United Nations-Iraq
الامم المتحدة-العراق

2022
Iraq Annual Results Report

United Nations Country Team
Annual Results Report
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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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Foreword

On behalf of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Iraq, it is my great pleasure to present the 2022 Annual Results Report on United Nations development activities and contributions to the development priorities of Iraq.

A total of 23 UN agencies with programmes and presence in Iraq spent close to USD 275 million to implement activities under the five priority areas of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2020-2024) agreed between the United Nations and Government of Iraq. UN support ranged from advocacy to prevent and respond to gender-based violence, provision of high level policy advice on labour, health, and agriculture issues and job creation, to assisting with strategy development in education, social protection and environment sectors. To address the adverse effects of climate change, the UNCT supported mitigation and adaptations actions including livelihood support to vulnerable communities and capacity assistance to the government in land management and water conservation in the south of the country. The UN continued rehabilitation of infrastructure in the conflict affected areas through its flagship stabilization portfolio to support the return and reintegration of internally displaced people.

The year 2022 was a year of transition for the UNCT with the scaling down of humanitarian activities and a move towards durable solutions for the more than one million internally displaced population of Iraq. Time has come to close the chapter on humanitarian aid and to support Iraq in its development trajectory.

Looking forward to 2023, the UNCT under my leadership will continue to recalibrate and align its programme priorities under the Cooperation Framework to support the Government's new programme of work focusing on economic diversification and climate change, water and agriculture sectors. We will also provide assistance to strengthen social protection and service delivery mechanisms including in health, education and water and sanitation to benefit not only all Iraqis but to support a smooth transition from humanitarian to durable solutions for IDPs. Climate change is one of the areas in which UN support to the Government of Iraq is most crucial. While the challenge is global, the threat to Iraq is particularly acute.

Ghulam Mohammed Isaczai
Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq

The UN will remain engaged as a trusted partner to the Government of Iraq and support its national priorities to ensure that no one gets left behind, and that progress is made towards the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

The UN will continue to explore opportunities for resource mobilization including from the Government of Iraq, traditional and non-tradition donors as well as regional and global trust funds to fund its development activities. A UN Development Trust Fund established recently will be utilized for the management of funds.

UN Country Team in Iraq

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Iraq consists of 23 UN agencies, funds, and programmes led by the UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator, who is the designated representative of the UN Secretary-General for development operations in Iraq.

The UNCT focuses on achieving Iraq's commitment to Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by providing evidence-based actions and specialized expertise.

The UN family's principle is to "leave no one behind," which guides all of its work in Iraq, with tailor-made support provided for the most vulnerable, disadvantaged, and socially excluded populations.

The UN in Iraq collaborates in a coherent manner to assist the government in achieving national development priorities and international development commitments, such as the SDGs.

The UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2020-2024 outlines the key shared development goals of the UN system in Iraq.

Cooperation Framework Strategic Priorities

The Cooperation Framework has identified five Strategic Priorities (SPs) that are tailored to meet the specific needs of the country.

- **SP1**: Achieving Social Cohesion, Protection and Inclusion.
- **SP2**: Growing the Economy for All.
- **SP3**: Promoting Effective, Inclusive and Efficient Institutions and Services.
- **SP4**: Promoting Natural Resources and Disaster Risk Management.
- **SP5**: Achieving Dignified, Safe and Voluntary Durable Solutions to Displacement in Iraq.

To ensure effective collaboration, the UN Country Team has established joint work plans (JWPs) and each SP has a dedicated Priority Working Group (PWG), which is co-chaired by lead agencies in the thematic area. These PWGs are responsible for driving progress against the Joint Work Plan and are accountable to the Resident Coordinator and the Joint Steering Committee (JSC).

To achieve concrete results, the PWGs are prioritizing cross-cutting issues such as a human rights, gender equality, social inclusion, capacity development for policy formulation and results-based management, and improving the overall evidence base. The thematic working groups provide additional support to the PWGs and work closely with the Programme Management Team (PMT) to ensure effective planning and reporting.

To optimize collaboration and minimize duplication, the PWGs are carefully sharing information, identifying synergies, and mapping complementarities with other UN planning frameworks. The ultimate goal is to achieve measurable results that address the country's needs and make a tangible difference in people's lives.

Stories from the field

Eman Rasho, a 23-year-old Iraqi woman, has lived through violence and conflict most of her life. Her family fled to Turkey as refugees for a year after ISIS attacked their community in Sinjar, before returning to Iraq. Despite facing insecurity and interruptions to her education, Eman works as a peace mediator and volunteers with CARE to help her family.

With training provided by the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund and facilitated through the DAK organization in collaboration with UN Women, Eman has realized that women's participation and decision-making are crucial to achieving peace in Sinjar.

Photo |UNWOMAN |IRAQ

Throughout the years of conflict in Iraq, women suffered greatly, and Eman believes that projects aimed at increasing awareness and understanding of gender equality and women's empowerment are a first step towards behavioural change and gender integration in daily work. Eman's goal is to become an advocate for women on all issues in the future and to assert women's rights to equality in Iraq.

Key Development Partners of the UN Development System in Iraq

Partnership lies at the heart of the UN's strategic priorities implementation in Iraq. In particular, partnership with the Government of Iraq has been instrumental in achieving remarkable progress in policy-making, capacity building, and service delivery while ensuring sustainability and maximizing resources towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. As humanitarian aid is phased out and people in need are still not fully integrated into national service delivery and safety net systems, strengthened coordination and collaboration among development stakeholders are essential to maximize resources and achieve the 2030 Agenda.

The UN in Iraq is committed to increasing the capacity for disseminating, monitoring, and reporting on SDGs, and has partnered with the government to achieve this through various initiatives, including the development of a cutting-edge digital platform called the Iraq Forum for SDGs. With the government of Iraq as its principal counterpart, the UN has collaborated with all levels of government administration, including the Prime Minister's Office, Parliament, line ministries, and governorate institutions. Furthermore, in 2022, the UN Area Based Coordination mechanisms (ABCs) were established in eight locations, and these have proved successful in bringing together governorate authorities and civil society organizations to work on durable solutions for internally displaced people.

Photo |UN-HABITAT |IRAQ

Strengthened partnership with the government has led to significant achievements in 2022 in several areas, including agriculture, water management, food security, education, and social protection. The collaboration between the UN and the government has resulted in groundbreaking legal decrees, such as the comprehensive and permanent solution for the Yazidi minority concerning their land and housing rights in Sinjar that was signed by the Council of Ministers in December 2022. The decree recognizes and grants land ownership and property rights that were allocated in 1975 but never formalized.

The UN is committed to supporting the government of Iraq in achieving their development objectives and ensuring the sustainability of development efforts. To this end, the UN in partnership with the GoI has implemented a range of initiatives, such as the automation and modernization programme of Iraqi customs, which is entirely funded by the Government of Iraq. The UN also prioritizes capacity building activities for national partners, such as the peer-to-peer training programme focused on developing the skills and capabilities of 60 technical and extension workers from the Ministry of Agriculture and Ninawa Governorate. This programme employs innovative technologies in the process of developing the livestock value chain, which increases income in the agricultural sector.

Photo |FAO |IRAQ

In 2022, the UN in Iraq made significant strides in working closely with civil society organizations. Not content with merely partnering in the delivery of programmes, the UN went a step further and helped to build the capacity of these organizations while also amplifying their voices.

Photo |ITC |IRAQ

One standout example of this collaboration was the partnership with the Iraqi Federation of Medical Students. Together, they worked tirelessly to raise awareness about the critical role of vaccines in protecting children and saving lives. The fruits of their labour were nothing short of astounding as this initiative managed to reach an incredible 90% of children under the age of 5 with the third dose of diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus (DTP), as well as the first dose of measles vaccine. This was the highest coverage rate in two decades, and it would not have been possible without the UN's partnership with civil society organizations like the Iraqi Federation of Medical Students.

