

IRAQ - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #3, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

JUNE 24, 2019

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

6.7
million

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Iraq
UN – November 2018

4.3
million

IDP Returns in Iraq Since 2014
IOM – April 2019

1.7
million

IDPs in Iraq
IOM – April 2019

501,312

IDPs in Ninewa Governorate
IOM – April 2019

256,058

Iraqi Refugees in Neighboring Countries
UNHCR – December 2018

HIGHLIGHTS

- Approximately 5 percent of camp-based IDPs intend to return to areas of origin in the coming year, a decrease since August 2018 survey
- Relief actors respond to humanitarian needs arising from March–April floods
- USAID/FFP partner WFP reaches nearly 484,000 people with emergency food assistance in April

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$252,766,960
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USAID/FFP ²	\$31,692,210
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State/PRM ³	\$300,650,383
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\$585,109,553

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Heavy rainfall and subsequent flooding during late March and early April resulted in displacement, disruptions to safe water supply, and increased risk of waterborne diseases, affecting an estimated 273,000 people across several central and southern governorates, the UN reports. Humanitarian agencies provided emergency food assistance, medical supplies, and other relief items to flood-affected populations in April.
- In mid-April, a U.S. Government (USG) delegation—including U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Joey Hood and representatives from USAID’s Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) and State/PRM—traveled to Anbar Governorate’s Fallujah District, where local authorities and representatives of Anbar’s Amriyat al-Fallujah internally displaced person (IDP) camp reported that movement restrictions in the camp, limited access to civil documentation among IDPs, and impediments to IDP returns remain primary concerns in the governorate.
- The Government of Iraq (GoI) reported more than 37,000 acres of agricultural land across Iraq had burned in more than 270 separate incidents from May 8–June 8; unconfirmed origins of the fires include natural causes, controlled burns escalating, and acts of terrorism. Diyala, Kirkuk, Ninewa, and Salah al-Din governorates were most affected as of late May.
- On May 26, the UN Security Council extended the mandate of the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) until May 31, 2020. UNAMI will continue to support ongoing GoI stabilization, reconstruction, and development efforts, as well as assist the GoI with the coordination and delivery of humanitarian assistance and the safe and voluntary return or local integration of Iraqi refugees and IDPs.

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)

FLOODS

- Heavy rainfall and subsequent flooding from late March to early April had displaced nearly 5,300 households—nearly 31,700 individuals—across Basrah, Maysan, and Salah al-Din governorates as of mid-April, with additional households affected in Dhi Qar, Diyala, and Wasit governorates, the UN reports. Local and national government agencies led response efforts, with relief agencies such as the Iraqi Red Crescent Society providing emergency assistance to flood-affected households, including food and relief commodities.
 - Flooding affected Maysan in particular, with an estimated 210,000 people requiring safe drinking water during the height of the response. In response, the UN World Health Organization (WHO) provided emergency medical kits and supplies and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) provided hygiene kits and other relief items to flood-affected populations in Maysan. Limited existing humanitarian presence and a shortage of pre-positioned relief supplies constrained flood response efforts in some southern governorates, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) reports.
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POPULATION DISPLACEMENT AND RETURNS

- Approximately 1.67 million people remained displaced across 18 governorates of Iraq as of April 30, representing a decrease of nearly 80,000 IDPs compared to the total recorded at the end of February, IOM reports. Ninewa, Dohuk, and Erbil governorates continue to host the largest numbers of IDPs, with approximately 501,000; 330,000; and 212,000, respectively. IOM also recorded an increase in the number of returnees during March and April compared to January and February. Reasons for return included improved security, service provision, and rehabilitation of houses, remaining consistent with reasons cited in previous months, according to IOM.
 - Despite the increase in returns in recent months, the overall proportion of camp-based displaced households intending to return to areas of origin in the coming year declined from 9 percent in August 2018 to 5 percent in February 2019, according to a recent survey conducted in 49 IDP camps by the REACH Initiative and the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster—the coordinating body for CCCM activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders. In Dohuk and Erbil, less than 1 percent of IDPs intend to return in the coming year. Displaced households continued to report damage or destruction of housing as the primary reason to postpone returning, followed by lack of financial resources, limited livelihood opportunities, and security concerns. Formal camps across Iraq hosted nearly 429,000 people as of April, according to the CCCM Cluster.
 - As more than 50 percent of internally displaced Iraqis have been displaced for more than three years, IOM, the Returns Working Group, and NGO Social Inquiry conducted a study in Baghdad and Sulaimaniya governorates to assess the factors influencing IDPs’ sense of integration into host communities. According to the study results, host community acceptance of IDPs and feelings of belonging were often influenced by shared values, economic conditions, and the extent of available resources for host community and displaced populations. To facilitate IDP integration, the study authors recommended longer-term support to address development, governance, and justice challenges, as well as livelihoods and capacity-building interventions to improve economic conditions for IDPs and host communities.
 - Between January and February, more than 170 Iraqis returned from Syria into Ninewa, according to State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Ninety percent of the returnees originated from Anbar, while the remainder originated from Ninewa and Salah al-Din governorates. In addition, more than 650 Iraqis returned from Turkey, of whom approximately 380 returned to Ninewa and 200 returned to Anbar, while others returned to Baghdad, Kirkuk, Najaf, and Salah al-Din governorates. The returns from Syria and Turkey were self-organized, UNHCR reports.
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PROTECTION

