



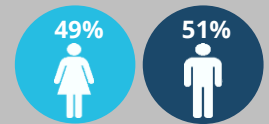
World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

## WFP Iraq Country Brief

## In Numbers

**717,399 people assisted**  
in April 2022



**US\$7.43 million** distributed in April 2022 through cash-based transfers

**US\$38.9 million** six months net funding requirements (May – October 2022)

### Operational Context

In Iraq, intermittent conflict and impact of climate change continue to affect the lives of people of Iraq. In the post-conflict context, there are approximately 1.2 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 4.1 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. Insecurity, lack of livelihoods, and destroyed or damaged housing hamper people's ability to return home. WFP Iraq's assistance focuses on saving lives, changing lives: supporting the Government of Iraq's social protection work towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2: Zero Hunger. Iraq's progress on the SDGs has been hindered by the challenges of rebuilding infrastructure in areas affected by conflict with ISIL, economic shocks caused by COVID-19, weak institutions and governance, climate change, delayed implementation of reforms and inadequate opportunities for youth. The government articulated its development vision and agenda in its National Development Plan and an ambitious economic reform agenda.

WFP Iraq's Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2020-2024 has an all-encompassing goal of supporting the government to accelerate progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, shifting WFP's role from implementing to enabling and capacity strengthening. This is critical in transitioning from crisis response to resilience building, and longer-term peace and development. The rainfall season 2020-21 was one of the driest in the past 40 years, which resulted in a crop failure in rainfed areas. Compared to the previous season, 38 percent lower production is forecast in 2020-21. Recent climate modelling reveals that Iraq is projected to experience record high temperature and reduced precipitation, coupled with water and soil salinity, especially in southern Iraq and this will negatively impact the livelihood of vulnerable populations.



Population: **41.2 million**  
(UNFPA 2021)

Poverty rate: 24.8% (Ministry of Planning, World Bank, 2021)

2020 Human Development Index:  
**123 of 189** (lowest)

**1.2 million** IDPs (IOM)  
**258,965** Syrian refugees in Iraq (UNHCR)

### Operational Updates

- In April, WFP provided cash and food assistance to 183,990 internally displaced persons (IDPs), 69,410 refugees, and 13,806 people from vulnerable communities through resilience building initiatives. Through the School Feeding Programme, WFP supported 450,193 children.
- As part of its ongoing resilience-building work, WFP is currently in the process of designing enhanced inclusive and sustainable resilience and livelihood activities that support people through economic empowerment, rehabilitation of rural livelihoods and engaging in policy making and partnerships. Some of the key partners WFP is engaging with include Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Water Resources. Further partnerships are being developed with UN partners such as: UNICEF, ILO, IOM, FAO and UN Women.
- WFP alongside its strategic partner, the Ministry of Planning, formed the Technical Committee on Single Registry and Digitalization, which will lead and provide guidance on the social protection reforms in Iraq and serve as a discussion platform among key stakeholders on matters pertaining to digitalization and related activities in an efficient, streamlined manner. The Single Registry approach foresees establishing a single common database of families eligible for social welfare support.
- As an extension of WFP's EMPACT programme, which supports youth and women with key digital skills and English language education, providing them with the necessary skills to compete for work opportunities, WFP is collaborating with the United Nations Volunteer Programme (UNV) and the private sector to explore the possibilities of providing internships, and volunteering opportunities for graduates. WFP is also providing support to universities and vocational training centres through the provision of equipment to facilitate their work.

**Contact info:** Saif al-Tatooz (saif.altatooz@wfp.org)  
**Representative:** Ally-Raza Qureshi  
Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/iraq](http://www.wfp.org/countries/iraq)

**Photo Caption:** WFP and UN Women Representatives sign a Memorandum of Understanding to further promote gender equality and women's empowerment in joint projects and research implemented by both organizations in Iraq.

