WFP
World Food Programme

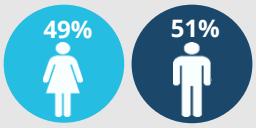
SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

WFP Iraq
Country Brief
November 2022



In Numbers



160,425 people assisted

in November 2022

US$ 2,139,032 cash-based transfers made

US$ 29.3 m six months (December 2022 – May 2023) net funding requirements

Operational Context

Insecurity, lack of livelihoods, and destroyed or damaged housing hamper people's abilities to return home. WFP Iraq's assistance focuses on saving lives, changing lives and supporting the Government of Iraq with social protection reform, youth empowerment, and combatting climate change towards achieving 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, weak institutions and governance, climate change, delayed implementation of reforms and inadequate opportunities for youth.

WFP Iraq is currently shifting its role from emergency response to resilience building and long-term sustainable development. This paradigm shift is critical as Iraq is currently experiencing adverse effects of climate change (the fifth most affected country globally) especially in southern Iraq. The country's two rivers (Tigris and Euphrates) are experiencing reduced rainfall and decreased water levels which increases salinity that, in turn, heavily affects agriculture.



Population: **42.2 million** (UNFPA 2021)

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

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

1.17 million IDPs (IOM)
260,686 Syrian refugees in Iraq (UNHCR)

Operational Updates

- In November, WFP provided cash and food assistance to 127,292 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 33,133 refugees.
- WFP maintains its approach of maximizing the level of assistance within current resourcing levels. WFP completed cash distributions for the month of November in all IDP and refugee camps targeting the most vulnerable people. WFP held focus group discussions at camps to address the concerns with the targeting exercise.
- Under its resilience interventions, WFP alongside local universities, started an outreach process for the EMPACT activities in Erbil Governorate. More than 680 people submitted online applications to join the programme. Courses are due to start by mid-December.
- To support capacity building and create livelihood opportunities in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI), WFP is finalizing an initiative to train 60 fresh graduates from the University of Agriculture in plant nursery and 210 graduates in beekeeping skills and business. The beekeeping project will also take place in the Basra governorate in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, enrolling 400 graduates. The projects are scheduled to commence in January 2023.
- Under the social protection workstream, WFP continues the registration process in the public distribution system (PDS) in Najaf governorate. More than 10,000 people were registered in the PDS during November. WFP also works with the Ministry of Trade on developing technical solutions for the PDS system.
- On 25 November, WFP initiated a number of activities to mark the annual 16 days of Activism against Gender-based Violence (GBV) campaign and the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. Several activities took place including efforts at camps to sensitize people on human and women's rights as well as calling for the prevention of GBV.

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Photo Caption: WFP visits one of its projects in Salah Al-Din Governorate.

WFP Country Strategy

Gender and Age Marker =4

Country Strategic Plan (CSP, 1 January 2020 – 31 December 2024)		
Total Requirements (in US$)	Allocated Contributions (in US$)	Percentage Funded
601m	**296m**	**51%**
2022 Requirements (in US$)	2023 Requirements (in US$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US$) (December – May 2023
141m	**80m**	**29.3m**

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.

Monitoring

- In November, WFP conducted 68 monitoring visits, including 51 cash-out points for IDPs and Syrian refugees, four livelihood and resilience sites, six EMPACT, four e-voucher points, and three shops. In addition, 35 monitoring interviews were carried out with beneficiaries.

- WFP completed the data collection for Food Security Outcome Monitoring in the Syrian refugee camps in KRI and Jadaa 5 camp in Ninawa Governorate. The data analysis is currently under process.

- The data collection for the food security status of refugee households in Jadaa 1 camp has been completed. The results show that food security for the refugee households has stabilized with steady food consumption score, livelihood consumption coping strategy index, and food expenditure share since February 2022. However, these indicators show that 99 percent of households still rely on humanitarian aid to secure food.

- In relation to the decentralized evaluation of the resilience activities, the evaluation team conducted 18 virtual and in-person inception meetings with key stakeholders. The inception report is currently under review for quality assurance.

Challenges

- Funding shortfalls remain the largest challenge to WFP Iraq's activities in 2023 as 51% percent of the funding requirements of the programme are currently covered.

Donors

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