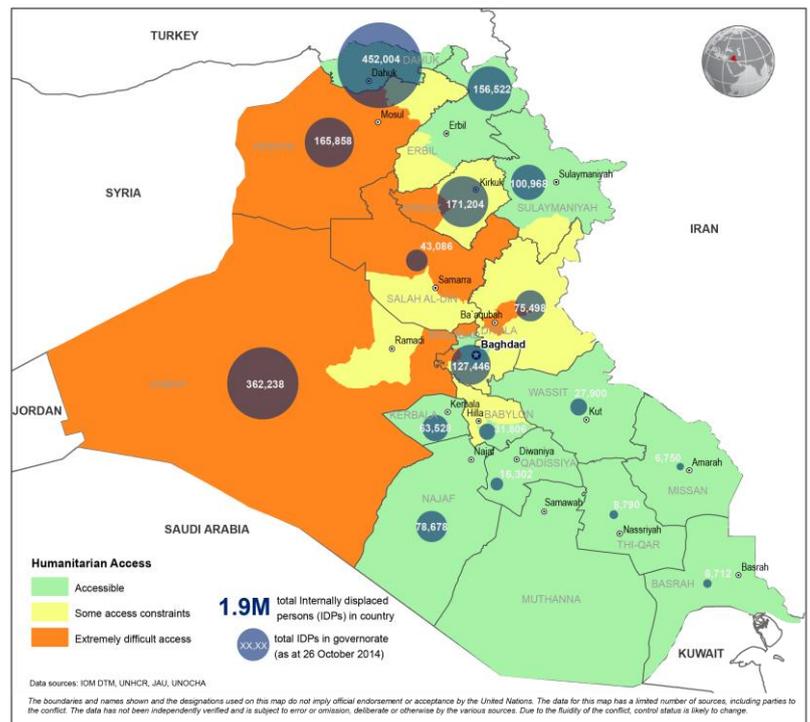




This report is produced by OCHA Iraq in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 1 November – 7 November. Due to the rapidly changing situation it is possible that the numbers and locations listed in this report may no longer be accurate. The next report will be issued on or around 14 November.

Highlights

- *The Level 3 declaration for Iraq has been extended by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee for another six months.*
- *Preparations are underway in Dahuk Governorate for the relocation of an estimated 26,000 IDPs from 104 secondary schools in the coming weeks.*
- *The Ministry of Displacement and Migration has completed construction of the first 27 units of 1,000 prefabricated shelters at a camp in Khanaqin in Diyala Governorate.*
- *Humanitarian actors have completed winterisation assistance for 2,554 IDP families and 670 Syrian refugee families in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq's Sulaymaniyah Governorate.*
- *There is a gap of US\$173 million for winterisation activities.*



Situation Overview

The Government of Iraq said Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and its armed group affiliates killed 332 members of the Sunni Abu Nimr tribe in the past week, including 50 women and children. The Abu Nimr tribe had for weeks resisted an ISIL assault on their village of Zauiyat Abu Nimr but reportedly ran low on ammunition and were overtaken. The Heet District, where the clashes occurred, was the origin of the Sunni Awakening Council, which successfully fought and ejected Al-Qaeda in Iraq. The recent attacks and killings are thought to have been conceived to deter Sunni tribes from resisting ISIL hegemony in Anbar Governorate. In response, according to a local report, a 40-tribe Sunni coalition has been formed to fight against ISIL in the governorate. Estimates for the number of people displaced by the attacks on the Abu Nimr tribe vary, but may be in the tens of thousands.

NGO partners are reporting that people displaced by recent fighting between government forces and ISIL and their armed group affiliates in Diyala Governorate are being denied entry to Khanaqin and Kalar towns by Kurdish security forces. OCHA has also received reports that 100 IDP families arrived in Kifri after they were prevented from entering Kalar and Khanaqin. This is in addition to the arrival in recent weeks of 1,600 IDP displaced families from Khanaqin District to Kifri.

+ For more information, see “background on the crisis” at the end of the report

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Coordination Saves Lives

Clashes in Sinjar district (Ninewa Governorate) between ISIL and self-defense fighters and other armed groups have reportedly caused the displacement of an undetermined number of people from Sinjar town. The town is said to have been vacated of all people except for ISIL elements. Reports also continue to warn of an impending ISIL attack on the Yezidi shrine of Sharaf El-Deen on the northern ridge of Sinjar mountain. The shrine is the second-most important for Yezidi's pre-Islamic Sufist-influenced religion. Reports have also indicated that thousands of people, possibly including displaced people, living on Mount Sinjar are in need of humanitarian assistance. However, there remains conflicting information from other sources, including people on the mountain, as to the numbers (or even presence) of civilians. Due to insecurity, humanitarian actors are not able to access the affected area, including the mountain, and are unable to independently verify the reports.

