

2015 Winterization Support 1/2

1. Core Relief Items:

- No. families targeted by Assistance: 13,000 families
- No. of families assisted: 23,166 families

2. Kerosene (fuel for heating):

- No. families targeted by Assistance: 25,106 (In-Kind: 13,655, Cash: 11,451)
- No. of families assisted Families Assisted: 26,995 (In-Kind: 16,230; Cash: 10,765)

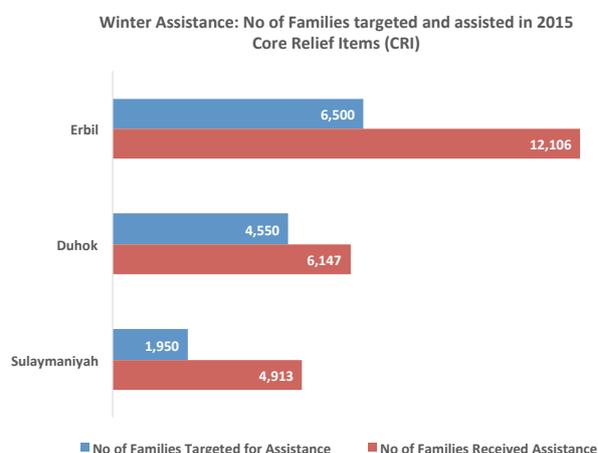
The **planning** and preparation for winter 2015/16 began in May 2015 with discussions on availability of funds, core relief item (CRI) stocks and setting a realistic target number of beneficiaries to be reached with winter support. The conclusion was to continue along the lines of the successful winter support programme of 2014/15, targeting the most vulnerable refugees both in and out of camps. Priority for winter assistance was given to refugee families based on a combination of vulnerability criteria.

The post distribution monitoring of the 2014/15 winter response indicated that refugees' priorities are fuel for heating (kerosene) and cash grants for other winter support, while the shelter/NFI sector concluded that core relief items should continue to be included for refugees living in camps. A two-pronged approach was therefore adopted to provide **in-kind kerosene for refugee's families in camps and cash for kerosene for refugee families outside camps**, in addition to CRIs for refugees in camp and cash for CRIs for refugees outside camps. The later did not materialise however, with priority being given to the provision of heating fuel as at the time of planning there was insufficient funding available to also cover cash for CRIs.



Core Relief Items Distribution. Turaq, Erbil/QANDIL

Core Relief Items (CRIs) distribution: In light of the funding situation, and with relatively good stock levels available, the plan was modified so that all CRI support would be in-kind. This CRI support was based on a “winter kit” of 6 items: 5 X blanket/quilt, 1 X plastic tarpaulin, 1 X kerosene jerry can, 1 X kerosene stove, 1 X insulating tent liner and 3 X packs of XPS floor covering (extruded polystyrene sheeting). However, rather than distributing as kits, one or more items were distributed to families based on a needs assessment thus enabling the sector to reach more families by addressing specific needs and to avoid waste.



2015 Winterization Support 2/2

As a result reporting of winter support to refugees was recorded as “families benefiting” and not as “kits distributed.” By following this method and with an initial core relief item target of 13000 families, the winter assistance programme began on 12 October 2015.

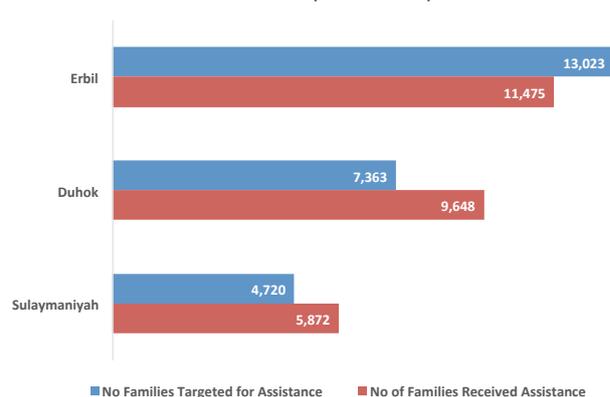
A total of 23,164 families across the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) actually benefitted from winter CRI support by 31 December 2015: Duhok (4,781 families in camp, 1,366 families out of camp), Erbil (6,002 families in camp, 6,104 families out of camp), and Sulaymaniyah (2,516 families in camp, 2,395 families out of camp). In addition, in Sulaymaniyah ICRC reached 498 refugee families with CRI support and STEP reached a further 24 families.

Kerosene Distribution (in-kind and through cash assistance):

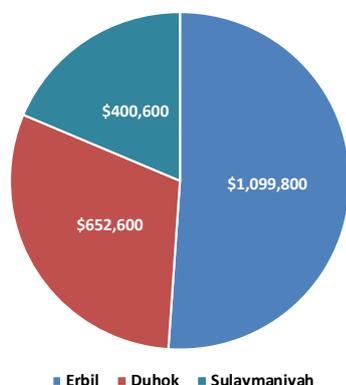
Initial target figures for winter fuel support were: 13,655 families for in-kind kerosene distribution and 11,451 families to receive cash for kerosene. Based on the previous years’ experience and discussions in the shelter/NFI sector meetings, 100 litres of kerosene per family per month was retained as the recommended distribution amount with a first distribution of 200 liters per family intended to cover requirements for November and December. By 31 December, and with the help of additional late funding, 3,246,000 liters of kerosene had been distributed to 16,230 families across the

KR-I: Duhok – 6,385 families; Erbil – 5,976 families; and, Sulaymaniyah – 3,869 families. In addition, IOM distributed 2,150 vouchers for fuel in Sulaymaniyah and in-kind fuel to 2,489 families in Duhok as well as 3,950 families in Erbil. IVY Japan distributed to 670 families in Erbil and in Dohuk German Red Cross supported 2,802 families, Peace Winds Japan 2,813 families both with in-kind fuel distribution.

Winter Assistance: No of Families targeted and assisted in 2015
Kerosene (In-Kind & Cash)



Cash distribution for kerosene



Over USD 2M was distributed to a further 10,765 families (Duhok – 3,263 families; Erbil – 5,499 families; and, Sulaymaniyah – 2,003 families) as cash for kerosene, each family receiving USD 200, intended to cover the same 100 litres per family per month for November and December (as for those families receiving in-kind kerosene). This was based on the recommendation of the Shelter/NFI technical working group’s estimation of the price of kerosene on the local market as USD 1 per liter.

Constraints:

The initial plan was to distribute the cash for winter fuel via and a financial service provider the International Smart Card Company (ISC) however it was only in October that the ISC Company made it clear that they would not issue smart cards to refugees due to banking restrictions imposed by the Central Bank of Iraq (CBI). The only immediate alternative was the use of bank cheques but due to a number of factors including limited capacity at individual banks, the total number of banks, and liquidity issues in the KR-I, bank branches are generally unwilling or unable to cash more than 50 checks per day. This adversely affected the speed at which cash for kerosene distributions took place.



Kerosene Cheque Distribution. Bazian, Sulamaniyah/QANDIL