



Baghdad – WFP/Ellie Swingewood



World Food Programme

Country: IRAQ

Emergency Assistance to Populations Affected by the Iraq Crisis

In numbers

8.2 million people in need of humanitarian aid (Humanitarian Response Plan [HRP])

3.2 million people internally displaced (IOM)

249,000 Syrian refugees in Iraq (UNHCR)

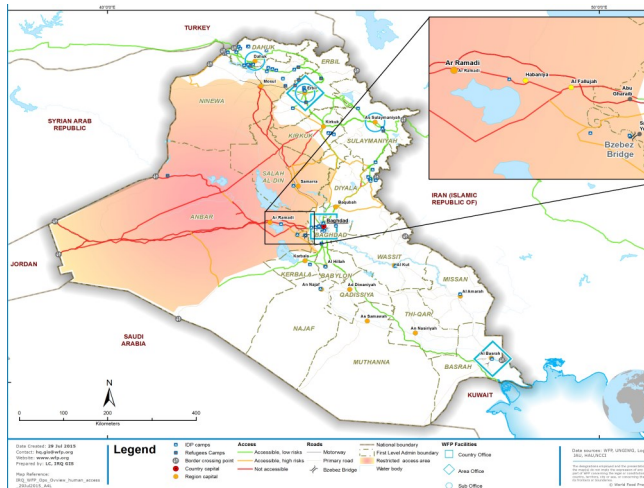
WFP Iraq Funding Requirements:

EMOP 200677 for conflict-affected Iraqis:

USD 50 million (October - December 2015)

EMOP 200433.IQ for Syrian refugees:

USD 8.5 million (October - December 2015)



Highlights

- To continue operations until December, WFP requires USD 50 million to assist Iraqis affected by the current crisis. A further USD 8.5 million is needed for the Syrian refugee response in Iraq. Unless contributions are received urgently, WFP will be forced to make additional cutbacks to food assistance.
- To extend assistance for as long as possible amid severe funding constraints, WFP has adjusted its distribution strategy to internally displaced persons (IDPs). IDPs living in both camp and non-camp settings received reduced rations in September, with the exception of those living in camps in prioritised central governorates.

Situation Update

- Escalating conflict between Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant militants and pro-government forces has left 3.2 million IDPs across Iraq. According to WFP and FAO joint assessments, 4.4 million people are food insecure.
- Protracted insecurity throughout Anbar governorate and an intensified improvised explosive device campaign in Baghdad continue to threaten people's safety. Unable to cross checkpoints between the two governorates, IDPs

are reportedly stranded in camps and informal settlements near the Bzebez bridge with limited mobility and access to basic services.

WFP Response

- Through EMOP 200677, WFP aims to assist 2.2 million displaced and conflict-affected people in Iraq per month through three modalities: monthly food parcels, vouchers, and three-day rations. However, due to funding shortfalls and access constraints, WFP has been forced to scale back assistance and now works to reach 1.5 million people per month in all 18 governorates.
- As part of the regional EMOP 200433 to assist Syrian refugees, WFP provides monthly in-kind food or voucher assistance to 48,000 Syrian refugees residing in nine camps across Iraq.
- By heading the Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Clusters through a Special Operation, WFP assists UN and NGO partners with transport, warehouse coordination, communications and internet access, working to ensure an efficient and effective logistics response to humanitarian emergencies. The Logistics Cluster has 60 partners and manages warehouses in Erbil, Duhok and Baghdad. The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster has 31 partners, and provides IT and telecommunications support to 200 humanitarian staff on the ground. The Food Security Cluster, co-led by WFP and FAO, coordinates the food security response to the crisis in Iraq.

EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR IDPs:

Immediate Response Rations (IRRs)

- In collaboration with UNICEF and UNFPA, WFP provides IRRs to transient IDPs through a **Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)**. IRRs consist of portable ready-to-eat food which can feed a family of five for three days, and are distributed by the RRM NGO partners ACTED, Danish Refugee Council, Norwegian Refugee Council, Mercy Corps and Save the Children International.
- As part of its first line response, WFP is continuing to assist recent returnees and displaced families in Salah al-Din and Diyala governorates with IRRs, reaching over 36,000 people in those two governorates in September.

FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR IDPs:

Family Food Parcels (FFPs)

- WFP aims to distribute FFPs to 1.3 million IDPs across all 18 governorates each month.
- To extend assistance despite funding shortfalls, WFP is prioritising IDPs living in camps in central conflict-affected governorates. Approximately 370,000 camp-based IDPs in Anbar, Baghdad and Salah al-Din

continue to receive full rations, while all IDPs living in and out of camps elsewhere receive reduced rations of two or three commodities in September, such as wheat flour, rice, pulses and vegetable oil.

- In the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI), accelerated collaboration with the Public Distribution System (PDS), the government-run social safety net, has allowed WFP to extend its pipeline until the end of November by providing IDPs with commodities complementary to PDS rations.
- Working with WFP to prioritise the most vulnerable, the Kuwait Red Crescent Society made a one-time food distribution of a 35 kg locally procured parcel to 200,000 IDPs living in camps in the KRI in August and September. To prevent the duplication of assistance, WFP suspended the distribution of FFPs in some areas.

Vouchers

- WFP distributes food vouchers worth USD 10 to IDPs in Erbil governorate, urban areas in Duhok, and four districts in Sulaymaniyah. The vouchers are redeemable at 190 local shops, empowering families to select their preferred goods.
- In September and October, WFP will assist 450,000 IDPs with vouchers, boosting the local economy by USD 4 million.
- Funding shortfalls have pushed WFP to impose tighter entitlement ceilings. Families with between six to nine members receive five vouchers, while those with ten or more members receive eight vouchers. Families with between one to five members receive one voucher per person.

ASSISTANCE FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES:

- In all nine camps, WFP assists Syrian refugees in Iraq with food vouchers or in-kind assistance each month.
- Guided by a Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment of all camp-based refugees, WFP is channeling limited resources to assist 50,000 Syrian refugees in September and October who are vulnerable and extremely vulnerable to food insecurity.
- WFP has adopted a tiered approach whereby Syrian refugees residing in camps considered food-insecure receive USD 19 each month and those who are marginally food insecure receive USD 10 each month. Food-secure refugees no longer receive WFP food assistance, representing a 47 percent reduction from WFP's previous caseload.

Clusters

- Each Cluster is in preparations for the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). The plan, which will be launched in late November, seeks to recalibrate the UN's response to the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Iraq. A summary of the most pressing humanitarian problems at the sectoral and inter-sectoral levels, a Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) is also under review to inform the HRP.

Food Security Cluster (FSC)

- Through a series of partner consultations, the FSC has identified NGO focal points in the priority and hard-to-reach governorates of Anbar, Baghdad, Diyala, Kirkuk and Salah al-Din. These focal points will be paired with WFP staff and serve to help coordinate the FSC response at a governorate level.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- Joint missions are underway with UNDSS in Sulaymaniyah and UNAMI in Erbil to enhance radio coverage and boost the capacity of emergency telecommunications networks.

Logistics Cluster

- The Logistics Cluster is coordinating with USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance to facilitate an incoming shipment of non-food items to support logistics, cargo tracking and warehousing services for the UN's humanitarian response.

Resourcing Update

- Acute funding shortfalls mean all WFP emergency operations to IDPs in Iraq will cease in December. Unless USD 50 million is secured urgently, up to 2.2 million people are at risk of losing WFP food assistance.
- WFP's Syrian refugee response in Iraq requires USD 8.5 million to continue its operations until December. If required funding is not received, WFP will be forced to make cutbacks in assistance provided to food-insecure households residing in Syrian refugee camps.

Contact

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"I appreciate this kind effort from WFP"

Iqbal fled her home in Anbar governorate with her five children earlier this year, and now struggles to make ends meet. "I have no income", she adds: after losing her husband in the current conflict, she receives a small widow's pension every three months which she puts towards her children's school expenses.

Now sheltering in Basrah, Iqbal happily accepts her first family food parcel, thanks to WFP, its donors and cooperating partners. "I heard that WFP distributed a variety of items," she says when she receives her monthly assistance. After losing friends and relatives, it's a daily battle for Iqbal to meet her family's basic needs but she is grateful to receive help, adding "I appreciate this kind effort from WFP."

WFP's emergency food assistance in Iraq is supported by Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, the European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, the UN Central Emergency Response Fund, the UK, the USA, and private sector donations. The Special Operation is funded by the USA, Kuwait, the UK, Canada, Sweden, Japan, and private donors.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO POPULATIONS AFFECTED BY THE IRAQ CRISIS wfp.org/countries/iraq

