

# IRAQ - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #9, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018

JULY 20, 2018

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**8.7**  
**million**

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

**3.92**  
**million**

IDP Returns in Iraq  
Since 2014  
IOM – July 2018

**1.98**  
**million**

IDPs in Ninewa Governorate  
IOM – July 2018

**613,188**

IDPs in Ninewa Governorate  
IOM – July 2018

**249,641**

Iraqi Refugees in Neighboring Countries  
UNHCR – May 2018

## HIGHLIGHTS

- USAID Administrator Mark Green travels to Iraq to observe USG assistance, meet with minority communities
- IOM records more than 3.9 million IDP returns as of July
- One year after GoI retakes Mosul, explosive hazards, insufficient services remain key challenges

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018

USAID/OFDA <sup>1</sup>	\$300,815,673
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$68,400,000
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$238,748,201

**\$607,963,874**

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- In early July, USAID Administrator Mark Green traveled to Iraq with a U.S. Government (USG) delegation to visit ethnic and religious communities in northern Iraq. During the visit, the delegation met with Yazidi families displaced from Ninewa Governorate's Sinjar District at Dahuk Governorate's Khanke internally displaced person (IDP) camp, political and religious leaders, and faith-based and local non-governmental organization (NGO) representatives to discuss ways that the USG can help facilitate minority communities' safe return to areas of origin.
- As of July 15, nearly 2 million people remained displaced across Iraq, while more than 3.9 million people countrywide had returned to areas of origin and other sites, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Insecurity, damaged or destroyed homes, and a lack of livelihoods opportunities in areas of origin remain primary obstacles to IDP returns. Meanwhile, the humanitarian community continues to engage with the Government of Iraq (GoI) and governorate returns committees (GRCs) to coordinate plans for camp closures and consolidations and advocate for safe, voluntary, and dignified IDP returns.
- Explosive hazard contamination remains a critical threat to returnee populations, particularly in Ninewa's city of Mosul. Between July 10, 2017—when the GoI regained control of the city of Mosul from the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS)—and the beginning of May 2018, an international NGO recorded nearly 130 explosive hazards incidents, more than 80 of which caused nearly 190 civilian casualties.

<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)

## INSECURITY AND POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

- As of July 15, nearly 2 million people remained displaced in Iraq, while more than 3.9 million people countrywide had returned to areas of origin and other sites, according to IOM. Between March and May, IOM surveyed 249,000 displaced households—approximately 1.5 million people—in out-of-camp locations to assess displacement and return trends among out-of-camp populations. Approximately 63 percent of IDPs intend to stay in areas of displacement during the next three to six months. Of households reporting no plans to return to areas of origin in the long term, approximately 22 percent planned to integrate into local communities, where conditions are reportedly safer, IOM reports. Damaged or destroyed homes, a lack of livelihoods opportunities, and insecurity in areas of origin remain primary obstacles to IDP returns.
- The majority of surveyed IDPs—66,800 households, or approximately 401,000 people—originated from Ninewa’s Mosul District, followed by Ninewa’s Sinjar and Tal Afar districts, according to IOM. More than 70 percent of out-of-camp IDPs were sheltering in rented housing, while 16 percent of households were residing with host families; remaining individuals were living in unfinished buildings, schools, and other critical structures. IDPs cited food, health care services, and relief commodities as key humanitarian needs, IOM reports.
- Humanitarian agencies are advocating for effective utilization of GRCs to provide oversight for camp closure and consolidation processes, as the GoI and governorate-level authorities continue to propose camp closures without consulting with GRCs. While advocacy efforts have successfully halted some camp closures and evictions, relief organizations report increasing evictions and forced returns across multiple locations in Anbar, Baghdad, Diyala, and Salah al-Din governorates.
- Relief agencies also remain concerned regarding forced returns and evictions by the GoI and governorate-level authorities for out-of-camp IDP populations. A recent court decision permitting residents to regain possession of privately-owned building complexes in Salah al-Din's Tikrit District has placed approximately 18,000 displaced households who had been sheltering in the buildings at risk of imminent eviction, the UN reports. Local authorities are permitting households to return to areas of origin, relocate to IDP camps in the governorate, or pay rent to remain in Tikrit; however, the majority of IDPs are unable to return to areas of origin due to insecurity, and the IDPs do not wish to relocate to nearby IDP camps, according to the UN.
- Yazidi returns to Sinjar town remain limited, according to IOM. Approximately 52,100 predominantly Yazidi IDPs had returned to Sinjar District as of June; however, less than 20 percent of the returnees returned to areas south of Mount Sinjar, including Sinjar town and surrounding villages, IOM reports. During the July visit to Iraq by USAID Administrator Mark Green, USG representatives met with displaced Yazidi households, as well as political and religious leaders and faith-based and local NGO representatives, to identify potential opportunities for USG assistance to support Yazidi returns to areas of origin in Sinjar.

