

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
3. Respond to sudden-onset complex humanitarian emergencies.

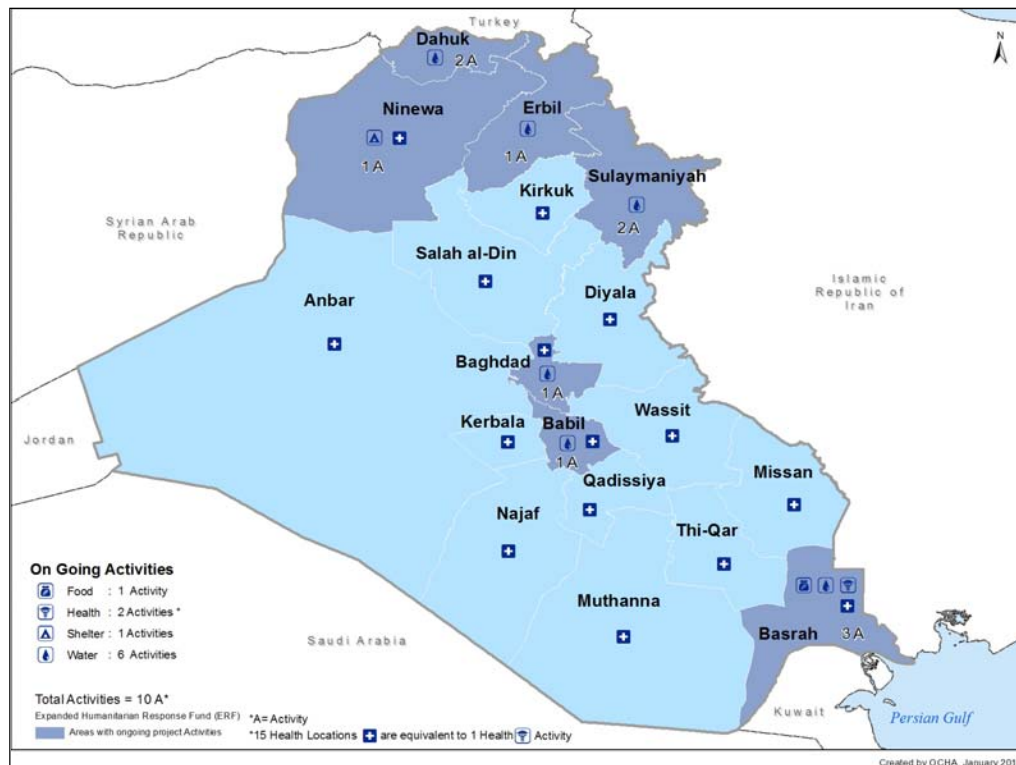
The maximum grant possible through the fund is US\$400,000. ERF resources address needs arising from both natural disasters as well as conflict-related or other man-made crises.

ERF Project Updates for January 2010:

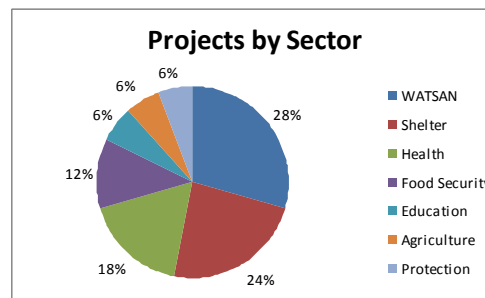
During January 2010, nine ERF projects involving 10 activities were underway. In addition to these projects, the Technical Review Committee (TRC) approved four new projects with a total value of US\$1,179,856. These four projects will be submitted shortly to the Humanitarian Coordinator for final approval. The four newly approved projects provide support to vulnerable Iraqi families in the water and sanitation, education and agriculture sectors.

