



After two years, in January 2017 schools in eastern districts of Mosul started to re-open for learning ©UNICEF/Iraq/2016/Anmar

Iraq

Humanitarian Situation Report

Highlights

- Between 17 October 2016 and 29 January 2017 UNICEF has supported delivery of a multi-sectoral emergency response packages, including water treatment tablets and hygiene items for adults and babies, for 514,900 individuals (84,900 families) in re-taken communities in northern Ninewa.
- Since the offensive on Mosul city began on 17 October, more than 187,986 people (103,392 children under 18) have been displaced from surrounding towns, villages, and from the city suburbs. While around 29,000 people re reported as returned, 159,006 individuals remain displaced.
- As of 19 January 2017, there were 3,028,854 internally displaced people (IDP) across Iraq, while 1,455,348 people were reported as returned to their places of origin ('returnees'), 648,013 children (47%).
- According to the 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Iraq, an estimated 11 million people are in dire need of humanitarian assistance, including over 5 million children.
- UNICEF's 2017 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal for Iraq launched in January calls for US\$ 161.4 million to respond to children's humanitarian needs across the country. Without additional funding, UNICEF will be unable to support the national response to the country's continuing complex and protracted displacement crisis.

UNICEF Response with partners

Key Indicators	UNICEF		Cluster	
	Target	Result	Target	Result
Vulnerable people newly-displaced by conflict receiving RRM kits within 72 hours of trigger for response	1,300,000	94,356		
Emergency affected populations with access to a sufficient safe water supply**	1,000,000	107,422	2,025,873	1,156,773
School-aged children reached through temporary learning spaces (pre-fab)	50,000	6,668	50,000	6,668
Children participating in structured, sustained, resilience or psychosocial support programmes	161,567	12,218	351,270	12,218
New-born babies of conflict-affected families benefitting from new-born home services	8,000	598		
Children under 5 accessing nutrition services	50,000	1,614		

January 2017

5.1 million children in need out of **11 million people** affected (OCHA, HRP 2017)

3 million internally displaced people (IDP)
1.4 million people returned to newly-accessible areas (IOM, Displacement Tracking Matrix, January 2017)

Target population in 2017:

- Rapid Response: 1.3 million IDPs**
- WASH: 1 million people**
- Education: 690,000 children**
- Health: 5.7 million children (polio)**
- Child Protection: 161,500 children**

UNICEF Appeal 2017
US\$ 161.4 million

Funding Status*
US \$ 60.2 million



* US\$60.2 million includes US\$41,647,029 carried forward from 2016, for the US\$161.4 million 2017 appeal. See page 5 for more detailed information.
 ** UNICEF result as of January 2017 reflects only people reached through water trucking

**Funds available' includes funding received for the current appeal year as well as the carry forward from the previous year.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Violent conflict in Iraq has created a protracted and complex humanitarian situation, with 11 million people estimated to be in need of assistance¹. The situation has been compounded by long-term economic downturn. Poverty rates in Kurdistan have doubled, unemployment has trebled in many communities² and many government employees, including teachers, health staff, and others, have gone only partially paid for more than a year. With intensification of military operations along the Mosul Corridor, 31,331 families (187,986 people) including 103,392 children have been displaced from Mosul since October 2016³. There have been significant numbers of returnees to newly-retaken areas where infrastructure has been damaged by conflict and basic services are not yet re-activated. Conditions in western Mosul continue to concern humanitarian actors, as basic commodities such as food, water, and fuel remain scarce for the estimated 750,000 population. As of January, just seven of Iraq's 18 governorates host 83 per cent of the total IDP population⁴. A total of 245,000 Iraqis are registered as refugees in neighbouring countries, with 9,977 Iraqis received in Al Hol camp in Syria since 17 October.⁵ There remain over 230,000 Syrian refugees⁶ in Iraq, the majority of whom are hosted in the three northern governorates of the Kurdistan Region.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

UNICEF leads the WASH Cluster, co-leads the Education cluster with Save the Children International, leads the Child Protection sub-cluster and Nutrition working group, and is an active member of the Health cluster. UNICEF and the World Food Programme (WFP) co-lead the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) Consortium, whose partners include the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and seven NGOs. In addition, UNICEF in collaboration with WFP and UNFP is delivering rapid multi-sector humanitarian assistance in [newly-retaken areas of Mosul](#).

