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## EDITORIAL

[Issue 106 – April 3, 2008](#)

### **Leadership by default or leadership by practice?**

Practice is the driving force behind knowledge. Through practice people are able to compare, assess, learn, and capitalize on experiences, thus building direction and leadership. Leadership becomes an act of continuous learning and knowledge building rather than being an act of functionality and status.

“The ability to lead is the ability to create positive and effective outcomes for people, organizations and communities” (Ninette Trifiletti, Chair BPW International Mentoring Taskforce).

These concepts are not newly formulated. They have been voiced out extensively by many of United Nations agencies and represent one of the core fundamentals in empowerment approaches, yet in reality the UN is becoming more and more alienated from its own concepts. And as John Holmes<sup>i</sup> puts it “In some countries, humanitarian actors continue to lack sufficient confidence in the Humanitarian Coordinators who lead the response. We know we need better Humanitarian Coordinators but this will take time” (Humanitarian action: a Western-dominated enterprise in need of change, Forced Migration Review, December 2007).

The UN identifies the problem as being an issue of capacity, coming back to John Holmes: “A new training Programme for Humanitarian Coordinators is being developed and relations between the Emergency Relief Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinators are being strengthened”, but the problem lies elsewhere, it is an issue of practice and approach towards humanitarian crisis.

An agency can not pretend to possess expertise and leadership in humanitarian action, while it is the one taking the minimum risks in response. Taking the example of Iraq, UN humanitarian agencies have moved out of Iraq and condemned the situation to be of high risk. On the other hand NGOs (local and international) are actually taking that risk and conducting the implementation of projects on behalf of the UN. This means that the capitalization of experiences in crisis response is being done on the level of National and International NGOs.

The UN is considered by default as a lead in humanitarian response. Yet in practice, it is alienated from such a role and pushed to be more of a high-level decision making bureaucracy. Sometimes, unfortunately, those decisions are made not on the basis of the actual need of the population, but

on a more “political/bureaucratic level”. Responding to the need according to the date of displacement of people or according to the housing situation doesn’t address the real vulnerability of the Iraqi population and creates conflicts inside the communities.

We can clearly notice that the approach here is disconnected from the reality of the situation and the actual context in consideration. A field aid worker would be able to easily spot the difficulties and obstacles that this decision would impose on the implementation of humanitarian action, in addition to the gap it creates in covering needs. For example, an IDP does not have to be vulnerable, and not all displacements result in high vulnerability.

Such actions tend to shift UN agencies away from the field and context logic towards a continuous fight over mandates. But the efficiency of humanitarian assistance relies first on the ability of the actors to adapt to the context, rather than adapting the context to the mandate, which is sometimes the case in Iraq. For example, some agencies provide assistance through implementing partners to a specific category of population based on their status, while another organisation (also through implementing partners) delivers assistance to another part of the same community. Here, the action seems coordinated in theory. In practice, such delineation of target beneficiaries creates complications on the field. The question is quite simple. How can you convince an Iraqi community why one segment of them would be provided with aid today and another segment (in the same situation and location) has to wait for assistance? The consequence, nonetheless, could become increased communal tension due to perceived discrimination where humanitarian assistance is politicized or perceived as such.

Effective coordination acts first on tailoring the coordination of assistance to fit the reality on the field, and this where the UN has become a leader by default rather than presenting real leadership in humanitarian response.

In conclusion, NGOs should not wait for the UN to act in a participatory manner, but should always lobby, advocate, and act on their right to participate in strategy, decision-making processes, and selection criteria. Although they are smaller compared to the capacity of UN and IOs, they have the added value of being in direct interaction with people in need. They can relay and defend this voice through proactive commitment to deliver to those in need. The UN, on the other hand, has to render its humanitarian coordination efforts much more participatory on all levels and much more accessible towards NGOs whether local or international.

<sup>1</sup> John Holmes is the UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC)

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*Salaam,*  
NCCI Team

## HUMANITARIAN UPDATES

FROM NCCI, NGOs' REPORTS FROM THE FIELD AND UN AGENCIES

### **Operational Humanitarian Space**

#### - [The Forum Program](#)

Source: [Iraq Action Days](#)

Document: **Schedule of events**

Date: **April, 2008**

Access: **Open**

The Iraq Policy Forum is being hosted by the Elliott School of International Affairs' new Institute for Middle East Studies at The George Washington University. More than 20 US-based NGOs, including those now operating inside Iraq and in the Middle East Region, are convening this important Forum on the Humanitarian Situation Facing Iraqis. Our shared vision for the forum is a full day of panels that bring together key actors who are responding to humanitarian needs in Iraq and the region, including senior officials with UN, US, Iraqi, and nongovernmental agencies. The Iraq Policy Forum will feature respected scholars, refugee advocates and aid professionals who can offer recent perspectives from the field.

