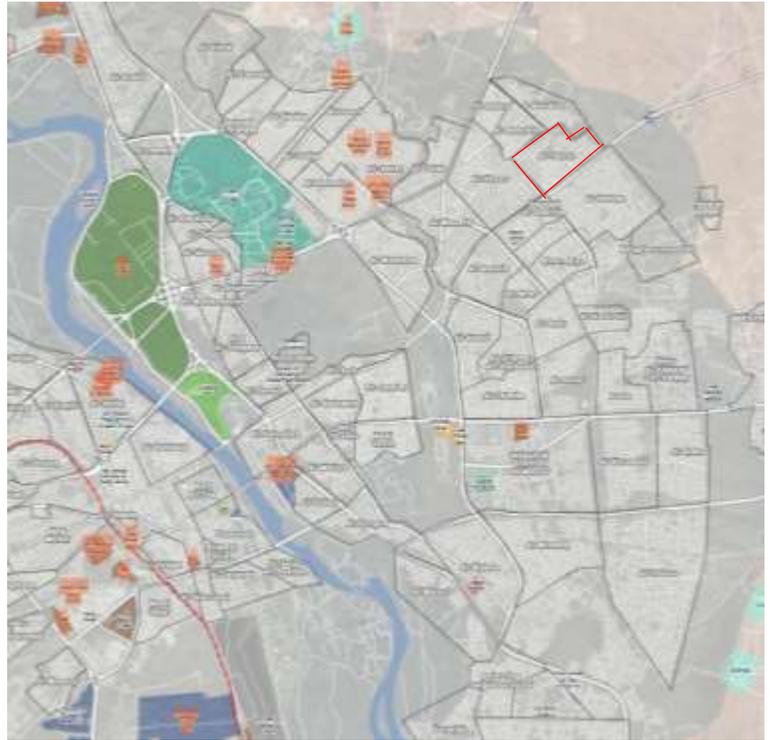


This report was written by ACTED's AME Unit to provide a snapshot of humanitarian needs and conditions in neighborhoods around Mosul. Data was collected via Key Informant and Observational tools on Feb 8<sup>th</sup>.

## Highlights

- Access to **clean drinking water** is the top priority need. Al-Tahrir residents are currently drinking water from unprotected boreholes or relying on water trucking.
- **Livelihoods, Cash and job opportunities** are identified as a top priority need for this neighborhood.
- Markets are functioning and food, water, NFIs and other goods are present in the market. However, a **lack of cash and lack of income** make these goods unavailable to most.
- Residents report limited NGO assistance in the form of in-kind food distribution at the present time.



Map of Mosul City, Al Tahrir Neighborhood *Courtesy of REACH*

## Situation Overview

The city of Mosul in northern Iraq has been under ISIS control since June 2014, this period has been characterized by repression and human rights abuses. As the last remaining ISIS stronghold in Iraq, the battle to retake Mosul began in October 2016 and Iraqi Security Forces and their allies have now successfully regained control of the section of the city east of the Tigris River. While military operations to regain control of the western portion of the city continue, humanitarian space in the eastern part of Mosul city is now opening up and there is access to provide humanitarian relief. With much of the city's inhabitants having remained in the city during the battle or now returning, the provision of key services is vital to maintaining living standards, preventing the outbreak of disease and assisting on the path to recovery.

With fighting only 4 kilometers away, inhabitants still fear a resurgence of armed violence. Key informants report that the neighborhood has not been cleared of IEDs/UXOs. Despite this, residents express a strong intention to remain in Mosul and move forward with their recovery.

**Local leadership:** The key informants were unaware of any local leadership structure in their neighborhood. The Mukhtar system is in place but is not well known to the local community at this time.

### Demographics, Migration and Intentions

The population of Al Tahrir neighborhood is 15,500 people. About 50% of residents are returnees that have come back into the neighborhood after ISF retook the area. Returnees began to arrive back to the neighborhood in the first weeks of January. They are returning from Hasan sham camp and Khather. The large majority of the remaining population stayed throughout the conflict and are considered host community/stayees (47%). The remaining 3% of the population are new IDPs that have come into the area since it was retaken by ISF. IDPs began to come into to the neighborhood from other parts of Mosul city in mid-December 2016. IDPs travelled to Al-Tahrir on foot in multiple family groups. Some passed through a checkpoint in Al-Noori neighborhood. People brought identification documents (passport or other), phones, water, baby food (such as infant milk), baby diapers and clothes with them. The estimated cost of this movement was 75,000 IQD.

Respondents also know of other displacements of Mosul residents to Gogjeli by truck and shared cars which was estimated to have cost 225,000 IQD. During this journey IDPs passed through ISF checkpoints.

Members of the host community and returnees are Sunni Arabs (75%), Sunni Kurds (7%), Sunni Turkmen (15%) and Sunni Shabaks (3%). New IDPs are of the same ethnic and religious backgrounds as the host community.

