



Iraq

2015 Second Quarterly Operational Briefing

Presentation to the WFP Executive Board

05 May 2015 – WFP Auditorium

Humanitarian Situation

- An estimated 5.2 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, including 2.7 million IDPs and 2.2 million inaccessible to humanitarian agencies.
- The ongoing conflict has compounded the already fragile political and humanitarian situation in Iraq, and has limited humanitarian access to several governorates where needs are critical. Access to the estimated 3.6 million people in areas under the control of ISIL and affiliated armed groups is restricted.
- Priority needs are food, medicine, water, shelter and fuel.
- Intense conflict and blocked supply routes are causing a spike in food prices and driving down wages in Salah al-Din, Ninewa, Kirkuk and Anbar governorates as identified by WFP remote monitoring (mVAM). This is likely to negatively affect food security for the whole population particularly because Ninewa and Salah al-Din are the breadbasket of Iraq, accounting for over 30% of wheat production in the country.

Security Situation

- Fierce fighting continues in Anbar governorate between ISIL militants and progovernment forces, which include Iraqi army and police, Sunni tribes, Shiite militia groups, and coalition air forces. The recent escalation of military operations in Anbar has caused displacements of about 114,000 people.
- Clashes between Iraqi Kurdish Peshmerga troops and ISIL fighters continue to erupt in Ninewa and Kirkuk governorate.
- Almost 1,000 deaths were recorded by United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) in March, including around 730 civilians. Approximately 12,000 people were killed in 2014, corresponding to the worst levels of violence since 2006–2007.
- Access to Anbar and Salah al-Din governorates, in addition to parts of Kirkuk, Diyala and Ninewa governorates, remains a challenge for WFP due to ongoing violence and road closures.
- In general, this is an ongoing conflict that is expected to continue, specially in the northern and western parts of the country.

Border Crossing Point

Port

Area Office

Sub Office

Refugee Camp

Development

IDP Camp Under

Road Supply Route

Road Supply Route

(Limited Access)

Currently Closed Supply Route Major Town

Small Town

Intermediate Town

Governorate Boundary



Contact: hq.gis@wfp.org

Website: www.wfp.org Prepared by: HQ, OSEP GIS

IRO_OperationOverview_A3L

Framework of Interventions

EMOP 200677 – Emergency Assistance to Populations Affected by the Iraq Crisis (01 April 2014 – 31 December 2015)

PRRO 200035 – Support for Vulnerable Groups (01 August 2010 – 31 December 2015)

SO 200746 – Logistics Cluster and Emergency Telecommunications Support in Iraq (01 July 2014 – 31 December 2015)

Activities

Emergency response/RRM/IRRs (EMOP)

WFP and UNICEF collaborate in a Rapid Response Mechanism, with five INGOs. Immediate Response Rations (portable, ready-to-eat food for three days), UNICEF hygiene kits and bottled water are pre-positioned to assist newly arrived or moving families.

Family food parcels (EMOP)

For temporarily settled IDPs who have access to cooking facilities, or food insecure people living in conflict-affected areas, WFP distributes a one-month family food parcel. Commodities include wheat flour, lentils, rice, sugar and vegetable oil.

Food vouchers (EMOP)

An alternative to the family food parcel, in urban/peri-urban areas where markets are stable, WFP assists people with monthly food vouchers (paper system). The value of these has been reduced from USD26 to USD16.

School meals (PRRO)

Collaborating with the Ministries of Health and Education, provincial authorities, teachers and parents, WFP conducts a pilot school meals programme in the southern governorate of Thi-Qar. Some 21,000 students in 74 primary schools receive locally-procured meals every school day.

Operational Priorities

- Cost-cutting to make available resources go further, and beginning targeting activities to ensure that the most vulnerable are being properly safeguarded.
- Continuing to monitor the Government of Iraq (GoI)'s Public Distribution System, which is supposed to provide a monthly food ration to all Iraqis. However, this will not work in areas under the control of ISIL.
- Working with the Ministry of Trade to share responsibilities for food assistance, and encouraging use of the Public Distribution System to provide food assistance to IDPs.
- Ensuring funding for contingency stocks, in order to respond to new mass displacements which may occur for 2015 (Mosul, other large ISIL-controlled towns and cities).
- Piloting an electronic voucher scheme using WFP's SCOPE platform, to increase efficiency and longer-term cost savings.

Priority groups:

- **1. IDPs:** People in camps; people in host families; transient displaced.
- 2. Food insecure people living in areas affected by conflict.

Monitoring

Monitoring sites:

Some of the affected areas are UN "no-go" (Level 6 Security); the humanitarian community, including WFP, has had to set up and rely on third-party monitoring, particularly for the outcome monitoring.

