

# IRAQ - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

AUGUST 14, 2019

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**6.7**  
**million**

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Iraq  
UN – November 2018

**4.3**  
**million**

IDP Returns in Iraq Since 2014  
IOM – June 2019

**1.6**  
**million**

IDPs in Iraq  
IOM – June 2019

**478,638**

IDPs in Ninewa Governorate  
IOM – June 2019

**256,058**

Iraqi Refugees in Neighboring Countries  
UNHCR – December 2018

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Forced relocations of Iraqis from IDP camps continue in Anbar and other governorates
- GoI authorities continue to close and consolidate IDP camps
- Returnee populations report poor living conditions in many areas of return due to lack of services, destroyed shelter, and insecurity

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019

USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> \$398,494,933

USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> \$31,692,210

State/PRM<sup>3</sup> \$300,650,383

**\$730,837,526**

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Relief agencies and returnees report that several areas of Iraq remain uncondusive to returns due to ongoing insecurity, damaged or destroyed housing and infrastructure, and a lack of basic services. Despite these concerns, the Government of Iraq (GoI) continues to consolidate and close internally displaced person (IDP) camps, in many instances forcing displaced households to relocate from camps, the UN reports.
- As of June 30, more than 1.6 million people remained displaced within Iraq, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). During May and June, nearly 38,300 IDPs returned to areas of origin in Anbar, Baghdad, Diyala, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa, and Salah al-Din governorates. In total, 4.3 million IDPs had returned to areas of origin in Iraq between January 2014 and June 2019, IOM reports.
- As of July 22, the USG had provided nearly \$232 million in FY 2019 funding to relief agencies to meet the needs of vulnerable populations in Iraq and Iraqi refugees in neighboring countries. Through USG support, partners are providing education, food, health, livelihoods, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance to conflict-affected populations.

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

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

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

## POPULATION DISPLACEMENT AND RETURNS

- IDP camp closures and consolidations initiated by the GoI continued throughout the first half of 2019, with 11 camps closed and five partially consolidated from January to June, according to the UN. In addition, the UN reported forced relocations of displaced populations from IDP camps, particularly in Anbar, during June. Relief agencies continue to express concern regarding the use of threats and intimidation toward IDPs, the presence of military actors in IDP camps, and restrictions on movement and access to services intended to pressure populations to relocate. Humanitarian actors continue to work with GoI authorities to deliver services to IDP and returnee populations, as well as emphasize that any returns should be safe, voluntary, dignified, informed, and sustainable, in accordance with the Principled Returns Framework, which the GoI endorsed in September 2018.
- Despite slow, steady returns in May and June, living conditions in many areas of origin remain unsuitable for returns, with returnees reporting damaged or destroyed housing and infrastructure, limited access to basic services and employment opportunities, low levels of social cohesion within communities, and unsafe conditions due to the presence of armed groups and unexploded ordnance, according to IOM. The UN agency identified particularly severe living conditions in Anbar, Ninewa, and Salah al-Din.
- During a State/PRM visit to Diyala's Al Adhim District in June, returnees reported unsafe living conditions and a lack of basic services throughout the district, including no functioning primary health care facilities. Many female heads of household expressed difficulty accessing legal assistance to register for government services due to income constraints. Additionally, State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reports that approximately 95 percent of shelter in Al Adhim is damaged. With State/PRM funding, UNHCR continues to provide basic services and housing units to returnee households in the area.

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## FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) provided emergency food assistance to approximately 306,000 people—including Iraqi IDPs and returnees, as well as Syrian refugees sheltering in Iraq—across 10 governorates of Iraq in June. WFP continues to coordinate with the GoI to provide complementary food assistance to support GoI distributions, ensuring that in tandem, WFP and the GoI meet approximately 80 percent of nutritional needs of camp-based populations lacking access to income-generating opportunities. More than 40 percent of the UN agency's January–May assistance to IDPs has complemented GoI assistance, a key step in transitioning more food assistance activities to GoI social protection platforms.
- In June, a State/PRM partner supported IDPs and host community members in Dohuk Governorate with livelihoods support activities, including a five-day small business training session for nearly 20 potential business owners from Ninewa's Mosul and Sinjar districts. The training aimed to strengthen business, leadership, and negotiation skills, as well as provide guidance on creating a business plan. Following the training, 98 percent of participants submitted a business plan for a business start-up grant. Since September, the partner has provided business plan training to more than 300 IDPs and host community members; women comprised more than 50 percent of participants.
- From April to June, a State/PRM partner supported agricultural livelihood activities for vulnerable IDPs, returnees, and host community members in Ninewa's Hamdaniya District. The partner distributed agricultural cash-for-work grants to 90 individuals for tasks including cleaning agricultural lands, plowing, and preparation for vegetable planting. The partner also increased access to income-generating opportunities and nutritious foods by training approximately 350 farmers on topics including agricultural practices, business development and financial literacy, greenhouse farming principles, and kitchen gardens. With State/PRM support, the partner provided grants to 110 women working as small livestock herders and trained 520 farmers on fodder management for livestock.

