

IRAQ - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #2, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

AUGUST 19, 2014

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

1.2 million

People Displaced by
Violence in Iraq
Since January 2014

U.N. Office for the Coordination of
Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) –
August 15, 2014

462,270

Internally Displaced
Persons (IDPs) in
Dohuk Governorate

Local government authorities, per
OCHA – August 19, 2014

343,290

IDPs in Al Anbar
Governorate

International Organization for
Migration (IOM) – August 7, 2014

141,000

IDPs in As Sulaymaniyah
Governorate

Local government authorities, per
OCHA – August 19, 2014

117,030

IDPs in Erbil Governorate

IOM – August 7, 2014

73,530

IDPs in Ninewa
Governorate

IOM – August 7, 2014

93,809

Iraqi Refugees Registered
in the Region

Office of the U.N. High
Commissioner for Refugees
(UNHCR) – June 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

- Escalating insecurity in northern Iraq triggers massive population displacement, causing as many as 200,000 people to flee to Dohuk Governorate in early August.
- United States conducts humanitarian assessment of the situation on Sinjar Mountain and completes airdrops to populations in need.
- U.N. declares a Level 3 emergency for Iraq crisis.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO IRAQ TO DATE IN FY 2014

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$3,605,866
USAID/FFP ²	\$143,516
State/PRM ³	\$130,289,646
DoD ⁴	\$1,190,000
\$135,229,028	
TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG) ASSISTANCE TO THE IRAQ HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Since clashes intensified between the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), its allied militias, the Government of Iraq (GoI), and Kurdish Regional Government (KRG) security forces throughout northern and central Iraq, IDP population movements have remained fluid. Displacement figures continue to fluctuate as insecurity, particularly in Al Anbar, Diyala, Kirkuk, Ninewa, and Salah ad-Din governorates, has resulted in secondary and tertiary displacements.
- During the week of August 11, the U.N. declared the Iraq crisis a Level 3 (L3) emergency—the most severe designation on its internal scale. Following the declaration, U.N. agencies have begun preparing a strategic statement—an L3 requirement intended to establish response priorities and facilitate coordination.
- On August 13, the USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) leader—along with DoD personnel—completed a rapid humanitarian assessment of IDPs residing on Ninewa Governorate’s Sinjar Mountain. The team found that dwindling numbers of people remained on the mountain, following the Kurdish-assisted evacuation of thousands of civilians from Sinjar Mountain between August 4 and 13.
- Between August 8 and 14, DoD conducted seven airdrops of emergency supplies to thousands of displaced persons trapped on Sinjar Mountain. In total, the USG delivered more than 128,000 ready-to-eat meals and nearly 134,000 liters of safe drinking water—supplies that many IDPs carried onward as they departed.

¹ USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

⁴ U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

HUMANITARIAN ACCESS AND POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

- Conflict in northern and central Iraq continues to prompt population displacement while simultaneously hindering people's movements in areas isolated by insecurity. Ongoing fighting and the consequent lack of negotiated access over the past several weeks have thwarted efforts by U.N. and GoI agencies to assess conditions and provide humanitarian aid to besieged towns in ISIL-held areas. Agencies report adequate access in Kurdish-held areas, which have received a large influx of displaced individuals in recent weeks.
 - Due to ongoing violence and repeated displacement, precise numbers of displaced persons are unknown. Among locations hosting IDP families, the U.N. reports that the town of Zakho in Dohuk hosts between 90,000 and 100,000 IDPs, many of whom are residing in 16 schools used as emergency shelters. IDPs are also taking shelter in mosques, churches, and abandoned buildings. According to OCHA, local government authorities recently reported that up to 462,270 IDPs are sheltering in Dohuk Governorate.
 - At least 55,000 Yezidi Iraqis fleeing Sinjar have recently arrived in Syria, according to UNHCR. While most have since returned to Iraq, an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 individuals are reportedly staying in the Newroz camp near Al Qamishli, Al Hasakah Governorate, managed by local relief organizations. Other refugees are scattered among various Yezidi villages in Al Qahtaniyah or in urban areas.
 - As of August 17, IOM had provided transportation assistance to approximately 16,550 displaced Iraqis from the Fishkhabour border crossing on the Iraq–Syria border to locations within Dohuk. Many of the IDPs reached Fishkhabour after initially departing from Sinjar, including the Sinjar Mountain area, and traveling through Syria. In coordination with the Kurdish authorities, IOM is offering transportation assistance from the Fishkhabour and Sahela border crossings from Syria to various destinations in Dohuk Governorate, including camps being prepared to receive the new IDPs.
 - In an August 17 flash update, OCHA reported concerns of deteriorating humanitarian conditions in Amirli, a small town located in Salah ad-Din Governorate's Tooz District. Local sources describe a deteriorating humanitarian situation, with food shortages and limited water availability due to the lack of power and fuel.
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SHELTER

