

# IRAQ

GETTING TO THE **HEART** OF THE MATTER





# Foreword

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“

It is an uncomfortable truth that the fractured, increasingly urbanised, and protracted nature of modern warfare has far reaching humanitarian consequences - for it is a **reality** that often leaves countries disfigured by conflicts that can last generations.”







◀ Families in Mosul return to what used to be home after the devastating conflict

Such an evolving landscape requires a holistic approach to humanitarian assistance. An approach that meets immediate needs, whilst simultaneously addressing ways to play a part in longer-term socioeconomic development, delivering more varied community support, and sustaining basic services and infrastructure.

This is a difficult 'ask' in stable times. But when added to some 30 years of violent conflict – from the First Gulf war of the early 90s, the Second Gulf War of 2003. The violent insurgency that followed the occupation, and more recently, the invasion and expulsion, of Islamic State – each event has added another layer of complexity to the situation. Damaging state infrastructure, causing massive population displacement, and mutilating Iraqi society.

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*To mitigate this, we have, at Human Relief Foundation, been developing **impactful responses** to the shifting landscape of humanitarian aid.*

*It is an approach that has, over the last 3 decades, allowed us to deliver the right kind of response, at the right time, and in the form required by those in need.*



# History

**F**ounded in Bradford (UK) in what now appears the dim and distant spring of 1991, Human Relief Foundation (HRF) has spent the following 28 years devoting its time to working on projects that relieve human suffering in some of the most deprived regions of the world. And some of the least deprived. For suffering and need are also found in more affluent countries.

This work has, over the arc of time, taken HRF to countries as far flung as Afghanistan, Bosnia and Ghana, and a host of other regions. But it all began in Iraq. A beginning that saw HRF set up, and launch, a series of humanitarian aid programmes to support the war-affected people of Iraq. And we have been one of the primary NGO's working in the country since 1991.

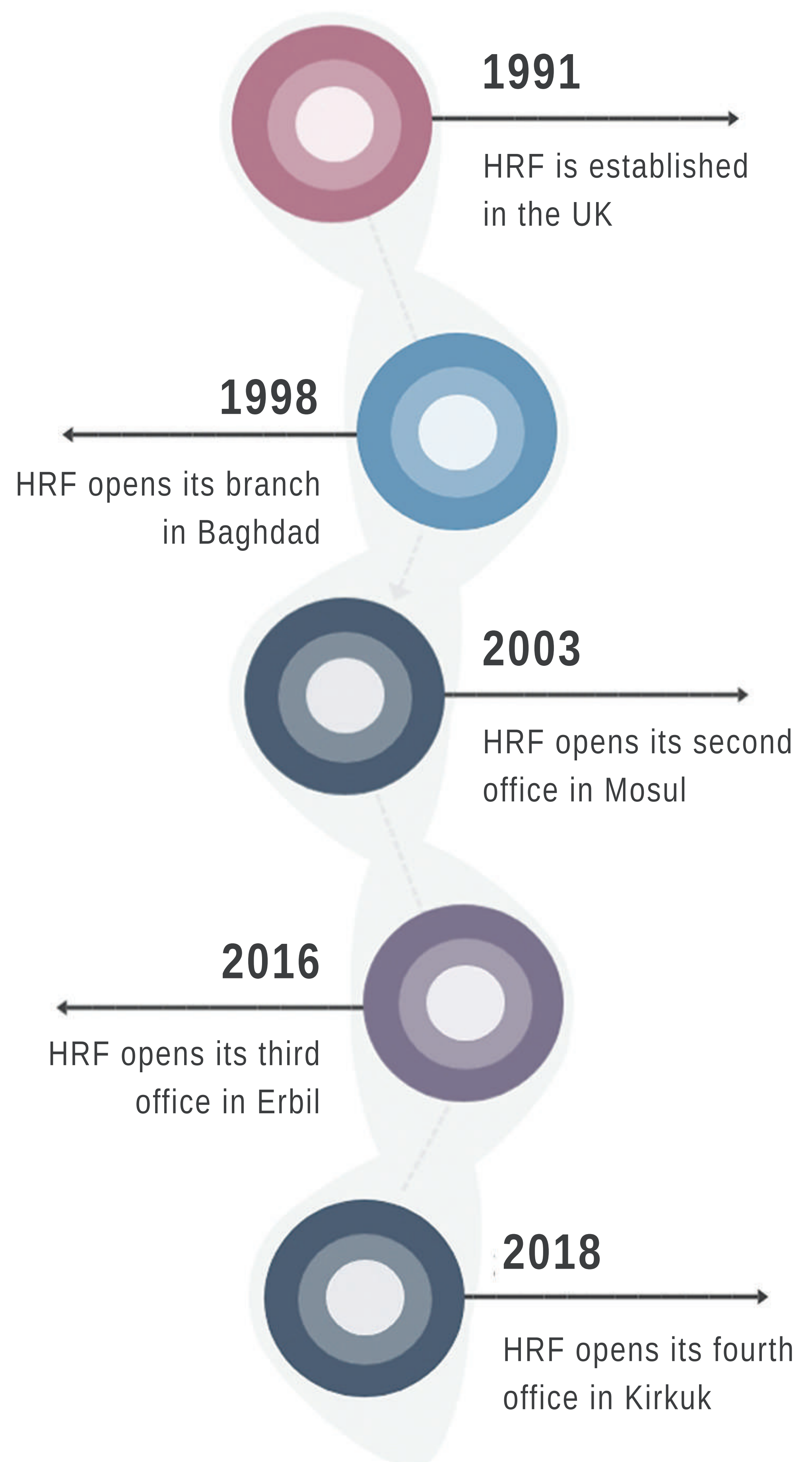
Since our establishment, we have expanded worldwide from our Bradford HQ and now operate out of 4 regional offices in: London, Birmingham, Manchester and Swansea.

