WFP/Amiriyat Al Fallujah

WFP World Food Programme
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Country: IRAQ
Emergency Assistance to Populations Affected by the Iraq Crisis

In numbers

10 million people in need of humanitarian aid (OCHA)

3.2 million people internally displaced (IOM)

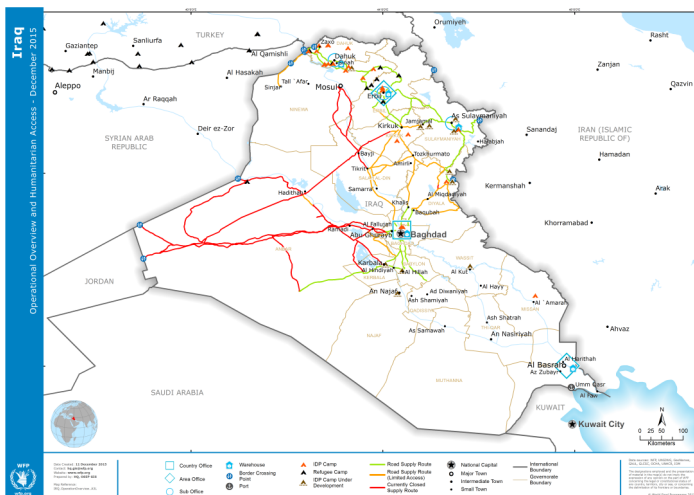**245,000 Syrian refugees in Iraq** (UNHCR)

WFP Iraq Funding Requirements:
EMOP 200677 for conflict-affected Iraqis:
USD 30.2 million (January - June 2016)
EMOP 200433.IQ for Syrian refugees:
USD 9.6 million (January - June 2016)

Highlights

- The latest Budget Revision for WFP's Emergency Operation (EMOP 200677) supporting displaced and conflict-affected Iraqis has been extended until December 2016. Under the latest revision, WFP will reduce its beneficiary figures from 2.2 million individuals to 1.5 million, targeting the most food insecure individuals throughout the country via food, voucher or cash transfers on a monthly basis.
- Following the recapture of Ramadi by Iraqi Security Forces (ISF), WFP and its partners distributed immediate response rations (IRRs) to 1,650 people (330 families) who had been evacuated from Ramadi to Habaniya Tourism City (HTC).
- In order to provide vital assistance to Iraqis affected by the current crisis, WFP requires USD 30.2 million until June 2016; a further USD 9.6 million is required for the Syrian refugee response in Iraq over the same time period. To extend assistance for as long as possible whilst adopting increased targeting, WFP has maintained tiered distributions for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and Syrian refugees in January, with distributions adjusted by assessed vulnerability to food insecurity and location.

Situation Update

- ISF recaptured Ramadi, in Anbar governorate, from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) militants on 28 December.

Due to continued insecurity in Ramadi, WFP and the humanitarian community have not yet been able to assess the humanitarian needs in the area. Nevertheless, WFP and its partners are prepared to provide vital emergency food assistance to those families that have fled Ramadi, as well as part of the humanitarian response that followed Ramadi's liberation.

WFP Response

- Under **EMOP 200677**, WFP now aims to assist 1.5 million displaced and conflict-affected people in Iraq per month through three modalities: Family Food Parcels (FFPs); Cash based transfers (CBT); and three-day IRRs. WFP has reduced its number of people assisted from 2.2 million individuals to 1.5 million individuals to ensure that WFP's limited resources are targeted to the most food insecure IDPs, returnees and people trapped in besieged areas.
- As part of the regional **EMOP 200433** to support those fleeing the Syria conflict, WFP aims to provide CBT to 73,500 Syrian refugees residing in nine camps across Iraq.
- WFP leads three inter-agency Clusters to coordinate humanitarian action on the ground. Co-led with FAO, the Food Security Cluster works with local partners at the governorate and national level to coordinate the food security response to the crisis in Iraq. By heading the Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Clusters through **Special Operation 200746**, WFP assists UN and NGO partners to ensure an efficient and effective logistics and communications response: the Logistics Cluster has 60 partners and manages warehouses in Erbil, Duhok and Baghdad; the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster has 31 partners, and provides IT and telecommunications support to 200 humanitarian staff in the field.

FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR IDPs:
Family Food Parcels (FFPs)

- As WFP gradually reduces its caseload with increased targeting, WFP aims to provide FFPs to 1,300,000 people in January. WFP is maintaining reduced rations for the month in order to stretch its limited resources further; IDPs living in camps in the central conflict-affected governorate of Anbar are prioritized with full rations, while IDPs elsewhere receive reduced rations. The reduced parcels, which support 40 percent of caloric requirements (840kcal of the daily requirement of 2,100kcal), include commodities such as rice, pulses, wheat flour and vegetable oil. The commodities are prioritised to avoid, to the extent possible, duplication with rations provided by the Public Distribution System.

