

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:

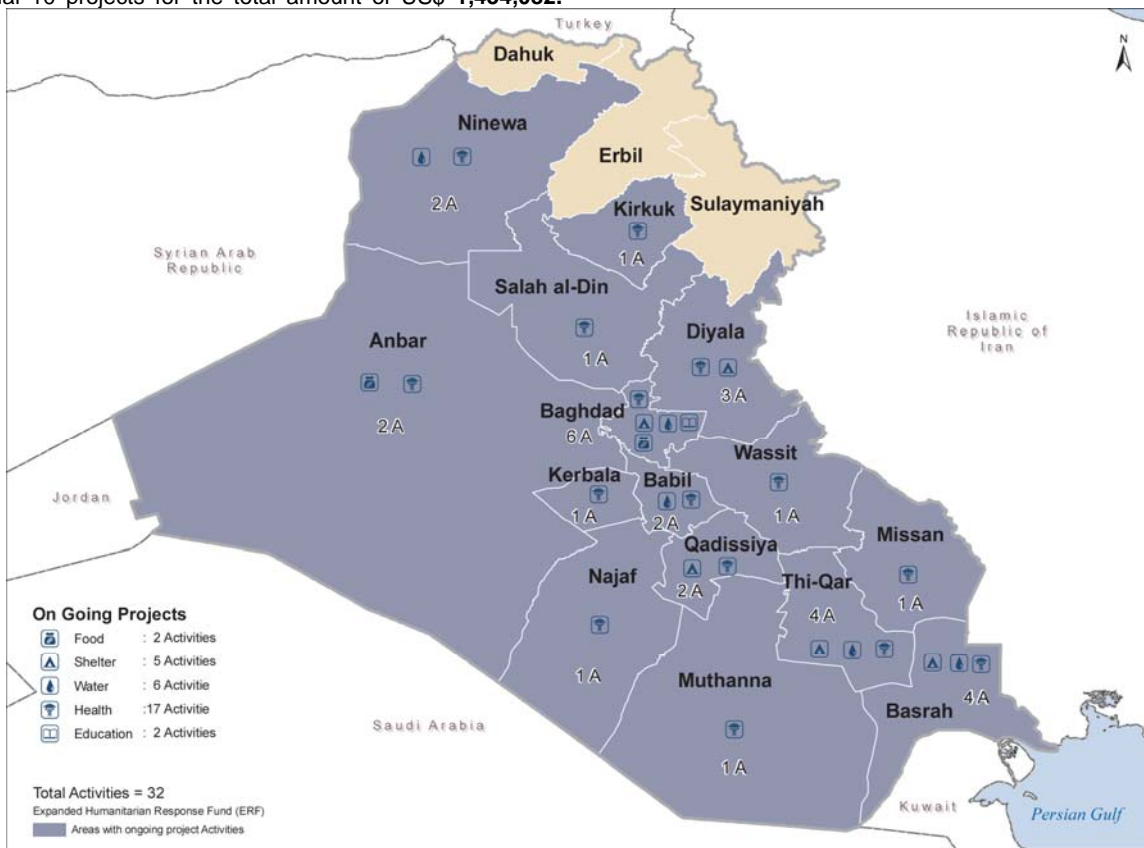
1. Save lives and protect threatened livelihoods;
2. Meet critical short-term humanitarian needs and
3. Respond to sudden-onset complex humanitarian emergencies. The maximum grant is US\$400,000. ERF resources address needs arising from both natural disasters as well as conflict-related or other man-made crises.

Operational Updates

Projects:

Sixteen ERF projects are under implementation as of the end of September 2009. Overall, the ERF's Technical Review Committee (TRC) has approved 80 project proposals since 2007. During August and September the TRC approved an additional 10 projects for the total amount of US\$ **1,454,082**.

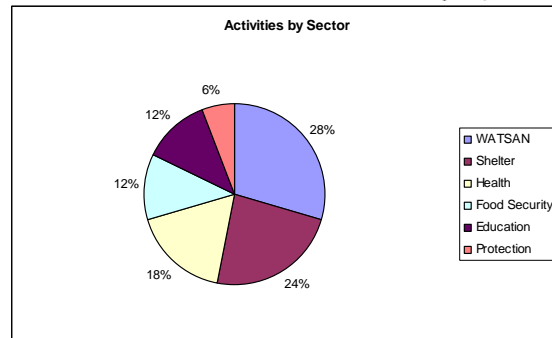
These newly approved projects were for support of displaced Iraqis, school children, and other vulnerable families. Projects approved include the sectors of Health, Shelter, Food, Water, and Education.



Created by OCHA, October 2009

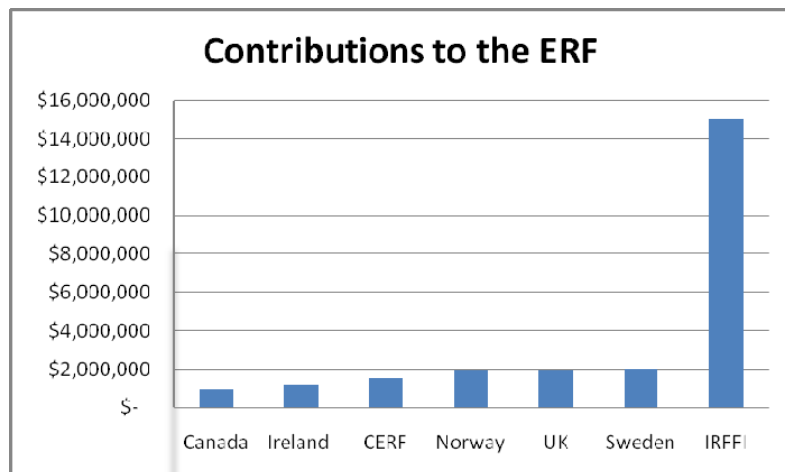
From the map above it can be observed that with the exception of Baghdad, on-going projects are relatively spread out over all 18 governorates of Iraq. With the persistence of the drought causing continued displacement, the ERF team will promote projects in governorates which have been the most severely affected especially Ninewa and Kirkuk.

