

HIGHLIGHTS

- Mosul military operations enter their second month; the ongoing fighting is taking a high toll on civilians.
- Humanitarian partners are providing assistance wherever access allows.
- Well-funded and effective humanitarian assistance will be critical as the crisis deepens; humanitarian partners are revising funding priorities for the coming year.

FIGURES

# of people in need	10m
# of people targeted for assistance	7.3m
# of internally displaced persons (IDPs)	3.1m
# of IDPs who live outside camps	2.8m
# of affected ppl within host communities	3.2m
# of returnees	1.2m
# of Syrian refugees	0.23m

Source: 2016 Iraq HRP/HNO/IOM DTM

Humanitarian Response Plan

FUNDING

861 million

requested for 2016 (US\$)

80% (\$688 million)

(reflects funding on FTS as of 9 December 2016)

Source: <http://fts.unocha.org>



People displaced south of Mosul reach Qayyarah, where burning oil wells engulf the area in thick smoke. Credit: UNHCR/Ivor Prickett

In this issue

Civilians at high risk in Mosul P.1

Insecurity continues in Hawiga P.3

Uptick in returns to Fallujah P.4

Funding priorities are being revised P.5

About 90,000 people flee from Mosul

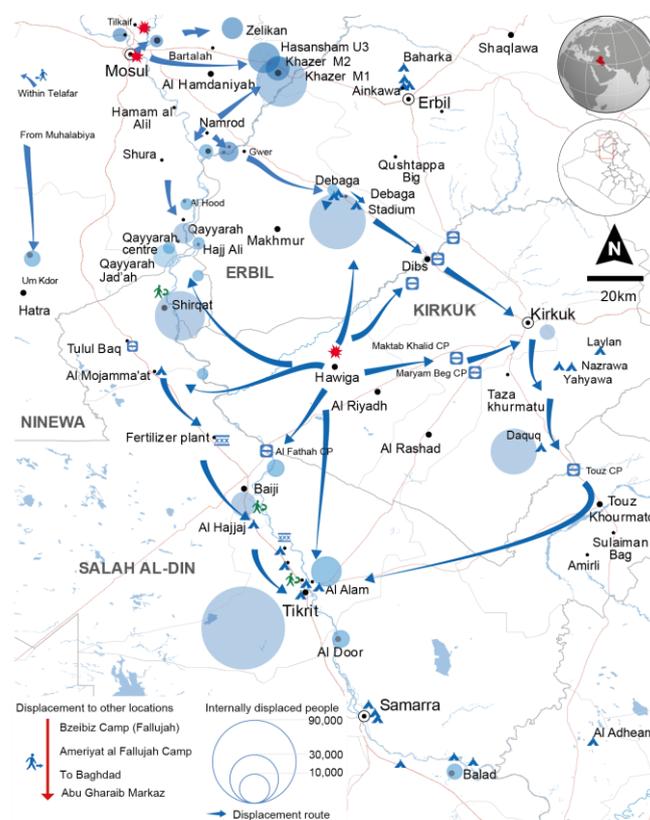
Civilians are bearing the brunt of ongoing fighting as the crisis deepens

Military operations against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) have intensified in 2016 causing massive displacement and aggravating humanitarian suffering. This year, more than 620,000 people have been newly displaced across Iraq; more than 270,000 people remain displaced along the Mosul corridor where fighting has intensified in the last months.

The military offensive to retake Mosul from ISIL is in its second month and the crisis continues to evolve in complexity. Resulting internal displacement has risen to about 90,000 people. With the military operation moving deeper into the city, fighting in the densely populated parts of Mosul may trigger larger-scale displacement.

People fleeing the conflict face alarming risks and civilians are at high risk of being targeted, caught in cross-fire, trapped between conflict lines, or used as human shields. Prolonged fighting for the city is possible, raising the threat of hunger, deprivation, lack of medical assistance, and human rights violations.

Since the fighting reached the outskirts of Mosul city, the rate of civilian trauma casualties has increased significantly. Late November saw a spike in civilians who have been targeted by snipers or exposed to mines, shelling and mortar fire as they flee Mosul city. Between 17 October and 6 December, about 1,450 people (3 per cent female and 7 per cent children under 15 years of age) were referred to Erbil for trauma care according to local health partners.



Displacement along Mosul corridor. Source: Authorities and humanitarian partners. Displacement figures International Organization for Migration (IOM).

