

IRAQ - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #2, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018

DECEMBER 15, 2017

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

11
million

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Iraq
UN – January 2017

2.9
million

IDPs in Iraq
UN – November 2017

941,166

IDPs in Ninewa Governorate
IOM – November 2017

793,422

People Who Remain Displaced by Mosul Military Offensive
IOM – October 2017

262,758

Iraqi Refugees in Neighboring Countries
UNHCR – November 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- ISF retakes last ISIS-held town in Iraq
- Relief actors advocate safe and voluntary IDP returns to retaken areas of Iraq
- Military checkpoint closures constrain humanitarian access in areas of northern Iraq
- Humanitarian organizations launch winter assistance activities

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2017

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$294,238,552
USAID/FFP ²	\$68,400,000
State/PRM ³	\$238,748,201

\$601,386,753

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) regained control of western Anbar Governorate's Rawa town—the last remaining Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS)-held town in Iraq—on November 17, international media report. On December 9, Government of Iraq (GoI) Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi declared victory over ISIS in Iraq, following ISF clearance operations in desert areas of Anbar, Ninewa, and Salah ad Din governorates.
- The GoI is evicting internally displaced persons (IDPs), including in Anbar and Salah ad Din, to facilitate households' return to areas of origin, the UN reports. In response, U.S. Government (USG) representatives and relief actors are advocating safe and voluntary IDP returns. Countrywide, approximately 2.9 million people remained displaced as of late November, according to USG partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM).
- Relief agencies—including USG partners—continue to assist populations affected by recent military operations in Iraq. Between September 17 and November 18, USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) and its implementing partners provided immediate response rations—sufficient to meet a five-person household's food needs for three days—to approximately 12,000 households and family food rations—sufficient to meet 80 percent of a household's monthly food needs—to more than 8,300 households fleeing conflict in western Anbar.

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

CURRENT EVENTS

- Following Prime Minister al-Abadi's November 21 announcement of the end of military operations to retake ISIS-held areas of Iraq, ISF began clearance operations in Jazira desert, spanning largely unpopulated areas of Anbar, Ninewa, and Salah ad Din. On December 9, Prime Minister al-Abadi declared victory over ISIS, following ISF's successful recapture of ISIS-controlled areas along Iraq's border with Syria, international media report.
 - Despite the conclusion of military offensives, the UN recorded nearly 800 security incidents across Iraq from November 16–23, including a suspected person-borne improvised explosive device attack in Salah ad Din that resulted in more than 20 deaths and approximately 60 injuries. IDPs frequently cite insecurity—as well as the lack of infrastructure and basic services in recently retaken areas—as a major obstacle to returning to areas of origin, the UN reports.
-
-

HUMANITARIAN ACCESS AND POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

Anbar

- On November 17, ISF retook western Anbar's Rawa town—Iraq's last town under ISIS control—concluding a three-week campaign to regain control of western Anbar's Al-Qaim and Rawa districts. Approximately 22,000 people fled western Anbar since the ISF military offensive launched on September 20, according to IOM. As of December 12, nearly 68,500 people remained displaced due to military operations in Anbar since January 2017, IOM reports. Of the total, approximately 83 percent—or nearly 56,700 individuals—were residing in IDP camps or private settings in eastern Anbar.
- As of late November, the GoI Ministry of Migration and Displacement had provided emergency food assistance and safe drinking water to more than 19,600 conflict-affected people from western Anbar, the UN reports. In addition, humanitarian organizations had provided multi-sector assistance—including food, emergency relief commodities, and mobile health services—to more than 22,700 people in retaken areas.
- USG partners continue to assist households displaced by military operations in western Anbar. Between September 17 and November 18, USAID/FFP partner WFP and its implementing partners provided immediate response rations—sufficient to meet a five-person household's food needs for three days—to an estimated 12,000 households and family food rations—sufficient to meet 80 percent of a household's monthly food needs—to more than 8,300 households fleeing conflict in western Anbar.