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## HEALTH AND WASH

- As of mid-July, the UN World Health Organization (WHO) reported that approximately 38 percent of Health Cluster-supported health facilities are at risk of closure by the end of July due to a lack of funds, potentially affecting more than 900,000 people. To date, the 2018 Iraq Humanitarian Response Plan has received only \$8.4 million—approximately 12 percent—of the \$67.4 million requested to address health needs in Iraq. Insufficient funding has prompted health agencies to close more than 20 health care service points to date in 2018.
- During May, a USAID/OFDA partner provided life-saving primary health care services to more than 18,100 people, including displaced populations in out-of-camp and informal settings in Anbar, Baghdad, Ninewa, and Salah al-Din. In addition, the NGO provided critical water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance, such as garbage collection services and hygiene promotion trainings, benefiting approximately 22,000 camp-based IDPs in Anbar and Salah al-Din.
- Another USAID/OFDA partner has increased access to safe drinking water for populations in Mosul city and surrounding areas. Between April 2017 and May 2018, the partner repaired water system infrastructure, benefiting nearly 12,900 households, or approximately 77,300 people, and conducted water trucking services to provide safe

drinking water to an additional 2,000 households—approximately 12,000 people. During the project’s final assessment, approximately 95 percent of surveyed households reported having daily access to safe drinking water as a result of improvements to water supply systems, and a majority of respondents—84 and 74 percent, respectively—reported improved water quality and a reduction in household cases of acute watery diarrhea.

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## PROTECTION

- In June, implementing partners of State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) assessed protection needs in Ninewa’s Sinuni sub-district and Sinjar town. The assessment identified several protection concerns hampering IDP returns to Sinjar, including explosive hazard contamination, limited services, and challenging procedures for approval to return, especially for IDPs in the Iraqi Kurdistan Region (IKR). The assessment also found a high prevalence of child labor and early marriage within the town.
  - In addition, the assessment examined protection needs in Sinuni’s Bir Jary village, where an estimated 100 households—approximately 600 people—have returned from areas of displacement in Iraq and Syria since October 2017. The presence of explosive hazards remains a key risk for returnees, with at least two explosive hazard-related deaths reported in recent weeks. The village also lacks access to food, education services, health care, and safe drinking water; however, the presence of armed groups in the area has limited freedom of movement for village residents, preventing households from accessing basic services in other areas of the sub-district and prompting some to travel to Syria to meet basic needs.
  - In May, a UNHCR partner conducted assessments in Mosul city’s Aghwat and Alzahraa neighborhoods to identify protection risks and challenges faced by women and children. Key concerns reported include a prevalence of child labor—including engagement in dangerous activities—and harassment of women and girls by male residents and local police officers. The assessment also identified approximately 500 children with disabilities living in the neighborhoods. In addition, the partner organization reports that in the Alzahraa neighborhood, approximately 40 households—approximately 240 people—with alleged ties to extremist groups are sheltering in an unfinished building, and that the women and children are particularly vulnerable to abuse, exploitation, and violence by other residents in the area.
  - From December 2017 to March 2018, a State/PRM partner supported more than 1,100 IDPs in camps and urban locations across Iraq with legal counseling on issues related to civil documentation and housing, land, and property rights, as well as provided targeted legal assistance to more than 550 people. Additionally, the partner increased access to gender-based violence (GBV) services in Erbil and Kirkuk governorates. During the reporting period, the partner provided more than 2,200 people with gender-based violence (GBV) case management, recreational activities, and psychosocial support services and reached more than 2,300 people with GBV awareness-raising sessions. The program also trained nearly 30 community members on GBV prevention and response and strengthened the capacity of local service providers.
  - Between January and March, UNHCR provided legal counseling and representation, as well as legal documentation support, to 15,500 IDPs and conducted protection monitoring benefitting 71,100 people. Additionally, UNHCR conducted awareness-raising sessions for 400 people and trainings with 250 protection actors on sexual and gender-based violence prevention and response. UNHCR also conducted sessions on maternal health for nearly 5,700 people and reached more than 1,600 children with information sessions on topics including personal hygiene and children’s rights.
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## FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- Iraq’s 2018 cereal harvest will likely be 11 percent lower than the 2017 harvest and nearly 17 percent lower than the 2013–2017 average, according to a late June UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) projection. Irregular rainfall in late 2017; conflict-related disruptions to planting; shortages and consequent price spikes for fertilizers, fuel,

