MOSUL HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

IN NUMBERS

110,000
PEOPLE ARE CURRENTLY DISPLACED

85%
OF DISPLACED PEOPLE ARE IN EMERGENCY CAMPS

38,000
MORE SPACES ARE AVAILABLE NOW TO SHELTER DISPLACED PEOPLE IN EMERGENCY CAMPS

356,000
PEOPLE IN NEED, IN AND OUT OF CAMPS, HAVE BEEN REACHED BY FIRST-LINE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

OVERVIEW

- Two months into the military operation to retake the city from Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), the Mosul crisis continues to have a significant humanitarian impact. Humanitarian needs are severe among displaced families in and out of camps, vulnerable residents of newly retaken communities, and people fleeing fighting in Mosul city.
- Current displacement has risen to 110,000 people. More than three quarters of displaced families are in camps and emergency sites, while the remainder are in host communities, sheltering in private settings or public buildings.
- Up to one million people in Mosul city are estimated to remain largely inaccessible to humanitarians, sheltering from the fighting, or waiting for an opportune time to flee. The humanitarian community remains extremely concerned for the safety of civilians in conflict areas. Parties to the conflict are being called upon to do everything possible to uphold their obligations under international humanitarian law to protect civilians and ensure they have access to the assistance they need.
- Protection concerns define this crisis. Between 17 October and 18 December, 2,582 people were referred to Erbil hospitals from Mosul city due to trauma injuries, primarily from gunshot wounds and indirect fire. More trauma stabilization points are urgently needed, particularly near frontline areas.
- The majority of new displacements continue eastwards from Mosul city. Intensification of military activities in Mosul city is likely to trigger new large scale displacement.
- Humanitarian actors have gained access to recently retaken areas, including neighborhoods in eastern Mosul city. Vulnerable residents, particularly those people in retaken areas of Mosul city, are in urgent need of drinking water, food, and trauma care.
- Potentially, up to 1.2-1.5 million people could be affected by military operations.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

- More than 99,000 people have found shelter in camps and emergency sites to the east and south of Mosul. Shelter is currently available to accommodate a further 38,000 displaced people. Construction of new sites and plot sites is urgently underway to ensure adequate capacity is available for potential new displacements.
- As soon as access opens up, wherever possible, efforts are being made to undertake access and security assessment missions in newly retaken areas close to the front lines, rapidly followed by the distribution of emergency response assistance. Partners have reached 356,000 people in need with multi-sectoral emergency response packages of food, water and basic hygiene items. Mobile clinics are providing health care to vulnerable people in hard-to-reach areas.
- Between 4 - 19 December, the Government’s Public Distribution System distributed 3,700 boxes of cooking oil, 1,200 bags of rice, 4,000 bags of flour, 2,600 bags of sugar in newly retaken areas of Ninewa Governorate. Some 30,000 blankets, 14,000 food parcels, 7,500 hygiene kits, 1,600 heaters, and 1,000 tents were also distributed.
**MOSUL HUMANITARIAN CRISIS**

Humanitarian partners have also distributed winter items, such as heaters, thermal mattresses, and blankets to 22,875 families and have stocks available to cover anticipated needs. In the last week, three flights carrying in-kind emergency assistance from the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism arrived in Erbil. These flights contained blankets, tents, maternity kits, mattresses, medical supplies, and 17 generators, including a 300KVA generator to power a hospital.

Aid packages containing water and food, amongst other items, have been distributed by the UN to approximately 45,000 people in some areas of eastern Mosul city. Security permitting, further rapid aid distribution of multi-sectoral assistance is scheduled. Humanitarian partners continue water trucking to 15 neighbourhoods in eastern Mosul city, delivering approximately 450,000 litres of water per day to approximately 45,000 people.

Displacement tracking is conducted on a daily basis to monitor new movements of people.

Family separation, gender-based violence, maintaining the humanitarian and civilian nature of camps, and confiscation of legal documentation are some of the protection concerns being monitored by mobile protection teams. Children, women, the elderly and disabled are particularly vulnerable. At least 263 children have been registered for follow-up with social case workers.

**HUMANITARIAN PRIORITIES**

- Advocating for the protection of civilians is a top priority for the humanitarian community. Security forces have committed to alerting residents to developments in the military operation, identifying escape routes when it is deemed safe to do so, arranging transport for highly vulnerable civilians to safety, and putting in place dignified, transparent screening procedures.

- Ensuring that camp capacity keeps pace with the rise in displacement is critical. Clusters and partners continue to urgently prepare camp spaces, services and facilities for vulnerable families in need of safe and dignified shelter.

- Residents who remain in recently retaken areas, particularly those in eastern Mosul city, are as vulnerable as those who have been displaced, as there is a severe shortage of basic services in most locations. As humanitarian access becomes possible in retaken urban areas of Mosul city, the delivery of first-line emergency assistance to all people in need, including vulnerable residents, is a priority.

- Heavy rains and snow in the last week have compounded the hardship faced by both those remaining in retaken towns and neighborhoods, and those who have fled to camps. Protective shelter, heating and fuel, warm clothing and blankets are priority needs for many affected people.

**FUNDING**

- As of 18 December, contributions totaling US$261.4 million have been confirmed for the Mosul Flash Appeal, representing 92 per cent of the required amount. Reports of additional funding have also been received and are in the process of being confirmed. Partners have continued to ramp up preparedness efforts to boost camp capacity and emergency supplies, and undertake initial response activities.

- As fighting continues in urban areas of Mosul, more people are becoming affected by the crisis. Partners are therefore planning for new contingencies. Despite the generous contributions received so far, further funding is required to meet shifting priorities and prepare fully for the worst-case scenario. The delivery of clean drinking water and trauma care are funding priorities.

- The 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan for all of Iraq requests $861 million. To date 84 per cent of the required amount has been received. Underfunding limits the ability of the humanitarian community to sustain the level of response needed to provide life-saving assistance to 7.3 million vulnerable Iraqis across the country. Overall funding requirements for Iraq in 2017, including the Mosul response, are presently under review.

---

The next information sheet on Mosul’s humanitarian response will be issued as more information becomes available.

For media enquiries: Karim Elkorany, elkorany@un.org, +964 790 193 1292; Other enquiries: Damian Rance, rance@un.org

Disclaimer: This document is subject to availability of data at the time of circulation and does not claim to be exhaustive or fully verified.