Another important area of collaboration with civil society has been peacebuilding and social cohesion, working to strengthen partnerships with local communities and organizations in conflict-affected areas. To this effect, the UN has partnered with religious and community leaders to create safe spaces for dialogue with youth and local authorities that help build trust and foster understanding and cooperation among different groups.

The UN provided structured support to the Government's efforts for the promotion and protection of human rights in accordance with the Constitution of Iraq and its international commitments. The work undertaken in this important thematic area contributes to the UN's objective of sustainable peace, security and development, strengthens the rule of law, and enhances measures for conflict prevention, building social cohesion and respect for human rights.

For example, the UN structured engagement with minority youth and marginalized groups enabled increased awareness and concerted action by civil society to engage with the UN and the GOI for the adoption of measures to promote social cohesion and peaceful co-existence. To that end, the UN organized a series five workshops in five governorates attended by youth from various religious and ethnic groups on basic human rights concepts and a range of storytelling methodologies, including short digital film making, cartoon development, and photography within the framework of a Peace Narratives project.

Between October and December 2022, the UN organized five roundtables in five governorates, to promote protection for minorities, peaceful co-existence and voluntary safe return of internally displaced persons to their places of origin, representing Faili Kurds, Arabs, Armenians, Chaldean Assyrian, Iraqis of African Descent, Turkmen, Yazidis and Sabean Mandeans providing a platform for

Photo |OHCHR |IRAQ

sharing ideas and discussing challenges facing Iraq's societal components and recommending solutions to these issues.

The UNs' partnership with International Financial Institutions (IFIs) has continued to evolve, particularly on advocacy surrounding critical topics such as social protection networks and the National Budget. Moreover, the UN has worked closely with the World Bank Group to coordinate development donors in Iraq. Other areas of strong collaboration has been durable solutions for internally displaced persons and improving healthcare.

By fostering these partnerships with the Government of Iraq, Civil Society Organizations and International Financial Institutions, the UN is helping to build a stronger, more sustainable Iraq for all.[1]

[1] Refer to annex 1 for list of partners

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CHAPTER ONE

KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN COUNTRY AND REGIONAL CONTEXT

1.1. Key Development Trends and Emerging Issues

To align the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) with the National Development Plan, in 2022, the United Nations supported the Government of Iraq and people in need by reconstruction and restoration of houses and public infrastructure upgrades, addressed the environment, and climate change related issues, economic development, and provided access to essential services to achieve durable solutions for people in need. Further, support was provided to operationalize the SDGs to overcome the challenges related to the strategic development priorities set by the government and achieve the SDGs Agenda 2030.

Photo |UNDP |IRAQ

In 2023, the United Nations will continue supporting the government on the peacebuilding, development and resilience commitments to address the challenges that contribute to sustainable development, implement Iraq Vision 2030 priorities, and operationalize the related SDGs. The UN, will continue supporting the Government of Iraq and the Committee on Sustainable Development (NCSD).

The UN will continue assisting the Government of Iraq to provide support to the most vulnerable populations, such as persons with disabilities, internally displaced persons in and out of camps, and the returnees the in the areas of return. The support will be multi-dimensional such as human rights, economic growth, good governance and decentralization, support to housing, infrastructure repair, food insecurity, health, upgrade of water,

Photo |FAO |IRAQ

hygiene and sanitation facilities, access to basic services, housing, land and property, explosive ordnance contamination, decentralization, environment and climate change adaptation, child protection, empowerment of civil society, and freedom of press.

Iraq is in the transition stage from pure humanitarian response to durable solutions five years after the conclusion of large-scale military operations against ISIL in 2017. The humanitarian situation in Iraq has improved considerably, with a notable decline in the number of people requiring humanitarian assistance from a high of 11 million people in 2017 to 2.5 million in 2022. In addition, the successful conduct of democratic elections in October 2021, combined with the rebounding of state revenues by early 2022, have enabled the Government of Iraq (GoI) and the Kurdistan Region Government (KRG) to have a substantially improved position to deliver basic services of quality, and protection to its own population, including displaced and returnee populations.

Photo |UNMAS |IRAQ

With the emergence of crises in other countries where more acute needs overwhelm local capacities, annual international funding for humanitarian assistance in Iraq started to decline rapidly and is only expected to continue decreasing in the coming years. After reaching a total of $1.8 billion in 2016 during the lead-up to the GoI retaking Mosul, and four subsequent years of being the best-funded appeal globally with over 95 per cent of the funding requirements met, the 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan for Iraq was just 63 per cent funded, and the 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan reached 84 per cent by the end of December 2022, after swinging around 60 per cent for most of the year.

Photo |IOM |IRAQ

Considering the reduction in humanitarian needs, coupled with the decline in international funding received by humanitarian actors operating in Iraq, the Humanitarian Country Team agreed in December 2021 that it is time for the humanitarian response to be transitioned toward sustainable development with an increasing role of the Government as a primary duty bearer.

Stories from the field

Al-Muhra is a force of nature, and she is determined to be heard. At 27 years old, she is a graduate of the Department of Banking and Financial Sciences with a bachelor's degree in Management and Economics. She lives in the Salah Al-Din Governorate's Al-Alam district with her parents and siblings.

UN Women provided the financial assistance and technical skills and experience to an NGO to run the courses effectively. “The training provided me with a strong incentive to learn practical methods and techniques for promoting peace in the community where I live, as well as increased my determination to succeed,” she explained.

Photo |UN Women |IRAQ

Al-Muhra is following a plan for her future that will see her ambitions realized to become an officer and a female innovator.
She believes that participation in the project improved her self-confidence, but it also drives her to take these new skills in leadership, conflict resolution, and dialogue diplomacy to bring about positive changes in her community so everybody can live a more harmonious life.

1.2. Achievements in Thematic Areas

Youth

The UN assisted the Ministry of Youth and Sports in developing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for an educational programme that addresses adolescents and youth with disabilities in youth centres. The SOPs were developed collaboratively with youth centre staff, governmental representatives, and youth with disabilities to ensure their expectations, views, and participation were considered.

The UN supported the organization of two rounds of capacity development training of trainers (ToT) for 23 Primary Health Care Centres (PHCC) staff coming from the 10 priority governorates, resulting in the capacity building of health care staff to address adolescent health issues, provide youth-friendly services, promote healthy lifestyles, and address mental health concerns.

Photo |UNFPA |IRAQ

Subsequently, the trained staff conducted a cascade five-day capacity development training for 90 PHCC staff in their respective governorates,

Photo |UNFPA |IRAQ

resulting in 5,366 adolescents and youths receiving counselling and referral services through the PHCCs on health issues, including family planning and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR).

Young people received counselling and referral services on sexual and reproductive health and psychological services through two free helpline counselling services for adolescents and youth in the Central South and the Kurdistan region of Iraq.

Knowledge and skills necessary of schoolteachers to address SRH issues in the classroom, promote healthy behaviours, and prevent early marriage among adolescents was development through capacity training of trainers (ToT).

Women

The United Nations continued efforts for the protection of women and their full engagement in all spheres of equality and inclusivity, which are integral to development. The UNCT advocacy and dialogue with authorities in Federal Iraq, the Kurdistan Regional Government, and civil society, enabled strategic engagement on accountability for gender-based violence against women, the administration of justice, increased representation, and meaningful participation of women in decision-making processes and their active contribution in promoting a non-discriminatory and inclusive Iraqi society. The engagement was elaborated through four consultative workshops conducted between June and September 2022. In 2022, the UN collaborated with 114 women-led organizations in Baghdad, Basra, Erbil, Kirkuk and Mosul, reaching out to and working closely with women's rights organizations and groups for the protection of women's rights.

