

Mosul Neighborhood Snapshot: Al Elam

March 17th, 2017



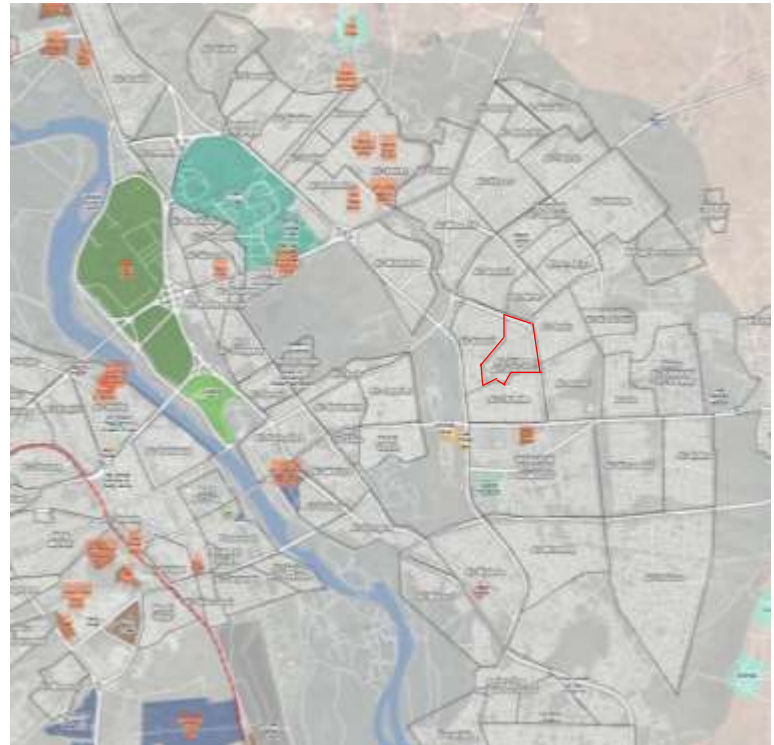
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This report was written by ACTED's AME Unit to provide a snapshot of humanitarian needs and conditions in neighborhoods around Mosul. Data was collected via Key Informant and Observational tools by PIN on Feb 20th

Highlights

- **WASH** needs are deemed the top priority need by most informants, a reflection of the lack of access to clean drinking water for the neighborhood's residents.
- While markets and shops are functional, due to a lack of cash in households, very high unemployment, and a lack of available jobs, purchasing power is low/poor and **food** is listed as a top priority need of residents along with **cash** and **jobs**.
- Informants note that access to **electricity** is one of the top priorities, with the current electrical network destroyed.
- Informants report that some food and NFI assistance are being provided by the MoDM, a Kuwaiti Organization, UNICEF, WFP and unspecified national NGOs.



Map of Eastern Mosul City, Al Elam Neighborhood
Courtesy of REACH

However, these services are only covering a few of the needs of about a quarter of the residents.

Situation Overview

The city of Mosul in northern Iraq has been under ISIS control since June 2014, this period has been characterized by repression and human rights abuses. As the last remaining ISIS stronghold in Iraq, the battle to retake Mosul began in October 2016 and Iraqi Security Forces and their allies have now successfully regained control of the section of the city east of the Tigris River. While military operations to regain control of the western portion of the city continue, humanitarian space in the eastern part of Mosul city is now opening up and there is access to provide humanitarian relief. With much of the city's inhabitants having remained in the city during the battle or now returning, the provision of key services is vital to maintaining living standards, preventing the outbreak of disease and assisting on the path to recovery.

Neighborhood Needs Snapshot



With active conflict continuing only 4km to the west, informants noted that most people still a fear of a resurgence of armed conflict within the neighborhood. The neighborhood has been reported to be decontaminated from UXOs and IEDs.

Local Leadership: Most Informants identify the local leadership structure as the Iraqi Army. This system is described as functional and moderately representative of the neighborhood. At the time of data collection, informants reported that there was no Mukhtar in the neighborhood.

Demographics, Migration and Intentions

The neighborhood of Al Elam is made up of around 12,000 residents, with the vast majority (82%) being Host Community members who stayed throughout IS control. The remaining 18% is composed of about 3% returnees who began arriving in mid-January 2017, 9% of new IDPs who arrived beginning in late December 2016 from other neighborhoods throughout Mosul City, and 6% of Old IDPs who arrived before East Mosul was retaken. The make-up of the residents of this neighborhood is primarily Sunni Arab with other groups including Sunni Turkmen, Sunni Kurd, Sunni Shabaks and Shia Shabaks reported as well.

Informants report that those who travel from their area of origin to this neighborhood generally travel via private car or by foot, and travel through a checkpoint managed by the Iraqi Army.

Short and long term stay intentions for both the Host Community and Returnees is to stay in the neighborhood, as although they somewhat fear a resurgence of the conflict, they also feel relatively safe in their homes. For new IDPs, the short term intention is to move back to their areas of origin and if they remain in Al Elam for some time, their longer term intention is to move back to their original area. Old IDPs short term intention is also to move from Al Elam to return to their area of origin and if this is not possible, to return as soon as possible to their areas of origin.

