

In case you are planning Iraq activities on your own, it is highly recommended to analyze the topic of security carefully and with the help of a professional consultant.

If you are apprehensive about the security risks associated with an engagement in Iraq, contact the MDC Iraq Development Company in order to utilize our distribution channels, know-how, and MDC personnel.

Overview of current property insurance conditions

Despite Iraq's continuously improving security situation over the past months and years, the country remains dangerous. This is true not only of Baghdad, but also of regions in the periphery which are still in the process of developing their infrastructure, and will be for years to come. This means that businesses, along with other organizations and their representatives need to adapt to the given circumstances and "make the best of it" for the time being. If you are thinking of traveling to Iraq, how does this concretely pertain to you?

To be forthright, the situation calls for solid and deliberate organization. Iraq offers similar opportunities as do other countries; the matter in question is what (additional) expenditure is necessary. In this chapter, we would like to leave you with some leads based on many years of experience in Iraq. These should help you to make the right decisions in order to ensure maximum security for you, your staff, and your property. Please consider our advice as an opportunity to expand your knowledge on Iraq. In addition, we recommend that you seek advice from secondary sources such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (www.auswaertiges-amt.de) and adequate travel, health, and medicine websites (such as www.fit-for-travel.de).

Security facilities and agencies

After the last Gulf War, Iraq's entire public infrastructure was reorganized, which gave rise to a range of government and non-government organizations that are authorized to maintain security:

- **Iraqi Security Forces (ISF)** – This is the collective name for the military, paramilitary, and civil executive bodies. To a large extent, the ISF has officially taken over from coalition troops and is by now in control of security issues within the country. As of March, 2009, its total strength was estimated to be 600.000 (260.000 soldiers and

340.000 police). However, considerable doubts have been raised by different sides as corruption and inefficiency are widespread.

- **The Iraqi Army** – According to the Armed Forces Plan adopted in March, 2003, 13 divisions each with four brigades are planned. To date, this goal has only partially been reached.
- **The Iraqi Air Force** – Its goal is to support ground troops by the means of surveillance, intelligence, and logistics. Through the year 2018, manpower of 18.000 troops is planned to be established.
- **The Iraqi Marines** – Besides its central military duties, the Marines also serve as a coast guard and to secure offshore oil platforms. Through the year 2010, planned manpower between 2.000 to 2.500 is anticipated.
- **The Iraqi Police** – The main duty of the Iraqi Police is homeland security. In that sense, it is paramilitary equipped to curb domestic uprisings. However, due to different factors, the Iraqi Police (like other organizations mentioned above) is currently only able to execute its duties to a limited extent.
- **Iraqi Police Service (IPS)** – The IPS is a type of local protective group. It is recruited by the local population and acts to prevent daily crime via city patrols.
- **National Police (NP)** – A type of federal police with a paramilitary focuses on acting as a connector between separate provinces.
- **Department of Border Enforcement (DBE)** – In conjunction with the Department of Ports of Entry (POE), the DBE is charged with controlling Iraq's border checkpoints.
- **Facilities Protection Services (FPS)** – An organization that consists of more than 150.000 staff members. FPS duties include the protection of real estate and individuals involved with non-government contractors.
- **Private Security Forces PSFs** – Aside from government and partially state-owned organizations, there are approximately 150,000 contractors that work for private security and military firms carrying out security related tasks.

Information extracted from the Iraq Guide 2010 (Irak-Handbuch 2010) that was published with the collaboration of MDC – Iraq Development Company.