



**SITUATION**

The current crisis in Iraq began in June 2014, when militants of the Islamic State Iraq and Syria (ISIS) seized control of over one third of Iraq’s territory within a few weeks. Iraqi Security Forces (ISF), the Kurdish Peshmerga and various armed groups engaged in the fight against ISIS, and finally recaptured Ramadi in February 2016, Hit in April 2016, Fallujah in June 2016, Mosul in July 2017, Tal Afar in August 2017 and Hawija in October 2017. The Government of Iraq announced the defeat of ISIS and regained full territorial control on 9 December 2017. With the major military operations coming to end, many people are now able to return to their homes, and previously experienced large-scale displacements are likely to be over by 2018. However, smaller scale movements are still expected resulting from the tension between the government of Iraq and the Kurdish Regional Government (KRG), triggered by the referendum on Kurdish independence of 25 September 2017. According to upcoming Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) estimates, 8.7 million people will require some form of humanitarian assistance in 2018. The humanitarian crisis in Iraq remains one of the largest and most volatile in the world, with a complex reality and rapidly changing vulnerabilities and serious economic problems. However, with the defeat of ISIS there is now a high chance of a protracted crisis with decreasing attention, while there is still great need for help in order to break the cycle that led to the current events. The Iraqi security situation became extremely acute with the conquest of part of the country by Islamic State (ISIS). This conflict altered the balance of power and split the country into those areas held by IS, the autonomous Kurdish areas and those controlled by the federal government. According to the latest data, in Nineveh province, 598,578 individuals are currently displaced (as of 31 August 2018) as a result of the offensive to retake Mosul and the efforts to push ISIS fighters out of Hawijah. 1,548,108 individuals (as of 31 August 2018) have been able to return home as liberation in the province has progressed. ISIS seizure of territory in Nineveh Province, Iraq’s most ethnically and religiously diverse area, resulted in some of the worst atrocities attributed to the terrorist group, including significant inter-ethnic violence. The ongoing ethnic and religious tension, violence and crimes made almost all non-Arab or non-Muslim families reluctant to return, and those who did return are at risk of facing segregation and isolation. The price paid by the people of Mosul is incredibly high with loss of lives, infrastructure, assets, physical and psychological abuse and loss of livelihood. People lost their homes and stayed in temporary camps for years. In addition, affected people also lost their means of earning and livelihood. Prior to the conflict, the economic status of the people were low which got aggravated during the conflict. As reported by many agencies including UN that livelihood opportunities remain very limited with concern over inter-ethnic conflicts and protection issues.

**NEEDS**

The conflict has put the region in a state of crisis. The conflict affected persons find themselves in a desperate situation, with many unmet vital humanitarian needs such as access to:

x	sufficient food
x	safe shelter and basic non-food items
x	basic health services and facilities
x	safe drinking water, as well as sanitation and hygiene infrastructure
x	livelihood activities
x	protection services
x	adequate nutrition

The dire situation is further compounded for the conflict affected people with vulnerabilities; more specifically for mental health care, food, livelihood, education and reconstruction. There is a pressing necessity to provide immediate assistance to minimize loss of life and to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are covered first.

#### STAKEHOLDERS

The following national and international entities are present and doing their best to respond to the crisis:

x	National government	Iraqi Central Government and Kurdistan Regional Government
x	UN Agencies	UNOCHA- providing humanitarian updates, different clusters providing updates.
	INGOs	Present
x	Red Cross Red Crescent Movement	Present
x	Military presence	Present
x	National NGOs	Present
x	Civil society groups	Present
x	Faith based groups	Present
x	Philanthropy groups	Present
x	Host communities	Present
x	Affected communities	Present

The ACT Alliance emergency response is currently being coordinated by the ACT Iraq forum in cooperation with their local partners. To ensure that the humanitarian response is well coordinated and complementary, the ACT forum will take part in meetings with all relevant sector stakeholders (UN organizations and NGOs Coordination Committee of Iraq (NCCI) and establish an open line of communication with crisis affected persons and communities to ensure a humanitarian response based on participation and feedback.

#### ACT ALLIANCE

x	ACT Alliance has been working in Iraq and KRI since 2014, now helping/planning to help people affected by the conflict. This call for action is heads up to the upcoming ACT Appeal IRQ191, which will be issued during this month of November 2018.
x	ACT Alliance works in areas affected by the conflict, and is assessing the impact of the disaster to better understand the needs and vulnerabilities. Also, to provide improved health conditions of conflict affected people in Iraq through better access to clean water, water network repair and rainwater management, use of latrines, and increased health promotion.
x	ACT Alliance is planning to improve the economic situation of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), refugees, returnees and their host communities' families in general through CfW activities and creating job opportunities.
x	ACT Alliance is monitoring the situation and emergency teams are ready/preparing to respond according to the results of a contextual analysis and rapid needs assessment.

x	ACT Alliance is tending to offer improved livelihood conditions of conflict-affected people in Iraq through agricultural work, reconstruction of home and facilities, community buildings and schools
x	ACT Alliance is seeking to provide increased access of conflict-affected children and women to protection, psycho-social support (PSS), and referral services. Also, to facilitate youth disengagement from violent groups and prevent violence and recruitment of individuals into those groups as well as resolution of inter-ethnic, religious, tribal tensions and reduction of sectarian strife.
x	ACT Alliance is ready to respond and meet the basic food needs of highly vulnerable families.

**Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to the Head of Finance and Administration,  
Line Hempel ([Line.Hempel@actalliance.org](mailto:Line.Hempel@actalliance.org))**

For further information please contact: also

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