The high-level policy dialogue by the UN in collaboration with the Kurdistan Regional Judicial Council and the High Council for Women and Development on accountability for criminal violence against women and girls in domestic settings highlighted the challenges faced in the administration of justice. It proposed recommendations on promoting accountability that were elaborated through four consultative workshops conducted between June and September 2022. The dialogue led to a commitment by the authorities to increase the number of female judges working in domestic violence courts and to mandate the Directorate of Combating Violence Against Women to investigate criminal violence against women and girls.

Photo |OHCHR |IRAQ

In 2022, focused group discussions and workshops with at least 1,100 female survivors in the IDP camps in Duhok empowered survivors of conflict-related sexual violence to claim their rights and rebuild their lives as active members of Iraqi society. The vision developed through this engagement will enhance the engagement of the international community and the United Nations to support survivors of conflict-related sexual violence.

Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA)

In 2022, a total 65 cases of alleged SEA were recorded in Iraq, up from a total of 16 cases in 2021. Twenty four of these cases were referred to the PSEA Coordinator and in 11 of these cases (45.3%) the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Coordinator/Network responded within 7 days or less. PSEA trainings were provided to UN staff members, affiliated personnel, and partners and in 2022. Ninety percent of personnel of the PSEA Network members in 2022 undertook mandatory PSEA training and 83% have personnel trained on SEA guidelines and protocols for victim/survivor-centred investigations. An estimated 380,281 persons were engaged through PSEA awareness-raising activities and community mobilization and 91% of the total target population of PSEA Network members have access to SEA reporting channels.

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CHAPTER TWO

UN Development System Support to National Development Priorities Through the Cooperation Framework

2.1. Overview of Cooperation Framework Results

SP1: Achieving Social Cohesion, Protection and Inclusion

The UN developed a response plan to prevent and respond to gender-based violence (GBV), and a GBV data management system was implemented.

The UN helped secure a land tenure legal decree that was approved by the Council of Ministers that will provide stability and security to the Yazidi community in Iraq.

The UN continues its support to young people through the Young People's Advisory Group (YPAG) and the U-Report platforms through which they engage on issues such as climate change, social cohesion topics and mental health.

The UN enhanced the capacity of national mine action which promotes protection and contributes to establishing peaceful societies in affected regions.

Output Indicator 1.1.1-1: Number of social protection policies and legislation adopted or amended.

Photo | UN HABITAT | IRAQ

SP2: Growing the Economy for All

UN achievements include publishing the first Labour Force Survey in over a decade, as well as policies on labour inspection, occupational safety and health (OSH), and employment, and drafting the new National Employment Policy for Iraq.

The UN facilitated Iraq's ten-year education strategy and improved the quality of education in technical universities, supported Iraq's White Paper for reform implementation, and reached direct beneficiaries through livelihoods support. The UN also facilitated the development of two market-led sector strategies, improving income opportunities for farmers and providing skills for employability and entrepreneurship. Provided young people with business and social entrepreneurship opportunities, digital skills, and life skills in six governorates, supported the Ministry of Agriculture in reviewing the National Food Security Strategy, and restored irrigation infrastructure.

The UN also created jobs through the Enterprise Development Fund and cash for work, supporting young people who attended vocational training courses in five governorates. They also supported women's livelihood in the areas liberated from ISIL and other locations through increasing their engagement and involvement in the Iraqi mine action sector.

Photo | WFP | IRAQ

SP3: Promoting Effective, Inclusive and Efficient Institutions and Services

The UN has made significant achievements in Iraq across a range of areas, including mine action, innovation, social insurance, legislative drafting, security, animal health, food security, education, gender equality, and institutional strengthening. In the field of mine action, technical support was provided to the Directorate for Mine Action and the Iraqi Kurdistan Mine Action Agencies, and the National Mine Action Standard was updated to align with international standards.

In the area of innovation, the UN mapped innovative and digitalized local solutions and conducted studies to strengthen systems and institutional capacities.

Photo |UNESCO |IRAQ

The Social Insurance Management Information System was developed and staff trained to use it, and 567 government officials were trained in legislative drafting and related areas. The UN also trained police officers and officials on a range of topics, including improving the effectiveness of local police, and prosecuting organized financial crime cases. The UN supported veterinary services and water management, and collected and disseminated data on shocks and livelihoods.

The UN also improved access to nutritious food and education for school-age children, strengthened government capacities for managing a national school feeding programme, and improved services through gender-sensitive, evidence-based, and

Photo |FAO |IRAQ

inclusive legislation and policies. The UN also enhanced government capacity for coordinating, monitoring, and reporting on the implementation of the SDGs, and promoted female demining and explosive ordnance disposal.

The UN provided institutional capacity building to the Iraqi High Electoral Commission and trained NGOs to use the Self-Assessment Tool resulting in improved accountability.

The UN Accelerator Lab in Iraq achieved several goals during the 2022, including using innovative methodologies like behavioural insights and co-creating local solutions to strengthen the innovation ecosystem and promote entrepreneurship. They also focused on environmental responsibility through the "Step4Climate" initiative, and responded to digitalization by implementing blended learning teaching methods curricula in Iraqi universities. Overall, the Lab's efforts aimed to enhance employment opportunities, support policy implementation, foster environmental awareness, and promote technological upskilling in Iraq.

Output Indicator 3.1.1-b: Number of information and knowledge products (SOPs, guidelines etc.) developed.

SP4: Promoting Natural Resources and Disaster Risk Management

Despite the challenges posed by the country, several joint initiatives have been implemented to build capacities for the management of systemic multiple hazard risks (linking epidemics, climate, disaster, conflict and food chain threats), including strengthening disaster and climate risk governance mechanisms in line with SDG 13 and 15. As a result of the support provided to the government, and in line with the National Determined Contribution (NDC), the UN contributed to the discussion on the Green Paper, NAMA, and National Environment Strategy, supported the preparation of the workshop on managing water resources inside Iraq organized by Bahr Al-Olom Forum, the preparation of the National Conference on Climate Change and Environment, and government participation in COP 27.

To address the adverse effects of climate change, which will further increase the exposure and vulnerability of the Iraqi people to natural and man-made hazards with severe consequences for their lives, GDP and livelihoods, the UN has been working with the Government of Iraq to reverse land degradation processes, and conserve and sustainably manage land and water resources in degraded marshland ecosystems in Southern Iraq.

Photo |UNHCR |IRAQ

Moving towards achieving SDG 6 and 7, in response to the climate crisis including water scarcity, programmes have been successfully implemented across the country to improve access to safe and quality water, diversify energy, alleviate pressure on natural resources, and tackle waste management through stronger partnerships with the private sector, innovative technologies, and engagement of youth.

To strengthen adaptation and resilience measures against climate change, a national climate change risk

Photo |FAO |IRAQ

assessment was conducted. The study presents results for three regions, Southern Marshes eco-region, the Persian Gulf and the Shatt Al-Arab eco-region. The study provides analysis on the socio-economic impact of climate change resulting from increasing temperatures, sea level rise, climate induced health issues, and growing dust and sandstorms due to reduced precipitation.

The government, with UN support, completed the first ever Climate Landscape Analysis for Children and Young People.

Target=1 M, Reached=1.5 M in 2022

Outcome Indicator 4.1-1: Official development assistance and public expenditure on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

SP5: Achieving Dignified, Safe and Voluntary Durable Solutions to Displacement in Iraq

The UN continued rehabilitation of infrastructure in the liberated governorates, through its flagship stabilization portfolio, to facilitate the return of IDPs. The UN also provided services to support community preparedness and the reintegration of IDPs and those perceived to be affiliated with ISIL.

Photo |UNMAS |IRAQ

The UN contributed to capacity development programmes for service providers working with the most vulnerable population groups in displacement areas, including case management, referral services, and special programmes for persons with disabilities. Thematic surveys were conducted on the status of women and girls, covering displacement areas, to provide high-quality raw data as evidence to help set proper programmes to support these population groups. The UN also highlighted potential action plans to cope with natural climate change crises and expected impact on women and girls' population groups, and provided technical support to the Government of Iraq to revise the population policy that also included an output related to stabilization and resilience choices to promote investment in human capital for development.

