



## In Numbers

**5,477 mt** of food assistance distributed in April 2018

**USD 3.57 m** cash-based transfers made

**USD 45.2 m** six months net funding requirements (May–October 2018)

**760,727** people assisted in April 2018

49%



51%



## WFP Iraq Country Brief

April 2018

### Operational Context

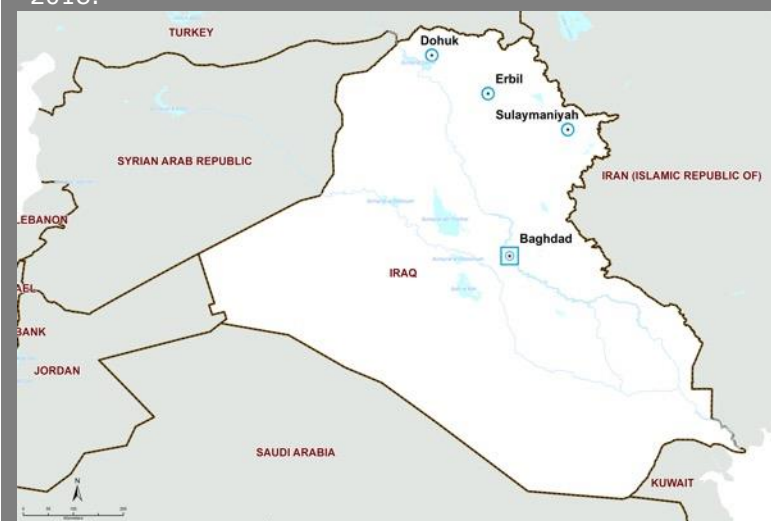
In April 2014, WFP launched an Emergency Programme to respond to the food needs of 240,000 displaced people from Anbar Governorate. The upsurge in conflict and the concurrent downturn in the macro-economy continues to threaten livelihoods, increase rates of poverty in low economic areas and contribute to vulnerability and food insecurity, especially among internally displaced persons, women, girls and boys, and the poor. Priority concerns in the country focus on emergency response, recovery and reconstruction.

To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 2 on zero hunger and SDG 17 on partnerships, WFP is working closely with partners to contribute to ending poverty and hunger, promoting an inclusive society, and strengthening partnerships. In this regard, WFP's assistance continues to focus on saving lives and protecting livelihoods in an effort to support the people of Iraq to achieve zero hunger, and it is aligned with the 2018 Iraq Humanitarian Response Plan, the Recovery and Resilience Programme, and the Regional Refugee and Resilience

In line with the corporate Integrate Road Map process, WFP Iraq has transitioned to a Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP) starting 01 January till 31 December 2018.

### Operational Updates

- Returns of displaced Iraqis to their areas of origin continues to outpace displacements, with 3.7 million returnees and 2.1 million internally displaced people as of 30 April ([IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix](#)). Baghdad, Erbil, and Dahuk are the only governorates where the number of IDPs is higher than that of returnees. The governorates with highest number of returnees include Anbar (35 percent), Ninewa (33 percent) and Salah al Din (14 percent).
- Since January 2018, the pace of returns has slowed significantly as the Government announced that IDPs are now allowed to vote in camps. Moreover, displaced Iraqis settled in camps are hesitant to return because of insecurity, destroyed infrastructure or lack of job and livelihood opportunities. These families are likely to face protracted displacement and would require further assistance.
- On 10 April, the Kurdistan Regional Government, together with the UN and its humanitarian partners, held a joint high-level conference focusing on the priority needs for the Kurdistan Region in the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan and in the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan. To deliver humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable people in the Kurdistan Region, the humanitarian community is seeking USD 156 million in financial support to implement activities outlined in the Humanitarian Response Plan.
- WFP and its partners, in cooperation with the Ministry of Water Resources, started the second phase of rehabilitation of canals and greenhouses in Anbar and Baghdad governorates, in line with the pilot project successfully implemented at the end of 2017. This will continue to support returnees and host communities rebuild their livelihoods.
- The WFP-led Logistics Cluster has launched a project to assist humanitarian partners import humanitarian cargo into Iraq, excluding the Kurdistan Region as a similar project has been in place since 2016. The project will focus on clarification of procedures, linkage with government entities, mapping of constraints and identification of possible solutions for efficient and enhanced humanitarian import processes.



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

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

Income Level: **Upper middle**

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

Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Saif AlTatooz  
Caption: Distribution of school snacks in West Mosul

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## WFP Country Strategy

Total Requirement (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) *
<b>Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (01 January-31 December 2018)</b>		
<b>216.8 m</b>	<b>131.3 m</b>	<b>45.2 m *</b>

\* May-October 2018

## WFP Country Activities

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| <b>SO 1</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1- Provision of general food assistance in the form of regular cash-based transfers or in-kind monthly food entitlements and ready-to-eat rations in the initial phase of displacement.</li> <li>2- Provision of assistance in schools newly reclaimed and rehabilitated.</li> </ol> |
| <b>SO 2</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3- Provision of general food assistance to vulnerable refugees.</li> <li>4- Provision of support for resilience and livelihood activities for Syrian Refugees.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>SO 3</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5- Resilience building through livelihood activities and social protection to support the food insecure.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>SO 4</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6- Nutrition capacity strengthening for Government partners.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>SO 5</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7- Provision of cluster services and common platforms for the humanitarian community.</li> </ol>   |

## Operational Updates (continued)

- Several security incidents took place during the reporting period throughout the country, targeting candidates for the 12 May 2018 parliamentary elections and causing a number of casualties, including four candidates injured and one killed.
- At the same time, the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) has threatened to attack polling stations, candidates, and voters.

## Monitoring

- In April 2018, WFP conducted 251 sites visits, amongst which are 65 in-kind distribution sites, 24 e-voucher distributions, 12 immediate-response rations distributions, 11 shops, 1 cash-out point, 63 Primary Schools. Additionally, 107 beneficiary monitoring interviews were carried out in March.
- WFP Iraq completed the Food Security and Outcome Monitoring report (Q1 2018) for general food assistance to vulnerable Syrian Refugees settled in nine camps in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Preliminary findings showed an increase in the acceptable level of food consumption score from Q4 2017, and a decrease in negative food coping strategies.
- WFP data collection for markets prices monitoring, covering the main cities of each governorate is ongoing. A plan has been developed for monitoring of livelihoods and resilience activities in Anbar, Baghdad, and Ninewa governorates that will be carried out by WFP's partner Islamic Relief Worldwide. WFP Iraq conducts the data collection for market prices monitoring.

## Challenges

- Returning conflict-affected populations face significant constraints, including lack of employment opportunities and services damaged homes and infrastructure. Many villages and neighbourhoods continued to face insecurity and were often contaminated by remnants of war.

## Donors

- Activities under the TICSP have received generous contributions from Germany, Japan, Norway, the Russian Federation, Switzerland, and the United States.
- WFP received a generous contribution of EUR 0.5 million from the Government of France in support of general food assistance (in-kind and cash-based transfers) to IDPs in Iraq.
- WFP allocated USD 3.5 million through the Strategic Resource Allocation Committee (SRAC) for resilience activities in Iraq.
- On 27 April 2018, the Qatar Fund for Development [announced](#) a USD 3 million contribution for general food assistance (cash-based transfers) to IDPs in Iraq at the Aid & Trade Conference in London.

