

HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 130,000 people displaced by violence along the Mosul corridor.
- Humanitarian partners race against time to prepare for displacement from coming military operations in Mosul.
- 35,000 people return to Fallujah.

FIGURES

# of people in need	10m
# of people targeted for assistance	7.3m
# of internally displaced persons (IDPs)	3.3m
# of IDPs who live outside camps	2.8m
# of affected people in host communities	3.2m
# of returnees	0.9m
# of Syrian refugees	0.24m

Source: 2016 Iraq HRP/HNO/IOM DTM

Humanitarian Response Plan

FUNDING

861 million requested for 2016 (US\$)

58% (\$499 million) (reflects funding on FTS as of 14 October 2016)

Source: <http://fts.unocha.org>



Newly displaced families find shelter in Tinah in Ninewa at the end of August following fighting in Qayyarah. Credit: OCHA/Themba Linden

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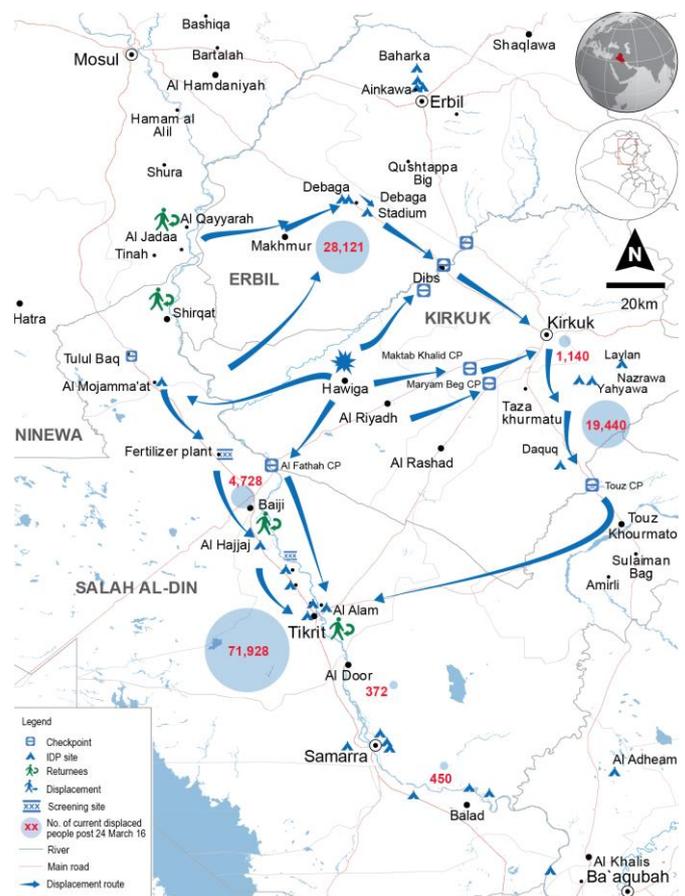
Violence continues to trigger new displacement

Over 130,000 people currently displaced along the Mosul corridor

Ongoing military operations are forcing people into displacement at great personal risk with over 400,000 people newly displaced this year across Iraq. Of these, more than 130,000 people are displaced along the Mosul corridor where military operations started in late March and intensified in mid-June. In recent months, people have been uprooted mainly from Baiji and Shirqat in Salah al-Din and Qayyarah in Ninewa. Military operations have also intensified in Hawiga district in Kirkuk, displacing about 30,000 people.

The majority of newly displaced families – about 70,000 people – have settled in Tikrit district in Salah al-Din, where the Government and aid organizations are providing assistance. Most people have reportedly settled with host communities while others stay in empty houses, unfinished buildings and schools as the capacity in displacement camps is limited. Authorities and humanitarian organizations are assisting families to upgrade out-of-camp shelter arrangements and are working to set up new camps in the sub-district.

Many displaced people have headed to Debaga camp in Erbil, where the population has increased from 3,700 people in March 2016 to over 28,000, with camp capacity originally set up for 5,000 people with additional space for 1,000 people at the nearby stadium. Over 58,000 have passed through the camp since March, although at least 12,000 have left through sponsorship mechanisms, largely to Kirkuk.



Mosul corridor displacement patterns. Source: Authorities and humanitarian partners. Displacement figures International Organization for Migration (IOM).

