

Iraq

ETC Situation Report #02

Reporting period 07/09/14 – 15/09/14

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Highlights

- Radio training is being delivered to radio operators recruited to work in the radio room in Sulaymaniyah. Once the training is complete, the radio room will be fully operational.
- A large shipment of ETC internet and radio equipment has been received in Erbil. This will be used to deploy internet connectivity in Arbat, Domiz and additional planned camps around Dohuk and Sulaymaniyah and radio services in Dohuk and Sulaymaniyah.

Cluster Responsibilities

- WFP is leading ETC activities in Iraq. The ETC is responsible for providing emergency telecommunications support to humanitarian organizations on the ground.

Achievements

- The ETC plans to deploy inter-agency radio services in Erbil, Sulaymaniyah and Dohuk and internet services in Arbat, Domiz and additional planned camps outside Sulaymaniyah and Dohuk.
- It is likely that ETC radio services will be deployed in three phases:
 - Phase 1: Work with UNAMI to finalise repeater installation in Sulaymaniyah and Dohuk.
 - Phase 2: Transition from UNAMI digital network for UN agencies only, to ETC digital and analogue services for UN agencies and NGOs.
 - Phase 3: Establishment and maintenance of an independent ETC network.
- Radio training is being delivered to radio operators recruited to work in the radio room in Sulaymaniyah. Once the training is complete, the radio room will be fully operational.
 - The radio room will improve the safety and security of humanitarian staff operating in and around the city, however radio coverage is currently for use by UN agencies on UNAMI's network only.

- A large shipment of ETC internet and radio equipment has been received in Erbil.
 - Internet equipment, including Ericsson Response WIDER equipment, will be used to deploy internet connectivity in Arbat and Domiz camps.
 - Radio equipment will be deployed to the radio room in Dohuk to improve the safety and security of humanitarian staff operating in the area. Radio services are currently being provided by UNAMI and are for use by UN staff only. ETC will establish inter-agency coverage in the coming weeks.
- Ericsson Response staff will be deployed to Iraq in the week commencing 15/09/14 to assist with deployment of internet services in Arbat and Domiz camps.
 - Ericsson Response staff will install WIDER equipment to distribute and manage wireless networks.
- emergency.lu staff and equipment will also be deployed in the coming weeks to assist with ETC internet deployment.
 - emergency.lu staff will deploy VSATs to provide backup internet connectivity in Domiz and Arbat camps.
- An internet service provider (ISP) has been selected to provide internet connectivity at Arbat, Domiz and additional planned camps around Dohuk and Sulaymaniyah. Approval is pending. The provision of internet services will facilitate efficient communication and coordination for humanitarian organizations operating in the camps.
- An application for additional frequency licenses for ETC radio coverage has been submitted by UNAMI to the relevant government authorities.
- Three ETC staff are currently on the ground in KRI:
 - Rami Shakra, Senior FITTEST Specialist, has been deployed as ETC Coordinator.
 - Khawar Ilyas, Telecommunications Specialist with FITTEST, has been deployed to provide telecommunications support.
 - Adam Ashcroft has been deployed as ETC Information Management Officer.
- The Budget Revision has been completed and approval is pending.

Challenges and Gaps

- The importation of equipment remains a challenge due to the suspension of many commercial airlines into Iraq.

Planned Activities

- Inter-agency radio services will be deployed in Erbil, Sulaymaniyah and Dohuk. Internet services will be deployed in Arbat, Domiz and additional planned camps outside Sulaymaniyah and Dohuk.



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- Two telecommunications specialists will be deployed to assist with the establishment of radio services.
 - Ericsson Response staff and equipment will be deployed in the week commencing 15/09/14 to assist with the installation of internet services in Arbat and Domiz camps.
 - emergency.lu staff and equipment will be deployed in the coming weeks to install VSATs for backup connectivity.

Meetings

Global ETC teleconference

The next Global ETC teleconference will be held on 16 September 2014 at 17:00 Erbil time.

Local ETC meeting

The next Local ETC meeting will be held on 18 September 2014 at 14:00 Erbil time in the UNAMI compound.

All information related to ETC operations can be found on the ICT Emergency website:

<http://ictemergency.wfp.org/web/ictopr/emergencies2014/iraq>

For more information, or to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact: Iraq.ETC@wfp.org



Services Available

CITY	LEAD AGENCY	ETC SERVICES
Erbil	WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordination• Information Management• <i>Planned: VHF radio coverage</i>
Sulaymaniyah	WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Planned: VHF radio coverage</i>
Arbat Camp	WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Planned: Internet connectivity</i>
Dohuk	WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Planned: VHF radio coverage</i>
Domiz Camp	WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Planned: Internet connectivity</i>

ETC CAR Focal Points

TITLE	AGENCY	NAME	EMAIL	MOBILE PHONE
ETC Coordinator	WFP FITTEST	Rami Shakra	Rami.Shakra@wfp.org	07508398195
Telecommunications Specialist	WFP FITTEST	Khawar Ilyas	Khawar.Ilyas@wfp.org	07508513118
Information Management Officer	WFP	Adam Ashcroft	Adam.Ashcroft@wfp.org	07503467836

Acronyms

ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
FITTEST	Fast IT and Telecommunications Emergency and Support Team
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
KRI	Kurdistan Region of Iraq
UNAMI	United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq
UNHCR	United Nations Refugee Agency
VHF	Very High Frequency
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal



WFP
WIDER

World Food Programme
Wireless LAN in Disaster and Emergency Response