



Iraq

ECHO FACTSHEET

Facts & Figures

People in need of
humanitarian
assistance:

11 million

Internally Displaced
Persons (IDPs)

3.4 million currently
displaced

242 558 Syrian
Refugees

(Source: OCHA)

European
Commission
Humanitarian Aid
2015-2017:

€339.25 million for
both Iraqi IDPs and
Syrian refugees inside
Iraq

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Key message

Civilians, in conflict affected and newly re-taken areas of West Mosul, face severe protection concerns and lack access to basic services. With forced displacement still ongoing, **over 700 000 individuals had been displaced from West Mosul**, by end of June.

Since the beginning of the Mosul military operations, on 17 October 2016, over 1 000 000 Iraqis have been displaced. 821 000 remain displaced, 45% in camps and the remaining in out of camp locations, predominantly in Eastern Mosul. There are currently total 3.4 million internally displaced people (IDPs) in Iraq and 2 million returnees.

The UN estimates that over 200 000 people are to be directly affected by prospective military operations in Telafar, Western Anbar and Hawidja. Limited presence of humanitarian actors in Western areas of the country, the surge of violations against civilians fleeing Islamic State of Iraq and Levant (ISIL) controlled areas and families with members with perceived or suspected ISIL affiliation, are critical concerns.

On 13 July in Washington, Commissioner Stylianides announced €30 million of additional humanitarian support to reinforce principled humanitarian emergency response and address critical protection and assistance gaps throughout the country. **This brings the total EU humanitarian assistance in Iraq to almost €340 million, since 2015.**

The European Union calls on all parties to the conflict to protect affected civilians by **fully respecting International Humanitarian Law (IHL)**, including the principle of distinction between civilians and combatants, **and Iraqi law**, safeguarding the rights and humane treatment of all those displaced, due process and minimum conditions in screening and detention.

Humanitarian situation and needs

On 9 July, Iraqi Prime Minister, Mr Haider al-Abadi, declared Iraqi Security Forces' (ISF) "victory" in Mosul, claiming control of the West bank of the city, still amidst intense fighting. Civilian families, who still remain in areas of active fighting inside the Old City, face life-threatening risks. Sustained clashes in the narrow streets of these districts, heavy artillery and targeting of buildings where civilians are sheltering increase their already great risk of being caught in the cross fire. Food security partners report that increasing numbers of children, amongst the newly-displaced, are in need of supplementary feeding. **Western Mosul faces unprecedented levels of damage to civilian houses and infrastructure**, in newly re-taken areas, and widespread contamination by unexploded devices. Dead bodies are buried beneath the rubble, while others decompose in the streets, posing grave public health risks. There is a **lack of functional basic services (water, health, electricity)** able to cater for the needs of residents, displaced and returnees in West Mosul. By the end of June, almost 63 000 people had returned to southern districts of West Mosul, re-taken at the beginning of the military operation.

In retaken areas of East and West Mosul, people have continued to be exposed to indirect fire and violent attacks. During the month of June, increased number of asymmetric attacks in re-taken areas of West Mosul resulted in secondary displacement of residents and IDPs. Also, an increase in suicide attacks in eastern Mosul, in late June, brought humanitarian access to a temporary halt. A high number of improvised explosive devices were found amongst rubble in areas of return. Humanitarian needs of the over 350 000 people displaced from West to East Mosul, residing in out of camp shelters, are yet to be comprehensively covered. **Revitalizing basic public services in East and West Mosul remains a priority as well as the delivery of coordinated protection and victim assistance support.**

Prospective military operations in Telafar, West Anbar and Hawidja are to directly affect over 200 000 civilians over the coming months. Telafar district is estimated to still hold up to 20 000 civilians. Current displacement has been limited to southern routes, given the denied access of fleeing civilians to Kurdish Security Forces (KSF) controlled northern areas. While a limited number of humanitarian actors currently provide an emergency response to ongoing IDP flows into the southern IDP site of Tal Jarabiyah, the capacity of the humanitarian community to sustain a long term response in this location is questionable. IDPs are likely to seek shelter in formal IDP camps, equipped to cater for the Mosul displacement further south.

Ana, Ru'ua and Ka'im districts, in **western Anbar** Governorate, have been under ISIL control since early 2014, and are currently estimated to host 100 000 civilians in need of humanitarian assistance. With the intensification of the military operations in the area since January 2017, over 25 000 people are currently displaced. Kilo 60 and Kilo 18, intended as short-term transit IDP sites, struggle to keep pace with the rate of arrivals. On 2 July, following a suicide attack targeting camp residents in Kilo 60, which killed 14 people, families were relocated to formal IDP camps in east Anbar, which have substantial shelter capacity, following returns to Ramadi and Fallujah. However, all camps in Anbar have significant gaps in service provision and will require additional assistance to address the needs of the forecasted influx and existing IDP population. The expected IDPs, from western to eastern Anbar, will require additional first line emergency assistance at checkpoints and reception centers, in similar modalities to the ones developed for the Mosul response. Yet, limited presence of operational partners west of Ramadi hinders the ability to address needs where most required.

