

- ◆ The second Najaf relief operation
- ◆ The first and second relief operations in Sader city
- ◆ The second Qa'em relief operation
- ◆ The first, second and third Tella'far relief operation
- ◆ The second Falouja relief operation
- ◆ The first and second relief operations in Samara'
- ◆ The Diwaniya relief operation
- ◆ Heet relief operation in Anbar
- ◆ The flood relief operation in Babil
- ◆ The flood relief operations in Erbil, Suleimaniya, Duhok, Ninawa, Saladin, Kirkuk, Diyala, Missan and Thi qar
- ◆ Amerli relief operation in Kirkuk
- ◆ Singar relief operation
- ◆ Al-Huwaija relief operation in Kirkuk
- ◆ The second relief operation in Diyala
- ◆ The relief operation in Al-Huseiniya, Al-Odwaniya, Saba' Qusor- Baghdad
- ◆ Al-Khazer relief operation in Erbil



The Iraqi Red Crescent worked with the local communities to identify the needs of the affected people and to deliver humanitarian aid in very difficult situation. This continuous interaction with the local communities had facilitated reaching out to the neediest communities and to the effective distribution of food and non-food items.

Non-food relief items included blankets, tents, lanterns, jerry cans and kitchen sets. The distribution of these items had increased significantly in 2007 compared to 2006.

This is in addition to medicines and medical supplies made available to the health posts in the Iraqi Red Crescent camps and to the hospitals and health centers that treat the victims of violence.

Table 3: Increase in the distribution of relief items compared to 2006

Item	Quantity distributed in 2006	Quantity distributed in 2007
Blankets	348,298	570,000
Tents	20,552	100,000
Kerosene lamp	81,329	100,000
Lamp	81,289	100,000
Jerry can	177,635	250,000
Thermos	133,076	100,000
Pail	107,176	100,000
Kitchen set	85,636	100,000



Iraqi Red Crescent volunteers assess needs of vulnerable groups and deliver relief items, and deliver medicines to health posts

4,768 wheelchairs were distributed to people who became disabled as a result of violence
3,150 patients benefited from the treatment abroad program

Health relief

The Iraqi Red Crescent supported the Ministry of Health in providing essential health services to the Iraqi people, particularly to the vulnerable communities and the victims of violence and armed conflicts. Trained staff and volunteers contributed to evacuation, rescue and first aid and emergency services. Volunteers organized blood donation campaigns to ensure adequate blood supply to hospitals receiving violence victims.

In cooperation with international organizations, the Iraqi Red Crescent provided hospitals and health centers with medicines and medical supplies that were not available in the local market. Priority was given to hospitals and health centers that received victims of armed conflicts and terrorist attacks. In 2007, the Iraqi Red Crescent donated 52 tons of medicines and medical supplies to the Internally Displaced People and health providers. Thirty governmental and non-governmental hospitals, 30 non-governmental organizations, 29 clinics and displaced families sheltered in 10 camps benefited from these donations.

The Iraqi Red Crescent assisted the victims of violence by providing rehabilitation services including provision of artificial limbs, wheelchairs and other assistive devices. A total of 4,768 wheelchairs were distributed to people who became disabled as a result of violence and armed conflict and 1,359 people obtained artificial limbs.

The Iraqi Red Crescent coordinates with international humanitarian organizations free treatment abroad for patients suffering from diseases that cannot be treated in Iraq. A total of 3,150 patients benefited from the treatment abroad program in neighboring countries and in Europe. In addition, 980 people affected by cancerous diseases received treatment.



In order to prevent the spread of communicable diseases, teams of trained volunteers participated in the immunization campaigns organized by the Ministry of Health. The role of the volunteers was monitoring the immunization process to ensure adequate coverage.

By end of 2007, the health capacity of the Iraqi Red Crescent included:

- ◆ Four hospitals operated by Iraqi Red Crescent and 14 hospitals supported by Iraqi Red Crescent
- ◆ Ten hospitals under construction
- ◆ Two centers for the rehabilitation of war victims
- ◆ Ten emergency clinics
- ◆ Artificial limb factory
- ◆ Twenty eight ambulances
- ◆ Forty four clinics rehabilitated and supported by Iraqi Red Crescent

In 2007, the Iraqi Red Crescent hospitals had provided free secondary health care to more than 60 percent of inpatients. This is in addition to the provision of free primary health care services to the displaced families sheltered in the Iraqi Red Crescent camps.

The Iraqi Red Crescent focused on building its capacity to improve its health relief response. A total of 200 health staff and volunteers benefited from 10 Health Relief courses. Forty eight staff and volunteers benefited from two community management trainings. Two hundred staff and volunteers benefited from 20 courses on field surveys. Six mobile blood banks were added to the health relief capacity. And, the Iraqi Red Crescent Pediatric Surgical Hospital in Baghdad and the Iraqi Red Crescent Surgical Hospital in Kut were rehabilitated to increase their efficiency in responding to the current situation.

3,060 Iraqi Red Crescent volunteers received training in Community Based First Aid 49,100 school children in nine governorates undergoing deteriorating security situation benefited from first aid training

Community Based First Aid (CBFA) [initiated in 1997]

The Iraqi Red Crescent developed its Community Based First Aid (CBFA) program to promote safe and healthy behavior with focus on road safety, hygiene, water safety, sanitation, mother and child health and communicable diseases. The program promotes awareness to Avian Influenza, HIV and AIDS. The program builds the community's resilience to meet the physical and psychological needs of the victims of violence and natural disasters.

In 2007, the Iraqi Red Crescent had carried out 153 CBFA courses for 3,060 volunteers. In addition, each Iraqi Red Crescent branch held two CBFA training of trainers' courses each for 20 volunteers.



First aid training for school children

A total of 2,300 first aid courses were organized for 49,100 school children in nine governorates undergoing deteriorating security situation. These governorates were Ninawa, Kirkuk, Saladin, Diyala, Anbar, Baghdad, Najaf, Kerbala and Babil. The first aid courses were carried out in 1,780 schools. Benefiting schools received first aid kits.



