



IRAQ - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #5, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

6.7 million

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

4.35 million

IDP Returns in Iraq Since 2014
IOM – August 2019

1.55 million

IDPs in Iraq
IOM – August 2019

240,542

Iraqi Refugees in Neighboring Countries
UNHCR – June 2019

HIGHLIGHTS

- UN calls on GoI to improve coordination amid IDP camp closures and relocations
- USAID/FFP partner WFP supports transition of food assistance to GoI
- Access constraints delay and disrupt humanitarian operations, affecting 336,000 people in August

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2019

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$221,899,166
USAID/FFP ²	\$33,000,000
State/PRM ³	\$215,683,525
\$470,582,691	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Relief agencies continue to express concern regarding forced returns and coerced movements of internally displaced persons (IDPs) as the Government of Iraq (GoI) consolidates and closes IDP camps throughout the country. In late August, the GoI began consolidating and closing Ninewa Governorate IDP camps, resulting in the relocation of nearly 10,200 households—representing 27 percent of all Ninewa camp IDPs—as of September 29, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Relief actors report poor communication between local authorities on the relocation process, lack of advance notice to humanitarian organizations and IDPs, and—in some cases—forced or coerced movements.
- IOM recently reported—via its State/PRM-funded Data Tracking Matrix—a decrease in the number of IDPs countrywide, from nearly 1.61 million IDPs in June to approximately 1.55 million IDPs in August. Approximately 4.35 million people had returned to areas of origin between January 2014 and August 2019, IOM reports.
- In FY 2019, the U.S. Government (USG) provided nearly \$470.6 million in funding to address the humanitarian needs of vulnerable populations in Iraq, as well as Iraqi refugees in neighboring countries. With USG funding, humanitarian partners are providing education, food, health, livelihoods, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance to conflict-affected populations.

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)

POPULATION DISPLACEMENT AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- Ninewa authorities relocated nearly 10,200 households from IDP camps to areas of origin in Anbar, Kirkuk, and Salah al-Din governorates—as well as other IDP camps and third locations—in late August. These relocations occurred despite security concerns, damaged or destroyed houses, and a lack of basic services in areas of origin, according to humanitarian agencies. Relief agencies expressed concern about a lack of communication with IDPs regarding relocation plans and inadequate coordination between Ninewa officials and authorities in other governorates throughout the relocation process. In response, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Marta Ruedas issued a statement in early September calling for increased coordination among GoI authorities and emphasizing 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.
- In September 2019, IOM published results from the fourth round of a five-part, State/PRM-funded study that began in March 2016. The study, which IOM is conducting in partnership with Georgetown University, analyzes displacement trends and durable solutions for return, reintegration, or resettlement among 4,000 households internally displaced by the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) between January 2014 and December 2015 and not living in camps. IOM reports that the findings of the study generalize to non-camp IDPs originally from Anbar, Babil, Baghdad, Diyala, Kirkuk, Ninewa, and Salah al-Din governorates who were displaced to Baghdad, Basrah, Kirkuk, and Sulaimaniya governorates. The report looks specifically at a subset of IDPs who have moved multiple times between districts but not back to their areas of origin. Rather than the typical safety and security concerns that often drive protracted displacement in Iraq, the majority of these households cited access to employment and livelihoods as their primary concerns. Additionally, more than 75 percent of the households reported the ability to meet basic needs, reflecting a positive trend. More than 40 percent of households reported employment in the informal sector as their main source of income, indicating that access to formal employment remains a challenge.
- Relief agencies reported nearly 100 access incidents across 17 districts in central and northern Iraq during July and August, the majority of which occurred in Ninewa, according to the UN. However, the UN noted that the actual number of incidents is likely higher, as instances of local authorities requesting that relief agencies produce additional documentation occur so frequently that many humanitarian organizations no longer report these incidents. Delays or interruptions to humanitarian operations as a result of the access incidents—primarily restrictions on the movement of personnel or goods or interference in humanitarian activities—affected an estimated 95,000 people in July and 336,000 people in August, the UN reports.
- On August 27, the GoI Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MoMD) announced the return of more than 90 Iraqi refugees from Turkey as part of its voluntary returns program. The MoMD launched the program in 2018 to encourage the return of refugees who fled during ISIS occupation, according to local media. The MoMD coordinated the returns with GoI officials in Turkey and the GoI Ministry of Transportation, which provided buses to transport Iraqis from Turkey to Dohuk Governorate's Zakho District. More than 1,200 Iraqi refugees returned from Turkey between June and August through the program, the MoMD reports.

