

# IRAQ

## Expanded Humanitarian Response Fund (ERF)

### Bulletin

No. 15 | December 2008

*ERF 2008 in review at p.2*

**ERF:** the Expanded Humanitarian Response Fund (ERF) aims to help fill critical humanitarian gaps within different sectors through readily available flexible funding for emergency response. The maximum grant is \$400,000.

**NGO Micro Grant:** the NGO Micro Grant provides small-scale funds to enable targeted and responsive emergency projects primarily by Iraqi NGOs. The maximum grant is \$50,000.

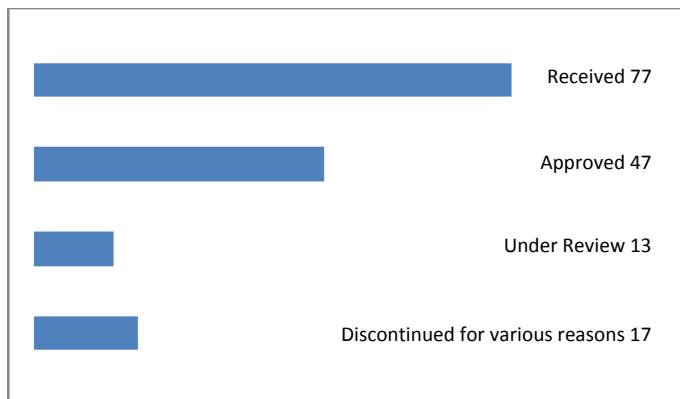
#### Operational Updates:

##### The Expanded Humanitarian Response Fund (ERF): Project and Financial Status:

One new proposal on agriculture and food security / Dohuk was submitted to the ERF for consideration in December 2008. A total of 77 project proposals have been received since August 2007. International NGOs account for 20 of these proposals while Iraqi NGOs account for 57 projects. The ERF's Technical Review Committee (TRC) has approved 47 out of the 77 project proposals received. Of the approved and funded projects, 43 have been completed while four are ongoing. The total cost of the funded projects is US\$7,583,776. Total financial resources committed to ERF projects (disbursed + approved but pending disbursement) stand at US\$7,881,776.

Thirteen projects, totaling an estimated \$1,919,930 are currently under review. Four of these are pending TRC approval. A Sector Outcome Team (SOT) has rejected the eligibility of 1 project following the failure by the applicants to provide satisfactory additional information. The SOT reviews all applications for funding to ensure there are no duplications in the response, proposals are technically sound, feasible and in conformity to SOT goals.

A breakdown of the funded projects and where they are being implemented is illustrated in Appendix 1. Partners currently implementing ongoing ERF-funded projects include: Voice of Independent Women Organization, Iraqi al Amal Association, KURDS and Iraqi Relief Organization.



#### The Technical Review Committee (TRC)

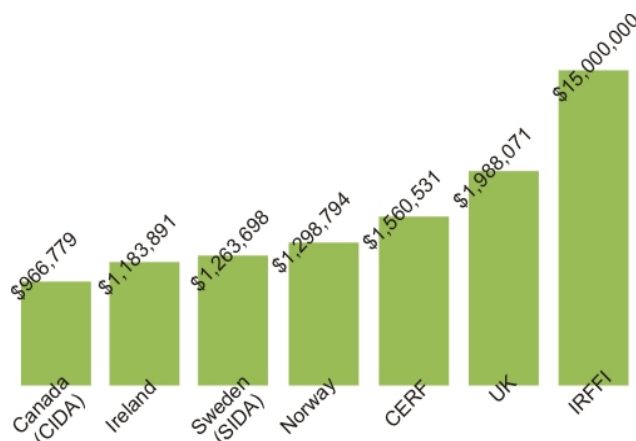
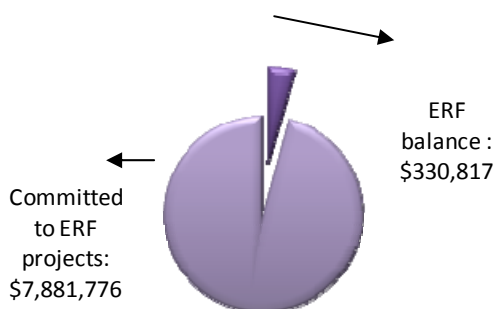
The newly constituted Technical Review Committee (TRC) comprising representatives from UN/International Organizations (UNICEF, IOM), Donors (Italy and Norway) and NGOs [(the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and Terre Des Hommes (TDH)].