Health promotion

HIV and AIDS: A total of 60 community awareness sessions were held in Iraqi universities. Beneficiaries received publications on HIV and AIDS.

Cholera: The Iraqi Red Crescent volunteers carried out 500 community awareness sessions on prevention of Cholera in all governorates with focus on remote areas. Three million public information packages and 10,000 posters on prevention and water purification were distributed.

Well baby program

The Iraqi Red Crescent Well Baby program aims at caring for mothers, children and pregnant women. Health staff and volunteers identified and treated malnutrition cases, immunized children, provided antenatal and postnatal care and family planning counseling. In 2007, some 30,000 children, 4,500 mothers and 4,000 pregnant women benefited from these services



Psychological Support program

Many Iraqi families experienced loss of lives and livelihoods as a result of violence and armed conflicts, which led to stress-related mental health problems. Most psychological traumas are not as evident as the physical traumas and the destruction of homes, which makes recovery difficult and long. The Iraqi Red Crescent is committed to provide professional psychological support to those affected and it integrated a psychological support component in its relief operations. In 2007, the Iraqi Red Crescent implemented four capacity building workshops to develop the psychological support skills of the volunteers. Two other workshops were held to develop the skills of the tracing program coordinators in communication skills. Volunteers provided psychological support to the displaced families sheltered in the Iraqi Red Crescent camps and to 300 hospitalized patients and their families.

Significant increase in the size of health relief operation in 2007 compared to 2006

Table 4: Summary of health relief achievements for 2006 and 2007

Program/activity	Achieved in 2006	Achieved in 2007
1. Supplying hospitals in Iraq with medicines and medical supplies	30 tons	52 tons
2. Beneficiaries from the Well baby program	21,506 children 3,988 mothers 3,676 pregnant women	30,000 children 4,500 mothers 4,000 pregnant women
3. Abroad treatment of patients	2,000 patients	3,150 patients
4. Providing artificial limbs to victims of violence	654 people	1,359
5. Distributing wheelchairs to victims of violence	1,375 people	4,768 people
6. Rehabilitation and support to governmental and non-governmental health facilities	44 health centers 8 hospitals	29 health centers 30 hospitals
7. Building the capacity of school children in first aid	1,500 trainee	49,100 trainee
8. CBFA training for volunteers	1,940 volunteers	3,060 volunteers
9. Treatment of cancerous patients	467 patients	980 patients
10. Public awareness sessions on AIDS and Cholera	178 sessions	560 sessions
11. Printing and distributing health promotion materials on infectious diseases		3,000,000 packages
12. Printing and distributing posters on water purification		10,000 posters

The health department will continue to develop its health relief approach for a better response to the current humanitarian crisis in Iraq. Future plans for 2008-9 include:

1. Free treatment of victims of violence and armed conflict and children less than 12 years in the Iraqi Red Crescent hospitals, which is at least 25% of all patients.
2. The CBFA program will be developed through increasing the number of training courses for volunteers and trainers.
3. The school first aid program will be expanded to benefit at least 500,000 children by increasing the number of schools participating in this program.
4. A center for the treatment of drug addicts will be established. This center will be affiliated to one of the Iraqi Red Crescent hospitals. It is expected that 10,000 people will benefit from this new program.
5. An AIDS center will be established to provide free treatment and medicines to the people living with AIDS. Currently, there are 300 people living with AIDS in Iraq and the number may increase as a result of population movement and increase in the number of expatriates.
6. A health center and several mobile clinics for the treatment of pulmonary diseases will become functional in the remote and isolated areas. At least 50,000 people will benefit from this program.
7. The public awareness campaigns on prevention of Cholera will be maintained. It is expected that this disease will spread again in the summer of 2008. The Iraqi Red Crescent will continue to donate the needed intravenous solutions, antibiotics, supplies, equipment and jerry cans and water purification tablets. At least 500,000 jerry cans, 2,000,000 liters of intravenous solutions and sufficient medicines and equipment are needed for this program.
8. There will be arrangements for outreach mobile health posts in remote areas to provide antenatal and postnatal care to mothers and to vaccinate children. Some 200,000 people will benefit from this program.
9. At least 5,000 wheelchairs to people with disabilities will be distributed.
10. The Iraqi Red Crescent secondary health care program will be expanded through upgrading the available equipment and establishing new hospitals.
11. The psychological support program will be developed and will continue to target victims of violence.

101,625 sqM warehouse capacity by end of 2007

Increased logistics capacity of the Iraqi Red Crescent

The Iraqi Red Crescent aims at maximizing its logistics capacity to match the size of its relief operations, to promote preparedness and to provide effective response to the requirements of emergencies and ongoing programs at the headquarters and branch levels. The role of the logistics program in the response to the current crisis in Iraq has been delivering food and non food relief items to the displaced families residing in the camps and with host communities as well as assisting the Disaster Management department in setting up camps for the displaced families. The logistics sections are:

- ◆ Warehouse section: responsible for warehouse management and dispatching of goods.

By end of 2007, the Iraqi Red Crescent had four regional warehouses in Baghdad, Basra, Erbil and Saladin with capacity of 1000-2000 sqM each, 18 branch warehouses with capacity of 500-1000 sqM each and 365 sub-branch warehouses with capacity of 150-300 sqM each. This is a total warehouse capacity of 101,625 sqM

Table5: Total warehouse capacity of the Iraqi Red Crescent

Warehouse type	Number	Average capacity of each (sqM)	Total capacity (sqM)
Regional	4	1500	6,000
Branch	18	750	13,500
Sub-branch	365	225	82,125
TOTAL CAPACITY			101,625

- ◆ Fleet management section: responsible for organizing the Iraqi Red Crescent fleet. By end of 2007, the Iraqi Red Crescent had 10 water tankers, 175 trucks with different capacity, 130 light vehicles and 190 drivers.
- ◆ Maintenance section: responsible for the vehicles maintenance.



