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Association loi 1901 créée en 1994, enregistrée à la Préfecture du Rhône N°W691052256

## Press Release

Lyon, September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014

**The association Triangle G H launched an emergency aid program in the field of water, hygiene and sanitation to support the Iraqi population displaced in the Autonomous region of Iraqi Kurdistan.**

Since August 16<sup>th</sup> 2014, and with the help of the Rhône-Alpes Region, the Lyon-based NGO supplies drinking water daily to more than 900 Iraqi families displaced and settled in 13 collective centres in the Ankawah district in Erbil, capital city of the Autonomous region of Iraqi Kurdistan. The association distributes 90 000 litres of potable water per day and provides emergency sanitation.

In recent weeks, the intense fighting in the northern regions of Iraq displaced more than 250,000 people from conflict areas to the Autonomous region of Iraqi Kurdistan (where there are to date more than one million refugees). These families - mainly from Christian minorities - who have lost everything, have taken refuge in public buildings (schools...), host families, refugee camps set up by the United Nations Refugee Agency and to a lesser extent, in buildings under construction. Urgent humanitarian support is needed to ensure the basic needs of these displaced families.

At this stage, the water distribution and emergency sanitation supplied by Triangle G H are a first response. It is part of a larger project in the area of water, hygiene and sanitation that Triangle G H will develop and for which it is actively seeking funding. In the short term we plan on distributing family hygiene kits, setting up temporary toilets and showers, and establishing an awareness program on hygiene in overpopulated urban contexts.

*The association Triangle G H is present in 10 countries where it conducts simultaneously fifty programs from emergency to development. Triangle G H is implemented in Iraqi Kurdistan since 2013 with a psychosocial program in favour of Syrian refugee children living in the outskirts of Erbil financed by ECHO (The European Union Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department).*

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