

IRAQ SITUATION

UNHCR FLASH UPDATE

24 January 2017

KEY FIGURES

160,848

Internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Mosul and surrounding areas since the military offensive began on 17 October 2016¹

17,972

UNHCR kits of core relief items (CRIs) distributed to families in camps, assisting some 107,000 IDPs from Mosul and surrounding areas

10,105

Family plots (for some 60,000 people) in UNHCR built camps are ready to receive IDPs displaced from Mosul corridor, of which **5,962 (59%)** are currently occupied

3 million

IDPs since January 2014²

245,000 Iraqi refugees hosted by neighbouring countries in the region, and

9,977 Iraqis received in Al Hol camp in Syria since 17 October 2016

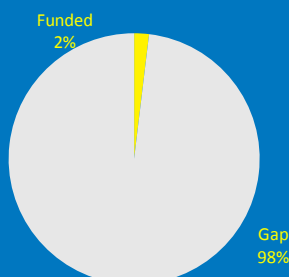
¹IOM-DTM Emergency Tracking.

²IOM-DTM as of 5 January 2017.

FUNDING

USD 578 million

requested for IDPs and Iraqi refugees in the region in 2017.



POPULATION MOVEMENTS

IDP returns, including to Mosul. Improved security in retaken areas of Mosul city has prompted an acceleration of returns from Hasansham and Khazer camps, east of Mosul. New displacement from Mosul city and surrounding areas has also significantly slowed as a result of security gains. This week, 7,140 IDPs departed from Khazer M1, Hasansham U2 and Hasasham U3 camps to their places of origin in Mosul city and Gogachly (on the eastern outskirts of Mosul). Reports indicate that families displaced to other areas of the city are also returning to their neighbourhoods. Since 17 October 2016, an estimated 26,000 persons from Mosul and its surrounding areas have returned to their places of origin. UNHCR has participated in interagency missions to some of the return areas and note that in some areas, safety concerns and the lack of food and water remain pertinent. Some returnees continue to rely on NFIs, including kerosene, they received while in camps.