Recent fighting near Rabia, northwest of Sinjar, and Zummar have also displaced an unknown number of people southwards towards Al-Qaim, according to unconfirmed reports. Local authorities in Dahuk Governorate indicated this week that some 200 families returned to Zummar from Zakho, while another 130 families departed the Garmawa IDP camp in Sheikhan District (Ninewa Governorate) during the previous week.

Preparations are underway in Dahuk Governorate for the relocation of an estimated 26,000 IDPs from 104 secondary schools in the coming weeks. The occupation of schools by IDPs has delayed the start of the 2014/2015 academic year. While in most other governorates schools opened in October, Dahuk Governorate was further delayed as it hosts more than 450,000 internally displaced persons (IDP) across its four districts of Zumel, Zakho, Dahuk and Amedi, accounting for 24 per cent of Iraq's overall 1.9 million IDP caseload. As of 27 October, 386 schools in Dahuk Governorate remained occupied by IDPs. Local authorities are planning for schooling to resume across the governorate on 1 December.

The relocation exercise will begin with the movement of an estimated 1,800 displaced families (11,000 individuals) from 29 secondary schools in Zakho district to Chamishku Camp, beginning on 9 November. Distribution of tent numbers and tokens was to be conducted on 8 November. Local authorities will facilitate transportation. Government security personnel and social workers will be prepositioned at the points of departure and the camps as there is expected to be some reluctance by the displaced to exchange the brick and mortar shelter offered by schools for tented shelter, which is not seen as providing sufficient protection against the harsh winter climate. UN agencies and NGOs will be on site to support and advise during the relocations. The relocation had been scheduled to begin with movements to the newly built camps of Sharia and Khadia, but delays at these camps caused a change in the plan.

The Ministry of Displacement and Migration has completed construction of the first 27 units of 1,000 prefabricated shelters at their "model" camp in Khanaqin in Diyala Governorate, with UN and NGO support to provide basic services such as WASH and education. The 1,000 IDP families that will benefit from this camp are less than 10 per cent of the approximately 12,000 IDP families in and around Khanaqin and there is expected to be fierce competition for the prefabricated units, which could raise tensions among the IDP community. Prefabricated units, and other rigid structures such as caravans, are highly valued by displaced people for the protection they provide against winter weather, as opposed to the more fragile tented shelter. Humanitarian actors are suggesting government should have a selection criteria that prioritises the elderly, families with children under five years old, people with disabilities and single mothers. However, "able-bodied" IDP families should also be provided for, so as not to stigmatize the households in the units.

The UN and its humanitarian partners began preparations for winter in July 2014. A comprehensive and country-wide winterisation response is ongoing. For example UNHCR and its local partner have completed winterisation assistance for 2,554 IDP families and 670 Syrian refugee families in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq's Sulaymaniyah Governorate. The winterisation kit includes blankets, plastic sheets, water jerry cans, kerosene jerry cans and kerosene heaters and stoves. Winterisation efforts require immediate financial support of US\$173.1 million in order to enhance delivery capacity and avoid a further exacerbation of the humanitarian crisis in Iraq.

According to the latest Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) exercise up to 26 October, about 145,000 people were displaced in the previous five weeks in Ninewa, Kirkuk and Anbar. Humanitarians continue to be particularly concerned about civilians that are living under siege-like conditions in various areas across the country. Needs in these areas are particularly high, while access to humanitarian assistance and basic goods is exceptionally difficult.

Humanitarian Response



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- IDPs in the central and southern governorates of Iraq do not have access to water heating equipment and other non-food items (NFIs) to provide hot water for washing and personal hygiene.
- The governorates of Missan, Wassit and Thi-Qar have capped their budgets, as the federal budgets have not been released, and are having difficulties in providing WASH facilities to the displaced.
- The local governments of Wassit and Babylon governorates are requesting cluster support for the provision and installation of mobile latrines for IDPs.

