

## Flash Report April / 2015

# WFP's Emergency Response to Ramadi Crisis

## WFP Iraq Crisis Response

5.2 million people in Iraq need humanitarian assistance (Strategic Response Plan)

2.7 million people are displaced (IOM)

1.5 million displaced and conflict affected people are receiving WFP food assistance every month

105,200 metric tons of food have been distributed by WFP and its cooperating partners in Iraq since June 2014

### WFP Iraq Funding Requirements:

US\$250 million from April to September 2015: (WFP Emergency Operation shortfall)

Special Operation (Logistics Cluster and Emergency Telecommunications Cluster): US\$9 million (Fast-Track Priorities)

With intense conflict causing some 90,000 people to flee the Ramadi district in Anbar governorate, WFP and its partners are assisting families escaping the violence with emergency food assistance.

### BAGHDAD— 19 April 2015.

WFP is assisting up to 60,000 people fleeing Ramadi with three-day rations that include canned beans and fish, tahini, dates and bread. This ready-to-eat food is designed for people on the move who may not have access to cooking facilities. Families with children under five years also receive a specialized nutritional supplement to avoid malnutrition caused by inadequate diet.

Since the beginning of this new wave of displacements on 10 April, WFP and its cooperating partners have been responding swiftly to provide assistance where necessary. Vulnerable people have also been fleeing the partially besieged city of Haditha, also in Anbar governorate, to safe districts in Anbar, Baghdad city and Abu Ghraib district in Baghdad.

"WFP is doing all it can to help ease the suffering of people who have left their homes and lives behind because of the ongoing violence," said WFP Representative and Country Director in Iraq Jane Pearce. "However, more is needed and we call on the international community to step up aid to those Iraqis who are being displaced by the conflict."

**Anbar governorate:** Thousands of people are sheltering in government-controlled areas of eastern Anbar where WFP and its cooperating partner, the Iraqi Salvation Humanitarian Organisation (ISHO), have assisted between 16 and 19 April around 41,000 displaced people. Distributions took place in Khalidiya and Habbaniya, roughly 30 km east of Ramadi, and Amiriyat Al-Fallujah, some 40 km west of Baghdad city.

In the beginning of April, WFP and ISHO were able to access the newly liberated district of Al Baghdadi, as well as the partially besieged town of Haditha, assisting some 15,000 food insecure and conflict-affected people across the two districts. As part of an inter-agency convoy, WFP is sending a second shipment of family food parcels to Haditha and Al-Baghdadi, enough to feed 28,500 people for one month.



**Baghdad city:** Thousands of people are still queuing at checkpoints trying to gain entry into Baghdad. Many who have reached safety in the city have been assisted through an interagency distribution that included staple foods and other humanitarian essentials. WFP along with IOM, UNICEF and Mercy Hands provided 750 newly displaced people with emergency assistance. WFP and ISHO have assisted a further 5,000 people at multiple distributions across the city.

**Abu Ghraib district:** On 16 April, WFP assisted 850 displaced students from Anbar university, who had been evacuated to Baghdad's Abu Ghraib district. WFP partnered with Muslim Aid to distribute ready-to-eat rations to students who are being accommodated in a veterinary college.

In cooperation with ISHO, WFP provided food assistance to a further 5,000 people who were stranded in Bzabz bridge area, 65 km west of Baghdad, while waiting to gain access to Baghdad governorate.

