In Numbers

10 million people in need of humanitarian assistance (OCHA)
18 governorates affected
3.2 million people displaced (IOM)
2.4 million people in need of food Assistance (WFP)
249,395 Syrian refugees in Iraq (UNHCR)

Highlights

- Over 117,000 people around the country, including from the Mosul corridor, have been assisted with Immediate Response Rations (IRRs) in August 2016. This number is likely to increase as Iraqi Security Forces attempt to retake other locations in the coming weeks.

- WFP urgently requires USD 106 million in order to procure and pre-position stocks to assist 1.5 million people from Mosul and the surrounding areas until the end of 2016, in addition to 1.8 million people already targeted for assistance.

Situation Update

- The Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) continued their advance through the Mosul Corridor, announcing the liberation of the key town of Qayyarah in southern Ninewa, 60km from Mosul. Approximately 25,000 people are reported to have stayed in their homes as the ISF cleared the town. Several other villages have been retaken by the ISF to the south of Mosul and several more have been retaken by Kurdish Peshmerga forces southeast of Mosul. Residents are being asked by the ISF to quickly return to their homes if they are temporarily displaced.

- According to the Mayor of Ramadi in Anbar Governorate, over 200,000 people have returned to the city. The ISF retook the city from the Islamic State (IS) at the beginning of 2016 but returns were officially discouraged following over 100 casualties from explosions in homes that had been mined. The population of Ramadi was estimated to have been approximately 300,000 people before it was taken by IS.

WFP Response

- Under EMOP 200677, WFP aims to assist 1.8 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Iraq per month through three modalities: Family Food Rations (FFRs); cash-based transfers (CBTs); and IRRs.

- As part of the regional EMOP 200433, to support Syrian refugees who have fled the conflict, WFP aims to provide CBTs to 72,500 Syrian refugees residing in nine camps across Iraq per month.

- 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 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 effective logistics and telecommunications response.
Food Assistance

- WFP reached 1.31 million food insecure people in all 18 governorates of Iraq through CBTs, FFRs and IRRs in the July 2016 cycle. This included 1.26 million displaced Iraqis, and 55,000 Syrian refugees in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I).
- IRRs were provided to 70,000 people in July 2016. Many of these were distributed in Anbar and Ninewa governorates in response to displacement from ongoing fighting. An additional 117,500 people received food assistance through IRRs between 01-30 August 2016. Most of these people were displaced from the Mosul Corridor, which includes the towns of Qayyarah and Shirqat, south of Mosul. Each IRR consists of ready-to-eat food that can feed a family of five for three days.
- According to the latest mobile monitoring data from the Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM) unit, household food consumption has deteriorated sharply since February 2016.

Logistics

- WFP is scaling up logistics capacity in Tikrit, Salah al-Din in order respond more effectively to those displaced from Mosul and the Mosul Corridor. Meetings have been held with partner Mercy Hands in order to finalise warehouse space in Tikrit, and WFP has deployed five mobile storage units to Tikrit.

Clusters

Food Security Cluster (FSC)

- The FSC published a partner presence map for June 2016 distributions. FSC partners were active in every governorate in Iraq, providing vouchers, ready-to-eat food and dry food parcels to 1.48 million people in June 2016.

Logistics Cluster

- The Logistics Cluster published a Concept of Operations (ConOps) for the Mosul operation that outlines likely logistics bottlenecks and gaps as well as planned activities. The document, which includes a map, has been widely shared with partners and at the inter-cluster level.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- Analogue and digital repeaters have been installed on top of a mountain in Sulaymaniyah, which has significantly improved radio communications coverage for UN agencies and NGOs.

Partnerships

- July 2016 was the first month of WFP’s refugees partnership with World Vision, which is assisting refugees in seven camps with e-vouchers, as well as unrestricted cash in Akre, Ninewa governorate.

Resourcing Update

- A contribution of USD 3.7 million from Australia was confirmed on 03 August 2016 for EMOP 200677.

Gender

- In August 2016, WFP released a report entitled Examining Accountability, Gender and Protection in WFP's Cash Based Programme in Iraq. The report found that in 70 percent of households, women were found to make the decisions on how to utilize food assistance given by WFP.

The SCOPE lifeline

Maryam is still in her 20s but has already been through so much since fleeing her home in Qamishli, Syria. When the situation worsened, her family was forced to leave Syria for the KR-I and she had to leave the man she was in love with behind. This was heartbreaking for her: “My true love is the only reason to give me hope, the only thing that helps me survive.” Eventually he arrived in the KR-I and they married. Through WFP’s monthly cash-based transfers, Maryam and her husband now receive vital food assistance: “I am so happy (with the e-vouchers) as my husband currently doesn’t have a job and we need any assistance available to carry on our lives.” WFP’s food assistance helps give Maryam hope and a bit of stability in her life. She hopes that she and her husband will one day be able to return home to Syria.

Contacts

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<th>WFP Iraq</th>
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*Funding figures for EMOP 200677 are subject to change, pending upcoming Budget Revision **With solid forecasts, the operation is fully funded until the end of 2016 (as of August 2016)