Response:

- The cluster is preparing for a joint WASH shipment targeting 4,777 displaced primary school children in the Qadissiya Governorate district of Diwaniya. 47 latrine and shower units are being prepared for the Al Rahma camp in Amara, Missan Governorate.
- 114 mobile latrines and 119 shower units benefiting 2,814 individuals (469 displaced families) have been repaired in the Arbat camp in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq's (KR-I) Sulaymaniyah Governorate.
- A WASH coordination meeting for Laylan camp in Kirkuk Governorate was conducted on 30 October with local authorities, including representatives from the departments of health and water, governorate council members and UN agencies, to identify the gaps and needs for the planned relocation of IDPs from schools to the camp. Two elevated water tanks been constructed, as well as the installation of a water network by the water directorate with cluster funding for the camp which will host 1,500 IDPs families. 196 prefabricated latrines and shower units, 28 water tanks of 5,000 litres each were installed and 233 of 288 cesspools for black and grey water completed. 85 per cent of the storm water network has been completed by Kirkuk's municipality.
- The delivery of 10 prefabricated latrines and two 5,000 litre tanks, with tap stands, were delivered to Daquq district in Kirkuk Governorate and once installed will benefit 100 IDP families.
- In Anbar Governorate's Al-Khalidiyah, 30 prefabricated latrine units were delivered for installation for the benefit of 455 IDP families (2,730 individuals). 12 water tanks of 5,000 litres were delivered in Al-Khalidiyah for the benefit of 424 IDPs families (2,544 individuals).
- Six 5,000 litre water tanks were delivered in Anbar Governorate's Al-Habbaniyha for the benefit of 222 IDP families (1,332 individuals).
- The Khanke IDP camp in Dahuk Governorate is hosting 2,340 displaced families and has a capacity for 3,120 families. 90 per cent of the planned 440 latrines and 220 shower units have been installed. Despite this, contracting difficulties have delayed the completion of some of the sanitation works in the camp, leaving open dug (but as yet unused) pits in portions of the camp.
- In the Dahuk Governorate's camp of Badget Kandala 1 and 2, the installation of 200 shower units is complete and 85 per cent of drainage channels in the communal areas are completed. Six water boilers for the communal area and latrine and shower units in Badget Kandala 1 have been delivered and installation is progressing. 26 emergency latrines and showers have been rehabilitated in Badget Kandala 1. But refuse collection remains inadequate. There are daily hygiene promotion activities for the camp residents.

Gaps & Constraints:

- There are security constraints in accessing displaced populations in Anbar Governorate for the provision of WASH assistance.
- Road security restrictions and delays in obtaining clearances from the authorities are affecting the efficiency and response for WASH facilities to displaced populations.
- Funding shortages are hindering the provision of WASH facilities.



Food Security

Needs:

- The cluster is concerned about the food security of hundreds of thousands of people, especially those residing in active conflict zones. There are 2.8 million people in need of food assistance. 1.8 million people have been targeted for food assistance and 1.4 million people have so far been reached.
- Immediate funds of \$70.2 million are required to prevent a break in the food pipeline in January 2015.

Response:

- The new cluster Information Management Officer commenced work in the KR-I capital of Erbil on 2 November.
- In Dahuk Governorate, the cluster is identifying overlapping assistance from those organisations that are not yet cluster partners in order to re-assign capacities to where the gaps are more significant, such as the districts of Akre, Amadi, Shrikhan and Bardarash. This coordination now includes more than 12 small community organisations, including church groups.
- Due to inter-community tensions, Communication with Communities (CwC) and the inclusion of minorities are emerging important issues in the Dahuk city area. The cluster is preparing a CwC work plan in order to improve communications and defuse any potential tensions.
- Partners have raised the need for technical support in livelihoods analysis. The cluster is investigating the options available in this respect.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The cluster and its partners have been able to provide food assistance in all 18 governorates of Iraq. Local partners have distributed food in areas under the control of armed groups on an ad hoc basis. While encouraging, this does not meet the ongoing needs of displaced populations within areas under the control of armed groups, especially in Anbar Governorate. In addition, longer-term assistance in livelihoods cannot be delivered until there is safe access to conflict-affected areas.



