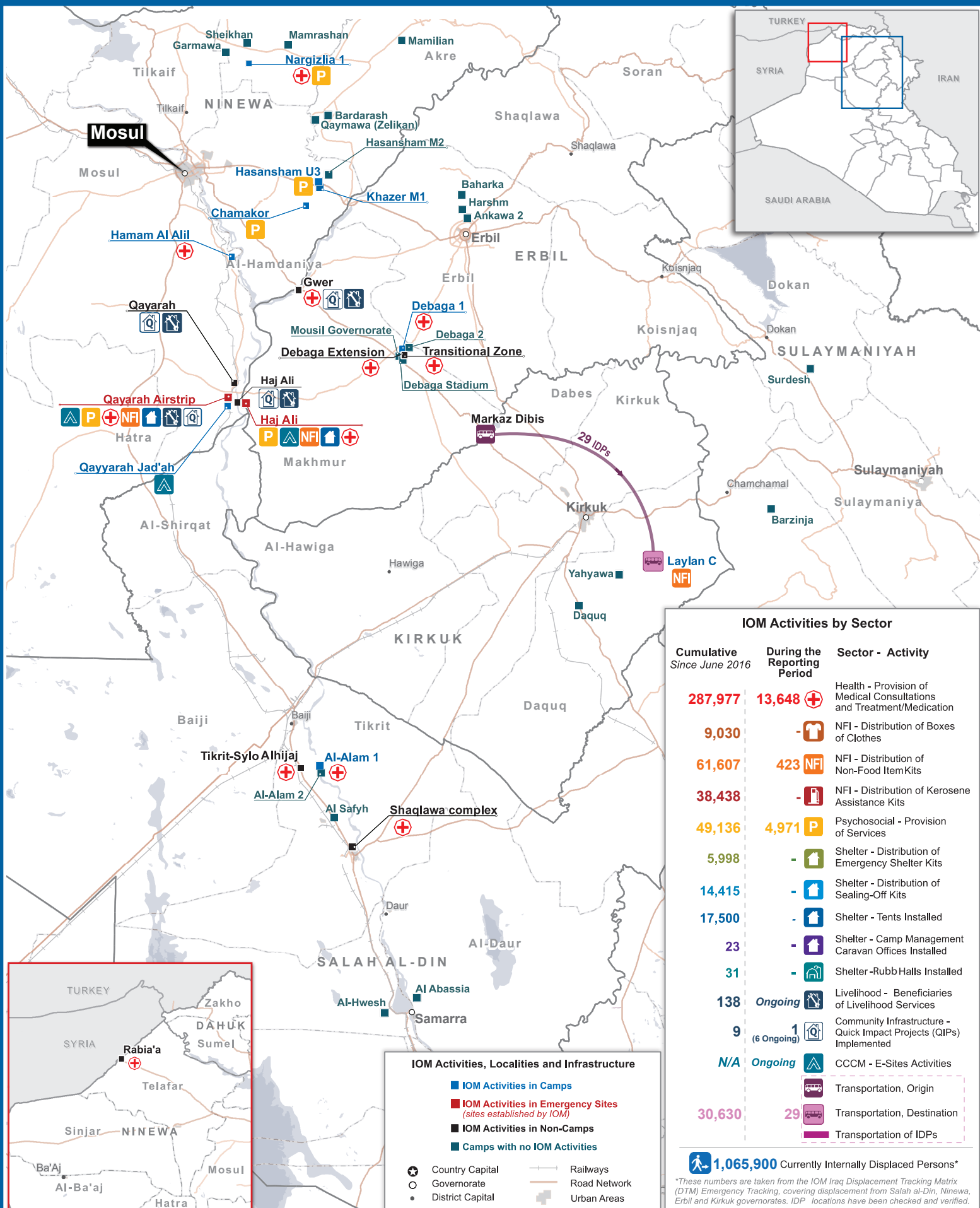




IOM Iraq: Mosul Response Update #27

29 June - 12 July 2017





Girls sing traditional songs and dance together at IOM's Psychosocial Center in Qayara emergency site's extension. The center's fence is covered to provide privacy for women and girls who otherwise may not feel comfortable dancing or playing sports if men/boys could see them. The Psychosocial team uses traditional dances and songs to talk about their meaning and the importance of community cohesion, peacebuilding, and psychosocial wellbeing. These conversations are a means to identify challenges faced by young people and assist them to build a support network. The center and its psychosocial activities are funded by Canada. (©IOM Iraq)



Fatima, 45, walked out of her house in West Mosul in search of water for her children, when a bomb fell nearby, killing her 19-year-old daughter and severely injuring Fatima's legs. In early July, Fatima and her two surviving children were brought to IOM's field hospital in Hammam Al-Alil, where the medical team performed surgery on her legs and inserted titanium rods. Her youngest boy, 10-year-old Adham, 10 lies by her side, still in shock. The field hospital is supported by the UK and Kuwait. (©Raber Y. Aziz/IOM Iraq, 2017).



An IOM pediatrician provides health care to a sick child at Qayara Airstrip emergency site, south of Mosul. The health clinics in Qayara Airstrip and Haj Ali emergency sites are funded by the United Kingdom. The two centers provide 15,000 primary health care consultations to displaced Iraqis per month. The centers are open during the day for general consultations, and 24/7 for emergency cases. (©IOM Iraq)



IOM distributed non-food item (NFI) kits to recently displaced families who arrived in Qayara Airstrip emergency site. Funded by the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), the kits include items for hot summer weather such as coolboxes, rechargeable fans and other necessary supplies to help IDPs cope with the soaring summer temperatures. (©IOM Iraq)

Stories of Displacement: Falah's Family

Falah, an 8-year-old-boy, lives with his mother in Qayara Airstrip emergency site, south of Mosul. Until a few months ago, he had a father and a baby sister too. But in late February as the Iraqi forces were pushing the fight into Mosul to retake it from ISIL control. On 27 February, Falah's father went out with their neighbor to buy food. A mortar shell fell near them and the two collapsed to the ground. A group of men rushed to help them and panic ensued.

When Falah's pregnant mother heard about what had happened, she tried reach her injured husband, but ISIL fighters prevented her from even leaving their house. They told her that they would take care of him. The next day, Falah's mother gave birth: it was a girl – Falah's only sister.

"Because I had just given birth, I couldn't go and look for Falah's father right away. And now nobody knows what happened to him or where he was taken, whether he is alive or dead. For the next two weeks, we were in a terrible financial situation, and because of soaring food prices I had to beg on the streets for help. We had already sold everything we had to buy food. Sometimes, we did not have a single meal the whole day. As a result of malnutrition my baby girl was not healthy either.

On 15 March, the security forces retook our area and we were transported to Qayara. I immediately went to the IOM medical clinic there to have my daughter checked. She was given primary health care, and from there she was transferred to the hospital for intensive care. After many medical tests, I was told that she had a blockage in her heart valve and a hole in her heart and that she was severely dehydrated. She died shortly afterwards because of her condition."

IOM's health clinic is supported by DFID. (©IOM Iraq 2017)



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