

# WFP Iraq Situation Report #65

July 2019



## In Numbers

**1.61 million** internally displaced people (IOM)

**4.31 million** returnees (IOM)

**378,787** Iraqis assisted by WFP

**228,851** Syrian refugees in Iraq (UNHCR)

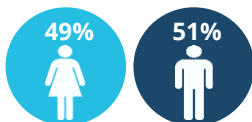
## Highlights

- In July, WFP delivered food assistance to 378,787 people in ten governorates, reaching 377,821 internally displaced people (IDPs) and 966 Iraqi returnees and people from vulnerable communities.
- WFP continues to coordinate with the Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MoMD) in support of IDPs, and delivered a “top-up” to MoMD’s food basket in Anbar, Ninewa and Salah al-Din.
- WFP requires an additional USD 68.2 million to ensure that operations continue uninterrupted through January 2020.

## People assisted

**378,787**

July 2019



<b>Global Humanitarian Funding to Iraq in 2019</b>	<b>Overall:</b> USD 701.2 m
	<b>WFP share:</b> USD 37.8 m
<b>WFP Net Funding Requirements</b>	
<b>Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP) and Country Strategic Plan (CSP)</b> (August 2019 – January 2020)	<b>USD 68.2 m</b>

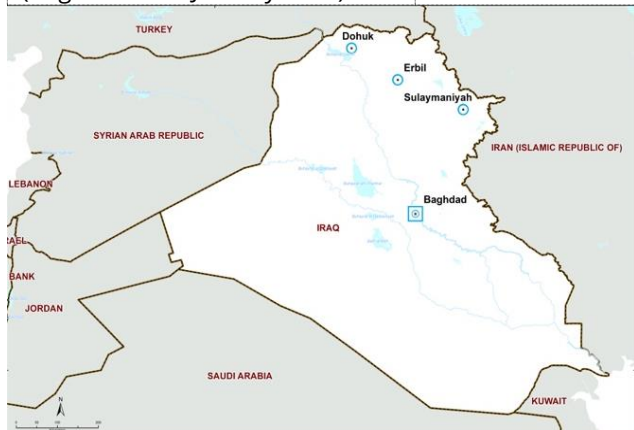


Photo: WFP’s team, led by new Representative Abdirahman Meygag, met with IDPs and refugees in July in Sulaymaniyah.

WFP/Photo Library

## Situation Update

- Following an incident in an Erbil restaurant, where a Turkish diplomat and two Iraqi nationals were killed, Turkish airstrikes increased in the Kurdistan Region (KR). The incidents had a limited impact on WFP operations, except for truck movement delays due to increased security controls at checkpoints.
- Implementation of WFP activities was affected by the delays in Mobile Money Transfers (MMT) payments to assisted people, after the Financial Service Provider (FSP) Asia Hawala changed its bank account. The new account is not yet approved for payments due to banking restrictions. The affected people were informed via SMS. The update is also being shared via the UNOPS call-centre, when people phone with an enquiry or complaint.
- As part of the testing phase of the digitalisation of Iraq’s social safety net, the Public Distribution System (PDS), WFP’s partner Tiger Spike is developing the first iteration of a mobile smartphone application, “myPDS.” The test roll-out of PDS iris biometric registration continued in three locations in Anbar governorate. The first ePDS distributions took place in Duhok and Najaf in late July, and the second distribution cycle in Baghdad.
- A round of visits to the Duhok camps has shown that some IDPs own valuable productive and non-productive assets, and that their economic status

is better when compared to the first phase of the IDP targeting exercise. Together with the Board of Relief and Humanities Affairs (BHRA), WFP is planning to conduct a second phase of the IDP targeting exercise in three selected IDP camps in Duhok, with a focus on three major indicators to be collected through a house-to-house survey: asset ownership, income and expenditure. Once completed in September, the exercises will inform future targeting and programme planning.

- WFP has engaged a Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) Consultant who began working with the local government in Anbar, Baghdad, Basra, Erbil, Duhok, Kirkuk and Ninewa, to assess the steps required to hand over the RRM to the government. Over the next five months, WFP's consultant will also evaluate potential emergency and disaster response management, as well as capacity building needs of the government.
- WFP is continuing formative research on Nutrition and Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) in the Kurdistan Region (KR), Anbar and Baghdad to inform an SBCC action plan.

## WFP Response

### Food Assistance

- During the July cycle, WFP delivered food assistance to 378,787 people in 10 governorates, reaching 377,821 internally displaced people (IDPs) and 966 Iraqi returnees and people from vulnerable communities, reaching 89.7 percent of the monthly target of 422,376 people, mainly because of delays in MMT payments in August.
- WFP distributed 1,868 mt of Family Food Rations (FFRs) to 158,493 people throughout Iraq in July, to complement the Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MoMD)'s food baskets. About 81 percent of the planned metric tons were distributed, as some FFRs were reduced to a "top-up" of 50 kg from 70 kg per household. This is comprised of 50 kg of cereals and lentils per household, corresponding to 65 to 70 percent of the full MoMD ration. Alternatively, WFP provides a cash transfer of IQD 11,000.
- Because of the delays in MMT payments, the July distribution to Syrian refugees was postponed to August. The cash transfer for Syrian refugees is usually IQD 22,000 (USD 19) per month. It was previously disbursed through electronic vouchers or unrestricted cash using the SCOPE platform. Going forward, general food assistance to refugees

will be delivered through MMT. All the refugees assisted are settled in camps in the KR.

- The transition from e-vouchers included successful rounds of SIM card distributions in nine camps, with good coordination between WFP teams, partners, camp management and FSP teams.
- Camp assessments for the transition from food to cash transfers are ongoing. The transition is expected to take place by the end of the year.



### School Feeding Programme

- In close coordination with the Ministry of Education, preparations are underway to resume School Feeding in October for the new academic year. A Call for Proposals for cooperating partners took place, and recruitment for the new team is has begun.

### FFA Livelihood and Resilience Projects

- In partnership with the University of Mosul, WFP Iraq's Resilience team has begun "three-pronged approach" (3PA) training for the planning of resilience projects. The 3PA considers the nationwide, seasonal/livelihoods and community levels for planning.
- Over 1,000 students graduated from the first cycle of EMPACT digital skills training. They are now enrolled in advanced (Level 2) courses focusing on advanced digital skills and English. Outreach is underway for the second cycle of new students to begin Level 1 classes in August. WFP's sub-offices have received a donation of Google Chromebooks, which will be handed over to EMPACT classrooms for participants to use for freelance work.



### Supply Chain

- WFP logistics participated in camp assessments on the transition from food to cash transfers, as part of WFP's cross-functional teams in Anbar and Salah Al-Din. The collected data from the visited camps (HTC, Tikrit, Al Alam, Ishaqi, Samara and Shirqat) has been submitted for analysis via the new Mobile Data Collection and Analysis application.

## Clusters and Common Services



### Food Security Cluster

- The Food Security Cluster was granted around USD 937,000 from the Iraq Humanitarian Fund's (IHF) 2<sup>nd</sup> Standard allocation. Its priorities are focused on providing agricultural inputs and the extension of irrigation systems in key districts, to help returnees' recovery.

## Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP), 01 January 2018 - 31 December 2019

	TICSP Requirements in 2019 (in USD)	Allocated Contributions in 2019 (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (August 2019 – January 2020)	People Assisted (July 2019)	Female	Male
<b>TICSP TOTAL</b> (Jan 2018 – Dec 2019)	162.1 m	37.8 m	68.2 m	378,787	185,606	193,101

*WFP would like to thank all donors for their contributions to the TICSP, including:*



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