Photo |UNHCR |IRAQ

The UN also contributed to coordinating national-level durable solutions coordination, guided the preparation and finalization of eight plans of action by the Area-Based Coordination groups across eight targeted governorates, and transitioned from humanitarian to durable solutions and development solutions beyond 2022. Additionally, UN contributed to enhancing the GoI mine action mechanisms through support to an international donor conference.

Moreover, The UN supported the participation of the Government of Iraq at the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) and the submission of the Voluntary National Review, obtained the approval of Ninewa and Salah-ah Din Directorate's of Education to allow undocumented children to continue with their education and obtain official diplomas, continued to work closely with the Government in drafting Iraq's National Suicide Prevention Strategy, and provided critical support to The Yazidi Survivors Law (YSL) implementing body Directorate for Survivors Affairs.

The UN provided IDPs, IDP returnees, and other vulnerable populations with legal aid, counselling, and representation to address obstacles linked to obtaining or renewing civil documents. Joint UN advocacy with the MoLSA in Baghdad on complex cases of children with missing civil documents and the recommendations for adopting best interest procedures (BIP) (BIA/BID) recommendations in lieu of DNA testing is ongoing.

Output Indicator 5.1.5.a: Number of social cohesion initiatives supported at the national and local level.

2.2. Cooperation Framework Priorities, Outcomes and Outputs

SP1: Achieving Social Cohesion, Protection, and Inclusion

Strengthened and effective policies and national systems

Outcome1

- The UN developed a response plan to prevent and respond to gender-based violence (GBV) in Iraq, which was approved by the government. The UN is also supporting national institutions in addressing GBV and implementing a GBV data management system.
- The UN has made progress in securing land tenure rights for the Yazidi minority in Sinjar. A legal decree was approved by the Council of Ministers of Iraq in 2022. The implementation of this decree is expected to provide stability and security to the Yazidi community in Iraq.

Photo |WHO |IRAQ

- Draft social security laws in both Federal Iraq and Kurdistan Region of Iraq, building on a series of analysis to support the legal reform process, and consultations. The draft social security law in KRI is in the Shura Council and will be adopted by parliament soon.

Equitable and sustainable access to quality protection and social protection systems and services

Outcome2

- School-age children benefited from the increased capacities of the national Government to manage a national school feeding programme that promotes access to nutritious food, equitable education and equal opportunities

Effective mechanisms that prevent, mitigate, and manage conflict, and contribute to social cohesion and peaceful coexistence

Outcome3

- Young people registered on the U-Report platform in 2022 and engaged on issues such as climate change, social cohesion topics and mental health, also via offline and online platforms they were engaged in national decision-making processes and in social and advocacy initiatives.
- The young People's Advisory Group (YPAG) platform was further scaled up and supported by the UN. The National Youth Volunteering Programme operationalized in 2022, enabled young people to engage with NGOs, the private sector and local networks.

Key Constraints

- Bureaucratic system, and lack of availability of government entities to be part of capacity development interventions of advocacy initiatives and of programmatic issues in general.
- Social norms remain an obstacle such as harmful practices, child marriage and other social and cultural norms.
- Funding is still one of the major challenges that continues to significantly impact the continuity of the planned activities.
- Coordination between Governmental and CSO partners tends to be challenging.

Progress in reaching those left behind

- UN reached 264,189 beneficiaries through holistic service provision of GBV, including case management, referrals, awareness raising and distribution of commodities, in particular, dignity kits.
- UN developed the GBV Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the police sector in 2021 and rolled it out in 2022 to Federal police stations. In addition, the UN initiated the design of the SOPs for the One-Stop Assistance Centres (OSACs).
- UN provided Operational support to 7 women shelters and protection centres, 37 women community centres, 18 mobile teams, and three One-Stop Assistance Centres (OSAC), in addition to supporting 3 Hotlines in KRI.
- UN continued to support remote areas in mine action, including Sinjar district, western Anbar, and the areas bordering Iran as well as the areas east of Basra city.
- UN delivered 9,995 Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) sessions to over 96,000 Iraqis to mitigate the risk of explosive related accidents, from which more than 75% of beneficiaries were under the age of 18 years (both girls and boys). 64% of EORE beneficiaries demonstrated an increase in knowledge between unsafe and safe behaviour.
- Increased reach of boys and girls with diverse backgrounds, including IDPs, disabled, inactive and socially excluded, unemployed, unskilled young people from across Iraq.
- Establishment of nine Child Friendly and Learning Spaces in Duhok and Ninewa that led to 5,113 children (3,750 in Ninewa and 1,363 in Duhok) to access mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services and recreational activities that have been provided through these centres with the aim to prevent child labour.

SP2: Growing the Economy for All

Economic policies and legislation

Outcome1

- The UN contributed to the development and publication of the National Labour Force Survey (LFS), which provides data to inform evidence-based economic policies and legislation for inclusive, gender-sensitive economic growth. The UN also facilitated the endorsement of labour inspection and occupational safety and health (OSH) policies by the Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs of Federal Iraq and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI).
- The UN facilitated the improvement of five vocational schools to achieve the Centres of Vocational Excellence standards, as part of Iraq's 10-year education strategy, including Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).
- The UN supported the development of market-led sector strategies to improve the competitiveness of high potential sectors in agriculture, such as poultry and tomatoes, and contributed to the restoration of irrigation infrastructure for food production and livelihoods, among other initiatives.

Photo |ITC |IRAQ

Access to and engagement in economic activities

Outcome2

Photo |FAO |IRAQ

- Direct job opportunities were created for a total of 1,878 (751 Female) young Iraqis including IDPs and refugees through the UN's Employment Intensive Investment Programme (EIIP) and access to finance initiatives with both banks and Monetary Financial Institution (MFI) interventions.
- A total of 2,883 (45% women, 40% youth) entrepreneurs from internally displaced, refugee and host communities were reached through the UN's Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB), Gender and Entrepreneurship Together (GET Ahead) and Financial Education (FE) skills capacity building training programmes, which enabled beneficiaries to directly engage in economic activities through employment and self-employment activities.
- 28,300 direct beneficiaries were reached through the UN's livelihoods support programmes and interventions designed to increase resilience and provide decent livelihoods to help increase economic empowerment of vulnerable communities and enable them to improve their living conditions such as cash for work in housing, agriculture and SMEs, and cash grants- business trainings / vocational trainings.

Output Indicator 2.2.1-1 - Number of jobs and livelihood support services delivered.

Key Constraints

- Socio-economic challenges and political stalemate continue to hinder economic growth and job creation, making it difficult to overcome issues related to employment and livelihood.
- Delay in forming a new government and changes in personnel have impacted the ability of organizations to provide support and technical assistance, and delays in passing new laws further complicate matters.
- Lack of understanding of the WTO accession process and the impact of state interference on agricultural and trade policies make it challenging to achieve a market-led approach. Additionally, societal norms limiting women's participation in economic activities hinder efforts to create job opportunities for women.

Progress in reaching those left behind

- The UN reached underprivileged and marginalized groups in Iraq, such as IDPs, refugees, women, and youth through various programmes and initiatives focused on employment, skills training, and entrepreneurship.
- The UN also prioritized the economic empowerment of women and girls in Iraq through targeted interventions and partnerships with local organizations.
- The UN provided support for mine action initiatives and explosive ordnance risk education in remote areas, with a focus on reaching young beneficiaries.

SP3: Promoting Effective, Inclusive and Efficient Institutions and Services

Outcome1

Strengthened institutions and systems to deliver services

- Technical support provided to national mine action authorities, including updating National Mine Action Standards to align with International Mine Action Standards, prioritizing SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions).
- Capacity building in disease recognition, data collection and analysis, reporting and early warning systems for high-threat animal diseases, and water consumption analysis, prioritizing SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation).
- Improved access to nutritious food and education for school-age children, strengthening capacities for national school feeding programmes that promote equitable education and equal opportunities, contributing to SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities).