## HEALTH

- USG partners and other relief organizations working through the Health Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian health activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders—conducted 275,000 health consultations and vaccinated nearly 28,700 children ages 9–59 months against measles and polio during May. In addition, Health Cluster partners screened more than 7,700 children ages five years and younger in IDP camps for malnutrition, identifying and subsequently treating more than 200 children experiencing severe acute malnutrition. The agencies also conducted nearly 13,000 health awareness sessions that reached nearly 57,400 people across Iraq during the month.
  - A USAID/OFDA partner is providing primary health care services to conflict-affected communities in Dohuk’s Sumel and Zakho districts and Ninewa’s Sinjar, Tal Afar, and Tal Kayf districts. In June, the organization provided primary health care services for nearly 3,900 camp-based IDPs in Sumel and nearly 3,000 camp-based IDPs in Zakho. The partner also reached more than 1,400 people in Sinjar, nearly 1,700 people in Tal Afar, and nearly 500 people in Tal Kayf with health assistance through mobile medical teams and static primary health care facilities.
  - With USAID/OFDA support, another partner is providing urgent health care services in Hamdaniya. In May, the organization provided nearly 200 mental health consultations through a primary health care center in the district. The partner also supported nearly 30 mental health and psychosocial support (PSS) group sessions and nearly 60 mental health and PSS individual sessions through a mobile medical unit in underserved areas of Hamdaniya’s Bashiqa sub-district, connecting people with existing primary health care centers and facilitating referrals to secondary care. Also in May, another USAID/OFDA partner reached more than 100 people in Hamdaniya and nearly 80 people in Erbil Governorate’s Erbil District through mental health and PSS case management, consultations, referrals, and awareness-raising sessions.
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## PROTECTION

- Displaced Iraqis continue to cope with stresses related to displacement, according to a recent study conducted by the Returns Working Group (RWG) and NGO Social Inquiry in early 2019, surveying more than 800 IDPs across Anbar, Baghdad, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah al-Din, and Sulaimaniya governorates—the areas that host the majority of people displaced since 2014. RWG and Social Inquiry found that, on average, more than 30 percent of surveyed IDPs met the criteria for somatic symptom disorders, more than 20 percent met the criteria for depression, and more than 10 percent met the criteria for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), with mental illness symptoms more prevalent among women than men. Additionally, IDPs residing outside of camps were more likely to experience depression or PTSD than camp-based IDPs, according to the study results.
- Following the survey, the RWG and Social Inquiry recommended that relief actors extend mental health services beyond IDP camps to support out-of-camp IDPs and host community members, as well as bolster social cohesion and reconciliation programs in areas of origin. More than 30 percent of camp-based and out-of-camp IDPs have cited fear or trauma as a primary reason for not returning to areas of origin, according to the RWG. Additionally, the RWG and Social Inquiry noted that increased livelihoods opportunities and sustainable housing solutions remain priorities for displaced populations and could mitigate the negative impact of economic and housing concerns on IDPs’ mental health.
- A USAID/OFDA partner continues to provide PSS services to conflict-affected communities in Dohuk and Ninewa, conducting mental health consultations for more than 70 beneficiaries in June. Additionally, the partner supported more than 50 community facilitators to lead group PSS sessions in the two governorates during the month; 200 people have participated in the group sessions in Ninewa since July 2018.
- With USAID/OFDA support, another partner continues to provide critical protection support to conflict-affected populations in Anbar, Erbil, Ninewa, and Salah al-Din. The partner coordinates with local authorities and IDP camp management staff to reach the most vulnerable populations, particularly women and girls, when providing a range of primary health, mental health and PSS services, as well as gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response interventions. In addition, the organization’s flexible response approach—utilizing mobile medical units—ensures staff

can quickly provide protection services to vulnerable populations, including newly returned households and people without regular access to health facilities.