Shelter and Non-Food items

Needs:

- Shelter with host families remains the most common arrangement for IDPs in Iraq. However, of the overall IDP caseload, 31 per cent (98,071 families), have sought refuge in alternative shelter arrangements such as schools, religious, unfinished and abandoned buildings. This reflects the need for adequate shelter and NFI assistance. A more detailed assessment of needs will be outlined in forthcoming DTM reports.
- Many locations have become overburdened with the large displaced populations. This has led to a large number of families being housed in inadequate and short-term shelter arrangements that are unsuitable for winter weather conditions. The most affected governorates are Dahuk and Anbar.

Response:

- Cluster partners distributed winterised NFI items to about 40,000 IDP families throughout Iraq in September, reaching about 40 per cent of the targeted displaced families.
- Four cluster partners in the Dahuk Governorate are targeting IDPs in unfinished buildings with the refurbishment and renovation in preparation for winter. Once interventions are completed, IDPs are expected to be able to remain in those shelters for a minimum of nine months.
- The foundation blocks for 500 prefabricated units at Dawodiya camp in Dahuk Governorate have been completed. Teams have also completed the installation of 42 prefabricated shelter units. 3,000 new caravans will be funded by the Government of Iraq for the expansion of Dawodiya Camp and for a new camp in Mam Rachan close to Shekhan Camp in Dahuk Governorate.
- The preparations for the relocation of families sheltering in schools to several camps in Dahuk Governorate has begun. The first phase of relocation will prioritise those sheltering in high schools.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The total gap in funding for the shelter and NFI winterisation response is nearly \$85 million, which if forthcoming will be used for such items as 30,000 winterisation kits, 58,000 tent insulation kits, 56,000 tents and winter clothing for 75,000 displaced families.
- The gaps in the winterisation response are continuously updated and mapped further, which should bring more clarity on the constraint factors such as agencies' capacities, funding and procurement lead-times.
- Although the selection of unfinished buildings for displaced has been completed in the KR-I's Dahuk Governorate, the government maintains reservations about the strategy of IDPs sheltering in these buildings.

**Camp Coordination and Camp Management****Needs:**

- The situation of the displaced persons living in makeshift accommodation in unfinished or abandoned buildings is of critical concern to humanitarian agencies, especially with the onset of winter. With the authorities prioritising the relocation of displaced people from schools, and with some camps remaining uncompleted, urgent interventions are required to winterise their current shelter or identify alternate shelter options for the winter months.

Response:

- Cluster partners have commenced the second phase of an assessment of communal sites (where five or more families reside) in unfinished buildings, abandoned buildings and open sites in the KR-I. The data adds to a baseline survey capturing over 880 sites accommodating 86,000 displaced individuals. The second phase introduces a more elaborate, multi-sector survey with priority targeting of the most at-risk locations. The web address is: <http://unhcr-iraq.github.io/Site-Assessment/>
- Draft government relocation plans for the movement of displaced populations from schools to camps indicate a need for increased support from the humanitarian community to ensure an organised, safe, and efficient movement to alternate shelter. Several partners are working to help facilitate this.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Camp creation continues while the government urgently tries to relocate displaced persons from schools. The authorities' intense focus on this is making it difficult to mobilise their leadership to engage in the urgent interventions necessary to prepare for winter conditions for those living in informal settlements.
- The government continues to face challenges identifying and training staff to manage camps. Substantial support is required to ensure the coordination of assistance, services and communication with communities.

**Health****Needs:**

- The influx of refugees to the KR-I from the northern Syrian town of Kobane and its surrounding districts has raised the threat of the import of the wild polio virus and other vaccine-preventable diseases. For nearly four years the Syrian civil war has prevented the coordination of public immunization campaigns in many parts of the country. Since 10 October, some 13,000 Syrian refugees have entered Iraqi territory from Turkey, to join another 217,000 refugees, adding to the burden on already-stretched health infrastructure.
- Immunization for under 5 year old children for measles and polio from among IDPs, refugees and host communities.
- There is a need for the provision of both primary and secondary health care and more stocks of medication.
- An increasing need for the care of those suffering chronic diseases and better access to medication to treat these illnesses.
- Reproductive health and access to delivery service with a focus on complicated deliveries and other reproductive health services remain among the priority needs.