and pesticides; and damage to agricultural equipment and irrigation systems—particularly in cereal-producing Ninewa and Salah al-Din—will likely contribute to the anticipated decline in cereal production, according to FAO.

- FAO reports that Iraq will need to import nearly 4.4 million metric tons (MT) of cereals between July 2018 and June 2019 to compensate for the lower domestic production; the forecasted import requirement remains comparable to 2017–2018, but approximately 18 percent higher than the five-year average of nearly 3.7 million MT.
- In May, USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) and its implementing partners provided more than 4,400 MT of emergency food assistance and \$3.6 million in cash transfers for food to approximately 600,000 food-insecure people Iraq. The assistance included immediate response rations—each sufficient to support a five-person household for approximately five days—for nearly 390 Iraqi households, or approximately 1,950 people, and family food rations—each sufficient to support the needs of a five-person household for one month—for nearly 65,700 households, or approximately 328,000 people. WFP also concluded the first phase of its school feeding program in May, reaching approximately 90,000 children across nearly 90 schools with emergency school meals. WFP plans to expand the program to additional schools at the start of the 2018/2019 school year in September.

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## EDUCATION

- Between December 2017 and March 2018, a State/PRM partner organization reached nearly 7,900 conflict-affected children through basic education services across nearly 20 schools throughout Baghdad, Dahuk, and Ninewa governorates. In addition, the partner trained more than 250 teachers and school administrators in social and emotional learning to support the psychosocial needs of children. At 13 schools, administrators also conducted social and emotional learning assessments to identify training needs.
- From January–March, State/PRM partner the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) delivered teaching and learning supplies to support education services for more than 63,500 children across Iraq. In March, UNICEF provided furniture to eight IDP camps in Sulaimaniya Governorate, improving learning spaces for approximately 7,000 children, and installed tented schools in two camps. In Anbar, UNICEF provided transport incentives to support nearly 100 teachers providing education services in camps and supported nearly 50 schools to implement school improvement plans.
- Another State/PRM partner is supporting displaced children, particularly girls and young women, to access education in Iraq. Since September 2017, the partner has provided administrative or psychosocial assistance to more than 3,400 youth, provided mediation services to support 380 girls to enroll in school, and supported 2,300 students to enroll in accelerated learning centers, which the partner established in coordination with the GoI Ministry of Education. In addition, community education groups—originally established by the partner organization to address local education needs—have continued to implement education-focused initiatives beyond the initial program, such as providing food assistance to low-income students, implementing waste disposal services in schools, and providing supplies to schools.