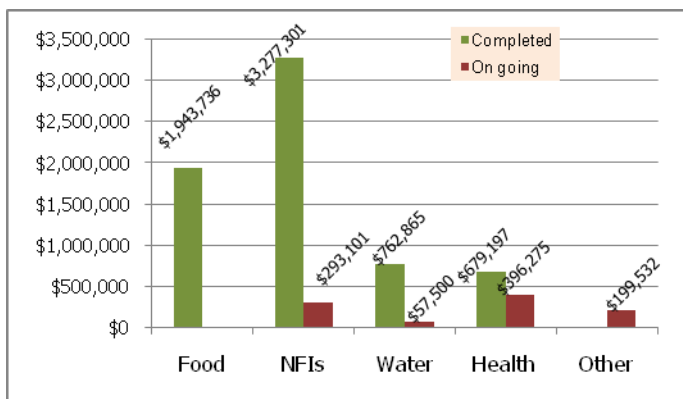
The TRC is currently reviewing revisions to the Fund's Charter, Funding Proposal and Reporting templates as well as a draft Project implementation Guidance Note.

#### Financial Status of the ERF

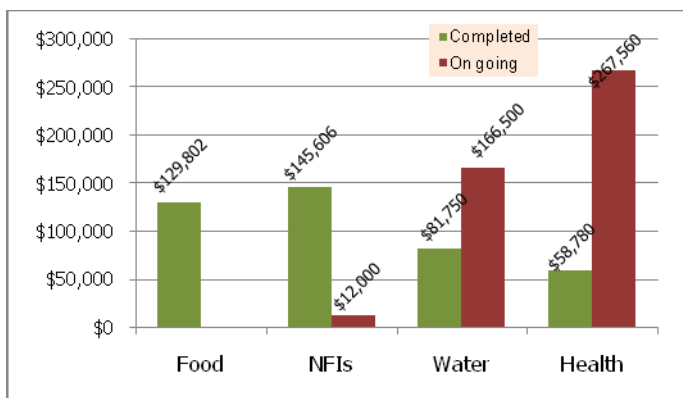
#### Contributions to the ERF:

A \$15,000,000 grant from the International Reconstruction Fund Facility for Iraq (IRFFI), part of the Iraq Trust Fund (ITF) was remitted to the ERF in December 2008. The ERF has received a total of \$23,261,764 in contributions since August 2007 (3% of which is dedicated to the administration of the fund).





Funding status per sector



Number of Beneficiaries

### FACTS ABOUT THE ERF:

- The ERF provides quick and flexible funding to national and international organizations for urgent humanitarian activities in Iraq to alleviate the suffering of the civilian population through emergency response to humanitarian needs. Typical beneficiaries of ERF-funded projects include, but are not limited to, IDPs, communities affected by violence, widows and persons with disabilities. The ERF is not intended to respond to chronic social problems, reconstruction or other long-term development needs.
- The ERF is replenished with new contributions on a continuing basis. The Fund grants a maximum of \$400,000 and a minimum of \$25,000 per project.
- Contributions to the ERF are un-earmarked and pooled, i.e. they lose their donor identification.
- A Technical Review Committee (TRC) is an integral part of the ERF comprising of the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration (UN/IOM), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) and donor representatives.

(For further details, please see the ERF Charter, which can be obtained from OCHA Iraq by emailing [ochairaq@un.org](mailto:ochairaq@un.org).)