The Iraqi Red Crescent acknowledge the contribution of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in building the logistical capacity of staff and volunteers and providing relief materials.



26,053 trained volunteers supported the work of Iraqi Red Crescent in disaster management, dissemination of information, health and finding the missing

Expanding the community support to our humanitarian mission

Recruitment and training of volunteers

The Iraqi Red Crescent recruits and train volunteers of different age groups and from both sexes aiming at mobilizing the Iraqi population to help prevent, prepare for and respond to disasters and other emergencies. The Youth and Volunteers program had contributed to building the partnership with the local communities and maintaining community support to the Iraqi Red Crescent initiatives. A total of 26,053 volunteers supported the work of the different Iraqi Red Crescent departments including disaster management, communication/information, health and finding the missing.

Blood donation campaigns

Several Iraqi Red Crescent branches organized blood donation campaigns in support of hospitals that receive victims of violence. A total of 341 blood units were made available for hospital use through these campaigns.



Health education sessions for school children

Iraqi Red Crescent volunteers carried out health education sessions for school children to promote awareness and help prevent diseases. In 2007, 3,524 school children benefited from these sessions, which also resulted in recruiting 237 volunteers.



Supporting the sports initiatives of local communities

Several branches established Iraqi Red Crescent sports teams to promote partnership with the local communities and to support the sports initiatives of the youth. In 2007, the volunteers organized a total of 29 sports championships.



Establishing first aid teams to support public events

Several branches established health teams to provide first aid during public sport events and large gatherings that are organized by the Iraqi Red Crescent in the different governorates. This initiative had reflected the Iraqi Red Crescent role in serving the community and had resulted in recruiting new volunteers.

Supporting the daily activities of local communities

Volunteers have a role in most daily activities of the local communities, like providing support to the police in traffic control, assisting municipalities in planting trees, designing public parks, distributing garbage bags, cleaning the neighborhoods and rehabilitating schools. Volunteers also assisted farmers in combating agricultural lesions, assisted firemen in fire fighting and assisted the authorities in removing dead bodies from the neighborhoods that witnessed armed conflicts and violent acts. In addition, volunteering professionals carried out occupational health campaigns in factories to promote the awareness of workers on safety and health protection measures.

In 2007, the Iraqi Red Crescent volunteers organized 43 different campaigns that reflected the participation of the Iraqi Red Crescent Organization in community development.



Volunteers assisting in traffic control, in cleaning neighborhoods and assisting farmers



Volunteers assisting in removing dead bodies, promoting occupational health & distributing Red Crescent Messages

Field visits

Volunteers carry out field visits to hospitalized patients, orphanages, elderly homes and gatherings of displaced people to provide health and psychological support and to distribute gifts during special occasions and feasts. A total of 52 field visits were performed in 2007.

Building the capacity of the local communities

Volunteers organized 45 computer and internet courses and trainings in embroidery and sewing to build up the community capacity and to enable families to generate additional income. Computer and internet courses focused on school children, university students, women who did not complete their university education and employees of the public sector. In 2007, 888 people benefited from this program.

The embroidery and sewing courses attracted big numbers of displaced women, widows and women from destitute families. A total of 125 women benefited from these trainings.

In 2007, the Iraqi Red Crescent gave special attention to assisting displaced children to return to schools. Many Iraqi children dropped out of schools as a result of displacement and deteriorating security and economic situation in Iraq. Branches organized reinforcement courses for school children in Baghdad and other governorates targeting displaced children and students who need reinforcement classes.

Volunteers also organized 34 cultural festivals in the different governorates and 4 camps for scouts to promote community support to the Iraqi Red Crescent.

Health volunteers gave special attention to promoting awareness to the prevention of Avian Influenza and Cholera, water safety and to monitoring the immunization campaigns against Poliomyelitis and Measles.



19,080 Red Crescent Messages, interment cards and release checks were distributed by Iraqi Red Crescent volunteers

Restoring family links

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) defines restoring family links as: Re-establishing contact between members of families split up by situations of armed conflict or internal violence and collecting information about people who are detained or have died. It involves organizing family reunifications and repatriations, taking steps to trace persons unaccounted for, and issuing travel documents and certificates of detention.

The Iraqi Red Crescent Central Tracing program was initiated in 1999 in cooperation with the ICRC to respond to the needs of separated families by re-establishing contacts and helping the families in collecting information about their missing members. The program assists detainees to re-establish links with their families through collecting and distributing Red Crescent messages. Volunteers collect information about missing people and arrange for family re-unification when possible.

Program staff and volunteers coordinate with the authorities, human rights organizations and other National Societies in arranging for restoring family links



Tracing issues in 2007 included:

- ◆ Distribution of 10,175 Red Crescent Messages from detainees to their families and collection of 11,985 replies to senders. A total of 843 Red Crescent messages were returned to sender due to inability to find address or because address was located in insecure areas.
- ◆ 7,855 interments cards from detainees to their families were distributed informing about places of detention and means of communicating with them.
- ◆ 707 release checks for released detainees were filled in confirming their release to ensure safe arrival to their homes.
- ◆ 3,214 attestations of detention requests were collected and sent to the ICRC to issue the attestations. A total of 4,034 persons were informed of the time of receiving the achieved attestations of detention. A total of 1,084 attestations of detention were distributed.
- ◆ Collection of 417 allegations of detention from people claiming detention by the multi-national forces. Allegations were sent to ICRC for follow-up with the appropriate authorities. There was also follow-up on the fate of 52 detainees.
- ◆ There were several requests from families regarding tracing of missing people in other countries. These issues demanded coordination with other National Societies like the Australian Red Cross and ICRC and several ministries in Iraq.



