



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
2 December 2015

Original: English

For decision

United Nations Children's Fund

Executive Board

First regular session 2016

2-4 February 2016

Item 6 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Country programme document

Iraq

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for Iraq is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval at the present session, on a no-objection basis. The CPD includes a proposed aggregate indicative budget of \$8,800,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$103,200,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period March 2016 to December 2019.

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, the present document reflects comments made by Executive Board members on the draft CPD that was shared 12 weeks before the first regular session of 2016.

* E/ICEF/2016/1.



Programme rationale

1. Until 2011, Iraq was making progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, especially poverty reduction (Goal 1), gender equality (Goal 3), and reducing tuberculosis (Goal 6). Subsequent political instability, protracted violence and internal displacement, however, challenged many of the country's human development gains. The Syrian Arab Republic crisis has also affected Iraq, which is hosting large numbers of refugees.

2. Despite instability, the country's gross domestic product per capita rose from \$2,347 in 2006 to \$6,410 in 2014. The benefits of such growth, however, are not distributed equally. Although overall poverty has reduced, the rate for children aged 4 to 14 has increased, with 58 per cent of the poor in Iraq being children (3.7 million).¹ The Government's 2012 child-centred equity analysis found that one in three children (5.3 million) had multiple deprivations in health, education, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), nutrition and protection.² Baghdad, along with the three governorates in the Kurdistan region, had the lowest percentage of children experiencing three or more deprivations, while about half of the children in the Muthanna, Qadisiyah and Wasit governorates were highly deprived.

3. Forty-three per cent of the estimated 36 million people in Iraq³ are under 15 years of age. Most children have grown up with unabated insecurity, experiencing direct or indirect violence. This generation faces limited learning and employment opportunities and is exposed to protection risks of violations and abuse. Security, access to education, technical and life skills and opportunities for meaningful engagement at community level are key priorities. These are all elements within the No Lost Generation framework, which is designed to ensure that a generation of young people are able to develop to their full potential.

4. At least 3.2 million people have fled their homes within Iraq since March 2014 due to conflict. An estimated 8.2 million people — 47 per cent of them children — require humanitarian support, including 2.3 million people living in areas outside Government control.

5. The human cost is high, with attacks targeting civilians, extrajudicial killings, abductions, rapes and other forms of gender-based violence, forced recruitment of children, destruction of civilian property and infrastructure, and denial of rights and freedoms. From 2014 until mid-August 2015, 1,113 incidents of grave violations were reported involving 2,758 children (1,377 boys, 998 girls and 383 sex unknown).

6. The Syrian Arab Republic crisis has led over 249,000 Syrians — 42 per cent of them children — to seek refuge in Iraq, mostly in camps and host communities within the Kurdistan region.

7. An estimated 35,000 children under five died in 2014,⁴ the majority of them newborns. Improving the quality of newborn care at home and at facility level remains a priority. Pneumonia and injuries are the leading causes of under-five deaths among those who survive the neonatal period.⁵ The 2011 multiple indicator

¹ Ministry of Planning, *Child Poverty in Iraq*, forthcoming.

² Central Statistical Organization, *Iraq Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2011, Final Report*, 2012.

³ Central Statistical Organization, 2014.

⁴ UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation, 2015.

⁵ UNICEF, *Committing to Child Survival: A Promise Renewed — Progress Report 2015*.

cluster survey (MICS) found that almost one in four Iraqi children were stunted, with higher rates in the central and southern regions; rates have likely increased due to displacement and insecurity.

8. The maternal mortality ratio was estimated to have reduced from 77 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2005 to 67 per 100,000 in 2013.⁶ The health of children and women is challenged by poor access to services due to insecurity, displacement of service providers, unequal distribution of facilities and trained personnel — particularly between rural and urban areas — and limitations in procurement and logistics management. Health services in areas hosting internally displaced persons (IDPs) are overburdened. Public health is further threatened by the re-emergence of the wild polio virus and outbreaks of cholera and measles.

