

Overview

Ibrahim Khalil Village:

Site typology: Standard Housing

IDPs from Nimrod (17-26 Oct): 900

Debaga IDP Camp:

Site typology: Camp

IDPs from Nimrod (14-26 Oct): 318¹

¹ IOM, DTM Emergency Tracking, 25 October

Methodology

This factsheet highlights the situation of IDPs from the Nimrod area (Hamdaniya District) who have fled to two locations: Debaga Camp, and Ibrahim Khalil village. Between 24- 26 October, REACH mobile teams conducted a rapid assessment in Debaga IDP camp with 9 recently displaced Key Informants (KIs) from the Nimrod area and one KI who remained in Nimrod at the time of assessment. Where possible data has been triangulated with secondary sources, in particular IOM DTM Emergency Tracking.

Location Map



Displacement Overview

Over the past weeks, conflict in the Nimrod area of Hamdaniya District displaced hundreds of people. Two major displacement waves were recorded: a smaller section of IDPs left the Nimrod area before 17 October, the start of the Mosul Offensive, while a second wave of at least 900 people were displaced due to ongoing conflict in their villages of origin after 17 and 26 October.

During the first wave of displacement, 30 to 40 IDP families left the Nimrod area for Debaga Camp, arriving around 15 October. These IDPs had to resort to dangerous escape routes, travelling to Gwer Village either on foot (roughly 6 hours) or by car (1-2 hours), depending on which villages they came from. The majority left Nimrod as family units, many fleeing at night in order to avoid capture by AGs. Upon arrival in Gwer, they were transported by the Kurdish forces to Debaga camp.

Since the beginning of the Mosul Offensive on October 17th, AG forces departed from Ibrahim Khalil village in the Southern-most tip of Nimrod District, leading to a second wave of displacement. Due to its perceived safety and proximity to neighboring villages, Ibrahim Khalil village – with a population of 600 non-displaced individuals – quickly became a major displacement hub. Between 17-20 October around 900 IDPs arrived from surrounding villages (e.g. Al Adla, Abbas, Gubeyba) where conflict was ongoing. IDPs travelled mainly on foot, taking anywhere from a couple of hours to three days to reach Ibrahim Khalil.² Displacement towards Ibrahim Khalil from neighboring villages was reportedly ongoing at the time of assessment.

The primary reasons given for remaining in Ibrahim Khalil village included a desire to return to villages of origin as soon as possible, and fears about the screening process they would have to endure if they fled to Debaga Camp. As a result, the large majority of displaced families in Ibrahim Khalil reportedly have no desire to travel onwards. However, both IDPs and host community members are lacking basic services, a situation which led between 8-13 families to leave Ibrahim Khalil between the 17 and 26 October.³ These families walked for one to two hours from Ibrahim Khalil to Gwer and were then transported to Debaga Camp. KIs reported no other displacement from the Nimrod area beyond Gwer after 17 October.

