



IRAQ SITUATION

UNHCR FLASH UPDATE

20 June 2017

POPULATION MOVEMENTS

Thousands of civilians flee west Mosul as military offensive to retake the Old City intensifies. The offensive began on 18 June and at least 11,000 civilians arrived at transit sites east and south of Mosul between 18 and 20 June. Most newly displaced families come from Shiffa neighbourhood, in the immediate vicinity of the Old City, where fighting is reportedly ongoing. Internally displaced persons (IDPs) arrive at two main screening sites in Hammam Al-Alil and near Mosul Woods, in south and east Mosul, respectively, where they undergo security clearance before moving onwards to camps or urban areas. IDPs reportedly flee west Mosul using two main routes. Around 9,000 IDPs fled or were reportedly evacuated by military actors directly to [east Mosul](#), while the remainder were transferred to Hammam Al-Alil, south of Mosul.

SITUATION UPDATE

Civilians fleeing west Mosul increasingly at risk. Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) continue to advance on Mosul's Old City. The historic district and a small area to its north are the only parts of the city reportedly still under extremist groups' control. As the fighting intensifies, the [International Committee of the Red Cross](#) (ICRC) expressed alarm on 19 June at the situation of the civilians in the Old City, warning that the flow of injured civilians out of western Mosul had increased in recent days, with around 90% of victims seen by the ICRC's surgical team having wounds from gunshots, shelling and bombs.

Investigation following food poisoning episode in Hasansham U2 camp concludes outbreak caused by delays in delivery, hot weather. The [Governor of Erbil](#) announced on 19 June that the investigation into the food poisoning incident at Hasansham U2 camp, east of Mosul, which resulted in 825 IDPs falling ill has concluded that there was no intentional wrongdoing. Despite initial reporting of fatalities, the health department in Erbil later clarified that nobody died from the food poisoning. Findings show that the food, which was prepared in the morning, sat for too long without refrigeration and became infected by bacteria. Following the incident, the Department of Health has issued several recommendations, and reinforced the regulations stipulating that all food served to displaced families sheltered in the camps should be cooked on site where there are big kitchens. In the night of the incident on 12 June and the morning after, hundreds of IDPs, mainly women and children from, were referred to health actors and medical facilities in Erbil and Khabat, east of Mosul. UNHCR was on-site and coordinated with health partners, clusters, camp management, and authorities to ensure timely intervention. In addition, psychosocial Support (PSS) actors were alerted to receive and assist affected families as needed.

RESPONSE UPDATE

Displacement from Tel Afar district, west of Mosul, accelerates. Since April, close to 15,000 IDPs reportedly fled areas under extremist armed groups' control in Tel Afar district, west of Mosul, and arrived to Shindukhan, north of Mosul. Approximately one third of the Tel Afar IDPs, or around 4,800 persons, fled in the past two weeks. All IDPs were transferred by the government to Hammam Al-Alil screening site. Waiting times in Shindukhan have been reduced to less than 24 hours, a positive development and follows advocacy by humanitarian partners for IDPs to be able to access safety. Previously, some families had been stranded for up to three months before being allowed into areas controlled by the Government. In Sahlij, where IDPs are transferred after they reach Shidukhan, humanitarian actors continue to provide basic services to new arrivals including food, medical services, essential household items such as blankets and mattresses, and protection monitoring.

Of UNHCR's overall funding requirements to continue providing protection, shelter and camp coordination and camp management assistance to IDPs, USD 126 million are urgently required to meet critical needs of vulnerable children, women and men displaced from, and returning to, Mosul, until the end of the year.

KEY FIGURES

425,982

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

520,000

IDPs, returnees and members of the host community from Mosul and surrounding areas assisted by UNHCR since 17 October 2016.

166,020

Individuals (36,343 households) impacted by military operations to retake Mosul since October 2016 are currently enrolled in

ASSIST, UNHCR's assistance tracking tool

3 million

IDPs since January 2014²

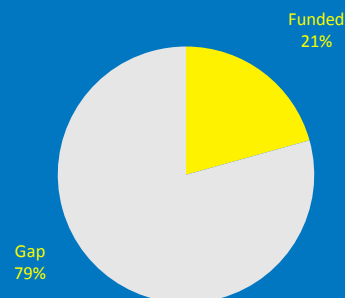
253,992

Iraqi refugees hosted in countries in the region, and **19,968** 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



¹IOM-DTM Emergency Tracking since 17 October 2016.

²IOM-DTM as of 13 April 2017.

³IOM-DTM Emergency Tracking since 25 February 2017.