Results measurement:

- Monthly pre-assistance baseline survey for all newly arrived IDPs across governorates.
- The Second Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) survey will be conducted by a Third Party Monitoring Agent from April 2015, to further inform WFP on outcomes results of: Household Food Consumption Score and Coping Strategy Index.
- Food and food vouchers are distributed monthly, as reflected in the monthly Food Distribution report. This records the number of beneficiaries reached, quantity of food assistance as well as value of vouchers.

Process Monitoring:

- On-site Monitoring is conducted monthly for both voucher and food distributions, in order to ensure the process of distribution continues to meet WFP standards.
- In the framework of Communicating with Communities, WFP holds regular consultations with affected people. Their feedback on assistance is used to inform WFP programming.

Monitoring

Remote monitoring:

- To document the impact of the conflict on food security, WFP began using in January remote data collection through live telephone surveys, collecting basic food security data from the population.
- In March 2015, WFP's mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping team (mVAM) conducted its first round of household food security monitoring using live telephone interviews throughout Iraq.
- In addition to monitoring household food security, WFP has been collecting market information in central and northern governorates of Iraq, using live telephone interviews (in partnership with Islamic Relief and Muslim Aid).

ACCESS

Access Constraints

- Continuing fighting in central and western Iraq is limiting humanitarian access to effected people, whilst large swathes of Iraq are still classed as security Level 6 or UN 'no-go' areas. These include the whole of Anbar and Ninewa governorates.
- WFP seeks to diversify its partner base in certain governorates, in order to expand its options for securing access and reduce reliance on key partners.
- Food is delivered overland from Turkey via the northern corridor. To diversify the supply chain and reduce reliance on a single corridor, WFP has tested the sea port of Basrah and the Iranian corridor.

ESOURCING

Operational Requirements

PROJECT	BUDGET (USD)	PLANNED BENEFICIARIES	RECEIVED (USD)	CURRENT SHORTFALLS (USD)
EMOP 200677 (April 2014 – December 2015)	419,511,769	1.8 million	244,626,375	174,885,394
PRRO 200035 (April 2010 – December 2015)	96,624,986	21,000	74,968,361	21,656,626
SO 200746 (July 2014 – December 2015)	8,205,545	n/a	3,922,130	4,283,415

ESOURCING

Resource Mobilization in 2015

Contributions received in 2015

EMOP 200677			
DONOR	AMOUNT (US\$ million)		
Multilateral	10.8		
Canada	12.6		
Japan	11.5		
Australia	4.6		
Belgium	2.1		
Private Sector	0.1		
TOTAL	41.7		

Resourcing Constraints

- The large contribution from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has now been fully utilized; internal financing mechanisms have likewise been exhausted.
- WFP's EMOP urgently requires funds; the Country Office is therefore
 making necessary programmatic changes, to cut costs and use available
 resources to greatest effect.
- The Country Office continues to alert donors at the local and international levels of the impact of funding constraints.

Implementing Capacity

Staff:

155 staff in-country (109 national and 46 international)

WFP Offices:

- Baghdad CO
- Sulaymaniyah SO
- Duhok SO
- Frbil AO
- Basrah AO

Warehouses:

WFP currently has 22 operational warehouses in the country.

Cooperating Partners: Muslim Aid, Action Contre la Faim, Iraqi Salvation Humanitarian Organisation, Barzani Charity Foundation, Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development, Mercy Hands, Islamic Kurdish League, Civil Development Organisation, Danish Refugee Council, REACH, Norwegian Refugee Council, Save the Children, Mercy Corps, World Vision.

Capacity Constraints

- Due to lack of resources and a limiting procurement lead-time, WFP is facing pipeline breaks for June. Suppliers in Turkey are also handling the Syria crisis operation, and WFP must ensure that they are not overburdened.
- The Government of Iraq's Public Distribution System is functioning sporadically; the process of re-registering IDPs in their new locations has been impeded, which precludes them from collecting their entitlements. WFP is working with the Ministry of Trade to support reregistration activities, particularly in Duhok governorate (which is hosting the largest number of IDPs).

Coordination

WFP is a key actor in the United Nations Country Team, Humanitarian Country Team, Integrated Coordination Office for Development & Humanitarian Affairs, and OCHA. WFP-led clusters also participate in inter-cluster coordination in the areas of Health/Nutrition and Protection. WFP also coordinates closely with the Government of Iraq.

Food Security Cluster (FSC)

- FSC is working closely with the established national and refugee coordination mechanisms to ensure coherent, coordinated and integrated humanitarian responses driven by the food security needs of affected populations, assessed in consultation with them. It offers information management services and support for partners.
- FSC, together with WFP, FAO, UNDP and authorities, is conducting a livelihoods assessment in liberated areas, to define a stabilization and early recovery strategy. This pilot assessment will be replicated in other newly liberated areas.
- The Humanitarian Response Plan, with a large food security component, will be released in late May.
- Capacity: National Cluster Coordinator, Duhok Regional Coordinator, two Information Management Officers (Duhok and Erbil), Partner Services Officer, Focal Point for Sulaymaniyah.
- Through the Fast-Track Priorities appeal document, FSC partners appealed for USD 48.7 million.