Photo |UNMAS |IRAQ

Outcome2

People lead, participate in and contribute to the design and delivery of equitable and responsive services

- The number of female deminers serving various sections increased following UN's promotion and encouragement to recruit more female staff members with its implementing partners.
- NGOs trained to use Self-Assessment Tool (SAT) resulting in improved accountability for delivering on their mandates.
- UN extended support to IHEC through Institutional Capacity Building Initiative via the UNAMI election unit, resulting in improved accountability for delivering on their mandates.
- Additionally, 17 NGOs were trained to use the Self-Assessment Tool (SAT), resulting in improved accountability for delivering on their mandates, and 40 CSO partnerships were achieved.

Photo |UNMAS |IRAQ

Progress in reaching those left behind

- UN conducted explosive ordnance training for women participants to empower them to protect themselves and their communities.

- The national school feeding programme provided access to quality education and nutritious food for marginalized and vulnerable school-age children, reducing disparities in educational outcomes and improving overall well-being.
- Strengthened government capacity and provided nutrition and hygiene education in schools helped address health inequalities and improved the well-being of marginalized and vulnerable populations.

Key Constraints

Photo |UNMAS |IRAQ

- Frequent changes in senior leadership of national mine action authorities pose challenges in building long-term relationships and developing multi-year strategies.
- Political and security instability in the country may hinder the delivery of services to vulnerable populations, such as school-age children, and resulted in cancellations and delays in conducting main training activities in the third quarter of 2022.
- Limited financial contributions and capacity of the national government to manage and sustain a national school feeding programme, as well as limited legal and administrative frameworks for ensuring gender and age-sensitive protection and social protection systems and services, are major challenges to the development of evidence-based, inclusive legislation and policies and the strengthening of nutrition and hygiene education and guidelines for schools.

Stories from the field

Photo |UN WOMEN |IRAQ

Marwa has no formal education and married a labourer when she was just 21 years old, giving birth to six children, one of whom has special needs. In 2016 she found herself widowed and had to flee her home with the children to escape tribal conflict when her family were accused of terrorist acts. She has resided in Khazer camp in the village of Haniyeh in Mosul since she fled her village. Her home was destroyed, and Marwa is reluctant to return to her hometown because of ongoing insecurity. She prefers to stay in the camp because she feels more secure and receives help to put food on the table with the financial assistance she receives.

Bring Hope with the support of the UN Women began running women's empowerment courses in conflict prevention and resolution strategies. Marwa was having trouble communicating with people which caused difficulty for her in resolving conflict, dealing with sometimes simple problems, and more the mundane daily challenges.

"This course has made a huge impact on my life and the lives of my family. We can learn to live in peace and the first step is to be able to provide a better environment for my children and to raise them in a loving family," she said. "I can only express my gratitude to Bring Hope for this life changing course."

SP4: Promoting Natural Resources and Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Resilience

Outcome1

Strengthened policies and frameworks for managing natural resources, developing renewable resources, and increasing resilience

- The UN is supporting Iraq's Ministry of Agriculture to review the National Food Security Strategy, formulate a Medium-Term Action Plan and regulatory framework on Animal Health to address climate change impacts on livestock disease.
- The UN is collaborating with Iraq's Ministry of Agriculture to tackle the trans-boundary phenomenon of sand and dust storms and improve city resilience in affected areas.
- The UN is providing support to Iraq's Ministry of Environment in developing sector-based National Adaptation Plans, finalizing the Second National Communication and Biennial Update Report, and enhancing the NDC Road Map.

Photo |FAO |IRAQ

Outcome2

Engagement of people, sub-national institutions, civil society, and private sector for management of natural resources and the environment

- UN supported the Government of Iraq in its efforts to achieve climate-resilient and low-emission agrifood systems, empowering rural women as agents of change for climate adaptation.
- UN also established a Climate Modelling Unit to enhance research capacity, institutional capacity building, and communicate and advocate for climate change adaptation measures to the national government. The organization engaged with communities and government institutions on sustainable soil and water management techniques through climate resilience building interventions to address challenges related to water scarcity and extreme weather events, benefiting over 20,000 individuals.

Photo |UNDP |IRAQ

- UN supported the successful introduction of an environmentally friendly wastewater treatment methodology, MBBR, with the treated wastewater being used for irrigation. The organization also scaled up innovative and climate-resilient projects for water catchment initiatives in water-stressed areas, combatting climate change and water scarcity impacts. UN worked on rehabilitating irrigation canals across the country, leading to improved crop production and household incomes. Additionally, the organization is rehabilitating three water treatment plants in Basra to ensure clean drinking water for 850,000 people.

- UN launched prefeasibility studies for the issuance of carbon credits from conservation and restoration of the marshlands and mangrove regeneration in southern Iraq, as well as afforestation and forest conservation in the Kurdistan region of Iraq.

Photo |WFP |IRAQ

- UN also worked on climate information systems and services through the strengthening of the agro-meteorological network centre within the Ministry of Agriculture to enhance their capacities and systems for anticipatory actions.
- UN engaged with communities and government institutions on sustainable soil and water management techniques through climate resilience building interventions to increase yield production and vulnerable farmers' ability to respond to climate shocks. The organization supported in climate proofing and rehabilitating irrigation canals across the country, leading to improved production of various crops and increasing household incomes.
- UN also initiated a number of evidence generation studies with various ministries, including the national drought study with the Ministry of Water Resources, to understand the phenomenon of drought in Iraq and ways to manage it.

Key Constraints

- Funding constraints were a significant barrier to achieving results in 2022. Low donor community interest to support the humanitarian response.
- Accessing climate finance in support of the development effort in Iraq remains challenging for the time being, as well as the combined application of “development funds” and “climate funds”.
- For all agencies in the group, reduction of Official Development Assistance (ODA), therefore funding constraints, changes in the government and the need to reset and restructure their priorities and budget, re-alignment of our work with the new government priorities.
- Joint programme development and fund raising with a diversity of sources (including public and private; also including development and climate funding) could help to overcome the current financial constraints while furthering sustainable development.

Progress in reaching those left behind

- The UN implemented resilient WASH programming to provide durable options for drought-prone areas, benefiting over 73,000 people and mitigating costly emergency operations.
- Almost 1.5 million people gained access to safely managed water and 437,000 gained access to safely managed sanitation through UN support for strengthening the regulatory framework and management of water supplies.
- UN’s initiatives included empowering rural women as agents of change for climate adaptation and working with human settlements and rural communities to mitigate the effects of climate change.

Photo |WFP |IRAQ

SP5: Achieving Dignified, Safe and Voluntary Durable Solutions to Protracted Displacement

Outcome1

Stabilization, development and peace building initiatives

- Continued the rehabilitation infrastructure projects across priority sectors in the liberated governorates through stabilization portfolio to facilitate the return of internally displaced persons (IDPs).
- Provided services to support community preparedness and the reintegration of IDPs and those perceived to be affiliated with ISIL.
- Survey and clearance operations were implemented. In Ninewa, clearance operations in the residential and agricultural areas were focused on enabling local farmers to plough and seed plants and on encouraging IDPs to return to their places of origin and begin reconstruction of their properties.

Photo |UNDP |IRAQ

- Provided critical support to the Yazidi Survivors Law (YSL) implementing body Directorate for Survivors Affairs (Directorate) in preparing the application procedure for survivors through which survivors' status is verified by an independent Government body. Also provided technical assistance in developing an online portal for submission of applications and rules of procedure for application review.