- An estimated 45,000 children displaced in IDP camps across Iraq lack civil identification documents due to conflict, according to the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). Many families lost documents while fleeing violence or had documentation confiscated by the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) or by Iraqi Security Forces due to perceived

ISIS ties. A lack of civil documentation can prevent access to basic services such as education and health care and puts displaced children at risk of marginalization, which may exacerbate ethno-religious tensions in conflict-affected communities, NRC reports. The organization called on the GoI to enforce Iraqi citizens' rights to legal identification and reduce barriers to obtaining documentation. Humanitarian agencies, including USG partners, continue to provide critical protection assistance to displaced and conflict-affected populations, including providing legal services to support civil documentation, distributing multi-purpose cash assistance and relief commodities, and providing gender-based violence (GBV) services and psychosocial support (PSS) programs.

- In February, State/PRM partner UNHCR provided multi-purpose cash assistance to nearly 33,000 displaced households and emergency relief items to more than 2,600 households. The UN agency also conducted protection monitoring visits reaching nearly 23,000 vulnerable people. In 2018, State/PRM support also enabled UNHCR to provide protection services throughout Iraq—including legal services for more than 236,000 people—and support capacity building for local governments.
- A State/PRM partner is operating three community safe spaces in Dohuk's Zakho city, Erbil's Koya town, and Ninewa's Mosul city and provided both center- and home-based GBV and protection services to more than 4,200 people between January and March. Nearly 500 individuals participated in group or structured PSS activities during the reporting period. In addition, nearly 80 girls participated in a program supporting adolescent girls, and nearly 100 female caregivers participated in a parenting program. The partner also trained nearly 90 staff from other community-based organizations on GBV prevention and response.
- Between September and March, a State/PRM partner provided protection services to refugee, IDP, and host community youth ages 10–24 years in Diyala and Sulaimaniya. The partner trained nearly 130 coaches and youth leaders to conduct project activities and is operating four community centers, which nearly 12,000 youth utilized during the reporting period. Nearly 2,600 adolescents participated in structured child protection and PSS programs at the centers, while nearly 7,200 individuals attended additional informal sessions. Youth also participated in livelihoods programming at the centers, including internships and business management skills and employability training, and received business grants.
- With support from USAID/OFDA, an NGO is providing explosive hazard risk education for populations in Dohuk, Ninewa, and Sulaimaniya, including training for community focal points and teachers. In March, the organization reached approximately 2,200 people in Ninewa, 2,000 people in Dohuk, and 870 people in Sulaimaniya with hazard risk education.

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- Despite favorable agricultural conditions overall, heavy rainfall and resultant flooding in late March and early April adversely affected some cereal-producing areas in Basrah, Diyala, Maysan, and Wasit along the Tigris River, as well as some areas of Kirkuk, Ninewa, and Sulaimaniya, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reports. While the GoI had previously forecast the 2019 wheat harvest at 4 million metric tons (MT)—approximately 25 percent above average and 80 percent more than the 2018 wheat harvest—FAO notes that final production will likely be decreased due to the effects of the March flooding.
- USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) reached nearly 484,000 people in 10 governorates with emergency food assistance—including more than 3,100 MT of in-kind food assistance and nearly \$4.2 million in cash-based transfers—in March, exceeding the number of people WFP aimed to reach during the month. The UN agency also reached more than 293,000 people across 10 governorates with emergency food assistance in April, providing more than 1,000 MT of in-kind food assistance and \$3.1 million in cash-based transfers for food. WFP noted that flooding and infrastructure-related issues in 11 IDP camps in Ninewa were major barriers to accessing populations; inclement weather in April also slowed beneficiaries' redemption of cash-based transfers for food in local markets.
- During March and April, WFP held two strategic workshops with the GoI Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MoMD), Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Social Affairs, and Ministry of Trade, which oversees Iraq's Public Distribution System—a social safety net program that provides food assistance to vulnerable households—to

