

IRAQ - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #8, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018

JUNE 8, 2018

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

8.7
million

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Iraq
UN – March 2018

3.8
million

IDP Returns in Iraq
Since 2014
IOM – May 2018

2.05
million

IDPs in Iraq
IOM – May 2018

620,628

IDPs in Ninewa Governorate
IOM – May 2018

273,933

Iraqi Refugees in Neighboring Countries
UNHCR – May 2018

HIGHLIGHTS

- IDP returns to areas of origin continue, with more than 3.8 million returns recorded as of late May
- GoI authorities, relief agencies convene Governorate Returns Committees in Anbar, Kirkuk, and Salah al-Din to facilitate consultative and principled returns process
- The number of civilian casualties occurring in April reaches five-year low

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018

USAID/OFDA¹ \$300,815,673

USAID/FFP² \$68,400,000

State/PRM³ \$238,748,201

\$607,963,874

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- As of late May, more than 3.8 million people had returned to areas of origin and other locations in Iraq since 2014, while more than 2 million people remained displaced countrywide, according to U.S. Government (USG) partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM). However, damaged infrastructure, disrupted services, insecurity, and limited livelihood opportunities in areas of origin are prompting some households to return to displacement camps, increasing the percentage of the cumulative internally displaced person (IDP) caseload residing in camps and raising concerns of protracted displacement.
- In April, the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq recorded 68 civilian deaths related to acts of terrorism, armed conflict, and violence, representing a more than 30 percent decrease from the number of civilian deaths recorded in March. Cumulatively, the number of civilian deaths and injuries represent the lowest number of monthly casualties to occur in Iraq during the last five years.
- Relief agencies—including USG partners—continue to assist populations affected by recent military operations in Iraq. In April, USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) provided immediate response rations (IRRs)—sufficient to meet a five-person household’s food needs for five days—to nearly 27,000 households, or 143,000 people. WFP also reached more than 68,000 households with family food rations, each sufficient to support the needs of a five-person household for one month, and provided nearly 38,000 households with cash-based transfers to purchase food commodities in local markets.

¹ USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

INSECURITY AND POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

- As of late May, more than 3.8 million IDPs had returned to areas of origin in Iraq since 2014, representing an increase of approximately 200,000 people since March, according to IOM. Approximately 2 million people remain displaced throughout the country, including nearly 621,000 people in Ninewa Governorate.
- As the number of people who remain displaced countrywide continues to decrease, the percentage of IDPs sheltering in camp versus non-camp settings is increasing, IOM reports. As of late May, nearly 598,000 people—approximately 29 percent of the 2 million IDPs displaced countrywide—were sheltering in camps. The figure compares to nearly 774,000 people—or 23 percent of the nearly 3.3 million people displaced countrywide—who resided in camps in July 2017, during the height of military operations to retake Mosul. The situation is reflective of relief agencies’ observations that the majority of IDP returns are occurring among out-of-camp IDPs and raises concerns of protracted displacement among the remaining IDP caseload.
- Humanitarian organizations report that damaged infrastructure, disrupted services and livelihood opportunities, and uncertainty regarding security conditions in areas of origin are prompting secondary displacement, with some displaced households returning to IDP camps in recent months. More than 50,800 people arrived at IDP sites near Ninewa’s city of Mosul, including Hajj Ali, Qayyarah Airstrip, and Qayyarah Jeddah camps, as well as the Hammam al-Alil transit site, between January and April, according to the UN. Further, State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reports a consistent influx of households from Ninewa’s Zummar sub-district to camps throughout the governorate due to perceived insecurity and the continued presence of Kurdish Peshmerga and Iraqi Security Forces in the sub-district.
- As of May 7, local authorities from Kirkuk Governorate’s capital city of Kirkuk had forcibly relocated nearly 50 households—or more than 230 people—to four nearby IDP camps. The families lacked approval and security clearances to return to areas of origin and were also suspected of having ties to ISIS, UNHCR reports. The UN agency continues to advocate with governorate authorities to halt evictions and secure freedom of movement from the governorate’s camps to the city.
- As of May 14, Government of Iraq (GoI) authorities—in coordination with UN and local and international non-governmental organization (NGO) representatives—had established three Governorate Returns Committees (GRCs) in Anbar, Kirkuk, and Salah al-Din governorates, with plans to establish additional committees in Baghdad and Ninewa governorates in the coming months. The GRCs, which comprise local authorities and at least four representatives of the humanitarian community, are intended to facilitate a consultative mechanism for returns and ensure the dignified, safe, and voluntary return of displaced populations to areas of origin while continuing to address the needs of camp-based IDPs who are unable or unwilling to return to their areas of origin.