## Country Strategic Plan (CSP, 1 January 2020–31 December 2024)

Total Requirements (USD)	Allocated Contributions 2020-2024 (in USD)
<b>601 m</b>	<b>253 m</b>
Total Requirements for 2022	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (May 2022 – October 2022)
<b>141 m</b>	<b>38.9 m</b>

### Strategic Result 1: Access to food (SDG Target 2.1)

**Strategic Outcome 1 (SO 1):** Crisis-affected people in Iraq, including IDPs and refugees, are able to meet basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises throughout the year

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

**Activities:**

- Provide unconditional food assistance to IDPs, refugees and other crisis-affected people.

### Strategic Result 4: Sustainable food systems (SDG Target 2.4)

**Strategic Outcome 2 (SO 2):** Targeted communities, including farmers, have enhanced livelihoods and increased resilience to shocks by 2024

**Focus area:** Resilience building

**Activities:**

- Provide livelihood support, asset creation and climate adaptation activities, including capacity strengthening, to targeted farmers and communities.

### Strategic Result 5: Capacity strengthening (SDG Target 17.9)

**Strategic Outcome 3 (SO 3):** National and subnational institutions have strengthened capacities and systems for targeting and assisting food-insecure vulnerable people by 2024

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

**Activities:**

- Provide institutional capacity strengthening to government officials and partners.
- Provide support to government officials and partners in enhancing information technology for managing PDS modernization and in strengthening the safety net component of the government social protection system.

- By the end of April, WFP's School Feeding Team alongside cooperating partners began the next phase of the handover of programme implementation to the Iraqi Ministry of Education (MoE). A transfer of assets alongside reporting of activities was conducted in governorates where school feeding is being implemented. WFP will continue providing technical advisory and logistic support to the MoE, hinging on its years of experience in delivering school meals programmes.

- WFP signed a Memorandum of Understanding with UN Women to mainstream gender transformative programmes throughout activity implementation and focus on women's leadership, economic empowerment, social protection, resilience and livelihoods with regards to the impact of climate change, ending violence against women and girls, Women Peace and Security (WPS), gender and humanitarian development peace actions, food security and nutrition, and school-based programming.

- WFP's support to the Ministry of Trade in the form of digitizing and streamlining the Public Distribution System (PDS) continues to develop. WFP's PDS team successfully completed the printing of 24,000 ePDS cards for Al-Ma'amel center and distribution to citizens is being conducted by the Ministry. In addition to that, WFP has supplied the PDS HQ in Baghdad with a solar powered energy system, that provides back-up electricity as a failsafe in the event of a power outage.

- As part of the joint Social Protection Programme with the government and UN partners, WFP conducted several site visits and technical interviews with the Kurdistan Regional Statistics Office in Erbil (KRSO) to assess the current infrastructure and provide plans on future upgrades.

- Mr. Joey Hood, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, recently led a team from the US Consulate in Erbil, alongside Deputy Consul General, Ms. Chahrazad Sioud and the USAID Senior Humanitarian Advisor on a visit to Khanke Camp in Duhok. The visiting delegation met with several displaced families to further understand their situation and needs. The team also met with the camp management as well as WFP and IOM teams to discuss ongoing support for the families.

- In light of the rise in food and fuel prices as a result of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, WFP issued fresh tenders for overland and inland transportation as part of its mitigation measures for the impact that price increases will have on logistical activities for the transportation of food and other items.

## Monitoring and Assessments

- In April, WFP conducted 241 monitoring visits, including 78 cash-out points for IDPs and Syrian refugees, 35 livelihood and resilience sites, 12 e-voucher points, 8 shops, 108 school feeding sites. In addition, 43 monitoring interviews were carried out with people assisted.

## Funding and Pipeline update

- From May, WFP has no funding for its resilience portfolio. Asset Creation, climate change and livelihood programmes will halt if additional funds are not received. WFP requires an additional USD 38.9 million to ensure operations continue without interruption through October. Due to ongoing humanitarian needs and limited funding, WFP's humanitarian assistance will experience a break from August.

## Donors

- WFP thanks all partners for their direct and multilateral contributions including Belgium, Canada, Denmark, European Union, France, Germany, Government of Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, UN Agencies, United States, the World Bank, PepsiCo Foundation, and Individual Donors through #ShareTheMeal.