

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Thousands of people departing IDP camps are becoming secondarily displaced.
- Thousands of Syrian refugees arrive in Iraq following military operations in north-east Syria.
- Political demonstrations around the country focus on governance and equitable access to opportunities.
- Gender-based violence programmes in IDP camps.

## FIGURES

# people in need	6.7m
# people targeted for assistance	1.75m
# of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in camps targeted for assistance	0.5m
# of IDPs outside camps targeted for assistance	0.55m
# of IDP returnees targeted for assistance	0.5m
# highly vulnerable people in host communities targeted for assistance	0.2m

## FUNDING

**701.1 million**  
requested (US\$)

**87%** funded  
(as of 3 November 2019)



Credit: OCHA/Y. Crafti  
School supplies in transit, Jad'ah 5 camp, Ninewa, Iraq (16 September 2019)

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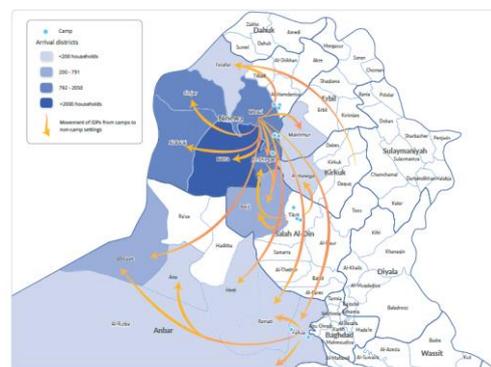
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## Camp Departures, Consolidation and Closures

During October 2019, 5,702 IDP households departed camps, reducing the camp-based population by nine per cent, with more than 4,700 of those departures taking place in Ninewa. In total, seven camps closed or were consolidated, bringing the number of formal IDP camps remaining in Iraq to 71, down from 118 at the beginning of 2019. Independent camp departures have been catalysed by several factors including onsite security screening and perceptions of IDPs thought to be affiliated with ISIL.



IOM-DTM: Population movements of IDPs since August.

Since 15 August, when camp closures and IDP population movements rapidly accelerated, 16,874 households left camps for non-camp settings. These departures occurred primarily in Ninewa (18 per cent reduction), with some also departing camps in Salah Al-Din and Al-Anbar. An additional 3,800 households voluntarily moved, or were coerced or forced to move, to new camps, both within and between governorates. Some of these organized movements of IDPs between governorates have been involuntary and have lacked effective inter-governorate coordination. Working through the Governorate Returns Committees, humanitarian partners have reinforced with authorities the need for stronger coordination, planning and information-sharing in relation to future movements of people, including longer lead times for IDPs, authorities and humanitarian agencies to prepare.

Fifteen per cent of the camp population in Al-Anbar departed, with fewer than 2,000 households remaining displaced after 321 families left in October. Most of the departing IDPs hail from Al-Kaim. All IDPs who left Al-Anbar camps received a return grant of IQD 500,000 from Parliamentary Speaker Mohammed Al-Halbousi.

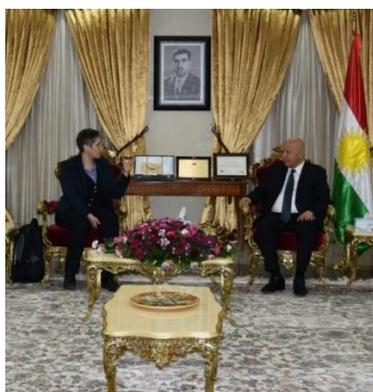
Strong community-level stigma around IDPs with perceived affiliations to ISIL saw more than 10,000 households that departed camps between August and October arrive in non-camp settings, with thousands of those families becoming secondarily displaced in out-of-camp settings. Others sought out shelter in new locations including new and existing informal IDP sites or relocating to nearby cities. In Al-Mosul, increases in rents were recorded as an influx of IDPs arrived, while in Al-Baaj, 1,000 IDP families who had intended to return to their villages were barred from doing so by their communities, and have become secondarily displaced in Markaz Al-Baaj, sheltering in unsafe and unoccupied houses and facing critical water shortages.

*The Humanitarian Coordinator visited Al-Mosul to discuss displacement matters including camps, Al-Hol preparedness plans and winter response activities.*

## Humanitarian Coordinator Meeting with Governor of Ninewa

The Humanitarian Coordinator, Marta Ruedas travelled to Al-Mosul on 30 October to meet with the Governor of Ninewa, Mansour al-Mar'eed, in order to exchange views on the humanitarian situation in the governorate and follow up on priorities discussed earlier in the month. Ms. Ruedas raised concerns about the Government of Iraq's reported decision to close all IDP camps in Ninewa (with the exception of Jad'ah 5) by the end of year, and sought clarification on preparedness plans in Ninewa ahead of any possible return of Iraqi citizens from Al-Hol camp in north-east Syria, including hosting arrangements. The Humanitarian Coordinator and the Governor also discussed operational challenges in some camps, as well as winter preparedness activities. The Governor provided a progress update on the kerosene distribution for heating during winter, which is underway. Discussions also covered the need for reconstruction support in IDP return areas, with the Governor requesting a scaling-up of support to returnees in western Ninewa to ensure they have access to essential basic services.

