

# IRAQ - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

SEPTEMBER 5, 2014

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**1.7**  
**million**

People Displaced by  
Violence in Iraq  
Since January 2014  
International Organization for  
Migration (IOM) – September 1, 2014

**141,143**

Iraqi Refugees in the Region  
The Office of the U.N. High  
Commissioner for Refugees  
(UNHCR) – August 31, 2014

**465,168**

Internally Displaced Persons  
(IDPs) in  
Dohuk Governorate  
IOM – September 1, 2014

**343,284**

IDPs in Al Anbar  
Governorate  
IOM – September 1, 2014

**176,784**

IDPs in Erbil Governorate  
IOM – September 1, 2014

**129,594**

IDPs in Kirkuk Governorate  
IOM – September 1, 2014

**105,024**

IDPs in Ninewa  
Governorate  
IOM – September 1, 2014

## HIGHLIGHTS

- USAID/OFDA airlifts more than 60 metric tons (MT) of relief commodities into the city of Erbil.
- Humanitarian actors continue to increase assistance for the Iraq response.
- Since January, international donors contribute more than \$904 million for the humanitarian crisis in Iraq.

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO IRAQ TO DATE IN FY 2014

USAID/OFDA <sup>1</sup>	\$3,605,866
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$143,516
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$133,425,443
DoD <sup>4</sup>	\$1,190,000
<b>\$138,364,825</b>	
TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG) ASSISTANCE TO THE IRAQ HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- USAID/OFDA airlifted more than 60 MT of humanitarian aid into the city of Erbil in the Iraqi Kurdistan Region (IKR) on September 2. IOM plans to distribute the commodities to vulnerable families countrywide.
- On August 30, an international coalition—including the U.S. military—airdropped humanitarian commodities into Amirli town, Salah ad-Din Governorate, after more than 80 days of besiegement by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). In subsequent days, U.N. agencies entered Amirli to distribute relief supplies and conduct assessments.
- As of September 1, IOM had identified approximately 1.7 million people displaced across Iraq since January 2014, including more than 732,000 IDPs in the IKR's As Sulaymaniyah, Dohuk, and Erbil governorates. The U.N. is using a slightly higher IDP planning figure of 1.8 million to account for areas where IOM and other organizations have limited access.
- According to the U.N., as of September 4, international donors had contributed approximately \$904.3 million to the humanitarian response in Iraq, \$569.7 million of which supports the revised 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for Iraq, valued at \$312 million. The U.N. plans to release another revision of the SRP in the coming weeks as the magnitude of needs continues to grow exponentially, exceeding the ability for existing resources to adequately respond.

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

## CONFLICT AND HUMANITARIAN PROTECTION

- Acute insecurity throughout central and northern Iraq resulted in the deaths of at least 1,420 people and wounded nearly 1,370 others in August, the U.N. reported on September 1. These figures are less than the approximate 1,740 people killed in July and nearly 43 percent fewer than the 2,400 casualties in June. The U.N. comments that the actual number of deaths that occurred in August could be significantly higher because obtaining independent verification in ISIL-controlled areas is greatly challenging.
- During a recent meeting with the Global Protection Cluster—the coordinating body for protection activities, comprising U.N. actors, relief agencies, and other stakeholders—organizations operating in Iraq highlighted lack of access to IDPs as the primary challenge to providing assistance. In addition to insecurity, participants cited frequent re-displacement and the countrywide scattering of IDPs as chief factors affecting the response.
- Overcrowding at displacement sites; family fragmentation and separated children; movement restrictions imposed by local authorities; ethnic tensions; severe protection risks for women, including abduction and domestic violence; and significant psychosocial trauma are exacerbating protection issues.
- The U.N. identifies ethnic and religious minorities with no linkages to host communities, sheltering in abandoned buildings, open spaces, and/or in overcrowded displacement sites, as the most-at-risk populations.
- On September 1, the U.N. Human Rights Council voted to investigate crimes against humanity in Iraq perpetrated by ISIL, according to the U.N. The U.N. plans to deploy an 11-person mission to Iraq in the coming weeks to gather evidence related to reports that ISIL is committing executions, forced conversions, sexual violence, and human trafficking.

