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# FACTSHEET: FLEEING MOSUL

Facts and Figures (16.07.2017)

*In June 2014, the so called Islamic State (ISIS) occupied the city of Mosul in the North of Iraq. On October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016, the Iraqi Government launched a military offensive to expel ISIS out of Mosul. On 9<sup>th</sup> of June, 9 months after the start of the military operations in October 2016, Iraqi Prime Minister, Haider al-Abadi announced the liberation of Mosul and the win over ISIL fighters, putting an end to months of bitter fighting. Before the ISIS occupation, about 3 million people had lived in Mosul. More than 930,000 people have fled since 2014 from the city and the surrounding areas. About 230,000 persons have returned to Mosul City and the surrounding areas. New returnees to Mosul are recorded daily.*

## PRESENT SITUATION \*

The Iraqi Government receives the displaced people from Mosul at official screening sites. Firstly, these people shall be guided to leave Mosul through an official corridor for their first registration and will then be allowed to move into temporary camps of aid organisations.

- Since January 2014, the number of internally displaced people within Iraq has increased to more than 3 million people fleeing terror and violence, about 257,000 have fled to neighbouring countries.
- Since the start of the military operations on 17<sup>th</sup> of October 2016 about 930,000 people have fled Mosul.
- According to the Government of Iraq, approximately 230,000 people have returned to Mosul (160,000 to eastern Mosul and about 71,000 to western Mosul). Roughly 2,000 returnees to Mosul are recorded daily. About 700,000 people remain displaced due to the military offensive to retake Mosul.
- At least 4,800 persons fled the Old City in west Mosul between 6 and 7 July.
- About 11 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in Iraq.

## WELTHUNGERHILFE ON THE GROUND

Since September 2014, Welthungerhilfe has been working in the North of Iraq. Project activities in the provinces of Dohuk, Erbil, Sulimaniya and the accessible regions of Niniveh are coordinated from a country office in Dohuk. 21 expats and 80 national staff members are working for the organisation on the ground. This team implements its activities partly together with partners of the European network Alliance2015 and the organisation Danish Refugee Council and with financial support of the German Government (Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development/BMZ, Foreign Office, GIZ). Before the military offensive was started, Welthungerhilfe has been implementing six projects (one is finished) in the North of Iraq. The activities' focus has been until now:

- provision of drinking water and sanitation
- rehabilitation of destroyed infrastructure
- promotion of educational and social programmes for different groups of the population
- support of internally displaced people returning to the province of Niniveh (Cash for Work, reconstruction work, infrastructure work)

## EMERGENCY AID FOR DISPLACED PEOPLE FROM MOSUL

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- procurement of aid items, storage in warehouses on the ground in Dohuk,
- distribution of material to build emergency shelters: tarpaulins, ropes, wooden poles, hammers, nails, wire
- distribution of aid packages filled with blankets, water cans, cookware and dishes, detergents, soap and other hygiene items as well as a kerosene oven
- distribution of „baby kits“ containing a towel, nappies, soap, baby shampoo and cream
- if market situation allows, Welthungerhilfe will use means of cash transfer programming to stimulate the local economy
- distribution of heaters and kerosene jerry cans as well as shelter kits consisting of material to build emergency shelters.
- together with its Alliance partners Welthungerhilfe will repair existing water systems or distribute water through trucks that are flexible to reach people scattered in different areas.
- building of latrines
- Provision of assistance in waste management together with Alliance2015 partners

## TARGET GROUP

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- Providing aid to around 650,000 individuals in Iraq.
- Providing emergency assistance to around 28,000 individuals affected by the military offensive

## FINANCES

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### Mosul emergency aid Welthungerhilfe:

- Welthungerhilfe is providing aid to around 1,800 families in the province of Nineveh. For this purpose, a budget of approximately 250,000 Euro has been made available immediately.
- Current Welthungerhilfe project support in Iraq about 30 million Euro, including support for rehabilitation of and return to Nineveh Governorate
- Project proposals have been presented to and granted to institutional donors (German Government, EU, United Nations etc.)
- Fundraising activities are ongoing.

### International Community:

- In July 2016, the United Nations have already launched an appeal to the international community to raise funds of about 284 million USD for emergency aid supporting the people affected from a possible Mosul military operation of which 98% are funded. This financial need for an adequate provision of the people in need has been corrected by international aid organisations with a volume of 387 million USD. For Mosul related humanitarian aid in 2016, UNHCR estimates the need of 196.2 million USD.
- For 2017, the United Nations launched an appeal to raise 331 million US-Dollar to support people in Mosul and the surrounding areas. For Iraq, the United Nations estimated the need of 985 million US-Dollar to provide assistance to 3,4 million people of which only 43% are funded so far.
- Iraq's largest donors are the US Government (90.2 Mio US-Dollar), the German Government (84.6 Mio US-Dollar) and the European Commission (58.8 Mio US-Dollar)

## PERSPECTIVES

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A quick end of the humanitarian crisis in Iraq after the retake of Mosul is unlikely. People who have fled from Mosul and now start to return to their home are still in need of humanitarian assistance. The infrastructure of the city is almost ruined. From 54 neighbourhoods in Mosul 23 are damaged or destroyed, 15 are described as highly damaged. People return to their homes need shelter, food, water, medical assistance, aid packages which provide hygiene items and water cans. Food shortage and the provision of water in the city of Mosul remain problematic. There is also a lack of financial support to meet the critical needs of vulnerable children, women and men displaced from and returning to Mosul. Additionally, the security situation remains difficult. Returnees are still exposed to risk such as mines, kidnapping and other threats. In the long term, the reconciliation of people with different cultural and ethnic background is important for the restoration of functioning system in the city of Mosul.