And a further 7 permanent relief offices strategically located around the world allow us to provide assistance to ordinary people caught up in extraordinary circumstance: Amman (Jordan) Baghdad, Mosul, Erbil and Kirkuk (all Iraq) Islamabad (Pakistan) Paris (France).



## Our offices in Iraq

### *A timeline*

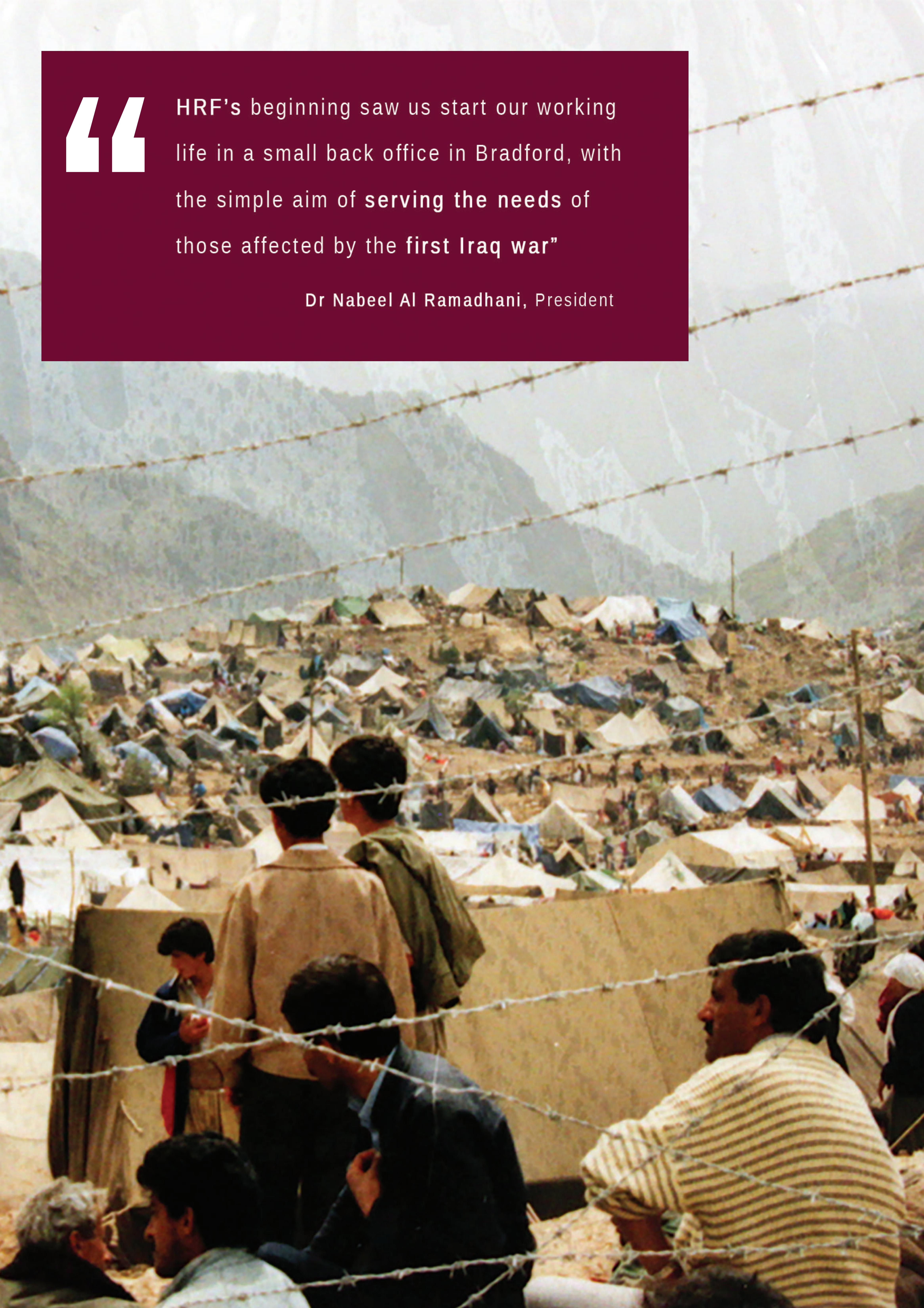




“

HRF's beginning saw us start our working life in a small back office in Bradford, with the simple aim of serving the needs of those affected by the first Iraq war”

Dr Nabeel Al Ramadhani, President







## Daily Delivery Of 1500m<sup>3</sup> Clean Water

*Location: Mosul*

HRF and UNICEF partnered to provide an average of 1500m<sup>3</sup> of clean drinking water per day to residents by water trucking and installing 120 static water tanks in vulnerable neighbourhoods in East Mosul.

## Post-Conflict Shelter Rehabilitation

*Location: Mosul*

After the devastating war, HRF rehabilitated and rebuilt destroyed houses on the West Side of Mosul.