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## HUMANITARIAN ACCESS AND POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

- The U.N. reports that, as of August 27, relief agencies are experiencing extreme difficulty accessing hundreds of thousands of people located in most of Al Anbar, Ninewa, and Salah ad-Din governorates, and parts of Baghdad, Diyala, Karbala', and Kirkuk governorates. Violence in remaining areas of central Iraq also prevents relief actors from fully accessing populations in need. Humanitarian agencies have greater access in the IKR as well as southeastern Iraq, which hosts comparatively smaller IDP populations.
- On August 30, an international coalition—including the U.S. military—airdropped food, safe drinking water, and other relief items into Amirli. On August 31, Iraqi security forces and allied groups reached the town, which had been cut off from all overland access for more than 80 days due to ISIL encirclement. Prior to the break in siege, the Government of Iraq (GoI) had conducted at least 25 air operations into Amirli to provide food and other supplies, as well as to extract small number of vulnerable residents, the U.N. reports.
- The U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) delivered humanitarian aid to Amirli during the week of September 1, the U.N. reports. 15 UNICEF trucks transported oral rehydration kits, therapeutic food commodities, hygiene kits, and safe drinking water, the agency announced in a September 3 press release. The operation was transparent; the convoys did not consist of unmarked vehicles and the Mayor of Amirli accompanied the vehicles. The deliveries are sufficient to support up to 15,000 people in Amirli.
- In recent weeks, more than 10,000 families fleeing conflict-affected areas of Diyala Governorate have arrived in Khanaqin District, located near Iraq's border with Iran, according to the U.N. The influx of IDPs to Khanaqin has stretched the response capacity of local authorities and strained public services, including electricity and safe drinking water supplies, in host communities. The GoI's Ministry of Migration and Displacement has registered up to 7,000 IDP families in Khanaqin, and preparations are underway for four camps to host approximately one third of the IDPs, the U.N. reports. In addition, UNICEF is supporting efforts, such as installation of a generator and rehabilitation of mechanical parts, to enhance the capacity of local water infrastructure and improve access to safe drinking water.

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## SHELTER

- Relief agencies have recorded IDP populations in at least 1,600 locations across Iraq as of September 1, IOM reports. The densest concentration of displaced persons is found in northern Iraq's Dohuk Governorate, followed by Al Anbar

and Erbil governorates. According to the U.N., only 4 percent of all IDPs are sheltering in camp-like structures; the remaining 96 percent are in host communities, rental accommodation, religious institutions, hotels, schools, and abandoned public buildings.

- The U.N. was finalizing its shelter strategy for Iraqi IDPs as of late August. Plans for improved camp capacity in Dohuk, Erbil, and As Sulaymaniyah governorates are progressing, including construction of new camps. Relief agencies report that host communities are supportive of these assistance efforts.
- During the week of August 23, the Shelter Cluster hosted a workshop to devise strategies for a shelter response that could transition into longer-term solutions, the U.N. reports. The Cluster, in conjunction with the Kurdish Regional Government (KRG), will prioritize shelter for the estimated 140,000 families living in schools, followed by those sheltering in public facilities. Stakeholders have also identified 26 sites throughout the IKR to collectively host up to 240,000 people. Given that current resources are insufficient to construct all planned camps, shelter actors continue to advocate for disbursement of pledged funding and are considering alternate options, such as engagement with the private sector, to bolster Iraq's shelter capacity.
- UNHCR is nearing completion of the first phase of a new camp at the KRG Ministry of Agriculture Research Center in Erbil. According to UNHCR, the camp is scheduled to begin receiving families in the coming days, and the camp's population is expected to surge into early 2015 as host communities exhaust their resources and IDPs seek new solutions. UNHCR has erected enough tents at the new camp site to house nearly 300 families. UNICEF is installing water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities, such as latrines, showers, and water tanks. Agencies, such as the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), are in place to provide services in the camp; WHO plans to operate a health care clinic. The camp will initially rely on communal kitchens before transitioning to food distributions.

