



Iraq

2014 Fourth Quarterly Operational Briefing

Presentation to the **WFP Executive Board**

FAO Green Room - 20 October 2014

Humanitarian Situation

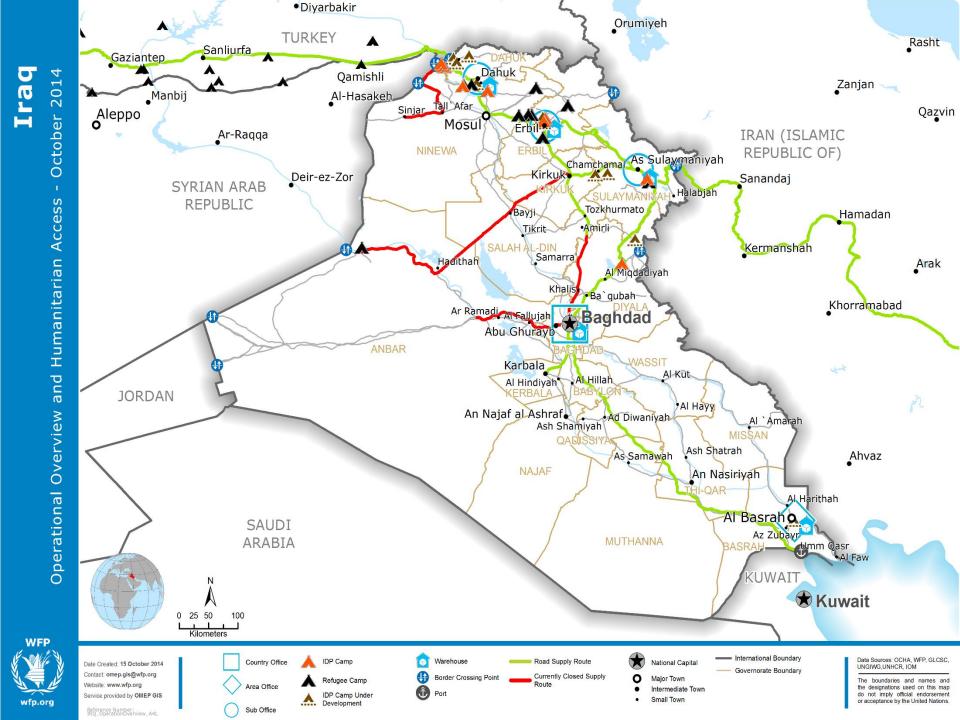
- The humanitarian crisis in Iraq has been escalating rapidly since January 2014, displacing 1.8 million people and exacerbating pre-existing vulnerabilities throughout the country.
- OCHA estimates that the crisis has affected at least 24 million people across Iraq.
- As winter approaches, humanitarian
 organizations are concerned with obtaining sufficient winterization supplies, staffing and funding.
- Communities are continually displaced, dispersed, and remain mobile in Ninewa, Anbar and Kirkuk governorates. Shortages of fuel, food and medicines have been reported.
- Humanitarian access remains extremely limited in western and central Iraq.



Due to the ongoing conflict, the crop cycle has been largely interrupted in Anbar, Ninewah, Salah Al-Din and Diyala, as well as the southern Baghdad governorate and northern Babil leading to increased food insecurity.

Security Situation

- Conflict is affecting UN operations by restricting the access of humanitarian agencies, including WFP, to those displaced and in need of assistance. Increased exposure to ISIL threats for UN staff remains possible.
- Fighting continues as the US-led coalition has carried out airstrikes targeting ISIL positions southwest of Erbil city. Peshmerga forces have simultaneously managed to push into territory controlled by ISIL, recapturing several towns and villages that had recently fallen to ISIL, including Basheer, a key oil town.
- ISIL captured the town of Heet and is consolidating its control of territory in western Anbar. Despite the violence, WFP delivered to Heet in September.
- Sectarian violence continues to be on the rise in Baghdad, where car bombs and targeted killings are regular occurrences.
- Instability continues in the Diyala governorate, where air strikes and clashes between ISIL and Iraqi forces have badly degraded agricultural land. More than 70 percent of Diyala's population works in the agricultural sector, which makes them particularly vulnerable to food insecurity in addition to the violence.