### CAP 2008 & 2009

The 2008 Consolidated Appeal, requesting US\$ 274,253,721 (revised) for humanitarian operations in Iraq stands funded at 73.3%. The allocation of the funding per sector is illustrated in the table on the next page. The ERF appealed for US\$20million and received 76.7% (US\$ 15, 334,110, including the US\$15 million from the Iraq Trust Fund).

The 2009 Consolidated Appeal for Iraq is requesting US\$ \$192,334,256 to address both the needs of internally displaced and other vulnerable Iraqis inside the country (Pillar I) and

another \$355,008,505 (Pillar II) to respond to the humanitarian needs of up to 2 million Iraqi refugees in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Turkey Iran and the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries as well as to provide assistance to Palestinian, Iranian, Turkish and other refugees in Iraq. For more information please see <http://ochairaq.org/cap2009>

### The ERF: 2008 in Review<sup>1</sup>

During 2008, 445 280 individuals or 66 477 families all over Iraq benefited from projects funded by the ERF. In addition, the ERF funded water projects benefiting 12 schools and 12 health stations in the governorates of Qadisiya, Babylon and Thi-Qar.

The ERF began 2008 with dwindling resources amidst increasing interest by NGOs as a source of flexible funding for response activities. The fund had US\$901,999 in January 2008.

In response to rapidly dwindling resources, the Central Emergency response Fund (CERF) approved a \$US 1,560,531 for 11 projects for food, NFIs, health and Water and Sanitation assistance for 13,000 families across 9 governorates in Iraq in during the second quarter of the year.

The ERF committed a total of US\$6,685,612 in 2008 (including the CERF grant referred to above) to 31 NGOs. Nine of the recipients were international NGOs while 24 were local NGOs. Funded response and mitigation activities included food, non-food items, shelter, water, health and needs assessments. Thirty six projects worth US\$5,441,204 were completed while four projects worth US\$946,408 are ongoing. US\$298,000 has been committed, but is pending disbursement to one approved project. The map on last page illustrates ERF activities across Iraq in 2008.

The single largest approved ERF project in 2008 was a Non food items project implemented in Missan at US\$ 395,311. The smallest project implemented with ERF funding was a food and NFI project in Diyala worth US\$29,392. The average grant during the year was US\$160,140.

An external review of the ERF was carried out by a consultant whose recommendations began to be implemented in the latter half of the year. The Fund's Technical Review Committee has been reconstituted and a number of management and processes' reviews continue. The eligibility criteria have been revised.

The International Reconstruction Fund for Iraq (IRFFI) approved the replenishment of the ERF with \$20 million of interest monies from the Iraq Trust Fund in July. An initial US\$ 15 million was processed and transferred to the Fund. Several bilateral donors contributed money to the Fund in 2008: Sweden, Canada, the United Kingdom, Norway and Ireland. The Fund also received donations from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). The ERF balance as at the end of 2008 is US\$14,682,134.

<sup>1</sup> All donations are reflected as received and do not reflect the 3% dedicated to the management of the Fund.