## Humanitarian Needs



### Shelter

- Host community members are living in their own homes, these homes have suffered a range of infrastructure damage. Most families are sharing their homes with others.
- IDPs are reported to be living in rented houses/apartments which they share with other IDP families.
- Returnees in this neighborhood are living in their own homes despite minor infrastructural damage. They are not sharing their homes with other community members.



### Early Recovery

- In Al-Tahrir neighborhood 15% of houses are completely destroyed, another 15% are badly damaged, 45% are lightly damaged and the remaining 25% are undamaged.
- Specific damage sustained to homes in this neighborhood includes: Almost all houses (95%) have broken windows, 60% have damaged or missing doors, 40% have cracked walls or floors, 30% have collapsed roofs and 50% have destroyed electrical systems.

**75%**  
% of damaged homes in  
Al-Tahrir neighborhood

- An estimated 50% of families will need a great deal of outside help to rebuild or repair their homes.

## NFI Non-Food Items

- No one in this neighborhood has enough NFIs to meet their basic needs nor their winterization needs.
- All residents are reported to have access to fuel/kerosene but high prices and limited funds make it functionally unavailable to many.



## Food Security

- **Household food stocks will currently last 6 days**
- Access to food is limited with households either already reducing rations or skipping meals or anticipating the need to do so in the next 2-3 weeks. Both of these situations are caused by food being considered unaffordable, primarily because of **limited purchasing power** coupled with higher prices.
- Among the top food priorities are: Legumes(lentils, beans, peas, chickpeas...), Meat(sheep, goat, lamb, cow, chicken...) and rice
- An NGO (the respondents did not know which), is distributing: rice, wheat / bulgur, legumes, oil, fats, butter, tea, salt and sugar to a portion of the population



## Health

- There are no available health services in this neighborhood at this time
- There is no health clinic or hospital in the neighborhood, now or before ISIS
- Many people living in Al-Tahrir have been physically injured/wounded during the battle or during displacement/return
- Many people are suffering from **trauma** and show signs of **psychosocial distress**
- There is a high prevalence of water borne illnesses or diarrhea
- There are a lot of people that have non-water communicable diseases, e.g. serious medical conditions, chronic illnesses



## Water, Sanitation & Hygiene

- Among the top WASH needs identified are: ensuring **access to safe drinking water** through the rehabilitation of wells, access to a functional sewage system, access to a functional solid waste management system, the distribution of water chlorination tablets and the distribution hygiene kits
- The primary sources of drinking water are unprotected boreholes and wells and water trucking
- The sewage system is currently not functional and there is **evidence of black water** in some areas
- There is not a functional solid waste management system in place and there is evidence of **garbage on the streets**



## Protection

- The neighborhood is host to particularly vulnerable people including: Female-headed households, Persons with serious medical conditions, Persons with Disabilities and the Elderly
- Many children are suffering from trauma and children and youth have no access to psychological support and case management services

- Children do not have access to safe spaces for learning or recreation and the school is reported as lightly damaged



### Emergency Telecommunications

- The electricity network has been destroyed and is currently not functional
- Some electrical power is available through community generators, the rate for this is 11,000 IQD per day for enough power to light 2/3 lightbulbs while the generator is on (5-8 hrs/day)
- Mobile phones, TV, and the Internet are reported to be functional in Al- Tahrir and all residents have access to the available services



### Livelihoods

- Livelihoods and job opportunities are identified as the top priority need for this neighborhood.
- Most residents of the neighborhood were/are government employees who have not worked nor received salaries for over 2 years
- Few families have any cash savings remaining
- There is limited access to a functional formal Hawala / money agent as well as limited access to a functional informal money transfer system
- The **purchasing power** in the neighborhood is **low**
- While 90% households are reported to have 1 or more household members able and willing to work, 55% of households report all such family members are currently unemployed
- There is access to one or more of the following types of stores in the neighborhood: General Grocery with food and hygiene products, Fresh Veggies / Fruits stalls, Tools and Mechanical Goods, Water and Drinks Medicines, Pharmacy, Mobiles / mobile repair, Hair dresser, Bakery, Gas, Kerosene, HH Items (bedding, dishes) Clothes and shoes, Tailor, Fast Food (kebab shop), Butcher
- To get some source of income and be able to sustain basic needs of their family, people are currently: selling productive assets (agricultural tools, seeds, sewing machine, livestock, vehicles, etc.), selling non-productive / household assets (radio, TV, furniture, jewelry, personal belongings etc.), and reducing daily food intake by reducing size of meals, or skipping meals
- People plan to continue using these coping mechanisms but also plan to try to find employment opportunity here, take a loan in formal institution (bank), borrow money from family/friends and borrow food from family / friends in the near future

55%

Reported  
Unemployment  
rate



Water point near Al-Tahrir neighborhood (Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> 2017)



Market near Al-Tahrir neighborhood (Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> 2017)