IRAQ

etc
EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS
— C L U S T E R —

OPERATION OVERVIEW

IRAQ

TURKEY

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Al Mawşil (Mosul)

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

Baghdad

Tigris

An Najaf

JORDAN

Euphrates

Persian Gulf

Al Başrah

SAUDI ARABIA

KUWAIT

50 km

OCHA

TYPE OF EMERGENCY:
CONFLICT

ETC ACTIVE SINCE:
2014

SITUATION OVERVIEW:

The surge in violence between armed groups and government forces has resulted to over 3 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) across Iraq and left more than 11 million in need of humanitarian assistance.

The ETC in Iraq was activated in August 2014 in response to the deteriorating security situation in the country. Since then, under the leadership of the World Food Programme (WFP), the ETC has been delivering vital communications services to the entire response community on the ground, including its partners, UN agencies, NGOs and other humanitarian organisations.

KEY DATA

NUMBER OF SITES

22

SERVICES PROVIDED
- Internet Connectivity
- Security telecommunications (Radio)
- Radio training
- Coordination
- Information Management
- Services for Communities (S4C)
- Information Management

TRAININGS CONDUCTED
- Let's Comm technical training

NUMBER OF HUMANITARIANS SERVED (SINCE 1 JAN 2017)

250+

FUNDING STATUS
- The ETC in Iraq is appealing for US$1.9 million to carry out its activities in 2018.
- The ETC has US$1.2 million in carry over. No new funds have been received.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES
- The ETC plans to roll out Services for Communities projects in more camps to support affected communities.

CHALLENGES
- Access to new IDP camps in Mosul area.
- The security situation remains volatile.

RESPONSE

- The ETC continues to provide shared Internet and security telecommunications services to the humanitarian community in 22x sites across the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and Ninewa governorate as part of the Mosul response.

- The ETC is providing Internet connectivity services to a community centre in Arbat camp to support WFP's Tech for Food pilot where Syrian refugees are trained on basic technology and English language skills.

- As part of the Services for Communities (S4C) project in Domiz camp to provide Internet services to affected communities to access critical information, 2,204 vouchers were used in 2017.

- The team conducted an assessment mission to West Mosul to identify ways to expand the security telecommunications services to support the humanitarian response.

- The ETC handed over the management of the 3x Communications Centres (COMCEN) to UNDSS as of 1 April 2018.

- The ETC S4C advisor completed a mission to Iraq to assess what activities could be implemented,

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- The ETC plans to roll out additional S4C projects to enable affected communities to access the Internet in refugees / IDP camps following comprehensive assessments.

- To ensure the provision of vital communications services, the ETC is recruiting 1x Information Technology (IT) assistant and 1x Information Management associate.

- The ETC is planning to conduct several training sessions in Erbil, including ICT Emergency Management for Governments and Partners (ICT4Gov) in 2018.

- The ETC is planning to conduct a telecommunications assessment missions Salahaddin and Anbar. S4C assessments in both locations will also be conducted.

CHALLENGES:

- Access to new priority areas to support the Mosul response is a major challenge.

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

THE GLOBAL ETC IS GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT OF KEY PARTNERS, INCLUDING:

UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF