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# WFP Iraq Situation Report #60

February 2019

## In Numbers

**1.74 million** people displaced (IOM)

**4.21 million** returnees (IOM)

**253,085** Syrian refugees in Iraq (UNHCR)

**69,701** Iraqis assisted by WFP

**32,515** Syrians assisted by WFP

## Highlights

- In February, WFP delivered food assistance to over 102,200 people in six governorates, reaching approximately 66,500 IDPs and 32,500 Syrian refugees.
- Due to insufficient resources, WFP will move from a four to a 6-week cycle for the provision of General Food Assistance for IDPs in March. The CBT value has been reduced from 20,000 to 17,000 IQD per person to reflect current prices of the food basket.
- WFP urgently needs USD 55 m through August to continue its assistance to people in need without interruption.

## People assisted

**102,216**

February 2019



## Situation Update

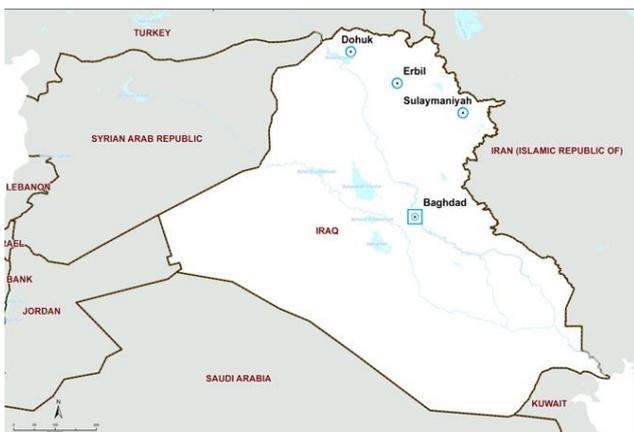
- The International Zone in Baghdad will be open 24/7 by March 2019.
- Islamic State (IS) activity is expected to remain high in the northern provinces, including Ninewa, Kirkuk and Diyala, especially in rural areas.
- Food security is still precarious in conflict-affected areas, with OCHA reporting in February that 2.5 million people are food insecure. WFP is continuing to work to reach the IDPs, refugees and returnees who are relying on WFP's assistance to meet their food needs.

<b>Global Humanitarian Funding to Iraq in 2019</b>	<b>Overall:</b> USD 701.2 m
	<b>WFP share:</b> USD 9.2 m
<b>WFP Net Funding Requirements</b> (March 2019 – August 2019)	
<b>Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP)</b>	<b>USD 55 m</b>

## WFP Response

### Supply Chain

- WFP Iraq is working with an HQ optimisation-dedicated team to enhance its supply chain system. An HQ mission is planned in the spring to help WFP Iraq further develop efficiencies through the use of "Optimus" – a tool that processes data to help draw operational plans that achieve WFP's programmatic goals at lowest cost, while respecting operational constraints such as available funding and the delivery time.





## Food and Nutrition Assistance

- WFP's six-month targeting and verification exercise for Syrian refugee households in camps in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) concluded. As a result of the exercise, the number of targeted beneficiaries will now be about half the previous target, around 32,899 vulnerable individuals (6,936 households). According to the findings, a significant proportion of refugee households – 31 percent in Erbil and 30 percent in Duhok – do not have any source of income. 15 percent self-identified food as their highest priority, following housing.
- WFP assisted fewer people in February, due to delays in deliveries, as well as because mobile money transfers (MMT) did not take place. MMT were delayed due to banking and financial regulations and sanctions, causing problems in transferring funds to the MMT provider. Due to insufficient resources, WFP will move from a four to a to 6-week cycle for the provision of General Food Assistance for IDPs in March.
- WFP is actively arranging Communication with Communities (CwC) and outreach activities to inform and raise awareness among IDPs assisted, around the new 6-week distribution cycle and the reduction in CBT from 20,000 IQD to 17,000 IQD.
- On 13 February, the Ministry of Trade (MoT) and WFP launched the next phase of the pilot project testing new technology for the modernisation of the Public Distribution System (PDS), in Duhok. This was the official launch of the rollout in KR-I, building on the initial launch of the digitisation initiative in Baghdad, in January 2019 . The digitisation aims to bring the 30-year old PDS into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with increased transparency and better services to citizens, prioritising those most in need.
- WFP signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) on resilience projects, with the goal of achieving better cooperation and synergies.

## Clusters and Common Services



### Food Security Cluster

- The ActivityInfo 2019 IDPs database – a platform used by Food Security Cluster (FSC) partners to report on their food distributions and locations, and share knowledge on which partners are

active and where – is now up and running. FSC partners can now report their activities on a monthly basis.



### Logistics Cluster

- The LC has been scaling down operations since early 2019 and has now entered its Exit Strategy phase. The One Stop Shop (OSS) project through the Kurdistan government KR-G's Joint Crisis Coordination Centre (JCC) continued to facilitate customs clearance for humanitarian cargo into the Kurdistan Region KR-I. The OSS is a service used by all humanitarian partners, to facilitate the approval and documentation process for the import of humanitarian cargo, plus internal country access approvals.
- The OSS project will be handed over to the JCC/Ministry of Interior in April 2019. WFP conducted a workshop on the OSS to clarify related reporting requirements and establish a link with the humanitarian community for follow-up on cargo import issues and sharing data.



### Emergency Telecommunications Cluster

- The ETC is phasing out and will close down its operations in Iraq on 31 March. ETC Iraq has completed handing over all equipment to the relevant partner UN agencies, and is in the process concluding the final documentation on the phase out. Based on recommendations by the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI), the ETC will maintain a minimal presence in Iraq to support operations and the handover.
- Services for Communities (S4C): A contract was signed with a vendor for the provision of a queueing system installed by the ETC in the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) Community Resource Centres (CRC) in East Mosul, West Mosul and Fallujah.

## Contacts

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For further information, visit the WFP Iraq page: [wfp.org/countries/iraq](http://wfp.org/countries/iraq)

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

	<b>Total TICSP Requirements</b> (in USD)	<b>2019 Allocated Contributions</b> (in USD)	<b>6-Month Net Funding Requirements</b> (in USD) (Mar 2019 - Aug 2019)	<b>People Assisted</b> (Feb 2019)	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>
<b>TICSP TOTAL</b> (Jan 2018 - Dec 2019)	341.1 m		55 m	102216	50085	52130