Response:

- Health cluster partners provided medical care for 5,541 IDP patients suffering various types of morbidities in Sulaymaniyah and Dukan districts in Sulaymaniyah Governorate, the Zakho District in Dahuk Governorate and the Diyala Governorate district of Khanaqin, as well as Al-Qaem District in Anbar Governorate and the Erbil District in Erbil Governorate. Among those patients, 30 trauma cases received life-saving medical interventions and 376 patients were treated with hypertension and diabetes. Another 65 people received psychosocial support.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Insecurity is hampering access to areas in the governorates of Anbar, Kirkuk, Salah al-Din and Diyala. It is difficult to ensure access to health services for all persons of concern.
- Shortages of food, water, shelter, hygiene and NFIs will eventually combine to impact on the negative health status of vulnerable populations, especially during the winter months.
- There are shortages of life saving medicines, specifically for chronic illnesses (and subsequent costs for procurement). A risk of a polio outbreak because of the influx of new Syrian refugees and also access issues regarding immunization rounds.
- The small number of health partners operating in Iraq is limiting the capacity of the cluster to cover the growing health needs.

**Needs:**

- There are safety and welfare concerns for civilians who have been residing in areas of the Ninewa Governorate that under the control of ISIL but now have been liberated, as they may be suspected of harbouring loyalties toward ISIL and their armed group affiliates.
- Many IDP families are reporting a lack of schools providing an Arabic curriculum and teaching materials, thereby excluding them from the education syllabus.
- There is a lack of alternative collective shelters for IDPs living in unfinished and abandoned buildings, which cannot be easily winter-proofed.

Response:

- Ongoing protection monitoring since February 2014 has covered 713,004 individuals (118,834 families). Of those assessed 15,872 cases have been approved for cash assistance, 22,288 cases received legal assistance, and referrals have been made for 8,117 persons with specific needs. In addition, psychosocial support has been provided to 8,173 children and 124 victims of sexual and other forms of gender-based violence (SGBV). 13,713 dignity kits have been distributed to SGBV cases and 231 solar lanterns have been distributed to 231 IDP families. 990 families have benefitted from quick impact projects and 20 community awareness and sensitisation campaigns have been conducted targeting 1,000 beneficiaries.
- Advocacy and interventions by the cluster partners at the municipal and governorate levels on behalf of IDP families threatened by evictions from unfinished buildings are continuing.
- Child protection activities through the operation of child friendly spaces in Dahuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Sulaymaniyah and Diyala governorates reached 4,952 children.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Security considerations are limiting access to Ninewa Governorate.
- Protection monitors have identified a lack of awareness among IDP families of procedures for birth registration within the KR-I and of the importance of registering newly born children. An information campaign targeting IDPs on these issues is planned soon.
- Tensions between the host and displaced communities in Sulaymaniyah Governorate continue to raise protection concerns, including the potential for expulsions of IDPs from host communities.



Education

Needs:

- Of the 1.9 million people displaced in Iraq, more than 640,000 are between 4 and 17 years-old and require access to education. Nearly 300,000 of those children are in northern Iraq and the KR-I.
- An estimated 60,000 children are living in camps that are still being constructed in the KR-I and require access to education.
- In Iraq more than 1,080 schools are being used as shelter by IDPs and a further 130 are occupied by military forces. 422 schools in Anbar Governorate and 184 in Kirkuk Governorate are used as shelters by displaced populations. The majority of IDPs using schools for shelter will require alternate shelter solutions.
- In Dahuk Governorate, 14 schools in Zawita and 11 in Mangish districts have been recently vacated. There are 386 schools remaining where IDPs are sheltering, the majority of the occupations are in Zakho, Sumel and Dahuk districts.

Response:

- The Government of Iraq's Ministry of Education is advocating to the High Level Committee for IDPs to allocate \$5 million to build 10 prefabricated schools in Dahuk Governorate: 7 in Dahuk City, 1 in Somel City and 2 in Zakho City.
- Cluster partners are working to ensure coordination between the education departments of Ninewa and Dahuk governorates for the use of both the Kurdistan Regional Government and Government of Iraq curriculums in both host and displaced communities.
- In Erbil Governorate's Baharka camp 337 students have participated in school refresher courses and catch-up classes.
- In Erbil 70 students from the Marhaba Hall and 161 students from the Sork School participated in recreational lessons and related activities, 13 school-in-a boxes were distributed in Sork School and educational materials provided to 297 students.
- In the Erbil Governorate city of Shaqlawa, two additional schools have been established in Zewar and Beterma by the education ministry for IDP schooling needs. In Sulaymaniyah Governorate, 12 schools, 6 primary and 6 secondary schools, have been opened to IDP children.
- The Sulaymaniyah Governorate authorities have allocated seven land parcels for IDP caravan schools to cater for the displaced in East Rapareen, West Rapareen, Baziayan, Arbat, Qirga, Kani Sepika-Haware Shar, and Kaliken-Kurdsat.