PROTECTION

- State/PRM partner UNHCR continues to prioritize legal assistance and other efforts to replace IDPs’ missing identity documents, including birth and marriage certificates, inheritance papers, and public distribution system cards needed to access government assistance. Since November, UNHCR and its partners have supported Mobile Civil Documentation teams with equipment and logistics, facilitating the issuance of nearly 3,500 replacement civil documents to IDPs in Salah al-Din’s Al-Alam camps. During this process, more than 140 individuals were denied documentation due to suspected affiliation with extremist groups. UNHCR is working with security forces to resolve denials issued due to IDPs’ name similarity with extremist suspects.
- A State/PRM partner is working to improve resilience and build empowerment among vulnerable populations in Ninewa, Dohuk, and Erbil governorates. Since September, the partner has conducted more than 2,000 home visits to inform families about mental health and psychosocial support and other services available at the three community centers operated by the partner. The partner also reached nearly 400 women through gender-based violence awareness sessions between January and March. Additionally, nearly 700 displaced and host community children have accessed child-friendly spaces operated by the partner, including more than 100 children who received case management or other psychosocial support services.

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

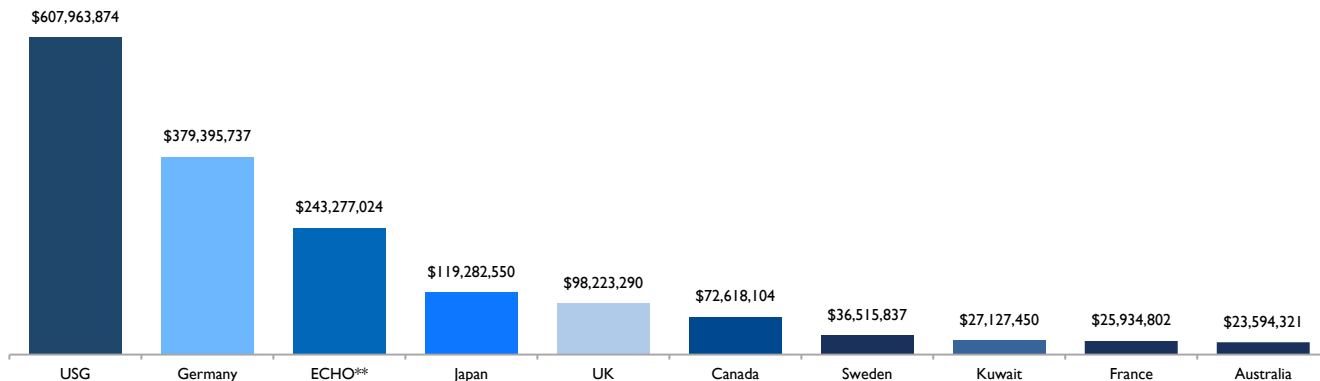
- In April, USAID/FFP partner WFP reached nearly 27,000 households with IRRs, sufficient to support a five-person household for approximately five days. Additionally, WFP reached more than 68,000 households with family food rations, sufficient to support the needs of a five-person household for one month, and provided nearly 38,000 households with cash-based transfers to purchase food commodities in local markets.
- With support from State/PRM, IOM is promoting the development of innovative business ideas and supporting social cohesion among displaced and host community populations through entrepreneurial partnership. In May, IOM facilitated a training for more than 30 IDP, refugee, and host community entrepreneurs, selected through a competitive application process, in Erbil city. In addition to the training, some participants received one-month access to a co-working space in Erbil, mentoring from international business experts, and an opportunity to apply for a small business grant. In addition, approximately 28,000 refugees utilized five IOM-sponsored Community Technology Access centers in refugee camps in Dohuk and Erbil, and more than 500 Syrian refugees in Iraq benefited from vocational trainings and small business support provided by IOM in 2017.
- State/PRM is supporting another partner to provide livelihoods support in four communities in Ninewa and Dohuk governorates. Between December and February, the partner conducted a business development training, enabling the more than 300 participants to develop their own business plans. The partner also reached 40 people through training in business skills. Through partnerships with local businesses, the partner has facilitated the placement of nearly 60 beneficiaries into internships, while concurrently hosting two networking events to connect interested beneficiaries with other employment opportunities.
- A State/PRM partner reached more than 200 displaced people in Ninewa and Kirkuk with agricultural inputs, including gardening and beekeeping tools, and training on the proper use of the inputs for income generation between September and March. The partner also restored nine wells to ensure sufficient irrigation for agricultural activities and safe drinking water for host communities in targeted areas.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan for Iraq, released in March, requests \$569 million to support approximately 3.4 million of the estimated 8.7 million people in need countrywide. As of June 8, international donors had contributed approximately \$162.5 million towards the appeal, in addition to approximately \$162.4 million outside of the plan, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service (FTS).

