

# IRAQ - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #7, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

SEPTEMBER 26, 2014

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**1.7 million**

People Displaced by Violence in Iraq Since January 2014

International Organization for Migration (IOM) – September 14, 2014

**168,132\***

Iraqi Refugees in the Region

The Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – September 24, 2014

**445,446**

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in

Dohuk Governorate

IOM – September 14, 2014

**343,356**

IDPs in Al Anbar Governorate

IOM – September 14, 2014

**169,842**

IDPs in Erbil Governorate

IOM – September 14, 2014

**127,494**

IDPs in Kirkuk Governorate

IOM – September 14, 2014

**125,628**

IDPs in Ninewa Governorate

IOM – September 14, 2014

## HIGHLIGHTS

- USAID's Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) assesses several IDP locations in Erbil Governorate.
- The Government of Iraq (GoI) continues national polio vaccination campaign, targeting an estimated 5.8 million children under the age of five.
- Regional authorities and relief actors work to relocate IDPs from schools to prevent further academic year delays.

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO IRAQ TO DATE IN FY 2014

USAID/OFDA <sup>1</sup>	\$12,941,305
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$143,516
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$171,795,533
DoD <sup>4</sup>	\$1,502,000
<b>\$186,382,354</b>	
TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT (USG) ASSISTANCE TO THE IRAQ HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On September 18, the DART visited several IDP sites in Erbil to assess relief efforts, which to date have focused on health, food, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support. The DART noted that IDPs require improved WASH facilities—including the installation of additional latrines—to reduce the risk of communicable diseases.
- Humanitarian access outside of the Iraqi Kurdistan Region (IKR) remains limited due to ongoing fighting and recent incidents of violence against aid workers in the region, international media report. Several international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have suspended activities in besieged areas, particularly those controlled by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). However, many relief organizations continue to provide emergency assistance to affected populations via local implementing partners.
- On September 26, the U.N. Humanitarian Country Team in Iraq released the Humanitarian Needs Overview—which comprehensively describes the effects of the complex emergency and identifies needs of conflict-affected Iraqis. The U.N. plans to release a corresponding revised Strategic Response Plan—spanning the period between February 2014 and December 2015—in the coming weeks.
- Insecurity in northern and central Iraq has displaced more than 1.7 million people to approximately 1,700 IDP locations countrywide, according to IOM. Five of Iraq's eighteen governorates are hosting nearly 73 percent of the IDPs, the U.N. reports.

<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)

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

\* Refugee figures remain in flux; registration efforts often lag behind actual number of persons seeking registration.

## HUMANITARIAN ACCESS AND POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

- The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) reported on September 23 that it had reached approximately 3,000 IDPs in the city of Ar Ramadi, Al Anbar Governorate, where besiegement by armed forces has restricted humanitarian access since early January. Between September 17 and 19, DRC staff—with assistance from community volunteers and local authorities—distributed relief kits containing a one-month supply of hygiene kits, food parcels, and other core humanitarian items to an estimated 600 IDP households. During the visit to Ar Ramadi, DRC observed that a significant number of IDPs sheltering in schools and unfinished structures lack adequate access to sanitation facilities.
  - As of September 23, UNHCR and local partners in Turkey had registered or pre-registered more than 103,000 Iraqis who sought refuge in the country during 2014, including an estimated 64,000 refugees who have fled insecurity in northern and central Iraq since early June. UNHCR notes that registration likely lags actual numbers of Iraqis in the country, with estimates reaching more than 200,000 individuals. UNHCR also noted that thousands of additional Iraqi refugees in eastern Turkey—including Yezidi populations who fled violence in Ninewa Governorate’s Sinjar District in early August—remain unregistered.
  - Between January 1 and September 23, UNHCR registered more than 10,600 Iraqi refugees in Jordan. UNHCR has reported a sharp increase in the number of Iraqi refugees arriving in Jordan during the months of August and September, with an average of 120 Iraqis registering with UNHCR/Jordan daily—an 85 percent increase from 65 arrivals per day in June and July. Of the Iraqi refugees who arrived in Jordan since early 2014, nearly two-thirds originate from Al Anbar, Ninewa, and Salah ad Din governorates, while the remainder reportedly fled sectarian violence in Al Basrah and Baghdad governorates. Approximately 60 percent of registered refugees cited ISIL-related attacks—including destruction of houses and threats of kidnapping, forced marriage, and conversion—as their reason for departing Iraq, according to UNHCR.
  - According to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), relief organizations recently reported that a small number of IDP families have returned to their communities of origin following improved security conditions in some areas of northern Iraq, particularly Ninewa’s city of Zumar and Al Qosh sub-district. U.N. agencies and partner organizations have started distributing relief supplies and mobilizing food assistance for the estimated 1,000 returnee households in Zumar and surrounding areas. The U.N. is planning to conduct an interagency assessment and humanitarian response mission for the approximately 900 returnee families in Al Qosh, according to OCHA.
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## SHELTER