Humanitarian Strategy

Strategic priorities under the 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) are to: reach as many people in need as possible across Iraq by securing safe access to front-line and newly retaken areas; facilitate and advocate for voluntary, safe, and dignified returns; give options to families to live in Iraq in dignity by expanding resilience and social cohesion programmes; and help people brutalized by violence recover by providing specialized protection assistance.

Estimated Affected Population (OCHA 2017 Humanitarian Needs Overview)			
Onset of current humanitarian crisis: June 2014			
Data relates to 2017 population in need			
	Total	Male	Female
Total Affected Population	10,511,099	5,239,135	5,271,964
Children Affected (Under 18)	4,922,635	2,492,766	2,429,869
Children Under Five	1,493,637	760,602	733,035
Children 2 years	304,940	156,306	148,634
Children 1 year	298,094	151,505	146,589

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)

UNICEF requires an additional US \$ 1.7 million to meet immediate response needs for an anticipated 1.3 million IDPs on the move. In January, RRM consortium partners distributed 21,592 kits to 94,356 people including 44,347 children (estimated 47 per cent of total reached) across eight governorates – Anbar, Baghdad, Dahuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah al Din, Sulaymaniyah. Due to the intensification of military operations around Mosul, the majority of displaced people reached with RRM were in Ninewa. Kits consist of a 12 kg immediate response food ration, hygiene items to last a family a week, 12 liters of bottled drinking water and a water container; where possible, they also include UNFPA's dignity kit. The RRM Consortium of UN agencies (UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP) and 7 NGO partners (ACTED, Danish Refugee Council, Muslim Aid, Norwegian Refugee Council, Rebuild Iraq Recruitment Programme, Save the Children, and Women Empowerment Organization) cover all 18 governorates across Iraq with identified lead and back-up responders.

Seasonal Response

In the winter of 2016/2017, UNICEF is protecting children through distribution of winter clothes and thermal blankets. Limited funding received for seasonal response means that priority is being given to children under 14 years newly-displaced from Mosul and living in non-formal or non-camp environments including in makeshift tents, open shelters, or unfinished buildings. UNICEF reached 61,116 children in January 2017⁷. For the coming winter 2017-2018 seasonal response under the 2017 appeal, UNICEF requires US \$ 11.6 million to reach at least 200,000 children.

¹ UNOCHA, 2017, Humanitarian Response Plan Advance Executive Summary.

² Ibid.

³ IOM, DTM, Emergency Tracking Factsheet #13 Mosul Operations from 17 October to 26 January.

⁴ IOM DTM Round 62, January 2017, namely Anbar, Baghdad, Dahuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa and Salah al-Din.

⁵ UNHCR Iraq Situation Flash Update, 30 January 2017.

⁶ Syria Regional Refugee Response Inter Agency Information Portal: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/country.php?id=103>

⁷ UNICEF is also providing winter support to Syrian refugee children. More details on UNICEF response for Syrian refugees can be found [here](#).

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

With military operations ongoing, preparations of emergency sites and new camps continued, with 43,952 WASH-ready plots available across 16 camps / emergency sites and 564 plots in transit sites, sufficient to serve over 267,000 displaced people, if required. In January, WASH partners sustained services for IDPs in camps, informal settlements, and host communities across Iraq. A key priority was assuring safe water in eastern Mosul city, where significant shortages remained a concern. UNICEF has supported rehabilitation of water points and provision of water treatment chemicals in 12 neighbourhoods that became accessible at the end of 2016, including at the Bazwaya boosting station, and Khazana boreholes, and provided fuel to the Al Saheroon water treatment plant. In January, trucking of safe water was scaled up, enabling public access in accessible areas of Mosul city, with an average of 1,300m³ per day. Damage to the water network in eastern Mosul appears severe and major repairs to the network may be required. Funding for long-term rehabilitation is needed to allow sustainable delivery of potable water. UNICEF supported cleaning, awareness-raising sessions, and hygiene kit distribution for 21 IDP camps across Dahuk, Erbil, Ninewa, and Diyala/Sulaymaniyah (Kalar) reaching 60,854 individuals (28,601 children). While government capacity to absorb these services into the national budget remains severely restricted, the international community has agreed to continue support. In 2017 UNICEF is asking for US \$ 74 million for its planned WASH response to reach at least 1 million IDP children and their families in Iraq. Around 75 per cent of UNICEF's 2017 ask, will be needed only to cover continuing assistance (operations and maintenance) for IDPs remaining in camps.



