



©UNICEF/Iraq/2018/Sparks - A young boy studies hard at school in West Mosul, Ninewa

Iraq August and September 2019

3.3 million
of children in need of humanitarian assistance

6.7 million
of people affected (UNOCHA, 2019 Iraq Humanitarian Needs Overview)

1.55 million
of internally displaced people (IDPs)

IOM DTM January 2014 to August 2019

In 2019, **14,583** children received specialized child protection services, including reunification or alternative care

In 2019, **1,108,589** children under five years old were vaccinated against polio through campaigns

SITUATION ANALYSIS

Between August and end-September 2019, humanitarian partners reported significant closures of formal IDP camps, reducing from 89 to 77. The closures, 'consolidation' of people from closed camps to other camps, and related return of IDPs to places of origin took place from Anbar, Kirkuk, Ninewa and Salah al Din. Movements were characterized by lack of adequate communication with IDP communities in camps, as well as by lack of consultation by government authorities, especially in Ninewa, with other government and security actors and with humanitarian partners. Poor information-sharing presented coordination and service delivery challenges, alongside concerns about the involuntary nature of movements. Some reports were received of IDP families, particularly in Anbar, not receiving security clearance to enter camps or being refused return to their home towns, causing secondary displacement. The UN Humanitarian Coordinator called on authorities for effective coordination of IDP transfers and adherence to Iraq's Principle Returns Framework. As of end-September, camp management partners had tracked an overall reduction of around 15 per cent in IDP camp populations. Despite the reduction, 322,143 individuals (165,326 children) remain in camps and over 1.55 million people (728,000 children) remain displaced countrywide.

RESULTS

Individuals reached by UNICEF interventions (Jan-Sept 2019)
Individuals targeted (2019)

INDICATORS	RESULT	% REACHED	TARGET
Emergency affected populations with access to sufficient safe water supply	731,635	75%	972,808
Girls and boys receiving education supplies	141,163	71%	200,000
Children and caregivers participating in structured, sustained, resilience, or psychosocial support programmes	140,258	91%	135,000
Children under 1 year old vaccinated against measles (routine)	249,269	79%	314,985
Most vulnerable children receiving child-focused cash transfer	3,354	22%	15,000

Full summary of programme results (January to Sept) available here.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

WASH: UNICEF has been working with partners to adjust WASH service provision to accommodate new arrivals to remaining IDP camps. In September, efforts focused on Ninewa camps, including Salamiyah-2 where over 21,000 individuals arrived after closure of Salamiyah-1. UNICEF and its NGO partner are working to increase latrines and showers to reduce person ratios, which had risen to 35 people per unit. Overall in 2019 UNICEF and partners contributed 46 per cent of Cluster water supply response and 48 per cent of Cluster sanitation response (access to latrines). UNICEF-supported WASH response has reached 731,000 individuals in camp and non-camp locations since January. Progress has been enabled by timely availability of resources, but continued investment is needed to maintain standards. In summer 2019, WASH facilities in 88 schools were rehabilitated in Anbar, Baghdad, and Salah al Din, improving access for 56,900 children (29,000 girls), with 139 schools' facilities rehabilitated since January (across these governorates, plus Kirkuk and Ninewa).

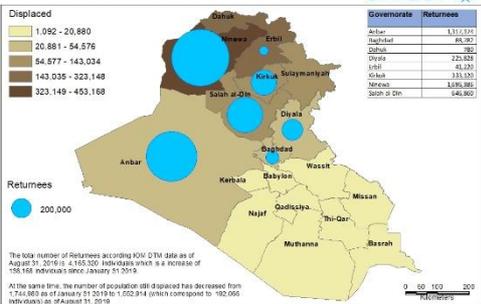
Education: Education Cluster partners continued to work with local, regional and federal authorities on teacher deployment to IDP camps and teacher salaries; camp closure has made this challenging, and the situation is different in each affected governorate, as well as in KRI areas. In August and September, 2,237 teachers (1,344 females) participated in UNICEF-supported trainings in Erbil, Kirkuk, and Ninewa (55 per cent of Cluster response, and 62 per cent of UNICEF's annual target). UNICEF distributions of learning supplies reached 95,157 children in the last two months, for 141,163 children (62,137 girls) reached since January (53 per cent of Cluster response, and 80 per cent of UNICEF's annual target).

Child Protection: Rapid changes in camp status mean child protection (CP) partners have been working on case transfers between locations to ensure case management procedures are observed. Significant returns took place to Hatra and Ba'aj districts of Ninewa where there are no active CP partners; the Child Protection Sub-Cluster (CPSC) will open an expression of interest for partners to cover these areas. Since January, UNICEF and partners reached 104 per cent of the target for PSS (84 per cent of Sub-Cluster response) and 140 per cent for specialized protection assistance (63 per cent of Sub-Cluster response). Services for girls and women who have experienced Gender-Based Violence exceeded the target by 107 per cent. Although UNICEF funding status is good, overall funding for Child Protection and GBV partners is limited, with potential to negatively impact service delivery. Since mid-2019, UNICEF expanded to four additional camps to ensure continuation of protection services after exit of an NGO partner due to lack of funds. Since January, 57 incidents of grave violations of child rights were verified by the UN, affecting 103 children (30 girls).

Health and Nutrition: Services for children affected by camp closures and consolidations were addressed by redistribution of health and nutrition-related equipment and supplies to locations receiving new arrivals. Agreements with NGO partners were adjusted to ensure services in remaining camp locations. In 2019, 96 per cent of targeted children under 5 years have been vaccinated against polio, and 79 per cent of targeted children under 1 against measles. 95 per cent of planned newborns have been visited by health workers. Progress for Infant and Young Child Feeding counselling is at 57 per cent, while nutrition screening remains low (11 per cent) due to challenges in data flow from non-camp health centres.

Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM): UNICEF delivered 1,000 hygiene kits in Anbar to meet urgent needs of IDP families who were moved from camps in other governorates. The RRM Consortium completed the risk and capacity assessment for potential handover of the mechanism to Iraqi authorities; the final report will be available in October 2019.

DISPLACED AND RETURNEES AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2019



The total number of Returnees according to UN DTM data as of August 31, 2019 is 4,155,000 individuals which is an increase of 158,168 individuals since January 31, 2019.
At the same time, the number of population still displaced has decreased from 1,744,000 as of January 31, 2019 to 1,022,000 individuals as of August 31, 2019.
Production: UNICEF Iraq Section. Creation date: October 20, 2019. Data source: IOM (http://iom.int/iraq), UNICEF Iraq.
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



72.9 million
UNICEF Iraq Appeal 2019

73.8 million
Funding available*

Of which **18.8** million
carried forward from 2018

Funding available includes funding received for the current appeal year as well as carry-forward from the previous year. Funding gap* is calculated per programme.

\$ FUNDING STATUS

Appeal Sector	Available (US\$)	% Gap	Requirement (US\$)
Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)	24.56M	2%	24.9M
Education	11.72M	0%	9.97M
Child Protection	26M	0%	20.4M
Health and Nutrition	7.77M	0%	5.8M
Cash-based Transfers	1.14M	77%	4.89M
Non-Food Items	1.59M	73%	6M
Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)	1.07M	0%	890,245

Funding Status and Donor Recognition: As of September 2019, UNICEF's 2019 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal shows a 12 per cent funding gap. In most cases, 2018 carry-over funds and 2019 funds received are earmarked to specific programmes and cannot be used to support gaps in other areas. UNICEF Iraq remains significantly underfunded for its cash-based transfer and non-food item (winter) responses. In August and September, UNICEF received generous contributions towards its IDP response from UNICEF Switzerland, UNICEF France, the Czech Republic, and Canada. UNICEF thanks its donors for their continued support to vulnerable children and women in Iraq. In 2019, UNICEF and partners have been able to continue life-saving and life-sustaining interventions thanks to donors including the European Union (ECHO), the governments of Germany, the United States (Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance and the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration), Canada, Denmark, Japan, Australia, the Netherlands, Sweden and Kuwait. Humanitarian funding was also received through the UNOCHA-administered Iraq Humanitarian Fund (IHF).



©UNICEF/Iraq/2019/Anmar – In summer 2019, at the general hospital in West Mosul, a newborn child lies in their incubator.

Equal Rights for All Children in Iraq

In 2019 UNICEF Iraq is focusing social media and advocacy efforts on improvements to [quality of education](#), particularly the School-Based Management approach, as well as on the [children's right to health](#), and [protection of children in armed conflict](#). In September, the Iraq office hosted [UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Tatianne Da Silva](#), who visited areas impacted by conflict.

UNICEF Iraq continues its year-long campaign calling on the Government of Iraq to renew its commitments to child rights, as part of a series of events celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Convention of the Rights of the Child. As of September, the pledge has amassed over 12,000 signatures and momentum is building! Join us - sign [here](#) to show your support for children in Iraq.



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Who to contact

Hamida Ramadhani,
Representative,
UNICEF Iraq

Email: hramadhani@unicef.org
Website: <http://www.unicef.org/iraq/>

● HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY

In 2019, UN and humanitarian partner strategy in Iraq continues to be: post-conflict transition towards durable solutions; strengthening the centrality of protection; and contingency planning and preparedness. The 2019 UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children appeal intends to support at least one million people, including 540,000 children. Over 6.7 million people in Iraq, at least 3.3 million children under 18, are in need of at least one form of humanitarian assistance in 2019 (Iraq Humanitarian Needs Overview, 2019). Humanitarian action in Iraq is complemented by the UN's 2019-2020 Recovery and Resilience Programme (RRP) which aims to fast-track social dimensions of reconstruction by building on existing humanitarian efforts to ensure tangible improvements early in the reconstruction process, and by the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) for Syrian refugees. UNICEF is committed to ensuring a risk-informed and conflict-sensitive approach, seeking to strengthen adaptive programming for resilient development in consideration of the still-complex, fragile, and dynamic environment.

✦ HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP AND COORDINATION

In August and September, UNICEF participated in Governorate Return Committee meetings for Anbar and Ninewa and worked to encourage information-sharing related to consolidation and closure plans. Cluster partners re-strategized to ensure services continued at least at minimum standards in remaining camps. The WASH Cluster initiated de-commissioning of facilities in closed camps, and available partners increased focus on areas to which IDPs have returned. Humanitarian planning for 2020 continued with the Inter Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) and UNOCHA working with Clusters to define populations in need, priority locations, and develop activity-based costing. The Child Protection Sub-Cluster (CPSC) hosted a two-week visit from the global Child and Adolescent Survivor Initiative (CASI) coordinator, who focused on tools to support survivors and facilitated inter-cluster discussions. The CPSC Child Safeguarding consultant finalized inter-agency training materials, and the first of three trainings took place in Erbil on 23 to 25 September. A team of UNICEF and Global WASH Cluster experts visited Iraq in September to review response in Iraq since 2014 part of a global collaboration to review WASH humanitarian preparedness and response in large-scale emergencies. A detailed report and recommendations are under review by UNICEF Iraq, and will be taken forward with government, UN Country Team, WASH Cluster and other partners as needed. The Education Cluster confirmed payment of teacher incentives for the 2019-2020 academic year will be the government's responsibility.