

IRAQ - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #7, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018

MAY 11, 2018

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

8.7
million

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

3.7
million

IDP Returns in Iraq
Since 2014
IOM – April 2018

2.1
million

IDPs in Iraq
IOM – April 2018

641,430

IDPs in Ninewa Governorate
IOM – April 2018

273,933

Iraqi Refugees in Neighboring Countries
UNHCR – May 2018

HIGHLIGHTS

- Countrywide IDP returns to areas of origin increased by 4 percent in March
- Drought conditions in northern Iraq may affect food security of approximately 13 million people
- Female IDPs in Ninewa and Salah al-Din report experiencing sexual exploitation and denial of assistance as a result of perceived ties to ISIS members

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$300,815,673
-------------------------	---------------

USAID/FFP ²	\$68,400,000
------------------------	--------------

State/PRM ³	\$238,748,201
------------------------	---------------

\$607,963,874

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- During the month of March, more than 124,000 people returned to areas of origin, representing an approximate 4 percent increase in countrywide returns since February, according to U.S. Government (USG) partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The majority of internally displaced persons (IDPs) returned to Ninewa Governorate, including nearly 77,200 IDPs who returned to Mosul city. Overall, approximately 91 percent of new returnees—nearly 112,000 people—were residing in Anbar, Kirkuk, Ninewa, and Salah al-Din governorates as of late March. Explosive hazards, movement restrictions imposed by security actors, and inter-communal tensions in areas of origin remain primary obstacles to returns, according to the Protection Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian protection activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders.
- In early April, USAID’s Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) visited USAID/OFDA-supported shelter projects in Dahuk Governorate, where a USAID/OFDA partner is conducting basic repairs to unfinished buildings for IDPs. As of early April, the partner had completed upgrades to more than 5,500 shelters and unfinished buildings benefiting more than 75,000 individuals across Iraq.
- The Government of Iraq (GoI) Joint Coordination and Monitoring Center (JCMC) is coordinating with humanitarian organizations to establish community resource centers (CRCs) to provide information and referrals for emergency, recovery, and stabilization services to returnees. The GoI JCMC plans to establish CRCs in Anbar and Ninewa, which collectively host approximately 70 percent of returnees in Iraq.

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

- Countrywide IDP returns increased by more than 124,000 people in March, representing an approximate 4 percent increase in countrywide returns since February, according to IOM. In March, the majority of IDPs returned to Ninewa, including approximately 77,200 IDPs who returned to Mosul. Overall, the majority of returnees were residing in Anbar, Kirkuk, Ninewa, and Salah al-Din. Countrywide, more than 3.7 million people had returned to areas of origin since 2014, while more than 2.1 million people remained displaced as of late April, IOM reports.
- Despite ongoing returns, explosive hazards, movement restrictions imposed by security actors, and inter-communal tensions in areas of origin are preventing large-scale returns, including to Anbar's Falluja, Heet, and al-Ramadi districts; Ninewa's Mosul, Sinjar, and TalAfar districts; and Salah al-Din's Baiji district, according to the Protection Cluster.
- Between March 24 and April 7, approximately 1,140 households—nearly 6,834 IDPs—arrived at Mosul area IDP sites, bringing the total number of IDP arrivals in Mosul District to approximately 40,400 people since mid-January, according to the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian CCCM activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders. More than 50 percent of newly arrived households reported experiencing multiple displacements, most recently due to a lack of income-generating opportunities and financial resources to pay for basic services in areas of origin. Nonetheless, IDP returns to non-camp locations in Mosul significantly outpaced arrivals at IDP sites in the area; nearly 35,300 households—approximately 212,300 people—returned to the district between mid-January and mid-April, according to IOM.
- As IDP returns to areas of origin continue, the GoI JCMC is coordinating with humanitarian agencies to establish CRCs that will provide information and referrals for emergency, recovery, and stabilization services to returnees. The GoI JCMC plans to establish CRCs in Anbar and Ninewa, which collectively host an estimated 70 percent—2.6 million people—of countrywide returnees, IOM reports. At least seven UN agencies and NGOs, including USG partners, plan to participate in the establishment of CRCs or community centers providing similar services.