Promoting awareness to Explosive Remnants of War

Explosive Remnants of War Awareness (ERWA) program aims at continuously collecting and analyzing information about civilian landmine and other unexploded ordnance (UXO) incidents and casualties. The collected information is analyzed to strengthen the mine action network and limit these accidents by promoting public awareness in Iraq's governorate.

Unexploded ordnance are explosive bombs, bullets, shells, grenades, landmines, etc that did not explode when they were employed and still pose a risk of exploding. Iraq is severely affected by mines and UXO as a result of the current conflict, the 1991 Gulf War, the 1980-1988 Iraq-Iran War, two decades of internal conflict, and even World War Two. Landmines and UXO create a problem in the north, along the Iran-Iraq border, and throughout the central and southern regions of the country.

The ERWA is a joint program with ICRC since 2002. It started in four governorates in the south and a field assessment in the affected areas. The assessment was followed by a series of awareness activities. In 2003, the program was expanded to 11 governorates. All governorates are now part of the program except Erbil, Dohuk and Suleimaniah.

Awareness activities included theatre plays, distribution of promotional materials and Civil Defense presentations. The ERWA program coordinates with other Iraqi Red Crescent departments to provide first aid training, dissemination sessions and outreach or mobile clinic services.

The Iraqi Red Crescent trains its staff and volunteers at Headquarters and branch levels as well as governmental and civil defense personnel on data gathering, mine risk education and risk education skills. Trainings aim at promoting skills in developing, implementing and monitoring awareness activities.



Table 6: Awareness activities implemented in 2007

Activity	Frequency / number	Number of beneficiaries
Lectures	201	6,380
Training workshops	6	
Festivals	6	
Operations rooms	5	
Promotional materials	12,270	
Notice boards	15,872	
Games	4,871	
Snake and the ladder game	5,232	
T-shirts	1,819	
Time table for school children	4,102	



ERWA awareness activities in cooperation with the civil defense

17,340 people benefited from 1,020 dissemination sessions in the 18 Iraqi Red Crescent branches

Generating respect to the Red Cross and Red Crescent principles

The Iraqi Red Crescent Organization seeks to generate respect, trust and understanding for the components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and its fundamental principles and emblems. It supports the principle of voluntary work and seeks that additional volunteers are attracted to its programs and activities.

The Information and Dissemination program supports the Iraqi Red Crescent programs, projects and branches in effectively promoting the Red Cross and Red Crescent principles, and the Iraqi Red Crescent mission, services and programs. This support is relevant and timely and includes training of staff, volunteers and general public.

The Iraqi Red Crescent needs to raise the profile of its activities and that of the other components of the Movement among both internal and external audience. The Information and Dissemination activities are designed to serve this need. Activities are appropriately adapted to the level of audience and the specific situation in Iraq's respective governorates.

During 2007, the dissemination program focused on implementing a plan of action that included activities like symposia, lectures, publications and radio programs. A total of 17,340 people benefited from 1,020 dissemination sessions in the 18 Iraqi Red Crescent branches. These sessions tackled topics like the International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, Fundamental Principles, the Emblem, International Humanitarian Law and the activities of the Iraqi Red Crescent in the different aspects



Dissemination session for women in Babil governorate



International Humanitarian Law publications

58,275 people benefited from the publications and promotional materials produced and distributed in 2007

iraqiredcrescent.org is our new website address, launched in 2007

Communicating our achievements to the public

The Information/Communication program reflected the achievements of the Iraqi Red Crescent in all aspects with special focus on the relief operations. The program provides the means of communicating to the local communities the responsibilities and role of the Red Crescent in assisting the communities affected by the current crisis as well as by other natural disasters. The Iraqi Red Crescent uses different tools to communicate with the public including media, exhibitions and publications.

Significant achievements in 2007:

1. The Iraqi Red Crescent leadership performed 28 TV interviews and 50 interviews with other media sources.
2. The new Iraqi Red Crescent website iraqiredcrescent.org was launched to communicate to the world the response of the Iraqi Red Crescent to the humanitarian situation of the Iraqi people.
3. Organization of an art exhibition in cooperation with one of the known Iraqi artists.
4. Organization of a special event during Ramadan, in which the President held a media conference focused on the displacement problem, treatment of the conflict victims and the relief operation.
5. Documentation of the Iraqi Red Crescent activities, especially humanitarian aid distribution and setting up of camps to shelter the displaced.
6. Media coverage of the Iraqi Red Crescent activities, like sending 55 children with disabilities for treatment in the United Arab Emirates, field visits to hospitals to identify needs of the victims of violence and distribution of gifts and relief items. There was also media coverage of 300 events in local newspapers.
7. Media coverage of a festival in Qatar in which the Organization of the Arab National Societies granted an award to the Iraqi Red Crescent. And, media coverage of the assistance provided to the pilgrims in the pilgrimage season (Nov-Dec 2007).
8. Designing and publishing public information package on the prevention of Cholera in Arabic (50,000 copies) and Kurdish languages (20,000 copies).
9. Issuing 12 press releases related to the humanitarian actions of the Iraqi Red Crescent.
10. Assisting Kirkuk, Wassit, Baghdad and Anbar branches in publishing their branch magazines.
11. Twenty two communication/information and public relations employees benefited from two trainings on communications and public relations. Twenty other staff members participated in four refreshing courses.
12. The Iraqi Red Crescent received acknowledgment letters from the National Societies of Saudi Arabia and Libya for the distinguished efforts put into the Iraqi Red Crescent magazine, which reflects the humanitarian reality in Iraq and the Iraqi Red Crescent response and services.