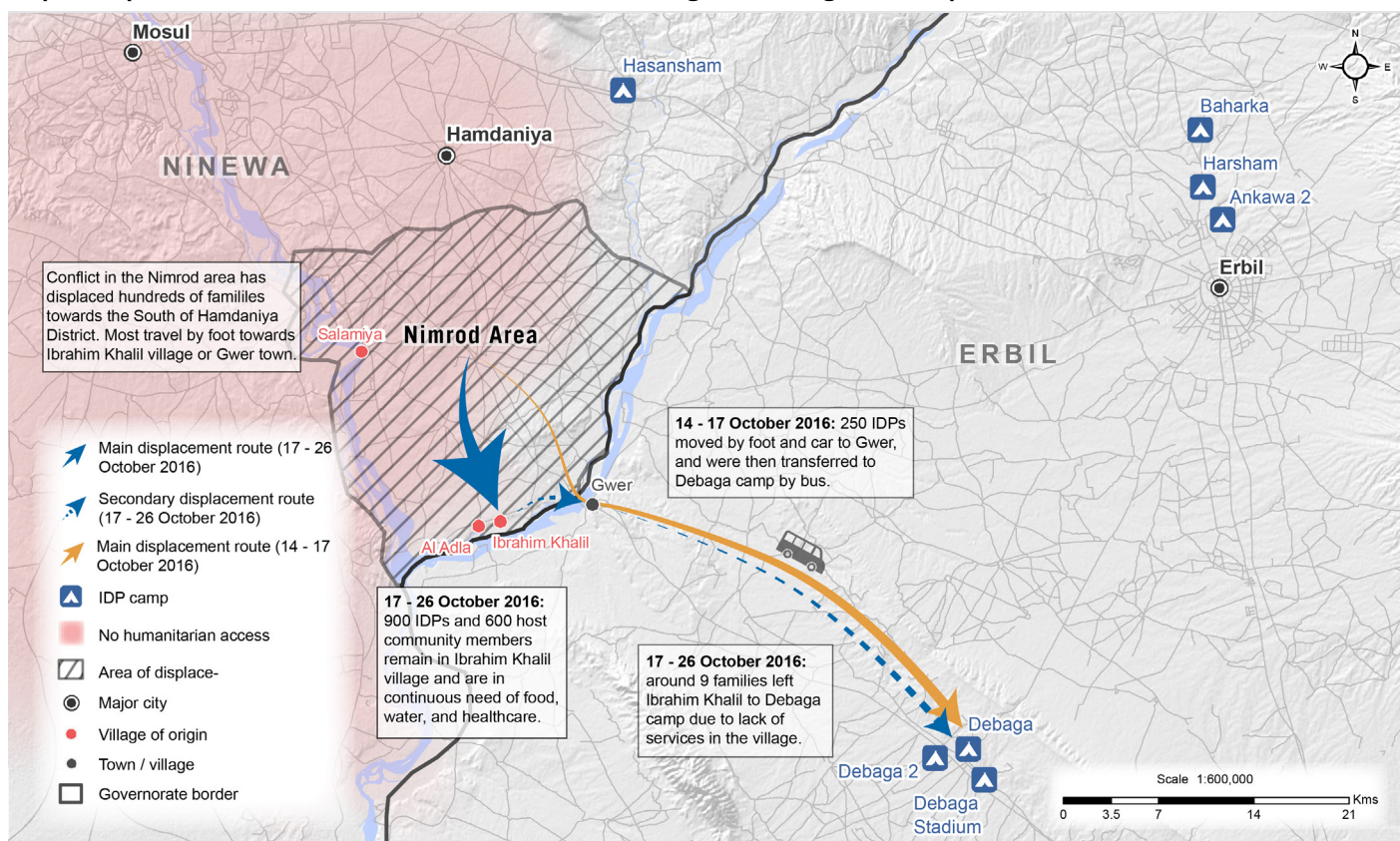
Once IDPs arrived in Debaga Camp, men and older boys underwent a screening process, while women and children were taken to the Debaga Camp school building. At the time of assessment, most of the men had been transferred to the Debaga mosque, where they remained separated from the women and children while others remain in the screening centre.

The primary challenges faced by most IDPs en route to Ibrahim Khalil and Gwer included the risk of getting caught by AGs, the risk of mines and a lack of water and food. Due to limited window of opportunity for displacement, most IDPs left with only their identification papers, water, and a little cash. En route, no IDPs had access to water or sanitation facilities before reaching Kurdish forces in Gwer.

² Families from Abbas village reportedly slept in the open - on the outskirts of their village - for 3 days before displacing to Ibrahim Khalil. They did so following the advice of the Iraqi forces.

³ Range taken from estimates given by KIs in Debaga camp and IOM DTM.

Map 1: Displacement from Nimrod Area to Ibrahim Khalil Village and Debaga IDP Camp, between 14-26 October



Current Vulnerabilities

In **Ibrahim Khalil Village**, both IDPs and host community members - totaling an estimated population of 1,500 individuals - are in continued need of assistance. People have little access to clean

water, electricity, healthcare and medication and are heavily reliant on assistance especially for food. The table below highlights the primary sectoral concerns within Ibrahim Khalil village.