PROTECTION

- According to an April 17 Amnesty International report, female IDPs with perceived ties to the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) members in Ninewa and Salah al-Din reported sexual exploitation, denial of food and health care assistance, and confiscation of identity documents by camp management, local authorities, and security forces. Female IDPs at eight camps reported experiencing marginalization, facing attacks and threats of violence in areas of origin, as well as diminished livelihood opportunities, as reasons for continued displacement, according to Amnesty International. To help address risks for sexual exploitation and abuse, the USG requires that its humanitarian partners have established mechanisms to receive confidential complaints from beneficiaries, including issues reports of abuse and exploitation. USG humanitarian partners must also adopt a Code of Conduct providing for the protection of beneficiaries from sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian relief operations.
- The IDP Call Center received 3,780 calls, primarily from Anbar, Dahuk, Erbil, Ninewa, and Salah al-Din, from April 1–16. The majority of calls in April originated from Ninewa; approximately 49 percent of callers from Ninewa were returnees, while 45 percent of calls came from IDPs and the remainder from host community members inquiring about the availability of cash assistance, including cash-for-work activities. The majority of in-camp calls countrywide originated from Ninewa's Hajj Ali, Qayyarah Airstrip, and Hamam al Alil camps, regarding cash assistance for food, followed by requests for cash and emergency relief commodities. Psychosocial support was also requested by callers, particularly in Falluja and Mosul. The IDP Call Center is coordinating closely with the Protection Cluster to address gaps in protection services.
- A State/PRM partner is supporting improved access to education for nearly 21,200 displaced children in Dahuk, Erbil, Ninewa, and Sulaimaniya governorates, including the provision of case management or specialized services to more than 150 children and improving awareness of child protection needs and rights among more than 200 community members between September 2017 and February 2018. A shortage of school counselors in the governorates continues to challenge relief organizations in providing high-quality child protection services, according to the partner.

- With State/PRM support, a partner has provided psychosocial first aid to nearly 70 displaced children in Anbar’s al-Qaim district from September 2017 to February 2018; however, poor sanitation and limited access to safe water remain challenges in improving the health of displaced children, the partner reports. The partner also supported approximately 350 IDPs in resolving legal cases, including marriage registrations and replacing identification documents, and identified nearly 420 additional IDPs with pending legal cases requiring psychosocial support services in Anbar’s Ana town and Kilo 18 IDP camp.

RELIEF COMMODITIES AND SHELTER

- In mid-April, USAID’s DART visited USAID/OFDA-supported shelter projects in Dahuk. The USAID/OFDA partner is conducting basic repairs to unfinished buildings for IDPs, including the installation of doors and windows using timber and plastic sheeting. As of early April, the partner had completed upgrades to more than 5,500 critical shelters and unfinished buildings—approximately 75 percent of which were USAID/OFDA funded—benefiting more than 75,000 individuals across approximately 12,000 households countrywide. In FY 2017, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$36.6 million to support shelter interventions across Iraq.
- With support from State/PRM, IOM improved basic services and infrastructure for more than 180,000 people and delivered emergency relief commodities to more than 13,500 people across 15 governorates from September 2016–September 2017 through the Community Revitalization Project. IOM also provided livelihoods assistance to more than 2,500 people, including business trainings and job placement; approximately 55 percent of beneficiaries reported increased income generation within three months of receiving assistance.
- State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) restored 100 houses in areas near al-Ramadi between October and December 2017, following the rehabilitation of nearly 600 houses in the area in 2016. Beneficiaries attribute their ability to return to areas of origin around al-Ramadi to the rehabilitated structures, but note ongoing distrust of local authorities and humanitarian organizations.