Table 7: Publications and promotional materials produced and distributed in 2007

Item	Quantity	Number of beneficiaries
1. Iraqi Red Crescent magazine- issue 13	3,500 copies	3,500
2. Iraqi Red Crescent magazine- issue 14	6,500 copies	6,500
3. Baghdad Red Crescent magazine	2,000 copies	2,000
4. 2008 wall calendar	6,000 pieces	6,000
5. 2008 desk calendar	3,750 pieces	3,750
6. 2008 pocket calendar	20,000 pieces	20,000
7. 2008 agenda	1,725 pieces	1,725
8. Pens	10,000 pieces	10,000
9. Key chains	4,800 pieces	4,800
Total number of beneficiaries		58,275

Building the capacities of the Iraqi Red Crescent

The Iraqi Red Crescent followed a systematic approach to sustain and improve the capacities of its human and material resources. In 2007, there was focus on developing job descriptions, using self-assessments to identify areas of improvement, recruiting appropriate staff for the humanitarian work, and planning and implementing continuing education activities. Continuing education took place through workshops, courses, lectures, coaching, assessments and performance appraisals. There was coordination with international organizations and ministries regarding trainings and workshops in needed specialties.

Another aspect of organizational development was assisting the technical departments in programming and developing projects that focused on minimizing the impact of the current crisis on the vulnerable people. This involved selection of projects, writing proposals, communicating with the potential donors, developing plans of action and following up achievements and performance.

Reporting got special attention in 2007. Collaboratively, the departments produced monthly activity reports, monthly updates on the Internal Displacement, presentations for the different meetings, Information Bulletins, special reports on unique achievements and events, appeals, regular reports on projects, and so on.

In branch development, 69 offices affiliated to the branches were established, each with 10 staff members. Also, new main offices for branches were established.

Growing branch capacities in response to the humanitarian crisis in the 18 governorates

Baghdad branch was challenged by an increased need for relief due to having the highest number of displaced people compared to the other governorates (1,367,823 people; 62.8% of total number of displaced people in Iraq by end of November 2007). Baghdad, with its high population density, witnessed daily violence and forced displacement towards the center of the governorate and towards other governorates. Baghdad branch assisted the displaced families through its out-reaching 44 offices by humanitarian aid distribution and setting up 16 camps. More than 6,000 volunteers and 500 employees contributed to this relief operation.

Basra branch was challenged by increased violence in the governorate which resulted in forced displacement of 34,172 individuals. The nine branch offices mobilized 200 volunteers to carry out field assessments and distribute humanitarian assistance.

Ninawa branch responded to the mass displacement of 65,826 people from Tellafar district as a result of deteriorating security situation. More than 300 volunteers from six offices supported the relief operation by performing field assessments, distributing humanitarian aid and setting up camps to shelter displaced families.

Najaf branch was challenged by the arrival of 41,861 displaced individuals from other governorates. Najaf governorate had more or less maintained its security situation compared to the other governorates. Some 500 volunteers contributed to the relief operation.

Kirkuk branch was also challenged by the displacement of 19,534 individuals as a result of recurrent explosions. The eight branch offices mobilized 150 volunteers to alleviate the suffering of the displaced families by distributing humanitarian aid.

Kerbala branch mobilized 300 volunteers to respond to the displacement of 39,756 individuals who arrived from other governorates. The stable situation and the presence of several humanitarian organizations in Kerbala governorate attracted displaced families.

Saladin branch was challenged by the deteriorating security situation and the bombing of the Holy Shrines in Sammarra in February 2006, which ignited sectarian and ethnic armed conflicts throughout Iraq on a scale never seen before. Saladin branch mobilized 200 volunteers to register displaced families and to identify and meet the emerging needs. There were 111,503 displaced people in Saladin by November 2007.

11,570 trained volunteers were mobilized by the 18 Iraqi Red Crescent branches to assist in the response to the humanitarian crisis

Dohuk branch responded to the arrival of 11,436 displaced individuals to the governorate. Many displaced families settled in villages and others were sheltered in Kurdaseen camp set-up by the Iraqi Red Crescent for more than one year. Some 250 volunteers assisted in the relief operation. During the past few months, the governorate was subject to the Turkish bombardment, which resulted in the displacement of hundreds of families towards the center of the governorate.

Diwaniya branch responded to the needs of 16,986 displaced people as well as to the needs of the original residents of the governorate during the unstable security situation and repeated curfews. The branch mobilized 150 volunteers to assist in the relief operation.

Suleimaniah branch mobilized 150 volunteers to respond to the needs of 57,435 displaced people who arrived from the center and the south of the country.

Anbar branch was challenged by the repeated armed conflicts between armed groups and the Iraqi and multi-national forces. During the past months, the security situation in Anbar governorate improved significantly, which resulted in the gradual return of the displaced families. Anbar branch mobilized 800 volunteers through its 26 offices to assist the affected population during armed conflicts, to identify and meet the needs of 53,925 displaced people, and to assist the families in returning to their homes.

Missan branch mobilized 360 volunteers to respond to the needs of 43,394 displaced people arriving from other governorates. Displaced families were attracted to Missan governorate due to its stable and secure situation. However, displaced people faced the problem of deteriorating infrastructure and lack of potable water and health services.

Erbil branch mobilized 150 volunteers to respond to the needs of 37,469 displaced people.

Babil branch mobilized 300 volunteers to respond to the needs of 60,297 displaced people. The north of Babil governorate witnessed repeated armed conflicts, which caused displacement towards the center. The governorate also received displaced families mainly from Baghdad. Branch activities included field surveys and distribution of humanitarian aid.

Thi qar branch responded to the humanitarian needs of 11,246 displaced people. A total of 290 volunteers participated in the relief operation.

Wassit branch mobilized 520 volunteers to respond to the needs of 56,970 displaced people.

Muthanna branch mobilized 250 volunteers to respond to the needs of 5,131 displaced people. Although of the stable and secure situation in Muthanna, a relatively small number of displaced families arrived. This is because Muthanna lies far from the governorates that suffer from violence.

Diyala branch was challenged by repeated armed conflicts between armed groups and the Iraqi and multi-national forces. This situation resulted in mass displacement within Diyala governorate and towards other governorates. The branch mobilized 200 volunteers to respond to the needs of 44,850 displaced individuals.