Outcome2

Policies, strategies and plans to achieve durable solutions

- UN, as co-chair of Durable Solutions Technical Working Group (DSTWG), mandated with national-level durable solutions (DS) coordination, guided the preparation and finalization of eight plans of action by the Area-Based Coordination (ABC) groups across eight targeted governorates.
- Conducted national and local assessments on reintegration and violent extremism. These assessments include a perception survey on the reintegration of people perceived to have been affiliated with ISIL, women's role in preventing violent extremism, challenges women and children face for being perceived to have been affiliated with ISIL when reintegrating into communities, citizens' experience of armed conflict, reintegration, and community stakeholders' efforts in support of reintegration to inform UN's future programming.

Photo |FAO |IRAQ

- Contributed against the Cephalopelvic Disproportion (CPD) to promote and strengthen setting up national procedures that will contribute later to serve the most vulnerable population groups as in supporting the development of the national procedure to adapt the women protection centre, and developing and designing an inclusive programme to estimate the scores for the progress and planning for the young population.

- As co-chairs of DSTWG and Durable Solutions Task Force (DSTF), UN contributed to jointly coordinating – across the development partners in the respective coordination forums.
- Also supported the participation of the Government of Iraq at the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) and the submission of the Voluntary National Review.

Key Constraints

- While there were notable improvements in many areas of Iraq, the UN continued to face security challenges, which delayed stabilization interventions - project initiations and completions in addition to the high cost of project monitoring. As part of its mitigation strategy, UN collaborated with the GoI at federal governorates and through its Iraqi staff based in/from these challenging areas to facilitate project monitoring.
- Despite some success in engaging local governmental bodies, UN's CSOs partners continue to note that they still experience difficulty accessing central government officials, particularly elected representatives. As a result, social cohesion and social sustainability and reconciliation of communities hinder the return of displaced communities to their areas of origin. However, UN will continue utilizing established and operational community mechanisms such as the local peace committees and women and youth groups to facilitate strategic dialogue among Iraqi CSOs and the GoI through its central and local authorities across Iraq.
- Old procedures of the national system for managing programmes need modernization.
- The national budget allocation system based on itemization needs to be modernized to a programming budget to increase the capacity of national entities to design their own budgets flexibly in response to programmatic needs.

Progress in reaching those left behind

- Increasingly focused on gender equality by strengthening the integration of gender considerations into project preparation, implementation, monitoring and reporting, recognizing that women and girls, representing half of the population, are especially vulnerable in conflict situations, often bearing a disproportionate burden in the post-conflict process, having a key role in building lasting peace, resilient communities, and sustainable development.
- Continued to strengthen the social inclusion of vulnerable groups, including integrating Persons with Disabilities in its stabilization efforts by factoring components of access-for-all and universal design principles into social infrastructure and housing facilities.

Photo |UNFPA |IRAQ

- Through an evidence-based programming approach, UN continued its stabilization efforts where the conditions have been and continue to be the most severe to ensure that even in different or hard-to-reach communities, no one is left behind.
- A shift from stabilization to increased development focus occurred in the UN, Mine action operation model, and operational activities moved to residential and agricultural areas to support safe and dignified returns.
- UN support GOI to develop strategies (population, family planning) focusing on the thematic procedures and solutions that assure left no one is behind, invest in human capital, reduce maternity death, commit lifesaving and birth spacing.

2.3. Cooperation Framework Financial Summary 2020-2024 ($)

SPs Percentage of CF Budget

Required Vs Mobilized Budget

	Required	Mobilized	%
SP1	1.38 B	1.11 B	80%
SP2	330 M	210 M	64%
SP3	539 M	390 M	72%
SP4	226 M	143 M	63%
SP5	1.48 B	911 M	61%
Total	**3.97 B**	**2.76 B**	**70%**

SP1 Social Cohesion

Outcome	Required	Mobilized	%
1.1	220 M	146 M	66%
1.2	991 M	843 M	85%
1.3	173 M	121 M	70%

SP2 Economy

Outcome	Required	Mobilized	%
2.1	147 M	77 M	52%
2.2	182 M	133 M	73%

SP4 Climate change

Outcome	Required	Mobilized	%
4.1	81 M	37 M	46%
4.2	144 M	106 M	73%

SP3 Services

Outcome	Required	Mobilized	%
3.1	358 M	254M	71%
3.2	181 M	136M	75%

SP5 Durable Solutions

Outcome	Required	Mobilized	%
5.1	1.4 B	853M	61%
5.2	83 M	58 M	70%

Figures and analysis shown in this document are based on data extracted from UN INFO.

Top 4 Provinces in 2022 Budget with Top 3 Outcomes in Each

The geographic delivery of programming in 2022 reflects the UNSDCF's emphasis on technical assistance for government ministries, which are based in Baghdad. It was also consistent with the priorities established in the revised UNSDCF (2021), which emphasized stabilization and reconstruction in those governorates most affected by war to enable the return of IDPs.

Province	Budget % of CF	Required $	Mobilized $	Outcome - See below	Required $	Mobilized $
Ninewa	11%	85 M	59 M	5.1	49 M	34 M
				1.2	14 M	10 M
				3.1	4 M	2 M
Al-Anbar	11%	84 M	60 M	5.1	39 M	24 M
				1.2	14 M	10 M
				2.2	10 M	9 M
Baghdad	10%	76 M	46 M	3.2	17 M	15 M
				5.1	11 M	6 M
				3.1	10 M	5 M
Salah Al-Din	8%	63 M	40 M	5.1	39 M	24 M
				1.2	8 M	5 M
				3.1	3 M	1 M

Outcome 1.2	People in Iraq, particularly under-served, marginalized and vulnerable populations, have equitable and sustainable access to quality gender- and age-responsive protection and social protection systems and services.
Outcome 2.2	People in Iraq have strengthened capacity, enabling inclusive access to and engagement in economic activities
Outcome 3.1	Strengthened institutions and systems deliver people-centred, evidence and needs-based equitable and inclusive gender- and age-responsive services, especially for the most vulnerable populations, with particular focus on advocating for women's leadership in decision-making processes.
Outcome 3.2	People in Iraq, civil society and communities, particularly women, have improved capacity to lead, participate in and contribute to the design and delivery of equitable and responsive services, especially for the most vulnerable populations.
Outcome 5.1	Strengthened stabilization, development and peacebuilding initiatives support area-based interventions in locations of displacement, return or relocation to enhance the achievement of voluntary, safe and dignified durable solutions for displacement-affected populations. or displacement-affected populations.

2.4. Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda

The United Nations in Iraq is making significant efforts to leverage support and secure financing for the 2030 Agenda. One of the critical components of these efforts is forming partnerships with the private sector, which includes supporting the creation of public-private partnerships. Equally important has been the partnership with civil society and NGOs to advance Agenda 2030. These partnerships are crucial for advancing the 2030 Agenda in Iraq as they contribute resources, expertise, and innovative solutions towards this goal while the UN shares knowledge and best practices supporting the development of local capacities.

Outcome-Required vs Mobilized Budget 2020-2024

Capacity building has been a crucial aspect of the UN's strategy in supporting economic growth and job creation. Efforts such as the development of a new higher education curriculum and programmes, in-person vocational, and on-the-job training have been launched with the Lebanese American University, Toyota, and seven technical universities in Iraq and Kurdistan Region.

Partnerships with PepsiCo have facilitated support for farmers in Iraq who have been impacted by conflict and climate change. The partnership has helped build a more sustainable agricultural supply chain in the region, supporting the Government of Iraq in reaching its Zero Hunger goal.

Similarly, the UN has partnered with local private sector suppliers to support the Ministry of Education School Feeding Programme, which has reached out to around 450,000 school-age children. These efforts have brought the country one step closer towards achieving the 2030 Agenda's goals and making a positive impact on the lives of the Iraqi people.

Photo |WFP |IRAQ

The UN in Iraq has also facilitated support for youth entrepreneurship and start-ups through partnerships with Asiacell. This partnership has led to the development of an online platform designed to connect entrepreneurs with potential investors, providing an opportunity for them to access the necessary resources to bring their business ideas to life.