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## **FOOD SECURITY**

- Relief actors have expressed concerns about the viability of agricultural production in conflict-affected areas of Iraq. The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reports that large-scale displacement, lack of access to farmland, and disrupted supply chains could contribute to deteriorating food security and agricultural output. In the coming days, FAO plans to distribute seeds and fertilizer to the most-affected farming communities as well as livestock feed and veterinary inputs to animal herders.
- The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) continues to expand activities to reach affected populations throughout Iraq, aiming to reach approximately 1.2 million of the most vulnerable IDPs with food assistance. Since mid-June, WFP and partners have reached more than 719,000 Iraqis with food. This figure includes 176,000 IDPs still in transit, or without access to cooking facilities, who WFP and partners have reached with three-day emergency rations. In addition, the total figure includes 128,800 IDPs in more stable locations, or with access to cooking facilities, who WFP and partners reached with monthly household food rations in August.
- With field kitchens in Dohuk and Erbil governorates, WFP and partners have served approximately 5 million hot meals, benefiting 218,000 people daily. Consistent with its strategy to phase out hot meals as IDPs gain access to cooking facilities, WFP had planned to close one of its seven field kitchens on August 30. WFP is also establishing a food voucher program in October; food vouchers will provide IDPs with more dignity and choice and help support the local, conflict-affected economy.

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## **WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE**

- WASH needs in Karbala' Governorate have prompted authorities to formally request assistance from relief agencies to help provide safe drinking water and monitor water quality, according to the U.N.
- IDP women and girls that fled Ninewa Governorate and other conflict-affected areas require dignity kits and menstrual hygiene education, according to relief agencies.
- According to the U.N., the Dohuk Government Emergency Cell is prioritizing WASH assistance for the city of Dohuk and Batel, Khanke, Shariya, and Zakho towns. At present, humanitarian organizations provide safe drinking water to

up to 60,000 people in Dohuk Governorate each day via nearly 70 trucks. Relief agencies have also installed nearly 240 latrines in IDP camps in Dohuk, serving almost 9,500 people. The U.N. comments that a sufficient WASH response is constrained by the magnitude of need, the breadth of IDP sites, and continual movement of displaced populations.

- The U.N. reports a growing connection between unhygienic living conditions and lack of access to safe drinking water with an increase in communicable diseases among IDPs. One clinic in Shariyah has experienced a nearly 50 percent increase in overall caseload, with approximately 40 percent of nearly 120 patients each day exhibiting diarrhea and vomiting.

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## HEALTH

- As of August 28, several health care clinics were operating on a 24-hour basis in areas with significant IDP populations, including Batel, Khanke, and Shariyah, according to WHO. Health services have also reopened in previously evacuated camps such as Ninewa's Garmawa Camp, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reports. However, insecurity continues to disrupt health services elsewhere in Ninewa, particularly in the governorate's Makhmur and Talkif districts where only three of 21 health care facilities remained operational as of August 29.
- The U.N. reports that UNICEF and local partners are providing psychosocial support services for nearly 3,800 children sheltering in 10 locations throughout Dohuk, where more than 485,000 IDPs reside. UNICEF is also providing psychosocial support for more than 300 children in two locations in Erbil.
- Between August 10 and 14, the GoI Ministry of Health—in conjunction with UNICEF and WHO—vaccinated approximately 3.75 million children under the age of five, or nearly 94 percent of its target population, against polio, the U.N. reports. Vaccinated children include nearly 65,000 IDPs in Dohuk. Health authorities used pre-positioned vaccines to ensure that health workers reached a high number of children throughout 12 governorates despite acute and widespread insecurity.
- Medical actors confirmed two separate polio cases in Iraq in February and April, which prompted the campaign. The U.N. comments that a relatively high number of unvaccinated children—who are increasingly difficult to access, particularly those in informal settlements and conflict-affected areas—renders Iraqis more vulnerable to disease outbreaks, including polio.

