IRAQ: MOSUL SITUATION FLASH UPDATE

27 September 2016

POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

- **Military operations in Shirqat and surrounding areas trigger new displacement:** The Iraqi Security Forces announced that they had retaken Shirqat city and secured much of the surrounding area on 22 September, with the level of destruction in the city reported to be minimal. Over 200 IDPs fled to Debaga and 600-900 IDPs were displaced to the transit centre in Al Hajaj. The security situation remains precarious with conflict still reported about 30km southeast of city.

- **IDP Returns to Al Qayyarah, Haj Ali and surrounding areas despite ongoing shelling and lack of food:** Since the beginning of September, more than 2,800 IDPs have departed Debaga and returned to Al Qayyarah, and some 6,800 IDPs returned from the camp to Haj Ali. Markets are re-emerging in these areas on both sides of the Tigris River but supplies are limited. There have also been sporadic attacks resulting in casualties.

- **Ongoing conflict in Hawiga causing new displacement:** Between 22 and 25 September, over 300 IDPs arrived to Debaga from Hawiga district in Kirkuk Governorate. They had fled shelling, lack of food and water and security threats, and had walked for up to 12 hours in search of safety. Moreover, 920 IDPs, mainly from Hawiga, arrived in Nazarawa Camp during the same period.

- **IDPs continue to become stranded at Maktab Khalid checkpoint in Kirkuk Governorate:** Around 300 IDPs from Hawiga are stranded in Sultan Marie village near Maktab Khalid checkpoint. UNHCR is advocating with authorities to allow the families to access Kirkuk.

PROTECTION

- **IDPs in Kirkuk Governorate pressed to return:** Authorities removed over 330 IDPs (originating from Diyala, Salah al-Din, and Anabar governorates) from Laylan Camp on 22 September and took them to Daquq checkpoint where they had to collect their IDs and leave. Thirty families who had to return to Al-Uthaim district in Diyala Governorate on 24 September are now living in the open as their houses were destroyed. Overall, authorities have reportedly pressed 7,800 IDPs (1,307 families) to depart Kirkuk since the start of September. Some have returned to their areas of origin, often to areas that are highly insecure and lack adequate shelter. The exact number of IDP families who have left Kirkuk outside of camps or areas where monitors are present is unknown. IDPs in Laylan Camp have expressed concern, with an estimated 1,000 families at immediate risk of being pressured to leave. Already over 600 have registered to depart to avoid potentially being removed.

SHELTER/NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)

- **Forty tents pitched in Debaga 2 Camp:** 40 families from the reception centre, school and mosque in Debaga Camp and Rubb Halls in Debaga 2 have moved into new tents. There are now 1,617 family tents in Debaga 2.