

Iraq

Local ETC Working Group meeting #3

Date: 20/10/16 TIME: 07:00 UTC

Attendance

Chair	Rami Shakra	Iraq
CRS	Jovan Mousa	Iraq
UNAMI	Abraham Misoi	Iraq
	Jabar Esmael	Iraq
UNHCR	Hafedh Al Juboori	Iraq
WFP	Michael Ngisiro	Iraq
	Habib Shashati	Iraq

Teleconference / Meeting started at 12:04 UTC

Agenda

1. ETC services update
2. Mosul Operations: ETC update
3. Radio programming and training
4. Update from partners

Minutes

1. ETC services update

- The ETC currently provides Internet connectivity using Ericsson Response equipment to the humanitarian community in 2x sites: Arbat camps and Domiz camp. Security telecommunications services are provided in 5x sites, with Communications Centres (COMCEN) in 3x of those sites.

2. Mosul Operations: ETC update

- To support the Mosul operation that began this week, the ETC has prepared equipment to be deployed in 3x emergency priority camps identified by OCHA: Qayyarah Airstrip, Jad'ah and Hajj Ali. There is enough equipment to support the response in these three sites.
 - The team is preconfiguring repeaters (analogue and digital) and is planning to provide an Internet Hotspot in each of the sites.
 - The ETC is planning to join assessment trips to the camps next week before services are deployed.
- The ETC is working with Asiacell which is establishing a centre with four or five lines so that IDPs can make free national calls to their families. The team is working with Asiacell to provide the ETC with WiFi hotspots for responders with free Internet access. This agreement needs to be formalised before free calls and Internet is provided in the first phase of the response.
- The ETC is also programming handsets for NGOs and UN agencies. The handsets will work on the repeaters that will be set up. However, clearances must be in place before services are provided in the camps. Habib and Lasse are preparing users guides that will be shared with the humanitarian community once complete.
- Thuraya satphones will be donated to assessment teams going out to the camps. A limit will be put on the satphones, perhaps three months, but this needs to be finalised.
- The ETC has donated 3x generators to the Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster (CCCM).

3. Radio programming and training

- As agreed in the last meeting, the team has programmed radios according to WFP standards for UNICEF, UNHCR and OCHA.
- Radio training: the plan is for Lasse and Habib to start radio training for UN agencies on VHF and HF radios in early November. Training will be provided in English and Arabic. Invitations will be sent once the Mosul operation calms down.
- Lasse and Habib are trying to prepare handout guides for digital radio. By the end of the year, they hope to be ready and with responders being trained.
- UNAMI GITTS (ICT Section) continues to provide support on programming VHF and HF radios and training whenever required for the UNCT at UN compound in Erbil.

4. Update from partners

- Hafedh: suggests to start radio training for UN staff next week. Habib will speak to Hafedh after the meeting to discuss details for invitations and then will send out.
- Hafedh requested that UNAMI or WFP/ETC help allocated code names for each location to make it easy to check in with COMCENs. Habib said it is a security issue so offered to speak with UNAMI security and SMT with Hafedh and get the codes for each location.
- UNAMI requested ETC to share the plan of all locations where repeaters will be deployed.

Teleconference / Meeting ended at 12:39 UTC



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

Acronyms

ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
CCCM	Camp Coordination and Camp Management
COMCEN	Communications Centre
DMR	Digital Mobile Radio
FITTEST	Fast IT & Telecommunications Emergency and Support Team
HF	High Frequency
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IT	Information Technology
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UN	United Nations
UNAMI	UN Assistance Mission for Iraq
UNHCR	UN High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
VHF	Very High Frequency
WFP	World Food Programme

All information related to ETC Iraq operations can be found on the website: www.ETCluster.org

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

Minutes: Suzanne Fenton, WFP