9. While 91 per cent of the population had access to an improved drinking water source in 2011,⁷ recent conflict has disrupted water supplies in many areas. The situation has been compounded by reduced water availability in the two main rivers, recurrent droughts and water pollution. Sanitation disparities exist, with 96.1 per cent of urban households and only 88.4 per cent of rural households having access to an improved facility.⁸ Absence of water management policies, limited institutional structures and data systems, and population displacements that have strained existing systems are major bottlenecks to increasing access to sustainable water and sanitation.

10. Enrolment rates have been high in Iraq, with a primary net enrolment rate (NER) of 94 per cent. Gender parity in primary education was almost achieved in 2011 (48.9 per cent girls; 51.1 per cent boys). In 2013, there were an estimated 1,136,902 children of primary or lower secondary age (772,701 girls, 364,201 boys) out of school, with major geographical disparities: 15.8 per cent of children in the central and southern regions, compared with 5.8 per cent in the Kurdistan region.⁹ Since then, more than 1 million school-aged children have been displaced, of whom an estimated 700,000 have lost at least one year of learning.¹⁰

11. The lack of quality learning is a concern, with only 44 per cent of enrolled students completing primary school within the six year time frame; around 35 per cent do not complete primary education.¹¹ Primary-school-age children from the poorest quintile are 10 times more likely to be out of school than children in the richest quintile; and only 80 per cent of rural girls aged 6 to 10 are in school compared to 90 per cent of rural boys.¹² Many schools organize classes in two or three shifts due to a shortage of classrooms. Other barriers to quality learning are a reliance on rote learning, inadequate deployment of teachers to rural and insecure areas, lack of textbooks and teaching materials, and limited school management capacities.

12. At secondary level, the NER in 2011 was 44 per cent. Thirty-eight per cent of 12- to 17-year-olds were out of school (47 per cent girls; 29 per cent boys).¹³ The reasons for the low levels of girls' transition to secondary education include the low

⁶ WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA and the World Bank, *Trends in Maternal Mortality: 1990 to 2013*, 2014.

⁷ Central Statistical Organization, *Iraq Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2011, Final Report*, 2012.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ UNICEF, *Iraq Country Report on Out-of-School Children*, 2014.

¹⁰ OCHA, *Iraq: Humanitarian Crisis Situation Report No. 55*, 29 July to 4 August 2015.

¹¹ UNESCO-UIS 2011.

¹² UNICEF, *Iraq Country Report on Out-of-School Children*, 2014.

¹³ Ibid.

importance placed on girls' schooling and increased challenges to access schools. The education system would benefit from more effective monitoring and evaluation, timely and reliable data, and more equal and efficient resource allocation and use at decentralized levels.

13. The use of sexual violence and the brutalization of women and girls by certain parties to the conflict, particularly women and girls from diverse religious and ethnic communities, has been well documented.^{14,15} Gender-based violence was reportedly widespread in Iraq before the recent crisis, with high levels of sexual violence, child marriage and honour crimes perpetrated against women and girls. Surveys indicate that more than one in five women aged 15 to 49 suffered physical violence from their husbands, and one in three suffered psychological abuse.¹⁶

14. Seventy-nine per cent of children aged 2 to 14 years have experienced methods of violent discipline, 75 per cent psychological aggression and 28 per cent severe physical punishment.¹⁷ The rates of violence against children are particularly high in Baghdad, Kirkuk and Ninawa, and the southern governorates of Basrah, Dhi Qar and Maysan. The justice system offers few alternatives such as diversion or reintegration of juveniles. Justice sector staff need capacity-building in relation to child-sensitive approaches.

15. The major elements of social protection consist of universal free services (health, education and water and sanitation, although with limited coverage) and social transfers. Social transfer programmes include the national Social Safety Net — a combination of services and cash transfers — but many of the most vulnerable families are not reached.

16. The proposed country programme builds on recent experience in ensuring greater coherence between humanitarian relief and development. Strengthening social service systems at decentralized levels, primarily through capacity development of service managers and providers, to reach local communities as well as IDPs, has been a proven strategy across the humanitarian-development continuum.

Programme priorities and partnerships

17. In support of the National Development Plan 2013-2017 and the Kurdistan Regional Government's 'Vision 2020', the overall goal of the 2016-2019 country programme is to support the Government at national, regional and subnational levels to strengthen basic social service systems to reach the most vulnerable children and women, especially those affected by conflict and displacement.