- With FY 2019 USAID/OFDA funding, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) is also addressing significant protection needs among women and children in Iraq, with a particular focus on the needs of adolescent boys and girls. The UN agency facilitates structured group PSS sessions, assists women and girls to access recreational and vocational activities, and expands the reach of informal education programming for children lacking access to formal schooling. In addition, the UN agency coordinates with other humanitarian actors to identify and mitigate GBV risks across the country, including through engaging existing community structures and networks. UNICEF is also training government and NGO partners to implement a toolkit of evidence-based interventions designed to support adolescent girls’ mental and physical health and improve girls’ access to education, health care, protection, and social support.
- As many areas of Iraq remain contaminated by explosive ordnance, a USAID/OFDA partner continues to conduct explosive hazard risk education for at-risk populations, including community focal points and teachers. In June, the partner conducted risk education sessions for nearly 1,800 people in Ninewa, nearly 1,100 people in Sulaimaniya, and nearly 540 people in Dohuk.
- A State/PRM partner is also providing protection support for more than 3,100 students across Anbar, Baghdad, Diyala, Kirkuk, and Salah al-Din through protection sessions—tailored to the specific needs of each child—in children’s schools and homes. The sessions focus on concerns raised by students, which often include topics such as child labor, displacement, domestic violence, early marriage, and security traveling to and from school. Between April and June, the organization also provided information on GBV and other protection issues to nearly 1,800 parents and teachers through counseling sessions, information sessions, and trainings.
- Between January and March, a State/PRM partner provided legal services—including legal counseling and documentation support—to more than 1,000 Iraqi IDPs in Anbar, Diyala, Dohuk, Ninewa, Salah al-Din, and Sulaimaniya. The partner also conducted more than 100 legal awareness sessions across the governorates, reaching more than 1,800 individuals, and conducted three protection awareness sessions for nearly 30 GoI officials. In addition, the partner provided information on PSS services to more than 1,000 parents and caregivers across Diyala’s Muqadadiya District, Ninewa’s Mosul District, Anbar’s Ramadi District, and Salah al-Din’s Tikrit District.

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## SHELTER

- In June, State/PRM partner the UN Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat) completed activities upgrading streets, water infrastructure, and open spaces in two informal settlements located in Anbar and Ninewa’s Mosul city, supporting 4,800 people. UN-Habitat also conducted multiple waste removal campaigns, disposing several tons of waste; the UN agency engaged some settlement residents in the process through a cash-for-work activity. Additionally, the partner provided waste receptacles for more than 300 residential units in the settlement and informed residents about the importance of proper waste disposal.
- With USAID/OFDA support, a partner is implementing critical shelter programs to support conflict-affected populations in Ninewa. In May, the organization distributed cash grants to more than 100 people in Hamdaniya to support the basic repairs of shelters damaged by armed conflict. The repairs will support nearly 900 people residing in the shelters. The organization is also providing livelihood restoration grants for people in Hamdaniya to revitalize income-generating activities, assisting individuals to re-establish financial independence after the conflict. The partner supported nearly 300 people in the district’s Bartella and Bashiqa sub-districts through livelihood restoration grants during May.