EMOP 200677 – Emergency Assistance to Populations Affected by the Iraq Crisis (01 April 2014 – 30 April 2015). Third Budget Revision ongoing in line with the SRP to extend until 2016.

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



Activities

WFP Food Assistance

- Immediate Response Rations (IRR) to new and transient IDPs:
 - Parcels of ready-to-eat foods sufficient to sustain a family of five for three days, consisting of culturally acceptable and nutritionally balanced items such as: biscuits, canned meat, tuna, dry bread, fava beans, dates, chickpeas, halawa and tahina. In consultation with partners and WFP's nutrition unit, it was decided to include a provision of specialized nutritional products for children 6 to 59 months as a pre-emptive measure to prevent malnutrition, due to a prolonged period without access to a proper diet.
- General Food Distribution to IDPs:
 - Food parcels for monthly rations (30 days) for a family of five consisting of fortified wheat flour, rice, bulgur wheat, fortified oil, sugar, iodised salt, canned pulses, pasta and lentils.

Activities cont'd.

- <u>Voucher-based assistance to IDPs:</u>
 - Food assistance through vouchers is expected to start by the end of October. Vouchers will have a value of US\$ 26 per person. The projected initial assistance will target 200,000-250,000 beneficiaries, increasing to approximately 350,000 by the end of December and reaching about 500,000 by the end of January. NGO partners have been selected to implement this component of the WFP response.



- Scale-up the amount and coverage of life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable displaced and affected populations.
- Increase geographical coverage, particularly into the previously inaccessible Anbar and Salah al-Din governorates.
- Strengthen partnerships with NGOs and identify additional partners.
- Support the Government of Iraq with the resumption of the Public Distribution System (PDS) and transitioning IDPs to the PDS.

Priority groups:

- 1. IDPs
 - People in camps
 - People in host families
 - Transient displaced

2. Food insecure people living in areas affected by conflict

 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.

Results measurement:

- Pre-assistance baseline survey: data were collected for the first time in September in some of the southern governorates.
- Post distribution monitoring (PDM), in particular, Household Food Consumption Score and Coping Strategy Index: the first PDM exercise is underway, data collection is planned to start end of October.
- Food Distribution Reports (Food Distributed and IDPs reached)

Process Monitoring:

- On-site Monitoring Form
- Beneficiary Contact Monitoring

- Continuing lack of access to conflict areas limits WFP's ability to reach IDPs (ongoing fighting, checkpoints, damage to infrastructure, etc.). These difficult or impossible to access areas include Anbar, North Diyala, Salah al-Din and Ninewa governorates.
- In light of insecurity, WFP remains flexible and adaptable in its approach to contracting transportation and the selection of Cooperating Partners (CP), to ensure its continuous access to affected areas. Alternate routes between the major cities as well as the use of local CPs for transportation to Food Distribution Points, enables WFP to maintain open supply lines.
- Currently, WFP is using the northern corridor from Turkey to Duhok, Erbil, and Baghdad. WFP has successfully used the Iranian corridor on a trial basis through Bashamakh in Sulaymaniyah. The southern corridor is in the process of being utilized through the port of Umm Qasr. Both options are being included in the upcoming procurement tender for the supply of Family Food Parcels.

