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# QUDRA2

## ACTIVITY

Resilience for refugees, IDPs, returnees and host communities in response to the protracted Syrian and Iraqi crises

### SPOTLIGHT

#### COVID-19 RESPONSE



**33,186** PRIMARY HEALTHCARE CONSULTATIONS

conducted with refugees and host communities.



### DID YOU KNOW?

**250,000** Syrian Refugees

are hosted in Iraq. Almost all Syrian refugees reside in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) urban areas and camps. 60% reside in host communities, and the remainder in one of ten refugee camps across KRI.

**1,2 Million**

people remain internally displaced within Iraq



**10,323** PEOPLE

reached through COVID-19 related health education activities



**13** YOUNG PEOPLE

trained in 3D printing technology in partnership with 3D World in Duhok, KRI, which produces face shields distributed to local health authorities.



**20** WOMEN

offered practical training on the production of sanitisers and soaps by the University of Koya.



**59,400** PEOPLE

in KRI benefited from three Quick Impact Projects responding to COVID-19.



**210** YOUNG MEDICAL SCHOOL GRADUATES

trained in primary, secondary, and tertiary health care services to support medical personnel at public hospitals in KRI.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to challenge all aspects of life in Iraq while the Qudra 2 programme implements "fit for purpose" responses to those affected by COVID-19.

Qudra 2 and its partners have assisted in health, hygiene, psychosocial support (PSS), protection, and awareness-raising. We have also successfully facilitated the creation of employment opportunities and the delivery of essential services.

In Mosul, Qudra 2's NGO partner Amalna Foundation provides psychosocial support to isolated COVID-19 patients at hospitals and quarantine locations.

Job-seekers received training in producing personal protective equipment (PPE), leading to income generation opportunities.

Recent graduates trained in medicine are equipped to perform as medical volunteers. In KRI, the successful Governorate Development Facility (GDF) and its Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) continue. The QIPs included establishing the first diagnostic laboratory in Halabja, an Intensive Care Unit (ICU) for the Qalawchalan Hospital of the Peshmerga Health foundation in Sulaymaniyah, and the provision of an electric generator and electricity installation for a newly established COVID-19 hospital in Erbil.

Implemented by





*We highly appreciate Qudra 2 programme's kind contribution for the joint effort with JCC on 'empowering volunteer's medical service skills. It is very crucial for the future careers of our volunteers, to advance their skills by supporting our medical teams to provide health services to patients, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic"*

**Dr Dlovan M. Jalal**

Director General of the General Directorate of Health in Erbil.



*As a Syrian refugee in Erbil, I am very pleased to participate in this project for medical staff. During my first month of training I have been able to strengthen my professional skills and gained a lot of practical experience through helping skilled permanent staff of the public hospital in their daily duties. Certainly, this training is the golden opportunity I have been waiting for ever since I have graduated.*

**Peshang Abdulkareem**

Medical Volunteer

**Key Takeaways**

COVID-19 is not just a health crisis, but also a social and economic crisis, with progressively emerging psychological effects. Accordingly, the response must be multi-faceted, flexible, and innovative.

Because of its focus on resilience and strong partnerships in Iraq, Qudra 2 could provide flexible responses to support the fight against COVID-19. The support addressed both the short- and long-term implications of the COVID-19 crisis. The successful Quick Impact Projects provide a prominent example.



**210 medical volunteers trained to aid fight against COVID-19 in KRI.**

In a joint effort to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI), the Joint Crisis Coordination Centre (JCC) and the Ministry of Health (MoH) started a new initiative to strengthen the region's health sector.

This initiative is supported by the Qudra 2 programme in Iraq, co-financed by the European Union, through the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian crisis, the German Government (BMZ), and Spanish Cooperation.

The 210 medical volunteers, over 60% of them women, received training to support medical personnel at public hospitals. The volunteers are unemployed graduates from medical schools from all governorates in KRI. They are deployed to their duty stations at public

hospitals and trained on the job by MoH experts for two months in the governorates of Erbil, Dohuk, Sulaymaniyah and Halabja.

All volunteers hold a medical diploma or bachelor's degree and want to assist their communities in managing the current COVID-19 pandemic.

At the same time, they gain relevant, practical experience to advance their careers. By learning how to respond to a public health crisis, they could further qualify as future volunteers for the JCC crisis response teams.

The JCC has started to build up a pool of volunteers, countrywide, with different professional backgrounds to serve as rapid response teams during times of crisis.