



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])

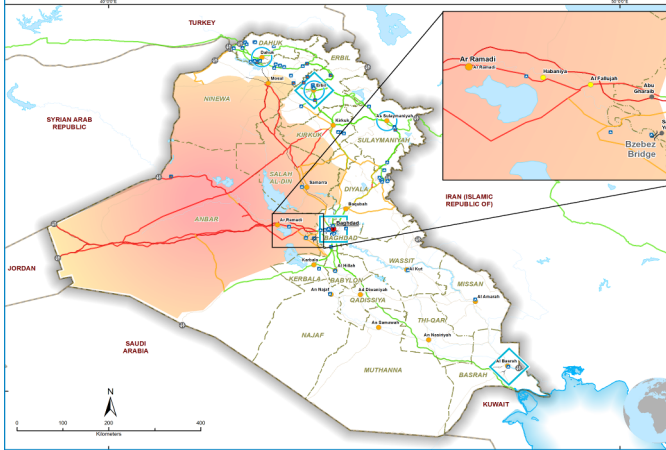
**3.2 million people internally displaced** (IOM)

**245,000 Syrian refugees in Iraq** (UNHCR)

#### WFP Iraq Funding Requirements:

**EMOP 200677 for conflict-affected Iraqis:**  
USD 50 million (November 2015 - April 2016)

**EMOP 200433.IQ for Syrian refugees:**  
USD 22.8 million (November 2015 - April 2016)



### Highlights

- To continue assisting Iraqis affected by the current crisis, WFP requires USD 7.5 million to fund operations until December 2015; a further USD 7.6 million is needed for the Syrian refugee response in Iraq until December 2015. To extend assistance for as long as possible amid funding shortfalls, WFP is continuing tiered distributions for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and Syrian refugees until the end of 2015, adjusted by location and assessed vulnerability to food insecurity.
- WFP-led Clusters are finalising their inputs to the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). The HRP, which will be launched in late November, seeks to recalibrate and prioritise the UN's humanitarian response to the situation in Iraq for next year, including for populations in hard-to-reach areas. 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.

### Situation Update

- Central Iraq is experiencing widespread violence resulting from renewed military offensives against extremist groups, particularly concentrated around the cities of Ramadi, Fallujah and Baiji. Protracted insecurity continues to cause displacement, restrict access to

safety for the displaced, and impede the delivery of humanitarian supplies to people in need. WFP is cooperating with local partners to assist in inaccessible areas, while exploring new avenues to reach isolated communities.

- The International Organization for Migration estimates 3.2 million Iraqis have been internally displaced since the outbreak of conflict in January 2014. As displacement continues for some populations, more Iraqis are returning to their areas of origin, mostly to the central governorates of Salah al-Din, Diyala and Ninawa: WFP is carrying out emergency distributions to assist returnees settling back in their home governorates.

### WFP Response

- Through **EMOP 200677**, WFP aims to assist 2.2 million displaced and conflict-affected people in Iraq per month through three modalities: Family Food Parcels (FFPs); vouchers; and three-day Immediate Response Rations (IRRs). However, due to significant funding shortfalls and continued access constraints, WFP has been forced to scale back assistance and now works to reach 1.5 million people per month.
- Following assessments and the start of targeted assistance in August, WFP aims to assist 50,000 Syrian refugees per month residing in nine camps across Iraq with vouchers as part of the regional **EMOP 200433** to assist those displaced by the Syria conflict.
- WFP leads three inter-agency Clusters to coordinate humanitarian action on the ground. Co-led with FAO, the Food Security Cluster works with local partners at the governorate and national level to coordinate the food security response to the crisis in Iraq. By heading the Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Clusters through **Special Operation 200746**, WFP assists UN and NGO partners to ensure an efficient and effective logistics and communications response: 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 in the field.

#### ASSISTANCE FOR IDPs:

##### Family Food Parcels (FFPs)

- In November, WFP will target 1.3 million people with access to cooking facilities using FFPs. To extend assistance despite funding shortfalls, WFP is prioritising IDPs living in camps in central conflict-affected governorates with full rations, while all IDPs elsewhere receive reduced rations on a two-month distribution cycle. Supporting 40 percent of caloric requirements, the commodities are prioritised to avoid the duplication of rations provided by the government's Public Distribution System (PDS), which include items such as rice, pulses, wheat flour

- and vegetable oil.
- Following continued heavy rain in central governorates in November, tens of thousands of IDPs living in camps have been relocated or have lost their rations in the subsequent flooding. Some of WFP's October distributions were moved or delayed as a result; WFP has since resumed distributions of FFPs to flood-affected families.

