IRAQ: WEEKLY FLASH UPDATE ON RECENT EVENTS

12 May 2016

MOSUL CORRIDOR
HIGHLIGHTS:
- Intense fighting in Makhmur district on 9 May led to the new displacement of 904 persons who took refuge in Debaga IDP camp.
- On 7 May, authorities moved the security screenings from Makhmur town to the newly set up reception centre at the entrance of Debaga camp. UNHCR is present onsite at Debaga camp and continues to closely monitor the screening procedures.

DISPLACEMENT STATISTICS:
- Since the security forces began their offensive on 24 March to retake villages east of the Tigris River in Makhmur district, some 6,000 persons have fled to Debaga IDP camp – including 1,673 new arrivals since 1 May. Movements remain fluid and about 2,445 individuals have moved with sponsorships on to Baghdad or Kirkuk governorates.
- Local authorities continued to require families living in villages near the frontline to relocate to Garmawa IDP camp in Ninewa Governorate; 321 IDPs arrived in the camp on 7 May.

ANBAR CORRIDOR
HIGHLIGHTS:
- More returns have been reported to Heet in Anbar Governorate as local authorities announce new areas cleared of explosive hazards. The main water station is now operational and food items are delivered to Heet from Ramadi.

DISPLACEMENT STATISTICS:
- The ongoing conflict in Anbar governorate has resulted in sporadic and ongoing levels of displacement and spontaneous returns. Since the escalation in the conflict in March, 26,796 individuals (4,466 families) have been displaced in the Governorate: 2,472 Individuals displaced from Falluja district, 6,480 from Al Khaldeya sub-district of Ramadi district, and 17,844 from Ramadi city.
- With the constant shifting of the frontline, some 96,912 individuals (16,152 families) have returned to their place of origin: 3,481 individuals returned to Heet district, 6,630 to Al Khaldeya sub-district of Ramadi district, and 69,396 to Ramadi city.

KEY FIGURES
- 6,009 new arrivals from Makhmur district in Erbil Governorate to Debaga IDP camp
- 26,796 new arrivals from conflict area to IDP camps and transit locations in Anbar Governorate
- USD 409.2 million required for IDP needs in 2016

Funded 10%
Gap 90%
UNHCR led Sector/Cluster Updates

**Protection**

- **Debaga IDP camp** – UNHCR conducted an awareness campaign in the camp to inform new arrivals about the Information Call Centre so they have an avenue to raise their concerns.
- **Garmawa IDP camp** – UNHCR Protection team interviewed over a third of the newly relocated families within 24 hours of their arrival at the camp. Most new arrivals have left behind their livestock and farms without collecting their harvest. UNHCR will advocate for temporary return of some family members to collect harvests. All new arrivals brought their documents but authorities confiscated cell phones during the security screening process.

**Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)**

- **Debaga IDP camp** – The temporary accommodations in the Stadium meet the emergency WASH standard of 1 shower/1 latrine for 50 persons. UNHCR partner Danish Refugee Council is working with UNICEF to bring the ratio down to 1 shower/1 latrine for 20 persons.
- **Debaga IDP camp** – To accommodate the 904 individuals that arrived into Debaga camp on 9 May, UNHCR sheltered 300 men in the camp’s mosque, and women and children have been placed temporarily placed in collective tents pitched at the entrance of the camp as they undergo security screenings. All new arrivals were provided with core relief items (CRIs).
  - Once security screenings are completed, some 300 individuals (50 families) will be able to move to the new temporary site set in a former stadium nearby. More shelters are needed and UNHCR is advocating for partners to accelerate the construction work on the extension around the Stadium. Once completed, the extension will be able to accommodate up to 387 families (some 2,300 individuals).
- **Garmawa IDP camp** – UNHCR erected tents for 33 of the newly arrived families. The 32 remaining families are living with their relatives already in the camp. UNHCR partner QANDIL distributed CRIs to families as soon as they were settled in their tents or with relatives.

**Ongoing Context**

- **Falluja**: Some 10,000 families are estimated to be stranded and living under very difficult conditions in the city which has been under siege for the last three months. An offensive is ongoing to retake the city, and on 7-8 May armed opposition groups reportedly forced hundreds of families from nearby villages to move to the Falluja city centre to stifle the army’s progress into the city.
- **Heet**: Although the army regained control of Heet between March and April, armed opposition groups have continued to shell areas in the district; one returnee was reportedly killed and four injured in shelling on 5 May.