In a school in northern Ninewa, learning re-starts for Iraqi children ©UNICEF/Iraq/2016/Anmar

Education

As fighting subsided in eastern Mosul, 30 schools reopened on 22 January with help from UNICEF, allowing more than 23,000 children to resume education⁸. Some schools in the area have been closed for up to two years. UNICEF provided learning materials including science and maths kits to each newly-opened school. More schools are scheduled for reopening, once cleared by mine risk bodies and local authorities. Where schools have been damaged, UNICEF is supporting rehabilitation and minor repairs. In January, rehabilitation of 60 schools was completed in Salah al Din⁹ with partner Rebuild Iraq Recruitment Programme (RIRP), improving the learning environment for 42,346 children (21,646 girls). In total in January 2017, 180,336 children (78,497 girls) received UNICEF learning materials, and 1,000 teachers (509 female) from Anbar completed trainings on improved pedagogy, in coordination with the Directorate of Education (DoE) Anbar. A total of 2,284 children (1,101 girls) accessed learning through temporary spaces (pre-fabricated caravans). Although finding sufficient qualified teachers is an issue, 40 facilitators from the IDP population have undergone orientation on early childhood development (ECD) teaching techniques, and are facilitating non-formal activities for 1,308 children (719 girls) in camps for newly-displaced people in northern Ninewa. As needed, recreational play kits and 'School-in-a-box' kits are delivered, alongside seasonal items such as tarpaulins, kerosene heaters, and fire extinguishers continues across these schools, as well as basic items such as garbage bins and first aid kits. Across the country there is need to expand, rehabilitate, or upgrade learning spaces; to support teacher training on improved pedagogy; to strengthen school-based management; and to provide teaching and learning materials. Access to learning for children newly-displaced from northern Ninewa, who may not have had access to formal education for more than two years, is a key concern, as is shortage of qualified teaching staff across the country. The issue of non- or partial-payment of teacher salaries remains a key concern for all education partners, as well as providing support to teachers and students travelling long distances to school. UNICEF is engaged in ongoing discussion with the Ministry of Education (MoE) on ways to ensure adequate support is provided.

⁸ As per DoE Ninewa on 23 January 2017. This figure is subject to change as enrolment continues, and more schools open.

⁹ Rehabilitation took place in schools in: Tikrit, Samarra, Al Door, Baiji, and Dhuluiya

Child Protection

In January 2017, the Iraq Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) verified 26 grave violations of child rights affecting 59 children (34 boys, 16 girls, and 9 sex unknown). 'Killing and injuring' continue to be the most reported violation, with 33 children confirmed killed and 26 injured. In addition, the MRM received reports of a further nine incidents affecting as many as 1,141 children. These incidents remain under verification. There are reports of increasing numbers of juveniles under arrest for terrorism-related charges and, as a result, a need for renovation of existing infrastructures for the Juvenile Detention Centres and rehabilitation services. UNICEF is working with federal and regional governments to address immediate needs, while continuing to strengthen child-friendly legal procedures. Humanitarian support through partners continued in January partners reported reaching 12,218 children (5,735 girls) with psychosocial support (PSS), as well as awareness-raising topics with messages on preventing early marriage and other child protection/rights issues. A referral pathway was established between four hospitals and UNICEF partner Hartland Alliance International (HAI) to identify Unaccompanied Minors (UAM) among injured children. Mobile child protection teams continue to provide Psychological First Aid (PFA) through house visits and at reception centres in camps. Emergency alternative care for unaccompanied children is a challenge in camps, as the local authorities do not currently have sufficient resources to provide alternative care facilities in these locations. UNICEF, with the child protection sub-cluster, and DoLSA, are exploring establishment of temporary spaces, likely in pre-fab caravans, for use as shelter for UAM while family tracing continues.