CLUSTERS

Lead or co-lead organizations

CCCM	UNHCR IOM
Education	UNICEF Save the Children
Emergency livelihoods – social cohesion	UNDP DRC
ETC	WFP
Food security	WFP/FAO -
Health	WHO IMC
Logistics	WFP
Protection	UNHCR DRC
- Child protection	UNICEF Save the Children
- GBV	UNFPA IMC
- Mine Action	UNMAS MAG
- HLP	UNHABITAT NRC
Shelter & NFI	UNHCR NRC
Water, sanitation & hygiene	UNICEF ACF
Coordination and Common Services	OCHA NCCI
Multi-purpose CASH	UNHCR Mercy Corps
Rapid Response Mechanism	UNICEF WFP

More than 239,000 vulnerable people have been reached with emergency response packages with food, water and hygiene items within 48 hours of areas being retaken.

Women and children are among those requiring medical stabilization and onward transport for surgery on life-threatening gunshot wounds. Existing trauma centres in Mosul are overwhelmed by the rise in casualties. The authorities and health partners are working to mobilize additional facilities close to the eastern suburbs of Mosul so that life-saving medical aid can be administered without delay; two new trauma centres were opened in the eastern suburbs of Mosul at the end of November and two additional stabilization centres are being established.

People sheltering in place are also facing difficult choices. People risk running out of basic supplies or being forced to flee for survival to seek out limited supplies of food, water, and medical care. Food distributions by the Government and partners are supporting vulnerable residents, and efforts are underway to repair a water plant in newly-retaken Salamiya, south-east of Mosul city, that would restore drinking water to eastern Mosul.

In a worst case scenario, 1.2-1.5 million people could be affected by the military operation, including possible casualties on a large scale. In a worst-case scenario, 1 million people could try to flee the city to safety and 700,000 require emergency shelter. Knowing that civilians would be at extreme risk, a humanitarian concept of operations has been developed and adhered to that puts civilian protection at the centre of the military strategy.

Work is accelerating to boost shelter capacity to house displaced people

Concerted efforts to prepare housing for fleeing families have ensured that about 80 per cent of those currently displaced have found shelter in camps and emergency sites. The remainder have chosen to stay in host communities. So far the number of formal camp spaces is keeping pace with the rate of displacements; camp capacity currently stands at over 6,600 available family plots in five camps, which today could house nearly 40,000 people, and work is ongoing to create spaces for another 446,000 people. To the east of Mosul, Hasansham camp, Khazer camp and Qaymawa camp have reached full capacity.

Humanitarian partners are establishing camps and emergency sites

6,638 family plots available **73,333** family plots planned or under construction **36,695** families still require shelter options in a Mosul worst case planning scenario



Source: Authorities and humanitarian partners. One family plot is planned for six people.

Humanitarian partners are providing assistance wherever access allows

Access missions to newly-retaken areas are paving the way for first-line distributions. More than 239,000 vulnerable people have been reached with emergency response packages containing food, water and hygiene items within 48 hours of areas being retaken since military operations began. Humanitarian needs are severe among displaced families in and out of camps, vulnerable residents of retaken communities, and people fleeing the intense fighting in Mosul city. The response is being adapted to meet the diverse needs of each distinct and vulnerable group.



Emergency response in Qayyarah. Credit: OCHA/Themba Linden

To date, about 224,000 people have received food to last for one month; 164,000 people have received household items and over 49,000 people have received health consultations.

Assessments in newly-retaken areas indicate that food, clean water and health care are the most urgent needs amongst resident populations. Recent assessment missions have indicated a sharp demand for health services, for example, the al Zahra health clinic in eastern Mosul is currently reporting over 1,000 medical consultations per day. In many

Humanitarians call on all parties to the conflict to meet their obligations under international humanitarian law.

villages, electricity and water supplies have been severed, and where markets are functional commercial routes have been cut off, and the supply of goods for sale is dwindling.

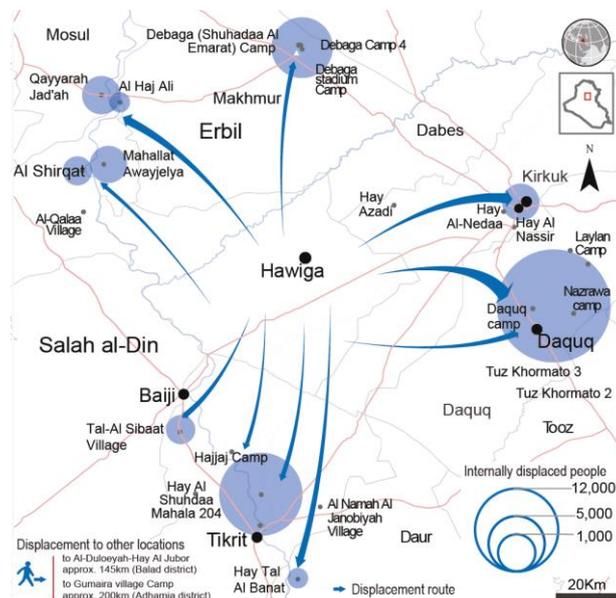
Insecurity hampers delivery of assistance to newly-retaken areas

Up to 1 million people are estimated to be out of reach in Mosul city, sheltering from the fighting, trying to survive or hoping to escape. People who are trapped in areas that are highly insecure are unable to access humanitarian assistance. Humanitarians call on all parties to the conflict to meet their obligations under international humanitarian law to protect civilians and ensure they can access assistance. Protection of civilians must be paramount to operations on either side of the front lines and central to military planning. Aid must be allowed to enter conflict zones and reach civilians, and parties must ensure civilians can leave the conflict zone to safer areas.

