

The Expanded Humanitarian Response Fund (ERF) aims to help fill critical humanitarian gaps within different sectors through readily available flexible funding for emergency response to: 1. Save lives and protect threatened livelihoods; 2. Meet critical short-term humanitarian needs and 3. Respond to sudden-onset complex humanitarian emergencies. The maximum grant is US\$400,000. ERF resources address needs arising from both natural disasters as well as conflict-related or other man-made crises.

## Operational Updates:

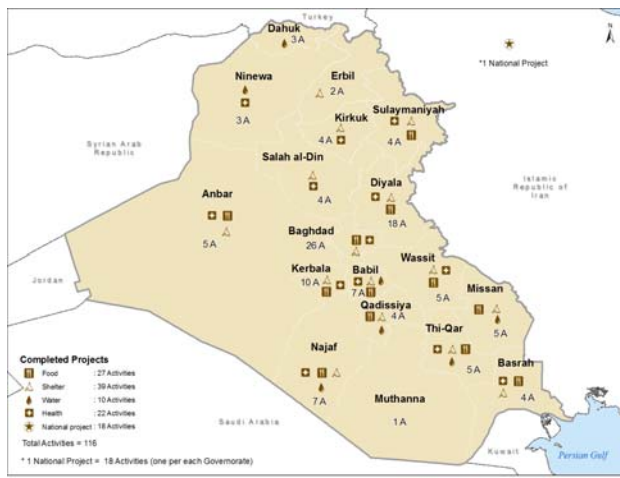
### The Expanded Humanitarian Response Fund (ERF):

#### Projects and Financial Status:

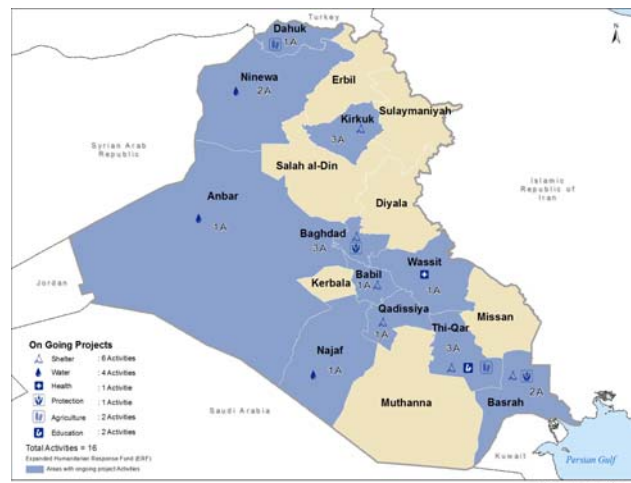
Fifteen ERF projects are under implementation as of the end of June 2009 for a total amount of US\$ 2,562,037.00 (please see map below). Overall, the ERF's Technical Review Committee (TRC) has approved 70 project proposals since 2007. During June, the TRC approved four projects for the total amount of US\$ 621,415.00.

Eleven projects, including six received during the reporting period, totaling an estimated US\$ 1,992,931 are currently under review.

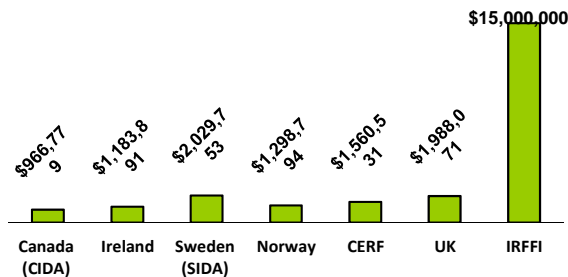
#### COMPLETED ERF PROJECTS (activities)



#### ONGOING ERF PROJECTS (activities)



#### Donor contribution to the ERF



#### Status of ERF balance

##### Total ERF Balance:

US\$11,036,739.00 USD

(after the deduction of 3% Fund administration costs)

##### Value of proposals under review:

US\$1,992,931.00

Approved Projects				
Sector	Location / Governorate	No and type of Beneficiaries	Funds disbursed (US\$)	Duration
Education	Thi Qar	950 Student of IDP and Host Community	104,375	Two months
Shelter	Qadissiya	200 families	26,386	One month
Water	Ninewa	1700 families	177,007	Three months
Shelter and Water	Basra / Thi Qar	16004 families	313,647	Four months
Projects Under Review				
Sector	Location / Governorate	No and type of Beneficiaries	Funds sought (US\$)	Status-Under review/Approved
Health	Diyala	505 IDPs and Host Community members	126,280	Under final Review
Health	Thi Qar	110 people with disabilities	37,200	Under final review
Food Security and Shelter	Diyala	370 families	36,099	Under final review
Water	Basra	6000 families	322,862	Under final review
Water	Erbil, Sulaimaniya, Dohuk	1000 families	396,542	Under review
Food	Baghdad	2500 families	372,938	Under review
Health	All governorates	21,000 patients	400,000	Under review
Protection	Kirkuk	100 women and 100 children	29,750	Under initial review
Shelter	Erbil	400 families	140,700	Under initial review
Education	Baghdad	2000 students	76,560	Under initial review
Agriculture	Basra	10,000 families	54,000	Under initial review

#### 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.

#### The new Technical Review Committee (TRC)

The new ERF Technical Review Committee is now fully on board. Welcome to the new members (UNDP, Premiere Urgence, International Medical Corps, SIDA and OFDA) and thank to IOM for its renewed commitment. This TRC term will last until mid-November 2009. The Technical Review Committee (TRC), Chaired by OCHA/HC, is composed of six members: two representatives from UN/International Organizations, two members from NGOs and two donor representatives. The task of the TRC is to analyze the feasibility

and relevance of proposed projects and offer technical recommendations in accordance with the Charter. The TRC can monitor projects at any time and should problems be identified with the implementation, the TRC will decide on coercive action. The outcome of the internal consultation process is presented by OCHA to the Humanitarian Coordinator for the final approval/rejection of a given proposal.

