

## Iraq

### ETC Situation Report #10

Reporting period 06/11/14 – 20/11/14

**Author:** Adam Ashcroft, WFP

#### Highlights

- Analogue radio services have established in Sulaymaniyah and the nearby Arbat camp. They are available for all NGOs and UN agencies and will improve safety and security of humanitarian staff.
- UNAMI has provided the ETC with an additional three digital radio frequencies that will be utilised 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

- Analogue radio services have been established in Sulaymaniyah and the nearby Arbat camp. They are available for all NGOs and UN agencies and will improve safety and security of humanitarian staff.
  - Radio training and programming was also delivered to staff on the ground to ensure adherence to correct radio protocols.
- UNAMI has provided the ETC with an additional three digital radio frequencies that will be utilised in Dohuk and Sulaymaniyah.
  - This will increase the number of humanitarian staff who are able to use the digital radio networks.
- The ETC is working closely with UNAMI to increase digital radio network capacity and services.
  - The ETC will provide radio training to UNAMI radio operators and telecommunications specialists.
  - Joint SOPs for radio room management and radio operators have been put together.
  - UNAMI has offered the ETC use of two additional repeater sites.



- 
- ETC wireless internet connectivity is available to all humanitarian organizations in three key operational areas: Domiz and Arbat camps, as well as a transit camp 7 kms from Arbat.
    - Over 200 humanitarian staff have registered on ETC wireless networks to date.
  - Radio programming for UN agencies and NGOs is ongoing.
    - To date, over 170 radios have been programmed across KRI to ensure compatibility with both digital and analogue radio networks.
  - Radio training for humanitarian staff is ongoing.
    - To date, over 150 humanitarian staff have received radio training. This will ensure that correct radio protocol is followed at all times.
  - The radio call sign structure has been updated and will be distributed to humanitarian organizations to ensure staff utilise radio communication services in a secure, effective manner.

## Challenges and Gaps

- A car bomb exploded in Erbil on 18/11/14. The deterioration in security has led to severe restrictions on staff movement. This could delay the implementation of planned activities.
- 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.
- A reply from the government regarding the ETC's request, via UNAMI, for five additional frequencies is pending.

## Planned Activities

- 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.
- The ETC will upgrade the UNAMI radio room at the UNAMI compound in order to increase functionality of the digital radio network in Erbil city.

## Meetings

### Global ETC teleconference

The next Global ETC teleconference will be held on Tuesday 25 November 2014 at 17:00 Erbil time.



### **Local ETC meeting**

The next Local ETC meeting will be held on: TBC.

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](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>• VHF radio coverage</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><li>• VHF radio coverage</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/ETC Coordinator	WFP	Dragan Mocevic	<a href="mailto:Dragan.Mocevic@wfp.org">Dragan.Mocevic@wfp.org</a>	07503765607
Telecommunications Specialist	WFP FITTEST	Fabrice Bouguerra	<a href="mailto:fabrice.bouguerra@wfp.org">fabrice.bouguerra@wfp.org</a>	07809150987
Information Management Officer	WFP	Adam Ashcroft	<a href="mailto:Adam.Ashcroft@wfp.org">Adam.Ashcroft@wfp.org</a>	

## Acronyms

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
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
UNAMI	United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq
UNHCR	United Nations Refugee Agency
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal
WFP	World Food Programme