

IRAQ SITUATION

UNHCR FLASH UPDATE

17 April 2017

KEY FIGURES

327,432

Iraqis currently internally displaced from Mosul and surrounding areas since military operations to retake the city began on 17 October 2016¹

43,401

core relief item (CRIs) kits distributed to families in camps, assisting some 249,000 IDPs from Mosul and surrounding areas

9,378 family plots

currently occupied out of 16,564 family plots (for some 87,000 people) in UNHCR built camps ready to receive IDPs displaced from the Mosul corridor

3 million

IDPs since January 2014²

250,952 Iraqi refugees

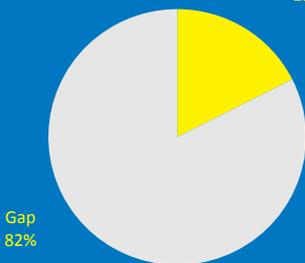
hosted in countries in the region, and **14,949** Iraqis received in Al Hol camp in Syria since 17 October 2016

FUNDING

USD 578 million

requested for IDPs and Iraqi refugees in the region in 2017

Funded
18%



Gap
82%

POPULATION MOVEMENTS

Displacement from west Mosul to Hammam Al-Alil slows down due to flooding. Bridges across the Tigris River were closed as a result of flooding, slowing the outflow of IDPs from west Mosul. According to figures provided by the authorities, more than 3,200 families, consisting of over 22,000 individuals, arrived to Hammam Al-Alil during the past four days. The flooding caused this number to be sharply reduced between Friday and Saturday, from more than 7,700 individuals to just 4,500. Numbers remained at a reduced level on Sunday, when just 4,230 individuals arrived in Hammam Al-Alil.

IDPs from Ninewa flee to Baghdad. During the past week, 131 families (786 individuals) fled Ninewa governorate towards Baghdad. This brings the total number of IDPs from Ninewa in Baghdad to 2,622 families (15,732 individuals) since 17 October 2016. Many families reaching Baghdad have reportedly sought medical assistance. Entering Baghdad requires that IDP families identify a sponsor within the governorate.

Returns from Qaymawa camp to east Mosul and surrounding areas have resumed, after nearly a month. In recent days, 38 families of 183 individuals returned to east Mosul. An additional 159 families, comprising 818 individuals, returned from Nargizlia camps since 12 April. Returning families cite family reunification and resumption of employment, as well as policies regarding limits on freedom of movement and confiscation of mobile phones, as motivating their decision.

SITUATION UPDATE

Flooding blocked escape routes and impeded humanitarian access to Hammam Al-Alil. With water levels reportedly rising as much as 2 to 3 meters in southern Ninewa, all bridges across the Tigris River have been closed, blocking escape routes for people fleeing militant-held parts of Mosul. [According to reports](#), the blockage caused hundreds of civilians to cross the flooded river using small wooden boats on Sunday. The flooding has also made the delivery of aid supplies to the camps and urban areas sheltering IDPs east of Mosul significantly more difficult.

RESPONSE UPDATE

Nearly 1,600 families have been enrolled in ASSIST and settled in Hammam Al-Alil 2 since its opening on 12 April. A total of 1,589 families, or more than 7,300 individuals, were enrolled in UNHCR's assistance, information, and services tracking system over a four-day period. This figure also reflects the issuance of 108 family reunification cards, required to allow separated family members to join their relatives in the camp. As previously reported, high numbers of separated families have been noted in recent weeks, and UNHCR and protection actors are working to ensure that separated families are able to locate and join their family members in Hammam Al-Alil 2.

With these arrivals, nearly all of the tents in the first phase of Hammam Al-Alil 2 are now allocated. Construction for the second phase of the camp, which will accommodate nearly 3,000 additional families, is ongoing.

Processing of 129 IDPs stranded at Maktab Khalid checkpoint begins. As previously reported, a group of IDPs from villages near Hawiga had been stranded at Maktab Khalid checkpoint for over ten days, unable to enter Kirkuk governorate. On Sunday, 16 April, authorities began the screening process for this group, which included 38 women, 72 children (including 14 separated children), and 19 men. Women and children have now been transported to Laylan C camp in Kirkuk, while men are undergoing additional screening before joining their families.

UNHCR needs USD 212 million in 2017 to [continue providing](#) urgent protection, shelter and camp coordination and camp management assistance to Iraqis displaced from Mosul.

¹IOM-DTM Emergency Tracking since 17 October 2016.

²IOM-DTM as of 30 March 2017.

³IOM-DTM Emergency Tracking since August 2016.