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- Current drought conditions in parts of northern Iraq may threaten the food security and livelihoods of rural populations, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Rainfall in western Ninewa was between 25 and 50 percent below average for the January-to-April growing season, and will likely result in below-average harvests, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Consequently, rainfall before the mid-to-late May harvest is unlikely to restore yields, increasing Iraq’s dependence on imported grains. A 13 percent increase in cereal imports compared to the previous year and five year averages is likely due to below-average rainfall across northern Iraq in recent months, FAO reported in April.
- Since October, USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP partners reached over 36,000 individuals with distributed multi-purpose cash assistance throughout areas of Anbar, Dahuk, Ninewa, Kirkuk, and Salah al-Din. Post distribution monitoring shows a majority of beneficiaries reported a reduction in negative coping strategies, including restricting adult food consumption, limiting meal portion sizes, and moving to less preferred housing, as a result of the assistance.
- USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) distributed immediate response rations (IRRs), each sufficient to support the needs of a five-person household for an estimated five days, to more than 60,400 households—more than 294,000 people—in Anbar, Dahuk, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah al-Din, and Sulaimaniya in March, representing a twelve-fold increase from IRR distributions in February following a scale up of resources in anticipation of military operations in late 2017. Additionally, the UN agency reached approximately 69,000 households—more than 360,000 people—with family food rations, each sufficient to support the needs of a five-person household for one month. WFP also provided nearly 40,000 households—an estimated 208,000 people—with cash-based transfers for use at local markets.

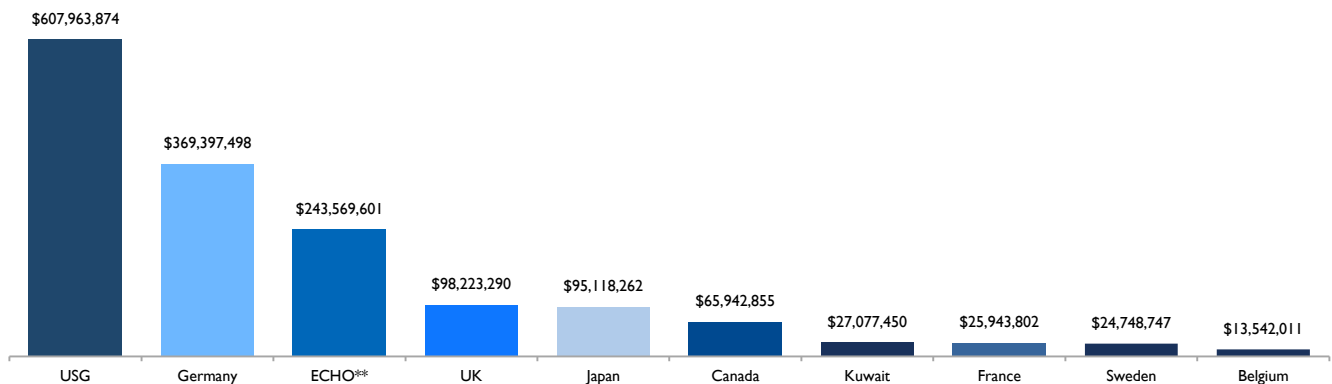
EDUCATION

- Between September 2017 and February 2018, a State/PRM partner measured a nearly 17 percent increase in the number of words students were able to identify following activities that increased access to quality education to children who had been out of school for more than two years due to conflict in Diyala and Ninewa governorates. With State/PRM support, the partner has hired more than 40 remedial teachers to provide additional support to underperforming students and conducted 15 school assessments to prioritize infrastructure rehabilitation needs. In total, more than 10,400 students attend State/PRM-supported schools operated by this partner.
- Between December 2017 and February 2018, a State/PRM partner supported improved education and health outcomes for IDPs, returnees, and host community members in Anbar through the rehabilitation of classrooms and provision of psychosocial support services. The partner rehabilitated 45 classrooms, benefitting more than 2,500 students in al-Ramadi, installed four washrooms accessible to persons with disabilities, and provided nearly 900 students with psychosocial training or individual counseling sessions.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The Government of Japan has contributed \$10 million for general food assistance to Syrian refugees in Iraq, as well as livelihoods support for Iraqi IDPs and returnees, according to WFP. Additionally, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation contributed \$1 million for WFP’s Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan, which supports vulnerable IDPs, refugees, and returnees countrywide.
- The Iraq Humanitarian Fund (IHF) received \$85.4 million to support relief activities in 2017, according to the May 3 IHF Annual Report for 2017. During 2017, the IHF allocated \$76.5 million to more than 60 UN agencies, NGOs, and other humanitarian actors to provide approximately 4.3 million Iraqis with critical services, including health; shelter; and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH).

2017-2018 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of May 11, 2018. All international figures are according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service 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 ISIS 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 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, 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>