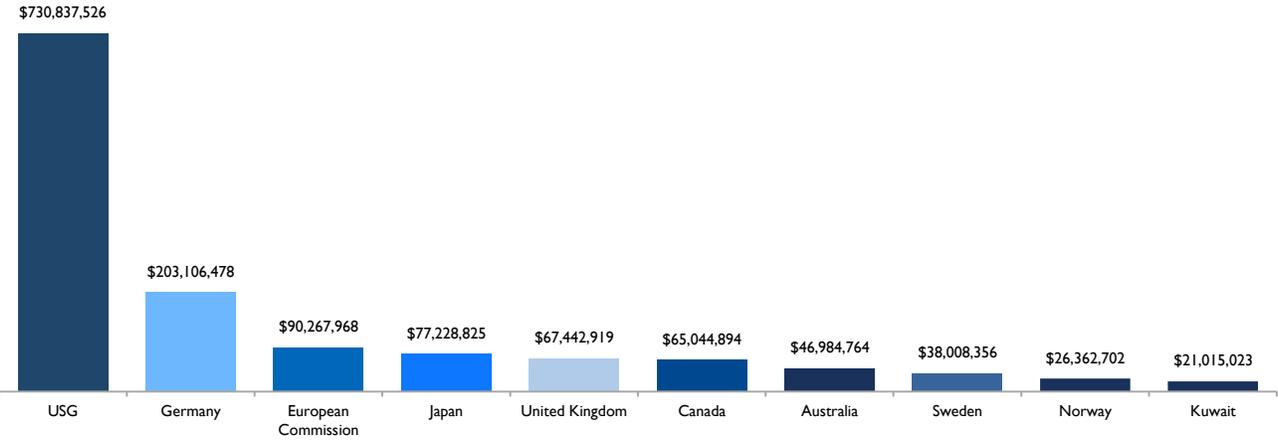
## WASH

- In response to heavy rainfall and subsequent flooding during late March and early April, USG partner UNICEF provided hygiene kits and temporary sanitation facilities to support more than 3,700 affected households in Maysan and Salah al-Din governorates during April and May. UNICEF also facilitated improved access to safe drinking water in other areas from April–May; for example, the UN agency supported the installation of a water compact unit in Baghdad’s Al Kadhmiyah District, improving access to safe drinking water for 3,500 individuals, including 1,600 children. In addition, in Ninewa’s Sheikhan District, UNICEF supported partners to install a hybrid solar-powered generator, providing a sustainable supply of potable water to approximately 7,000 people, including 3,200 children.
  - To ensure that populations in need have access to safe drinking water, a USAID/OFDA partner continues to rehabilitate water infrastructure in communities across Anbar, Kirkuk, Ninewa, and Salah al-Din. From September 2018–March 2019, the partner provided approximately 117,400 people in the four governorates with safe drinking water via water trucking and the rehabilitation of four water infrastructure sites. In addition, the organization reached more than 71,100 people with solid waste management and environmental health activities in 23 IDP camps and collective centers, as well as two out-of-camp locations. The partner also distributed hygiene kits to more than 70,000 individuals during the period.
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## EDUCATION

- Between January and June, State/PRM partner UNICEF supported more than 131,000 children—including nearly 53,100 girls—with improved access to formal and non-formal education in camp and non-camp locations. UNICEF also provided school supplies to more than 44,000 children during the period. In addition, the UN agency continued to provide incentive payments to nearly 350 teachers in Ninewa IDP camps through June, supporting approximately 29,600 children to continue attending classes; UNICEF similarly supported teachers in Anbar, Kirkuk, and Salah al-Din IDP camps with incentive payments through June.
- From April to June, a State/PRM partner supported more than 13,500 students in nearly 30 schools in Baghdad, Dohuk, and Ninewa governorates through school rehabilitation, training for teachers and caregivers, and provision of educational materials. More than 200 members of parent–teacher associations and more than 350 teachers also received training or mentoring, while nearly 2,200 caregivers participated in sponsored school events designed to increase caregivers’ involvement in their children’s education.
- Another State/PRM partner supported more than 4,500 youth to access education and protection services in Anbar, Baghdad, Diyala, Kirkuk, and Salah al-Din governorates between April and June. The organization provided enrollment assistance for families before the start of the upcoming school year. In addition, the partner is supporting more than 2,300 youth in more than 40 GoI Ministry of Education-licensed accelerated learning centers, which are designed to support students who missed school due to conflict or other reasons. Additionally, district-level groups organized by the partner to address community concerns implemented 15 activities, including waste collection, awareness campaigns and teacher training on drug use, and restoring a school well.

**2018–2019 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\***  
PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of August 14, 2019. All international figures are according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect publically announced USG commitments for FY 2018, which began on October 1, 2017. Non-USG funding figures do not necessarily reflect pledges announced during the Iraq donor conference on July 13, 2017.

