



Muthanna - Shatha Kando/WFP



World Food Programme

## Country: IRAQ

EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR IRAQI IDPs

### In numbers



**5.2 million people are in need of humanitarian aid** (Strategic Response Plan)

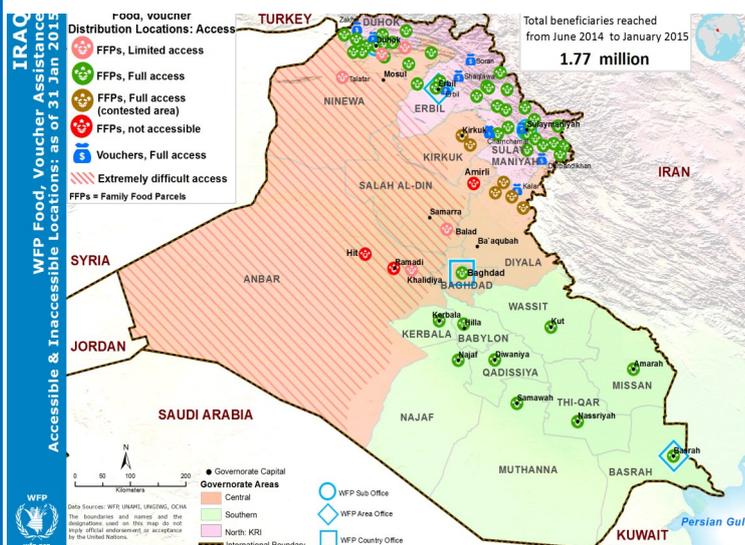
**2.6 million people are displaced** (IOM)

### WFP Iraq Funding Requirements:

April to June 2015: **US\$45 million** (Fast-Track Priorities)

April to September 2015: **US\$250 million** (WFP Emergency Operation shortfall)

Special Operation: **US\$9 million** (Fast-Track Priorities)



affect food security for the whole population.

- In Ninewa, fighting has caused food scarcity and high prices. A lack of job opportunities and low wages is severely compromising purchasing power.

### WFP Response

- Aiming to provide food assistance to displaced and conflict-affected people through its **Emergency Operation**, WFP tailors its assistance to meet specific needs, deploying three-day rations, monthly rations or food vouchers.
- Now reaching an average of **1.5 million people** per month, WFP delivers and distributes food assistance to displaced and conflict-affected people across all 18 governorates of Iraq. Despite funding constraints, WFP aims to assist 1.8 million people per month by March 2015.
- By heading Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Clusters (ETC) through a **Special Operation**, WFP assists both non-NGO and UN partners with transport, warehouses, communications and internet access. The Logistics Cluster has 60 partners and offers 2,290 square meters of storage in two strategically positioned warehouses, whilst the ETC has 31 partners, and approximately 200 humanitarian staff members use its IT systems. Co-leading the Food Security Cluster alongside FAO, WFP coordinates the food assistance response across Iraq.

### Highlights

- WFP is providing emergency food assistance to people fleeing military operations in the Tikrit area of Salah al-Din. Working with Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) partners, it has assisted approximately 48,760 people who have been internally displaced in Salah al-Din with three-day Immediate Response Rations (IRRs).
- Partnering with the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), WFP was the first international organization to provide relief to some 17,500 people returning to the formerly militant-held Muqdadiya area of Diyala governorate, which saw fierce fighting at the end of 2014.
- When 400 families escaped Mosul, WFP and DRC provided them with emergency food assistance quickly in Ninewa governorate, through the RRM.

### Situation Update

- Intense conflict and blocked supply routes is causing a spike in food prices and driving down wages in Salah al-Din, Ninewa, Kirkuk and Anbar governorates, as identified by WFP remote monitoring. This is likely to negatively

### Food Assistance

#### EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE:

#### Immediate Response Rations (IRRs)



- In collaboration with UNICEF and NGO partners, WFP is providing IRRs through a **Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)**. Stocks of WFP IRRs, UNICEF hygiene kits and drinking water are pre-positioned with partners, ensuring a quick response to new displacements.
- Vulnerable families who have recently arrived in camps, urban areas or living with host communities, receive portable ready-to-eat food. One IRR provides a family of five with food for three days.
- IRRs are distributed under the RRM in partnership with ACTED, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), DRC, Mercy Corps, and Save the Children International (SCI). In March, RRM distributions have assisted approximately 100,000 people in Salah al-Din, Kirkuk, Ninewa, and Baghdad governorates.

**FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR SETTLED PEOPLE:**

Family Food Parcels (FFPs)

- For families who are temporarily settled and have access to cooking facilities, WFP provides a one month FFP. These 65.3kg rations include basic food essentials such as rice, lentils, and salt, and are nutritionally designed to meet the daily intake requirements of a family of five for 30 days.
- Since 1 March 2015, WFP has assisted approximately 919,000 people with FFPs in every governorate in Iraq (except the until recently inaccessible Salah al-Din, where IRRs were distributed).
- FFPs are distributed in partnership with ACTED, *Action Contre La Faim* (ACF), Barzani Charity Foundation, Iraqi Salvation Humanitarian Organisation, Islamic Kurdish League, Civil Development Organisation, Muslim Aid, International Relief and Development, SCI and Mercy Hand.

Vouchers

- WFP is distributing food vouchers to displaced people in Erbil governorate, urban areas in Duhok, and four districts in Sulaymaniyah, partnering with World Vision International (WVI), ACTED, ACF and SCI.
- Each person receives one food voucher per month, worth US\$26, or 30,000 Iraqi Dinars. These can be redeemed at selected local shops, empowering families to select their preferred goods. So far in March, some 432,000 displaced people have received WFP food vouchers.
- WFP initiates voucher transfers only in locations where the markets are considered reliable and will not be adversely affected by the programme.

**Logistics**



- In March, Logistics dispatched 227,669 FFPs and 36,500 IRRs, equivalent to 15,452.3 mt.

**Clusters**

**Food Security Cluster (FSC)**



- As people start to return to the liberated district of Zummar, Ninewa governorate, the FSC and its partners are assisting them in re-building their lives. Transitioning from food assistance to providing livelihoods opportunities will be key in the coming months, and the FSC has developed a comprehensive mechanism to ensure that no gaps are missed.
- Preparing for another possible mass displacement caused by military operations in and around Mosul, the FSC has made contingency plans for Duhok governorate. Funding to purchase contingency food stocks is a priority for FSC partners.

**Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)**



- The ETC is improving the safety of humanitarian staff working in a complex security environment, by boosting the capacity of emergency telecommunications networks. Working closely with the Ministry of Transport and Communications, the ETC is making new and improved radio channels available to the humanitarian community.

**Logistics Cluster (LC)**



- In order to respond swiftly to an opportunity to access the besieged city of Haditha in Anbar governorate, the LC has coordinated with six humanitarian partners to preposition relief supplies in Baghdad. Stocks include emergency food, medical supplies and hygiene kits.

**Resourcing Update**



- The Emergency Operation in Iraq has a shortfall of US\$250 million to continue its operations from April to September. Unless additional funding is secured, 1.8 million people are at risk of losing WFP food assistance in May.

**Contacts**



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**WFP IN ACTION: emergency distributions for families fleeing al Baghdadi**

The town of al Baghdadi in Anbar was surrounded by ISIL militants for many months, largely cut off from food and other essential supplies. The Iraqi Security Forces were recently able to secure an escape route for trapped civilians, and went on to re-take control of the area. Thousands fled east to Baghdad city, where WFP and NRC distributed IRRs for some 18,000 people. Amongst them was Saker, an engineer from al Baghdadi. "The militants shot at us and they shot our houses," said Saker, describing the intense fighting. "We walked for four days to get to Baghdad." Saker told WFP that this assistance had come at a critical moment. "We left with only our souls. We are very poor, and don't have money to buy food." Once Saker and his family are registered with local authorities, WFP will provide them with a monthly FFP, helping to share the burden.



People from al Baghdadi registering for assistance. Ali Alzubaidi/WFP.

**WFP's emergency food assistance in Iraq is generously supported by Australia, Canada, Denmark, the European Commission, France, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, UN Central Emergency Response Fund, the UK, USA, and private sector donations.**

**The Special Operation is funded by Kuwait and the UK.**

**Iraq: EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR IDPs IN IRAQ** [wfp.org/countries/Iraq](http://wfp.org/countries/Iraq)