- A recent IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) report indicates that 19 percent of IDPs displaced between early August and September 14 are residing in religious buildings, 17 percent in unfinished buildings, 17 percent in schools, 8 percent in informal settlements, and 6 percent in camps. The DTM data, collected through verification exercises conducted by IOM Rapid Assessment and Response Teams, indicate more than 1.7 million IDPs residing throughout Iraq. The number of IDPs increased by approximately 16,000—more than 2,700 IDP families—between September 1 and 14, denoting a continued slowing of displacement and IDP movements since fighting previously intensified in early August. IOM also reports that IDPs’ recourse to self-supported accommodations—such as staying with relatives, in rented accommodations, or in hotels—has decreased, reflecting the strained capacity of host community and IDP coping mechanisms.
- During the week of September 19, OCHA noted that reports of new IDP entry restrictions persisted in Kirkuk Governorate—which hosts more than 127,000 IDPs. In addition, rental prices have increased in IDP-dense areas of the governorate, causing tensions among host community residents of Kirkuk. Many in the host community reportedly favor the placement of IDPs in camps, whether or not they can afford accommodation, according to the U.N.
- In the wake of concerns regarding 2014/2015 academic year delays, Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) authorities are setting deadlines to relocate IDPs from IKR schools during the coming weeks. In the IKR’s Dohuk Governorate—where IDPs are sheltering in more than 670 schools—the U.N. reports that local officials are working to complete relocation in the coming weeks, so that the facilities may be rehabilitated and readied for classes. According to OCHA, local officials have already removed IDPs from 40 of the 46 schools occupied in Dohuk’s Shaykhan District.

- While humanitarian organizations prepare camps for occupancy, agencies are also exploring non-camp solutions to accommodate IDPs, including additional support to host communities, rental accommodations, and kits to assist IDPs in winterizing unfinished buildings.
- With State/PRM support, IOM recently assessed IDPs located in Erbil, Ninewa, and Salah ad Din governorates. In Erbil, approximately 2,000 of the 29,000 IDP households in the governorate are sheltering in IDP and transit camps, and most report inadequate access to essential relief assistance, including food and safe drinking water, as well as a lack of sufficient access to WASH and health facilities. More than half of all surveyed IDPs in Erbil also reported a need for child-focused assistance, particularly health care and nutrition services. In Ninewa, 96 percent of assessed IDPs indicated they required basic relief items, and 84 percent identified food as a priority need. Similarly, IDPs in Salah ad Din identified food and access to safe drinking water and electricity as their most urgent needs.

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## **WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE**

- The arrival of approximately 171,500 IDPs to An Najaf, Karbala', and Al Qadisiyah governorates in recent months has stretched the capacity of municipal water and sanitation infrastructure, OCHA reports. In mid-September, local authorities requested support from WASH actors to promote hygiene awareness and improve the delivery of services to IDPs, particularly those sheltering in informal settings. Humanitarian organizations are currently providing WASH assistance to more than 25,600 IDPs in An Najaf, nearly 14,800 in Karbala', and approximately 10,000 in Al Qadisiyah.
- On September 18, the DART conducted follow-up visits to two IDP locations previously visited in late August, as well as an initial visit to a secondary school and youth sports center housing IDPs. Focusing primarily on health, WASH, and food assistance, the DART found that sanitation conditions needed improvement across the four IDP sites, with the availability of latrines falling below the Sphere<sup>5</sup> standard of one latrine per every 20 people. In informal IDP camp settings, including a church and the youth sports center, the ratio of latrines has reached approximately one latrine per every 75 people. In Baharka IDP camp, the DART found the number of latrines to be below Sphere standards, although WASH actors are working to improve facilities.
- The DART did not identify significant health concerns or disease outbreaks among IDPs; however, communicable diseases common to overcrowded living conditions and poor hygiene—such as diarrhea and scabies—are prevalent. In local churches hosting IDPs, church leaders are aiming to maintain adequate sanitation conditions to prevent cholera or other waterborne diseases.
- The USG is supporting several relief activities aimed at reducing the risk of hygiene-related diseases in Erbil Governorate. One USAID/OFDA-funded NGO is promoting hygiene awareness among IDPs, and another USAID/OFDA partner is distributing relief items, including hygiene and women's dignity kits, to an estimated 1,500 IDP households.