Health and Nutrition

Between 22 and 26 January 2017, a nationwide polio campaign reached 5,300,819 children under 5 (coverage 97.5 per cent). Of this total, 94,736 were recorded by vaccination teams as IDP children¹⁰. In newly-retaken areas, re-establishing Primary Healthcare Centre (PHC) services, including vaccination, is a priority. UNICEF is coordinating with authorities on an accelerated plan to revitalize routine immunization in these locations, noting reports of shortage of vaccines, and inadequate cold chain equipment for vaccine storage based on a rapid assessment of 40 PHC in newly-retaken areas. Almost all health facilities visited in retaken areas reported electricity cuts, some as long as 16 hours per day, while the outpatient caseload remained heavy. In Nargizliya camp for people newly-displaced from northern Ninewa, 3,479 newly-arrived children (1,774 girls) under 5 received catch-up vaccinations. Growth monitoring services were established in Ameriyat al Fallujah (AAF) and Habbaniyah Tourist City (HTC) in Anbar, with UNICEF support. Partners reported a total of 1,614 children (815 girls) monitored for growth in January 2017. Where identified, MAM cases are managed locally, while SAM cases are referred to the closest secondary-level facilities. In Dahuk, UNICEF provided supplies sufficient for 3,500 IDP children (high-energy biscuits and Plumpy Doz) arriving from northern Ninewa. Preliminary findings of a nutrition survey completed in January suggest that Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate was 3.2 per cent, with SAM of less than 1 per cent. However stunting was found at around 22 per cent, and to be higher among boys than girls. Severe stunting was around 10 per cent. Data was collected including all new IDP camps hosting people displaced from northern Ninewa; full data is being analysed and is expected to be available in February.

Cash Assistance In 2017, UNICEF requires US \$ 3.6 million to reach 9,000 most vulnerable households with cash assistance. UNICEF's cash programme in Iraq is a multi-year intervention that will last until 2020, providing longer term support to most vulnerable families in Iraq. In Dahuk in January, 1,574 children (720 girls) received cash assistance through partner the Directorate of Labour and Social Affairs (DoLSA). Families are selected on the basis of agreed vulnerability criteria, through targeted needs assessments in each location.

Supply and Logistics In January 2017, UNICEF dispatched IDP relief items to government and non-governmental partners with a total value of nearly US\$4.05 million. WASH accounted for 36 per cent, while winterization and RRM items accounted 53 percent of aggregated dispatched relief items. WASH hygiene kits (total value \$133,249) were dispatched sufficient for 25,000 families. The total amount of ordered supplies for the IDPs response was \$3.09 million in this period.

Media and External Communication In January 2017, UNICEF spokespersons in Iraq conducted 49 interviews with national and international media, discussing the situation for children in Iraq. UNICEF published 10 human interest stories, 4 videos, and 153 social media posts, generating almost a million views. UNICEF facilitated a live conversation between Iraqi children, journalists and donors at the launch of the Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal in Madrid, Spain. UNICEF Iraq was mentioned over 150 times in leading Spanish publication as a result. For Mosul response, regular [blog updates detailed UNICEF response for affected children](#).

Security With the exception of a few neighbourhoods on the north-eastern bank of the Tigris River, the Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) secured control of eastern Mosul, although ISIL continued sporadic attacks in the area. The ISF recaptured the strategically important town of Tel Keif, on the main route north from Mosul city. To the west, signs of an imminent offensive to recapture Tel Afar were increasing. In western Iraq, coalition airstrikes focused on Rawa to the northwest of Haditha, which caused displacement of civilians towards Ramadi, near Kilo-18. Around Ramadi and Fallujah, a low but persistent level of ISIL attacks continued using suicide vest and vehicle-borne Improvised Explosive Devices (VBIED). Several complex attacks against the ISF took place west of Ramadi city. In Baghdad, a series of vehicle-borne IEDs in commercial areas east of the city caused civilian casualties predominantly among Shia communities.

¹⁰ This number is those who self-declared as IDPs to the vaccination teams at time of service. Actual number may be higher.

Funding as of 31 January 2017

Appeal Sector	2017 Requirements (US\$)	Funds available * 31.01.2017 b	Funding gap	
			(US\$) c(a-b)	%
Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)	5,000,000	3,244,583	1,755,417	35%
Health and Nutrition	11,000,000	5,069,107	5,930,893	54%
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	74,000,000	15,595,369	58,404,631	79%
Child Protection	24,200,000	11,946,693	12,253,307	51%
Education	32,000,000	11,498,724	20,501,276	64%
Basic Needs (Multipurpose Cash Assistance)	3,600,000	2,822,726	777,274	22%
Winterization (Seasonal Response)	11,600,000	10,053,485	1,546,515	13%
Total	161,400,000	60,230,687	101,169,313	63%

***Note:** Funded amounts includes HQ cost recovery & cross sectoral costs. Funds available' includes funding received against current appeal as well as carry-forward totaling US\$ 41,647,029 from the previous year (carry forward figure is programmable balance as of 31 December 2016 for the 2016 HAC Appeal).