550 Externally Displaced patients received 550,000 USD from the Iraqi Red Crescent to pay for medicines and hospitalization expenses

300 Externally Displaced families received 145,000 USD from the Iraqi Red Crescent to pay for basic needs and schooling expenses

Assisting the externally displaced Iraqis

In 2007, the Iraqi Red Crescent included the Iraqis who became externally displaced as a result of the humanitarian crisis in Iraq in the relief operation (food and non-food aid and health relief). It coordinated its activities outside Iraq with the related ministries and governments of the countries hosting the Externally Displaced, and worked closely with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). As a result, Iraqi Red Crescent Coordination offices in the countries hosting big numbers of Externally Displaced Iraqis (Jordan, Syria and Iran) were established.

Starting September and through December 2007, a total of 45,913 Externally Displaced families returned from Syria to Iraq as a result of improving security situation. The majority returned to Baghdad. The Iraqi Red Crescent carried out field surveys and updates on the number of returnees. The process was coordinated through the network of branches and offices countrywide.

Iraqi Red Crescent Coordination Office in Amman/Jordan

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Jordan approved the establishment of the Iraqi Red Crescent office within the premises of the Iraqi Embassy in Amman and the appointment of three employees. The aim of this office is to maintain coordination and communications with the international humanitarian organizations functioning in Iraq, which were forced by the security situation to move their offices to Jordan.

The office was inaugurated on 1 February 2007. The most significant achievements in 2007 were:

Relief aid: The office in Amman carried out several relief activities Amman, which included surveys of the destitute Iraqi families and four rounds of distribution of 100 food shares. Other relief activities were put on hold due to administrative reasons.

Health aspect: The office provided assistance to Iraqi families in need for medications and surgical interventions in the Jordanian hospitals. A total of 400 Iraqi patients in Jordan benefited from 400,000 USD, which was financial aid earmarked to medicines and hospitalization. In addition, 150 Iraqi patients displaced in Syria benefited from 150,000 USD.

Financial aid: Many Iraqi families arrived in Jordan with minimal resources and they quickly became in need for assistance to meet their basic needs including schooling for children. A total of 200 Iraqi families displaced in Jordan benefited from 100,000 USD and 100 Iraqi families displaced in Syria benefited from 45,000 USD.

Coordination with international organizations interested in the humanitarian situation in Iraq was reinforced through participation in conferences, seminars and working groups on food, relief, health and legal aspects. The Iraqi Red Crescent shared information and reports on the humanitarian situation in Iraq with its partners, and many organizations considered the Iraqi Red Crescent as a credible source of information. Major coordination activities in 2007 were:

- ◆ Coordinated the relief operations with the ICRC and its sub-offices in Najaf, Basra, Baghdad and Erbil.
- ◆ Coordinated with the National Societies of Denmark, The Netherlands, Sweden and Norway the rehabilitation of hospitals and donations of medicines to 15 hospitals in the governorates witnessing repeated military operations.
- ◆ Coordinated with the ICRC, Norwegian Church Organization and National Societies of Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates the rehabilitation of water treatment plants in Basra, Saladin, Anbar, Baghdad, Thi qar and Muthanna governorates.
- ◆ Coordinated with UNHCR the donation of relief aid including 5,000 shares of relief items, 1,500 tents for displaced families and two ambulances.

Good working relationships with regional and international agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations generated positive impact on the vulnerable communities

- ◆ Followed-up with the World Health Organization (WHO) the donation of medicines and vaccines, particularly supplies needed for the treatment of Cholera.
- ◆ Coordinated with the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) the relief operations, promotion of community health awareness and support to the rehabilitation of Iraqi Red Crescent hospitals.
- ◆ Prepared the 2008 cooperation agreement with the World Food Program. The food program will include eight governorates- 2 in the north, 3 in the south and 3 in the middle.
- ◆ Prepared the 2008 cooperation agreement with UNICEF regarding the implementation of mother and child health promotion activities in four governorates.
- ◆ Prepared the 2008 cooperation agreement with UNHCR regarding the implementation of relief programs for the internally and externally displaced Iraqi people.
- ◆ Prepared the 2008 cooperation agreement with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) regarding relief programs for the internally and externally displaced Iraqi people.
- ◆ Prepared the 2008 cooperation agreement with the WHO regarding the implementation of health programs and securing supplies of medicines and vaccines to the Iraqi Hospitals.
- ◆ Coordinated the relief operations with the IFRC- Iraq Delegation, which included the delivery of 37,500 food shares, 13,000 shares of relief items and 7,500 wheelchairs.
- ◆ Coordinated the health relief activities and rehabilitation of the Iraqi Red Crescent hospitals in Baghdad and Wassit.
- ◆ Coordinated with UNICEF, IFRC, ICRC, UNHCR, Turkish Red Crescent and WHO the international training for the Iraqi Red Crescent employees in the fields of relief, disaster management, camp management, emergency care, field surveys during emergencies, field reporting, management and leadership.

Iraqi Red Crescent Coordination Office in Tehran/Iran

In Iran, the Iraqi Red Crescent has distinctive relationship with the Iranian Red Crescent, which produced a positive impact reflected on implemented and planned projects that benefit many Iraqis. The Iranian Red Crescent has local and international experiences in the humanitarian field, which can be shared with the Iraqi Red Crescent to strengthen and support the humanitarian work in Iraq.

In 2007, the joint cooperation with the Iranian Red crescent produced the following results:

- ◆ 5,000 tents donated to the Iraqi Red Crescent.
- ◆ 10 tons of medicines and medical supplies were delivered to Kerbala governorate.
- ◆ 13 patients with heart conditions and 25 patients with other diseases were referred for treatment in Iran.
- ◆ A cooperation agreement between the Iraqi Red Crescent- Health Department and the Iranian Red Crescent was signed regarding:
 - Treatment of Iraqi patients in Iran.
 - Establishment of a dialysis unit.
 - Establishment of a rehabilitation center for people with artificial limbs.
 - Training of Iraqi Red Crescent young employees.
 - Granting fellowship certificates to Iraqi Red Crescent physicians.
 - Construction of three hospitals in Najaf, Kerbala and Sader city.
 - Construction of 15 health centers in Iraq.