Hawidja district, in Kirkuk Governorate, has been under ISIL since June 2014. With the intensification of the military operations in the area since August 2016, almost 100 000 people are currently displaced. It is estimated that 80 000 civilians remain in ISIL controlled districts of Hawidja, in dire humanitarian conditions, given the de-facto blockade of the district - since August 2016 - lack of electricity, water, medicine and food shortages. People who managed to flee to neighboring Salah al Din governorate, facing the risk of direct attacks by ISIL, recount having been forced to leave behind family members unable to endure the perilous escape. Those inside Hawidja, reportedly, resort to eating grass and crushing date stones to make their own flour. Hawidja's remaining residents are among the most vulnerable populations in Iraq, neglected by regional and central authorities, abused by their occupiers, and at risk of being subjected to a gravely concerning military campaign by various forces.



The European Union's Response

The EU is a leading donor in the Iraq humanitarian response, supporting all civilians in need, upholding the humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence. Aid has to be delivered to all populations in need, regardless of their religious affiliation, prioritising areas with the highest needs and lowest pre-existing humanitarian response capacity.

Assisting conflict affected populations inside Iraq

In response to the growing humanitarian needs of those displaced by the conflict, the **European Commission** has committed a **total of €72.5 million in humanitarian assistance in 2017**. Its support consists of an integrated, multi-sector life-saving response to the most vulnerable groups, including food, health care, water, sanitation and hygiene as well as protection, shelter and education in emergencies. Since 2016, over €160 million have been dedicated by the EU to provide emergency assistance in response to the humanitarian consequences of the Mosul operation as well as Telafar and Hawidja preparedness and response. EU supported humanitarian actors have provided life-saving emergency health assistance, from point of injury to point of rehabilitation. Their exemplary action has allowed for the treatment of over 15 000 war wounded in Mosul. ECHO supported civilian rescue teams and trauma stabilization points (TSPs), run by WHO partners inside West Mosul, are the first point of care for all injured in the city. Their ambulances provide emergency transport towards field and static hospitals inside and outside Mosul, the majority supported by ECHO. In response to the ongoing displacement from Telafar, West Anbar and Hawidja, the EU has actively supported humanitarian partners to provide emergency relief and to ramp up their emergency preparedness in locations likely to receive further displacement as well as to enhance principled humanitarian access to conflict affected populations.

ECHO supported partners are at the forefront of the emergency response to those newly displaced and conflict affected populations in Iraq. ECHO supported humanitarian actors continue to build up on principled humanitarian access strategies, to provide emergency assistance to those most in need. By end June, with ECHO's support, over 1 million residents of East and West Mosul had received multi-sector emergency relief package (food, hygiene kits, essential clothing), and over 6 500 cubic meters of water on daily basis, in one of the biggest humanitarian water supply and trucking operations worldwide. Over 1 900 000 individuals received Rapid Response Kits (UNICEF/WFP/UNFPA) during the acute phase of their displacement out of the city. Humanitarian protection partners have also been positioned and able to deliver critical services along the displacement route and on displacement sites, from mustering point onwards, with the support of ECHO. Mental health services have also been scaled up with ECHO support in East Mosul, helping families deal with severe trauma, including critical child protection, at learning spaces and schools in and out of camps. ECHO has also supported the repositioning and delivery of integrated lifesaving actions, in areas already receiving civilians fleeing ongoing military operations in Telafar, West Anbar and Hawidja. IDP families, fleeing Telafar and reaching Tal Jarabiah site, receive basic health services, water and sanitation and food with ECHO's support. Out-of-camp IDPs in Shirqat district receive health, water, protection services and emergency cash assistance as they flee Hawidja. Families reaching Kilo 60 and Kilo 18, having fled West Anbar districts under ISIL control, receive emergency relief by ECHO supported partners.

The EU continues to call on all parties to the conflict to ensure that all civilians are protected in accordance with IHL and Iraqi law, and aid is delivered in a principled manner.

Assisting Iraqi refugees in Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon

The European Commission is providing assistance in the area of food and non-food items to meet the basic needs of vulnerable Iraqi refugees, currently residing in neighboring countries. In Lebanon and Jordan, new Iraqi refugees are being supported through an EU-funded cash assistance programme.

Supporting refugees from Syria

Since the outbreak of the conflict in Syria, over 240 000 people have fled the violence into Iraq, mainly into its Kurdish region. The Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO) provides support inside and outside the camps, in terms of food assistance, basic health care, water and sanitation, protection, psychosocial support, and the distribution of essential household items. Around 40% of Syrian refugees assisted by ECHO in Iraq are children under 18; 41% are women.