Resource Mobilization

2014 Donors: EMOP 200677

DONOR	AMOUNT (USD million)
Multilateral	2.14
Saudi Arabia	148.93
Japan	6.70
Germany	2.64
UN CERF	2.23
Kuwait	2.00
Denmark	1.82
Canada	1.80
Australia	1.05
UK	0.85
Finland	0.68
Italy	0.34
France	0.33
Republic of Korea	0.30
Luxembourg	0.21
USA	0.11
TOTAL	170.2 million

Net Funding Requirements (October 2014 – March 2015)

US\$47 million

- Total project requirements are US\$210 million from April 2014 to April 2015.
- As of 1 October, the overall contributions from Saudi Arabia, Japan, Germany, UN CERF, Denmark, Australia, UK, Finland, Italy, France, Luxembourg, USA and some multilateral allocations total US\$170,183,400 million.
- Due to the dynamic environment, operational requirements are increasing on a monthly basis.
- Continuous donor support is required to respond rapidly to the unexpected mass displacements, in order to prevent a pipeline break in January 2015.

Implementing Capacity

Staff:

 101 staff (34 international, 67 national). A further 27 staff are in Iraq on TDY.

WFP Offices:

- Baghdad Country Office
- Basra Area Office
- Erbil Area Office
 - Duhok Sub-Office
 - Sulaymaniyah Sub-Office

Warehouses:

There are currently 16 warehouses operating across Iraq, servicing WFP requirements and other agencies through the Logistics Cluster.

- Duhok: 2
- Erbil: 9
- Sulaymaniyah: 1
- Baghdad: 3
- Basra: 1
- Additional warehouse capacity is available through re-deployable rub halls to partners if required.

Implementing Capacity cont'd.

Cooperating Partners:

 WFP in partnership with UNICEF has finalized Field Level Agreements (FLA) with five NGOs (Save the Children, Danish Refugee Council, Norwegian Refugee Council, ACTED and Mercy Corps) as part of the Rapid Response Mechanism initiative to increase our immediate response capacity for new displacements.



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Implementing Capacity cont'd.

- Additional Partners:
 - Action Contre le Faim (ACF)
 - Agence d'Aide a la Cooperation Technique et au Development (ACTED)
 - Barzani Charity Foundation
 - Islamic Relief Worldwide
 - Islamic Salvation Humanitarian Organization (ISHO).
 - Mercy Hands
 - Muslim Aid

- The Iraq Public Distribution System (PDS) is sporadically implemented among some of the country, and not functioning at all in areas controlled by Armed Opposition Groups.
- WFP is now procuring locally from Erbil, and is in the process of conducing a trial of the southern corridor to procure commodities from the Gulf states.

Coordination

• Integrated Coordination Office for Development & Humanitarian Affairs (ICHODA), OCHA, HCT, Government of Iraq.

Clusters

Logistics:

- The Logistics Cluster in Iraq is currently providing emergency transport and warehousing services to partners operating in Iraq.
- Warehousing is available in Erbil and Duhok for inter-agency usage.
- The Logistics Cluster currently has 59 partners participating and receiving information management products.
- The Logistics Cluster requirement amounts to US\$3.7 million and is funded with US\$2.2 million.

Emergency Telecommunications (ETC):

- The ETC is providing emergency telecommunications support for the humanitarian community.
- Radio rooms are operational in Duhok and Sulaymaniyah.
- An inter-agency radio network has been designed and will be implemented shortly.
- Wireless internet connectivity is now available to all humanitarian organizations operating in Domiz and Arbat camps.
- The ETC requires US\$1.4 million and is funded with US\$800,000.

Food Security (FSC):

- FSC objectives:
 - Save lives by meeting urgent food needs and adequate household food consumption.
 - Maintain and diversify urban and rural livelihood systems.
 - Ensure an effective, accountable and coordinated food security response, advocate for and consider needs by age, gender and diversity.
- The Iraq SRP revision has just been completed
 - The FSC section has been revised to target 2 million affected people out of a total of 2.8 million food insecure Iraqis.
 - Access by FSC partners to areas controlled by Armed Opposition Groups is *ad-hoc* and opportunistic, accounting for the gap between need and targets.
- Current priorities:
 - Improved and tailored cluster structure to meet local needs based on consultations
 - Deeper level of information and data management
 - Cross cluster data integration to improve coordination
 - Capacity building, including for people related cross cutting issues

Critical Risks

CONTEXTUAL RISKS:

- Escalation of war resulting in massive population displacements
- Lack of political consensus could impact the Government's response to the crisis
- Food security compromised due to conflict in affected areas producing a significant increase in beneficiaries.