CLUSTERS

Lead or co-lead organizations

CCCM	UNHCR NRC
Education	UNICEF Save the Children
Emergency livelihoods – social cohesion	UNDP DRC
ETC	WFP
Food security	WFP/FAO ACTED
Health	WHO IMC
Logistics	WFP
Protection	UNHCR DRC
- Child protection	UNICEF Save the Children
- GBV	UNFPA NRC
- Mine Action	UNMAS MAG
- HLP	UNHABITAT NRC
Shelter & NFI	UNHCR NRC
Water, sanitation & hygiene	UNICEF ACF
Coordination and Common Services	OCHA NCCI
Multi-purpose CASH	UNHCR Mercy Corps
Rapid Response Mechanism	UNICEF WFP

The arrival of newly-displaced families in Debaga is causing overcrowding, and is stretching available services and partners' capacity to respond to humanitarian needs. To cater for the new arrivals, Government and humanitarian partners have expanded the capacity of the camp and established new camps in the area. Further expansion of the camps is mainly hampered by limited land availability, as a result of land tenure issues. Despite advocacy efforts with local authorities, no new land has been made available.

Humanitarian aid reaches vulnerable people in newly accessible areas

Humanitarian access along the Mosul corridor has been periodically hampered by ongoing armed conflict, with the northern section of the corridor, between Qayyarah and Mosul, remaining inaccessible. Following military operations around Shirqat and Qayyarah, humanitarians have been able to reach locations and populations that have been inaccessible since 2014. However, key logistical routes between Baiji and Qayyarah remain insecure and have been frequently unusable.



Qayyarah residents have been heavily deprived of basic services for several months. Credit: OCHA/Themba Linden

In early September, over 30,000 people in Qayyarah city and its surroundings were reached with emergency aid shortly after the area was retaken from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). As an immediate response, bottled water, ready-to-eat food and hygiene products were distributed. Aid organizations also provided one-month food rations to families, ensured access to drinking water through water trucking and water treatment material, and set up health care facilities and mobile clinics. In Qayyarah city, thick smoke from burning refineries, oil wells and pipelines continues to be a health risk to the population. Some shops have reopened with limited food stocks and vegetables; no significant increase in prices has been reported, but quality and variety (especially of vegetables) is limited. Small herds of sheep and goats can be seen, but it is obvious from the animal's coats of blackened wool that the oil pollution is affecting them.

In late September, humanitarian organizations distributed over 2,000 family food parcels and 1,000 hygiene kits in Shirqat. The Ministry of Displacement and Migration also distributed about 5,000 family food parcels in the area. The military operation triggered limited population displacement – about 1,000 people – meaning an estimated 50,000 people remained in Shirqat, a further 10,000 have returned and there are many more in the surrounding area, which is still not secured. Reports by local authorities indicate that the town infrastructure only suffered limited damage, but basic services, including water and electricity, are down, and families depend on external support. Humanitarian partners are responding, but key needs remain to be covered, such as support to ensure the provision of water, health care, hygiene kits, electricity, and fuel.

Race against time to bridge preparedness gap

While hoping for the best, partners must plan for the worst-case scenario

Planning is intensifying for the expected humanitarian fallout of the coming military operations to retake Mosul from under the control of ISIL, who have held the city since June 2014. In a worst case scenario, 1.2-1.5 million people could be affected by the military operation, including possible casualties on a large scale. In a worst-case scenario, 1 million people could try to flee the city to safety.

Planning for the humanitarian response in Mosul is beset with challenges, not least because numbers of people fleeing and their flight paths to safety are impossible to predict with precision. It is anticipated that displacement will occur in three main directions out of the city. Humanitarian partners are working with authorities to ensure civilians in Mosul are aware of designated escape routes that they can move along quickly to safety,

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An estimated 700,000 people will need to be accommodated in shelter options supported by the Government and humanitarian partners.

and increasing the capacity of camps and possible temporary shelter arrangements in areas at a safe distance from the fighting. An estimated 700,000 people will need to be accommodated in emergency shelter options, and around 300,000 through sponsorship schemes. The construction of camps and emergency sites has been delayed by a lack of funding and difficulties encountered in securing land. Family plots are available and ready to receive about 60,000 people in camps. Work is underway to secure shelter for another 250,000 people. Bridging the gap in shelter is an immediate priority. For those civilians who remain in Mosul, partners will attempt to provide assistance, depending on routes opened and protected by security forces.

Major efforts are underway to establish camps and emergency sites

10,014 family plots available **41,744** family plots planned or under construction **74,922** families still require shelter options in Mosul planning scenario



Source: Authorities and humanitarian partners. One family plot is planned for six people.

The challenge of anticipating how many people will be in need of assistance, where and for how long, is further complicated by a shortfall in resources.

