



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**



Iraq – Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance

Fact Sheet #5, Fiscal Year (FY) 2003

April 4, 2003

Background

- Humanitarian conditions have deteriorated in Iraq since the 1990 invasion of Kuwait and the subsequent Government of Iraq (GOI) manipulation of international sanctions. In 1996, the GOI accepted the U.N. Oil-for-Food Program (OFF), after which humanitarian conditions improved.
- Between 1991 and 1996, the U.S. Government provided nearly \$794 million in humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in northern Iraq.
- Since 1996, revenues from OFF have provided food, medicine, and other civilian goods to assist vulnerable Iraqis. U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan noted in a letter to the U.N. Security Council, that the GOI has ordered and paid for food, medicine, and other humanitarian supplies under OFF that have not yet been delivered.
- The World Food Program (WFP) estimates that 16 million Iraqis—approximately 60 percent of the total population—rely solely on food rations distributed through OFF in order to meet household needs.
- On March 19, 2003, coalition forces began military operations in Iraq. As a result of the conflict, the U.N. Secretary General suspended the OFF food distribution system. On March 28, the U.N. Security Council unanimously passed a resolution that allows the U.N. to administer Iraq’s OFF program for 45 days. As the U.N. takes over the OFF program, WFP’s first priority is to contact recently active suppliers able to rapidly provide food, medicine, and other humanitarian supplies.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Internally Displaced in Iraq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 250,000-300,000 in Kurdish-controlled northern Iraq • 22,000 concentrated near Panjwin 	UNICEF (March 26, 2003) UNOHCI (March 26, 2003)
Refugees from Iraq	Old caseload refugees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 203,000 – Iran • 5,100 – Saudi Arabia • 250,000-300,000 – Jordan • 40,000 – Syria 	U.S. Committee for Refugees (2001)

Baghdad and Baghdad Governorate

- International media sources report that civilians are trying to escape the fighting around Baghdad’s international airport, located 12 miles southwest of the city center. Electricity to the city ceased late on April 3.
- The U.N. Office for the Humanitarian Coordinator in Iraq (UNOHCI) reported on April 3 that water treatment plants in Ar Ramadi and Al Fallujah in Al Anbar governorate, Al Iskandariyah and Al Mahmudiyah south of Baghdad, and Al Hillah in Babil governorate operate at 40-50 percent capacity due to power cuts.
- Due to the destruction of a bridge on the main highway from Baghdad to southern Iraq, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has not been able to assist people in Al Hillah, Karbala’, An Nasiriyah, and An Najaf. ICRC canceled a delivery of medical supplies to Al Hillah hospital that was scheduled for April 4.
- ICRC assessments of Baghdad governorate indicate that populations in Ar Ramadi, Al Mahmudiyah, and Al Husseinia lack potable water, due in part to disruptions in the power supply.

Umm Qasr

- As a result of low water pressure, a 24,000-liter water tanker takes between two and three hours to fill with water at the pipeline from Kuwait near Umm Qasr. When the pipeline is operating at full capacity, each tanker takes 45 minutes to fill. On April 4, a water engineer from the Humanitarian Operations Center (HOC) in Kuwait will inspect the Umm Qasr end of the pipeline to identify the problem and a means to increase the water pressure flow.

Al Basrah

- On April 4, a two-truck ICRC convoy will attempt to deliver water containers and medical supplies to hospitals in Al Basrah. The ICRC has received assurances from U.S.-led military forces and Iraqi militia leaders that the convoy will be granted safe passage.

- According to the HOC, residents who fled Umm Qasr for Al Basrah prior to the conflict are returning to Umm Qasr on foot or by civilian vehicles.
- ICRC reported on April 3 that ICRC technicians and local engineers from Al Basrah have repaired two water-treatment plants in Shaebe and Al Zubayr in southern Iraq. More than 80,000 beneficiaries in Shaebe, Al Zubayr, and Safwan who have been without piped water since March 22 are now receiving potable water.

Northern Iraq

- According to World Health Organization (WHO) water quality control tests in Arbil governorate, the percentage of contaminated water has increased from 11.8 percent in February 2003 to 15.2 percent in March.
- On April 3, WFP distributed approximately 9 metric tons (MT) of dried whole milk and 6 MT of iodized salt to 37,500 beneficiaries in a densely populated area of Dahuk.
- On April 4, WFP began transporting 1,000 MT of wheat flour to Dahuk governorate from Turkey. The Turkish Ministry of Health has also approved the movement of an additional 2,000 MT of wheat flour to Arbil and 3,000 MT to As Sulaymaniyah.

Current Humanitarian Situation by Sector

Coordination

- According to UNOHCI, beginning on April 1, Turkey's Ministries of Transportation and Finance issued a new decree that lifts taxation on foreign vehicles that carry goods or passengers for Iraq humanitarian operations to Turkey or to other countries via Turkey. However, access in southeast Turkey remains difficult for humanitarian organizations due to insecurity.

