



**Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations**



## Iraq

### Recovery and Resilience Programme 2018–2019

 to assist  
**1.6 million people**

 FAO requires  
**USD 75 million**

 period  
**January 2018 –  
December 2019**

FAO will ensure rural families have the resources to re-establish and secure their agricultural livelihoods. Resilience-building activities for vulnerable families will promote recovery at household, community and national levels.

In December 2017, the Government of Iraq announced victory over the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), which took control of large parts of the country in 2014. While continuing to meet humanitarian needs, Iraq is transitioning towards recovery and resilience, including restoring the agriculture sector.

#### Objectives

FAO will work with partners to contribute to two high-priority components of the Programme:

- Restoring agriculture and water systems.
- Revitalizing communities.

#### Activities



##### Restoring agriculture and water systems

rehabilitate irrigation systems and pumping stations | rehabilitate and upgrade harvest storage and processing facilities | restore border control of transboundary plant and animal pests and diseases | initiate water resource and use management, including transboundary water-sharing negotiations



##### Revitalizing communities

multi-purpose cash assistance, agricultural inputs and cash for work for returnee farmers | rehabilitate agricultural infrastructure, veterinary facilities and water resource assets | veterinary services

## Situation analysis



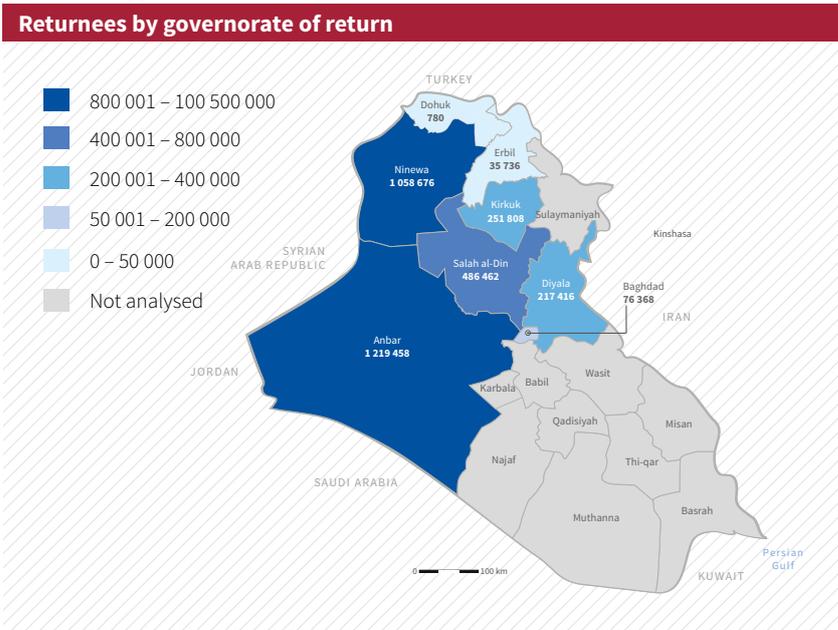
**2 million people**  
food insecure



**2.47 million** IDPs



**3.35 million** returnees



Source: International Organization for Migration, January 2018

## Impact on food security

The agriculture sector is vital to Iraq's economy and is the second largest contributor to the country's gross domestic product. Around 12 million Iraqis reside in rural areas and depend on agriculture for their livelihoods. The sector has been severely affected since ISIL took control of central and northwestern Iraq in 2014. It is estimated that Iraq has lost 40 percent of agricultural production over the past four years.

Violence forced people to abandon farms, destroying or damaging harvests. Infrastructure such as water supply for drinking and agricultural production was damaged or destroyed. Agricultural equipment, seeds, crops, stored harvests and livestock were looted. Farmers were unable to plant for the next agricultural season due to conflict and contamination of land with unexploded ordnance. Food production and supply was disrupted, and food prices at markets increased.

Restoring the agriculture sector is critical to improve food production, generate livelihoods and restore the resilience of Iraq's rural population. FAO will support the Government to improve the sector through restoring agricultural systems, increasing agricultural growth and diversification, and generating employment opportunities for the reduction of poverty and improved food security overall.

## CONTACTS

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