



# Highlights

- In September 2017, WFP Iraq assisted 930,000 people in 11 governorates of Iraq through emergency operation and 56,000 Syrians as part of the regional response.
- Following the renewed military offensive in Hawiga, Shirqat, and surrounding areas, WFP provided emergency food assistance to approximately 37,500 people in need.
- Following the deterioration in relations between the Kurdistan Regional Government and the Government of Iraq, following the outcome of the Referendum for Independence held in Kurdistan on 25 September, WFP has scaled up its preparedness actions to respond to further needs across the country.

## WFP Iraq Country Brief

### WFP Assistance

#### Internally Displaced Persons

Emergency Assistance to Populations Affected by the Iraq Crisis	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
EMOP 200677 (April 2014- Dec 2017)	1.1 b	687 m (63%)	41 m

\*Oct 2017-Mar 2018. Figure are calculated based on projected requirements for January - March 2018

WFP assisted 930,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Iraq in September 2017 through Family Food Rations (FFRs) and Cash-Based Transfers (CBTs). FFRs include basic food items, such as wheat flour, rice, beans, bulgur and oil. CBTs take the form of e-vouchers, unrestricted cash and mobile money transfers (MMT). Immediate Response Rations (IRRs) were distributed to 73,000 people in September 2017. IRRs provide ready-to-eat food to a family of five for three days as they flee from conflict areas, with multiple IRRs going to larger families and those moving from location to location. WFP also carries out regular assessments and monitoring in order to ensure appropriate assistance reaches those who need it most.

#### Syrian Refugees

Assistance to Vulnerable Syrian Refugees in Iraq	Total Requirements (in USD)	Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
Regional PRRO 200987 (January 2017- Dec 2018)	58 m	1 m

\*Until end of 2017, including confirmed pledges and solid forecasts

As part of the regional protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO), WFP provides CBTs to 56,000 Syrian refugees residing in nine camps across the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I). All those receiving assistance get USD 19 (IQD 22,000) per person, per month, with distributions managed through WFP's electronic SCOPE platform. In August 2017, WFP concluded a pilot

resilience project to provide Syrians with digital skills training. WFP has been supporting Syrian refugees in Iraq since 2012.

#### Humanitarian Support

Special Operation - Logistics Cluster and Emergency Telecommunications Support in Iraq	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
SO 200746 (April 2014- Dec 2017)	31.5 m	18.7 m (59%)	2.3 m

\* Until end of 2017

Launched in July 2014, the Special Operation supports the work of the Logistics Cluster and Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC). These two WFP-led clusters coordinate the logistics and emergency telecommunications responses to ensure the efficient and effective delivery of humanitarian assistance for the entire humanitarian community in Iraq. The ETC is also providing internet access to refugees in Domiz camp, with similar services to be rolled out in other camps.