Disputed Areas

- Tensions and checkpoint closures following the September 25 Kurdistan independence referendum are constraining humanitarian access in northern Iraq, particularly in Kirkuk and Ninewa governorates, the UN reports. Security forces have closed checkpoints in Erbil Governorate, northern Kirkuk, and northern Ninewa, impeding service delivery to conflict-affected populations in the three governorates, according to the UN.
- As of December 14, approximately 153,400 people remained displaced across Baghdad, Basrah, Dohuk, Diyala, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah ad Din, and Sulaimaniyah governorates as a result of the post-referendum military operations that commenced on October 15, while 200,500 additional people—including those displaced prior to 2014—had returned to areas of origin, according to IOM. The situation remains fluid, with some displacements lasting no more than a few days, and the number of IDPs continues to fluctuate, IOM reports.
- Despite persistent checkpoint closures, relief actors, including USG partners, are providing life-saving assistance in affected areas of northern Iraq and exploring alternate routes to access conflict-affected populations. In early November, the USAID/OFDA-supported Logistics Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian logistics activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders—identified an access route to southern Ninewa bypassing Erbil's Makhmur checkpoint and enabling humanitarian organizations to access the estimated 207,000 IDPs located in southern Ninewa.

- An estimated 20,050 households—120,300 people—departed 12 IDP camps in Ninewa between June 11 and December 11, according to the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster. Of the total, 87 percent—approximately 17,400 households, or 104,300 people—reported intentions to return to areas of origin, primarily due to improved security, the CCCM Cluster reports. The top two destinations of intended return during the reporting period were Ninewa’s Badush and Zummar towns. Approximately 71 percent of IDPs in surveyed camps reported no intention to return in the short-term, while 69 percent of surveyed IDPs located outside camp settings reported no intention to return in the short-term, the cluster reports. Nearly 44,100 households remained in the 12 camps as of December 11.

Returns

- GoI-led evictions and forced returns escalated in November, primarily in Anbar and Salah ad Din, the UN reports. The UN recorded more than 23,000 forced returns, including more than 17,000 people relocated from IDP camps and other settings in Salah ad Din’s Tikrit District and more than 6,000 people evacuated from IDP sites in western Anbar, during the month. Following humanitarian advocacy efforts and resultant instructions from the GoI Office of the Prime Minister, local authorities temporarily ceased forced returns; however, evictions recommenced after a one-week period. In response, USG representatives and relief actors continue to advocate the GoI and local authorities to ensure safe and voluntary IDP returns.
- Nearly 2.8 million people countrywide had returned to areas of origin as of late November, IOM reports. Approximately 95 percent of returnees had returned to their habitual residence as of November 15. Of the remaining population, approximately 37,700 people—more than 1 percent of the returnee population—were residing in critical shelter arrangements, including unfinished and abandoned buildings, religious buildings, and informal settlements. A further 4 percent were renting property, staying with host communities, or in unknown shelter arrangements. IOM reports that Diyala and Salah ad Din governorates account for 97 percent of returnees in critical shelters, primarily in Muqadadiya, Samarra, Shirqat, and Tikrit districts.
- Approximately 8,200 Iraqi refugees returned to Iraq from Al Hol camp in Syria’s Al Hasakah Governorate between November 21 and 24, according to State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The majority of the returnees are sheltering in IDP sites in Ninewa, including the Qayyarah Jeddah IDP site, while some returnees are residing with relatives in Erbil and Sulaimaniyah. To date in 2017, more than 11,700 Iraqis have returned from Syria in GoI-organized convoys, UNHCR reports.

HEALTH AND WASH

- Since ISF retook Kirkuk’s Hawija District from ISIS in mid-September, mobile medical teams from USAID/OFDA partner the UN World Health Organization (WHO) have assisted more than 10,000 Hawija residents, including through the vaccination of nearly 1,600 children. From mid-September to mid-November, WHO deployed mobile medical teams to Hawija’s Abbassi, Al Zab, Khan, Masanaa, Riyadh, and Tal Ali towns and villages, despite persistent insecurity in recently retaken areas. WHO reports that Hawija’s five main health facilities sustained damage or destruction during ISIS control and subsequent GoI-led military operations.
- Due to the lack of functional health facilities in Hawija, WHO-supported mobile teams deliver a comprehensive package of life-saving health services, including medical consultations, vaccination, and treatment for chronic conditions. In addition, the teams are monitoring water quality and distributing chlorine tablets to affected households to prevent waterborne disease transmission. As of December 12, more than 109,000 people displaced during military operations had returned to areas of origin in Hawija and Shirqat districts, IOM reports.
- Relief actors continue to provide critical water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance to households displaced by recent military offensives in Iraq. In November, WASH Cluster members—including USAID/OFDA partners—improved access to safe drinking water for approximately 137,300 individuals displaced from conflict zones in Anbar and Salah ad Din through emergency water trucking and water network maintenance. Additionally, cluster members

conducted maintenance of sanitation infrastructure and provided waste management services for approximately 11,250 households—an estimated 67,500 individuals—displaced from Anbar and Salah ad Din.