As a result of the negative effects of the drought on vulnerable Iraqis, in the past 2 months the majority of projects received by the ERF have been for water and sanitation. Water and Sanitation projects currently account for 28% of all activities, closely followed by Shelter with 24% and Health at 18%.





ERF Financial Status:



Total Contribution:
\$24,648,831.00 (3% allocated to fund administration)

Total Allocations: \$12,674,138.00

Total ERF Balance: \$10,351,942.00

The Iraq ERF is grateful to Norway for its new contribution to the ERF in August of USD 621,012. These new funds, as with all other funds, will be un-earmarked and pooled for urgent humanitarian interventions for the vulnerable of Iraq. In addition to the new funds received by Norway, OCHA is in the process of applying for an additional \$5 million from the Iraqi Trust Fund to continue supporting vulnerable Iraqi's through the end of 2010. It can be observed from the chart above that the Iraqi Trust Fund has been the single largest donor to the Iraq ERF to date.

increase in unemployment, population movements and water induced diseases such as typhoid and diarrhea.

In response to this, the ERF had 7 drought related projects underway during September, with another 11 drought related proposals under review. Of the 7 projects underway 3 were in the North and 2 each in the South and Central parts of Iraq. All these projects were water related and included various activities such as: installation of water tanks, construction of additional water distribution points, rehabilitation of sanitation facilities, and distribution of household level water filters.

This year's drought with its cumulative effect is having a disastrous impact on the lives of the Iraqi population. The limited access to water has led among others to the erosion of livelihoods, decrease in summer and winter crop production,

The table below shows the 10 new emergency projects, including the drought related, which were newly approved during months of August and September:

Projects Approved During August and September 2009				
Sector	Location / Governorate	No and type of Beneficiaries	Funds disbursed (US\$)	Duration
Health	Diyala	505 IDPs and Host Community members	108,457	Two months
Shelter	Diyala	629 families	69,710	One month
Food	Baghdad	2500 families	334,865	Three months
Health	All governorates	21,000 patients	400,000	Six months
Shelter	Baghdad	120 families	184,952	Four and half months
Water	Basra	6000 families	322,862	Four months
Water	Babylon	651 Individual	59,899	Two months
Food	Anbar	1430 Orphans	29,086	Two months
Health	Thi Qar	300 Handicapped	36,700	One month
Education	Baghdad	2000 School children	92,503	Three months

\$1,454,082

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, and other vulnerable groups. 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.

ERF Spotlight on Peace Winds Japan

Peace Winds Japan received funding from the ERF in the last quarter for an emergency water project in Taq-Harb Village of Ninewa Governorate, Iraq. On a hill above Taq- Harb village, there are 150 families who have been displaced since 2006. In addition to the hardships of being displaced from their homes, the current drought made their water situation even more difficult. Many of these families were required to walk one kilometer to get water - the burden falling predominantly on the women and girls who traditionally have this role. As a result of the project, these families now have access to water services and a stable amount of water supply for drinking and for sustaining their livelihoods.

In order to provide water for all families in Taq-Harb, three existing water tanks were relocated and elevated, and 625m of water pipes were installed. In addition to this, one new deep well was constructed, and one existing well had its submersible pump replaced in order to increase the quantity of water supplied.

Upon the successful completion of this project, the amount of water supplied to the village increased more than 100% from 94 liter/family/day to 220 liter/family/day. One beneficiary said, "I could not take a shower due to

lack of water, but now I can take it a couple of times a week. This project is good for our hygiene problem as well". The project has also good impact on women beneficiaries since they had to walk in the valley to get water from the water points. One of the women beneficiaries said, "It was not easy for us to get water in hot summer and cold winter on foot and we have arthritis and diseases. We all are now released from the heavy burden."



A boy from Taq-Harb Village who is now able to use water supplied through the project to irrigate his families vegetable garden.



Men from tag-Harb Village installing water lines.

OCHA has recruited 17 Iraq field coordinators (IFCs) in 17 governorates. IFC in the Ninewa is under recruitment.

The IFCs are tasked with the following activities:

- Up-to-date monitoring and regular reporting (inputs to situation reports, contingency plans, ect) on key humanitarian and related issues

- Accurate and up-to-date humanitarian information products such as W3 (Who What Where Database) and derivative products such as maps, governorate profiles, contact lists, etc
- Coordination/facilitation of humanitarian response in all governorates in close cooperation with GECs, GLOs, and PAC
- Support governorate/district level contingency (preparedness and response) plans to improve emergency preparedness at field level.
- Field Level Monitoring for Expanded Humanitarian Response Fund (ERF)

An IFC/IMO induction training took place in Erbil from 12-16 September and included presentations by the acting HC as well as staff from OCHA (Head of Office, Deputy, HAOs, PIO, and Information Managers), IAU, UNAMI-DHS and a special one day program on reporting child rights violations by UNICEF. The highly-participatory training was attended by 28 staff working in the 18 governorates (currently 17 Iraq Field Coordinators and 11 Information Management Officers).

All the ERF documents are downloadable in English and Arabic from
www.ochairaq.org
 For further information about the ERF, please contact
erfiraq@un.org