Insecurity triggers new displacements in Kirkuk

Tens of thousands fleeing ongoing violence in Hawiga district

Displacement from Hawiga in Kirkuk continues, with IOM's emergency tracking recording over 50,000 people displaced since August this year when military operations in the area intensified. Reportedly, many families flee Hawiga on foot, embarking on dangerous journeys and walking for up to 36 hours to reach safety. About half of the displaced, 26,000 people, are sheltering in Kirkuk, mainly in three displacement camps (Daquq, Laylan and Nazrawa) while 16,000 people have sought safety in Salah al-Din. In a worst-case scenario, humanitarian partners estimate that a further intensification of military operations to retake Hawiga could trigger the displacement of over 100,000 people and worsen already critical humanitarian conditions.



Displacement from Hawiga. Source: Authorities and humanitarian partners. Displacement figures IOM

Many families flee Hawiga on foot, embarking on dangerous journeys and walking for up to 36 hours to reach safety.

Reports of involuntary return of displaced people

More than 6,000 people were forcibly expelled from Kirkuk between 22 and 26 October, according to the UN refugee agency, UNHCR. Following an armed attack on Kirkuk city on 21 October, return and eviction notifications were issued to people from Salah al-Din, Anbar and Diyala, bringing the number of forced returns and secondary displacements from Kirkuk since September to 26,000 people, according to partners. Since late October, evictions have significantly decreased. However, there are reports that identification documents continue to be confiscated, restricting people's freedom of movement.

Many families face winter in displacement

Cold weather adds to hardship for people who have fled their homes

Winter is fast approaching, bringing with it colder temperatures that can drop below zero degrees Celsius, especially in northern Iraq. Of the about 3.1 million displaced people countrywide, those living in camps and in critical shelter arrangements such as unfinished or public buildings are particularly vulnerable to the cold.

Of the about 3.1 million displaced people countrywide, those living in camps and in critical shelter arrangements are particularly vulnerable to the cold.

Some of the most vulnerable families will also receive warm clothes and shoes, and cash or voucher assistance where access to markets is available.

Many of those returning have found their houses damaged, and are living in tents, sheltering with relatives, or are living in a small part of their house that is still functional and safe.

In Fallujah food availability in the markets is still low, and people are reportedly relying on emergency coping strategies.

Visit us online:



The availability of heating fuel for displaced families is critical. Through the Public Distribution System, the Government provides families with barrels of kerosene throughout the winter. Efforts are also ongoing to include recently-registered displaced people across the country in this public distribution, to receive either barrels or 20-litre jerry cans of fuel, depending on their location and storage space available to them.

In early October, Government and humanitarian partners began to distribute winter items to displaced families living in camps and critical shelter arrangements. Essential winter items to cater for the needs of more than 500,000 people are already in the country or are on their way. Humanitarian partners are endeavouring to help about 1.2 million displaced people cope with the cold by distributing blankets, thermal mats, carpets, tarpaulins, heaters and fuel, complementing Government distributions. Some of the most vulnerable families will also receive warm clothes and shoes, and cash or voucher assistance where access to markets is available. Resources permitting, the installation of safe solar or electrical heaters in camps to provide hot water for washing is also being considered.

More than 130,000 people return to Fallujah

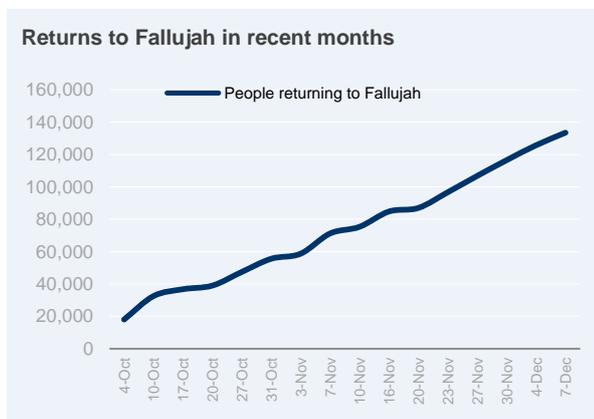
Many are finding their homes destroyed and require humanitarian aid

About 133,500 people have returned to Fallujah and surrounds in Anbar since the uptick of returns in mid-September, according to IOM. Families are also continuing to return to Ramadi with over 216,000 people having returned to date. Many of those returning have found their houses damaged or destroyed, and are living in tents, sheltering with relatives, or are living in a small part of their house that is still functional and safe.

