



## EU steps up its assistance for the stabilisation of Iraq

Brussels, 12 October 2017

**The European Commission has today adopted a €60.4 million stabilisation package to support Iraq after the liberation of areas held by Da'esh, with the country still facing humanitarian, security, stabilisation and reconciliation challenges.**

This new funding comes in addition to EU humanitarian aid in the country and other forms of financial assistance that now total €608.4 million since the beginning of the crisis.

High Representative/Vice-President Federica **Mogherini** said: *"At this important juncture in Iraq history, we stand at the side of the Iraqi people and authorities who have shown courage and resilience in their fight against Da'esh. Today more than ever, the EU is present to assist them in building their post-Da'esh future. We are and will continue to be active on the political, humanitarian, security and development sides to help stabilising the liberated areas. This is a pre-condition for reconciliation, for the return of the many internally displaced who are eager to come back and for the longer term stability in Iraq."*

Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven **Mimica** said: *"The liberation of Mosul and other areas previously occupied by Da'esh is a first step towards peace. The EU has been supporting the needs of millions of Iraqis and will not stop there. They can also count on EU assistance for the further stabilisation and development efforts of their country."*

The stabilisation package includes €50.4 million help to restore basic services, repair essential public infrastructure, as well as to reactivate economic activity through grants to small businesses. This will be done through the [UNDP Funding Facility for Stabilisation](#), which is working in newly retaken areas in Anbar, Salah al-Din, Kirkuk, Ninewah and Diyala Governorates. Thanks to more than 1,200 projects, over 2.2 million people have been able to return to their homes.

A further €10 million will continue to facilitate the clearance of lands previously contaminated by explosives, by supporting the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS). This will also help creating the conditions for a safe, voluntary and dignified return of more than 3 million internally displaced persons (IDPs). In the past year and a half, with the EU playing a key role in coordination, UNMAS has surveyed and cleared more than 1.8 million m<sup>2</sup> of land in and around Fallujah and around 160 thousand m<sup>2</sup> in al Anbar Province.

### Background

The EU is a long-term partner of Iraq, cooperating in the field of stabilisation, security and the political reform agenda. The EU has led the international humanitarian and development efforts for the Iraq crisis, responding to the humanitarian crisis and supporting the stability and development in the country.

On 18 September 2017, as part of programme to address the challenges of protracted forced displacement and migration in Asia and the Middle East, €10 million has been allocated to improve access to integrated service-delivery and economic opportunities, including access to health and education, jobs and income-generating activities for IDPs and host communities.

### More information:

[EU demining support in Iraq](#)

[ECHO factsheet](#)

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