

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

WFP Iraq Country Brief July 2022

Operational Context

In Iraq, intermittent conflict and impact of climate change continue to affect the lives of people. There are currently 1.2 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 4.1 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. Insecurity, lack of livelihoods, and destroyed or damaged housing hamper people's ability to return home. WFP Iraq's assistance focuses on saving lives, changing lives: supporting the Government of Iraq's social protection work towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2: Zero Hunger. Iraq's progress on the SDGs has been hindered by the challenges of rebuilding infrastructure in areas affected by conflict with ISIL, economic shocks caused by COVID-19, weak institutions and governance, climate change, delayed implementation of reforms and inadequate opportunities for youth.

WFP Iraq is currently shifting its role from emergency response to resilience building and long-term sustainable development. This paradigm shift is critical as Iraq is currently experiencing adverse effects of climate change (5th most affected country globally) especially in southern Iraq, which is reflected in reduced rainfall and decreased water levels in the country's two rivers (Tigris and Euphrates) resulting in increased salinity that, in turn, heavily affects agriculture.



In Numbers



256,176 people assisted

in July 2022

US\$3.2 m cash-based transfers made

US\$44.2 m six months (August 2022-Jan 2023) net funding requirements

Operational Updates

- In July, WFP provided cash and food assistance to 184,091 internally displaced persons (IDPs), 68,725 refugees, and 3,360 people from vulnerable communities through resilience building initiatives.
- In early July 2022, the Ambassador of Japan in Iraq visited WFP's resilience projects in Anbar, funded by Japan. The visit provided an opportunity for Japan to receive a firsthand account of the impact of the projects which rehabilitated 24 pumping and sewage drainage station. The stations continue to support 37 hectares of land enabling communities to grow and harvest crops.
- In July, WFP handed over mechanized farming equipment (tractors) to the Directorate of Ninewa to support small holder farmers in the governorate and enhance the agricultural sector in Ninewa.
- Under the National School Feeding Programme, WFP is preparing for the implementation of the School Feeding programme (SFP) with the Ministry of Education for the new academic year 2022/2023, that is expected to start in September.
- Data collection under the WFP retargeting exercise across its entire beneficiary base continued in the month of July. The exercise seeks to ensure that the most vulnerable families who are unable to survive without assistance continued to receive support to meet their needs. Results will be verified and issued once the targeting exercise is concluded.
- In July, the conflict sensitivity team conducted a mission to Thi-qar, Basra and Muthana to assess the social cohesion component of the resilience programme. This mission took place to ensure WFP resilience activities are conducted in conflict- sensitive manners.
- Under the reform of Iraq's Public Distribution System (PDS), WFP continues to assist the government to print smart cards as part of an overall digital approach. As of July 2022, 34,000 digital PDS smartcards were printed for citizens at the Sadr city branch in Baghdad.

Contact info: Zahraa Salih (zahraa.salih@wfp.org) **Representative:** Ally Raza Qureshi Further information: <u>www.wfp.org/countries/iraq</u> **Photo Caption:** WFP Head of Basra Office participated in planting the mangrove trees in Khor al-Zubair for celebration of the International Day for the Conservation of Mangrove Ecosystems.

WFP/Ali AlKinani

WFP Country Strategy



Country Strategic Plan (CSP, 1 January 2020 – 31 December 2024)	
Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
601 m	266 m
2022 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (Aug 2022 – January 2023)
141.2 m	44.2 m

Strategic Result 1: Access to food (SDG Target 2.1)

Strategic Outcome 1 (SO 1): Crisis-affected people in Iraq, including IDPs and refugees, are able to meet basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises throughout the year. *Focus area: Crisis Response*

Activities:

• Provide unconditional food assistance to IDPs, refugees and other crisis-affected people.

Strategic Result 4: Sustainable food systems (SDG Target 2.4)

Strategic Outcome 2 (SO 2): Targeted communities, including farmers, have enhanced livelihoods and increased resilience to shocks by 2024 *Focus area: Resilience Building*

Activities:

 Provide livelihood support, asset creation and climate adaptation activities, including capacity strengthening, to targeted farmers and communities.

Strategic Result 5: Capacity Strengthening (SDG Target 17.9)

Strategic Outcome 3 (SO 3): National and subnational institutions have strengthened capacities and systems for targeting and assisting foodinsecure vulnerable people by 2024 *Focus area: Resilience Building*

Activities:

- Provide institutional capacity strengthening to government officials and partners.
- Provide support to government officials and partners in enhancing information technology for managing PDS modernization and in strengthening the safety net component of the government social protection system.
- WFP together with UNICEF and ILO completed consultations with federal government leaders on policy making and the development of a strategy to create a single registry. The consultation sessions took place in Baghdad with representatives from relevant ministries (MOP, MOLSA, MOI, MOE, and MOH) and UN agencies.

Monitoring

 In July, WFP Conducted 79 monitoring visits, including 53 cash-out points for IDPs and Syrian refugees, 8 livelihood and resilience sites, 10 e-voucher points and 8 shops. In addition, 12 monitoring interviews were carried out with people assisted.

Challenges

• The Net Funding Requirement from August 2022-January 2023 is USD 44.2 million. Unless additional funding is received in time, WFP Iraq will face shortage of resources in October 2022.

Donors

WFP thanks all partners for their direct and multilateral contributions including Canada, Denmark, European Union, Germany, Government of Iraq, Ireland, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, UN Agencies, United States, the World Bank, PepsiCo Foundation, and Individual Donors through #ShareTheMeal.