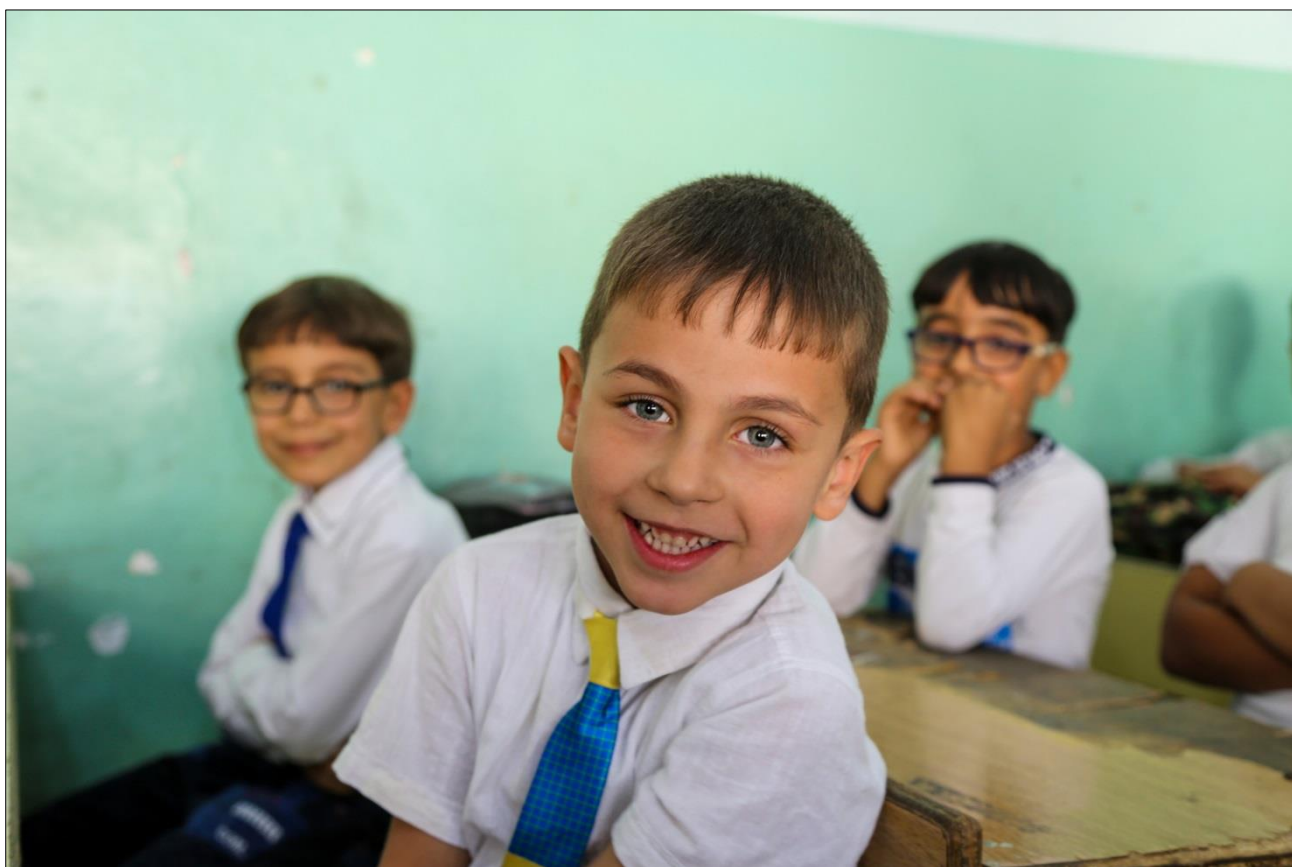


IRAQ CRISIS 2016

CONSOLIDATED EMERGENCY REPORT



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On Cover: On 01 November 2016, Omar, 6 in class at a school in Ramadi, Anbar Governorate. UNICEF supported the clean-up and rehabilitation of more than 100 schools in Anbar.

