

IRAQ

18 October 2017

Key figures

800,100 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

709,000 IDPs, returnees and members of the host community from Mosul and surrounding areas assisted by UNHCR since 17 October 2016.

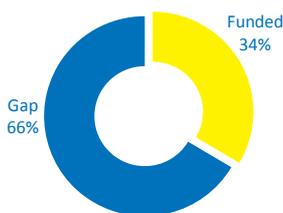
386,922 Individuals (82,652 households) impacted by military operations to retake Mosul since October 2016 are currently enrolled in **ASSIST**, UNHCR's assistance tracking tool,

3.2 million IDPs since January 2014²

264,973 Iraqi refugees hosted in countries in the region, and 29,447 Iraqis received in camps in Hassakeh, 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 15 October 2017.

Situation update

The Iraqi Government regains control over disputed territories from the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG). Between 16 and 17 October, Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) gained control over most disputed areas in Ninewa, Kirkuk, Erbil (Makhmur), and Diyala Governorates.

Population movements

An estimated 61,000 individuals fled to Erbil and Sulaymaniyah Governorates on 16 October, following the military operations in and around Kirkuk. Over 90% of the individuals were reportedly displaced from Kirkuk, while the remainder fled from the nearby governorates of Salah al-Din and Diyala, where military operations were still ongoing. About 64% of the displaced (39,000 individuals) fled to Sulaymaniyah and 36% (22,000) to Erbil Governorate. Most internally displaced persons (IDPs) are reportedly staying with relatives. Authorities expect the IDPs to return in a matter of days following the stabilization of the situation in Kirkuk. Large scale returns from Sulaymaniyah to Kirkuk reportedly began on 17 October. Kirkuk Governorate has an estimated population of 1.5 million individuals.

Several thousand families have also fled Makhmur and Gwer areas in Erbil and Ninewa governorates respectively, as ISF gained control of additional districts in disputed territories in these governorates. No significant population movement has been observed in the north of Ninewa (Sinjar, Zummar, Rabea) so far.

Response update

On 16-17 October, UNHCR undertook missions to areas of displacement including Makhmur and Koisnjaq (in Erbil, near the Kirkuk border), Chamchamal (in Sulaymaniyah, near Kirkuk), and Khanaquin (in Diyala) to meet with authorities and IDPs, and assess needs. In coordination with local authorities and humanitarian partners, UNHCR stands ready to distribute tents, blankets, and mattresses to IDPs who spent the night in the open. While most IDPs are expected to stay with relatives in Erbil Governorate, Erbil Joint Crisis Coordination Centre (EJCC) has reportedly identified unfinished building projects that could be used to host newly displaced families.

Humanitarian partners continue to be active in camps in Governorates affected by the current military activities. All checkpoints in disputed territories in Ninewa were closed, impacting humanitarian partners' access to camps around Mosul on 16 and 17 October. UNHCR's field teams have been coordinating with partners to maintain camp management services in all camps. Daily missions are to resume shortly. In the meantime, UNHCR and partners continue to operate in camps through focal points, and camp-based IDP staff, and volunteers.

Camp administrators reportedly received instructions to hand over authority in most camps in the disputed territories to the Government of Iraq (GoI). Specifically: IDP camps in Kirkuk; those east and northeast of Mosul, in Ninewa Governorate; and, Debaga camps in Makhmur district, Erbil Governorate. Some 110,000 IDPs are currently sheltered in these camps. UNHCR is committed to ensure continuity of assistance and services in all camps, including camp management, shelter, and protection.