## Meeting with Chief of Staff Sinjari in Erbil



File Photo of HC Ruedas with Chief of Staff Sinjari; Credit: JCCC KRG

On 10 October, Humanitarian Coordinator Marta Ruedas and OCHA Deputy Head of Office Susan Le Roux met with Karim Sinjari, Chief of Staff to the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) President and former KRI Minister of Interior, to discuss the humanitarian implications of Turkish military operations in north-east Syria. Chief of Staff Sinjari presented estimates of the impact of the incursion and preliminary plans to respond to a new refugee influx in KRI. The meeting also included discussions on the status of IDP returns to Sinjar, with expectations of protracted displacement from Sinjar to continue within KRI and further afield. Chief of Staff Sinjari estimated that around 80 per cent of the inhabitants of Sinjar no longer reside in Sinjar and reside in various IDP camps and elsewhere in KRI.

## North-East Syria Refugee Response

On 9 October, Turkish armed forces entered north-east Syria with military operations resulting in significant displacement of Syrian Kurds both internally and into Iraq. The first arrivals of Syrian refugees into KRI were recorded on 14 October. By the end of the month, an estimated 13,300 Syrian refugees had entered Iraq through informal crossing points; 74 per cent were women and children. Days after a ceasefire agreement was reached on 17 October, a substantial decrease in daily refugee arrivals was observed. New refugee arrivals were screened by UNHCR upon arrival into KRI and were then moved to Bardarash and Gawilan camps for registration. The refugees hailed primarily from Ras Al Ain and Qamishli districts in Al-Hasakeh, as well as Ain Al Arab (Kobane) in Aleppo.

Most refugees arrived on foot and reported that they had to pay smugglers to help them enter Iraq through informal crossing points. According to rapid needs assessments conducted on-site, the most commonly reported needs of new arrivals were food, shelter, water and health care.

Some newly arrived refugees had family members in KRI and humanitarian partners have been working with KRI authorities to authorize people to leave the camps and reside with relatives once security clearance had been obtained.

*According to rapid needs assessments, the most commonly reported needs of newly arriving refugees were food, shelter, water and health care.*

## Widespread Political Demonstrations

*The demonstrations remained centred on Baghdad and southern and central governorates of Iraq, specifically Babil, Al-Basrah, Thi Qar, Kerbala, Maysan, Al-Muthanna, Al-Najaf, Al-Qadissiya and Wassit, although smaller demonstrations took place in other governorates. As of 31 October, there was no organized response from the government to protestors' demands.*

On 1 October 2019, a series of seemingly spontaneous demonstrations against corruption, high unemployment and poor services broke out in Baghdad, quickly spread across central and southern governorates and lasted until 9 October 2019. The gatherings were allegedly organized through social media and did not have a specific leader or focal point. On 3 October, two days after the clashes began, and the allegedly deliberate targeting of young activists with the use of sniper fire, tear-gas and live RPG rounds by security forces (resulting in an initial count of more than 100 fatalities and more than 1,000 injured), the authorities imposed a curfew in Baghdad and affected locations and shut off internet services for several days throughout Iraq (except for KRI). On 9 October, Prime Minister Abdel Mahdi addressed the nation and pledged reform actions, acknowledged the urgency of the economic grievances and declared a three-day nation-wide mourning period between 10 and 12 October. These factors led to a suspension of protests and the relative restoration of peace.



Credit: OCHA/H. Stauffer  
Turkish Restaurant Building, epicentre of the demonstrations in Baghdad.

Protests recommenced on 25 October and continued into November, as demonstrators expressed frustration both at the lack of noticeable progress on their demands and the impunity for the deaths and injuries caused by reported excessive use of force by security forces during the earlier demonstrations. In addition, demonstrators started to call for fundamental changes to the political system. In comparison with the earlier demonstrations, mostly attended by young working-class men and civil society activists, the second round of protests saw increased numbers of demonstrators from demographically diverse groups, including a significant number of women, older people, schoolchildren, professionals, university students and teachers. The demonstrations remained centred on Baghdad and southern and central governorates of Iraq, specifically Babil, Al-Basrah, Thi Qar, Kerbala, Maysan, Al-Muthanna, Al-Najaf, Al-Qadissiya and Wassit, although smaller demonstrations took place in other governorates. As of 31 October, there was no organized response from the government to protestors' demands.