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## **HEALTH**

- OCHA reports that shortages of medical staff and supplies continue to hamper health care services in conflict-affected areas of northern and central Iraq, including Karbala', Kirkuk, Ninewa, and Salah ad Din. For example, only two of nine major hospitals in Salah ad Din—located in Balad and Samarra districts—are operating at full capacity.
- Health organizations are providing support to primary health care facilities in Diyala Governorate's IDP-dense Khanaqin District and assisting local health officials to deploy additional medical staff to several hospitals and health care clinics to affected areas in Dohuk Governorate, according to the U.N.
- In the wake of the displacement crisis and the reemergence of polio in Iraq in early 2014, the GoI Ministry of Health (MoH)—with assistance from the U.N. World Health Organization and the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF)—conducted a countrywide polio vaccination campaign between September 14 and 18, targeting an estimated 5.8 million

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<sup>5</sup> The Sphere Project was launched in 1997 by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the U.N., NGOs, and donors to develop a set of universal minimum standards for humanitarian assistance and thereby improve the quality of assistance provided to disaster-affected persons and to enhance the accountability of humanitarian agencies.

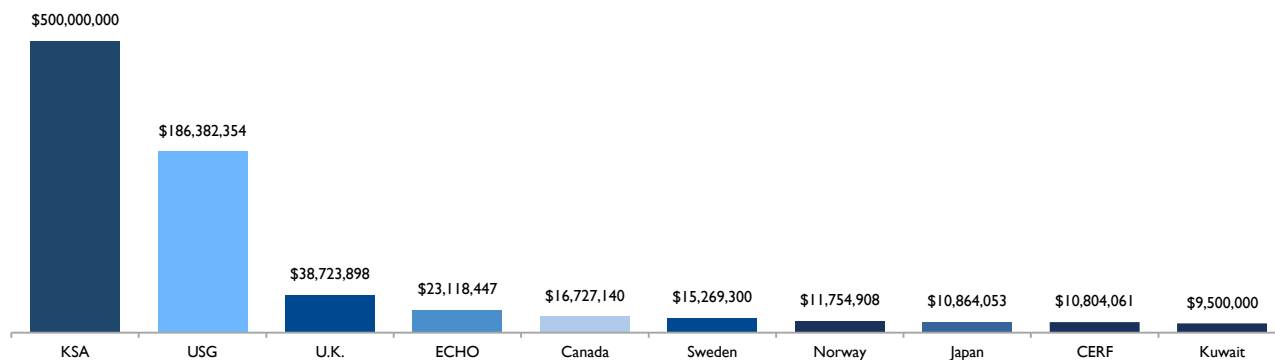
children under the age of five. According to the U.N., this was the ninth such campaign since January; MoH is planning additional vaccinations in the coming months.

- In mid-September, health authorities began a polio vaccination campaign in Salah ad Din Governorate's city of Tikrit and the districts of Al Shirqat and Tooz, the U.N. reports. The GoI also provided polio and measles vaccinations for IDPs residing in Al Anbar Governorate between September 3 and 12.
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## **OTHER ASSISTANCE**