- Due to fears of ISIL-related insecurity, populations who had previously fled to several camps in northern Iraq's Dohuk, Erbil, and Ninewa governorates fled again during the week of August 4, the U.N. reports. In addition, thousands of IDPs seeking refuge in schools and a majority of the 200,000 IDPs from Sinjar and other areas of Ninewa require urgent shelter support.
- Relief organizations, including UNHCR and the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), continue to distribute supplies and assist officials to establish IDP shelter sites in Dohuk, according to the U.N. UNHCR aims to erect approximately 1,000 tents in Dohuk, in addition to 400 family tents and 160 communal tents already constructed as of August 13. UNHCR has also distributed at least 3,200 emergency supply kits since August 4.
- The Government of Turkey's Disaster and Emergency Management Directorate (AFAD) has announced plans to build a tent camp in Zakho to host approximately 16,000 Yezidi IDPs fleeing ISIL insecurity. The plan for the camp has reportedly been drafted. AFAD also plans to send four trucks of humanitarian goods to Zakho and surrounding areas to meet IDP needs.
- As additional populations flee to southern Iraq, IOM and UNHCR are working with the GoI to establish an IDP camp in Maysan Governorate. The camp site has a capacity for 1,000 tents, with possible expansion to accommodate additional households. IOM reports that more than 630 families have arrived in Maysan since mid-July—more than half of whom arrived between August 7 and 10. Governorate officials are providing families with temporary accommodation while the camp is under construction. Humanitarian organizations and GoI agencies are establishing infrastructure and services for the IDPs.
- USAID/OFDA is providing more than \$1 million to an implementing partner for relief activities, including the distribution of shelter upgrade materials to improve shelter conditions for vulnerable IDPs from northern Iraq.

- On August 14, UNHCR announced plans to scale up assistance to newly arrived Iraqis seeking refuge at Newroz camp in northeastern Syria's Al Hasakah Governorate. UNHCR has already delivered tents, plastic sheeting, blankets, hygiene kits, and other household items from stockpiles within the governorate and is planning to airlift 2,000 tents and 5,000 mattresses to the camp.
 - OCHA reports that the daily arrival rate of Iraqi refugees in Syria averaged 6,000 to 7,000 people between August 7 and August 13. For the arrivals who continue back into Iraq, their journeys can take from several hours to up to three days, according to UNHCR.
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FOOD SECURITY