Food Security

- UNOHCI reported on April 3 that the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has noted some depletion in Iraq of animal vaccine stocks (black leg disease and brucellosis) and an anti-tick dipping chemical for small ruminants, which may pose a problem in one month's time. However, no animal disease outbreaks have been reported.

Health

- On April 3, International Medical Corps (IMC) conducted an assessment of the Az Zubayr city hospital. The 132-bed hospital serves 30 hospitalized patients and 500-600 outpatients daily. A full-range of medical specialists are on staff. Essential drugs are limited, with acute shortages only in hypertension and psychiatric medications. The medical staff appeared well trained and knowledgeable of modern medical practices and techniques.
- On April 3, ICRC reported that ICRC technicians continue to try and repair water- and power-supply systems in seven hospitals in Baghdad. ICRC has provided 10,000 1-liter bags of drinking water to two hospitals in Al Qadissiyah and Ibn Al Nafees. Medical needs have been identified at Al Hillah surgical hospital, located 60 km from Baghdad. ICRC is assessing the security environment and may provide emergency medical assistance to the hospital.

Internally Displaced

- According to UNOHCI, population movements have been reported within Iraq and close to border areas, but no refugees have fled the country. In Iran, local authorities have advised UNHCR of an estimated 30,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Al 'Amarah area (Maysan governorate) currently hosted by relatives 5 km from the border. Approximately 10,000 people may have fled Baghdad and are located in Badre, 10 km from the Iranian border.
- UNOHCI reports that a small, undetermined number of displaced may be seeking assistance in Umm Qasr, Al Basrah, An Najaf, and An Nasiriyah.
- The U.N. Office for Project Services (UNOPS) reported on April 3 that local authorities are encouraging IDP families in Arbil governorate who are living in 14 schools in Soran, to return home. The number of families returning home has decreased the number of IDP families in the schools from 267 to 156, and two of the 14 schools occupied by IDPs are empty. However, military operations near Dahuk have resulted in increased population displacements from Dahuk city towards northern villages in the governorate.

U.S. Government Response

Pre-Positioning

- Prior to Coalition military activity in Iraq, USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) provided funding to assist U.N. and NGO preparedness activities. In addition, USAID/OFDA has pre-positioned relief commodities in three warehouses in Jordan, Kuwait, and UAE.
- USAID/FFP has supported WFP's planning and preparation efforts to meet the emergency food needs of vulnerable populations in Iraq.

- The State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) provided assistance to UNHCR and IOM to pre-position supplies for 600,000 potential Iraqi refugees and IDPs located at Iraq's borders, to establish transit camps for TCNs fleeing Iraq, and to pre-position supplies for the transportation of refugees and other migrants.

Emergency Relief

- The United States Government deployed a DART to the region to assess humanitarian needs and coordinate the emergency relief effort. Sixty DART members are located in Kuwait, Turkey, Jordan, Cyprus, and Qatar and are working closely with U.N. agencies, NGOs, and in coordination with U.S. military Civil Affairs personnel at the HOC.
- USAID/OFDA is supporting NGO emergency assistance activities with quick-impact projects and IDP support.
- USAID/FFP has provided emergency food commodities through the Emerson Trust to WFP to meet the food needs of vulnerable Iraqis. USAID/FFP has also provided P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance to be distributed to food insecure Iraqis and cash to purchase commodities in the region.
- USAID/OTI has supported IOM and Development Alternatives, Incorporated (DAI) to prepare for the implementation of the Iraq Transition Initiative (ITI), which supports political stabilization and community recovery activities in post-conflict Iraq. On April 3, USAID/OTI signed a one-year cooperative agreement with IOM to continue support for ITI, bringing total assistance to IOM to \$1.7 million.
- State/PRM has contributed assistance for the pre-positioning and emergency response activities of UNHCR, ICRC, IFRC, and IOM.

Reconstruction

- To date, USAID's Bureau for Asia and the Near East (USAID/ANE) has provided assistance for reconstruction activities in Iraq. USAID/ANE has supported UNICEF and WHO for health, education, and water and sanitation needs, and Stevedoring Services of America (SSA) to assess and manage the Umm Qasr port.

Other Donor and International Organization Assistance*

- The United Nations reported on April 3 that it had received pledges totaling \$1.2 billion in response to its \$2.2 billion aid appeal for the Iraq crisis issued on March 28. The US has provided \$435 million to the appeal, and the European Union (EU) has committed \$305 million for food and humanitarian efforts.
- On April 3, the Government of Korea announced that it will provide \$10 million to UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, and Korean NGOs to implement emergency assistance programs in Iraq.