Partnership with the public authorities resulted in ensuring the delivery of basic food items and medicines to conflict areas

Building partnerships

The Iraqi Red Crescent supports the activities of the public authorities in humanitarian, relief and health in emergencies. It has strong working relationships with the Sunni, Shiite, and Kurdish communities.

The Iraqi Red Crescent is a Red Cross affiliated non-sectarian humanitarian relief organization that assists all Iraqis regardless of their religion or political affiliation. This status enables the Iraqi Red Crescent to access and respond rapidly to the humanitarian needs in every village in Iraq while maintaining its neutrality in the ongoing conflict.

Table 8: Cooperation between the Iraqi Red Crescent and governmental organizations in 2006 and 2007

Benefiting organization	Donated by Iraqi Red Crescent	
	2006	2007
Ministry of Education	150,000 school kits	Rehabilitation and furnishing of 15 schools in the southern governorates
Ministry of Health	30 tons of medical supplies	52 tons of medicines and medical supplies Rehabilitation and furnishing of 29 health centers and 30 hospitals
Ministry of Trade	Ensuring the delivery of basic food items to conflict areas	
Ministry of Migration and Displacement	40,000 food shares Supported the establishment of three camps to shelter displaced families	

This ability to operate safely in unsecured areas provides a broad outreach for the partners of the Iraqi Red Crescent, including United Nations agencies and other international humanitarian organizations. The Iraqi Red Crescent assists its partners with data gathering inside Iraq to better serve displaced and vulnerable populations. Each of the 365 Red Crescent offices continually tracks population changes and movements around the country.

The Iraqi Red Crescent coordinated its work with all humanitarian organizations active in Iraq. The year 2007 indicated coordination and cooperation activities at the highest levels.

- ◆ There were four coordination meetings with the ICRC, which resulted in four cooperation agreements regarding Information/Communications, Central Tracing, ERWA and dissemination of International Humanitarian Law programs.
- ◆ There were three coordination meetings with the IFRC, which resulted in cooperation agreements regarding health relief, disaster management, organizational development and rehabilitation of hospitals.
- ◆ A cooperation agreement with the United Arab Emirates Red Crescent was signed regarding treatment of Iraqi patients in Emirates.
- ◆ A cooperation agreement with the Iranian Red Crescent was signed regarding treatment of Iraqi patients, training of Iraqi physicians and sharing of experiences.
- ◆ Cooperation with the Italian Red Cross regarding the medical rehabilitation of people who lost their limbs in violence acts and mobilization of the Italian Red Cross field hospital in Damascus to provide artificial limbs to this category of patients.
- ◆ A cooperation agreement with the Netherlands Red Cross was signed regarding providing medicines and medical supplies to support 15 Iraqi hospitals in conflict areas.
- ◆ Coordination with the Spanish Red Cross regarding the donation of 500 wheelchairs.
- ◆ Coordination with the Malaysian Red Crescent regarding humanitarian actions in 2008 onwards.
- ◆ Visits to the National Societies of Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait to discuss bilateral cooperation regarding providing assistance in humanitarian, relief and health aspects to the Iraqi Red Crescent.
- ◆ Participation in international conferences to present the humanitarian situation in Iraq and the related needs to minimize the effects on the local communities and provision of support to the governmental organizations.

Table 9: In-Kind contributions of international partners in 2006 and 2007

Partner	Field of cooperation	Beneficiaries in 2006	Beneficiaries in 2007
1. International Committee of the Red Cross	Food and non food relief items	27,668 families	60,000 families
2. International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	Food items	37,500 families	13,000 families
3. Kuwaiti Red Crescent	Food and non food relief items	10,000 families	5,000 families
4. Iranian Red Crescent	Relief items	3,500 families	4,000 families
5. Brotherhood Charity Organization	Malnutrition program (food items)	30,000 children and mothers	
6. United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF)	Relief items for the displaced and destitute families	2,900 relief shares	4,500 food basket
7. United Arab Emirates Red Crescent	Food items	15,000 families	5,000 families
8. Spanish Red Cross	Wheelchairs	500 people with disabilities	
9. Italian Red Cross	Artificial limbs	600 people with disabilities	
10. Netherlands Red Cross	Surgical kits Medical supplies	32 kits Supplies for 15 hospitals in 15 governorates	16 tons of medicines

