WFP Iraq
Situation Report #42
07 November 2016

Highlights

- WFP reached 1.2 million Iraqis in all 18 governorates of Iraq through Cash Based Transfers (CBTs) and Family Food Rations (FFRs) in October 2016. In addition, 94,000 displaced people received ready-to-eat Immediate Response Rations (IRRs), including those expelled from their homes in Kirkuk.

- Through SCOPE, 52,192 Syrian refugees in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) received e-voucher assistance in October 2016.

- Since the beginning of the Mosul offensive on 17 October, WFP has provided IRRs to 82,000 people fleeing areas around Mosul. WFP has also distributed monthly food rations to 79,500 people in areas recently retaken from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

In Numbers

- **10 million** people in need of humanitarian assistance (OCHA)
- **18** governorates affected
- **3.2 million** people displaced (IOM)
- **2.4 million** people food insecure (WFP)
- **225,455** Syrian refugees in Iraq (UNHCR)

People assisted

(October 2016)

49% Female
51% Male

Funding Update

Global Humanitarian Funding

Iraq—USD 861 million; WFP—USD 222 million (26 percent of Humanitarian Response Plan funding, OCHA)

Requirements

(October 2016 - April 2017, WFP)

- EMOP 200677: USD 118 million
- EMOP 200433.IQ: USD 0*
- Food Security Cluster (OCHA)
  - USD 129.6 million
- ETC Cluster/Logistics Cluster (OCHA)
  - SO 200746: USD 0 million

Situation Update

- On 17 October, Prime Minister al-Abadi announced the beginning of operations to retake the ISIL stronghold of Mosul. The offensive is comprised of ISF to the south and east of the city, militias to the west of the city and Kurdish Peshmerga forces to the east of Mosul, backed by US-led coalition air support. WFP has been monitoring the frontlines and remains ready to assist displaced people whenever they reach safe areas.

- Up to 100 ISIL fighters launched an assault on the city of Kirkuk on 21 October 2016. Dozens of civilians were killed in the attack, which led to a curfew and road blocks around the city. As a result, WFP distributions were delayed by five days as the humanitarian community could not gain access to the city and camps nearby.

- The humanitarian community is concerned about forced demographic change, which started in Kirkuk and could be replicated in other governorates. Thousands of people have already been forced out of Kirkuk to their governorates of origin such as Salah al-Din and Anbar. WFP stands ready to assist all populations that are displaced and to work with the protection cluster to uphold human rights.

WFP Response

- Under EMOP 200677, WFP assisted 1.2 million displaced Iraqis through Family Food Rations (FFRs) and Cash-Based Transfers (CBTs) in October 2016, as well as 94,000 with IRRs.

- As part of the regional EMOP 200433, to support Syrian refugees who have fled the conflict, WFP provides cash and e-vouchers to 50,000 Syrian refugees residing in nine camps across the Kurdistan Region of Iraq each 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.

*With solid forecasts, the operation is fully funded until the end of 2016 (as of August 2016)
**Food Assistance**

- As of 07 November, WFP provided 13,500 IRRs to those fleeing Mosul and 10,000 monthly food entitlements to people in newly-retaken areas near the city since 17 October.

- WFP monitoring found that the food security of people being assisted by WFP has improved since the beginning of 2016, particularly in areas where those being assisted were previously more vulnerable. This improvement followed an increase in the value of CBTs, from USD 10 - USD 17, being received by many food insecure people assisted by WFP.

- In line with the commitment to cash-based programming endorsed at the World Humanitarian Summit this year, WFP continues to scale-up cash interventions in Iraq.

- WFP conducted a market assessment in the Tikrit, al-Dour, Samarra and Balad areas of Salah al-Din governorate in October 2016. The results indicated that markets are functional and the main food commodities are available. WFP is also piloting mobile money for 5,000 families in Erbil governorate in November 2016.

**Supply Chain**

- WFP has been working to increase the buying power of those receiving food assistance. A retail strategy pilot is being finalized for shops in refugee camps and this will help reduce prices in shops. Next, WFP will look at the feasibility of reducing prices in local shops.

- WFP currently has 420,000 IRRs in stock, sufficient to assist 2.1 million people. WFP also has 575,000 FFRs in stock, enough to assist 2.87 million people for one month.

**Clusters**

**Food Security Cluster (FSC)**

- Partners are aiming to cover all populations in need, whether displaced, hosting, returnees or vulnerable residents. The FSC continues to work towards strengthening the coordination of the food security response with the government and partners operating outside the cluster system.

**Logistics Cluster**

- An engineering team visited the Qayyarah bridge on 23 October 2016 to assess the site and damage to the structure. The period for companies to bid for the necessary work on the bridge closed on 04 November 2016 and a clear breakdown of the works required, timeline and funding requirements will be shared.

**Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)**

- On 02 November, the ETC launched an innovative project that provides wireless internet access to Syrian refugees living in Domiz refugee camp. This enables refugees to stay in touch with their families in Syria.

**Partnerships**

- In order to provide monthly entitlements as part of its Mosul response, WFP is partnering with Mercy Hands to provide assistance south of Mosul and Samaritan’s Purse to provide assistance east of Mosul.

- WFP continues to coordinate closely with the government’s Public Distribution System, filling food assistance gaps where necessary.

**Resourcing Update**

- Two contributions were received from Finland (USD 1.7 million) and Canada (USD 4.5 million). The latter is the first contribution of a multi-year commitment from Canada. In addition, Spain contributed USD 800,000.

**WFP on the ground**

- In early October 2016, six year old Marwa from Mosul walked from dusk to dawn before reaching help. Her mother told WFP that, during the first few hours of the journey, the family had to walk barefoot in fear of being detected by ISIL fighters. As soon as they arrived to the Debaga transit centre, they received ready-to-eat food from WFP, enough to assist the family for three days while they waited to be transferred to their new shelter.

- In an interview with AlJazeera at Debaga camp in northern Iraq, WFP noted that food prices inside Mosul have skyrocketed and many families do not know where their next meal is coming from. In another interview, WFP shared stories of families reunited after two years apart.

- With an increase in the number of people fleeing Mosul, WFP is regularly meeting with newly displaced people. The Country Director noted on Twitter that over two thousand people arrived at Hassan Sham camp on 02 November.

**Contacts**

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**WFP Iraq**

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<tr>
<th>WFP Iraq</th>
<th>Total Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>Total Received (in USD)</th>
<th>Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>People Reached (October 2016)</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
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<tr>
<td>EMOP 200677 04/2014–12/2016</td>
<td>792.67 million</td>
<td>523 million</td>
<td>118 million</td>
<td>1,190,510</td>
<td>589,064</td>
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<td>64.3 million</td>
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<td>Cash-Based Transfers</td>
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<td>64.7 million</td>
<td>302,900</td>
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<td>104.97 million</td>
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