## Livelihood Restoration

*Location: Mosul*

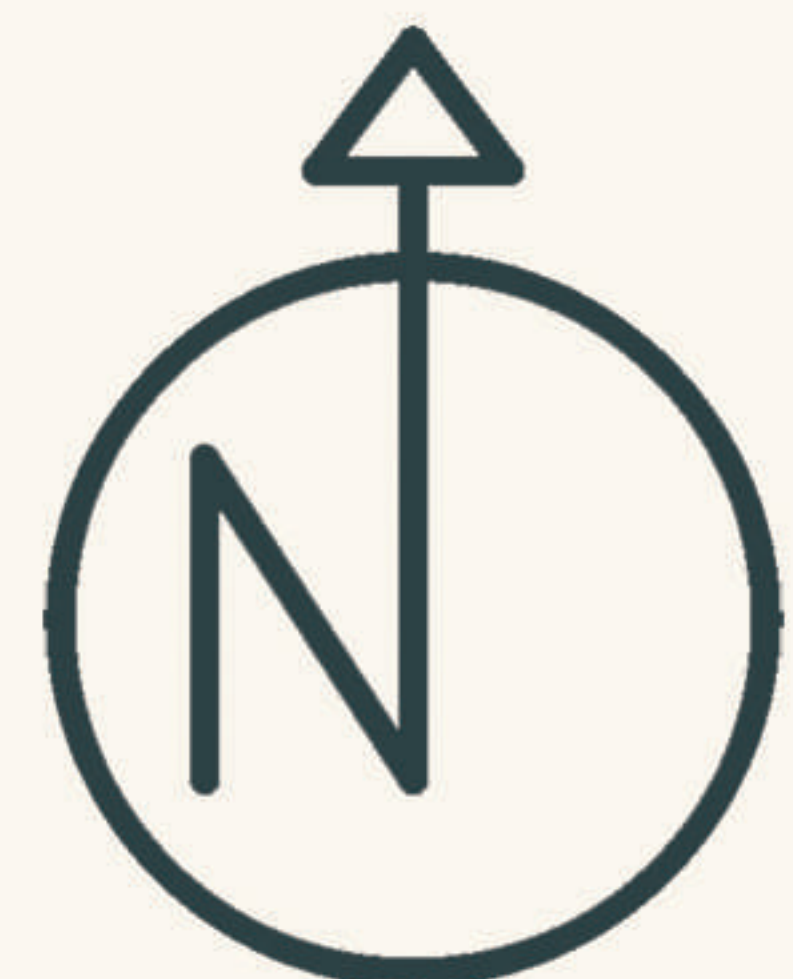
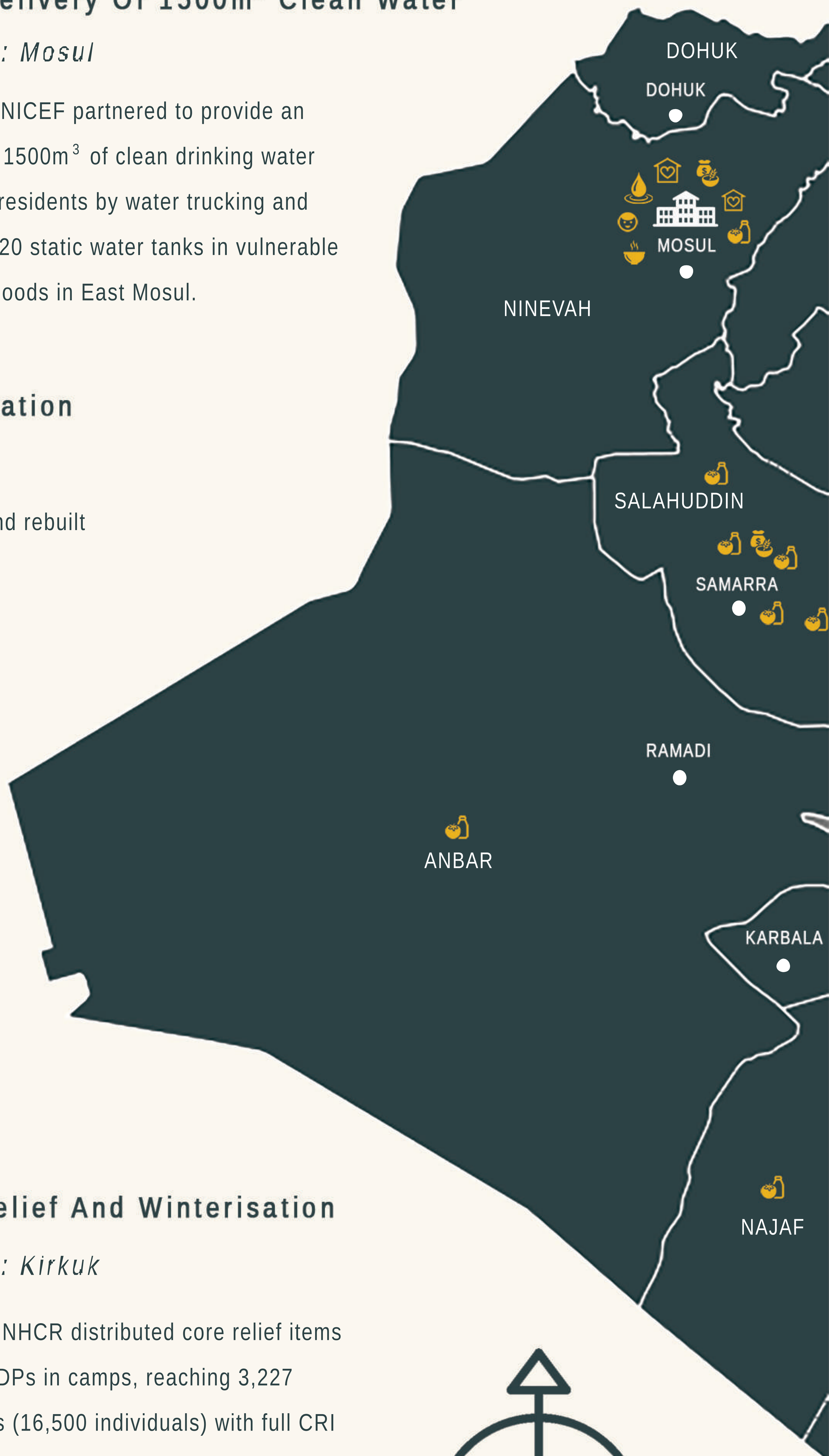
HRF and the UNDP targeted five districts which required emergency assistance and stabilisation through cash-for-work activities such as: debris removal and street cleaning, public and private building repairs, the restocking of shops and employing female cleaning teams as a way of empowering women and widows.