## In Numbers

**3.2 million** Iraqis displaced

**930,000** Iraqis assisted in September

**244,000** Syrian refugees in Iraq

**56,000** Syrian refugees assisted in September

**People Assisted**  
September 2017



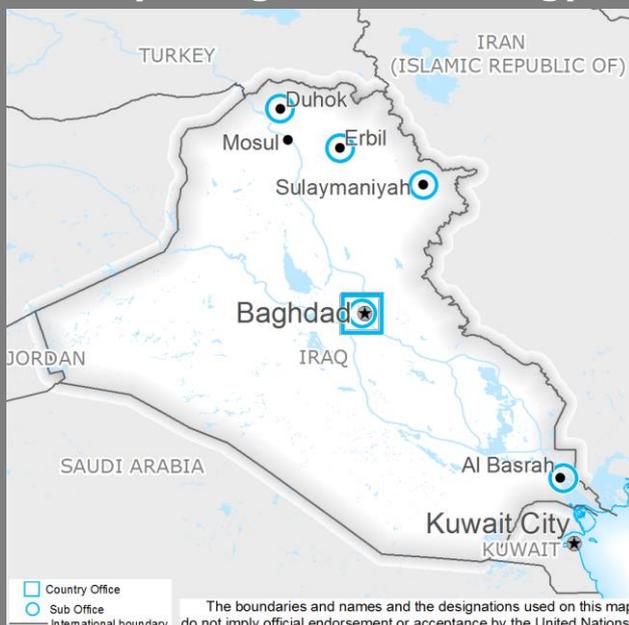
## Operational Updates

- In September 2017, WFP provided assistance to 930,000 people in 11 governorates of Iraq. Approximately 747,000 people received Family Food Rations, and 183,000 people received Cash-based Transfers.
- Approximately 37,500 people fleeing Hawiga, Shirqat, and surrounding areas following the renewed military offensive, which began on 21 September 2017, received WFP emergency assistance. They received Immediate Response Rations through the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), which is co-led by WFP, UNICEF and UNFPA. After an initial period of displacement in screening centres or camps in Kirkuk and Salah al-Din, most families quickly returned to their homes.
- Food security has generally stabilised across eastern and western Mosul, with only two percent of those surveyed in both parts of the city having poor food consumption. In general, access to vegetables, dairy products and pulses has improved in recent months throughout Mosul. IDPs, residents and returnees to Mosul are increasingly able to meet their food needs, according to [WFP's latest mobile monitoring report](#). This is shown by the declining usage of negative coping strategies such as borrowing food or adults skipping meals in order to feed children. Challenges for the Public Distribution System (PDS) remain, with 74 percent of residents and 90 percent of returnees to Mosul reporting that they did not receive any PDS assistance. On the other hand, 66 percent of IDPs in Mosul did receive at least part of their PDS entitlement. In September 2017, WFP provided Family Food Rations to 2,500 families in Mosul.

## Challenges

- Purchasing power in western Mosul is still a challenge, with unskilled labour wages being 30 percent lower than in the rest of Ninewa Governorate. Most basic commodities, such as vegetable oil, rice and sugar, are generally available and their prices have fallen due to the better integration of markets; however, people do not have enough money to buy the food.
- Following the deterioration of relations between the Kurdistan Regional Government and the Government of Iraq over the Kurdistan referendum, WFP has scaled up its preparedness actions in the event that the current situation deteriorates further and humanitarian access to people in need is adversely affected. WFP has 3,650 mt of commodities pre-positioned near conflict-affected areas. There are also 24,200 IRRs with partners near conflict areas. Nonetheless, should the political situation deteriorate further, access to food insecure people may be a concern.

## Country Background & Strategy



In the past, vulnerability to food insecurity in Iraq was chiefly a result of obstacles to international trade – provoked by war and sanctions – impeding the export of oil and import of food. Since 2014, instability due to conflict is the main driver of food insecurity.

In April 2014, WFP launched an EMOP to respond to the food needs of 240,000 displaced people from Anbar governorate. Following mass displacement and ongoing conflict, WFP now provides food assistance each month across the country.

Throughout 2016 and 2017, Iraq witnessed an escalation in the conflict between Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) and fighters from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). This fighting has left millions displaced and unable to meet their dietary needs and food preferences. WFP works with the Government of Iraq to strengthen social safety nets, particularly the Public Distribution System (PDS).

To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 2 on zero hunger and SDG 17 on partnerships, WFP is working closely with many partners to contribute to ending poverty and hunger, promoting an inclusive society, strengthening partnerships in Iraq and empowering women. Iraq currently ranks 121 out of 155 in the latest Human Development Report's Gender Inequality Index (2016).

In this context, WFP has focused on saving lives and protecting livelihoods in Iraq in an effort to support the people of Iraq to achieve zero hunger. WFP has been present in Iraq since 1991.

**Population:** 37.9 million  
(Government, 2016)

**2016 Human Development Index:**  
121 out of 188

**Stunting:** 17-20% in children <5  
(CFSVA, 2016)

**Malnutrition:** 5-8% in children <5  
(CFSVA, 2016)

## Donors

Top 5 in 2017 (EMOP 200677, in alphabetical order): Canada, Germany, Japan, UN CERF and USA

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