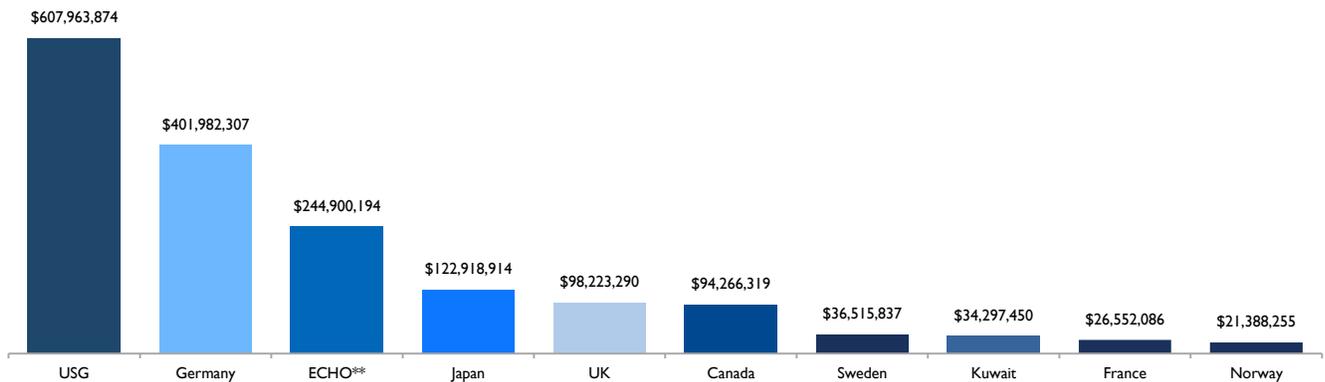
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## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- In mid-July, the Government of Norway announced expanded support for mine clearance efforts in Iraq and Syria, increasing assistance from approximately \$13.5 million in 2017 to \$18.9 million in 2018. The assistance will support explosive hazard mapping, risk management training, and explosive hazard clearance to improve humanitarian access and create conditions for safe IDP returns. In Iraq, the bulk of the assistance will support mine clearance programs in the city of Mosul, where extensive explosive hazard contamination remains a significant barrier to returns.
- The 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan for Iraq, released in March, requests \$569 million to support approximately 3.4 million of the estimated 8.7 million people in need countrywide. As of July 20, international donors had contributed approximately \$308.2 million towards the appeal, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service (FTS).

## 2017-2018 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of July 20, 2018. All international figures are according to OCHA's FTS 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 2017, which spanned October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017, and 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.

\*\*European Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civilian Protection (ECHO)

### 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 IKR, 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 in Iraq 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.
- The UN estimates that 8.7 million people in Iraq will require humanitarian assistance in 2018. Prolonged displacement is exhausting the resources of IDPs and host community members alike at a time when serious budgetary shortfalls due to low global oil prices are limiting the capacity of both the GoI and Kurdistan Regional Government to respond to humanitarian needs. 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 deactivated the L3 response, signaling the beginning of a scale-down process for humanitarian operations.
- On October 7, 2017, U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Douglas A. Silliman re-declared a disaster in Iraq for FY 2018 due to the ongoing complex emergency and humanitarian crisis.

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018<sup>1</sup>**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
NGO Partners	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$173,169,803
IOM	Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$29,000,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
UN Development Program (UNDP)	Natural and Technological Risks	Countrywide	\$2,975,185
UNICEF	Protection, WASH	Anbar, Baghdad, Dahuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah al-Din, Sulaimaniya	\$36,002,000
UNICEF	Logistic Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
WFP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,934,400
WHO	Health	Anbar, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah al-Din	\$50,070,508
	Program Support		\$2,663,777
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$300,815,673</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
Implementing Partner	Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$3,400,000
WFP	Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$65,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$68,400,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM<sup>4</sup></b>			
NGO Partners	Education, Livelihoods, Protection	Iraq, Jordan, Syria	\$35,398,201
Implementing Partner	Food Assistance, Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, WASH	Countrywide	\$36,300,000
International Labor Organization (ILO)	Livelihoods	Turkey	\$1,000,000
IOM	Displacement Tracking Matrix, Livelihoods and Social Cohesion	Countrywide	\$20,750,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector	Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey	\$137,900,000
UNICEF	Education	Countrywide	\$6,400,000
UN Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat)	Shelter	Anbar, Baghdad, Diyala, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah al-Din	\$1,000,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$238,748,201</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018</b>			<b>\$607,963,874</b>

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2014–2018**

<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>	<b>\$550,759,376</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>	<b>\$182,043,516</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>	<b>\$915,051,283</b>

<b>TOTAL DOD FUNDING</b>	<b>\$77,357,233</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2014–2018</b>	<b>\$1,725,211,408</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 February 9, 2018.

<sup>3</sup> USAID/FFP funding supports humanitarian programming benefiting 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.

## **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, dietary, 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>