¹⁴ UNAMI/OHCHR Report the Protection of Civilians in the Armed Conflict in Iraq: 11 September-10 December 2014.

¹⁵ OHCHR, Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the human rights situation in Iraq in the light of abuses committed by the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant and associated groups, 27 March 2015.

¹⁶ Working together to address violence against women and girls in Kurdistan, IRC 2012 (WHO/COSIT/KRSO/Ministry of Health Iraq Family Health Survey 2006-2007; Human Rights Watch, At a Crossroads — Human Rights in Iraq Eight Years after the US-Led Invasion", 2011, p. 21; UNFPA/COSIT/KRSO/Ministry of Youth and Sport Iraq National Youth Survey 2009).

¹⁷ Central Statistical Organization, *Iraq Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2011, Final Report*, 2012.

18. UNICEF will prioritize support for accelerating access to quality health, nutrition and WASH services that help to reduce newborn, infant and child mortality; support children — particularly girls — to return to school, complete quality primary education and transition to secondary education; protect children and women from violence, abuse and exploitation; and promote adolescent development and participation. Humanitarian actions are anticipated to contribute to a significant part of UNICEF support in Iraq and the agency will also continue to provide coordination for WASH, education, nutrition and child protection in humanitarian situations.

19. Five reinforcing strategies will be prioritized to reach the most disadvantaged children and reduce disparities: (a) national-level advocacy and provision of high quality technical assistance for strengthening sectoral policies and legal frameworks; (b) generating data to improve the efficiency and quality of decentralized social service delivery for children; (c) strengthening technical and management capacities among service providers for delivery of quality social services, particularly at subnational level; (d) building knowledge of communities and families to practise safe behaviours, and; (e) direct support for essential services and commodities during humanitarian action and in settings with severely constrained institutional capacity.

20. Different programme approaches will be applied across the country. UNICEF support in selected governorates in the southern region will primarily focus on facilitating behaviour change, promoting social cohesion and enhancing service providers' capacities to deliver quality social services. In central region governorates where instability and insecurity pose significant access challenges, UNICEF will continue to support delivery of essential services. In the northern region, UNICEF will support capacity-building among Government development planners and service providers to improve the quality of social development services and their sustainability during humanitarian situations. At all levels, UNICEF and the Government will generate evidence and advocate for more reliable and equitable Government financing of basic social services for all children, particularly the poorest and most disadvantaged.

21. The 'No Lost Generation' framework will link humanitarian, resilience, early recovery and development interventions, focusing on increasing access by children and adolescents to basic social services and opportunities for learning, development, protection and participation; building social cohesion; and strengthening policy frameworks and service-delivery systems.

22. In line with the Gender Action Plan 2014-2017, UNICEF will contribute to the transformation of attitudes and practices that support gender equality, including addressing the gender dimensions of child rights violations such as gender-based violence, child marriage and girls' exclusion from educational opportunities.

23. Risk-informed planning and monitoring will be embedded across all programming. Actions will be pursued to promote the resilience of children, families, communities and social services, and to enhance emergency preparedness and response capacities. A gender lens will be applied throughout programming, addressing the specific barriers undermining the realization of the rights of boys and girls. The country programme design included an analysis of the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child on the combined second to fourth periodic reports for Iraq.

24. The country programme will contribute to a number of global partnerships, including the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative (UNGEI), Education for All, A Promise Renewed, and the Scaling up Nutrition movement. In light of the recent adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, greater attention will be paid to equity, resilience and peace-building under the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).

25. UNICEF will strengthen existing partnerships with the Government and expand partnerships with academia and civil society organizations, as well as with other development and humanitarian actors. Significant collaboration will continue with donors across the full scope of the country programme and with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCR), World Food Programme (WFP) and World Health Organization (WHO); and with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for recovery-focused interventions.

26. The **health and nutrition** programme will focus on the delivery of quality, high-impact neonatal, maternal and child health and nutrition interventions, particularly in governorates with higher levels of mortality and morbidity, including those affected by conflict. Technical support will be provided to the Ministry of Health (MoH) and other key ministries to develop costed strategies and plans at national level to reduce neonatal mortality and undernutrition, and to improve child health; and to the Departments of Health in priority governorates to effectively implement the plans. Technical, material and financial support will be provided for the rapid restoration of health and nutrition services in newly-accessible areas.