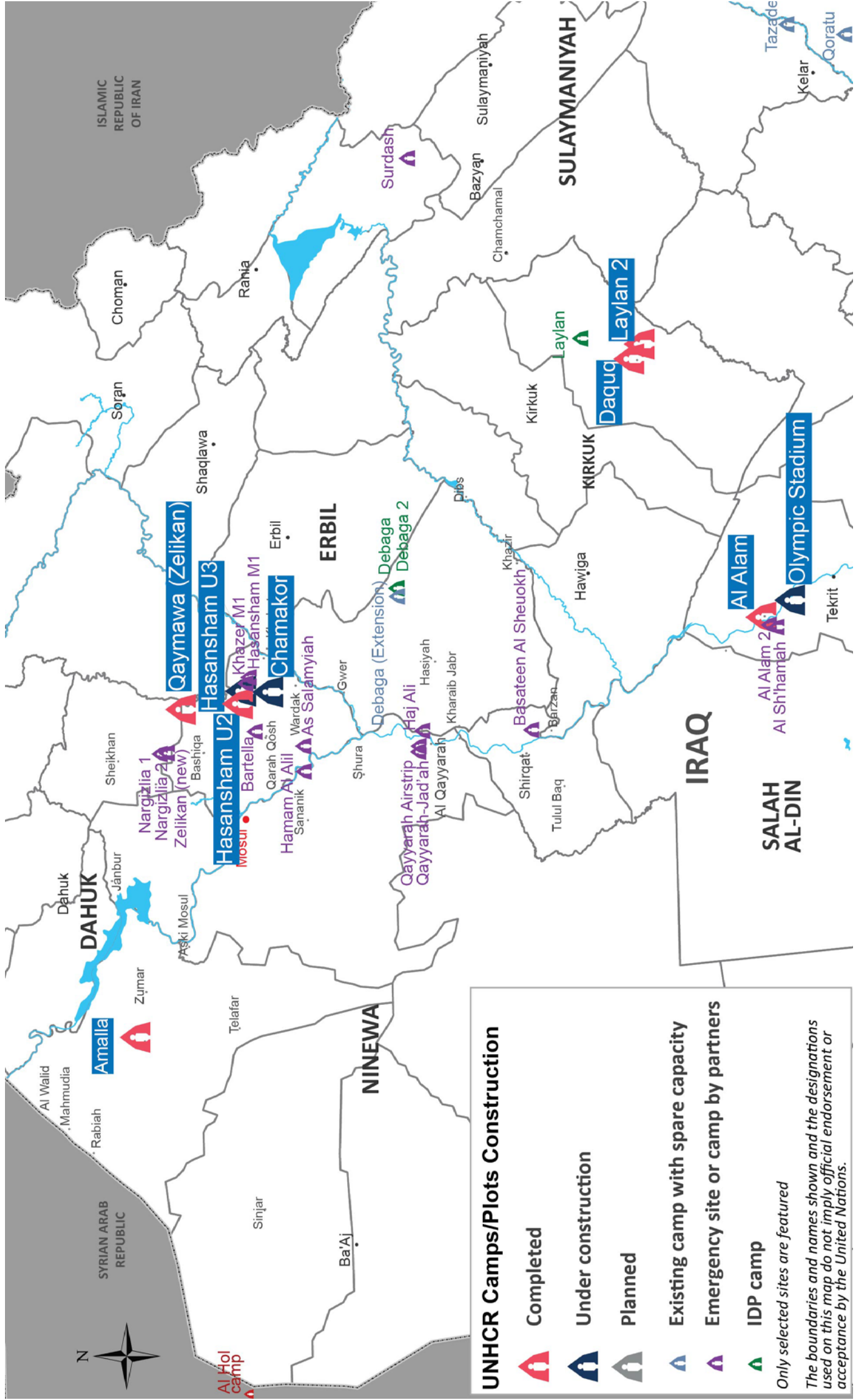
SITUATION UPDATE

Schools to reopen in Mosul after a two-year gap. The Education Directorate in Mosul has announced that schools will reopen in the eastern part of the city, in neighbourhoods controlled by the government. Over 70 primary and secondary schools are reopening after a suspension of more than two years; 30 reopened on 22 January, and the remaining 40 schools will reopen once cleared of unexploded ordinance, according to UNICEF. Families interviewed by UNHCR in Khazer and Hasansham camps stated that the reopening of schools and governmental offices in Mosul was an important factor in their decision to return.







UNHCR RESPONSE UPDATE

As returns accelerate, UNHCR has continued to advocate with authorities across Governorates for return of IDPs' civil documents. Civil identification documents (IDs) are routinely confiscated from IDPs upon their arrival to camps and in principle returned when IDPs leave the camps to go back to their places of origin. The practice has not been consistent, however, and some IDPs have been advised to collect their documents from government authorities in the areas of return. Following advocacy by UNHCR and partners for the authorities to standardize their approach, authorities in Hasansham and Khazer camps have informed UNHCR that the procedure has been harmonized and that all civil IDs will now be handed over to returning IDPs prior to their departure. UNHCR protection teams will continue to follow the issue in all locations.

UNHCR is coordinating with humanitarian partners and authorities across governorates to ensure that newly displaced populations are able to access legal assistance. UNHCR protection monitoring teams have assessed over 47,000 IDPs displaced from the Mosul corridor since March 2016, and 46 per cent of the families assessed reported that they are missing documentation. In Hasansham and Khazer camps, where over 58,000 IDPs are sheltered, UNHCR's protection partner is coordinating closely with the Khabat Notary and the Ninewa Civil Affairs Office to assist IDP families in replacing missing civil documentation. UNHCR's partner for legal assistance is able to facilitate the issuance of civil IDs, as well as birth, marriage and divorce certificates, and has processed 270 legal cases over the past two months.



UNHCR Camps/Plots Construction

-  Completed
-  Under construction
-  Planned
-  Existing camp with spare capacity
-  Existing camp site or camp by partners
-  IDP camp

Only selected sites are featured

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.