Humanitarian Needs

Shelter

- Host Community/Stayees and returnees are residing in their own houses, renting houses, or living with friends and relatives despite these structures experiencing significant structural damage. They are sharing these spaces with other Host community and returnee families.
- Old IDPs are also residing in rented houses or their own homes. They are reported to be sharing their shelter with other families.
- New IDPs are residing in rented houses, or being hosted by other community members, with most new IDP families sharing shelter with other families.

Early Recovery

- It was reported by informants that around 7% of houses/buildings in the neighborhood had been destroyed, 5% more sustained heavy damage, with the rest, 88%, having received minor damage or no damage.
- Specific damage reported to houses: broken windows (90%), broken doors (50%), plumbing damage (70%), cracked walls/floors (15%), and destroyed roofs (5%).

Neighborhood Needs Snapshot

- It was additionally reported that about 15% of households would require a great deal of outside help to help with repairs and rebuilding.

NFI Non-Food Items

- There is a lack of available and sufficient NFIs within the neighborhood such as cooking sets, cooking gas/kerosene, stoves, household items, clothes etc. especially among IDPs.
- There is a lack of available winterization NFIs such as heating fuel, blankets, insulation materials etc.
- The majority of households are reported to have access to fuel and/or kerosene.

Food Security

- Informants reported that all families and households' access to staple foods is very limited due to poor purchasing power.
- Household food stocks were said to be able to last, on average, **2 days**.

2 days
Household food stocks will last
in Al Elam

Health

- It is reported that a significant portion of neighborhood residents have serious medical conditions or diseases, in addition to those who have been physically injured or wounded during the battle or during displacement/return. Furthermore there is a high prevalence of people suffering from trauma (signs of psychological distress).
- Informants report that there is limited access within Al Elam to healthcare services and there is no hospital or doctor's clinic reported in the neighborhood.

Water, Sanitation & Hygiene

- There is limited access to clean water with the primary water source being **unprotected boreholes**.
- There is a semi-functional sewage system in place and limited evidence of black water and no evidence of open defecation.
- There is a solid waste management system, but some garbage is evident in the street.
- The majority of residents have access to bathing facilities, which do offer privacy and safety for women, however there is insufficient access to basic hygiene products (soap, toothbrush, washing powder).
- A high prevalence of water borne diseases (e.g. diarrhea) was reported by informants.

Protection

- The neighborhood is host to particularly vulnerable people including: Female-headed households, Persons with serious medical conditions, Persons with Disabilities and the Elderly.
- Support to SGBV survivors is listed as one of the priority needs of the IDP community.
- Informants reported that there are no unaccompanied and separated children within the neighborhood but there is violence against children in the form of physical abuse and child labor.
- There are no safe spaces for children and youth to learn and play (CFS/YFS).
- Reports stated that there are a large number of children who are suffering from trauma (signs of psychological distress), with no access to psychological support and case management services.

Neighborhood Needs Snapshot

Education

- For the approximately 1,000 school aged children (6-13yrs) in the neighborhood, it is reported that 80% to 90% are either attending school or registered to attend the primary school in the neighborhood, which is functioning.
- There are 2 school shifts in the primary school and approximately 20 teachers in the school.
- Stationary and electricity are the primary need in schools, followed by furniture, drinking water and psychological support for the children.
- There are no secondary schools in the neighborhood.



Emergency Telecommunications

- The electricity network within the neighborhood was destroyed.
- Informants noted that all residents have access to mobile phones, as well as TVs, radios and the Internet.



Livelihoods

- Residents have no cash or savings with them in their homes but they do have access to formal Hawala/money agents as well as access to informal money transfer systems.
- Respondents consider the purchasing power within the neighborhood as being **low/poor** or **normal**.
- There are a variety of shops and markets open (General grocers, Veg/Fruit stalls, Butcher, Bakery, fast food, tailor, hair dresser, medicine shop, Mobile shop, tool shop, kerosene shops, clothing shops, household items, Water shop) and they are described as sufficient to meet the basic needs of the community.
- Unemployment is extremely high throughout, around 55%, due to a lack of job opportunities, with only around 45% of the neighborhood employed. Informants describe being a general laborer as the primary type of work followed by being a government employee or street vendor.
- The average wage for manual labor in the market or in the construction sector was reported as being around 5,000 dinars per day. The average wage for skilled labor (e.g. plumber or bricklayer) was reported as being around 13,000 dinars per day.
- The current coping strategies by residents, as well as future coping strategies, to garner some source of income for their household includes: the sale of non-productive assets, such as TVs, furniture, personal belongings etc, the sale of productive assets, moving the household in an attempt to find work, reducing healthcare spending, searching for a job, having children leave school, reducing food consumption through smaller portions and less daily meals, relying on humanitarian aid, borrowing money from family, friends or a money lender, taking a loan from a bank, begging, selling their house, having adults eat less food to help children, engaging children in the labor force and depleting their savings.

55%
Unemployment rate within
Al Elam