#### - [UN Human Rights Council Undermines Freedom of Expression](#)

Source: [Article IX](#)

Document: **Press release**

Date: **March 31, 2008**

Access: **Open**

Article IX and Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) condemn the resolution passed on March 28 by a majority of the members of the states of UNHCR which amends mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression, as per proposal from the Organizations of Islamic Congress (OIC) and the Cuban delegation.

#### - [Lifting of most restriction enable some resumption of operations](#)

Source: [IOM](#)

Document: **Pressrealese (Arabic)**

Date: **April 1, 2008**

Access: **Open**

#### - [OCHA SitRep](#)

Source: [OCHA](#)

Document: **Report**

Date: **April 2, 2008**

Access: **Open**

On Sunday 30 March, aides to Moqtada al Sadr issued a statement in Najaf calling on his followers to stop battling government forces in Basrah and all other provinces. This followed the Iraqi government crackdown on so-called 'criminals and outlaws' in Basrah on 25 March, which sparked a spiral of violence in southern Iraqi towns and cities, as well as in Shi'a-dominated areas in Baghdad.

#### - [NCCI Security Trend Analysis](#)

Source: [NCCI](#)

Document: **Report**

Date: **March 31, 2008**

Access: **Members**

The April 2008 Security Trend Analysis is provided by the NCCI Team is an informational and advisory report to NGOs on possible treats and incidents based on the current trends in violence and armed group activities.

## Humanitarian Needs and Assistance

- [NCCI SitRep](#)

Source: [NCCI](#)

Document: **Report**

Date: **March 31, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*The purpose of this report is to emphasize on current situation in significant areas as well as to point out current needs of population caught in the current fighting in Iraq. Various agencies reports are not covered here.*

- [One week cease fire for humanitarian reasons](#)

Source: [UPP](#)

Document: **Handbook**

Date: **March 30, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*After five days since a massive crises in Baghdad and in southern Iraq started, after more than 1500 have been killed or injured, after the continues shelling and shooting taken place, the LAONOF Group wants to plea govern and military groups for a week of ceasefire.*

- [Mercy Corps Brings Emergency Aid to Southern Iraq](#)

Source: [Mercy Corps](#)

Document: **Pressrealese**

Date: **April 1, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*The global relief and development agency Mercy Corps is providing water, medical supplies and other forms of emergency assistance to the war-weary southern Iraqi provinces of Basra, Maysan and Wassit. While a ceasefire was declared on Sunday between the Iraqi Shia cleric Maqtada al-Sadr and Iraqi and U.S. forces, the situation remains tense and humanitarian needs persist.*

- [IMC Survey Report and Current Emergency Assistance Pack](#)

Source: [IMC](#)

Document: **Report**

Date: **April 3, 2008**

Access: **Members**

*Identified needs and assistance.*

## Human Rights and Protection

- [The Iraq Legacy: Millions of Women's Lives Destroyed](#)

Source: [Altarnet](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **March 31, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*On International Women's Day in 2004, nearly a year after the invasion of Iraq, George Bush, the US President, addressed 250 women from around the world who had gathered at the White House. "The advance of women's rights and the advance of liberty are ultimately inseparable," he said.*

## Health

- [Health Briefing Paper - Draft](#)

Source: [OXFAM](#)

Document: **Report**

Date: **April 1, 2008**

Access: **Members**

*The war that started in 2003 has not ended yet, it keeps transforming from one shape to another according to one side's interest to another; the usage of the over-rated term "civil war" is a mere simplification of the situation in Iraq*

- [Health and Nutrition Sector Outcome Team](#)

Source: [UNWHO](#)

Document: **Matrix**

Date: **April 2, 2008**

Access: **Members**

*The latest Health and Nutrition Matrix compiled.*

- [Health and Nutrition Sector Outcome Team](#)

Source: [UNWHO](#)

Document: **MoM**

Date: **April 2, 2008**

Access: **Members**

*Minutes of the meeting held March 30, 2008.*

- [Humanitarian SitRep](#)

Source: [UNWHO](#)

