



WFP Iraq Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Internally Displaced Persons

Emergency Assistance to Populations Affected by the Iraq Crisis	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
EMOP 200677 (April 2014- Dec 2017)	1.1 b	687 m (63%)	35 m

*November 2017 – April 2018

WFP assisted 834,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Iraq in October 2017 through Family Food Rations (FFRs) and Cash-Based Transfers (CBTs). FFRs include basic food items, such as wheat flour, rice, beans, bulgur and vegetable oil. CBTs take the form of e-vouchers, unrestricted cash and Mobile Money Transfers (MMT). Immediate Response Rations (IRRs) were distributed to around 109,000 people in October 2017. IRRs provide ready-to-eat food to a family of five for three days as they flee from conflict areas, with multiple IRRs going to larger families and those moving from location to location. WFP also carries out regular vulnerability assessments and monitoring in order to ensure appropriate assistance reaches those who need it most. WFP also co-leads, in cooperation with FAO, the Food Security Cluster, to ensure a coordinated, efficient and effective sectoral humanitarian assistance.

Syrian Refugees

Assistance to Vulnerable Syrian Refugees in Iraq Regional PRRO 200987 (January 2017- Dec 2018)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
	58 m	0 m

*Until end of 2017, including confirmed pledges and solid forecasts

As part of the regional Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO), WFP provides CBTs to 56,000 Syrian refugees residing in nine camps across the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I). All those receiving assistance get USD 19 (IQD 22,000) per person, per month. Distributions are managed through WFP's electronic SCOPE platform. Following a resilience pilot project in August, providing skills training to Syrians, a computer

Highlights

- In October, WFP assisted 834,000 Iraqis across 11 governorates through the emergency operation and 56,000 Syrian refugees as part of the regional response.
- On 26 October, the Iraqi military began their offensive to retake western Anbar, the last area still under control by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in Iraq. This resulted in new waves of displacements. WFP is assisting families affected by this conflict with Immediate Response Rations (IRRs) and monthly food entitlements.
- On October 16, Iraqi Security Forces and their allies launched an offensive against the Kurdish military to regain control of the oil-rich disputed areas around Kirkuk. WFP has provided IRRs to more than 27,000 people displaced by the military operations.

lab has been set up in Arbat camps. Participants who have successfully graduated from the training are now enrolled in an internship programme with local companies to further enhance their employment opportunities, with WFP paying the cost of transportation. WFP has been supporting Syrian refugees in Iraq since 2012.

Humanitarian Support

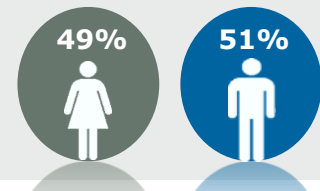
Special Operation - Logistics Cluster and Emergency Telecommunications Support in Iraq SO 200746 (April 2014- Dec 2017)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
	31.5 m	20 m (64%)	0 m

* Until end of 2017

Launched in July 2014, the Special Operation supports the work of the Logistics Cluster and Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC). These two WFP-led clusters coordinate the logistics and emergency telecommunications responses to ensure the efficient and effective delivery of humanitarian assistance for the entire humanitarian community in Iraq. The ETC is also providing internet access to refugees in Domiz camp, with similar services to be rolled out in other camps.

In Numbers

- 3.1 million** Iraqis displaced
- 834,000** IDPs who received food rations and CBT from WFP in October.
- 245,000** Syrian refugees in Iraq
- 56,600** Syrian refugees assisted by WFP in October



Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Inger Marie Vennize
Caption: A women displaced by conflict in Kirkuk picks up an Immediate Response Ration in the neighbouring governorate of Sulaymaniyah.



October 2017

Operational Updates

- In October 2017, WFP provided monthly assistance to around 834,000 people in 11 governorates of Iraq: 604,000 people received Family Food Rations and more than 230,000 people received Cash-based Transfers.
- On 05 October 2017, Iraqi authorities declared Shirqat and Hawija, south and southeast of Mosul, completely retaken from ISIL. This was immediately followed by military activities to retake the district of Anah in western Anbar. On 26 October, Iraq's Prime Minister Al-Abadi announced the final military operation to retake the western border region of Al-Qaim on the Syrian border and Rawa, the last area of Iraqi territory still under control by ISIL. According to the [IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix \(DTM\)](#), the number of people displaced in the military operations in western Anbar in 2017 has thus far reached 64,752 people, of which more than 18,000 have been displaced since 20 September. In October, WFP provided IRRs reaching around 40,000 people at screening sites and upon arrival at displacement camps, and followed up with monthly food entitlements to some 27,000 people in host communities or once families were settled in camps.
- Following the referendum for independence, held on 25 September in KR-I, the Iraqi Security Forces and their allies launched an operation to regain control of the oil-rich disputed areas in Kirkuk and Sinjar. The fighting caused the displacement of thousands of families. The situation remains very fluid with many of the displacement patterns lasting only 24-48 hours (source: IOM DTM). WFP provided IRRs to affected families scattered around the neighbouring governorates of Sulaymaniyah, Salah Al-Din and Erbil. Although many people have already returned home, some remain displaced to date.

Challenges

- Amidst ongoing military operations, access constraints to Western Anbar continue to hinder the actions of the humanitarian community. Humanitarian assessments and emergency distributions heavily rely on the presence of local partners.
- Due to the conflict, international flights to and from Erbil and Sulaymaniyah in the KR-I remain suspended to date.

Funding Update

- Whilst WFP Iraq does not require any further funding to support its operations in 2017, contributions for 2018 must be secured. WFP Iraq urgently needs USD 1.2 million to avert a pipeline break for its refugee response (PRRO 200987) in January 2018. The anticipated net funding for the first six months of 2018 are USD 121.5 million.

Country Background & Strategy



In the past, vulnerability to food insecurity in Iraq was chiefly a result of obstacles to international trade – provoked by war and sanctions – impeding the export of oil and import of food. Since 2014, instability due to conflict is the main driver of food insecurity.

In April 2014, WFP launched an Emergency Programme to respond to the food needs of 240,000 displaced people from Anbar governorate. Following mass displacement and ongoing conflict, WFP continues to provide food assistance each month across the country.

Throughout 2016 and 2017, Iraq witnessed an escalation in the conflict between Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) and fighters from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). This fighting has left millions displaced and unable to meet their dietary needs and food preferences. WFP works with the Government of Iraq to strengthen social safety nets, particularly the Public Distribution System (PDS).

To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 2 on zero hunger and SDG 17 on partnerships, WFP is working closely with many partners to contribute to ending poverty and hunger, promoting an inclusive society, strengthening partnerships in Iraq and empowering women. Iraq currently ranks 121 out of 155 in the latest Human Development Report's Gender Inequality Index (2016).

In this context, WFP has focused on saving lives and protecting livelihoods in Iraq in an effort to support the people of Iraq to achieve zero hunger. WFP has been present in Iraq since 1991.

Population: 37.9 million
(Government, 2016)

2016 Human Development Index:
121 out of 188

Stunting: 17-20% in children <5
(CFSVA, 2016)

Malnutrition: 5-8% in children <5
(CFSVA, 2016)

Donors

Top 5 in 2017 (EMOP 200677, in alphabetical order): Canada, Germany, Japan, UN CERF and USA

Contact info: Cristina Graziani (cristina.graziani@wfp.org)

Country Director: Sally Haydock (sally.haydock@wfp.org)

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/iraq