Coordination

Logistics Cluster:

- The Logistics Cluster successfully manages shared warehouse space of 600 sqm in Erbil and 1,800 sqm in Duhok, for use by its 37 partners.
- It provides partners with mapping and information management support.
- In the first quarter of 2015, the Logistics Cluster assisted IOM with emergency airlift capacity, and coordinated the pre-positioning of humanitarian supplies for a planned inter-agency convoy to the partially besieged city of Haditha, Anbar governorate.
- At the request of the Humanitarian Coordinator, and pending funding, the Logistics Cluster is planning to establish UNHAS which will be included in the Humanitarian Response Plan Appeal.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster:

- ETC is responsible for providing emergency telecommunications support to humanitarian organizations in Iraq.
- It has established inter-agency radio services in Duhok and Sulaymaniyah, and existing networks have been strengthened in Erbil.
- ETC has provided internet services in Domiz camp in Duhok and Arbat camp in Sulaymaniyah, used by approximately 170 humanitarian staff.

Funded under WFP's Special Operation, these Clusters require USD 7.4 million and are funded with USD 3.3 million, with a USD 4.1 million shortfall.

Critical Risks

CONTEXTUAL RISKS:

- Lack of funding
- Critical incident occurring affecting staff safety and security
- Fluid contextual environment impacting ability to respond

PROGRAMMATIC RISKS

- Breakdown in supply chain
- · Diversion of assistance

INSTITUTIONAL RISKS:

- Personnel health and wellbeing
- Reputational risk should WFP not be able to fully meet the needs of the affected population

Mitigation Measures

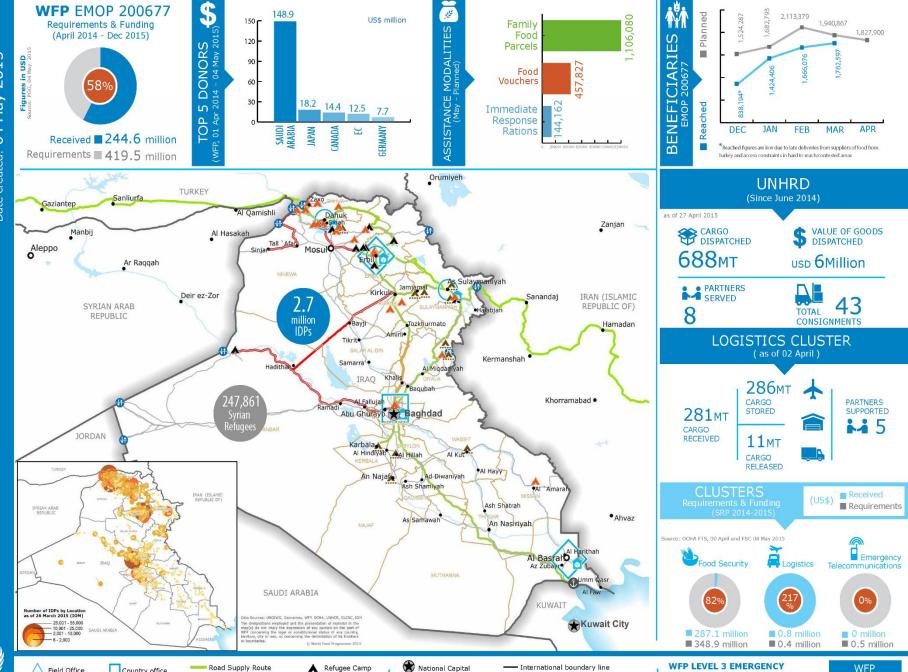
RISKS	MITIGATION MEASURES
Lack of funding	 Developed resource strategy for donors involved in the response, highlighting the effect of lack of funding. Reduce programme and staffing costs.
Critical incident occurring affecting staff safety and security	 Ensure that Critical Incident SOPs are maintained and updated, taking into account changes in staff. Ensure staff deployed have passed all required security training.
Fluid contextual environment impacting ability to respond	 Ensure transporters cover wider area as a contingency in case of need. Ensure voucher planning takes into account evolving operational situation. Maintain emergency stocks.

Mitigation Measures

RISKS	MITIGATION MEASURES
Breakdown in supply chain	 Maintain alternate corridors. Review of internal supply chain. Sensitize donors about lead-time limitations if contributions are not received in a timely manner.
Diversion of assistance	 Use of Cooperating Partners & Third-party monitors. Implementation of monitoring structure.
Personnel health and wellbeing	 Ensure RB/HQ are aware of living conditions and that incentives reflect the work demands. Engage staff counsellor.

Residual Risks

- Lack of funding.
- Critical incident occurring affecting staff safety and security.
- Fluid contextual environment impacting ability to respond.





/ Field Office



International boundary line

WFP

Refugee Camp

Road Supply Route