

HIGHLIGHTS: Since 17 October 2016, 350,142 individuals have been displaced due to the Mosul offensive, with 167,004 of these coming out of west Mosul. Currently, 273,720 people remain in displacement. Protection teams highlighted concerns relating to access to safety, family separation and the needs of vulnerable groups such as children, elderly and those with physical and mental disabilities. UNHCR and other protection actors continue to respond to these needs where possible, in close collaboration with other relevant clusters.

KEY FIGURES:



Affected Population*

1.5 million people expected to be impacted in Mosul and surrounding areas

273,720 people currently displaced



Governorate of displacement

Sulaymaniyah	0.03%
Babylon	0.05%
Erbil	0.17%
Anbar	0.20%
Salah al-Din	1.38%
Baghdad	4.60%
Ninewa	93.5%



Return Population

76,422 IDPs have returned to their places of origin from the beginning of the Mosul operation to date



Protection Monitoring**

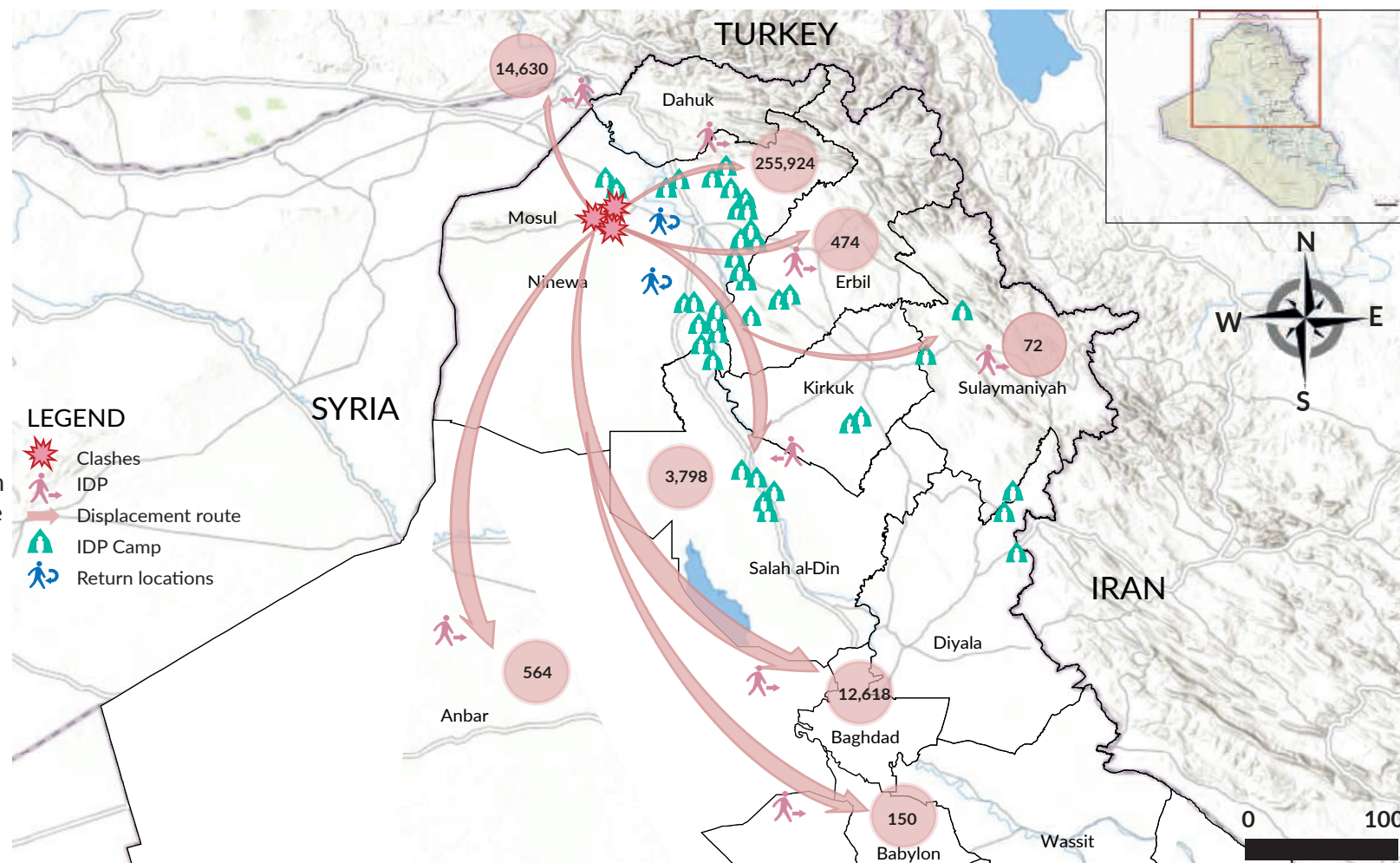
15,332 families assessed

79,553 individuals

 18,233
  16,660
  22,008
  22,652

21% of families headed by a female
504 unaccompanied or separated children
48% of families missing civil documentation
1,955 families referred for cash assistance

**Protection Monitoring information includes data from the broader Mosul Corridor covering Erbil, Ninewa, Salah al-Din and Kirkuk Governorates since March 2016



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

Source: UNHCR Partners, *IOM/DTM and Open Street Map

Geographic Coordinate System: GCS_WFS_1984

Access to safety

Families fleeing west Mosul are reporting increasing numbers of casualties as a result of air and mortar attacks. Those fleeing come from different quarters of west Mosul such as Mansoor, Wadi Hajar, Mosul Al-Jadida, Nablus, Tel al-Ruman and other areas. Authorities report that 60% of West Mosul has so far been recaptured from armed extremists. Displacement out of east Mosul also continues, although in lower numbers, with most IDPs coming out of Al-Sumer, Al-Intisar and Gogachly due to lack of services and livelihood opportunities. Flight out of east Shirqat and Hawiga towards Salah al-Din and Kirkuk continues. Access routes remain precarious with reports that nine IDPs were allegedly killed when an IED exploded as they fled Hawiga towards Salah al-Din.