## Core Relief And Winterisation

*Location: Kirkuk*

HRF and UNHCR distributed core relief items (CRIs) to IDPs in camps, reaching 3,227 households (16,500 individuals) with full CRI packages, and 1,365 households (8,330 individuals) with winterisation kits.



KEY



HRF office

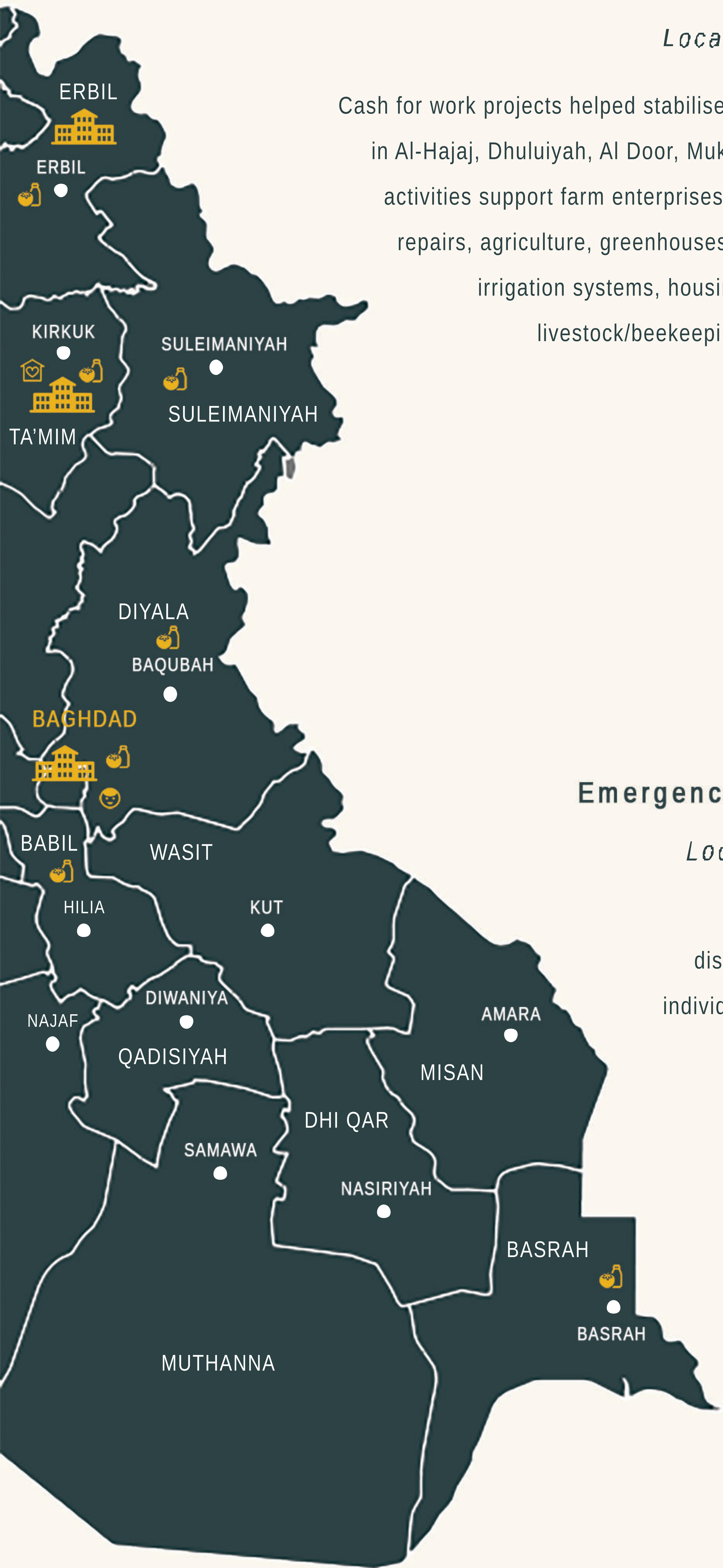


Food projects



Hot meal distribution





# Better Futures For Families

*Location: Salah al-Din*

Cash for work projects helped stabilise vulnerable households in Al-Hajaj, Dhuluiyah, Al Door, Mukeshefah and Tikrit. Our activities support farm enterprises, aquacultures, housing repairs, agriculture, greenhouses and electric pumps for irrigation systems, housing grants, restocking of livestock/beekeeping, and debris removal.



## Orphan Sponsorship

*Location: Mosul, Baghdad*

With the support of donors, thousands of orphans have been sponsored in Baghdad and Mosul. Work has allowed their basic needs, food and clothing to be met.

## Emergency Food Supplies

*Location: Across Iraq*

Food rations have been distributed to thousands of individuals across the country to tackle post conflict food poverty.



Capital city:  
Baghdad  
Land area:  
438,317 km2  
Population:  
Approx 30,399,572





*HRF was the first INGO to respond to meeting the water needs of Mosul residents in newly retaken areas of East Mosul, in partnership with UNICEF*

# WASH

## Water Works

Clean water is a basic human right, one to which every person should have unrestricted access. Yet for many individuals, some 663 million at the last count, fragile states, ongoing conflicts, economic sanctions, or environmental disasters can throw up significant barriers to WASH access - the impact of which can have long-term negative effects upon communities and individuals.

Delivering this core service is therefore one of our principle areas of work and expertise. A role we have carried out for many years, and in many different forms, throughout the world, for no two WASH programmes are alike - with each being shaped by the specific challenges presented in an area.

## HRF, UNICEF & Mosul

Our projects in Iraq have, since 1991, covered many of the key forms of humanitarian aid, but our work with UNICEF between December 2016 and July 2017 was an emergency WASH project designed to supply water to the residents of Mosul East Bank - at the time, a newly recaptured area of the city in which the water infrastructure had been severely damaged during the Battle for Mosul with ISIS.

With bridges and water pipes destroyed, boreholes damaged, and the water servicing systems dysfunctional, the lack of access to clean water made the East bank population of 650,000 people extremely vulnerable.



