

## **IRAQ**

### **ETC Situation Report # 20**

**Reporting period 03/04/15 – 16/04/15**

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### **Highlights**

- The repeaters from Dahuk and Sulymaniya are now being monitored from the UNAMI interagency COMCEN in Erbil, hence providing humanitarians in both camps with additional security. With this additional support, organizations from both camps are being 24/7 monitored from the UNAMI interagency COMCEN in Erbil.
- The installation of the 100Ft tower in Domiz in order to improve radio coverage has commenced.

### **Cluster Responsibilities**

- WFP is leading ETC activities in Iraq. The ETC is responsible for providing emergency telecommunications support to humanitarian organisations on the ground.

### **Achievements**

- A technical mission was carried on in Sulymaniya in order to reconnect Arbat camp to the internet; the site is now operational.
- A country-wide COMCEN contact list has been created and distributed for quicker and more effective location of staff.
- The ETC has received further funds through a Canadian DFAT grant; the funds are programmed and available for use.
- The distribution of the final version of the country-wide VHF codeplug has commenced.
- The ETC configured and programmed 2 x vehicles for OCHA operations in the KR-I.
- The ETC has established analogue and digital radio services for NGOs and UN agencies in Dahuk, Domiz camp, Sulaymaniyah and Arbat camp to support the safety and security of the humanitarian community. In addition, the new VHF base in UNAMI interagency COMCEN is now monitoring both camps from Erbil.



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- ETC runs a 24/7 radio room in Sulaymaniyah; Arbat camp is now monitored from this radio room.
  - ETC runs a 12/7 radio room in Dahuk; Domiz camp is also monitored from this radio room.
  - The ETC continues to configure radios for UN agencies and NGOs with a standard codeplug compatible with both digital and analogue radio networks. To date, over 359 individual radios have been configured.
  - Radio training is being delivered by the ETC and UNAMI to UN and NGO staff on an ongoing basis. This is to ensure that correct radio protocol is consistently followed by all humanitarian organizations to facilitate the safety of staff. To date, the ETC has trained approximately 134 staff from various humanitarian organizations. In addition, training of staff in the use of radios is ongoing.
  - 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.
  - All UN agencies are encouraged to compile call-sign lists according to the common ETC format. This will ensure radio rooms can track staff more effectively and improve overall security.
  - All Humanitarian agencies and NGO's are also encouraged to use the standard ETC provided codeplug to ensure overall compatibility country-wide between radios to facilitate security of staff.

## Challenges and Gaps

- Flight options for the importation of equipment remain limited. This can delay the deployment of humanitarian ICT services.
- All staff wishing to travel outside of Erbil must attend SAIT training, which takes four days. In addition, several days may be needed to apply and receive residency status thus delaying further deployment to the field.

## Planned Activities

- Continue reprogramming of VHF radios with the new DMR standards and radio training in all locations.
- The FITTEST engineers are both on R&R/Leave breaks till the end of April and early June respectively.
- Enhance inter-agency radio services in Erbil in order to provide better security for staff and vehicle movement, ETC will be providing additional staffing and equipment to the UNAMI radio room.
- Continue the integration of humanitarian radios into the UNAMI digital dispatcher radio tracking service and establish the system in Sulaymaniya and Dahuk COMCEN's.
- Procure a suitable power solution for the wide-area repeater sites in KR-I.

## Meetings



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### **Global ETC teleconference**

The next Global ETC teleconference will be held on 21/04/15.

### **Local ETC meeting**

The next Local ETC meeting will be held on 21/04/15.

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/UNAMI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination</li> <li>• Information Management</li> <li>• ICT Helpdesk</li> <li>• Logistics Hub</li> <li>• Radio Programming</li> <li>• Training</li> <li>• VHF radio coverage</li> </ul>
Sulaymaniyah	WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Radio Programming</li> <li>• Training</li> <li>• VHF radio coverage</li> <li>• 24/7 Radio Room</li> </ul>
Arbat Camp	WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internet connectivity</li> <li>• Radio Programming</li> <li>• Training</li> <li>• VHF radio coverage</li> <li>• 24/7 monitored from Sulaymaniyah radio room</li> </ul>
Dahuk	WFP/UNHCR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Radio Programming</li> <li>• Training</li> <li>• VHF radio coverage</li> <li>• Radio Room</li> </ul>
Domiz Camp	WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internet connectivity</li> <li>• VHF radio coverage</li> <li>• Radio Programming</li> <li>• Training</li> <li>• Monitored from Dahuk Radio Room</li> </ul>
Basra	WFP/UNAMI	



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Radio Programming</li> <li>• VHF radio coverage</li> <li>• 24/7 Radio Room</li> </ul>
Baghdad	WFP/UNAMI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VHF radio coverage</li> <li>• 24/7 Radio Room</li> </ul>
Kirkuk	UNAMI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VHF radio coverage</li> <li>• 24/7 Radio Room</li> </ul>

## ETC Iraq Focal Points

TITLE	AGENCY	NAME	EMAIL	MOBILE PHONE
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## Acronyms

CITS	Communications and Information Technology Services
DMR	Digital Mobile Network
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
FITTEST	Fast IT and Telecommunications Emergency and Support Team
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
ISP	Internet Service Provider



IT	Information Technology
JCMC	Joint Coordination and Monitoring Centre
KR-I	Kurdistan Region- Iraq
OPSCEN	Operations Centre
POE	Power Over Ethernet
SAIT	Security Awareness and Induction Training
SRSG	Special Representative of the Secretary General
UNAMI	United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDSS	United Nations Department for Safety and Security
VHF	Very High Frequency
WFP	World Food Programme
WG	Working Group
WIDER	Wireless LAN In Disaster and Emergency Response