How the UN Contributed to the SDGs in 2022

Delivery of SDGs was calculated based on 2022 expenditure

Stories From the field

Abdul Jabbar and his family were displaced due to the conflict in Anbar's Hit district, and upon returning, they faced the devastating impact of the war on their home and land. With a dysfunctional irrigation system, they were unable to farm or water their animals. The United Nations intervened and rehabilitated the Al-Muhamedi Irrigation Station, providing access to water for approximately 3,500 farmers, including Abdul Jabbar and his family.

Photo | UNHCR | IRAQ

With the irrigation system back in operation, they could farm their land and water their animals again, giving them hope for a better life. UNHCR's intervention had a significant impact on the agriculture sector and the livelihoods of those who depend on it in the region.

2.5. Evaluations and Lessons Learned

- Strengthening partnerships with the government is key to achieving results in economic development, and technical assistance should be aligned with the government's priorities and needs.
- Creating a market-based system that supports economic growth and development requires raising awareness and engaging key stakeholders.
- Organizations need to work together and leverage each other's strengths to create effective and sustainable outcomes that benefit all Iraqis.
- The increasing magnitude of extreme weather events continues to affect the planet. As a result, the UN has increasingly factored in climate mitigation and response approaches in its stabilization and other development efforts in support of permanent solutions and long-term development plans.

Photo |WHO |IRAQ

- Increase the support for public sector reforms that would help to cope with the consequences of the humanitarian crisis and bring modern methodologies to serve the most vulnerable population groups.
- Increase the evidence-based programmes to estimate and check the programmes' impact and highlight their strength and weakness.
- Follow up on the progress and approvals of the legal amendments and implementation of the laws/decrees, decisions, etc.
- Systematizing youth engagement and building platforms and systems for their participation is central to long-term impact.
- Iraq's agricultural and trade policy ecosystems reflect a still nascent concept of a market-based system. UN will continue its efforts to raise awareness on its market-based approach, strengthen institutional capacities through advisory and technical support, and find ways to engage and mobilize key stakeholders in this process.

Photo |UN-Habitat|IRAQ

- Transitioning from humanitarian assistance to development nexus: Expertise is much needed to fill the gaps in terms of job creation, skills development, formalization, MSMEs and private sector development, while also addressing decent work deficits.
- Addressing the root causes of vulnerability and exclusion requires a multi-sectoral approach that integrates education, nutrition, health, and protection interventions.
- Scaling up successful interventions, particularly those that have demonstrated impact and sustainability, to reach more people and expand coverage.
- The adoption of cost-effective and sustainable solar-powered systems instead of diesel-powered water supply systems has helped reduce greenhouse gas emission and led to a cleaner environment.

Photo |OHCHR|IRAQ

2.6. Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization

In 2022, the United Nations agencies, funds, and programmes in Iraq made remarkable progress in securing funding for their development activities. The UN achieved an impressive 65% funding rate for its 2022 UNSDCF budget. The most successful endeavors were those focused on protection and social cohesion (Strategic Priority 1), which has now secured 76% of the resources mobilized for its total budget.

However, despite the fact that activities revolving around Durable Solutions (Strategic Priority 5) had so far mobilized a staggering USD 180 million, the fact remains that their resource mobilization lags behind the rest of the UNSDCF strategic priorities, with only 57% of resources mobilized.

SPs	Required (USD)	Mobilized (USD)	%
SP1	218 M	165 M	76%
SP2	70 M	49 M	70%
SP3	119 M	82 M	69%
SP4	51 M	32 M	62%
SP5	318 M	180 M	57%
Total	**777 M**	**509 M**	**65%**

At this critical time, where Iraq is phasing out humanitarian assistance to its population and transitioning to development activities, this funding shortage for activities related to durable solutions may have a negative impact on service delivery for internally displaced persons and host communities, potentially triggering instability and affecting social cohesion.

Delivery rate of a strategic priority equals expended amount over its funded amount.

SP	Mobilized (USD)	Expenditure (USD)	%Delivery Rate
SP1	165 M	123 M	74%
SP2	49 M	18 M	36%
SP3	82 M	46 M	56%
SP4	32 M	20 M	65%
SP5	180 M	69 M	38%
Total	**509 M**	**275 M**	**54%**

The UN continued to face significant hindrances in its delivery efforts in Iraq, including political deadlock, access restrictions, and security challenges. The total planned budget for all UNSDCF Strategic Priorities (SPs) in 2022 was around USD 777 million, covering all UN Agencies, Funds, and Programmes. At the end of 2022 an average of 54% of the available budget was delivered, though the delivery rate varied by Strategic Priority, with SP 1 performing the best at 74% of its available budget delivered, followed by SP4 with 65%.

CHAPTER THREE

UNCT KEY FOCUS FOR NEXT YEAR

The Programme Management Team (PMT) and United Nations Country Team (UNCT) agreed to update and condense the Iraq Common Country Analysis (CCA) to reflect up-to-date data, priorities, and recommendations, which is expected to be finalized by May 2023.

Further, the UNCT and the government of Iraq is holding a workshop to introduce the main findings of the UNCT Common Country Assessment, review the progress on the achievements of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), and review our Joint Work Plan (JWP) to ensure alignment with the new Government's programme for the next 18 months. The review recommendations and JWP will be presented at the Joint Steering Committee meeting for endorsement.

The Government of Iraq and the UNCT are collaborating to assign the co-chairs of the Priority Working Groups on the five strategic priority areas of the UNSDCF.

The PMT and Priority Working Groups (PWGs) are also in the process of finalizing the data of the Joint Work Plan 1.0 and launching the Joint Work Plan 2.0 for UN INFO, which reflects the efforts of the UN work and identifies the most pertinent data for decision-making and reporting. JWP2.0 will focus on further alignment of outcome and output indicators to the global SDG standard indicators as recommended by HQ. Further, it has markers for Gender, Human Rights and Peace and Disability, contains the geographic location of activities, and donor information.

Photo |UNHCR|IRAQ

Durable Solutions

The Durable Solutions Strategic Priority was included in the UNSDCF to ensure that Durable Solutions is provided to people in need and is viable. UNSDCF incorporated the Durable Solutions Task Force (DSTF) as a coordinating body and will align coordination and implementation efforts in line with the National Plan – developed with the MoMD- as well as the Strategic Operational Framework.

In close coordination with local authorities, the international partners will provide technical support to the affected communities through the Durable Solution Task Working Groups (DSTWG) and Area Based Coordination (ABC) across different governorates and districts to ensure that rights of displaced populations are fully protected and included into national social protection schemes and durable solutions.

Photo |WFP|IRAQ

SDG Working Group

The SDG Working Group continues to support the Government of Iraq in adoption of the SDGs and implementation and monitoring the 2030 Agenda. It is focused on facilitating the understanding of the SDGs implementation, monitoring, existing challenges, opportunities and priority areas in Iraq, and will advocate for SDGs mainstreaming in all sectors as well as supporting the compilation of Voluntary National Review. The digital platform "Iraq Forum for SDGs" on the localization and to monitor the progress on the SDGs in Iraq will be supported as well to collect evidenced based data, monitor, report on SDGs and demonstrate a coordination mechanism for collecting information on projects and activities.