CBT

- In January, WFP is aiming to reach 400,000 individuals with vouchers in the northern governorates of Erbil, Dohuk and Sulaymaniyah.

- The vouchers will remain valued at USD 10, and distributions are calibrated according to family size, ultimately expecting to boost the local economy by around USD 4 million. The vouchers can be redeemed at selected local shops, empowering beneficiaries to choose their preferred commodities.
- In line with the latest Budget Revision, in 2016 WFP will begin gradually transitioning one million beneficiaries in urban and peri-urban areas of Iraq from vouchers to CBTs. This will take place where functioning markets and other appropriate mechanisms allow. The transition is being supported by the rollout of the corporate SCOPE beneficiary database, which will inform, support and monitor the disbursement of cash via already established private sector delivery mechanisms.

EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR IDPS:

Immediate Response Rations (IRRs)

- In collaboration with UNICEF, UNFPA and NGO partners, WFP pre-positions and distributes IRRs to transient IDPs through a Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM). Vulnerable families who have recently arrived in camps and urban areas receive portable ready-to-eat rations which can feed a family of five for three days.
- As part of its first line response, WFP continues to assist recent returnees and newly displaced families with IRRs. So far in January, RRM partners have distributed a total of 3,312 IRRs to 2,645 displaced and returnee families who had newly arrived in Anbar, Diyala, Ninewa and Salah al-Din. In particular, 1,650 people were assisted with IRRs following their evacuation from Ramadi to Habbaniya Tourist City.

ASSISTANCE FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES:

- Following a food security and vulnerability assessment in August, WFP is channelling its limited resources to those Syrian refugees in camps who have been identified as the most vulnerable to food insecurity, providing monthly vouchers to a targeted 73,500 individuals in 2016. Food insecure refugees receive USD 19 each month, and those who are marginally food insecure receive USD 10 each month. Food secure refugees no longer receive WFP food assistance as they are able to access food sources with their own means.
- With the rollout of the SCOPE database, WFP is transitioning from paper vouchers to SCOPE electronic vouchers in Darashakran and Kawergosk refugee camps. In January 2016, almost 3,000 targeted Syrian refugee households will receive SCOPE electronic vouchers.

Clusters

Food Security Cluster (FSC)

- The FSC attended the RRM consortium meeting on 10 January to continue strengthening the linkage, information sharing, and synergies between RRM and the clusters. The FSC has also arranged a series of information management trainings in Erbil and Baghdad. The trainings will help to improve inter-agency reporting and support local partners' ability to evaluate the response to date, identify gaps, and inform decision-making moving forward.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- The ETC completed two missions to Sulaymaniyah to provide expertise on the analogue repeater channel and to align antennas for the wireless link connecting Arbat camp. A further mission will be conducted in the near future to support the power connectivity in the camp.

Logistics Cluster

- Logistics Cluster warehouses in Erbil and Baghdad continue to receive trucks of non-food items (NFIs) contributed by USAID/Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA). So far, 3,040 metric tonnes of commodities have been registered; trucks will continue arriving with additional commodities until the end of January. The shipment of NFIs from USAID/OFDA is worth USD 75 million, and the commodities will be allocated to organisations on the ground to support the UN's humanitarian response, including winterisation during the cold period.

Resourcing Update

- A total of USD 30.2 million is required until June 2016 under Budget Revision 6 of EMOP 200677 IDP operation. The operation requires sustained support throughout 2016 to continue assisting those in need and build contingency stocks of food to enable a rapid response to any future mass displacement or returns.
- EMOP 200433.IQ has a six month net funding requirement of USD 9.6 million. Food-insecure Syrian refugees across the country risk losing WFP food assistance in the coming months unless additional funding for WFP's operation is secured.

Contact

Country Director: Jane Pearce; jane.pearce@wfp.org
Logistics Cluster Coordinator: Tania Regan; tania.regan@wfp.org

ETC Coordinator: Khawar Ilyas; iraq.etc@wfp.org

FSC Coordinator: Maria de Sojo; maria.desojo@wfp.org

WFP provides vital food assistance in Basrah

WFP/Basrah

Mr. Hussein, a teacher in Basrah, is a father of nine children. He moved to Basrah after being displaced from Ninewa last year. For over 25 years, Hussein has been shaping young minds. "I have spent my life teaching kids," he said.

Since the crisis, Hussein has been teaching IDP students who were forced to flee their homes in Anbar, Ninewa and Salah Al Din. Hussein thanked WFP for its humanitarian efforts, which are crucial for young children and their families to survive. "It is the only resource we have," added Hussein, noting that "since the reduction of WFP assistance, we have started purchasing vegetable oil and wheat flour."

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO POPULATIONS AFFECTED BY THE IRAQ CRISIS wfp.org/countries/iraq