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AOG	Armed Opposition Groups
CAP	Community Action Plans
CDO	Civil Development Organisation
C4D	Communication for Development
CFS	Child Friendly Space
CPHL	Central Public Health Laboratory
CPWG	Child Protection Working Groups
CT	Cash Transfer
DIB	Disputed Internal Boundaries
DoE	Directorate of Education
DoLSA	Directorate of Labour and Social Affairs
DRC	Danish Refugee Council
GoI	Government of Iraq
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
IM	Information Management
IRP	Immediate Response Plan
KRI	Kurdistan Region of Iraq
KRG	Kurdistan Regional Government
MIRA	Multi-sector Initial Rapid Assessment
MoE	Ministry of Education
MRM	Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism
MoLSA	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
MoH	Ministry of Health
NIHR	National institute for Human Rights
NLG	No Lost Generation
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
NVS	National Vaccines Storage
ODK	Open Data Kit
PHC	Public Health Centre
PME	Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
RIRP	Rebuild Iraq Recruitment Programme
RRM	Rapid Response Mechanism
SCI	Save the Children International
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SRP	Strategic Response Plan
UDF	Um Al Yateem Development Foundation
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UXO	Unexploded Ordinance
WASH	Water, Sanitation, Hygiene
WEO	Women Empowerment Organisation
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
YFS	Youth-Friendly Space

Executive Summary

Despite a decrease in total displaced population in Iraq in 2016 from 3.3 million to 3 million individuals¹, violence and insecurity increased in western and northern Iraq, patterns of displacement continued to be complex, and humanitarian need remained extremely high.²

In 2016, UNICEF continued to provide swift, life-saving assistance to meet the needs of the most vulnerable communities as events unfolded. Mass displacement as a result of active conflict continued. In the second half of the year, contingency planning undertaken by the UN and government indicated a need to prepare for a potential 750,000 newly-displaced people as a result of the military offensive to retake areas of northern Ninewa held by armed opposition groups (AOG) since mid-2014. From June, UNICEF raised its 2016 ask under the Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal from US \$ 101 million to US \$179 million, to help mobilize additional resources for the newly-displaced people, and in October 2016 the UN launched a Mosul Flash Appeal to support the creation of new services, and expansion of existing delivery, to provide for the anticipated new large-scale displacements and resulting overall increase in humanitarian need.

Across Iraq, in 2016 more than 1 million people have returned to their towns and villages ('returnees'). However, public service provision in these areas is frequently limited or completely non-existent as locations have been occupied by armed militants or have suffered infrastructure damage due to conflict. Recently accessible areas are often severely lacking in basic services and, as scenes of recent active conflict, can even present additional dangers to those who return; areas may still hold unexploded ordinance (UXO), landmines, or even bombs and explosives deliberately laid by retreating armed groups, with the intention of slowing military progress civilian return, as well as hampering reconstruction efforts.

Nearly 85 per cent of all displaced people are hosted in just seven of Iraq's 18 governorates³. With this vastly increased population in limited areas of the country, public service provision and basic national service infrastructure in these locations, including water and sanitation networks, health centres, schools, and child protection services, continue to bear a very significant burden. There remain over 233,000 Syrian refugees⁴ in Iraq, the majority of whom (around 97 per cent) are hosted in the three northern governorates of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI), which has also hosted up to 900,000 internally displaced Iraqis. At the end of 2016, a total of 239,077 Iraqis are registered as refugees in neighbouring countries, with 5,491 Iraqis fleeing to Syria since 17 October.⁵

The situation of children remains of great concern in Iraq and across the wider region. As a result of the on-going violence and displacement, children's education is at risk with an estimated 3 million children in Iraq currently out of school. Not only do many children in Iraq lack safe places to live and to learn, they have been exposed to psychological distress through witnessing violence or experiencing it first-hand. Children's right to play is impacted as the economic situation in Iraq worsens, as they may increasingly be called upon to contribute to the family resources through working. Child labour exposes children to additional risks, both physical and social, as they miss out on key developmental milestones and opportunities.