strengthen coordination with and among the agencies regarding planned food distributions. As a result of overall enhanced coordination with the GoI, WFP altered food distribution plans in multiple IDP camps in Anbar and Salah al-Din in March to provide food assistance that complemented MoMD's distributions at the sites. The UN agency also provided complementary distributions of cereals, lentils, and cash-based transfers to supplement MoMD distributions of food assistance to IDPs in Dohuk, Erbil, and Ninewa governorates during April. The coordination with MoMD enables WFP to maintain consistent levels of assistance in areas where both agencies operate, as well as provide assistance to food-insecure people in additional locations.

- In mid-April, a State/PRM partner distributed 110 calves, as well as animal fodder, to cattle farmers in Hamdaniya District's Qaraqosh town, Ninewa, as part of a project to help re-establish agricultural livelihoods affected by conflict. The partner is also supporting more than 40 additional poultry, sheep, and agricultural farms in the area to recover livelihood assets and is digging 10 wells to benefit farming communities. To increase sustainability of the project, the partner helped establish a cooperative association for 170 farmers in Qaraqosh, equipped with an asset repayment plan that will enable the association to assist additional farmers. In mid-May, the partner provided vocational training to 20 returnee and host community cattle farmers, their family members, and workers in Qaraqosh. Training topics included livestock health management, uses of fodder for fattening cattle, and best practices to increase livestock productivity.

HEALTH AND WASH

- USAID/OFDA partners continue to provide essential health care and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services to vulnerable households in Dohuk and Ninewa. In March, one USAID/OFDA partner reached nearly 1,600 people in Dohuk's Sumel and Zakho districts with primary health care services. In Ninewa's Hamdaniya and Tal Kayf districts, the partner supported nearly 5,500 people with health care services and nearly 300 people with MHPSS activities during the reporting period. With USAID/OFDA support, another partner is providing primary health care and PSS services to conflict-affected communities in Sumel, Tal Kayf, Zakho, and Ninewa's Sinjar District. In March, the partner conducted primary health care consultations and provided PSS services for more than 1,500 people in Sinjar and approximately 2,900 people in Tal Kayf through mobile medical teams and primary health care facilities.
- A USAID/OFDA partner provided essential health care services to nearly 25,500 IDPs in Hamdaniya and Sumel during March. The assistance included comprehensive primary health care services, medical referrals for advanced care, community-based health education activities, and MHPSS and reproductive health services. The NGO also manages a mobile medical unit (MMU) to reach underserved areas of Hamdaniya. Through the MMU, the partner conducted more than 530 health consultations in one of Hamdaniya's sub-districts, as well as delivered MHPSS services to vulnerable populations and referred patients for additional care at health centers in March.
- Between September and December 2018, a State/PRM partner provided GBV, MHPSS, and primary health care services to nearly 20,000 IDPs, refugees, and host community members in Dohuk and Erbil through static health clinics and MMUs. During the same period, the partner reached more than 35,500 community members with targeted messaging on GBV prevention, available health care services, and patient rights. The partner also supports capacity building for staff, training nearly 100 health care providers and community health workers on effective triage systems, medical supply chains, and psychological first aid during the reporting period.
- USAID/OFDA also continues to support critical water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions for communities recovering from conflict. In March, a USAID/OFDA partner distributed hygiene kits and conducted hygiene promotion sessions for more than 3,300 people in Hamdaniya and nearly 1,400 people in Tal Kayf.

