The re-intensification of hostilities on 4 May between the Iraqi Security Forces and the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) continues to have an impact on the humanitarian situation in western Mosul city. Many families fleeing newly retaken areas of western Mosul city to Hammam al Alil transit through the Badoush mustering point, northeast of Mosul city along the Syrian Highway, and the Yarmouk/Risala mustering point. At these mustering points, humanitarian partners are providing emergency assistance, including ready-to-eat food, water, shading, sanitation facilities and medical services.

Wherever possible, efforts are being made to undertake assessment missions in newly accessible areas close to the front lines, followed by distribution of emergency response assistance. Since 17 October 2016, emergency response packages of food, water and hygiene supplies are distributed to families arriving at the Hammam al Alil screening site from western Mosul, and have covered the humanitarian needs of over 2.7 million people.

According to Iraqi authorities, since the start of the military operations in western Mosul on 19 February 527,130 individuals have fled Mosul city as of 16 May. The number of people fleeing western Mosul city peaked on Friday, 12 May, when some 11,400 individuals passed through the Hammam al Alil screening site. 460,306 people are currently displaced from western Mosul, while 32,390 people have returned to western Mosul as of 9 May. The Government of Iraq reports that, since the beginning of the Mosul operation on 16 October 2016, 668,846 people have been cumulatively displaced from Mosul city.

Camp construction and site expansion is accelerating to meet the humanitarian needs of the newly displaced people from western Mosul. As of 14 May, 326,049 people (63,139 families) are currently being sheltered in camps and emergency sites, with the remainder in host communities and informal sites.

Water continues to be a significant humanitarian concern in Mosul city, particularly in western Mosul, as many people are reportedly drinking from unsafe, untreated water source.

High rates of trauma injuries remain of significant concern. Between 17 October 2016 and 9 May 2017, over 12,300 people have been transferred to hospital for trauma injuries treatment as of 9 May. Between 18 February and 8 May, nearly 2,250 people were treated at Trauma Stabilisation Points (TSPs) near the frontline areas of western Mosul.
HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

- The intermittent closure of Nimrud bridge, 30 km south of Mosul, since 2 May had a significant impact on humanitarian activities as all traffic, except the transportation of IDPs from the west to the east bank was closed due to high water levels. Transportation of humanitarian supplies had to be transferred via Qayyarah bridge (60 km south of Mosul), which caused delays to the delivery of assistance, and it also took longer for medical evacuations from the western bank to Erbil to reach the hospital.

- Shelter at camps and emergency sites is currently available to accommodate close to 42,000 individuals at 19 different locations. At the time of reporting, there are 6,994 fully serviced plots: some 2,993 plots are available in the 11 priority sites, and the remaining 4,001 are in eight other sites. Construction of new sites is underway to ensure adequate capacity is available for additional newly displaced people, with a projection of an additional 6,600 plots to be available by 1 June for an additional 39,770 people.

- Water continues to be a significant humanitarian concern in Mosul city. In newly retaken areas of western Mosul, significant increase in scale of water trucking is required and, with water filling stations being rehabilitated, water tankering is expected to increase. In eastern Mosul, humanitarian partners are tankering 3.1 million litres of drinking water per day, while in western Mosul humanitarian partners are delivering 1.4 million litres of water daily.

- Since 11 March, nutrition screening is an ongoing process at Qayarah and Hammam al Alil sites. As of 10 May, a total of 17,353 children aged 6-59 months (8,988 girls and 8,612 boys) have been screened. Some 320 children with Severe Acute Malnutrition and 785 children with Moderate Acute Malnutrition were referred for management and treatment at Primary Health Care facilities in the camps. Partners are training the Department of Health teams on the use of MUAC, identification of cases, referral and treatment.

- Serious concerns remain for the protection of civilians in the western areas of the city, where approximately 275,000 people are estimated to be living in ISIL-controlled areas. Since 17 October 2016, a total of 1,402 unaccompanied and separated children (818 boys and 584 girls) have been reunited with their families, while a total of 6,931 children (3,800 boys and 3,131 girls) with protection concerns have been referred to specialized services.

HUMANITARIAN PRIORITIES

- Advocating for the protection of civilians is a priority for the humanitarian community. Due to the influx of IDPs over the past week, there is an urgent need to increase protection and health interventions at Hammam al Alil screening and transit sites. Equally, ensuring that trauma casualties receive specialized treatment in a timely manner remains a priority.

- As part of the humanitarian concept of operations, security forces have committed to alerting residents to developments in the military operation, identifying escape routes, arranging transport for highly vulnerable civilians to safety, and putting in place dignified and transparent screening procedures.

- Residents who remain in recently retaken areas are as vulnerable as those who have been displaced, as there is a severe shortage of basic services in most locations. As humanitarian access becomes possible in urban areas of Mosul city, the delivery of first-line emergency assistance to all people in need, including vulnerable residents, remains a priority.

- Ensuring people can access clean drinking water remains a priority humanitarian concern across Mosul city. The re-establishment of a functioning city-wide water network is key, as limited access to safe water poses a risk for outbreaks of water- and vector-borne diseases.

- Humanitarian partners are developing contingency plans for different displacement scenarios in western Mosul city, including for a possible mass outflow of civilians, or a siege-like situation in the old city.

FUNDING

Humanitarian partners continue to mobilize funding as 97 per cent, or US$276.5 million, of the $284-million Mosul Flash Appeal launched in July 2016 was received. This has allowed partners to reach hundreds of thousands of people during the first stages of the operation. As of 15 May, the 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Iraq, requesting US$985 million, is currently 24.1 per cent funded, or US$237.3 million. Under the 2017 HRP, approximately $331 million is being sought for the Mosul operation.

The next information sheet on Mosul’s humanitarian response will be issued as more information becomes available.

For enquiries: Enrica Giacobbe, giacobbe@un.org, +964 751 135 2875

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