

IRAQ

Expanded Humanitarian Response Fund (ERF) Bulletin

No. 14 | November 2008

ERF: the Expanded Humanitarian Response Fund (ERF) aims to help fill critical humanitarian gaps within different sectors through readily available flexible funding for emergency response. The maximum grant is \$400,000.

NGO Micro Grant: the NGO Micro Grant provides small-scale funds to enable targeted and responsive emergency projects primarily by Iraqi NGOs. The maximum grant is \$50,000.

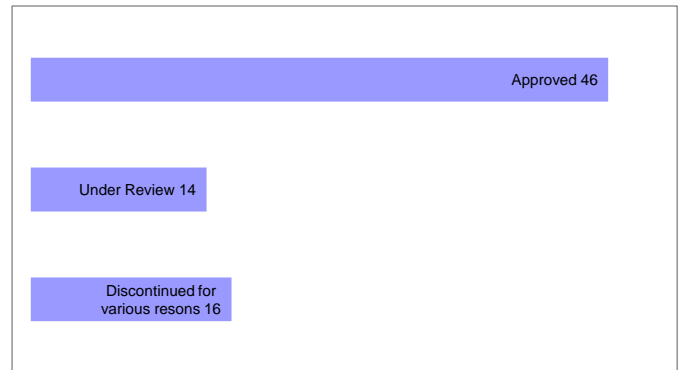
Operational Updates:

The Expanded Humanitarian Response Fund (ERF): Project and Financial Status:

9 new proposals for projects on food and non-food items (Diyala, Baghdad), water (Muthana, Kirkuk and Ninewa) shelter (Diyala, Baghdad, Babylon) were submitted to the ERF for consideration in October 2008. A total of 76 project proposals have been received since August 2007. International NGOs account for 21 of these proposals while Iraqi NGOs account for 55 projects. The ERF's Technical Review Committee (TRC) has approved 46 out of 76 project proposals. Two national NGO project proposals will be funded by IOM and integrated within one of its programmes. 40 ERF-funded projects have been completed and 6 are ongoing. The total cost of the funded 46 projects is \$7,683,097.00

14 projects, totaling an estimated \$1,870,000 are currently under review. 3 are pending TRC approval. Consideration of the eligibility of 7 projects has been discontinued following the failure by the applicants to provide satisfactory additional information. A total of 7 projects have been declined funding, four by the Technical Review TRC and three at the Sector Outcome Team screening level.

A breakdown of the funded projects and where they have or are being implemented is illustrated below. Partners currently implementing ongoing ERF-funded projects include: Mercy Corps, Voice of Independent Women Organization, Iraqi al Amal Association, Helan Organization and Iraqi Relief Organization.



Contributions to the ERF:

A \$15m million grant to the ERF was approved on 7 July by the International Reconstruction Fund for Iraq (IRRFI) from the Iraq Trust Fund (ITF).

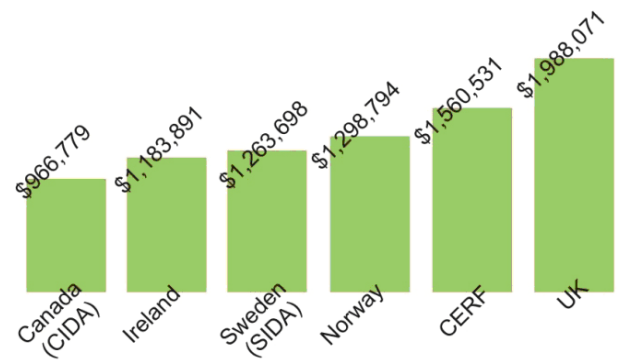
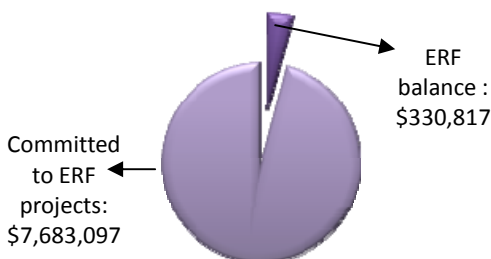
The ERF has received a total of \$8,013,914.57 in contributions since August 2007 (3% of funding is dedicated to the administration of the fund).