EDUCATION

- In 2018, State/PRM partner UNICEF increased access to learning for more than 7,500 children in Anbar, Baghdad, and Ninewa. The UN agency provided pre-fabricated classrooms to support nearly 2,700 children in Anbar and Baghdad and provided learning materials to more than 20,000 children in Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa, and Sulaimaniya. State/PRM funding also helped UNICEF provide non-formal education opportunities to nearly 13,000 children and early childhood education activities for nearly 600 children ages 3–5 years old.
 - Between January and March, a State/PRM partner supported nearly 30 schools—with more than 13,300 IDP, returnee, and host community students enrolled—across Baghdad, Dohuk, and Ninewa. The partner conducted training on child protection principles for more than 150 school staff and training on social–emotional learning techniques for nearly 400 teachers; the partner also provided furniture and educational materials to more than 20 schools.
 - With State/PRM support, a second partner provided protection and education services to IDPs, returnees, and host community members in Anbar, Baghdad, Diyala, Kirkuk, and Salah al-Din between January and March. During the period, the partner reached more than 560 youth with PSS services and school enrollment support, provided more than 860 teachers and parents with information on GBV and other protection concerns, and reached more than 28,200 people with information on the importance of education. The partner also works to improve access to education for children by facilitating more than 10 local education action groups and nearly 10 district-level working groups.
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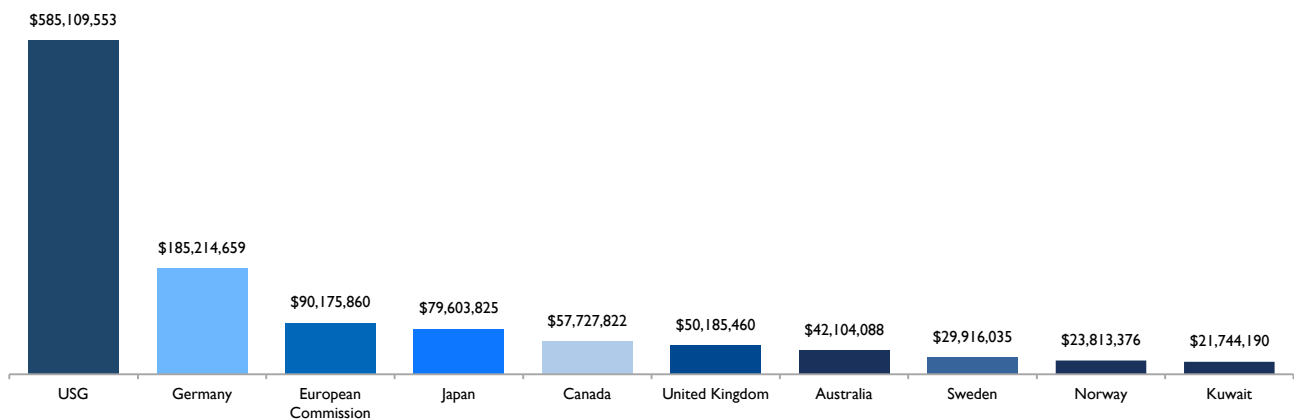
SHELTER

- With support from USAID/OFDA, an NGO is implementing critical shelter programs to support conflict-affected populations in Ninewa’s Hamdaniya and Mosul districts. In February, the organization distributed cash grants to more than 90 individuals in Hamdaniya to support the basic repairs of shelters damaged by armed conflict and military operations. The repairs will support nearly 700 people residing in the shelters. Additionally, the partner distributed cash grants to nearly 90 people in Mosul for shelter repairs, which will support nearly 720 people residing in the shelters. In March, the partner distributed a second tranche of cash grants to 40 shelter owners in Hamdaniya to support basic repairs of shelters damaged by armed conflict and military operations; the repairs aim to support more than 320 people who reside in the shelters.
- Between November and December, State/PRM partner UNHCR provided 150 temporary housing units to two villages in Diyala Governorate, where recent conflict and military operations destroyed most of the villages’ houses. The units, which are designed to last for three years, will support recent returnees and encourage other IDPs to return to the villages from areas of displacement in Diyala’s Ba’quba District and Kirkuk and Sulaimaniya governorates. UNHCR also installed water filtration systems to provide safe drinking water to village residents during the reporting period.