UNHCR and other protection actors have identified over 281 IDPs who were stranded in Bshar village after clashes between militias and armed extremists. Appeals were made to Pershmerga and Assayish to allow life-saving humanitarian access or to allow the families to cross into Zummar or Amalla camp. The requests were denied on the grounds that the location is a prohibited military zone. However, the families were reportedly relocated to Al Gualat area, which is close to the Pershmerga and armed extremist frontline. Demarches with authorities have resulted in an agreement for the families to be relocated to Nargizlia camp following security screening. UNHCR continues to track the relocations, monitor the situation and advocate for the speedy and safe relocation of these families.

Nargizlia camps currently have capacity to accommodate 17,000 IDPs. However, on average only 5 buses with, on average, 300-500 individuals arriving at the northern camps daily. This number is significantly lower than the number of IDPs in need of adequate shelter and protection support. UNHCR has conducted a short survey with new arrivals to Nargizlia to understand the possible reasons for this. The results reveal that IDPs lack accurate information about the alternative options when they arrive at the Hammam Al-Alil screening site, including information about Nargizlia camp. Some IDPs in Hammam Al-Alil have, however, indicated a preference to remain close to west Mosul to facilitate early return. Many have stated that they are concerned about movement restrictions and mobile phone being seized in Nargizlia, leaving them unable to trace separated family members. UNHCR and its protection partners in Hamman Al-Alil are working with the Communities working group to embark on a mass information campaign that will enable IDPs to make informed decisions about their displacement options and the available protection services.

Family separation

Officials working at Hamman Al-Alil screening site have reported a slight decrease in the number of IDPs transiting through the screening site with the daily figures ranging around 5,658 to 7,698 this week, while in the previous week it was 4,776 to 12,636 individuals daily. As male and female family members are transported to the screening site separately and undergo different procedures, this increases the chances of family separation and distress. UNHCR and other protection actors continue to identify and assist separated adults and children for the purposes of family tracing and reunification. A challenge remains for those families, who are transported to Nargizlia camp where authorities confiscate phones from new arrivals, and as a result are unable to communicate with separated family members. UNHCR has advocated for authorities to minimize family separation

and to establish a procedure that enables IDPs to communicate with separated family members or those left behind through a public phone system (if their phones cannot be returned to them).

Vulnerable persons

For camps in the east, UNHCR protection partners are working to identify, assist or refer individuals and families to address their specific needs. Psychological first aid is provided to new arrivals in need of such interventions. However, in Hammam Al-Alil camp and reception centre, protection partners have identified gaps in assistance for the disabled and elderly IDPs. This is being taken up with relevant clusters for targeted assistance. Similar gaps have been identified in Nargizlia camp for IDPs requiring mental health and psychosocial support. The UNHCR reception centre continues to provide much needed transit relief to more than 2,000 individuals daily. Protection actors are concerned that vulnerable IDPs have to stay at the reception centre for much longer than intended, mostly due to their vulnerability and inability to undertake the journey to camps in the north or due to the lack of alternative accommodation in east Mosul and surrounding areas. Many IDP families have, however, indicated that they have been trying to stay longer in anticipation of news about missing or detained family members.

UNHCR protection partners note significant child labour in areas of displacement. Displaced families explain that financial hardship and inadequate assistance forces them to send their children to work in markets and to beg. Child protection actors are aware and are making relevant interventions with families and communities where possible. Protection monitoring indicates that 85% of displaced and assessed household have no source of income. UNHCR is supporting and urging MOMD to register displaced families for social welfare support as this would reduce the incidents of families having to resort to negative coping strategies.

Returns

Reports indicate that 76,422 IDPs have returned to their areas of origin, especially to east Mosul. At least 1,600 of them left Khazer and Hasansham camps this week for Al-Intisar, Al-Rashidiya, Noor, Al Wahda, Qawisiyat, Bawizah, Al-Adan and other retaken areas. UNHCR continues to monitor these returns to assess voluntariness of these movements. Families have stated that the desire to reunite with family, reoccupy their homes, resume work, and leave the restrictive and difficult conditions in IDP camps, as the main reasons for their return. This week, in Khazer/Hasansham camps, some IDPs reported that they were not given back their confiscated IDs as per established procedures. UNHCR has been following up on the issue with Assayish (the Kurdish security service), who have indicated that the IDs will be sent to Al-Karama police station from where the families can collect them. UNHCR has persistently urged authorities to ensure that IDs are returned to IDPs prior to departure from the camps.

In Chamakor, Nargizlia and Qaymawa camps, IDPs continue to express frustration over denied returns to Zummar, Wana, Rabe'a, and Alqush. UNHCR has repeatedly enquired with authorities and advocated for voluntary and non-discriminatory returns for all IDPs. However, authorities continue to contend that decisions on returns to disputed areas rest with senior government officials.