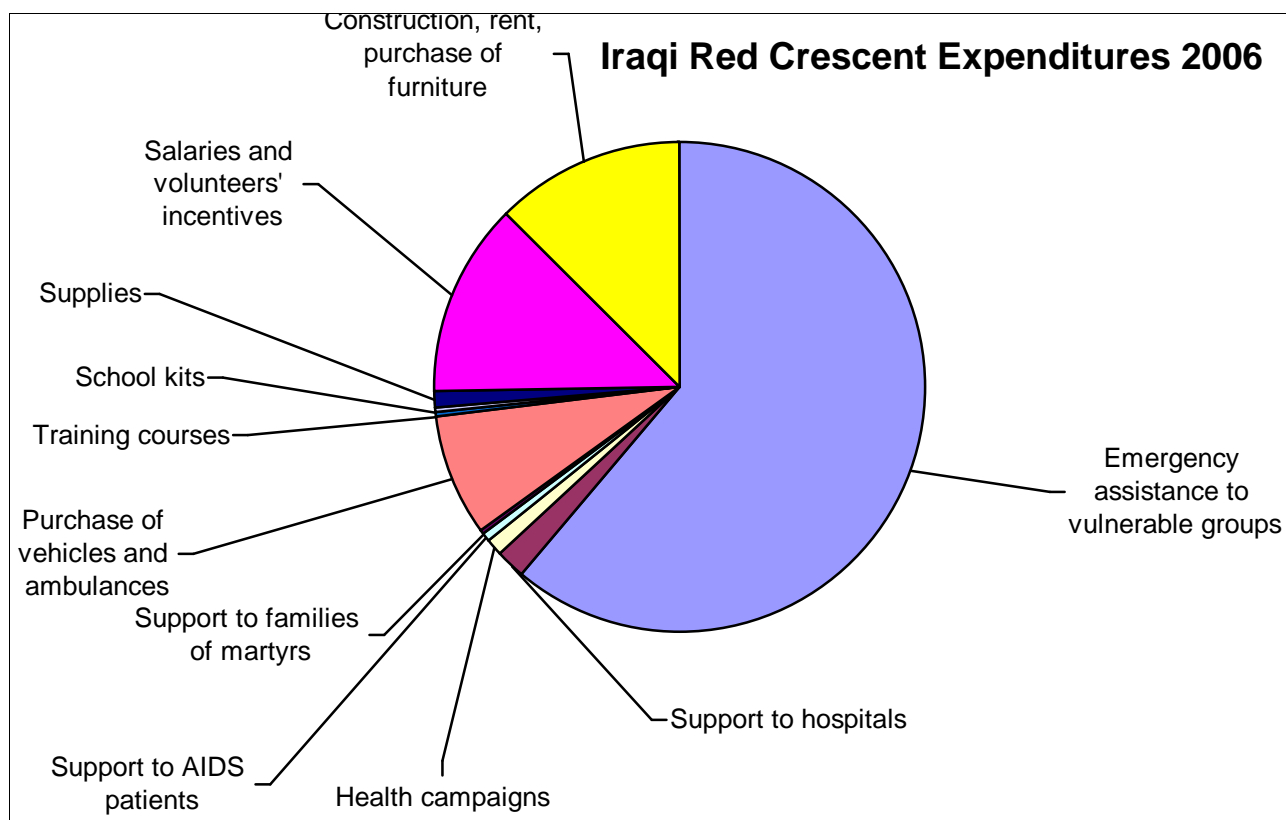
Expenditures in 2006

The Iraqi Red Crescent seeks to diversify its financial resources to ensure the sustainability of its humanitarian work. In 2006, regular and emergency activities were implemented countrywide. Resources were limited compared to size of the humanitarian operation. In 2007, expenditure increased as a result of the increase in the number of Internally Displaced People. The number of the Internally Displaced People had increased by 433 percent from December 2006 to November 2007, which led to the expansion of humanitarian aid operation. In addition, the Iraqi Red Crescent expanded its relief operation in 2007 to include the externally displaced in the neighboring countries.

Table 10: Illustration of the Iraqi Red Crescent expenditures for the period 1 January - 31 December 2006

No.	Program/activity	Expenditures (USD)	Percent of total
1	Emergency assistance to vulnerable groups: - Assistance to victims of floods - Assistance to Internally Displaced People (relief, tents, food and essential items) - Setting up camps for displaced People in several governorates - Setting up camps to assist the pilgrims departing to Saudi Arabia	47,546,130	61.1
2	Support to hospitals, included essential medicines and equipment	1,540,547	2.0
3	Health awareness campaigns on Poliomyelitis and Avian Influenza	788,760	1.0
4	Financial support to people living with AIDS	534,056	0.7
5	Financial support to families of martyrs	82,162.5	0.1
6	Purchase of vehicles to transport relief items, ambulances Providing protection means during transport of relief items and staff and for Iraqi Red Crescent offices	6,350,340	8.2
7	Training courses on health and UXO	143,784	0.2
8	School kits for schools in coordination with Ministry of Education	369,731	0.5
9	Supplies for the headquarters, branches and offices Moving offices from insecure areas	688,379	0.9
10	Salaries and volunteers' incentives (inside and outside Iraq)	10,114,299	13.0
11	Construction, rent, purchase of furniture for branches and establishment of a headquarters office in the green zone	9,615,284	12.3
	TOTAL	77,773,472.5	100

Exchange rate 1 USD = 1217 Iraqi Dinars (28 December 2007)



Our priorities for 2008-2009- *[How to help us do more]*

The Iraqi Red Crescent will contribute to poverty reduction in Iraq through creating at least 15,700 job opportunities for men and women from the different ethnic groups. This will be achieved through implementing projects that will provide added value to Iraq's re-construction efforts of medical establishments and rehabilitation of infrastructure.

The Iraqi Red Crescent will contribute to reducing the number of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters in Iraq. This will be achieved through increasing the disaster response efficiency and building related capacities including human resource and infrastructure. An advanced National Disaster Response Team with adequate training and equipment will be established to enable evacuation and rescue processes. This will allow the Iraqi Red Crescent to support the governmental institutions, ministries and civil defense in evacuation and rescue during mass casualties. The Iraqi Red Crescent will contribute to minimizing the effects of road accidents through preparing quick response aiding teams on the roads to provide timely assistance. Furthermore, the Iraqi Red Crescent will purchase Mobile Medical Units to be deployed during disasters, conflicts, first aid and large gatherings and for general medical care delivery in remote and isolated areas.

The Iraqi Red Crescent will contribute to reducing the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies in Iraq. This will be achieved through alleviating the suffering of Cancer patients by ensuring the availability of radiotherapy, surgeries and chemotherapy as well as medicines and medical supplies. The Iraqi Red Crescent will implement projects that prevent public health emergencies resulting from lack of safe drinking water.

The Iraqi Red Crescent will contribute to reducing intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promoting respect for diversity and human dignity in Iraq. This will be achieved through implementing projects that empower special vulnerable groups like people with disabilities, widows and orphans to regain their lost livelihoods. The Iraqi Red Crescent will provide free housing, wheelchairs and most importantly job opportunities. The Iraqi Red Crescent will launch its Neighborhood Reconstruction Program, which will lead to stabilizing 600,000 Internally Displaced People into 120 Reconstructed Neighborhood Units in Baghdad.