



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%)	0

* Until end of 2017

WFP assisted 650,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Iraq in July 2017 through Family Food Rations (FFRs) and cash-based transfers (CBTs). FFRs include basic food items, such as wheat flour, rice, beans, bulgur and oil. CBTs take the form of e-vouchers, unrestricted cash and mobile money transfers (MMT). Immediate Response Rations (IRRs) were distributed to 170,000 people in July 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 assessments and monitoring in order to ensure appropriate assistance reaches those who need it most.

Syrian Refugees

Assistance to Vulnerable Syrian Refugees in Iraq	Total Requirements (in USD)	Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
Regional PRRO 200987 (January 2017- Dec 2018)	58 m	1 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, with distributions managed through WFP's electronic SCOPE platform. In July 2017, WFP started a resilience project

Highlights

- In July 2017, WFP began digital skills training for 100 Syrians in Arbat refugee camp. These beneficiaries are receiving training in order to improve their chances of finding employment.
- While food consumption amongst families remaining in western Mosul improved following WFP assistance, households continue to rely on strategies that deplete household assets in order to eat sufficiently.
- The Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) are now preparing to retake the town of Tal Afar from Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) fighters. Though people are being displaced from the Tal Afar area each day, humanitarian access remains a challenge.

to provide Syrians with digital skills training. WFP has been supporting Syrian refugees in Iraq since 2012.

Humanitarian Support

Special Operation - Logistics Cluster and Emergency Telecommunications Support in Iraq	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
SO 200746 (April 2014- Dec 2017)	31.5 m	18.7 m (59%)	2.3 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

3.3 million Iraqis displaced

660,000 Iraqis assisted in July

245,000 Syrian refugees in Iraq

56,000 Syrian refugees assisted in July



Operational Updates

- In July 2017, WFP provided assistance to 650,000 people in 12 governorates of Iraq. Approximately 490,000 people received Family Food Rations, and 160,000 people received Cash-based Transfers.
- More than 56,000 Syrian refugees received cash-based transfers through WFP's SCOPE platform in July 2017. All of those assisted were in camps in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I). In addition, 100 Syrians in Arbat refugee camp began a digital skills training. Taking place at the American University of Iraq – Sulaymaniyah, these WFP beneficiaries are receiving training for two months in order to improve their chances of finding employment.
- Food consumption among families who stayed in western Mosul improved following WFP assistance, according to a WFP Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) assessment. However, households remained under heightened levels of stress, using coping strategies that deplete the family's assets and that are likely to impact families in the long term. All households reported spending their savings, buying food on credit and borrowing money to purchase food.
- Though the scale of fighting has subsided following the retaking of Mosul, WFP provided enough emergency food rations to assist 170,000 people on the move in July 2017. These Immediate Response Rations (IRRs) were distributed in Anbar, Baghdad, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa and Salah al-Din. Despite the retaking of Mosul, families continue to move around due to the lack of security in Mosul and the towns and villages surrounding Tal Afar.

Challenges

- One month after the city of Mosul was declared retaken, ISIL fighters continue to attack on a daily basis inside the city, with explosives still being defused. Insurgents are using a mix of tunnels and basements, with cells hiding out across the city. As people are moving back into western Mosul unexploded ordinance is proving an extreme danger; a family of eight was killed by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) inside a house when they returned. Iraqi and foreign sources believe it could take over a year to remove most of these explosives. In this context humanitarian access is hindered, as neighbourhoods are not secure enough for distributions of humanitarian items to assist people in need.
- The ISF are now preparing to retake the town of Tal Afar from ISIL fighters; Tal Afar is approximately 45 miles west of Mosul. Though people are being displaced from the Tal Afar area each day, humanitarian access remains a challenge.

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 EMOP to respond to the food needs of 240,000 displaced people from Anbar governorate. Following mass displacement and ongoing conflict, WFP now provides 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

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