- While IDPs throughout northern Iraq require a range of humanitarian assistance, particularly IDPs still in transit, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) and its partners are reaching IDPs with a broad range of emergency, short-term food assistance. In the medium to long-term, humanitarian organizations are monitoring the potential impact of insecurity and displacement on agricultural production. Challenges to humanitarian access have also limited the capacity of public distribution systems, according to OCHA.
 - Since the fall of Ninewa's city of Mosul in early June, WFP has provided emergency food assistance to more than 524,000 IDPs in 10 governorates, reaching a significant proportion of the total displaced population. WFP and its partners have established eight field kitchens, the majority in Dohuk, which have served hot meals to more than 173,000 people.
 - For households that have access to cooking facilities, WFP is providing monthly food rations that comprise rice, lentils, wheat flour, oil, canned vegetables, and other food items—essential staples that households can use for meal preparation. Since June, WFP has distributed sufficient monthly rations to benefit approximately 268,000 people.
 - In July, WFP began providing emergency food rations designed to meet the needs of IDPs in transit. Since the launch, WFP has provided more than 83,000 people with three-day ready-to-eat emergency rations, including via a newly established distribution point in Zakho.
 - For its emergency operation benefiting Iraqi IDPs, WFP continues to utilize meal replacement bars provided by USAID in early August. The bars contain a complete daily ration of calories, fat, protein, and carbohydrates and are fortified with 24 vitamins and minerals.
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WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

- Humanitarian actors have expressed concern that displaced populations sheltering in open areas, unfinished buildings, schools, and other temporary accommodations in the Iraqi Kurdistan Region and An Najaf Governorate are in urgent need of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance.
 - Following early August violence in Ninewa, WASH remains a priority concern as new arrivals strain already limited water resources for both host communities and IDPs. OCHA reports that Dohuk authorities requested safe drinking water and sanitation supplies for approximately 200,000 conflict-affected persons who sought refuge in Bajid Kandala transit camp and the towns of Khanikah, Sharya, and Zakho during the week of August 11.
 - The USG is working through various implementing partners to help address immediate WASH needs. USAID/OFDA is supporting a non-governmental organization (NGO) to provide water, sanitation, and hygiene assistance for IDPs from Ninewa, as well as shelter support. The project aims to reduce public health and protection risks for IDPs through emergency WASH interventions, such as hygiene promotion campaigns and sanitation infrastructure improvements.
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HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- Following the designation of the Iraq crisis as an L3 emergency, U.N. agencies and international NGOs have begun to scale up operations to direct additional funding, resources, and personnel to response efforts.
 - OCHA plans to produce a Humanitarian Needs Overview to inform a revised 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for the growing number of conflict-affected families in Iraq. The U.N. previously released a revised 2014 SRP for Iraq on June 24, requesting approximately \$312 million in support of multi-sector humanitarian assistance.
 - The Iraq Humanitarian Country Team recently agreed to activate the U.N. Humanitarian Air Service to facilitate the movement of emergency supplies and humanitarian staff to hard-to-reach locations.
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PROTECTION

- Since June, humanitarian actors have expressed concern for the safety of women and girls in conflict-affected areas of Iraq. Women and girls are increasingly vulnerable to physical and psychosocial trauma and experience limited access to reproductive health care services in the wake of displacement and insecurity.
 - Further, the fluidity of population movement has prevented organizations from assessing the extent of gender-based violence and child protection issues among IDP populations, particularly those trapped in besieged areas. With the influx of IDPs living in unfinished buildings and open spaces, many face increased vulnerability.
 - The U.N. notes an increase in reported incidences of rape and violence toward women and children, signaling a need for increased medical and psychosocial support for affected individuals.
 - In response, the U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA) and other relief organizations have distributed female hygiene kits and reproductive health kits to affected women and girls, including those displaced to Dohuk and Erbil. Other organizations are also providing psychosocial support, legal services, and medical referrals in Erbil. In June, USAID/OFDA provided \$1 million to UNICEF for response efforts, including psychosocial support for children, establishing child friendly spaces, and other child protection activities, in the IKR.
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OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- During the week of August 11, the British Government announced a contribution of £8 million, or approximately \$13.5 million, in humanitarian assistance to Iraq. Of the total, £2 million—\$3.4 million—will support the distribution of emergency relief supplies to 75,000 people, with £2.5 million—\$4.2 million—to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and remaining funds to support coordination, WASH, food, shelter, and health assistance.
- On August 16, two flights arrived in the city of Erbil carrying 8,000 U.K.-provided kitchen sets intended for onward distribution to IDP camps in Dohuk. The British Government had previously airdropped emergency relief supplies, including more than 9,400 reusable water purification containers filled with more than 45,000 liters of safe drinking water, to IDPs sheltering on Sinjar Mountain.
- The European Commission has also announced an additional €5 million, or approximately \$6.7 million, in assistance, bringing total E.U. funding to €17 million, or more than \$22.7 million.
- On August 13, the Government of Germany Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development announced an increase of €20 million—or approximately \$26.7 million—in funding to assist IDPs in northern Iraq. The German Federal Foreign Office also announced the provision of €1.5 million, or approximately \$2 million, in additional funding. Germany's assistance supports improved IDP access to safe drinking water and medical care, as well as IDP youth protection efforts and interventions to restore IDPs' livelihoods.
- On August 13, the Government of Ireland announced €500,000—approximately \$670,000—in emergency response funding to assist vulnerable populations in northern Iraq. UNICEF will receive €250,000, or \$334,000, of the total to provide services for women and children, while ICRC is slated to receive €250,000 to supply food, distribute relief commodities, and improve access to water and health care.