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- In September, USAID/FFP contributed more than \$13.7 million to the UN World Food Program (WFP) to assist an estimated 291,000 food-insecure IDPs across nine governorates through cash transfers for food, food vouchers, and regionally-procured food baskets. USAID/FFP also contributed more than \$4.2 million to an implementing partner to provide multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) benefiting an estimated 48,500 food-insecure people—including more than 11,800 IDPs—in Anbar, Ninewa, and Salah al-Din. In FY 2019, USAID/FFP contributed \$33 million to assist food-insecure populations throughout Iraq.
- With \$500,000 in USAID/FFP assistance, WFP also continues to pilot an electronic platform to streamline food assistance distribution provided by the GoI Ministry of Trade's (MoT) Public Distribution System (PDS)—one of the GoI's social safety net programs. As part of this pilot project to help modernize the PDS, which will enable displaced individuals to more easily update their location information and receive PDS distributions in their location of

displacement, WFP conducted the first electronic distribution of food vouchers in Dohuk and Najaf governorates and the second electronic vouchers in Baghdad Governorate in July. In addition, WFP continues to coordinate and build capacity with the MoMD to complement their food distributions and with the MoT to help transition beneficiaries from humanitarian assistance to the PDS. From March to July, WFP reported that supplementing MoMD rations—rather than acting as the sole provider of emergency food assistance—resulted in cost savings of \$2.3 million.

- From September 2018 to June 2019, a State/PRM partner supported livelihood activities—such as cash-for-work programs, farming and gardening, livestock maintenance, and small business support—for nearly 2,300 people in Dohuk. In Ninewa, the partner reached nearly 1,600 individuals through three similar livelihoods programs. The program aims to foster sustainable returns and economic resilience by restoring pre-conflict livelihoods for IDPs, returnees, and host community members, including ethnic and religious minorities.

PROTECTION AND SHELTER

- A lack of government-issued identity documents is preventing many IDPs living in formerly ISIS-controlled areas from accessing public services, according to a September report by the Danish Refugee Council, International Rescue Committee, and Norwegian Refugee Council. More than 80,000 households reported having at least one family member—including more than 45,000 children—denied access to livelihood opportunities and public services, including education, health, and housing services, due to insufficient identification. The report recommends that the GoI, donors, and relief agencies advocate access to cash-for-work programming, documentation, and legal assistance to support individuals in obtaining proper documentation and livelihoods.
- During July, a USAID/OFDA partner trained more than 100 people on legal topics—including legal rights and administrative procedures for accessing the courts—and provided legal representation for approximately 50 people in Ninewa’s Mosul and Tal Kayf districts. The partner also reached more than 1,200 children with recreational and psychosocial support (PSS) activities and provided training on basic protection topics, such as accessing protection services and caregiving for young children in distress, for approximately 70 people in the districts.
- USAID/OFDA also continues to support a non-governmental organization (NGO) to raise awareness on the risks of unexploded ordnance and other explosive hazard contamination, which remain a barrier to return for many IDPs. During July, the NGO provided explosive hazard risk education to more than 2,300 people, including IDPs, in Ninewa’s Hamdaniya, Sheikhan, Sinjar, and Tal Kayf districts. Additionally, the partner trained nearly 50 community focal points in the districts on delivering mine risk education and reporting on explosive hazards.
- State/PRM continues to support a partner addressing protection needs and promoting self-reliance and social cohesion at three community centers in Dohuk, Erbil, and Ninewa governorates; the community centers support IDPs, refugees, and host community members, including members of ethnic and religious minorities. From April to June, the State/PRM partner provided PSS for more than 400 people and legal assistance, including civil documentation support, to more than 100 people at the community centers. In addition, the organization provided gender-based violence (GBV) prevention training to community members and nearly 60 staff from other organizations working in other sectors, including WASH and education. The organization also assessed GBV risks and mitigation measures in the three communities to inform Protection Cluster activities. Additionally, the partner convened eight peaceful coexistence committee meetings; the committees, which aim to build community relations and foster community cohesion, reached 120 people through three social cohesion activities during the period.
- From July 2018 to June 2019, State/PRM partner the UN Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat) continued engaging with GoI representatives and local partner staff to implement cash-for-work programming in informal settlements in Anbar’s Ramadi District, Basrah’s Basrah District, and Ninewa’s Mosul District. The programs—including construction of safe drinking water networks—benefit approximately 6,600 people living in the informal settlements who were unable to return to their homes in the area. In partnership with the Camp Consolidation and Camp Management Cluster, Shelter Cluster, GoI Ministry of Planning, and MoMD, UN-Habitat provided training and legal and planning assistance for implementing camp management programs and integrating IDPs into urban

