

## Iraq

### ETC Situation Report #07

Reporting period 14/10/14 – 23/10/14

**Author:** Adam Ashcroft, WFP

### Highlights

- ETC analogue radio services are now available in Domiz camp, outside Dohuk city. These are available to NGOs and UN agencies.

### 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 analogue radio services are now available in Domiz camp, outside Dohuk city. These are available to NGOs and UN agencies.
  - Previously, radio services in Domiz were digital only and hence limited to UN agencies. Analogue radio services will improve the safety and security of NGO staff.
  - Radio training and programming was also delivered to humanitarian staff.
- ETC wireless internet connectivity is available to all humanitarian organizations in Domiz and Arbat camps, as well as a transit camp 7 kms from Arbat. Locations of ETC wireless services are as follows:
  - Domiz camp: the UN compound, the Norwegian Refugee Council offices and two government Development and Modification Centres (DMCs).
  - Arbat camp: UN compound, IRC and UNHCR offices, emergency.it offices, Save the Children office, admin building.
- Radio programming for UN agencies on behalf of UNAMI is ongoing.
- Radio training for humanitarian staff is ongoing in Erbil.



An ETC telecommunications specialist installing a radio antenna on top of the mast at Domiz camp. Photo: WFP/Fabrice Bouguerra



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- The ETC and UNAMI continue to work together to enhance digital radio services being provided to UN agencies.
    - WFP staff are now conducting full, daily radio checks. Other agencies will follow suit once they receive equipment.

## Challenges and Gaps

- ETC wireless equipment at Arbat camp was damaged during a storm. This has disrupted services but it will be repaired in the coming days.
- 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.
- There is only channel available for UN staff on the digital radio network. In case of a security incident this could be a problem should too many staff members be attempting communication.

## Planned Activities

- Two FITTEST telecommunications specialists will be deployed to Sulaymaniyah within the next couple of weeks 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.
- Establishment of inter-agency radio services in Erbil.
  - Radio operators will be recruited for the radio room in Erbil to enhance staff and vehicle tracking capacity.
- A Wi-Fi hotspot will be established in the lobby of the Erbil International Hotel for use by all humanitarian staff.

## Meetings

### Global ETC teleconference

The next Global ETC teleconference will be held on 28 October 2014 at 17:00 Erbil time.

### Local ETC meeting

The next Local ETC meeting will be held on 30 October 2014 at 14:00 Erbil time. Location TBC.



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

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

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



## Services Available

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

## ETC Iraq Focal Points

TITLE	AGENCY	NAME	EMAIL	MOBILE PHONE
WFP IT Emergency Coordinator	WFP	Dragan Mocevic	<a href="mailto:Dragan.Mocevic@wfp.org">Dragan.Mocevic@wfp.org</a>	07503765607
ETC Coordinator	WFP FITTEST	Rami Shakra	<a href="mailto:Rami.Shakra@wfp.org">Rami.Shakra@wfp.org</a>	07508398195
Telecommunications Specialist	WFP FITTEST	Fabrice Bougeurra	<a href="mailto:fabrice.bougeurra@wfp.org">fabrice.bougeurra@wfp.org</a>	07809150987
Information Management Officer	WFP	Adam Ashcroft	<a href="mailto:Adam.Ashcroft@wfp.org">Adam.Ashcroft@wfp.org</a>	

## Acronyms

DMC	Development and Modification Centre
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
FITTEST	Fast IT and Telecommunications Emergency and Support Team
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IRC	International Rescue Committee



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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
UNHCR	United Nations Refugee Agency
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal
WFP	World Food Programme