Iraq - Conflict

ETC Situation Report #57

Reporting period 01/01/2019 to 31/01/2019

These Situation Reports are distributed monthly. The next report will be issued on or around 28/02/19.

Highlights

- The ETC stopped providing Internet connectivity in all camps by 31 December 2018 as part of the ETC phasing out and closure.

- In line with the ETC's phase-out from Iraq by 31 March 2019, the ETC has completed the physical asset counting and a comprehensive inventory of the warehouse.

The ETC in conducting the physical count of assets in the ETC warehouse
Photo: ETC Iraq

Situation Overview

Although 3.8 million Iraqis have returned to their homes since the start of the crisis, more than two million Iraqi people remain displaced and a total of 8.7 million are still in need.

Protection challenges continue to be the primary focus, particularly due to the presence of armed actors in camps across the country.

The ETC received US$137,000 approved from the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2019. The ETC will consume the funds received to carry out its activities as part of its phase-out and closure from Iraq by 31 March 2019.

Response

- Following the demobilizing of ETC Internet connectivity services in camps, ETC Iraq conducted meetings with different actors from the humanitarian community and local Internet Service Providers (ISP) to share with them the details of the ETC phase-out and to advise them on the way forward.

- ETC Iraq is finalizing the handover of the security communications network, including repeaters, to the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI) as the lead agency after the ETC deactivation on March 31,2019.

- The ETC has shipped back all the Ericsson Response equipment to Sweden as part of the deactivation process.

- The grant of US$137,000 has been signed by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and WFP. The disbursement of the funds will be processed by the end of January and will facilitate the complete shutdown of ETC services in Iraq, including staffing costs.

- As part of the ETC's phasing out, the ETC completed a full inventory of the warehouse and its assets.

Services for Communities (S4C)

- A tender has been launched for quotations for the provision of a queueing system to be installed by the ETC in the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Community Resource Centers (CRC) in East Mosul, West Mosul and Fallujah.

Challenges

- The security situation remains volatile across the country. Movements of humanitarian workers are heavily restricted.

Meetings

- The next Global ETC Joint teleconference will take place on 13 February 2019.

Information

- Information and Communications Technology (ICT) responders operating on the ground in Iraq are encouraged to share their contact details with Iraq.ETC@wfp.org to facilitate local coordination. For ETC support, please call +964 782 780 6767.

- A dedicated information-sharing space has been created on the ETC website www.etcluster.org/emergencies/iraq-conflict. Organisations involved in the ICT response are encouraged to share updates with the ETC community to support the overall humanitarian response. All documents related to the ETC operation in Iraq are available on the ETC portal.

Contacts

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Acronyms

ACTED	Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development
CDO	Community Development Organization
COMCEN	Communications Centre
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
HF	High Frequency
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ISIL	Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant
ISP	Internet Service Provider
IT	Information Technology
JCMC	Joint Coordination and Monitoring Center
KRG	Kurdistan Regional Government
LRT	Logistic Response Training
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
S4C	Services for Communities
UN	United Nations
UNAMI	UN Assistance Mission for Iraq

UNCT	UN Country Team
UNFPA	UN Population Fund
UNHCR	UN High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
VHF	Very High Frequency
WFP	World Food Programme

All information related to ETC operations can be found on the ICT Emergency website: www.ETCluster.org. For more information, or to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact: Iraq.ETC@wfp.org