Document: **Report**

Date: **April 2, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*Please find listed below the latest updates on security, public health threats and WHO/DoH/MoH actions in Iraqi governates and districts.*

## Food and Agriculture

- [Food Sector Outcome Team](#)

Source: [UNWFP](#)

Document: **Report**

Date: **April 2, 2008**

Access: **Members**

*Food Matrix; Food Sector Team Outcome Strategy.*

## Education

- [Education Sector Outcome Team](#)

Source: [UNICEF](#)

Document: **Matrix**

Date: **April 2, 2008**

Access: **Members**

*Education Sector Outcome Strategy Matrix.*

- [Education Sector Outcome Team](#)

Source: [UNICEF](#)

Document: **Report**

Date: **April 2, 2008**

Access: **Members**

*Narrative Education Startegy – Draft.*

- [Ballet amid the bullets in Iraq](#)

Source: [Los Angeles Times](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **April 1, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*In an airy studio lined with mirrors, little girls in pink leotards and boys in black shorts and white T-shirts pull themselves up as straight as they can and push their toes out into first position.*

### IDPs

- [Second IDP Working Group update](#)

Source: [IOM](#)

Document: **Report**

Date: **March 24, 2008**

Access: **Open**

IDP Working Group Internally Displaced Persons in Iraq – Update March 24, 2008.

### Refugees

- [Inter Agency Meeting](#)

Source: [UNHCR](#)

Document: **MoM**

Date: **April 2, 2007**

Access: **Members**

*The High Commissioner was on mission to the region from 11-19 February, with visits to Jordan on 12 and 18 February. He met with His Majesty King Abdullah II, Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Nader Dahabi, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Suhair Al-Ali, Minister of Health Salah Mawajdeh, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research Omar Shdeifat, Minister of Education Tayseer Nuemi, Minister of Interior Eid Fayez and Minister of Foreign Affairs Salah Bashir.*

### Water and Sanitation

- [Watsan Sector Outcome Team](#)

Source: [UNICEF](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **April 2, 2008**

Access: **Members**

Minutes of the meeting held March 10, 2008.

## IRAQ CONTEXT

### General Overview

- [Iraq Crisis Report \(IraqHAR\)](#)

Source: [Centre of Excellence on Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance](#)

Document: **Weekly report**

Date: **April 3, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*Political: Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki said on Tuesday (April 1) that the military operation initiated March 25 against Shiite militias was a success (AP, Apr-1), though analysts said the offensive highlighted the Iraqi army's weakness and may have shored up sympathetic support for radical Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr. (BBC, Apr-2) Â Sadr, whose forces were popularly perceived as the target of the crackdown, on Sunday (March 30) called on his followers to stop battling government forces in the south. (Reuters, Mar-30)Â The offensive*

*was seen as a significant test for the Iraqi military, the sole initiator of the operation, which had to call upon US air power and UK tank support after fiercer than expected resistance from Shiite insurgents*

- [Juan Cole's informed comment's excerpts](#)

Source: [Informed Comment – Juan Cole's Web Blog.](#)

Document: Selection of daily comments

Date: March 20 - 27, 2008

Access: Open

*Juan Cole is a Professor of Modern Middle East and South Asian History at the University of Michigan. As such he brings daily much needed expertise and historical perspective to issues surrounding Iraq, Afghanistan and the Middle East. Good reading to have a weekly review of the Iraq daily situation.*

- [Iraq to spend 590 million dollars on weapons, kit](#)

Source: [AFP](#)

Document: Article

Date: April 2, 2008

Access: Open

*Iraq is expected to buy more than 590 million dollars in military equipment in 2008, including weapons and ammunition, the US military said on Wednesday.*

## Iraqis Living Conditions

- [Trapped in their homes, families fall victim to sickness and hunger](#)

Source: [Guardian](#)

Document: Article

Date: March 30, 2008

Access: Open

*It took eight years for Nur Muhammad, 35, finally to fall pregnant with the child she desperately wanted. Last week, Ali, her pride and joy, became the youngest victim of the upswing in violence. The four-month-old baby boy fell ill last Monday with a fever, the day fighting broke out in Basra, the second-biggest oil city of Iraq. The street where the family lives became a battlefield, imprisoning them in their home, unable to get help.*

- [Life in Basra: 'The masked men have vanished, but we're still trapped'](#)

Source: [The Independent](#)