- In November, relief organizations distributed USAID-supported Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) kits—including food, hygiene items, and safe drinking water—sufficient to support approximately 70,300 people across Anbar, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa, and Salah ad Din. Approximately 64 percent of the distributions occurred in Ninewa, with Anbar distributions declining as GoI-led military operations in Al-Qaim and Rawa districts concluded. To date in 2017, RRM partners have provided approximately 476,500 USAID-supported kits to conflict-affected households in Iraq.
-
-

PROTECTION

- Of the estimated 60,000 people remaining in retaken areas of western Anbar, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) projects that 15,000 are women of reproductive age. With support from the European Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) and the Government of Japan, UNFPA and local partners are assisting this population through the establishment of mobile delivery units, including the provision of medical equipment and supplies, in Anbar's Aanah and Al-Qaim cities. In addition, UNFPA has established a women's community center with outreach teams in Aanah and Al-Qaim to provide psychosocial support services and treatment for survivors of gender-based violence. UNFPA teams have also distributed dignity kits in western Anbar and supported reproductive health services for IDPs in Anbar camps, as well as in areas of Anbar's Heet city and Rutbah town.
 - On November 20, the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) launched an assessment of explosive hazards in western Mosul's Old City area to inform GoI and humanitarian actors' response planning for Old City, which sustained significant damage during ISIS occupation and subsequent GoI-led military operations. From November 20–22, the UNMAS assessment team identified more than 100 explosive hazards along Ninewa road, the primary access route through Old City. With support from the European Union, UNMAS and implementing partners continue to conduct clearance activities in Old City to facilitate safe returns of displaced persons. An estimated 739,400 people remained displaced due to Mosul military operations as of mid-October, IOM reports.
-
-

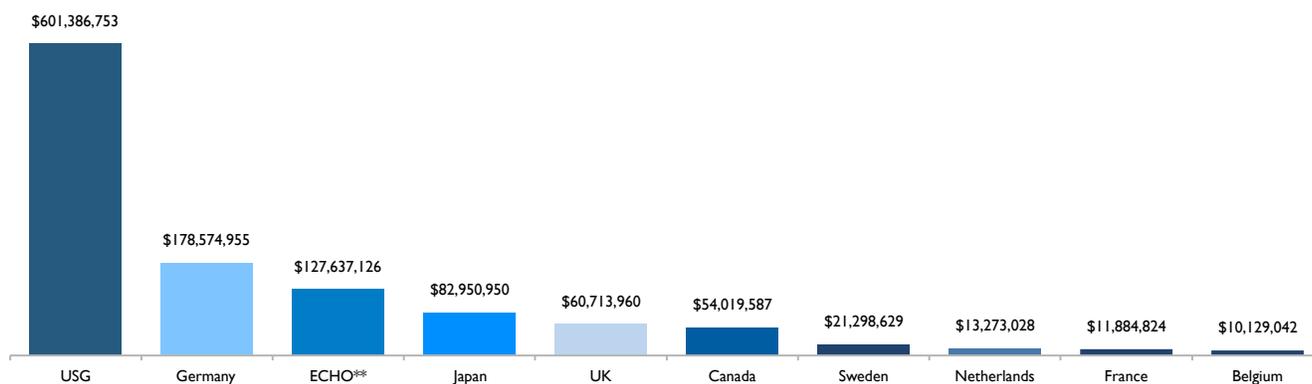
NATURAL DISASTERS AND WINTERIZATION

- On November 12, a magnitude 7.3 earthquake struck approximately 19 miles south of Sulaimaniyah's city of Halabja, resulting in at least nine deaths, approximately 550 injuries, and an estimated 280 displaced households in Iraq, the UN reports. In response, the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) and relief actors, including USG partners, provided emergency food, health, and shelter assistance to affected households. With WHO support, the primary hospitals in Sulaimaniyah's Halabja and Sulaimaniyah cities treated earthquake-related injuries, while an IOM-managed mobile medical team conducted health consultations for adults and children in Halabja. In addition, the Government of Turkey and the Turkish Red Crescent Society sent 14,000 blankets, 10,000 beds, 5,000 tents, and 3,000 heaters, as well as food supplies and search and rescue teams and equipment, to support response efforts in Sulaimaniyah. As of November 20, the KRG reported that government authorities and relief actors had addressed immediate food, health, and shelter needs related to the earthquake.
- USG partners are supporting conflict-affected households across Iraq to prepare for the 2017/2018 winter season. Between early October and late November, UNHCR reached approximately 37,000 households in Iraq—including approximately 25,300 IDP households and 11,700 Syrian refugee households—with winter assistance, including cash-based support and winter kits containing heating stoves, thermal blankets, and tent insulation kits. UNHCR plans to assist more than 100,000 households—including IDPs in Anbar, Dohuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Mosul, and Sulaymaniah—through February 2018. In addition, USAID/OFDA partner UNICEF began winter distributions in Ninewa's Al Qosh town during the week of November 12. The UN agency plans to distribute winter items and clothing to 65,000 children countrywide and support heating in child-friendly spaces.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The Government of Germany recently provided €30 million—approximately \$34.8 million—in new humanitarian funding for the Iraq Humanitarian Pooled Fund, a country-based pooled fund managed by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). To date, the 2017 Iraq Humanitarian Response Plan has received approximately \$859.2 million in donor funding, or more than 87 percent of the \$984.6 million appeal.
- In response to humanitarian concerns about explosive remnants of war in recently retaken areas of Iraq, the Government of Portugal recently committed €175,000—approximately \$206,000—to support UNMAS activities in Iraq. UNMAS interventions include hazard risk management, outreach campaigns to educate IDPs about the dangers of explosive hazards, and other activities to facilitate humanitarian operations in areas of return for IDPs, the UN reports.