The Technical Review Committee (TRC)

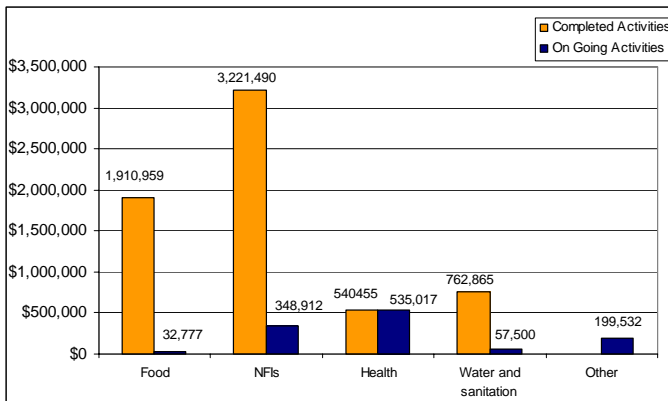
The newly constituted Technical Review Committee (TRC) comprising representatives from UN/International Organizations (UNICEF, IOM), Donors (Italy and Norway) and NGOs [(the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and Terre Des Hommes (TDH)].

Status of IRRFI Grant to the ERF: A proposal for the transfer of \$15 million portion of the interest money from the IRRFI to the ERF was approved by the ITF Steering Committee. Fund is expected to be received in January 2009

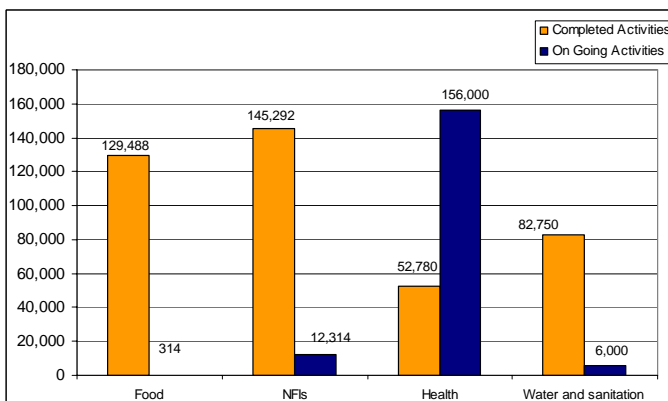
Financial Status of The ERF



Highlights of ERF-funded Projects



Funding status per sector



Number of Beneficiaries

FACTS ABOUT THE ERF:

- The ERF provides quick and flexible funding to national and international organizations for urgent humanitarian activities in Iraq to alleviate the suffering of the civilian population through emergency response to humanitarian needs. Typical beneficiaries of ERF-funded projects include, but are not limited to, IDPs, communities affected violence, widows and persons with disabilities. The ERF is not intended to respond to chronic social problems, reconstruction or other long-term development needs.
- The ERF is replenished with new contributions on a continuing basis. The Fund grants a maximum of \$400,000 and a minimum of \$25,000 per project.
- Contributions to the ERF are un-earmarked and pooled, i.e. they lose their donor identification.
- A Technical Review Committee (TRC) is an integral part of the ERF comprising of the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration (UN/IOM), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) and donor representatives.

(For further details, please see the ERF Charter, which can be obtained from OCHA Iraq by emailing ochairaq@un.org.)

THE NGO MICRO GRANT

The pooled NGO Micro Grant fund balance stands at zero. OCHA is currently not receiving further proposals under this grant, pending commitment of urgently needed funds.

Helan Organization is implementing a project funded under the ERF program to provide 2,000 IDP families in Erbil governorate each with 100 liters of kerosene and two blankets each. Erbil is one of the northern governorates into which many IDP families have moved before and after 2003.

Many of the families are facing unemployment, lack of fuel, sanitation facilities and winter items. Difficulties in accessing their PDS ration create great humanitarian needs, particularly for those settled in the surrounding towns and districts of Erbil city. Distribution was conducted in Shaqlawa, Khabat District, Makhmur, Koisinjaq, Dashti Hawler, Choman and Erbil city.

After the war of 2003, Ms. Hayam Ahmad Sheet and her family lived in Mosul city in the north of Iraq. Her husband used to work for an International organization in Mosul. He was killed in September 2004. After the tragic incident, Hayam decided to leave Mosul for Erbil with her five children.

With no regular income due to the difficulty for IDP's to find work in Erbil, and receiving little assistance, the family was living under difficult conditions. Winterization items provided by Helan Organization will help the family during the winter season.