## ERF Training in Thi Qar



The ERF Team carried out the third round of trainings on 17 and 18 June in Thi Qar. 36 representatives from Iraqi NGOs from Thi Qar, Missan, Basra and Muthanna took part in the event. The training was extended by half day, to two full days, in order to give more time to the attendees to carry out working group activities on the main ERF documents and to challenge themselves with scenarios, tailored to the Iraqi context. Training sessions included: ERF Charter overview, understanding of the ERF objectives and of the humanitarian principles; drafting a rapid needs assessment with case studies and plenary discussion; drafting an ERF project proposal; results based management tools and reporting techniques. The training was another occasion to meet current and prospective ERF partners and to get essential insights of the humanitarian situation from within the civil society. The ERF Team would like to thank again all the participants for the level of engagement and interest they showed throughout the two days.

## Story from an ERF project:



The Iraqi Democratic Group for Women is currently implementing a three months health project in Wassit. The intervention involves the provision of a mobile clinic to populations living in the remote areas of

Kut, such as Al Dujaili, Sheikh Saad, Al Hay, Badra, Jassan and Al Ahrar. The grant is aimed at providing health services to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and the most vulnerable communities. It is expected that the mobile clinic will cover around 6600 patients, 40% of whom are IDPs.

The project was considered a priority in the area because of the poor hygienic conditions in which the targeted beneficiaries live and the high exposure to infectious diseases, especially for children and women.

The project was originally planned to serve women and children, in particular pregnant ones and infants, which are the ones with the lowest level of access to services as well as the most vulnerable. The estimated percentage of targeted women and children is 60%.



Project activities include training for traditional birth attendants (45 women) from the rural areas in the targeted sub districts at the Al Zahra'a general hospital under the supervision of 3 gynecologists and one pediatrician trainers from the Directorate of health. This activity was a success and the hospital director will be employing a good number of graduates as birth attendants.

## UPDATE FROM THE WATER SECTOR – ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

- 1- It is required that the Applicant has previous experience on similar water interventions for the following activities: installation/rehabilitation of a Water Treatment Unit, laying of pipelines, drilling a well. For the other interventions (e.g. water tankering, supply of filters, storage tanks etc) Applicants are required to show adequate capacity, without proving previous work on water projects.
- 2- Applicants should in any case have the required technical capacity and submit well prepared and well organized documents and information including the specifications of any supply, the brand, and method of implementation. All details should be approved by the local water authority.
- 3- Short term interventions will be accepted where no other sustainable activity is feasible or where they will serve as continuum to other actors' longer term planned actions.
- 4- NGOs should have a close coordination with the General Water Directorate in the Ministry of Municipality and Public Work, especially for water tankering projects, which have to be requested by the authority for specific areas and as the only solution to respond to a water shortage during the drought season.
- 5- A letter from the Water Directorate is preferable in which the water authority should mention its responsibility to monitor the implementation works and to receive the project after completion in case the location is within their authority. In addition, it is better if they ensure ownership and responsibility to taking over the maintenance of the facility.
- 6- Where possible, the number of beneficiaries should be addressed and mentioned officially by the local authority and the community council.

### About the Iraq Field coordinators (IFCs)

OCHA has recruited 14 Iraq field coordinators (IFCs) in 14 governorates. IFCs in the Ninewa, Kirkuk and Erbil and Ninewa are under recruitment. Expected date of recruitment is 14 July 2009.

The IFCs are tasked with the following activities:

- ERF Monitoring - To ensure a close follow-up of ERF projects from the proposal phase to the final monitoring phase.
- Networking and coordination- IFC's are tasked to network and coordinate humanitarian
- National Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity for the GoI - IFCs have been provided with a questionnaire that will assist two consultants (UNDP/BCPR and OCHA) based in Baghdad to undertake a comprehensive disaster management review and propose a strategy for the establishment of a national disaster management institution in Iraq. The questionnaire will provide basic information as to how natural disasters (floods, drought, landslides, earthquakes etc.) and human-induced disasters are addressed at the Governorate level. All IFCs have already commenced collecting this information.

- Data Collection - IFCs will collect specific data on government run health and education facilities in partnership with UN agencies to identify existing gaps.
- Who does What, Where? (3W) - To continue striving towards developing a more complete humanitarian picture, IFCs will collect data to update the existing 3W database.

### Induction Course for IFCs 27-29 June

An induction course was given to the IFCs at UNAMI Baghdad on 27-29 June. All IFCs except the IFCs of Dohuk and Suleymanieh attended the course. The IFC induction course covered presentations by the SRSG a.i., UNAMI political section and HRD section, OCHA and UN agencies. The presentations gave a comprehensive view of the UN's activities in Iraq, OCHA Iraq's priorities for 2009. This gathering allowed all, that is the UNAMI political unit and HRD as well as the UN agencies to provide the IFCs with their national staff contacts. Finally the induction course was an excellent opportunity for the IFCs to meet each other and start exchanging lessons learned and current experiences

*All the ERF documents are downloadable in English and Arabic from  
[www.ochairaq.org](http://www.ochairaq.org)*

*For further information about the ERF, please contact  
[erfiraq@un.org](mailto:erfiraq@un.org)*