Next SitRep: 14 March 2017

UNICEF Iraq Country Office Official Website: <http://www.unicef.org/iraq/>

UNICEF Iraq Country Office Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/unicefiraq>

UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) Appeal, 2017: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals>

Iraq Humanitarian Response Plan, 2017: <http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/operations/iraq>

**Who to contact
for further
information:**

Peter Hawkins
UNICEF Representative
Iraq Country Office,
Tel: +39 038 105 2470 / 2490
Email: phawkins@unicef.org

Sharon Behn
Chief of Communications
Iraq Country Office,
Tel: +964 780 196 4524
Email: snogueira@unicef.org

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS*

	Cluster Response			UNICEF and IPs		
	Cluster Target 2017	Cluster Results 31.01.17	Change since last Report	UNICEF Target 2017	UNICEF Results 31.01.2017	Change since last Report
RAPID RESPONSE MECHANISM						
Vulnerable people newly displaced by conflict receiving RRM kits within 72 hours of trigger for response [1]				1,300,000	94,356	N/A
Most vulnerable children better protected from risks of winter with appropriate clothing [1]				200,000	61,116	N/A
WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE						
Emergency affected populations with access to a sufficient safe water supply [2]	2,025,873	1,156,773	N/A	1,000,000	107,422	N/A
Emergency affected populations with access to appropriate sanitation facilities [3]	495,213	108,666	N/A	300,000	33,492	N/A
IDPs receiving hygiene kits or other hygiene supplies [4]	2,025,873	163,686	N/A	900,000	60,854	N/A
EDUCATION						
Boys and girls receiving educational supplies [5]	550,000	182,776	N/A	690,000	180,336	N/A
School-aged children reached through temporary learning spaces (pre-fab) [6]	50,000	6,668	N/A	50,000	2,284	N/A
Out-of-school children aged 6 to 17 years accessing education [7]	100,000	1,296	N/A	100,000	1,296	N/A
CHILD PROTECTION						
Children participating in structured, sustained, resilience or psychosocial support programmes [8]	351,270	12,218	N/A	161,567	12,218	N/A
Children receiving specialized child protection services (reunification, alternative or specialized care and services) [9]	47,082	110	N/A	14,065	110	N/A
Females receiving individual or group psychosocial support [10]				9,000	19	N/A
HEALTH						
New-born babies of conflict-affected families benefitting from new-born home services [11]				8,000	598	N/A
Under 1 year old children vaccinated against measles through routine immunization [12]				50,000	107	N/A
Children 0 - 59 months vaccinated against Polio in crises-affected areas through campaigns [13]				5,700,000	5,300,819	N/A
NUTRITION						
Children U5 have access to nutrition services (screening, referral and treatment services) [14]				50,000	1,614	N/A
Targeted mothers of children 0-23 months with access to IYCF counselling for appropriate feeding				20,000	1,541	N/A
SOCIAL PROTECTION						
Most vulnerable children receiving cash assistance [15]				9,000	1,574	N/A

[1] RRM Consortium led by UNICEF and WFP: Gender breakdown N/A in January 2017. Winter: Gender breakdown N/A in January. Reporting for winter response in January is a continuation of the 2016 HRP response.

[2] WASH Cluster: F 589,954 and M 566,819. UNICEF: F 54,785 and M 52,637. In January 2017, UNICEF result reported reflects people reached through water trucking as of end-January 2017.

[3] WASH Cluster: F 55,420 and M 53,246. UNICEF: F 17,081 and M 16,411

[4] WASH Cluster: F 83,480 and M 80,206. UNICEF: F 31,036 and M 29,818

[5] Education Cluster: F 79,552 and M 103,224. UNICEF: F 3,554 and M 3,114

[6] Education Cluster: F 3,554 and M 3,114. UNICEF: F 1,101 and M 1,183

[7] Education Cluster: F 648 and M 648. UNICEF: F 648 and M 648

[8] Child Protection sub-cluster: Girls: 5,735 and Boys: 6,483. UNICEF: G 5,735 and B 6,483
[9] Child Protection sub-cluster: G 18 and B 92. UNICEF: G 18 and B 92.
[10] This indicator does not include females taking part in recreational activities
[11] UNICEF: G: 301, B: 297
[12] UNICEF: G: 55, B: 52
[13] UNICEF, MoH, WHO (nationwide polio campaign): G: 2,703,418 B:2,597,401
[14] UNICEF: G: 815 B: 799
[15] UNICEF: G: 720 B: 854. This table reflects the Iraqi internally displaced households receiving UNICEF supported cash transfer. Syrian refugee households are reflected in UNICEF Syrian refugee reporting.