Hayam's children in Shawes/ Erbil

Iraqi Democratic Group for Women completed a project establishing a mobile health clinic in Kut district and sub districts in Wassit governorate. Before the establishment of the mobile clinic, the nearest health center servicing inhabitants of the target area was 25-50 kilometers away. Women in these areas are among the most vulnerable, with a large percentage of widows or divorcees with many children. Through the project, IDP families living in remote areas, or in areas where public health care is unavailable, receive free health services.

HUMANITARIAN UPDATE

Cholera Outbreak:

11 Iraqis have died from an outbreak of cholera in 2008 in Missan (1), Babil (3), Diwaniya (3), Baghdad (2) and Basra (2) governorates according to the Daily Situation Report on Diarrhea and Cholera in Iraq, Sitrep no. 121 up to 27 November 2008, Ministry of Health Iraq and WHO Office Iraq. A total of 892 cases have been confirmed in 12 of Iraq's 18 governorates. 36% of the deaths have been in below 5 year old children. Epidemiological findings have indicated that contaminated water is the most probable source of the outbreak.

Protection of civilians:

The number of civilians killed in Iraq has been steadily declining throughout 2008. However, civilian casualties in September marginally increased to 329 from 318 in August. The declining trend resumed with 294 civilians killed in October followed by **259 in November** according to figures compiled by the UN Safety and Security Unit. The civilian casualties in Baghdad increased in November from 98 to 128. The latest violence comes as the country prepares for provincial elections, slated for 31 January 2009, the first provincial polls to be held in the country since 2005. Staffan da Mistura, SRSG to Iraq, has strongly condemned the series of bombings that struck Baghdad, killing and injuring innocent civilians.

Mosul:

Starting October this year 1784 families from Christian and other minority groups were displaced from Mosul and areas around following what appeared to be an organized campaign of violence and intimidation. At least 14 were killed. After improvements in the security situation, new attacks and threats occurred in November. Two were killed on 12 November and one more injured in Al-Qahera neighborhood in Mosul, an area where the 2nd Brigade of the Iraqi Army was deployed. In another incident, a VBIED exploded in Karakosh / Al-Hamdaniya, a Christian village, injuring 6 civilians and ISF personnel.

WFP report:

The latest WFP "**Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment in Iraq, 2008**" (CFSVA) was published on 12 November, 2008 in Baghdad, based on data collected by the Iraqi government in every district of all 18 governorates of Iraq. A total of nearly 26,000 households were covered by the survey. As far as food security is concerned, the survey found that the numbers of food insecure went down from some four million in 2005 to 930,000. However, an additional 6.4 million people are at risk of becoming food insecure and would do so without safety nets such as the PDS. Between August and October 2008 the price of food in Iraq has risen by 11%. This represents a 16 % increase in food prices since the beginning of the year.),



Patients receiving medical assistance in Wassit / Iraqi Democratic Group for Women.

The project also provided medical services to vulnerable among the hosting community of which 70 percent are women and children. During the cholera season, the mobile clinic doctors conducted awareness campaigns in association with Health Directorate. The clinic is staffed with a gynecological, a pediatrician and general practitioner.



Awareness sessions on Cholera prevention/Iraqi Democratic Group for Women

Update on the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP)

The '2009 Consolidated Appeal for Iraq and the Region' seeks a total of \$547 million for Pillar I (Iraq) and Pillar II (Region).

Pillar I & II Summary	
Pillar I	\$ 192,334,256
Pillar II	\$ 355,008,505
Total	\$ 547,342,761

The appeal was made on behalf of 43 NGO, 111 UN, 9 International Organisation, 4 joint UN/International Organisation projects. It ranks fifth after Sudan (\$2.2 billion), Somalia (\$919 million), DR Congo (\$831 million) and Zimbabwe (\$550 million).