Document: Article

Date: April 1, 2008

Access: Open

*The people of Basra ventured outside for the first time in a week yesterday as the ceasefire declared by the Iraqi Shia leader Muqtada al-Sadr began to take hold. We heard about the truce on the radio, and there was much less fighting yesterday. At last I began to hope that I can return to my home in Nassariyah from my brother's house in Basra, where I have been trapped since last Tuesday.*

- ["My Brother Is Dead...and I Helped Kill Him"](#)

Source: [Alternet](#)

Document: Article

Date: March 29, 2008

Access: Open

*Midday yesterday, this email popped into my inbox. Mike, Mohammed's brother Ali died of his wounds today courtesy of shrapnel and flames caused by US missile strike. He was 9. Don't expect to hear anything from Mohammed until 40 day of the mourning period is over. XXX\* says US soldiers shot at Mohammed as he approached a roadblock they had set up and that he was carrying Ali in his arms trying to get to hospital. He also says that Ali was very badly burned and died screaming.*

## Rule of Law

### - [Provincial Powers Law](#)

Source: [GoI](#)

Document: Law (English and Arabic)

Date: April , 2008

Access: [Members](#)

*In accordance with Council of Representatives approval based on provision (1) of article (61) of the constitution, the following Law was issued on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008:*

**Article 1** *The following terms shall have the meanings hereunder wherever they appear in this law:*

## Violence and (Un-) security

### - [Questions of timing emerge on Iraq offensive](#)

Source: [Los Angeles Times](#)

Document: Article

Date: March 29, 2008

Access: [Open](#)

*As U.S. forces are drawn further into renewed fighting, the potential for deepening chaos in Iraq is raising questions about whether the Bush administration made a wise decision or a costly miscalculation in backing an Iraqi government offensive against Shiite militias.*

### - [Militias control parts of Basra](#)

Source: [Boston Globe](#)

Document: Article

Date: March 30, 2008

Access: [Open](#)

*Shiite militiamen in Basra openly controlled wide swaths of the city yesterday and staged increasingly bold raids on Iraqi government forces sent in five days ago to wrest control from the gunmen, witnesses said, as Iraqi political leaders grew increasingly critical of the stalled assault.*

### - [Fighting Spreads Across Baghdad](#)

Source: [Blog wired](#)

Document: Article

Date: March 30, 2008

Access: [Open](#)

*The fighting between Iraq's Shi'ite factions appears to be metastasizing. What started in Basra and jumped to Baghdad's Sadr City has now spread across the capital, eyewitnesses tell Iraqslogger. Here's one set of reports, just from the Sha'b district.*

### - [U.S. Airstrikes Aid Iraqi Army in Basra](#)

Source: [The New York Times](#)

Document: Article

Date: March 29, 2008

Access: [Open](#)

*The American military conducted airstrikes Thursday and Friday to back up stalled Iraqi forces in Basra and battle Shiite militias in Baghdad as continued violence and political infighting worsened the prospects for any timely reconciliation among Iraq's warring factions.*

### - [Iraqi casualties at highest level since August](#)

Source: [Alternet](#)

Document: Article

Date: April 1, 2008

Access: [Open](#)

*Fighting between security forces and Shi'ite militiamen last month has driven civilian deaths in Iraq to their highest level in more than six months, government figures showed on Tuesday.*

## **“Reconstruction” is not going so well...for Iraqis**

### - [Economic Reform and Diversification Sector Strategy](#)

Source: [UNDP](#)

Document: **MoM**

Date: **April 2, 2008**

Access: **Members**

*Economic Reform and Diversification Sector Strategy and Capital Budget Spending per Governorate.*

### - [Shell says ready to help Iraq boost oil output](#)

Source: [Alternet](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **April 2, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*Royal Dutch Shell <RDSa.L> is ready to help Iraq boost oil production once that country's government finalizes a petroleum law covering big energy projects, the head of the oil giant said on Tuesday.*

## **Iraqi Political process**

### - [Iraq death toll surges in March](#)

Source: [AFP](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **April 1, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki said on Tuesday that a crackdown on Shiite militiamen in Basra was a "success" and that 10,000 extra troops would be recruited to keep order in the southern oil hub.*

### - [How Moqtada al-Sadr Won in Basra](#)

Source: [Time](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **April 1, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*The Iraqi military's offensive in Basra was supposed to demonstrate the power of the central government in Baghdad. Instead it has proven the continuing relevance of anti-American cleric Moqtada al-Sadr. Sadr's militia, the Mahdi Army, stood its ground in several days of heavy fighting with Iraqi soldiers backed up by American and British air power*

