In Numbers

10 million people in need of humanitarian assistance (OCHA)
18 governorates affected
3 million people displaced (IOM)
938,000 people food insecure (WFP, CFSVA)
233,000 Syrian refugees in Iraq (UNHCR)

Highlights

• In January 2017, WFP provided monthly food assistance for 1.6 million displaced Iraqis. A further 310,000 people received ready-to-eat Immediate Response Rations (IRRs).

• Since Iraqi Security Forces began efforts to retake Mosul from ISIL on 17 October 2016, WFP has provided assistance to an additional one million people, over and above the one million already being assisted.

• Following a surge in attacks by ISIL from 10 February in eastern Mosul, United Nations missions to the city were put on temporary hold, though distributions of emergency IRRs continued.

People assisted

(February 2017)

(Percentage)

49% Women
51% Men

Funding Update

Global Humanitarian Funding

Iraq—USD 940 million; WFP—USD 184 million

Requirements (February 2017 - July 2017, WFP)

EMOP 200677: USD 67 million
PRRO 200987: USD 6.9 million

Food Security Cluster (OCHA)

USD 235 million

ETC Cluster/Logistics Cluster (OCHA)

SO 200746: USD 12.9 million

Situation Update

• Following a surge in attacks by ISIL, through unmanned aerial vehicles, indirect fire and suicide bombings, all UN missions to eastern Mosul were put on temporary hold until the United Nations Department of Safety and Security permitted access on 19 February, following an assessment of the situation. Partners reviewed the situation on a regular basis while distributions of Immediate Response Rations continued. On 13 February, WFP was briefly unable to transport food to IDPs from Mosul at Hassan Sham camp due to road closures ahead of the offensive on western Mosul.

• Large protests took place in Baghdad on 11 February. Several people were killed during clashes between protestors and the ISF, with additional checkpoints put in place around the Green Zone. Later that evening, several rockets were fired into the Green Zone, though no fatalities were reported. This was the first case of indirect fire into the Green Zone since 2015.

• A significant number of families have returned from the Khazer and Hassan Sham camps to eastern Mosul since early February. Returns were temporarily placed on hold by camp management on 10 February due to incidents in eastern Mosul before later resuming.

WFP Response

• Under EMOP 200677, WFP assisted 1.6 million displaced Iraqis through Family Food Rations (FFRs) and Cash-Based Transfers (CBTs) in January 2017, as well as 310,000 with IRRs.

• As part of the regional PRRO 200987, to support Syrian refugees who have fled the conflict, WFP provides cash and e-vouchers to 65,000 Syrian refugees residing in nine camps across the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I) 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.
• After a temporary reduction in entitlements in January, WFP restored full entitlements in time for February distributions. This restoration was thanks to solid donor pledges, the allocation of flexible funds and WFP's internal advance financing mechanisms. Without additional contributions, full entitlements can be maintained for displaced people from Mosul through to June, while entitlements for all other beneficiaries in Iraq would be reduced by 50 percent in April.

• From 01 March, WFP will be distributing one Immediate Response Ration per family to those affected by fighting in and around Mosul. As of the end of February there has only been limited displacement from western Mosul, with WFP providing emergency assistance to 6,000 people.

• The town of Tal Afar remains under the control of ISIL and inaccessible to humanitarian organisations. Through mobile monitoring, WFP has found that food security has worsened in recent months. The proportion of households with adequate food consumption, meaning the quality and quantity of food actually eaten, has decreased. Meanwhile, usage of negative coping strategies also increased in recent months, which shows that some families are having to make sacrifices to avoid going hungry.

• In January 2017, WFP shifted from an emergency operation to protracted relief and recovery operations (PRRO) to support Syrian refugees in Iraq. Over 53,000 refugees are receiving USD 19 per person, per month.

• WFP has 22,700 mt of commodities in stock in the three logistics hubs of Dohuk, Erbil and Baghdad. In addition, 11,000 mt of commodities are on their way to Iraq.

• There are currently 130,000 IRRs in country, enough to assist 650,000 people.

Clusters

Food Security Cluster (FSC)
• The FSC is coordinating with food and livelihood actors on immediate, transitional and long-term food assistance in and out of camps.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)
• To support the humanitarian response to Mosul, the ETC is providing Internet connectivity to the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) office and the IOM office in Qayyarah Airstrip, as well as the Mercy Hands office in the town.

Logistics Cluster
• The Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of 3,800 additional tents to the Qayyarah Airstrip and Hajj Ali camps, in collaboration with IOM. This brings the total transported since the beginning of the Mosul operation to 5,900 tents, able to host over 35,000 IDPs.

Partnerships
• World Vision International is now WFP’s only partner for providing assistance to Syrian refugees in Iraq. This reduction in partners allows WFP to reduce operational costs by having only one cooperating partner for all camps.

• WFP continues to partner with Asia Hawala on the pilot mobile money distributions in Erbil Governorate. Meanwhile, partnerships are in place with World Vision International, Mercy Corps, ACTED, ACF, Muslim Aid, NRC, Save the Children, RIRP and Samarran’s Purse.

• WFP is also partnering with the following national NGOs: Women Empowerment Organisation, Mercy Hands for Humanitarian Aid, REACH-Iraq, Civil Development Organisation, Barzani Charity Foundation and Iraq Salvation Humanitarian Organisation.

Resourcing Update
• EMOP 200677 for Iraqi IDPs has a net funding requirement of USD 67 million until July 2017. This includes WFP preparedness planning for humanitarian assistance following the Mosul operation. Without additional contributions, WFP will: (i) ensure full rations to all beneficiaries in March; (ii) provide full rations to people displaced from Mosul and surrounding areas from April to June; and (iii) be forced to halve rations for all other beneficiaries in Iraq from April.

• With contributions and pledges announced to date, WFP operations targeting Syrian refugees (PRRO 200987) are covered through May 2017. WFP faces a net funding requirement of USD 6.9 million until July 2017 for PRRO 200987.

• Under SO 200746, the Logistics Cluster and the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster in Iraq have a net funding requirement of USD 12.9 million until the end of 2017.

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