DONOR	US \$ (MILLIONS)	DATE (2003)	ASSISTANCE SNAPSHOT
China		March 27	Tents
Spain	\$20.0	March 27	Refugee assistance in Iran, Jordan, Syria, and Turkey
CIDA	\$100.0	March 26	U.N. agencies, international organizations (IOs), NGOs, CARE
Canada	\$5.6	----	Canada for water and sanitation, food, shelter, and health
Taiwan	\$4.3	March 27	Response to U.N. Preparedness Measures Appeal
Japan	\$112.5	March 25	Refugee assistance – food, medicine, NFIs
United Kingdom	\$330	March 24	Humanitarian Assistance and Reconstruction
Kuwait		March 24	U.N. agencies, IOs, and NGOs -- food, health kits, water units, winter supply kits, primary health, IDP assistance
Australia	\$29.6	March 21	45,000 meals/day and an emergency medical center
	\$4.4	March 20	100,000 MT of wheat and distribution costs
	\$5.9	---	U.N. Agencies and ICRC
European Union	\$3.2	March 21	Planning and preparation funding
Ireland	\$0.8	March 20	ICRC
	\$15.9		UN OCHA
New Zealand	\$3.3	March 20	U.N. Agencies for planning and preparation
Netherlands	\$19.6	April 2	U.N. Agencies, IOs, and NGOs for humanitarian relief
Norway	\$21.6	March 20	U.N. Consolidated Appeal and ICRC
France	\$10.7		NGOs for humanitarian assistance
Germany	\$10.7		Humanitarian Assistance
Russia		March 22-23	U.N. Agencies and ICRC
Korea	\$10	April 3	150 MT humanitarian supplies for refugee preparation in Iran
			U.N. Agencies and Korean NGOs
TOTAL DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE**			\$735.2 MILLION

*This compilation was drawn from ReliefWeb and may not be comprehensive.

** This total is approximate as the value of donated commodities is not available in some cases.

Public Donation Information

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash donations to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for their activities in the Gulf can be found in the "How Can I Help" section at [www.usaid.gov/iraq].
- 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 staff time, warehouse space, etc); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- General information on making donations and volunteering can be found at:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov/iraq -> "How Can I Help?"
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or 703-276-1914
 - InterAction: www.interaction.org -> "Guide to Appropriate Giving"
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.org.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN AND RECONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>Regions</i>	<i>Amount</i>
FY 2003				
EMERGENCY RELIEF				
USAID/OFDA				\$40,777,876
	AirServ	Logistics	Country-wide	\$2,151,585
	The Cuny Center	Research studies	Country-wide	\$40,260
	IMC	Quick-impact projects	Country-wide	\$4,000,000
	IMC	Capacity building	Country-wide	\$202,900
	IOM	IDP programs	Country-wide	\$5,000,000
	IRC	Quick-impact projects	Country-wide	\$3,000,000
	Logistics	Commodity prepositioning and DART support		\$6,300,000
	Mercy Corps	Quick-impact projects	Country-wide	\$3,000,000
	NGOs	Cooperative agreements	Country-wide	\$4,000,000
	SCF/US	Quick-impact projects	Country-wide	\$4,000,000
	SCF/US	NGO Consortium	Country-wide	\$883,131
	UNICEF	Health, nutrition, water/sanitation	Country-wide	\$2,000,000
	UN OCHA	Coordination and Information	Country-wide	\$200,000
	UN OCHA	Coordination and Information	Country-wide	\$1,000,000
	WFP	Logistics and preposition of food	Country-wide	\$5,000,000
USAID/FFP				\$430,000,000
	WFP	Prepositioning funding		\$55,000,000
	WFP	Emerson Trust – 161,000 MT		\$84,000,000
		P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities –105,000 MT		\$91,000,000
	WFP	Regional Purchase		\$200,000,000
USAID/OTI				\$2,333,612
	IOM	ITI	Country-wide	\$1,700,000
	DAI	ITI	Country-wide	\$473,253
	Internews	Media	Country-wide	\$160,359
STATE/PRM				\$36,630,000
	UNHCR	Emergency refugee assistance		\$21,000,000
	ICRC	Emergency assistance		\$10,000,000
	IFRC	Emergency assistance		\$3,000,000
	IOM	TCN – transportation assistance		\$2,630,000
RECONSTRUCTION				
USAID/ANE				\$23,800,000
	UNICEF	Health, Education		\$9,000,000
	WHO	Health		\$10,000,000
	SSA	Port Management		\$4,800,000
TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ IN FY 2003				\$496,911,488
TOTAL STATE ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ IN FY 2003				\$36,630,000
TOTAL STATE/USAID ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ IN FY 2003				\$533,541,488

*Factsheets can be obtained from the USAID web site at <http://www.usaid.gov/iraq>