27. Support will be provided for routine and targeted immunization, including the Reach Every Child approach, the introduction of new vaccines and use of injectable polio vaccine. In light of the re-emergence of wild polio virus (2013) and measles (2015), UNICEF will collaborate with WHO and the MoH to expand outbreak response mechanisms, including development of communication initiatives, vaccine procurement, cold chain and logistics.

28. Targeted and context-specific approaches will be developed to access hard-to-reach populations with high-impact health and nutrition services, including immunization, vitamin A supplementation and provision of community approaches to prevent and treat acute and severe malnutrition, diarrhoea and pneumonia. To overcome the access barriers to quality primary health services faced by women in many rural and remote areas, UNICEF will apply different strategies, such as continued advocacy to encourage the deployment of female doctors in maternal and child health units.

29. Outreach health service provision through the health visitor initiative will be expanded in highly vulnerable districts, in partnership with UNFPA, WFP, WHO, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and community volunteers. Behaviour change strategies will be developed, focusing on infant and young child feeding practices, including early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding and improved neonatal home care.

30. UNICEF will continue to provide coordination for nutrition in response to internal displacement and the influx of Syrian refugees, and support for child health and nutrition services in these and other humanitarian situations.

31. The **water, sanitation and hygiene** (WASH) programme will support the Government to continue the implementation of Phase II of the Iraq Public Sector Modernisation programme, aiming to improve water sustainability and access. The focus will be on rural communities in selected governorates in the northern and southern regions that have higher levels of child mortality and morbidity, those living in areas not covered by the Government's water and sanitation master plans, and families in humanitarian situations or hard-to-reach areas.

32. Technical support will be provided to develop standards and policies for urban, peri-urban and rural water, sanitation and solid waste services, the protection and management of groundwater resources, and enhancement of operations and maintenance expertise. At central level, the programme will build capacity among operations engineers and senior management staff, while in the northern region, capacity-building for government staff on water auditing and management will be provided alongside the demonstration of pilot programmes that aim to reduce losses in the water supply system. UNICEF will generate evidence to advocate for public-private partnerships in the development and maintenance of water and sanitation infrastructure, as well as models of cost-sharing between communities and local Governments in selected governorates. Technical support will be provided for communication approaches that promote water conservation at individual, household and community levels.

33. UNICEF will also support the improvement of WASH in health facilities and provision of age- and gender-appropriate WASH facilities in schools.

34. In humanitarian situations, UNICEF will continue to undertake preparedness measures and ensure provision of immediate WASH assistance. UNICEF will maintain and sustain essential WASH services in camps for refugees and IDPs; and will work with local authorities in selected governorates to ensure provision of safe and reliable services for the most vulnerable IDPs living outside camps. This will include rehabilitation and improvements in host communities and newly accessible areas where WASH infrastructure may have been destroyed or strained by population influx. Service delivery models will be explored with community-based organizations (CBOs) that are able to access hard-to-reach populations.

35. The **education** programme will support the strengthening of the education system at central and decentralized levels. This will include overcoming critical barriers to equitable school access and enhancing quality education for children aged 5 to 17 years, particularly girls and including children in humanitarian situations, in line with the No Lost Generation framework.

36. In selected governorates with large numbers of children out of school, including refugee and IDP children living in host communities, UNICEF will prioritize increasing access to educational opportunities, including accelerated learning and modelling of social protection mechanisms to support girls' school attendance.

37. UNICEF will advocate for and strengthen quality learning by mainstreaming life skills and citizenship education into the teaching and learning system, and will support operationalization of quality learning in selected governorates, particularly those affected by conflict.

38. UNICEF will support national, regional and subnational Government in policy development, coordination, planning, budgeting and monitoring, including in

humanitarian situations. Building on the procurement capacity gap assessment, generation of new strategic data will be supported, including public expenditure reviews at school level to improve equitable and efficient allocation and use of resources. Support will be also provided to develop a system for monitoring learning achievements and to ensure its effective use.