Solid waste management and hygiene projects conducted across Mosul

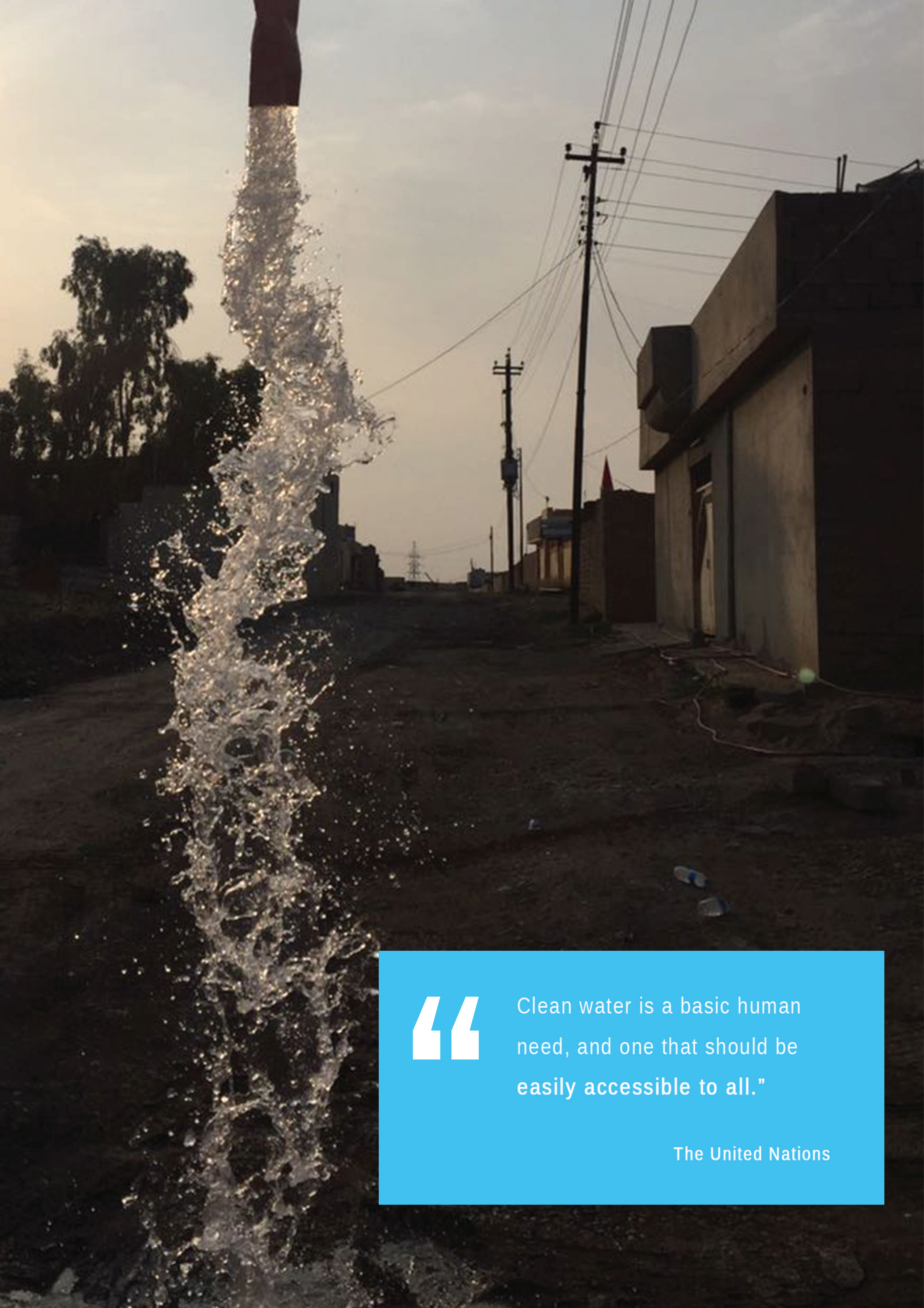


1500m<sup>3</sup> of water reached Mosul East bank residents daily



HRF managed 60+ water trucks





“

Clean water is a basic human need, and one that should be easily accessible to all.”

The United Nations



# Shelter / NFIs

## A Legacy of Conflict, Violence and Abuse

Having worked in Iraq since 1991, we have developed a network of contacts, and a level of expertise, that allows HRF to effectively deal with the consequences of years of conflict, violence and destroyed livelihoods. A period of nearly 30 years that has left almost all sectors of Iraqi society in need of some form of humanitarian aid and protection. And although no longer an unfolding crisis, the situation is still fragile.