**CONTEXT**

- The situation within Iraq remained relatively stable until January 2014, when Islamic State of Iraq and Syria 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 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.
- Approximately 6.7 million people in Iraq require humanitarian assistance in 2019, according to the UN. Prolonged displacement is exhausting the resources of IDPs and host community members alike at a time when the capacity of both the GoI and Kurdistan Regional Government to respond to humanitarian needs remains challenged by budgetary constraints. Meanwhile, UN agencies, NGOs, and other relief actors face funding shortages, logistical challenges, and security constraints that complicate efforts to meet critical needs.
- In August 2014, the Interagency Standing Committee (IASC) activated a system-wide Level 3 (L3) response for Iraq due to the pace and volatility of the humanitarian crisis. L3 responses are activated in the most complex humanitarian emergencies, where the highest level of mobilization across the humanitarian system is required to scale up and meet needs. In late December 2017, the IASC downgraded the Iraq emergency from an L3 designation.
- On October 4, 2018, U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Douglas A. Silliman redeclared a disaster in Iraq for FY 2019 due to the ongoing complex emergency and humanitarian crisis.

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019<sup>1</sup>**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Implementing Partners	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM), Monitoring and Evaluation	Countrywide	\$7,714,679
Implementing Partners	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, HCIM, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Multipurpose Cash Assistance, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Anbar, Babil, Baghdad, Diyala, Dohuk, Erbil, Karbala, Kirkuk, Maysan, Muthanna, Ninewa, Qadisiya, Salah al-Din, Sulaimaniya	\$246,990,603
IOM	Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$21,000,000
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$11,000,000
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
UN Development Program (UNDP)	Mosul Dam Preparedness	Countrywide	\$4,744,440
UNICEF	Protection	Countrywide	\$150,000
UNICEF	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Anbar, Basrah, Baghdad, Dohuk, Dhi Qar, Diyala, Erbil, Kirkuk, Maysan, Najaf, Ninewa, Salah al-Din, Sulaimaniya	\$36,800,000
UNICEF	WASH	Basrah	\$750,000 <sup>2</sup>
UNICEF	Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Anbar, Baghdad, Basrah, Dhi Qar, Diyala, Dohuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Qadisiya, Salah al-Din, Sulaimaniya	\$13,000,000
UNICEF	WASH	Anbar, Baghdad, Basrah, Dhi Qar, Dohuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Qadisiya, Salah al-Din, Sulaimaniya	\$17,000,000
UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS)	HCIM	Countrywide	\$1,506,830
UNOPS	HCIM	Countrywide	\$1,389,102
UN World Health Organization (WHO)	Health	Salah al-Din, Kirkuk, Anbar, Ninewa, Dohuk	\$30,300,000
	Program Support		\$4,649,279
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$398,494,933</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
Implementing Partner	Monitoring and Evaluation	Countrywide	\$192,210
Implementing Partner	Multipurpose Cash Assistance	Anbar, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah al-Din	\$4,000,000
WFP	Cash-Based Transfers for Food, Local and Regional Food Procurement	Countrywide	\$27,500,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$31,692,210</b>
<b>STATE/PRM<sup>4</sup></b>			
Implementing Partners	Advocacy and Reconciliation, Capacity Building for Government, Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Durable Solutions, Education, Emergency Response, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$78,564,456

Implementing Partners	Capacity Building for Government, CCCM, Education, Emergency Response, Livelihoods, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey	\$9,195,927
IOM	Advocacy and Reconciliation, Capacity Building, Durable Solutions, HCIM, Livelihoods	Countrywide	\$23,000,000
IOM	Emergency Relief, HCIM	Turkey	\$300,000
UNHCR	CCCM, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$147,300,000
UNHCR	Durable Solutions, Emergency Response, Health, HCIM, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Multipurpose Cash Assistance, Multi-Sector Assistance, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Jordan, Lebanon, Syria	\$35,600,000
UNICEF	Education	Countrywide	\$5,190,000
UN Human Settlement Program	Capacity Building for Government, Durable Solutions, Livelihoods, Shelter and Settlements	Anbar, Basrah, Ninewa	\$1,500,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$300,650,383</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019</b>			<b>\$730,837,526</b>

#### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2014–2019

<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>	<b>\$942,677,188</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>	<b>\$213,735,726</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>	<b>\$1,215,701,666</b>
<b>TOTAL DOD FUNDING<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>\$77,357,233</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2014–2018</b>	<b>\$2,449,471,813</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of July 22, 2019.

<sup>2</sup> Funding represents the FY 2018 USAID/OFDA contribution provided in response to the September 10, 2018, disaster declaration for a health emergency in Basrah.

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

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

## 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](http://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, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.661.7710.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://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>