### - [Maliki calls his crackdown a success](#)

Source: [Los Angeles Times](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **April 1, 2008**

Access: **Open**

*Prime Minister Nouri Maliki described his crackdown on Shiite militias in southern Iraq as a success Tuesday, even as Britain said the situation had turned too volatile to pull more of its troops from the region as planned.*

## **Policies and Strategies**

### - [Iraqi police in Basra shed their uniforms, kept their rifles and switched sides](#)

Source: [Times online](#)

Document: **Article**

Date: **March 28, 2008**

Access: **Open**

Abu Iman barely flinched when the Iraqi Government ordered his unit of special police to move against al-Mahdi army fighters in Basra. His response, while swift, was not what US and British military trainers who have spent last five years schooling the Iraqi forces would have hoped for.,

- [Shiite Militias Cling to Swaths of Basra and Stage Raids](#)

Source: [The New York Times](#)

Document: Article

Date: March 30, 2008

Access: Open

Shiite militiamen in Basra openly controlled wide swaths of the city on Saturday and staged increasingly bold raids on Iraqi government forces sent five days ago to wrest control from the gunmen, witnesses said, as Iraqi political leaders grew increasingly critical of the stalled assault.

- [Al-Sadr calls ceasefire after six days of clashes](#)

Source: [The Independent](#)

Document: Article

Date: March 31, 2008

Access: Open

Muqtada al-Sadr called on his Mehdi Army militia to stop fighting Iraqi government forces in a surprise move after six days of clashes. The Shia cleric also demanded that the government cease arresting his followers and release those detained.

- [Sadr reins in Shiite militiamen, sends mixed signals](#)

Source: [The Christian Science Monitor](#)

Document: Article

Date: March 31, 2008

Access: Open

Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, the Iraqi religious leader whose Mahdi Army has been locked in a deadly battle with Iraqi forces, aided by the US military, in Baghdad, Basra, and other southern cities, called for a cooling-off period in a statement issued Sunday.

- [Iraq extends arms surrender deadline](#)

Source: [Los Angeles Times](#)

Document: Article

Date: March 29, 2008

Access: Open

Prime Minister Nouri Maliki on Friday extended a deadline for fighters to disarm after nobody responded, and U.S. forces were pulled deeper into the showdown between Iraqi security forces and Shiite militiamen.

- [Iraqi cleric offers truce](#)

Source: [Boston Globe](#)

Document: Article

Date: March 31, 2008

Access: Open

Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr order his followers yesterday to lay down their arms and end six days of clashes against US and Iraqi forces if the Government agrees to release detainees and give amnesty to Sadr's fighters, among other demands. But after the statement, mortar attacks continued in Baghdad ad Basra, and violence persisted in many pockets of the country.

- [Iraq cleric Sadr orders end to fighting](#)

Source: [Los Angeles Times](#)

Document: Article

Date: March 31, 2008

Access: Open

Radical cleric Muqtada Sadr on Sunday ordered his followers to lay down their weapons, offering Shiite Muslims a way out of six days of fighting that has left more than 350 people dead and exposed the weakness of Iraq's government and security forces. Sadr demanded in a declaration broadcast from mosques in his Baghdad strongholds and across southern Iraq that the government in turn stop what he described as random raids and release his followers from detention.

- [Sadr Tells His Militia To Cease Hostilities](#)

Source: [Washington Post](#)

Document: Article

Date: March 30, 2008

Access: Open

Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr ordered his followers Sunday to lay down their arms and end six days of clashes against U.S. and Iraqi forces if the government agrees to release detainees and give amnesty to Sadr's fighters, among other demands

- [U.S. Cites Planning Gaps in Iraqi Assault on Basra](#)

Source: [New York Times](#)

Document: Article

Date: April 3, 2008

Access: Open

Ambassador Ryan C. Crocker first learned of the Iraqi plan on Friday, March 21: Prime Minister Nuri Kamal al-Maliki would be heading to Basra with Iraqi troops to bring order to the city.

MNF-I

- [In Iraq, U.S. caught in middle of Shiite rivalry](#)

Source: [Los Angeles Times](#)

Document: Article

Date: March 30, 2008

Access: Open

The biggest surprise about the raging battles that erupted last week in southern Iraq was not that the combatants were fellow Shiites, but that it took this long. Enmity has long festered between the two sides: one a ruling party that has struggled against the widespread perception that it gained power on the back of the U.S. occupation, the other a populist movement that has positioned itself as a critic of the U.S.-backed new order.