39. Technical assistance will be provided for the development of a policy for school-based management, action and monitoring, and its implementation in selected governorates. Building on the child-friendly schools approach and the study on school mapping, the policy will ensure community participation and accountability.

40. UNICEF will provide coordination support, technical leadership and education services in humanitarian situations.

41. The **child protection** programme will provide technical support to the Ministries and Departments of Labor and Social Affairs to create sustainable policies and systems that prevent and respond to violence, discrimination, exploitation and abuse of children, including gender-based violence. Context-specific approaches will be supported for enhancing the resilience of families and communities to adopt or maintain protective social practices and norms, including in humanitarian situations.

42. UNICEF will support the finalization of the National Child Protection Policy, the Child Rights Law and the Kurdistan Regional Government Alternative Care Law, alongside case management and referral policies and procedures that address ongoing and emergency child protection needs. In selected governorates, UNICEF will support the development of costed operational plans and administrative guidelines based on the laws, and strengthen Government staff capacities to coordinate and deliver quality services.

43. UNICEF will support national and subnational institutions to review and strengthen the child justice system's mechanisms and standards for children in contact with the law. This will include establishing a monitoring and referral system for children in contact with the law, implementing alternatives to incarceration, strengthening the reintegration system, and in selected governorates, developing capacities of magistrates, prosecutors, police, social workers and other justice system officials on child rights through engagement of national training and higher education institutions.

44. In selected governorates, UNICEF will support development of strategies to prevent and respond to violence against children, advocate for appropriate budgets and build capacities of service providers to deliver quality services. In situations where appropriate Government services for children are not available, UNICEF may support non-governmental partners to provide direct interventions, such as specialized psychosocial, clinical, reintegration and legal services.

45. UNICEF will support child protection in emergency preparedness, planning and response, including provision of psychosocial support and strengthening of referral mechanisms. UNICEF will continue to monitor and report on grave violations against children, including providing leadership and technical assistance to the United Nations Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR) on grave violations against children, and building capacity of partners that

document the violations. Reintegration of children who have been recruited into or are associated with armed forces or groups will be supported.

46. The **adolescent development** programme will focus on the issue of adolescent isolation and seek to promote their engagement, social inclusion and access to opportunities and services. UNICEF will support the development of gender-sensitive and culturally acceptable networking and learning opportunities, allowing adolescents to engage with their peers in different settings.

47. Initiatives will include provision of safe physical and virtual spaces, as well as intra and intercountry learning and development of gender-specific peer support systems with trained mentors. The physical facilities will allow for direct links with education, physical and mental health, legal and social protection services. UNICEF will initially focus on locations with large numbers of internally displaced adolescents living in host communities as well as in newly accessible areas. Both the physical and virtual networking will promote social cohesion and reconciliation, including positive social norms.

48. In collaboration with community organizations and local administrations, UNICEF will promote actions to increase adolescents' meaningful civic engagement. Based on pilot programmes to be conducted in the Dahuk governorate, adolescents will be supported to develop and lead initiatives in their communities. Mechanisms will be established for adolescents to connect with local NGOs and CBOs to seek volunteer or professional opportunities.

49. Inherent within this programme will be the "do no harm principle," which will apply when engaging with adolescents since their role as change agents in the community and networking can expose them to multiple risks, with girls being the most vulnerable.

50. The **social policy and evidence generation** programme will build capacity of development planners in key government bodies at national and regional levels as well as in selected governorates to monitor and analyse data on the main barriers to accessing basic social services for the most disadvantaged children. This will include public finance management analyses and tools to combine multiple poverty and vulnerability assessments, including for IDPs and refugees. This will allow Government policymakers and planners, particularly at subnational levels, as well as NGOs, to develop dynamic and comprehensive vulnerability maps for medium- to long-term development planning and humanitarian operations.

51. Under the UNDAF objective to support the government to develop a social protection floor, UNICEF will generate evidence and provide technical assistance to reform the national social safety net so that it becomes more equitable and child-focused. The programme will undertake action research into targeted social transfers in humanitarian situations, including modelling approaches that build the resilience of families.

