



## IRAQ SITUATION

### UNHCR FLASH UPDATE

28 May 2017

#### POPULATION MOVEMENTS

**An average of 4,000 persons per day have been reportedly arriving to Hammam Al-Alil during the past days.** Families continue fleeing west Mosul due to the ongoing conflict, serious shortages of food and water, and a lack of basic services and livelihoods. Numbers of arrivals have reportedly decreased in recent days, due to a brief pause in the fighting.

**Departures increase from camps north of Mosul.** During the past several days, departures continued at a steady pace from Nargizlia 1 and increased significantly from Nargizlia 2, with a total of nearly 1,000 IDPs leaving during the reporting period. Return procedures have been streamlined by authorities on the ground, who are processing requests the night before the families depart, allowing them to leave as early as possible and facilitating their collection of any belongings that may have been confiscated, including mobile phones. During the same period, departures from camps east of Mosul continued at a relatively steady pace, with 338 families (1,743 individuals) leaving from Hasansham, Khazer, and Chamakor camps. Most departing families reported that they would return to their areas of origin in and around Mosul, or to urban and peri-urban areas in closer proximity to their areas of origin.

#### SITUATION UPDATE

**On 27 May, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Stephen O' Brien issued a statement on protection of civilians in Mosul's Old City.** The [statement](#), which highlighted the responsibility of all parties to the conflict to take all possible precautions to protect civilians, indicated that the Iraqi Government had asked civilians in districts surrounding and inside the Old City to leave and seek safety in government-held areas. Subsequently, [Iraqi security forces are reported to have launched a new assault on extremists in these areas](#), in which there are potentially up to 200,000 civilians still trapped.

**The Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MoMD) has started the registration of IDPs at UNHCR's Hammam Al-Alil (HAA) camp.** The registration process is reportedly intended to support the distribution of IQD 1,500,000 (USD 1,250) per family as cash assistance from the Iraqi government, upon return to areas of origin. Cash distributions to returnees have not yet started.

#### RESPONSE UPDATE

**UNHCR and humanitarian partners continue to advocate with Kurdistan Regional Government authorities to open Amalla camp for the growing number of IDPs crossing from Tel Afar into Southern Zummar.** Some 650 new IDPs arrived from Tel Afar between 23 and 25 May. While awaiting a resolution, they reside in a school building in Shindukhan village, where they have been provided with food and drinking water by local residents. Amalla has 3,032 plots and can host up to 18,000 IDPs.

**With rapid displacement of IDPs from west Mosul expected in the coming days, UNHCR and partners continue to work to prepare space in camps for IDPs in need of shelter.** At present, UNHCR camps have 5,316 plots available (with a capacity to provide shelter to nearly 32,000 individuals). Work is ongoing in Al Salamiyah 2, with construction of 5,000 plots with capacity for 30,000 individuals expected to be completed in early June.

**UNHCR needs USD 212 million in 2017 to continue providing urgent protection, shelter and camp coordination and camp management assistance to IDPs fleeing Mosul and surrounding areas.**

#### KEY FIGURES

**378,186**

Internally displaced Iraqis verified as being currently displaced from Mosul and surrounding areas since military operations to retake the city began on 17 October 2016<sup>1</sup>

**492,000**

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

**13,420 family plots**

currently occupied out of 18,736 family plots (for some 112,000 people) in UNHCR built camps ready to receive IDPs displaced from Mosul and surrounding areas

**3 million**

IDPs since January 2014<sup>2</sup>

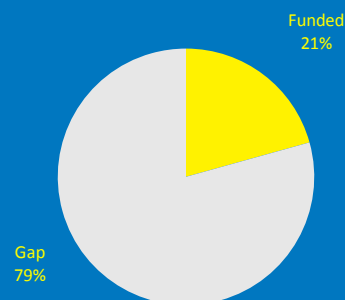
**253,992** Iraqi refugees

hosted in countries in the region, and **17,282** 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



<sup>1</sup>IOM-DTM Emergency Tracking since 17 October 2016.

<sup>2</sup>IOM-DTM as of 13 April 2017.

<sup>3</sup>IOM-DTM Emergency Tracking since 25 February 2017.