According to the UNAMI Human Rights Office, as of 4 November, violence during the demonstrations that recommenced on 25 October had caused at least 97 deaths and injured thousands of people, including members of the Iraqi security forces. These casualties are additional to the recorded 157 deaths and 5,494 people injured during the demonstrations of 1 to 9 October.

## Iraq's Appearance Before the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women

On 22 October 2019, Iraq presented its seventh periodic report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women. While commending progress that Iraq had made since its last appearance before the Committee, it made recommendations in several areas, including that the Government of Iraq should ensure the safe return of internally displaced women and refugee women to their homes and enable their participation in the reconstruction of their communities. The Committee also recommended that immediate humanitarian assistance needs and protection requirements are complemented with long-term strategies in support of the socioeconomic rights and livelihood opportunities for returnee, IDP and refugee women, with a view to acquiring sustainable livelihoods.

## Gender-Based Violence Programming in Camps

Iraq ranks 175 (out of 187 countries) for gender equality according to the World Bank's Women's Equality Index. More than half of Iraqis affected by the crisis live under the poverty line and of those, more than half are women and girls. Gender-based violence (GBV), particularly domestic violence, sexual violence, child marriage, exploitation and abuse, are pervasive in the lives of women and girls both in areas of displacement and return.

Incidents of GBV towards IDPs mirror levels of violence towards women and girls in broader society, but are compounded by the increased vulnerabilities associated with economic insecurity, displacement, living in female-headed households and having disability. Displacement increases patterns of abuse, including reported cases of abuse and exploitation of IDPs by aid workers. Reported GBV cases have increased in 2019, 20 per cent of which involve children.

Ninety-five per cent of female-headed households in camps report relying on crisis strategies to cope with a lack of resources to meet their basic needs. Some IDP women resort to transactional sex to meet their financial needs where other income-generating opportunities are not available, and where provision of assistance is inadequate. In many of these cases, the women are unable to gain other employment due to perceptions of affiliation to ISIL. Livelihoods interventions focus on access to safe, dignified and gender-transformative income-generating opportunities.

Humanitarian partners are responding to the critical needs of women and children affected by violence by delivering awareness-raising interventions, GBV and child protection case management and referrals, and engagement with legal services and livelihoods partners. On average, 1,500 GBV survivors have received case management and specialized services, and 13,000 received psychosocial support services each month.

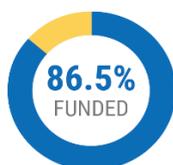
## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING OVERVIEW

### HRP FUNDING OVERVIEW (AS OF 3 NOVEMBER 2019)

**US\$94.4M**  
HRP UNMET REQUIREMENTS

IHF first standard allocation 2019<sup>1</sup>

US\$34 million



13.5%

FUNDING GAP

US\$606.7M<sup>1</sup>

FUNDING RECEIVED

US\$701.1M

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

### OVERALL FUNDING (AS OF 3 NOVEMBER 2019)

**US\$825.8M**  
TOTAL FUNDING RECEIVED



The total funding received represents the overall funding linked to the requirements of the response plans/appeals; the HRP funding is a subset of overall funding to the affected country.

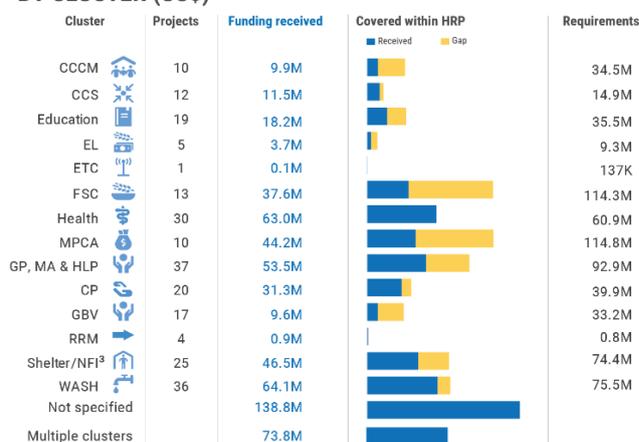
US\$606.7M<sup>1</sup>

FUNDING THROUGH 2019 HRP

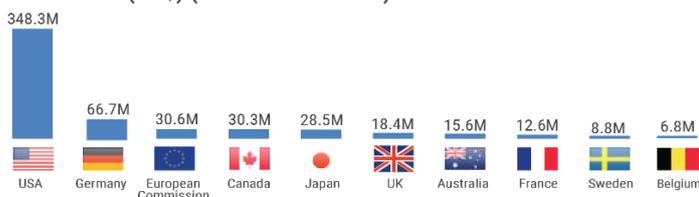
US\$219.1M

FUNDING OUTSIDE 2019 HRP

### BY CLUSTER (US\$)



### BY DONOR (US\$) (TOP TEN DONORS)



### BY PARTNER TYPE



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