52. The **emergency capacity and coordination** programme will collaborate with United Nations partners and other humanitarian actors to strengthen national and subnational emergency management and coordination systems, and to generate information and evidence to enhance child-centred, risk-informed emergency planning and response. The programme will aim to provide essential supplies and monitoring mechanisms for families on the move currently managed through the

UNICEF/United Nations Rapid Response Mechanism, while concurrently integrating these interventions into Government systems and structures.

53. **Programme effectiveness** will ensure efficient and effective programme, financial and human resources management, enhanced external relations and partnerships, programme planning and coordination, monitoring and evaluation, and high quality technical leadership on communication for development.

Summary budget table

<i>(In thousands of United States dollars)</i>			
<i>Programme component</i>	<i>Regular resources</i>	<i>Other resources¹⁸</i>	<i>Total</i>
Health and nutrition	1 000	20 800	21 800
WASH	900	20 800	21 700
Education	1 000	26 000	27 000
Child protection	900	12 000	12 900
Adolescent development	600	4 800	5 400
Social policy and evidence	800	2 800	3 600
Emergency capacity and coordination	400	0 ¹⁹	400
Programme effectiveness	3 200	16 000	19 200
Total	8 800	103 200	112 000

Programme and risk management

54. This CPD outlines UNICEF contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarter levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures.

55. UNICEF participates in the High Level Committee for the Iraq UNDAF Fund, co-chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister and the United Nations Resident Coordinator, and the Programme Working Groups that review the strategic management and achievements of the UNDAF. The UNICEF contributions to UNDAF outcomes will be reviewed within these mechanisms. The Ministry of Planning (MoP) will coordinate planning and monitoring of the country programme, with federal line ministries and departments responsible for implementation and management of programmes. Governorate and district administrations, along with relevant departments, will be responsible for programme collaboration at the local level.

¹⁸ "Other resources" refers exclusively to non-emergency OR. Other resources-emergency (ORE) funds of up to \$340 million are expected during the course of the country programme.

¹⁹ Will be primarily funded through ORE.

56. A risk management strategy will be operationalized to mitigate the high risks to programme results, including insecure access to populations in need, diminishing development aid, uncertain humanitarian funding, and limited capacity and accountability of partners. The strategy will deploy innovative approaches, including remote management capacities, and will build on the use of community-based and third-party facilitators to support programme delivery in areas where access is constrained. The harmonized approach to cash transfers will continue to be used to promote greater accountability for results achieved by implementing partners receiving cash transfers.

57. UNICEF will maintain field offices in Arbil, Baghdad, Basrah, Dahuk and Sulaymaniyah to lead governorate and regional programme planning, implementation and monitoring.

Monitoring and evaluation

58. Alongside United Nations partners, UNICEF will continue supporting the national MoP to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation of the National Development Plan 2013-2017. Real-time monitoring systems for emergency settings and community and facility-based data analysis will be promoted. Regular third-party monitoring will continue in conjunction with field-monitoring by staff and partners. The MICS is anticipated to be the major national survey and data collection mechanism to be supported.

59. Rolling workplans will be developed and monitored through regular reviews led by the Government. The integrated monitoring and evaluation plan will monitor progress towards results. As a member of the UNDAF Monitoring and Evaluation Group, UNICEF will track progress towards the common outcomes, provide analyses and make recommendations to the programme working groups. Monitoring mechanisms will include specific emergency triggers across all programme areas.

60. UNICEF will support four independent evaluations to improve effectiveness and sustainability of programmes for children, which are detailed in the costed evaluation plan.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Iraq — UNICEF country programme of cooperation, March 2016-December 2019