- Since mid-June, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP)—in conjunction with implementing partners—has provided food assistance to more than 1 million IDPs and other conflict-affected populations throughout Iraq, an increase from the 838,000 beneficiaries reported on September 4. Despite insecurity that limited humanitarian access and caused fluid IDP movements, the agency has consistently increased assistance, providing hot meals, monthly household rations, and portable, emergency rations to conflict-affected populations in 13 of Iraq's 18 governorates, including the IDP-dense governorates of Al Anbar, An Najaf, As Sulaymaniyah, Dohuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, and Ninewa. WFP plans to continue expanding its operations to reach a total of 1.2 million displaced persons in Iraq by late December.
  - Religious organizations, NGOs, and relief agencies are also providing food assistance to IDPs in Erbil. Throughout the IKR, WFP has transitioned from communal field kitchens, which served hot meals, to distribution of monthly household rations to IDP families, who prepare their own meals. WFP is also starting to transition to a voucher system, which affords IDPs greater dignity and flexibility than direct food distribution.
  - On September 20, the Government of Australia (GoA) announced an approximately 2 million Australian dollar, or \$1.7 million, contribution to the U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA) in support of relief assistance for hundreds of thousands of Iraqi women and girls. This new pledge will fund UNFPA to scale up its humanitarian response efforts and deliver reproductive health care services, including obstetric services for more than 250,000 pregnant women affected by the conflict. In total, the GoA has provided more than \$6.2 million for the humanitarian response in Iraq.
  - On September 19, the Government of Norway (GoN) Minister of Foreign Affairs announced the allocation of 63 million Norwegian kroner—nearly \$9.9 million—in additional funding to provide emergency relief assistance, including food, shelter support, and winterization aid, for conflict-affected Iraqi and Syrian populations. Since January, Norway has contributed a total of 200 million Norwegian kroner—approximately \$31.4 million—to the humanitarian response in Iraq. In addition, the GoN plans to deploy several technical staff to support the humanitarian response.
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## 2014 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of September 26, 2014. All international figures are according to OCHA's Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the current calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments based on the fiscal year, which began on October 1, 2013.

### CONTEXT

- The situation within Iraq remained relatively stable until 2014, when the armed group the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) 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.
- The IKR has already been hosting large numbers of refugees from Syria fleeing the Syrian conflict since early 2012; to date, UNHCR has registered more than 215,000 Syrian refugees in Iraq, the vast majority of whom are staying in the IKR. As a result, local government authorities and humanitarian actors working in the area have experience addressing the needs of newly displaced populations, and a basic humanitarian infrastructure exists in the region. However, the persistent influxes over recent years are challenging the response capacity of the Kurdish Regional Government and local officials.
- 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 Salah ad Din's city of 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, 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. As a result, 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.
- On August 11, USAID deployed a DART to help coordinate USG efforts to address the urgent humanitarian needs of newly displaced populations throughout 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 2014<sup>1</sup>**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Implementing Partners	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	As Sulaymaniyah, Diyala, Dohuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah ad Din	\$10,734,671
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection	Countrywide	\$500,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$250,000
UNICEF	Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Northern Iraq	\$1,000,000
USAID/OFDA Commodity Airlifts	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Northern Iraq	\$360,770
	Program Support Costs		\$95,864
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ</b>			<b>\$12,941,305</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
WFP	Meal Replacement Bars	Countrywide	\$143,516
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$143,516</b>
<b>STATE/PRM<sup>4</sup></b>			
Implementing Partner	Health, Protection, Relief Commodities, WASH	Countrywide	\$30,300,000
Implementing Partners	Durable Solutions, Livelihoods, Nutrition, Protection, Relief Commodities, IDP and Host Community Advocacy and Reconciliation, Education	Baghdad, Diyala, As Sulaymaniyah, Kirkuk, Erbil	\$8,665,493
IOM	Emergency Response, Livelihoods, Relief Commodities, IDP Mapping and Registration	Countrywide	\$21,000,000
UN-HABITAT	Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
UNHCR	Protection, Shelter, Relief Commodities, Registration	Countrywide	\$6,600,000
UNHCR	Protection, Shelter, Relief Commodities, Registration, Health, Livelihoods	Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria	\$90,100,000
UNHCR	Health Programs for Iraqi Refugees	Jordan	\$1,984,463
Implementing Partners	Health, Psychosocial Assistance, Livelihoods, Protection, Case Management, Capacity-Building for Government Authorities	Jordan	\$4,226,114
Implementing Partners	Protection, Relief Commodities, Livelihoods	Lebanon	\$1,799,964
Implementing Partners	Health, Psychosocial Assistance, Protection, Relief Commodities, Education	Syria	\$4,968,165
U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA)	Assistance for Palestinian Iraqi Refugees	Syria	\$1,151,334
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$171,795,533</b>
<b>DoD</b>			
	Airdrops of Ready-to-Eat Meals and Safe Drinking Water	Sinjar Mountain	\$1,190,000
	Airdrops of Ready-to-Eat Meals and Safe Drinking Water	Amirli town	\$312,000
<b>TOTAL DoD ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$1,502,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ IN FY 2014</b>			<b>\$186,382,354</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 26, 2014.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance. Funding supports humanitarian programming benefiting Iraqi IDPs; 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; 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](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:
  - The Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - 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>