

Iraq

ETC Situation Report #06

Reporting period 07/10/14 – 14/10/14

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Highlights

- ETC internet connectivity is now available for all humanitarian organizations at both Domiz and Arbat camps.
- Internet connectivity has been extended to a transit camp 7 kms away from Arbat camp via microwave link.

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

- ETC wireless internet connectivity is now available in a number of locations in Arbat camp outside Sulaymaniyah, and is available to all humanitarian organizations operating there. This will improve communication and coordination of relief operations there. Locations include:
 - The UN compound.
 - The International Rescue Committee and UNHCR offices.
 - The offices of NGO emergency.it.
 - Save the Children office.
 - The admin building.
- ETC wireless connectivity is also being provided at four locations in Domiz camp outside of Dohuk city, and is available to all organizations operating there. Locations are:

- The UN compound
- The Norwegian Refugee Council offices
- Two government Development and Modification Centres (DMC).
- Internet connectivity has also been extended to a transit camp 7 kms away from Arbat camp via microwave link.
- A Radio Trainer has been deployed and radio training is now being provided to humanitarian staff in Erbil. This will improve staff safety and security.
- Radio programming for UN agencies on behalf of UNAMI is ongoing.
- Radio rooms are operational in Dohuk and Sulaymaniyah.
 - Radio services are currently being provided by UNAMI and only available to UN staff. However the ETC will establish inter-agency radio services in the coming weeks.
- The ETC and UNAMI continue to work together to enhance digital radio services being provided to UN agencies.

Challenges and Gaps

- Flight options for the importation of equipment remain limited. This can delay the deployment of humanitarian ICT services.
- Any staff deployed to Iraq who wish to travel outside Erbil must attend SAIT training, which takes four days, and apply for a residency which can also take a few days. This can delay deployment.
- The ETC currently only has four pairs of frequencies which limits the deployment of radio services.

Planned Activities

- Two FITTEST telecommunications specialists will be deployed to Sulaymaniyah and Dohuk on 15/10/14 to establish inter-agency radio services at IDP/refugee camps outside the cities, with assistance from UNAMI.
 - They will also provide radio training and programming services to staff in both cities.
- Establishment of inter-agency radio services in Erbil is planned for next week after UNAMI approved the installation of a repeater on the roof of the Erbil International Hotel.
 - Radio operators will be recruited for the radio room in Erbil to enhance staff and vehicle tracking capacity.
- An additional shipment of ICT equipment is expected to be received on 15/10/14.

Meetings

Global ETC teleconference



The next Global ETC teleconference will be held on 21 October 2014 at 17:00 Erbil time.

Local ETC meeting

The next Local ETC meeting will be held on 09 October 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">• Internet connectivity
Dohuk	WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Planned: VHF radio coverage</i>
Domiz Camp	WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Internet connectivity
Basra	WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Planned: Assessment mission</i>

ETC Iraq Focal Points

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Acronyms

DMC	Development and Modification Centre
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
FITTEST	Fast IT and Telecommunications Emergency and Support Team
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
ISP	Internet Service Provider



KRI	Kurdistan Region of Iraq
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
SAIT	Security Awareness and Induction Training
UNAMI	United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal
WFP	World Food Programme