The planned humanitarian response spans three phases. In the initial, emergency phase, expected to last three months, the focus will be on providing the most immediate and life-saving needs such as emergency shelter, water, sanitation and health services, along with ready-to-eat food. The following, consolidation phase will aim to provide regular, holistic assistance, including adequate basic services, dry food rations and water, and vaccination of children. In the final phase, humanitarian partners will focus on ensuring assistance is effective and sustainable. To address these needs as quickly as possible, efforts are underway to pre-position emergency supplies in key locations.

The challenge of anticipating how many people will be in need of assistance, where and for how long, is further complicated by a shortfall in resources. Despite generous new funding pledges, the US\$284 million Mosul flash appeal that was launched in July to ensure resources would come online 2.5 months ahead of the start of the military operations is only just over half funded. As a result, key components of the response, including emergency camps, are critically underfunded.

Uptick in returns to Fallujah over recent weeks

Almost 35,000 people displaced by violence have returned to Fallujah

Nearly 35,000 people have returned to Fallujah and the surrounding area since mid-September, according to IOM. Returns officially started in mid-September, but intensified in early October. Local partners have reported that basic services have been restored in the neighbourhoods receiving returning citizens, although some issues around water quality, health services and the availability of household items have been identified.

The police report having disposed of 12,750 improvised explosive devices (IEDs) from the city and surrounds in September, and the military report having cleared 350 booby traps from houses in the city. However, concerns remain around the level of knowledge returning families have of the risks posed by IEDs and other explosive remnants. The corridor along the main highway between Fallujah and Heet has undergone IED clearance operations, and people are beginning to move along it in accordance with restrictions set out by the security forces. The wider area is still seeing attacks by ISIL, who have a number of strongholds in the northern part of Anbar Governorate.

In the city of Fallujah, after explosive hazards are cleared from neighbourhoods, stabilization efforts are following swiftly behind. Projects currently underway in Fallujah include rubble removal, light infrastructure rehabilitation and investment in livelihoods. Short-term employment opportunities in these projects have been made available to people living in or newly returned to the city, and several hundred people have been given jobs as a result. The returns to Fallujah are part of a wider movement of return across Anbar and the rest of the country: about 264,000 people have returned to Anbar, and more than 970,000 people have returned to their home areas across the country, according to IOM. Many returning families find their communities destroyed by armed conflict and continue to require humanitarian aid.

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Humanitarian actors are advocating that any returns of displaced people to home areas should be voluntary and safe.

The vast majority of the over 85,000 people who were displaced from Fallujah in May and June remain displaced in camps and sites in Ameriyat al Falluja, Khalidiyah and Habbaniyah Tourist City, where humanitarian partners continue to provide assistance.

Concerns over pressure to return in Kirkuk

People reportedly leaving the governorate pre-emptively fearing eviction

Humanitarian partners are concerned over reports of forced returns and confiscation of documents in Kirkuk. Around 3,700 families in Laylan displacement camp and a dozen neighbourhoods in Kirkuk have reportedly received notifications from local authorities to return. Around 330 displaced people were transported from Laylan camp in Kirkuk on 22 September. Reportedly, close to 5,000 people had chosen to leave Laylan camp between 13 and 25 September after receiving return notifications, before intervention could occur.

As of late September, local authorities suspended the eviction of displaced people originating from Baiji, Balad, Fallujah and Yathrib due to insecurity in these areas.

Humanitarian actors are advocating that any returns of displaced people to home areas should be voluntary and safe. According to IOM, about 390,000 people – 68 per cent of whom are from Anbar, Diyala, Ninewa and Salah al-Din – are currently living in displacement in Kirkuk.

Humanitarian needs outstrip available funding

Planned services forced to suspend due to underfunding

About 58 per cent of the \$861 million funding requirement of the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan – the backbone of the Iraq humanitarian operation – has been met. As a result, more than half of planned programmes have either shut down or could not start, and further programme closures will follow in the coming months if the required funding is not received. A boost in funding is urgently required to restart activities forced to shut, to activate those that need to start and to prevent further closures of front-line programmes.

Funding level Iraq Humanitarian Response Plan 2016



Source: <http://fts.unocha.org>, reflecting reported funding on FTS as of 14 October 2016.

All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: fts@un.org

Pooled fund allocates \$50 million to emergency priorities

The second standard allocation of the Iraq Humanitarian Pooled Fund for this year has allocated \$50 million to support preparation of the Mosul response and to address critical gaps in the first-line emergency response in the Humanitarian Response Plan. The bulk of the money, \$35.7 million, was allocated to partners building emergency camps and providing the latrines, water and health services for these camps: the Shelter and Non-Food Items Cluster received \$13 million followed by the water, sanitation and hygiene and health clusters, which received \$12 million and \$10.7 million respectively.

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