



IN NUMBERS



3.2 million

people in need of food security support



>897 000

people displaced from Mosul and surrounding areas



USD 74.5 million

needed to assist 1.39 million people in 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- **3.2 million people are food insecure**, including those who depend on agriculture for their livelihoods.
- **Violence continues to force people to abandon their farms and agriculture-based livelihoods.** Insecurity, water shortages and the lack or high cost of agricultural inputs continue to negatively affect the performance of the agriculture sector.
- **Lack of space for livestock in camps to which people are fleeing conflict has resulted in some people with animal herds unable or reluctant to relocate to camps.** Herders who are unable to feed their livestock are forced to abandon or sell them, noticeably decreasing their herd size.
- **Infrastructure such as water supplies for agricultural and domestic use has been damaged or destroyed.** Heavy contamination of retaken areas with unexploded ordnance and improvised explosive devices pose immediate and long-term risks.

CURRENT FOOD SECURITY SITUATION

Years of conflict in Iraq has left **3.2 million people food insecure, including those who depend on agriculture for their livelihoods.** Humanitarian needs remain significant after eight months since military operations to retake Mosul from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) started. According to figures from the Iraqi Government, on 28 June 2017, more than 897 000 people had been displaced from Mosul and surrounding areas since the offensive began on 17 October 2016. As of 28 June 2017, 152 313 people had returned to their homes in eastern Mosul and 62 513 people to western Mosul. Military operations continue in western Mosul, where concerns remain for the protection of civilians in the remaining ISIL-controlled areas in the city.

In newly retaken and accessible areas, families report limited livelihood opportunities, which reduces their ability to purchase food and other necessities, and restricted access to the public distribution system – an important social safety net that entitles Iraqis to receive rations of flour, rice and cooking oil from the government.

Across Iraq, 11 million people are expected to require some form of humanitarian assistance this year. As of 15 June 2017, almost 3.02 million people remained displaced within Iraq and 1.9 million people had returned to their homes, according to the January– June 2017 International Organization for Migration's Displacement Tracking Matrix.

CHALLENGES FACING THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR

Violence continues to force people to abandon farms and agriculture-based livelihoods. Insecurity, water shortages and the lack, or high cost, of agricultural inputs (seed, fertilizer, animal feed, fuel for irrigation pumps, etc.) continue to negatively affect the performance of the agriculture sector.

Lack of space for livestock in camps to which people are fleeing conflict has resulted in some people with animal herds unable or reluctant to relocate to camps. Herders who are unable to feed their livestock are forced to abandon or sell them, noticeably decreasing their herd size. According to the Ministry of Agriculture in Ninewa governorate, farmers reported a 60 percent reduction of sheep and goats and a 45 percent reduction of cattle in the last six months. The protection of people's remaining animal assets is essential to enable herders to maintain productive livestock activities that will improve food security and self-reliance. Veterinary care is critical to contain and avoid outbreaks of livestock diseases.

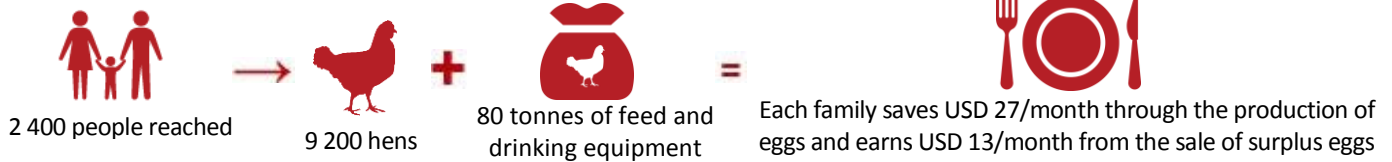
Infrastructure such as water supplies for agricultural and domestic use has been damaged or destroyed. Heavy contamination of retaken areas with unexploded ordnance and improvised explosive devices poses immediate and long-term risks for the environment and the people, including herders and farmers.

2017 RESPONSE TO DATE

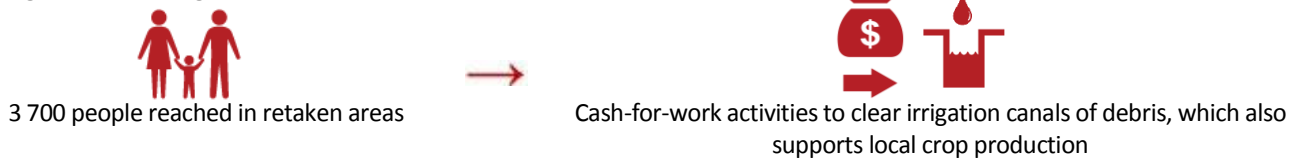


FAO has reached **6 100 people** by:

Increasing IDPs and host communities' livestock assets



Providing income through cash-for-work activities



2017 PRIORITIES

In response to the offensive in Mosul and previous and ongoing conflict in Ninewa governorate, FAO's priorities include:



Animal health campaign: vaccinate 990 000 sheep, goats, cattle and buffalo with 2.6 million doses of vaccines and provide 1 500 tonnes of fodder to 60 000 animals. This will support 210 000 people to protect their herds – important assets for food and income – from diseases that could spread to other animals and humans.



Cash-for-work activities: provide income for 4 020 people to clear irrigation canals and agricultural land, which will in turn benefit farmers who rely on irrigation to grow crops.

FAO's other priorities across Iraq include the support of **internally displaced people (IDPs), returnees, remainees, host communities** and **Syrian refugees**:



Capacity building: provide training on and tools for greenhouse vegetable production to support 3 000 Syrian refugees in camps, as well as training on and tools and equipment for bee-keeping for honey production and dairy and fruit processing to support 2 400 people (IDPs and host communities) in Erbil and Dohuk governorates.



Cash-for-work activities: provide income for 7 980 returnees and remainees in retaken areas of Kirkuk, Anbar and Salah Al-Din through cash-for-work projects to rejuvenate farmland and irrigation systems, which also benefits local farmers.



Land and water management: enable the cultivation of vegetables for the first time since 2014 in retaken areas of Ninewa governorate through the irrigation of 250 000 ha of farmland by pumping 40 cubic metres of water per second. This support will provide jobs for 200 000 casual labourers each season and restore the livelihoods of 30 000 returnees and remainees.

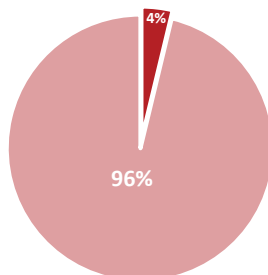


Livestock production and health: increase the productivity (fertility and milk production) of 300 000 buffalo in seven governorates to support the livelihoods of 90 000 people through artificial insemination services. Each household's herd – now producing five calves a year – is expected to produce double that amount.

As part of a regional initiative with the governments of Kuwait and Iran, FAO is supporting the Government of Iraq with technical expertise to develop strategies to control the Red Palm Weevil, a threat to the production of date and coconut palms.

FUNDING

- Funding to-date to HRP: USD 2.8 million
- Funding gap: USD 71.1 million



Donors: Belgium, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development through the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit*, Iraq Humanitarian Pooled Fund, the United Nations Development Programme

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To assist
1.39 million people

COORDINATION

A report on an FAO assessment of agricultural damage and loss in retaken areas is due to be published in July 2017. The report will detail the impact of conflict on agricultural livelihoods including crop production, livestock rearing, fishery/aquaculture production, accessibility to markets, storing and processing facilities and irrigation water. It will include recommendations to restore livelihoods and increase food security for the most vulnerable groups.

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