CONTEXT

- The situation within Iraq remained relatively stable until January 2014, when ISIS forces 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 Iraqi Kurdistan Region, to escape fighting.
- On August 11, 2014, USAID deployed a DART to help coordinate USG efforts to address the urgent humanitarian needs of newly displaced populations throughout Iraq. DART and State/PRM staff work 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 also established a Response Management Team (RMT) based in Washington, D.C.
- Approximately 6.7 million people in Iraq will require humanitarian assistance in 2019, according to the UN. Prolonged displacement is exhausting the resources of IDPs and host community members alike at a time when the capacity of both the GoI and Kurdistan Regional Government to respond to humanitarian needs remains challenged by budgetary constraints. Meanwhile, UN agencies, NGOs, and other relief actors face funding shortages, logistical challenges, and security constraints that complicate efforts to meet critical needs.
- In August 2014, the Interagency Standing Committee (IASC) activated a system-wide Level 3 (L3) response for Iraq due to the pace and volatility of the humanitarian crisis. L3 responses are activated in the most complex humanitarian emergencies, where the highest level of mobilization across the humanitarian system is required to scale up and meet needs. In late December 2017, the IASC downgraded the Iraq emergency from an L3 designation.
- On October 4, 2018, U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Douglas A. Silliman redeclared a disaster in Iraq for FY 2019 due to the ongoing complex emergency and humanitarian crisis.

2018-2019 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of June 24, 2019. All international figures are according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect publically announced USG commitments for FY 2018, which began on October 1, 2017. Non-USG funding figures do not necessarily reflect pledges announced during the Iraq donor conference on July 13, 2017.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
Implementing Partners	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Monitoring and Evaluation	Countrywide	\$5,914,679
Implementing Partners	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Anbar, Baghdad, Dohuk, Diyala, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah al-Din, Sulaimaniya	\$142,526,060
IOM	Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$21,000,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$11,000,000
UNICEF	Protection	Countrywide	\$150,000
UNICEF	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, WASH	Anbar, Baghdad, Basrah, Dohuk, Dhi Qar, Diyala, Erbil, Kirkuk, Muthanna, Najaf, Ninewa, Salah al-Din, Sulaimaniya	\$36,800,000
UNICEF	WASH	Basrah	\$750,000 ³
UN Office for Project Services	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,506,830
WHO	Health	Anbar, Dohuk, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah al-Din	\$30,300,000
	Program Support		\$2,819,391
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$252,766,960
USAID/FFP³			
Implementing Partner	Monitoring and Evaluation	Countrywide	\$192,210
Implementing Partner	Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance	Anbar, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah al-Din	\$4,000,000
WFP	Cash-Based Transfers for Food, Local and Regional Food Procurement	Countrywide	\$27,500,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$31,692,210
STATE/PRM⁴			
Implementing Partners	Advocacy and Reconciliation, Capacity Building for Government, CCCM, Durable Solutions, Education, Emergency Response, Health, Livelihoods, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$78,564,456
Implementing Partners	Capacity Building for Government, CCCM, Education, Emergency Response, Livelihoods, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey	\$9,195,927
IOM	Advocacy and Reconciliation, Capacity Building, Durable Solutions, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Livelihoods	Countrywide	\$23,000,000
IOM	Emergency Relief, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Turkey	\$300,000
UNHCR	CCCM, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$147,300,000
UNHCR	Durable Solutions, Emergency Response, Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance, Multi-Sector Assistance, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Jordan, Lebanon, Syria	\$35,600,000

UNICEF	Education	Countrywide	\$5,190,000
UN Human Settlement Program	Capacity Building for Government, Durable Solutions, Livelihoods, Shelter and Settlements	Anbar, Basrah, Ninewa	\$1,500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$300,650,383
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019			\$585,109,553

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2014–2019

TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING	\$796,949,215
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING	\$213,735,726
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING	\$1,215,701,666
TOTAL DOD FUNDING⁵	\$77,357,233
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE IRAQ RESPONSE IN FY 2014–2018	\$2,303,743,840

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of June 24, 2019.

² State/PRM and USAID/FFP totals in the table include FY 2018–2019 funding, while USAID/OFDA totals include only FY 2018 funding.

³ Funding represents the FY 2018 USAID/OFDA contribution provided in response to the September 10, 2018, disaster declaration for a health emergency in Basrah.

⁴ USAID/FFP funding supports humanitarian programming benefitting IDPs and other conflict-affected Iraqis; figures do not include USAID/FFP funding for activities assisting Syrian refugees in Iraq.

⁵ State/PRM funding supports humanitarian programming inside Iraq and for refugee populations who fled Iraq for neighboring countries; figures do not include funding for activities assisting Syrian refugees in Iraq.

⁶ U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

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, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.661.7710.
 - 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>