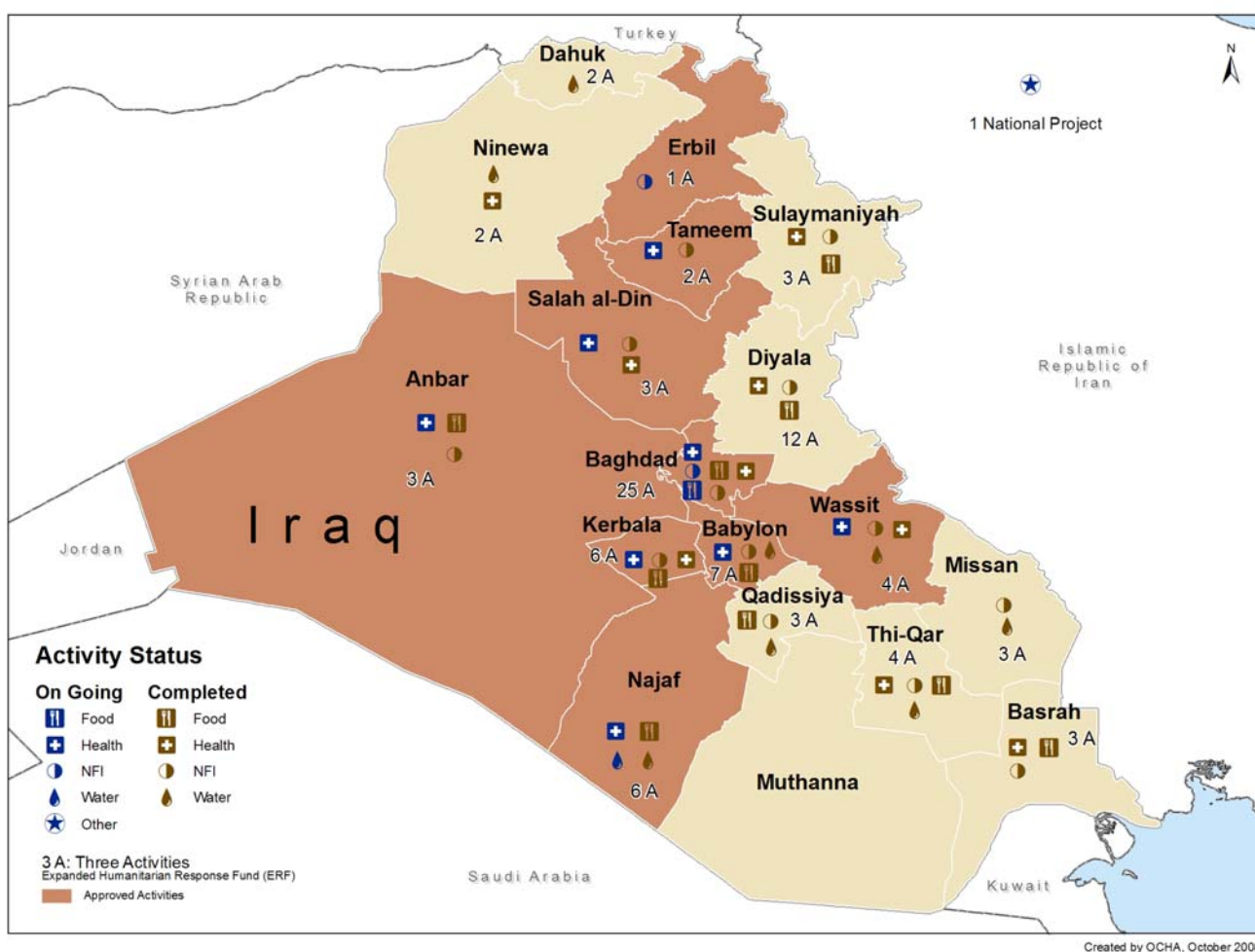
Further information on the 2009 CAP can be found at: <http://ochairaq.org/cap2009>

CAP 2008 Funding per Sector

Sector	Funding
Agriculture/Food Security:	\$1.3 million (17%)
Coordination and Support Services:	\$4.9 million (69%)
Education:	\$4.6 million (23%)
Food:	\$ 81 million (82%)
Health and Nutrition:	\$8 million (25%)
Housing and Shelter:	\$23.6 million (63%)
Protection/Human Rights /Rule of Law:	\$14.2 million (55%)
Sector not yet specified (incl. ERF):	\$21.2 million (106%)
Water and Sanitation:	\$5.5 million (26%)

For more information on Iraq CAP 2008 funding, please visit:
<http://ocha.unog.ch/fts2/pageloder.aspx?page=emerg-emergencyDetails&appealID=808>

Appendix Governorates with ERF Approved Activities (as of November 2008)



For further information on the ERF, please contact
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