Gaps & Constraints:

- The high mobility of displaced populations leads to difficulties in collection and analysis of the numbers of children receiving education.
- There is a need for the allocation of more space in IDP camps to accommodate the education needs of all children, while at the same time there is insufficient funding to cover the overall needs for education.
- Security considerations are hampering access by partners to the areas of need.



Logistics

Needs:

- In response to an increasingly insecure environment, especially in Anbar Governorate, the cluster is monitoring capacity against the demand for logistic routes.
- Additional warehousing and transport is anticipated from humanitarian partners for winterisation assistance.

Response:

- The cluster is providing temporary storage in its Dahuk and Erbil warehouses and can also provide limited transportation to specific areas.
- The cluster warehouse in Dahuk is operating as normal and is storing 30.4 tons of NFIs on behalf of two NGOs. The dispatch of winterisation items for a humanitarian partner has begun and is expected to continue over the coming weeks. Emergency warehousing support is available in Erbil as well.
- The cluster is supporting air cargo shipments for humanitarian partners. Since the new validation for imports of humanitarian assistance was implemented on 29 September, the cluster has supported the clearance and validation of eight aircraft shipment arrivals at Erbil International Airport.
- The cluster provides an array of logistics coordination platforms For more information visit: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/irq14a>

Gaps & Constraints:

- Demand for storage and transportation is anticipated to increase as the winterisation program begins.
- Information requests from partners regarding winterisation plans have been made within individual program clusters, but possible logistical needs have not yet been identified. Partner feedback is needed to ensure resources are available to identify gaps and shortages.



Emergency Telecommunications Cluster

Needs:

- The humanitarian community in Iraq has requested emergency information technology and telecommunications services. The provision of radio services in major cities will improve the safety and security of humanitarian personnel. The provision of internet services in camps will allow organisations to coordinate operations more effectively.

Response

- A cluster team has been deployed to Sulaymaniyah City to establish analog radio services in surrounding camps. These radio services will be available to both NGOs and UN agencies.
- The cluster is programming radios for humanitarian partners in Erbil to ensure radios are compatible with all available radio networks.
- Radio training is being provided to humanitarian staff in Erbil to ensure correct radio protocols.
- Two radio operators have been recruited to work in the radio room at the UNAMI compound in Erbil to enhance capacity and improve staff security.

Gaps and constraints

- Flight options for the importation of large amounts of vital ICT equipment remain limited and can delay deployment of ICT services.
- Radio services in the KR-I governorate cities of Erbil and Sulaymaniyah are unavailable to NGOs. UNAMI digital radio services in these locations are limited to UN agencies, as the majority of NGOs use analog radio systems. There are no radio services currently provided in Dahuk.
- The cluster has access to four pairs of frequencies. This means only four VHF radio channels can be deployed across the KR-I. This limits the number of locations to which radio services can be deployed, limiting the number of channels to one each for NGO and UN actors.

General Coordination

- The Inter-Agency Standing Committee Principals met on 5 November and agreed to the requested Iraq L3 extension for 6 months. The original declaration date for the L3 was 12 August. They also noted a number of key issues to be followed up and strengthened over the coming six months.
- The Humanitarian Country Team is preparing to launch a review of coordination in Iraq, which includes a survey as well as focused group discussions with humanitarian stakeholders engaged in coordination mechanisms. The results will be analysed and reviewed by the HCT, for additional discussion over alternatives and solutions to the issues raised, in line with the transformative agenda.
- OCHA is establishing an office in Basrah, to assist in the coordination of humanitarian assistance in southern Iraq.

Background on the crisis

Since the fall of Mosul on 9 June, armed opposition groups (AOGs), including Batthists, tribal militias and members of the former regime/military, along with the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), have taken control of large swathes of Iraq's provinces of Ninewa, Salah al-Din and Diyala. The cities of Mosul, Tikrit, Telafar, Beiji, Quayyara, Sinjar, Suleiman Bek, Heet, Rashad, Hawiga, Riyadh, Falluja and Saqlawiyah, are currently under armed group control. Since January much of Anbar has been under ISIL control. This has led to massive internal displacement. Iraq is now contending with one of the largest internally displaced populations in the world; over 1.8 million have been displaced since January this

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