

COUNTRY INFORMATION SHEET: IRAQ



Summary

Islamic republic in the Middle East, bordering the Arabian Gulf, between Iran and Kuwait

Cities

Capital: Baghdad

Principal Ports

Umm Qasr, Khawr az Zubayr and Al Basrah have limited functionality.

Population

38.3 million

International Country Code

IQ

Language(s)

Arabic, Kurdish (official in Kurdish regions), Turkoman, Assyrian

Why Select the Iraq Market?

- The political and security situation remains fragile in Iraq. Despite this, commercial opportunities are huge as the country rebuilds its infrastructure and main institutions.
- Sizeable contracts have been and continue to be signed with UK businesses robust enough and strategically placed to do business in Iraq.

Benefits for UK businesses exporting to Iraq include

- long and established trade links between the UK and Iraq
- growing economy
- middle income country
- British goods and services are considered as iconic by the Iraqis
- immense scale of opportunities
- uncrowded market in many sectors so good scope for early entrants

Strengths of the Iraqi market:

- fifth largest economy in the Middle East and 47th largest in the world
- new government's political will to strengthen the economy as part of the stabilisation effort

For more
in-country
support
and advice

Iraq Britain Business Council

Tel: 02072227100

Email: london@webuildiraq.org

Web:

<https://www.iraqbritainbusiness.org/>



DOCUMENTATION GUIDE

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

Generally not required unless specifically requested, but invoices must bear an origin declaration. If requested, then check if you need to provide an EC Certificate of Origin or the more usual Arab-British Certificate of Origin. The name of the manufacturer must be shown, as must the name of the issuing bank and the letter of credit number to be legalised by the embassy with the invoice as a set.

COMMERCIAL INVOICE

The invoice needs to be submitted to customs as an original document. Additional copies may be required based on the requirements of the customer and other Iraqi authorities. For goods being purchased for public procurement, it is usually a requirement that the invoice is submitted in triplicate. The invoice needs to be certified by the Chamber of Commerce and legalised by the Iraqi Embassy. Additional certification from the Arab-British Chamber may be required as stipulated by the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The invoice number must be declared on corresponding Certificate of Origin.

In addition to the details mentioned above, the following declarations are required on the commercial invoice:

We certify that the goods are wholly produced in (country) and do not comprise any parts, raw materials, labour or capital of Israeli origin. (manufacturer's name) is not a branch or mother company of firms included in the Arab Boycott.

Facsimile signatures are not allowed.

Note: The name of the manufacturer must be shown, as must the name of the bank and letter of credit number. It is a legal requirement to show the full transaction price of the sale on the commercial invoice at export. Iraq has been subject to undervaluing goods at import and customs authorities are taking a strong line in combating this fraud.