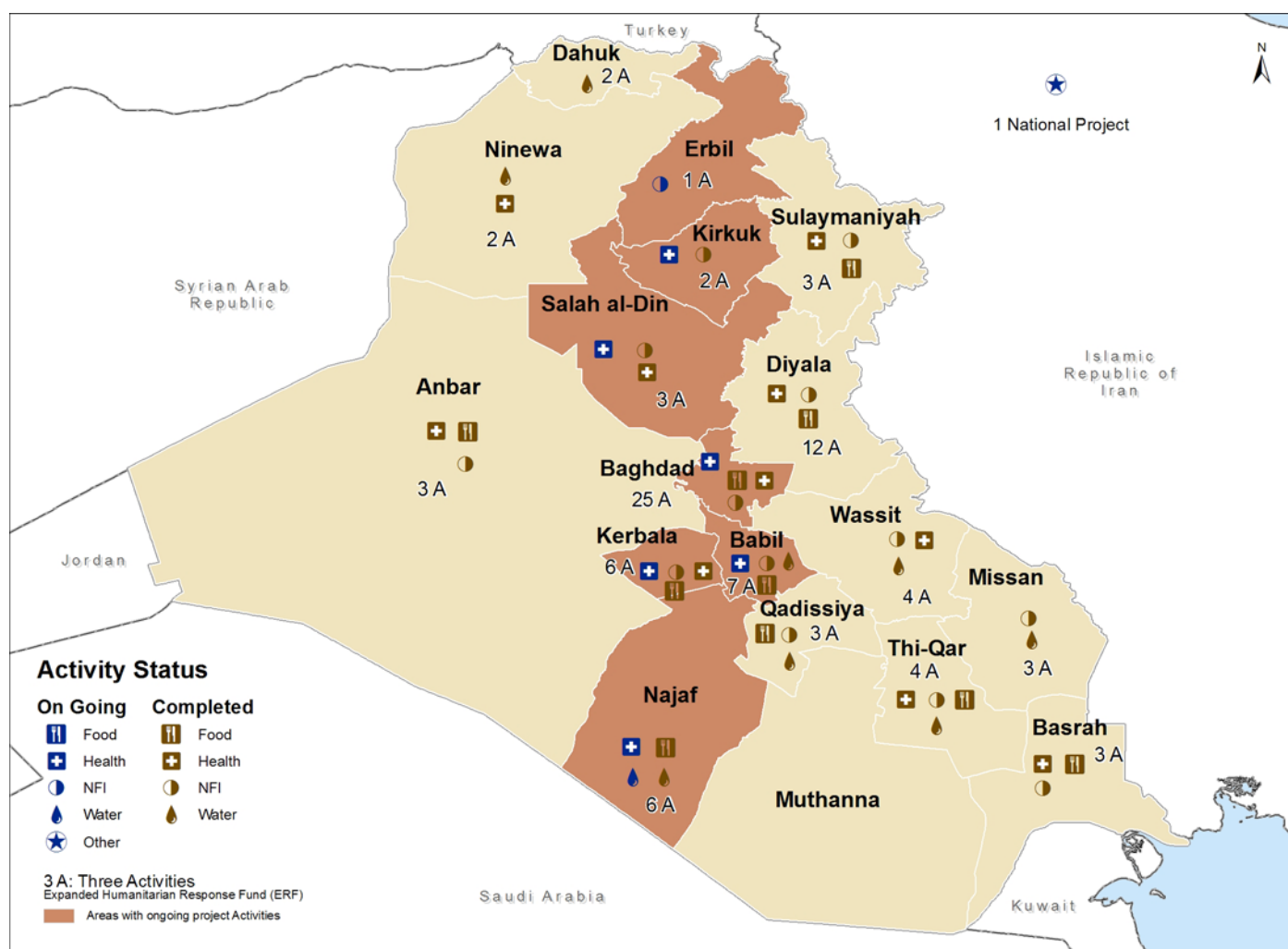
### CAP 2008 Funding per Sector

| Sector                                | Funding               |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Agriculture/Food Security:            | \$1.3 million (17%)   |
| Coordination and Support Services:    | \$8.2 million (116%)  |
| Education:                            | \$4.7 million (24%)   |
| Food:                                 | \$ 83 million (84%)   |
| Health and Nutrition:                 | \$13.4 million (41%)  |
| Housing and Shelter:                  | \$25 million (63%)    |
| Protection/Human Rights /Rule of Law: | \$17.2 million (67%)  |
| Sector not yet specified (incl. ERF): | \$33.2 million (166%) |
| Water and Sanitation:                 | \$14.7 million (68%)  |

For more information on Iraq CAP 2008 funding, please visit:

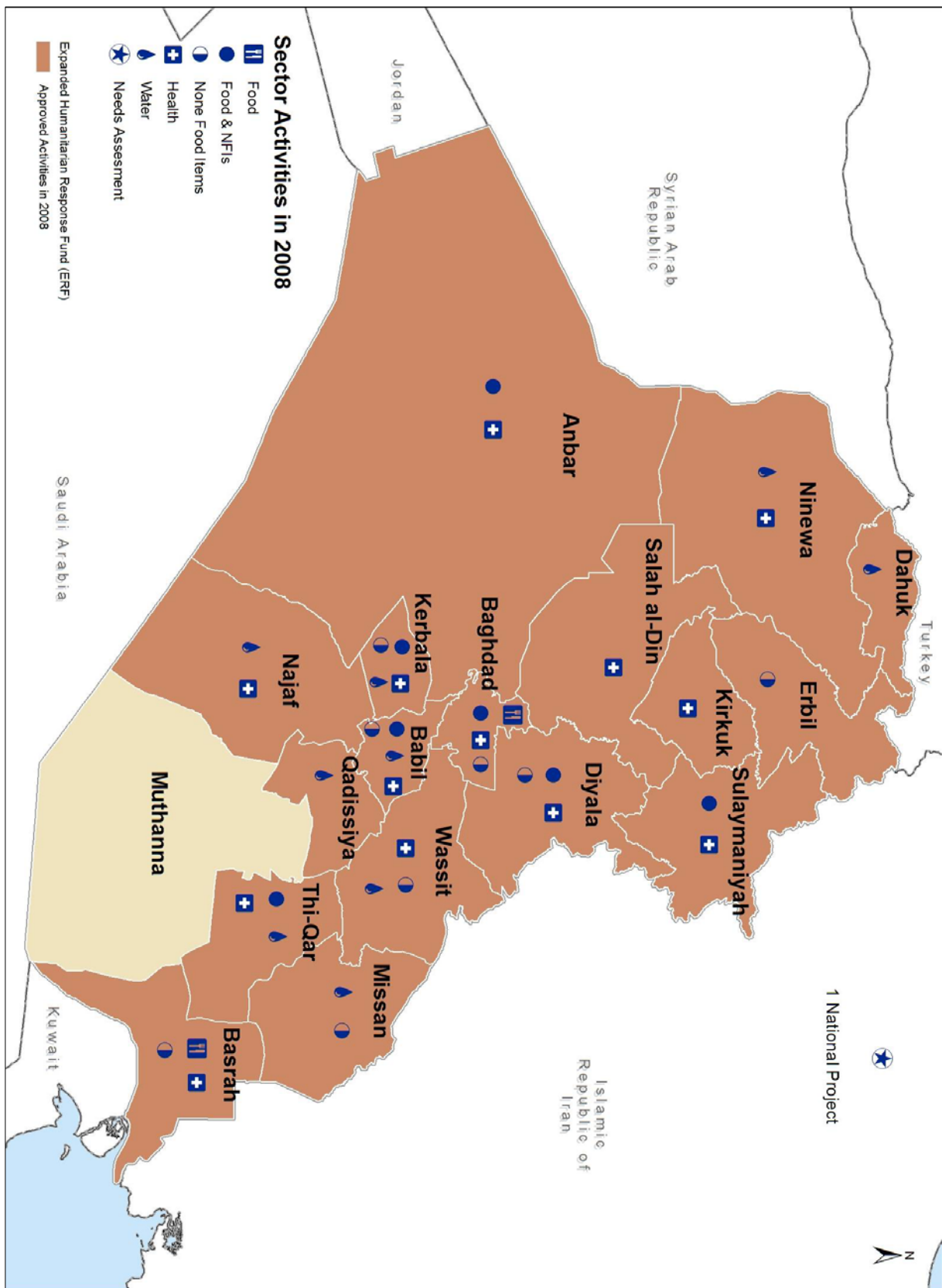
<http://ocha.unog.ch/fts2/pageloader.aspx?page=emerg-emergencyDetails&appealID=808>

## Appendix I Governorates with ERF Approved Activities (as of December 2008)



For further information on the ERF, please contact  
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## Appendix II 2008 ERF Projects by Sector and Governorate



**Appendix III**  
**ERF Project by Governorate, Sector and Number of Beneficiaries in 2008**