Table 1: Summary of key findings and needs per sector in Ibrahim Khalil Village, Hamdaniya District

Sector	Key findings	Severity*
Food security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conflict in surrounding areas inhibits IDPs from accessing nearby farms and there are no food markets available Food is only available when provided through assistance (see assistance below) Over the past week IDPs reportedly prioritised food for children and the ill when access to food was limited 	3
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no reported health facilities or medication in the villages however a vaccination campaign has been conducted in the past week (See assistance below) KIs reported that 4 people died from conflict-inflicted wounds which were left untreated and one women who suffered from diabetes and blood pressure reportedly died due to a lack of medication 	4
WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Piped water has been unavailable since 17 October 2016, when electricity cuts in Hamdaniya stopped water being pumped to the villages People reportedly drink untreated water from wells and the nearby river KIs reported many children suffering from diarrhea 	4
Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25% of the houses are reportedly damaged Everyone is reportedly living in houses however due to a lack of safe accommodation in the village, five or more families commonly live in the same house 	3
Livelihoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no livelihood opportunities in the village KIs reported that money is of no use as there is nothing to buy within the village 	4

* The severity ranking below is based on a set of indicators measuring the severity of each sector: 0= No severity to 4 = Extreme severity.

In **Debaga Camp**, IDPs are heavily reliant on aid as overall only 10% of the IDPs from the Nimrod area were reportedly able to leave with cash. Those who did so brought an average of 400,000 IQD per family. The vast majority reportedly had identification papers on them.

In Debaga Camp, primary sectoral concerns for recent IDP arrivals are a lack of adequate shelter⁴ and winterization items ahead of the upcoming winter months. Many of the IDPs who arrived in the past week are being sheltered either in the Debaga School – for women and children – or the Mosque – for men and older boys. IDPs in both

sites were also observed sleeping out in the open courtyards. KIs reported that insufficient mattresses are available, especially in the mosque, and no tents were observed for those sleeping out in the courtyard. It was also reported that between 0-25% of the recent IDPs from Nimrod have access to winterization items (such as blanket and stoves). New IDP arrivals reported limited to no concerns in terms of access to health and water. IDPs are reportedly receiving food distributions in the form of one hot meal a day.

Assistance

IDPs did not receive any assistance along the journey until they met either Kurdish forces in Gwer or the Iraqi forces in Ibrahim Khalil.⁵

IDP and host community members in **Ibrahim Khalil** have received assistance both at the end of last week (food baskets from the Iraqi forces) and RRM distributions at the beginning of this week (distributed to roughly 760 families).⁶ Further a vaccination campaign has been conducted between 24-25 October. People in Ibrahim Khalil remain reliant on continued assistance as there are reportedly no other sources of food or healthcare available in the village.

Those who travelled to **Debaga Camp** reportedly received food and water at Gwer, after which the vast majority of new IDP arrivals received some form of assistance in the camp itself – primarily food and water. Whilst women and children in Debaga Camp reportedly received non-food items, such as mattresses, many men reportedly have not received any such assistance since leaving the screening centre. Providing shelter and NFI assistance to men living in the mosque should be a priority ahead of upcoming winter.

Intentions

The vast majority of IDPs in **Ibrahim Khalil** intend to return to their villages of origin as soon as it is safe to do so. IDPs in Ibrahim Khalil do not intend to travel further away if they can help it, both to facilitate this return to their villages of origin and to avoid going through a screening process.

In **Debaga Camp**, the majority of IDPs from Nimrod reportedly

planned to leave as soon as they are allowed, primarily to Kirkuk or Erbil,⁷ followed by Tikrit. Primary reported pull factors to all three areas include the availability of livelihood opportunities. However, they ultimately intend to return to their villages of origin once these are deemed safe. IDPs were not able to estimate when they would get authorization to leave Debaga Camp.

⁴ Overcrowding in Debaga camp has been an ongoing concern since large displacements to the camp from March 2016 onwards. There are currently a total of 5166 families and 33,143 individuals.

⁵ Families who had displaced from Abbas a village and slept out in the open for 3 days reportedly had no water or food during this time.

⁶ This RRM distribution reportedly provided families with enough food for one week.

⁷ KIs also reported that they did not think displacement to Erbil would be possible.