Convention on the Rights of the Child: Articles 6-7, 12, 19, 23-24, 26-30, 34, 37, 39-40, 42							
National priorities: National Development Plan 2013-2017, KRG Vision 2020							
UNDAF outcomes involving UNICEF:							
Priority A: Outcome 1: Targeted government institutions' capacities for accountability, equitable and quality services provision are strengthened.							
Priority Area B: Outcome 1: Government and communities' resilience to disasters (man-made, natural disasters) is strengthened.							
Outcome indicators that includes UNICEF contribution:							
Timely access to justice service data at national and subnational level is published and disaggregated by sex and population group.							
Percentage of men, women, boys and girls assessing the quality of services as good.							
Related UNICEF Strategic Plan outcome(s): 1-7							
UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines and targets	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)		
					RR	OR	Total
1. By 2019, newborns, children and women have increased and equitable access to and use of affordable, high-impact health and nutrition interventions, especially in governorates with a high mortality burden and in humanitarian situations.	Percentage of women aged 15–49 who receive antenatal care by any provider four or more times during their pregnancy. <i>Baseline: 49.6%</i> <i>Target: 60%</i>	MICS	Service providers ensure better quality child health services, focusing on neonatal and young child health, in the most vulnerable districts, including in humanitarian situations.	Ministry and Departments of Health, MoP, WHO, UNFPA, WFP	1 000	20 800	21 800
	Percentage of children 12-23 months fully immunized. <i>Baseline: 76%</i> <i>Target: 85%</i>	MICS	Service providers ensure better quality nutrition services, focusing on prevention and reduction of acute and chronic malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies in the most vulnerable districts, including in humanitarian situations.				

	Percentage of children under 5 with (a) suspected pneumonia, or (b) diarrhoea receiving appropriate treatment from a health provider. <i>Baseline: a-67.1% b-25.7%</i> <i>Target: a-75% b-40%</i>	MICS	Children and their families access timely and quality child and maternal health and nutrition services in humanitarian situations in Iraq.				
	Percentage of UNICEF-targeted children aged 6-59 months with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in humanitarian situations who are admitted to programmes for management of acute malnutrition and recover. <i>Target: 100%</i>	Government/ UNICEF reports					
2. By 2019, children and families have improved and equitable access to and use of safe drinking water and sanitation, and improved hygiene behaviours in the most vulnerable communities, schools and health facilities, including in humanitarian situations.	Percentage of people with access to improved sanitation. <i>Baseline: 94% (MICS)</i> <i>Target: 97%</i>	MICS	Government provides safe water and sanitation services in more health and education facilities, particularly in the most vulnerable districts. Low-cost appropriate technologies for improved water supply, sanitation and hygiene services are demonstrated in communities with higher levels of child mortality and morbidity.	MoP, Prime Minister's Advisory Commission (PMAC), Ministry of Construction and Public Municipalities, Ministry of Water Resources, Mayoralty of Baghdad, Ministry of Municipalities and Tourism (Kurdistan Region of Iraq), MoH, Ministry of Education (MoE)	900	20 800	21 700
	Percentage of people with access to improved water supply. <i>Baseline: 91% (MICS)</i> <i>Target: 95%</i>	MICS	Children and their families have improved knowledge of safe healthy behaviours for hygiene, sanitation, and water conservation, particularly in the most vulnerable districts.				
	Percentage of UNICEF-targeted population in humanitarian situations accessing sufficient quantity of water of appropriate quality for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene. <i>Target: 100%</i>	Government/ UNICEF reports	Children and their families access timely, sufficient and safe WASH services in humanitarian situations.				

	Percentage of UNICEF-targeted population in humanitarian situations using appropriate sanitation facilities and living in environments free of open defecation. <i>Target: 100%</i>	Government/ UNICEF reports					
3. By 2019, children of basic and post-basic school age, especially girls, have increased and more equitable access to quality learning in a progressively strengthened education system, including in humanitarian situations.	Net primary enrolment rate <i>Baseline: F- 88% M- 91%</i> <i>Target: M&F – 95%</i>	Education Management Information System (EMIS)	MoE at central and decentralized levels has strengthened capacities for policy development, planning, budgeting and monitoring, including in humanitarian situations.	Ministry/ Departments of Education, MoP, UNESCO, UNHCR, Save the Children, UNGEI	1 000	26 000	27 000
	Percentage of out-of-school children: a. primary b. secondary <i>Baseline: a. 8.3% b.25.9%</i> <i>Target: a. 5% b.20%</i>	Out-of-School Children study	More out-of-school children access basic and post-basic education opportunities in targeted governorates. Children aged 5-17 access timely and quality early childhood education, basic and post-basic education in humanitarian situations in Iraq.				
	Percentage of UNICEF-targeted children in humanitarian situations accessing basic and post-basic education <i>Target: 100%</i>	Government/ UNICEF reports					
4. By 2019, children who are vulnerable and exposed to violence, including those in humanitarian situations, are better protected by prevention and response services, a supportive institutional and	Percentage of women aged 15-29 years - attitude towards domestic violence <i>Baseline: 51.2%</i> <i>Target: 40%</i>	MICS	Increased availability of government, NGO and civil society organization child protection services that prevent and respond to violence and abuse.	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA), Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS), MoP, PMAC, UNHCR, UNDP, UNFPA	900	12 000	12 900
	Number of governorates with functional child protection systems. <i>Baseline: 4</i> <i>Target: 9</i>	Government reports	The legislative and institutional framework is strengthened to better protect vulnerable girls and boys and those exposed to violence,				