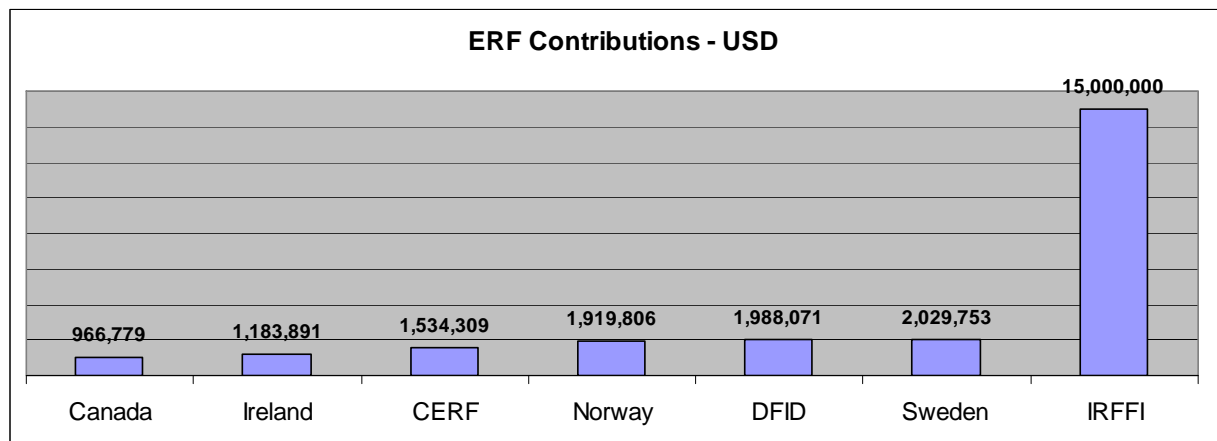
As of the end of January 2010, the TRC has recommended 94 project proposals for approval since the beginning of the programme in 2007. Of these, 80 have been completed. Currently the ERF team is reviewing 26 projects for eligibility. If all these projects were approved in their current form, funding would total US\$5,122,441.

The map below shows the location of the current activities.



During January 2010, the most frequently funded sector continued to be water and sanitation at 28 percent, followed closely by shelter at 24 percent. Agriculture and protection projects represent only 6 percent of the total as of end January.





Total contributions since 2007= US\$24,622,609 (3% to be allocated to fund administration)

Total allocations since 2007 = \$15,122,193 Total amount remaining for grants = \$7,877,666

Projects Recommended by the TRC During January 2010				
Sector	Governorate	Beneficiaries	Funds disbursed (US\$)	Duration
Agriculture	Dohuk	20,091	371,530	3 months
Education	Ninewa	388	356,993	6 months
Water	Sulaimaniya	505	391,243	6 months
Water	Thi Qar	3000	60,090	1 month
			1,179,856	

ERF Spotlight – Darya Center for Developing Women and Community

In January 2010, the Darya Center for Developing Women and Community completed its project to provide water storage for orchards and livestock in 23 villages in Dohuk governorate.

to leave their homes and seek livelihoods elsewhere since, without water, they had no way to irrigate their fields and orchards.

Families in these villages use the land as their main source of income to grow fruit and vegetables, breed livestock and keep bees. However, as a result of the drought affecting much of Iraq since 2007, the situation of more than 600 farmers in these villages had become desperate.

Due to the drought, there had been a 60 percent loss in fruit production. Moreover, the fruit that is being produced is low quality and therefore its sale value has been reduced. In order to support their families, some farmers had begun to sell their livestock, which is used to produce meat, dairy products, milk, or sheep fleece. There were reports that many families were preparing





To mitigate displacement of these families and prevent loss of their livelihood, the Darya Centre for Developing Women and Community constructed water basins for water storage use by the farmers for their fruit trees and livestock. The villages which received assistance can now depend on their own resources to cover the water needs of their livestock and orchards. They also have the means to increase orchard production in a number of locations and increase the amount of agricultural land in use. With the success of this project, the local community has been encouraged to stay in their villages, reducing migration to the city. The ERF Programme team is very pleased to have worked with Darya on this successful project.

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 US\$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.

All the ERF documents are downloadable in English and Arabic from
www.ochairaq.org/erf/

For further information about the ERF, please contact

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