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## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- In recent days, several international donors have committed additional funds for the crisis in Iraq, further bolstering the humanitarian response. As of September 5, more than 30 donors had contributed approximately \$904.3 million.
- Relief agencies have utilized approximately 45 percent—or \$225 million—of the \$500 million contributed by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). Approximately 70 percent of KSA funding is supporting logistics activities and procurement of humanitarian supplies. Between January and late August, U.N. actors and relief agencies dispatched an estimated 5,400 MT of humanitarian aid to Iraq via 52 flights.
- During the week of August 25, the Government of Norway (GoN) allocated nearly \$8.1 million for humanitarian assistance in Iraq. Since early 2014, the GoN has provided more than \$28.3 million to aid conflict-affected people in Iraq. On August 27, the Government of New Zealand (GoNZ) announced a contribution of more than \$419,000, bringing the total GoNZ contribution for the Iraq crisis to approximately \$840,000 since June, international media report. On the same day, the Government of the Netherlands' Ministry of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation announced an approximate \$8.5 million contribution for relief activities—including distributing basic household supplies, providing medical services, and removing unexploded ordnance—in conflict-affected areas. In total, the Netherlands has provided more than \$10.5 million for the humanitarian response in Iraq.

## CONTEXT

- The situation within Iraq remained relatively stable until 2014, when the armed group ISIL began seizing control of parts of northern and central Iraq. Significant population displacement ensued as civilians fled to areas of relative safety, such as the IKR, to escape fighting.
- The IKR has already been hosting large numbers of refugees from Syria fleeing the Syrian conflict since early 2012; to date, UNHCR has registered more than 200,000 Syrian refugees in Iraq, the vast majority of whom are staying in the IKR. As a result, local government authorities and humanitarian actors working in the area have experience addressing the needs of newly displaced populations, and a basic humanitarian infrastructure exists in the region. However, the persistent influxes over recent years are challenging the response capacity of KRG and local officials.
- Over the past decade, incidents of insecurity have frequently contributed to significant internal displacement in Iraq. In February 2006, the bombing of the Al-Askari Mosque in Salah ad-Din's city of Samarra and subsequent sectarian violence triggered the most sizable population movement in Iraq's history. More than 1.6 million people—or 5.5 percent of the country's population—fled their communities, according to the U.N. Beginning in 2008, improved security conditions led to a decrease in conflict-related displacement and an increase in humanitarian access to vulnerable populations, including IDPs. As a result, humanitarian agencies' focus began to shift to early recovery activities in areas where conditions stabilized.
- Since FY 2003, the USG has provided continuous humanitarian assistance to Iraq, including support for the distribution of emergency relief commodities, provision of emergency shelter, income-generating opportunities, expanded access to essential WASH facilities and services, and humanitarian coordination and information sharing among relief agencies.
- On August 11, USAID deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to help coordinate USG efforts to address the urgent humanitarian needs of newly displaced populations throughout Iraq. The DART is working closely with local officials, the international community, and humanitarian actors to identify critical needs and expedite assistance to affected populations. To support the DART, USAID has also established a Response Management Team (RMT) based in Washington, D.C.

### USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ PROVIDED IN FY 2014<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup></b>			
Implementing Partner	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$259,470
Implementing Partners	Logistics and Relief Commodities; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Northern Iraq	\$2,071,286
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$250,000
UNICEF	Logistics and Relief Commodities; Protection; WASH	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
	Program Support	Countrywide	\$25,110
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$3,605,866</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
WFP	Meal Replacement Bars	Countrywide	\$143,516
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$143,516</b>

STATE/PRM <sup>4</sup>			
Implementing Partner	Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, WASH	Countrywide	\$30,300,000
Implementing Partners	Durable Solutions, Livelihoods, Nutrition, Protection, Relief Commodities	Baghdad	\$289,646
IOM	Emergency Response, Livelihoods, Relief Commodities, IDP Mapping and Registration	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
UNHCR	Protection, Shelter, Relief Commodities, Registration	Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria	\$96,700,000
UNHCR	Health Programs for Iraqi Refugees	Jordan	\$1,984,463
U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA)	Assistance for Palestinian Iraqi Refugees	Syria	\$1,151,334
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$133,425,443</b>
DoD			
	Airdrops of Ready-to-Eat Meals and Safe Drinking Water	Sinjar	\$1,190,000
<b>TOTAL DoD ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$1,190,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ IN FY 2014</b>			<b>\$138,364,825</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 5, 2014.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance. Funding supports humanitarian programming benefiting Iraqi IDPs; figures do not include USAID/FFP funding for activities assisting Syrian refugees in Iraq.

<sup>4</sup> State/PRM funding supports humanitarian programming inside Iraq and for refugee populations who fled Iraq for neighboring countries; however, figures do not include funding for activities assisting Syrian refugees in Iraq.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>