

**HUMANITARIANS ARE REACHING TENS OF THOUSANDS OF RECENTLY
DISPLACED PEOPLE**

(Baghdad, 21 October 2017) – Humanitarian partners are reaching thousands of people with emergency assistance on a daily basis.

During the past week, well over 100,000 civilians have fled from Kirkuk, Makhmur and Tuz Khomato districts. Smaller numbers have fled Zummar. The situation remains very fluid, with people sometimes fleeing for less than 24 hours before returning home.

Partners are rushing to provide assistance to highly vulnerable families. More than 15,000 emergency food rations have been distributed and mobile medical teams are visiting camps and villages to provide health care. Emergency support including water, blankets, hygiene items and household kits is being distributed in areas hosting displaced people.

“Humanitarians are making every effort to reach vulnerable people with the assistance they need,” said Lise Grande, the Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq. “The situation remains volatile, and many people are returning to their homes only to flee for a second or third time when hostilities erupt again.”

“We are extremely concerned by reports of violence, looting and destruction. Everything has to be done by authorities on all sides to ensure the safety of families caught up in recent events. Nothing is more important than protecting civilians.”

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