PROGRAMMATIC RISKS:

- Prolonged crisis results in malnutrition among displaced populations
- Mismatch between available resources and growing needs
- Limited humanitarian access in conflict / occupied areas

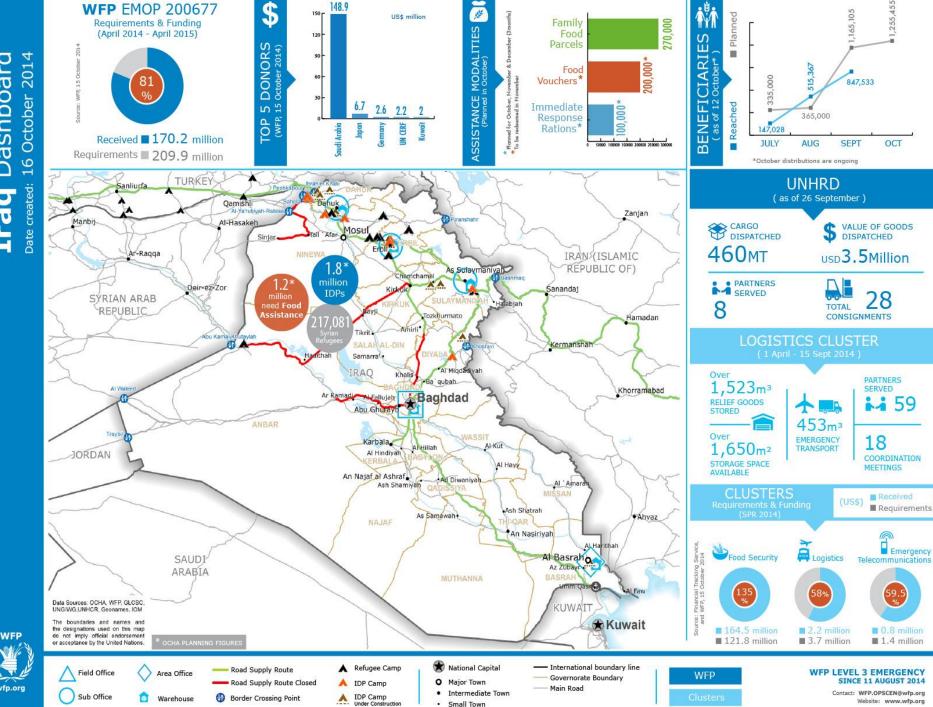
INSTITUTIONAL RISKS:

- Security demands a longer term relocation of staff from Baghdad Country Office to Erbil /Amman
- Inability to ensure procurement of adequate level of commodities and maintain access to open corridors
- Reputational risk should WFP not be able to fully meet the needs of the affected population

Mitigation Measures

RISKS	MITIGATION MEASURES
Escalation of war resulting in massive population displacement	Real-time approach to contingency planning
	 Flexibility to the changing situation built into the EMOP
	 Proposed joint Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment with FAO
Prolonged crisis results in food insecurity including malnutrition among displaced populations	 In addition to ongoing food distributions, nutrition assessments are planned to provide early detection of malnutrition. Subsequent Budget Revision would include nutrition component
Limited humanitarian access in conflict / occupied areas	 Engage with Cooperating Partners and local staff that can operate in such areas Third-party Monitoring
Inability to ensure procurement of adequate level of commodities and keep access to open corridors	 Procuring commodities from UAE; Opening southern corridor for purchases from the gulf states.

- Humanitarian access may continue to shrink for parts of the country.
- WFP is unable to undertake extensive monitoring of operations in high-risk areas, therefore relying on third-parties.



Dashboard Iraq

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