#### Vouchers

- WFP distributes food vouchers to IDPs in the northern governorates of Erbil, Duhok and Sulaymaniyah. To align with reductions to in-kind assistance, voucher distributions are calibrated by family size, and the value has been reduced twice from its original value of USD 26: in March, to USD 16, and again in August to USD 10. Vouchers are redeemable at 190 local shops.
- The November-December cycle will target 366,000 people with vouchers; distributions are expected to commence shortly.

#### EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR IDPs:

##### Immediate Response Rations (IRRs)

- In collaboration with UNICEF, UNFPA and NGO partners, WFP provides IRRs to transient IDPs through a **Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)**. IRRs consist of portable ready-to-eat food rations which can feed a family of five for three days.
- As part of its first line response, WFP continues to assist recent returnees and newly displaced families with IRRs. So far in November, over 30,000 people have been reached with IRRs in Anbar, Baghdad, Duhok and Kirkuk governorates, including in flood-affected locations.

#### ASSISTANCE FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES:

- Guided by a Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment of all camp-based refugees, WFP is now channeling its limited resources towards providing monthly vouchers to 50,000 Syrian refugees who are vulnerable or 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 in the total number of Syrian refugees receiving WFP assistance.
- Due to ongoing military operations, WFP was unable to deliver food commodities to Al-Obaidi camp in beleaguered Anbar governorate for the fifth month. WFP is monitoring the situation closely in consultation with local partners and UN agencies, and in-kind food

assistance will resume as soon as access to the camp is re-established.

## Clusters

- All Clusters are finalising their inputs to the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). The HRP, which will be launched in late November, seeks to recalibrate the UN's response to the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Iraq.

#### Food Security Cluster (FSC)

- The FSC is hosting training sessions for local partners in Erbil on utilising online project monitoring tools. The trainings aim to help humanitarian organisations to collect, manage, map and analyse indicators to improve information management and reporting.

#### Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- The ETC is receiving applications for a technical training course in Erbil in mid-December. The objective of the training is to build the capacity of local ICT staff from UN agencies and NGOs in the area of digital radio communication technology.

#### Logistics Cluster

- The Logistics Cluster has begun receiving a shipment of non-food items from USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance in its Erbil and Baghdad facilities. The contribution, valued at USD 75 million and coming in over 900 trucks (67,500 m<sup>3</sup>), will support logistics, cargo tracking and warehousing services for the UN's humanitarian response in Iraq.

## Resourcing Update

- Unless USD 7.6 million is urgently secured to continue 2015 operations, up to 2.2 million people are at risk of losing WFP food assistance in December. A total of USD 50 million is required until April 2016 under Budget Revision 6 of EMOP 200677.
- WFP's Syrian refugee response in Iraq requires USD 7.5 million to continue its operations until December. A total of USD 22.8 million is required until April 2016 under Budget Revision 16 of EMOP 200433. If the necessary funding is not received, WFP will be forced to make cutbacks in assistance to food-insecure Syrian refugees across the country.

## Contact

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### "The food I receive helps me feed my children and live in dignity"



Basrah—WFP/Mohammed Albahbani

Salwa is from the outskirts of Abu Ghraib, in western Baghdad. This is her second year in Basrah, where she lives with her two children in a camp. When extremist groups attacked their city, her husband told her to flee with the children. "He said that he would follow us soon. He didn't ... He disappeared and is still missing."

Life is extremely difficult in the camp for Salwa and her young family. Assistance from organisations like the World Food Programme helps her get by. With her regular Family Food Parcel of commodities like oil, rice and pulses, she's able to cook the food she used to back home: "I cook rice and lentil soup; my kids like it." Without her husband to support her and children to look after, their income is minimal, so she is grateful for WFP's assistance. "I have nothing here and no one. The food I receive helps me feed my children and live in dignity."

WFP's emergency food assistance in Iraq is supported by Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, the European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Iraq, Italy, Japan, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, 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](http://wfp.org/countries/iraq)