areas. UN-Habitat also partnered with a local NGO to implement sanitation programming benefitting nearly 5,200 people, as well as clean and maintain more than six miles of secondary roads in the areas.

HEALTH AND WASH

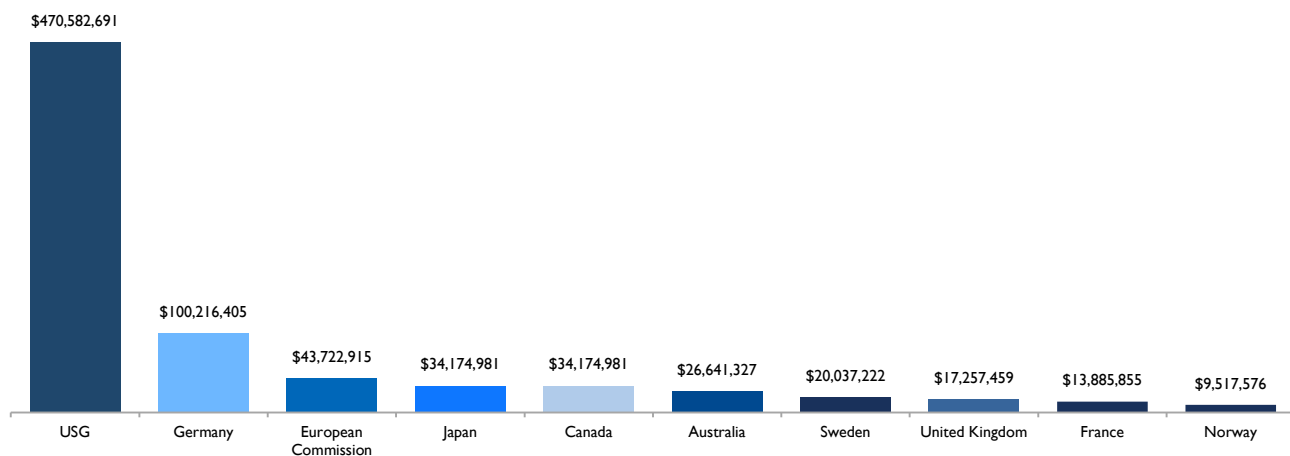
- USG partner the UN World Health Organization (WHO) continues to strengthen disease surveillance capacity in Iraq. WHO maintains more than 160 Early Warning, Alert and Response Network (EWARN) reporting sites and responded to approximately 30 disease surveillance alerts in Dohuk, Erbil, and Sulaimaniya between September 2018 and June 2019. WHO also built disease surveillance technical capacity by training nearly 130 health care staff from Dohuk and Erbil on the EWARN system during the reporting period. Participants included staff from GoI Department of Health and GoI Ministry of Health surveillance units, as well as representatives from other health care agencies, hospitals, mobile medical clinics, primary health care centers, and refugee camps.
- In FY 2019, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$51.9 million to support WASH activities across Iraq. For example, with USAID/OFDA support, a partner provided safe drinking water to nearly 3,200 people through water trucking in Ninewa’s Nimrud IDP camp and conducted hygiene awareness sessions in Hamdaniya and Tal Kayf for nearly 2,000 people in July. During August and early September, a USAID/OFDA partner also continued providing critical WASH services in Ninewa’s Hammam al-Alil and As Salamyiah IDP camps. The organization completed construction of more than 40 emergency latrines, including access ramps for persons with disabilities, at the two IDP camps during the period. In addition, the partner is supporting construction of two water storage tanks at As Salamyiah IDP camp.