In Fallujah, families have returned to their homes in the northern part of the city, which has been accessible since late October. Returns are expected in other parts of the city once the rehabilitation of sewage and electricity infrastructure is completed. Returning families will likely need humanitarian assistance for the foreseeable future as many neighbourhoods have been completely destroyed and have not yet been cleared of improvised explosive devices. Plans to rebuild both Fallujah and Ramadi are underway, but progress is moderate due to the lack of equipment to remove the rubble and the likely presence of improvised explosive devices. While rebuilding work is ongoing, humanitarian partners are planning to install units containing a tent, a water tank and essential cooking kits inside the houses that need rehabilitation.

The prices of staple food items in Anbar decreased by 15 per cent by August, according to the World Food Programme's Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping Unit. However, in Fallujah food availability in the markets is still low, and people are reportedly relying on emergency coping strategies such as reducing the number of meals per day or buying less-preferred foods. Basic services are in place, but health services for example are largely provided by mobile and fixed clinics as the hospital is only partially functional. Most of the schools in the city are undamaged. In the wider area, education partners have rehabilitated 100 schools in Heet, Khalidiyah and Ramadi. Government authorities have required teachers to return to Anbar, except those whose home is destroyed, and asked for schools in the camps to be closed, to encourage families to return.

The vast majority of the over 85,000 people who were displaced from Fallujah in May and June this year are still sheltering in camps and sites in Ameriyat al Falluja, Khalidiyah and Habbaniyah Tourist City, where humanitarian partners continue to provide assistance.



Source: IOM DTM Emergency Tracking

Requirements set to increase as crisis deepens

The scale and duration – and thus the cost – of the humanitarian response will be determined by the degree of destruction, the contamination by explosive devices, and the resulting degree and length of displacement.

Humanitarian operation one of the largest and most complex in the world

Close to three years after ISIL first took control of parts of Anbar in January 2014, the crisis in Iraq remains volatile and the humanitarian operation is one of the largest and most complex in the world. With military operations intensifying in 2016, the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance has increased to 11 million – nearly a third of the population – according to preliminary assessments. Well-funded, effective, and principled humanitarian assistance will continue to be critical in 2017, and humanitarian partners are revising funding requirements for the coming year.

The Mosul Flash Appeal, launched in July to scale up preparedness efforts ahead of the military operation to retake Mosul, has received US\$236 million, or 83 per cent of the \$284 million request. To boost capacity in front-line and life-saving assistance, humanitarian partners are seeking a rapid response grant through the Central Emergency Response Fund for field-based trauma units; field-based maternity units; a mobile bridge and support for winterization activities and emergency sites. Ultimately, the required scale and duration – and thus the cost – of the humanitarian response will be determined by the degree of destruction to civilian infrastructure, the contamination by explosive devices and booby trapping, and the resulting degree and length of displacement. The highly prioritised 2016 Iraq Humanitarian Response Plan has received 80 per cent, or \$688 million of the \$861 million requirements to support 7.3 million vulnerable Iraqis. Although the Iraq appeal is one of the highest funded humanitarian appeals in the world, major gaps exist across all sectors, most particularly in shelter, health and education clusters.

Funding level Iraq Humanitarian Response Plan 2016



Source: <http://fts.unocha.org>, reflecting reported funding on FTS as of 9 December 2016.

All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: fts@un.org

Pooled fund targets most critical needs and life-saving response

In preparation for the Mosul humanitarian operation, the Iraq Humanitarian Pooled Fund allocated and disbursed about \$41 million to support Mosul preparedness activities. Building on an earlier reserve of \$4.25 million to pre-position supplies, this helped partners set up camps and emergency sites prior to the start of the military campaign on Mosul and enabled the immediate provision of life-saving assistance to families displaced by the fighting. A further \$8.9 million in the second standard allocation in September went to highest priority underfunded needs in the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan.

For further information, please contact:

Ivo Freijsen, Head of Office, freijsen@un.org

Cecilia Attefors, Humanitarian Affairs Officer, attefors@un.org, Tel. (+964) 751 135 2880

Kate Pond, Reports Officer, pond@un.org, Tel. (+964) 782 780 6086

OCHA humanitarian bulletins are available at www.unocha.org/iraq | www.unocha.org | www.reliefweb.int