## HRF & UNHCR

Since January 2018, HRF has been working in partnership with the UNHCR to provide life-saving household items, and shelter materials to conflict affected people in Kirkuk. As the UNHCRs implementing partner we have worked tirelessly to conduct timely, flexible, needs-based interventions for some of the most vulnerable populations across the governorate.

The project has seen thousands of internally displaced families (IDPs) - both in camps, and those living outside of camp settings - benefitting from the distribution of core relief items, such as tents, mattresses and blankets. This has been delivered despite the significant logistical, security, access and resource constraints in the district.

All these distributions are aligned with the on-going needs of the affected population, for many IDPs are now returning to their home districts. A return that often finds them facing a lack of relief items to secure their wellbeing, limited equipment to repair their homes, as well as other key shortfalls. Therefore, another key strand of the programme is aimed at reducing the likelihood of secondary displacement through the distribution of priority core relief items, and the management of a logistical pipeline that provides a reliable, cost-effective, and steady, stream of quality materials for distribution to populations in need.

*HRF and UNHCR work  
together to improve  
livelihoods*







# 4592

Core Relief Items and  
winterisation kits  
distributed to IDPs

# 2693

tents providing shelter

# 2416

solar lamps  
increasing safety in  
the camps

# 1059

mattresses providing  
comfort at night

# 2881

fans cooling in the  
heat

◀ *Vulnerable women in the  
Kirkuk governorate districts  
receive their Core Relief  
items*



# Food Security & Livelihoods

## Programme Agility

Our FSL programmes have focused on building community / household resilience and coping capacities, through designing interventions that are adapted to the individual needs of the target groups (IDPs, Returnees). It is a successful approach, but one that requires an agile implementation structure. A structure which is able to swiftly respond to environmental, and societal changes.

## Partnerships & Programming

Often working in partnership with other FSL actors, our projects cover the gamut of sector interventions - from providing life saving, and life sustaining, food, to building productive assets for more sustainable livelihoods.

## Accountability

Each programme is developed with a strong emphasis on creating strategies shaped by conflict sensitive analysis. Analysis which ensures that humanitarian assistance does not exacerbate tensions between groups and individuals.



*HRF has worked to improve the  
food security and nutrition  
status of those most needy* 





“

We are a poor family. We don't have money to live in dignity. We suffer from lack of food and we don't have enough furniture because it is under the ruins of our house now.”

Hazem, Iraqi father of family who had fled the war (Source: Reuters)



## A Window Into Our World

From late 2018 through to early 2019 we organised and delivered a range of community training courses in agricultural methodology, and practices. This work was supported and enhanced by the simultaneous distribution of seeds and farming equipment to 500 households (3150 individuals). We have also recently implemented a complex FSL programme in coordination with a cluster of strategic partners. This work has been focused on contributing to community-led reconciliation, fostering social cohesion, and preserving peace, in line with the national reconciliation agenda. The work involved:

- Improving food and income security.
- Enhancing capacity through providing innovative training, and essential agricultural items.
- Maintaining protection sensitivity, by ensuring that the different needs of men and women, young and old, able and disabled, are addressed.
- Ensuring an understanding of community and security dynamics, including gender dynamics, to maintain conflict sensitivity through the application of the 'Do No Harm' principle.
- Implementing community identified and prioritised solutions for recovery and resilience, based on appropriate gender-sensitive context analysis, and ensuring the contribution of women, youth and vulnerable groups.

In partnership with UNDP, we implemented a diverse cash-for-work project in Yathreb, Salah-Al-Din governorate. The range of activities included repairing farming infrastructure, such as barns and irrigation systems, distribution of seeds and livestock, and provision of housing repair grants to vulnerable families.

HRF also delivered a three month emergency livelihoods project with UNDP in Mosul East Bank. Cash-for-work was provided to hundreds of men and women. They received an income, while undertaking tasks vital to support the stabilisation of Mosul East Bank.

*Temporary employment in public projects improved livelihoods for both men and women*





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Seeing the **humanity** in every situation

HRF is an NGO with special consultative status with the UN Economic & Social Council and is a signatory of the Code of Conduct for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

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**HRF** Human  
Relief  
Foundation



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