legislative framework and protective social norms.	Existence of a national strategy for the release and community-based reintegration of children from armed forces and groups <i>Baseline: No</i> <i>Target: Yes</i>	Government reports	abuse and exploitation. Systems for monitoring, reporting and responding to violations of children's rights are strengthened. Children in humanitarian situations access child protection services.				
	Percentage of UNICEF-targeted separated and unaccompanied children in humanitarian situations receiving alternative care services. <i>Target: 100%</i>	UNICEF reports Government/ UNICEF reports					
5. By 2019, more adolescents (age 10-18) access positive development opportunities, which enhance social cohesion in their communities.	Number of adolescents participating in new initiatives promoting social cohesion and change at community level. <i>Target: 250,000</i>	Partner reports	Gender-sensitive community initiatives that promote inclusiveness and social cohesion established in select districts. Virtual support and learning networks established for adolescents.	MoE, MoH, MoYS, MoLSA, UNFPA, UNDP, UN-Women, World Bank	600	4 800	5 400
	Number of districts with newly developed community-based inclusiveness programmes for adolescents. <i>Target: 18</i>	Partner reports					
6. By 2019, children in Iraq have increasingly benefitted from evidence-based social policies, programmes, plans and budgets, which address equity and child-centred	Percentage of children living below the poverty line covered by Government of Iraq Social Protection Net programmes. <i>Baseline:11%</i> <i>Target:30%</i>	Government reports	Government has increased capacity to expand and ensure equitable access to social protection initiatives. New data, knowledge and evidence on childhood poverty, vulnerability and deprivation is generated to inform child-centred social	MoP, MoLSA, , Ministry of Trade, Social Protection Commission, Central Statistical Organization, Kurdistan Regional Statistics Office, Child Welfare	800	2 800	3 600

stabilization and social inclusion.	Percentage of families in humanitarian crises receiving cash/voucher transfers targeting vulnerable children. <i>Baseline: 0.4%</i> <i>Target: 15%</i>	Government and partner reports	sector planning, budgeting and financing, including in humanitarian situations.	Committee, World Bank, UNDP, WFP, OCHA			
	Percentage of key child-related Sustainable Development Goal indicators monitored through national surveys or administrative data. <i>Target: 100%</i>	Government reports					
7. By 2019, strengthened institutional capacities ensure enhanced coordination, preparation for and response to children and families in humanitarian situations.	Number of governorates with strengthened emergency planning structures <i>Target: 6</i>	Government/ United Nations reports	Government emergency planning and coordination structures have strengthened knowledge and resources to use child-centred approaches to monitor, plan and coordinate. Information and evidence is generated and used for child-centred, risk-informed emergency planning and response.	Prime Minister's Office, Council of Ministers Office, Ministry of Displacement and Migration, Joint Crisis Cell (KRI), Governorate Emergency Cells, OCHA, IOM, UNFPA, WFP, WHO	400	0	400
	Number of districts with regularly updated contingency plans in place. <i>Target: 25</i>	Government/ United Nations reports					
	Proportion and number of identified families on the move provided with essential supplies. <i>Target: 75% (number based on situation)</i>	OCHA/ UNICEF report					

8. Programme effectiveness	Percentage of country programme outputs annually reported as on track or achieved <i>Target: 100%</i>	Annual review reports	Programme efficiency and coordination. External relations Cross-sectoral		3 200	16 000	19 200
	Percentage of donor reports submitted on time <i>Target: 100%</i>	Internal reporting database					
Total resources					8 800	103 200	112 000