CONTEXT

- Over the past decade, incidents of insecurity have frequently contributed to significant internal displacement in Iraq. In February 2006, the bombing of the Al-Askari Mosque in Samarra and subsequent sectarian violence triggered the most sizable population movement in Iraq's history. More than 1.6 million people—or 5.5 percent of the country's population—fled their communities, increasing Iraq's total displaced population to nearly 2.8 million people, according to the U.N.
- Beginning in 2008, improved security conditions led to a decrease in conflict-related displacement and an increase in humanitarian access to vulnerable populations, including IDPs. With improved security, humanitarian agencies' focus began to shift to early recovery activities in areas where conditions stabilized.
- Since FY 2003, the USG has provided continuous humanitarian assistance to Iraq, including support for the distribution of emergency relief commodities, provision of emergency shelter, income-generating opportunities, expanded access to essential WASH facilities and services, and humanitarian coordination and information sharing among relief agencies.
- The situation in Iraq remained relatively stable until 2014, when the armed group ISIL began seizing control of several cities in northern and central Iraq. Significant population displacement ensued as civilians fled to areas of relative safety to escape fighting between ISIL and its allied militias and Iraqi security forces.
- On August 11, USAID deployed a DART—comprising USAID humanitarian response experts—to help coordinate USG efforts to address the urgent humanitarian needs throughout the conflict-affected areas of northern and central Iraq. The DART is working 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 has also established a Response Management Team (RMT) based in Washington, D.C.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ PROVIDED IN FY 2014¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
Implementing Partners	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management; Logistics and Relief Commodities; Shelter and Settlements; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)	Northern Iraq	\$2,330,756
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$250,000
UNICEF	Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Northern Iraq	\$1,000,000
	Program Support	Countrywide	\$25,110
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ			\$3,605,866
USAID/FFP³			
WFP	Meal Replacement Bars	Northern Iraq	\$143,516 ⁴
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ			\$143,516
STATE/PRM⁵			
Implementing Partner	Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, WASH	Countrywide	\$30,300,000
Implementing Partners	Durable Solutions, Livelihoods, Nutrition, Protection, Relief Commodities,	Baghdad	\$289,646
IOM	Emergency Response, Livelihoods, Relief Commodities, IDP Mapping and Registration	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
UNHCR	Protection, Registration, Relief Commodities, Shelter	Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria	\$96,700,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ			\$130,289,646
DoD			
	Airdrops of Ready-to-Eat Meals and Safe Drinking Water	Sinjar	\$1,190,000
TOTAL DoD ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ			\$1,190,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ IN FY 2014			\$135,229,028

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of August 19, 2014.

³ Estimated value of food assistance.

⁴ Funding supports humanitarian programming benefitting Iraqi IDPs; figures do not include USAID/FFP funding for activities assisting Syrian refugees in Iraq.

⁵ Funding supports humanitarian programming inside Iraq and for refugee populations who fled Iraq for neighboring countries; however, 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.
- 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:
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at 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>