

EU global response to coronavirus across all of Iraq





Urgent, short-term emergency response

The EU has mobilised EUR 159 Million to address the most pressing challenges in Iraq posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.



The EU support package for Iraq amounts to EUR 159 Million to address the impact of the pandemic in the larger sense. This includes EUR 90 Million in additional funding specifically to contribute to increase citizens' provision of social protection and access to employment opportunities.



The EU expands its engagement with National Authorities and WHO to support the Iraq Covid-19 Response Plan and the National Action Plan for Health Security (2019-2023). We will support the provision of protective personal and medical equipment as well as medical supplies.

Iraq will also be one of the priority focus countries for the **global WHO Response Plan** to support the immediate response and preparedness in countries with weak healthcare systems, which will receive **EUR 114 million from the EU globally**.



EUR 35 million will be dedicated to the **immediate humanitarian needs** including **healthcare**, **water and sanitation and protection**, prioritising the **most vulnerable** populations. This includes **awareness raising**; **public health surveillance**; **training of health staff**; **rehabilitation of water and sanitation systems**; and the provision of **hygiene kits** and multipurpose **cash assistance**.



Additionally, to ensure continued access to quality education the EU is providing support to develop online distance learning platforms, content and assessment tools. We are helping schools to encourage children's continued learning through, creative means such as competitions using social media.



Mental health is important. We are using a large network of 1000 volunteers and 27 local organisations to provide support including psycho-social support to parents and students. We also ensure Urgent Protection Services and counselling for Gender Based Violence survivors.



EU global response to coronavirus in Iraq



Mitigating the economic and social impact across all of Iraq

The EU will continue to support the reconstruction process in the aftermath of the crisis.



The EU supports agricultural livelihoods of vulnerable families across all of Iraq. We also aim to increase agricultural productivity and the functioning of agri-business value chains in view of creating decent jobs (especially for the youth and women) and ensuring domestic food security.



The EU is stepping up support to the state building and socio-economic development of Iraq. We will be investing in boosting opportunities for employment in the short term across promising sectors all over Iraq, including the reconstruction of urban centres and infrastructure. In parallel we will also mobilise our partners for reinforcing social and **labour protection** for formal and informal workers, youth, women and displaced people.



The EU will also step-up its engagement to improve the business climate for MSMEs, encourage private sector development, investment and trade to counter the imminent fragility of the Iraq's socio-economic system. We will also support serious structural economic governance reform to support Iraq to diversify its economy, to render it macro-economically stable and fiscally sustainable.



Promoting democratic citizenship, good governance and Rule of Law remains a strong priority for the EU. We will be bolstering our support to the Civil Society of Iraq.



Supporting sustainable returns is key and the EU will support the reconstruction of housing units for returnees and the rehabilitation of urban infrastructure, coupled with support to local authorities' capacity to handle housing, land and property rights whilst strengthening the resilience of vulnerable populations including minorities.



Embracing the sustainable development goals and Iraq's Vision 2030, we will continue our engagement for responsible natural resource management and the promotion of renewable energies, as well as the provision of reliable electricity and clean water to all Iragis.



The EU will also launch a "Team Europe Initiative" in Iraq, combining resources from the EU, its Member States, and financial institutions to support Iraq in fighting against the coronavirus pandemic and its consequences.