- [Britain delays troop cuts as Iraqi death tolls soar](#)

Source: [International Herald Tribune](#)

Document: Article

Date: April 1, 2008

Access: Open

Britain froze plans Tuesday to withdraw about 1,500 soldiers this spring after the faltering effort to drive Shiite militias from Basra raised doubts whether the Iraqis are capable of maintaining security in oil-rich southern Iraq

- [Troop withdrawal in Iraq delayed by Basra violence](#)

Source: [Independent](#)

Document: Article

Date: April 2, 2008

Access: Open

Gordon Brown's pledge to bring home 1,500 more British troops from Iraq by the spring has been postponed indefinitely because of the deteriorating security situation in Basra. The Defence Secretary, Des Browne, told MPs yesterday that the UK force in the country would have to be maintained at the current level of 4,100, and the exit timetable might have to be revised

*Iraq and International policies*

- [Decentralization and Democratic Local Governance Programming Handbook](#)

Source: [USAID](#)

Document: Handbook

Date: May, 2000

Access: Open

*The Handbook serves as a practical guide to USAID Officers who are faced with task of developing program activities in the areas of decentralization and democratic local governance.*

- [Rice Admits She Didn't Think Iraq "Would Be This Tough", Blames Iraqis for Violence](#)

Source: [Alternet](#)

Document: Article

Date: March 28, 2008

Access: Open

*Speaking to a group of journalists yesterday, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice admitted that she didn't think the war in Iraq would be as "this tough":*

- [Embarrassed U.S. Starts to Disown Basra Operation](#)

Source: [IPS](#)

Document: Article

Date: March 31, 2008

Access: Open

*As it became clear last week that the "Operation Knights Assault" in Basra was in serious trouble, the George W. Bush administration began to claim in off-the-record statements to journalists that Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki had launched the operation without consulting Washington.*

## HUMANITARIAN WORLD PERSPECTIVES & QUALITY OF AID

- [CrisisWatch N°56, 1 April 2008](#)

Source: [ICG](#)

Document: Article

Date: April 1, 2008

Access: Open

*Eight actual or potential conflict situations around the world deteriorated in March 2008, and four improved, according to the new issue of CrisisWatch released today. Early results of Zimbabwe's 29 March presidential, parliamentary and municipal elections were strongly disputed, underlining the risk that escalated repression and unrest may follow but also highlighting the possibility of positive change. As CrisisWatch went to press, reports suggested President Mugabe was under pressure from close associates to resign and/or negotiate a transfer of power.*

- [The State of Humanitarian Enterprise](#)

Source: [FIC](#)

Document: Report

Date: April 2, 2008

Access: Open

*The Feinstein International Center develops and promotes operational and policy responses to protect and strengthen the lives and livelihood of people living in crisis-affected and –marginalized communities.*

- [Best Practice for conflict- sensitive programming in Iraq](#)

Source: [UNHCR](#)

Document: Report

Date: April 2, 2007

Access: Open

*Distribution of unfamiliar or inappropriate items leading to rejection or frustration of beneficiaries (e.g., choice of colour, labels of countries, non halal food). **Connections between aid and combating party can bring beneficiaries to reject aid and even generate violent reactions***

## This Page is your page

If you have an announcement (training, workshop, etc) regarding your organisation, if you are aware about meetings, events, humanitarian update, if you would like to make known some information, please send them to [webmanager@ncciraq.org](mailto:webmanager@ncciraq.org)

## Weekly Schedule

We encourage you to check regularly our Weekly Schedule on our [Website](#) for updates. We have added on our [weekly schedule](#) some events hold in Iraq or Jordan that concern only specific invited people. They are highlighted as "restricted". This is to give better information on what is going on to our members.

## Upcoming important dates

*April-4 / Raby'-al awal -27*

*International Day for Mine Awwerness and Assistance in Mine Action*

*April-7 / Raby'-al Thaany -01*

*World Health Day*

*April-7 / Raby'-al Thaany -01*

*Foundation of Iraq Bath Party (1947)*

*April-9 / Raby'-al Thaany -03*

*Anniversary of Baghdad (and Bath party) fall (2003)*

## Updates & Announcements

*[Un Ponte Per UPP](#) is currently recruiting a [Reporting Manager / Programme Assistant](#) as well as an [Administrative Assistant/ Executive Secretary](#).*

*[Iraq Action Days](#) is organizing forum in Washington. Forum Program you can find it [here!](#)*