2017-2018 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING*

PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of June 8, 2018. All international figures are according to OCHA's FTS and based on international commitments during the calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect publically announced USG commitments for FY 2017, which spanned October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017, and FY 2018, which began on October 1, 2017. Non-USG funding figures do not necessarily reflect pledges announced during the Iraq donor conference on July 13, 2017.

**European Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civilian Protection (ECHO)

CONTEXT

- The situation within Iraq remained relatively stable until January 2014, when Islamic State of Iraq and Syria forces 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 Iraqi Kurdistan Region, to escape fighting.
- On August 11, 2014, 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. DART and State/PRM staff in Iraq work 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 also established a Response Management Team (RMT) based in Washington, D.C.
- The UN estimates that 8.7 million people in Iraq will require humanitarian assistance in 2018. Prolonged displacement is exhausting the resources of IDPs and host community members alike at a time when serious budgetary shortfalls due to low global oil prices are limiting the capacity of both the GoI and Kurdistan Regional Government to respond to humanitarian needs. Meanwhile, UN agencies, NGOs, and other relief actors face funding shortages, logistical challenges, and security constraints that complicate efforts to meet critical needs.
- In August 2014, the Interagency Standing Committee (IASC) activated a system-wide Level 3 (L3) response for Iraq due to the pace and volatility of the humanitarian crisis. L3 responses are activated in the most complex humanitarian emergencies, where the highest level of mobilization across the humanitarian system is required to scale up and meet needs. In late December 2017, the IASC deactivated the L3 response, signaling the beginning of a scale-down process for humanitarian operations.
- On October 7, 2017, U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Douglas A. Silliman re-declared a disaster in Iraq for FY 2018 due to the ongoing complex emergency and humanitarian crisis.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
NGO Partners	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)	Countrywide	\$173,169,803
IOM	Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$29,000,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
UN Development Program (UNDP)	Natural and Technological Risks	Countrywide	\$2,975,185
The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Protection, WASH	Anbar, Baghdad, Dahuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah al-Din, Sulaimaniya	\$36,002,000
UNICEF	Logistic Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
WFP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,934,400
UN World Health Organization (WHO)	Health	Anbar, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah al-Din	\$50,070,508
	Program Support		\$2,663,777
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$300,815,673
USAID/FFP³			
Implementing Partner	Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$3,400,000
WFP	Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$65,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$68,400,000
STATE/PRM⁴			
NGO Partners	Education, Livelihoods, Protection	Iraq, Jordan, Syria	\$35,398,201
Implementing Partner	Food Assistance, Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, WASH	Countrywide	\$36,300,000
International Labor Organization (ILO)	Livelihoods	Turkey	\$1,000,000
IOM	Displacement Tracking Matrix, Livelihoods and Social Cohesion	Countrywide	\$20,750,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector	Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey	\$137,900,000
UNICEF	Education	Countrywide	\$6,400,000
UN Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat)	Shelter	Anbar, Baghdad, Diyala, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah al-Din	\$1,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$238,748,201
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018			\$607,963,874

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2014–2018

TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING	\$550,759,376
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING	\$182,043,516
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING	\$915,051,283
TOTAL DOD FUNDING	\$77,357,233
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2014–2018	\$1,725,211,408

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of February 9, 2018.

³ USAID/FFP funding supports humanitarian programming benefiting IDPs and other conflict-affected Iraqis; figures do not include USAID/FFP funding for activities assisting Syrian refugees in Iraq.

⁴ State/PRM funding supports humanitarian programming inside Iraq and for refugee populations who fled Iraq for neighboring countries; 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.

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:

- USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.661.7710.
- Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at 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>