2017 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of December 15, 2017. All international figures are according to OCHA's Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the 2017 calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect USG commitments from FY 2017, which began on October 1, 2016. Non-USG funding figures do not necessarily reflect pledges announced during the Iraq donor conference on July 13, 2017.

**ECHO

CONTEXT

- The situation within Iraq remained relatively stable until January 2014, when ISIS forces began seizing control of parts of northern and central Iraq. Significant population displacement ensued as civilians fled to areas of relative safety, such as the Iraqi Kurdistan Region, to escape fighting.
- On August 11, 2014, USAID deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to help coordinate USG efforts to address the urgent humanitarian needs of newly displaced populations throughout Iraq. DART and State/PRM staff in Iraq work closely with local officials, the international community, and humanitarian actors to identify critical needs and expedite assistance to affected populations. To support the DART, USAID also established a Response Management Team (RMT) based in Washington, D.C.
- In 2017, the UN estimates that 11 million people in Iraq require humanitarian assistance. Prolonged displacement is exhausting the resources of IDPs and host community members alike at a time when serious budgetary shortfalls due to low global oil prices are limiting the capacity of both the GoI and KRG to respond to humanitarian needs. Meanwhile, UN agencies, NGOs, and other relief actors face funding shortages, logistical challenges, and security constraints that complicate efforts to meet critical needs.
- On October 7, 2017, U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Douglas A. Silliman re-declared a disaster in Iraq for FY 2018 due to the ongoing complex emergency and humanitarian crisis.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2017¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
NGO Partners	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$166,592,682
IOM	Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$29,000,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
UN Development Program (UNDP)	Natural and Technological Risks	Countrywide	\$2,975,185
UNICEF	Protection, WASH	Anbar, Baghdad, Dohuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah ad Din, Sulaimaniyah	\$36,002,000
UNICEF	Logistic Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
WFP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,934,400
WHO	Health	Anbar, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah ad Din	\$50,070,508
	Program Support Costs		\$2,663,777
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$294,238,552
USAID/FFP³			
Implementing Partner	Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$3,400,000
WFP	Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$65,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$68,400,000
STATE/PRM⁴			
NGO Partners	Education, Livelihoods, Protection	Iraq, Jordan, Syria	\$35,398,201
Implementing Partner	Food Assistance, Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, WASH	Countrywide	\$36,300,000
International Labor Organization (ILO)	Livelihoods	Turkey	\$1,000,000
IOM	Displacement Tracking Matrix, Livelihoods and Social Cohesion	Countrywide	\$20,750,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector	Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey	\$137,900,000
UNICEF	Education	Countrywide	\$6,400,000
UN Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat)	Shelter	Anbar, Baghdad, Diyala, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah ad Din	\$1,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$238,748,201
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2017			\$601,386,753

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2014–2017

TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING	\$544,182,255
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING	\$182,043,516
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING	\$915,051,283
TOTAL DOD FUNDING	\$77,357,233
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2014–2017	\$1,718,634,287

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2017.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 30, 2017.

³ USAID/FFP funding supports humanitarian programming benefiting IDPs and other conflict-affected Iraqis; figures do not include USAID/FFP funding for activities assisting Syrian refugees in Iraq.

⁴ State/PRM funding supports humanitarian programming inside Iraq and for refugee populations who fled Iraq for neighboring countries; figures do not include funding for activities assisting Syrian refugees in Iraq.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.661.7710.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>