EDUCATION

- State/PRM supported the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to increase access to formal and non-formal education for more than 136,000 children in camps and non-camp settings across Iraq from January to July. During the same period, UNICEF provided school supplies to more than 46,000 children. A shortage of teachers in IDP camps continued to limit education programs for displaced children. In response, UNICEF provided incentives to hire nearly 350 volunteer teachers in Ninewa to extend school classes for 29,600 children living in IDP camps in the governorate through July, the end of the academic year. The UN agency provided similar incentives in camps in Anbar, Kirkuk, and Salah al-Din, reaching more than 650 additional teachers.

2019 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING*

PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of September 30, 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 publicly announced USG commitments for FY 2019, which began on October 1, 2018.

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.
- In August 2014, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee 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 August 11, 2014, USAID deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to Iraq to coordinate USG efforts to address the urgent humanitarian needs of newly displaced populations throughout the country. USAID also established a Response Management Team (RMT) based in Washington, D.C., to support the DART. DART and State/PRM staff worked closely with local officials, the international community, and humanitarian actors to identify critical needs and expedite assistance to affected populations. On August 31, 2019, USAID demobilized the DART and RMT. USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP staff based in the region—including experts who served on the DART—and in Washington, D.C., continue to coordinate with USG, UN, and other humanitarian partners to provide life-saving assistance in Iraq.
- 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.
- 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 2019¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA			
Implementing Partner (IP)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM)	Countrywide	\$1,800,000
IPs	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, HCIM, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Anbar, Babil, Baghdad, Basrah, Dhi Qar, Diyala, Dohuk, Erbil, Karbala, Kirkuk, Maysan, Muthanna, Ninewa, Qadisiya, Salah al-Din, Sulaimaniya, Wasit	\$136,326,043
IOM	Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Anbar, Baghdad, Diyala, Karbala, Kirkuk, Najaf, Ninewa, Salah al-Din	\$19,000,000
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
UN Development Program	Mosul Dam Preparedness/Natural and Technological Risks	Countrywide	\$4,744,440
UNICEF	Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Anbar, Baghdad, Basrah, Dhi Qar, Diyala, Dohuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Qadisiya, Salah al-Din, Sulaimaniya	\$30,000,000
UN Office for Project Services	HCIM	Countrywide	\$1,389,102
WHO	Health	Anbar, Dohuk, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah al-Din	\$24,000,000
	Program Support		\$3,139,581
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$221,889,166

USAID/FFP ³			
IP	MPCA	Anbar, Ninewa, Salah al-Din	\$4,240,000
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food; Complementary Services; Local, Regional, and International Food Procurement	Countrywide	\$28,760,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$33,000,000
STATE/PRM ⁴			
IPs	Capacity Building, Durable Solutions, Education, Emergency Response, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$55,670,344
IOM	Capacity Building, Durable Solutions, HCIM, Livelihoods	Countrywide	\$23,000,000
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$97,900,000
UNICEF	Education	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
IPs	CCCM, Education, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey	\$15,713,181
UNHCR	Education, Emergency Response, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Jordan, Lebanon, Syria	\$21,400,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$215,683,525
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2019			\$470,582,691

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FYs 2014–2019

TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING²	\$1,018,848,381
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING	\$232,235,726
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING	\$1,359,772,808
TOTAL DOD FUNDING⁵	\$77,357,233
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FYs 2014–2019	\$2,688,214,148

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, 2019.

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

³ 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.

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.

⁵ 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.
- 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.
 - 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>