Photo |ILO|IRAQ

ACRONYMS

ABC	Area Based Coordination
AFP	Agency Focal Point
BOS	Business Operations Strategy
CCA	Common Country Analysis
CP	Common Premises
CPD	Cephalopelvic Disproportion
CSO	Community Service Organization
DS	Durable Solutions
DSTF	Durable Solutions Task Force
DSTWG	Durable Solution Task Working Groups
DTP	Diphtheria, Pertussis, and Tetanus
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission. for Western Asia
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GCM	Global Compact for Migration
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GoI	Government of Iraq
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IFIs	International Financial Institutions
IHEC	Independent High Electoral Commission
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMRF	International Migration Review Forum
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ISIL	Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant
ITC	International Trade Centre
JSC	Joint Steering Committee
JWP	Joint Work Plan
KRG	Kurdistan Regional Government
KRI	Kurdistan Region of Iraq
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoCH	Ministry of Municipalities & Public Works
MoCUL	Ministry of Culture
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoI	Ministry of Interior
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MoLSA	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
MoMD	Ministry of Migration and Displacement
MoP	Ministry of Planning
MoT	Ministry of Trade
MoWR	Ministry of Water Resources
MoYS	Ministry of Youth & Sports
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
NDC	National Determined Contribution
NCSD	National Committee on Sustainable Development

ACRONYMS

NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NCSD	National Committee on Sustainable Development
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OMT	Operations Management Team
OSH	Occupational Safety and Health
PHCC	Primary Health Care Centres
PMT	Programme Management Team
PSEA	Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
PWG	Priority Work Group
RCO	Resident Coordinator Office
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SP	Strategic Priority
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
ToT	Training of Trainers
UN	United Nations
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment
UNAMI	United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nation International Children's Emergency Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNMAS	United Nations Mine Action Service
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
UNSDG	United Nations Sustainable Development Group
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WB	World Bank
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization
YPAG	Young People Advisory Group
YSL	Yazidi Survivors Law

ANNEX I: UN Partners

Government Partners

#	Ministries/ Departments	Agencies Working With	Logo	#	Ministries/ Departments	Agencies Working With	Logo
1	Central Bureau of Statistics, research institutes	ILO; UN-Habitat; ESCWA; UNFPA		11	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	ILO; OHCHR	MoFA
2	Kurdistan Region Statistics Office (KRSO)	UNFPA; FAO		12	Ministry of Health	FAO; UNICEF; UNFPA; UNHCR; WFP; WHO; UNDP	MoH
3	Ministry of Agriculture	FAO; WFP; ESCWA; ITC	MoA	13	Ministry of Interior	UNICEF; UNHCR; WFP; UNMAS; UNDP	MoI
4	Ministry of Communication	ESCWA	MoC	14	Ministry of Justice	UNICEF; OHCHR; UNODC; UN-Habitat	MoJ
5	Ministry of Construction, Housing and Public Municipalities	UNICEF; UNDP; WHO; UNHCR; WFP; UN-Habitat; ITC	MoCH	15	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	ILO; UNICEF; UNFPA; WFP; UN WOMEN; ESCWA; ITC	MoLSA
6	Ministry of Culture & Tourism	UNICEF; UNHCR; WHO; UNESCO	MoCul	16	Ministry of Planning	FAO; UNICEF; WHO; WFP; OHCHR; UN-Habitat; ESCWA; ITC; UNFPA	MoP
7	Ministry of Education	UNICEF; UNESCO; WFP; ESCWA	MoE	17	Ministry of Trade	WFP; ESCWA; ITC	MoT
8	Ministry of Electricity	ESCWA	MoTrans	18	Ministry of Transportation	ESCWA	MoTrans
9	Ministry of Environment	ESCWA; UNEP; UNMAS	MoE	19	Ministry of Water resource	FAO; UNICEF; ESCWA	MoWR
10	Ministry of Finance	UNICEF; UNESCO; ESCWA	MoF	20	Ministry of Youth and Sports	UNICEF; ILO; UNFPA; UNESCO; WHO; UNV; ITC	MoYS

Implementing Partners

#	Implementing partners	Agencies Working With	#	Implementing partners	Agencies Working With
1	Action Against Hunger	WFP	27	Mercy Hands for Humanitarian Aid	UNDP
2	Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development	UNDP; UNHCR; WFP	28	Norwegian Refugee Council	UNHCR; ITC
3	Aid Gate Organization (AGO)	UN-Habitat	29		
4	AL-MASELLAH org for development	UNFPA	30		
5	Bab Al Karama	UNDP	31	OROKOM	WFP; UN-Habitat
6	Caritas Czech Republic	UNICEF; UNESCO; UNDP; WFP	32	OXFAM	UNDP; WFP
7	DanChurchAid	UNMAS	33	Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)	UNICEF
8	Danish Refugee Council	UNDP	34	Peace Winds Japan (PWJ)	UN-Habitat
9	Dary Human Organization	UNFPA	35	Public Aid Organization-PAO	UNESCO
10	Directorate General of Youth	UNFPA	36	RIRP	WFP; UN-Habitat
11	EADE	UN-Habitat	37	Samaritans Purse	WFP
12	Free Press Unlimited	UNESCO	38	Save the Children	UNESCO
13	Food Security Committee-FSC	FAO	39	Sorouh	UNESCO
14	General Directorate of Combating Violence against Women (GDCVAW)	UNFPA	40	Sulaimaniyah University	WFP
15	Global Clearance Solutions-GCS	UNMAS	41	SWEDO	UNICEF; UNESCO; UNHCR; WFP
16	Goal	WFP	42	TAJDID-Iraq for Development	UNFPA
17	Harikar NGO	UNFPA	43	The International Rescue Committee	UNHCR
18	Halo Trust	UNMAS	44	Trade Unions, Regional organisations	ILO
19	Handicap International	UNMAS	45	United Iraqi Medical Society (UIMS)	UNFPA
20	Human Appeal	UNICEF; UNESCO; WFP	46	WADI	UNESCO
21	Human Relief Foundation	UNDP; WFP	47	Welthungerhilfe	WFP
22	Iraqi Health Access Organization	UNFPA	48	World Vision International	UNDP; UNESCO; WFP
23	Iraqi Health and Social Care Organization	UNMAS	49	ZOA International	UNESCO
24	Islamic Relief Worldwide	UNFPA	50	ZHIAN HEALTH ORG	UNFPA
26	The Swiss Foundation for Mine Action-FSD	UNMAS			

Contributing Partners

#	Donor	Contributing To	Flag	#	Donor	Contributing To	Flag
1	Australia	IOM; UNICEF; UNDP; UNFPA; UN-Habitat; UNMAS		14	Kuwait	UN-HABITAT	
2	Austria	UNDP; UNHCR		15	Netherlands	ILO; IOM; UNICEF; UNDP; UNESCO; UNODC	
3	Belgium	FAO; UNDP; UNMAS		16	New Zealand	IOM; UNICEF; UNMAS; UNDP	
4	Canada	IOM; UNICEF; UNFPA; UNDP; UNESCO; UNMAS		17	Norway	ILO; UNICEF; UNDP; UNFPA	
5	Czech	UNICEF; UNESCO; UNMAS		18	Philippines	UNDP	
6	Denmark	IOM; UNDP		19	Qatar	IOM; UNDP; UNESCO	
7	European Union	FAO; ILO; IOM; ITC; UN WOMEN; UNICEF; UNDP; UNESCO; UNEP; UN-HABITAT; UNMAS; UNODC; UNFPA; WFP		20	Slovakia	WFP	
8	Estonia	UNMAS		21	S. Korea	IOM; UNICEF; UNDP; UN-HABITAT; UNFPA	
9	Finland	UN WOMEN; UNDP; UNMAS; UNFPA		22	Sweden	UNDP; UNESCO; UNMAS; UNFPA	
10	France	UNDP; UNMAS; UNFPA; WFP		23	UAE	UNOPS; UNDP; UNESCO	
11	Germany	ILO; IOM; UNICEF; UN WOMEN; UNDP; UNESCO; UN-HABITAT; UNMAS; WFP		24	UK	IOM; UNICEF; UNDP; UNMAS; UNFPA	
12	Italy	UNICEF; UNMAS; UNFPA		25	USA	IOM; UN WOMEN; UNICEF; UNDP; UN-HABITAT; UNOPS; UNODC;	
13	Japan	ILO; IOM; UNICEF; UN WOMEN; UNDP; UNESCO; UN-HABITAT; UNMAS; UNOPS; UNODC; UNFPA					

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