¹ International Organisation for Migration (IOM) Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), January to December 2016

² IOM identifies 7 main periods of displacement since 2014, the onset of the current crisis: January–May 2014, June–July 2014, August 2014, post-1 September 2014 to March 2015, post-1 April 2015 to February 2016, post-1 March 2016 to 16 October 2016, and from 17 October 2016 to date. The Mosul displacements and additional expected displacements prompted inclusion of the seventh displacement period in the DTM (from 17 October 2016 to present).

³ Anbar, Baghdad, Dahuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa and Salah al-Din

⁴ Syria Regional Refugee Response Inter Agency Information Portal: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/country.php?id=103>

⁵ UNHCR Iraq Situation Flash Update, 26 December 2016.

The economic environment in Iraq remains an obstacle to provision of consistent basic services for Iraqi citizens. The lack of liquidity in the banking system that began in the second half of 2015 has continued to affect the payment of government employee salaries until the end of 2016. As in the previous year, social unrest was also visible across Iraq. Demonstrators took to the streets in at various points throughout 2016 to protest electricity cuts, lack of access to services, delayed public sector pay, and electoral organization. The effects of the overlapping Syrian refugee and internal displacement crises were highly visible across the country, with increased populations in the north and centre of Iraq placing strain on local economies, services and infrastructure, stretching the government's capacity and leaving many communities more vulnerable.

After the September 2015 cholera outbreak affected 17 of Iraq's 18 Governorates, with over 2,800 cases⁶ confirmed by the Central Public Health Laboratory (CPHL), UNICEF has continued to work with the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Ministry of Health (MOH), the Ministry of Municipalities, and other relevant authorities to ensure availability of stock for key water treatment materials, as well as support for community (active) surveillance, home water treatment and safe storage, community case management, and promotion of oral rehydration salt (ORS) use and enhancement of individual, household and community hygiene as key components of the cholera response. Although there has been no further outbreak of cholera in 2016, general public service and health conditions in the country are unlikely to improve quickly, and UNICEF remains concerned about further disease outbreaks in 2017.

In the year, UNICEF and partners successfully mobilized and coordinated a complex humanitarian response to reach families and children during each phase of their displacement through a package of interventions that encompassed 'first', 'second' and 'third' (full cluster) lines of action under the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) which aimed to ensure timely access to immediate life-saving response in the first phases of displacement in acutely-affected locations, as well as ensuring that, where feasible, the 'third' line of response undertook adequate measures to enhance local, regional, and national capacity through a resilience-building lens. During 2016, through UNICEF support, more than 1.2 million Iraqis were provided with access to safe water, over 73,700 displaced and host-community children had safe protective temporary learning spaces, and across the country more than 5.6 million children under the age of five were immunized against polio as part of continuing nationwide efforts to eradicate the virus. More than 138,800 displaced children were provided with psycho-social assistance through Child- or Youth-Friendly Spaces operating in IDP camps and in host community areas. More than 108,000 children benefited from warm winter clothes, and more than 1.3 million individuals received critical lifesaving items via the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) led by UNICEF and the World Food Programme (WFP) in collaboration with UNFPA and a consortium of international and national NGO partners⁷.

In response to the changing dynamics brought about by the military offensive to retake Mosul city, in October 2016 UNICEF in collaboration with WFP, UNFPA and NGO partners developed a 'multi-sector emergency response package' (MSEP). Similar in concept to the RRM kits that reach vulnerable populations on the move, the MSEP reaches children and families who have remained in their towns and villages once the frontline military action has moved on, and is intended to provide essential support items as a basic first line response measure. Since the start of Mosul Operations in October, by end-December 2016 UNICEF had reached 217,000 people (119,350 children) in retaken communities with a multi-sectoral emergency package in retaken communities affected by conflict, of

6 Suspected cholera cases were tested initially at Provincial Public Health Laboratories before final confirmation at Central Public Health Laboratory. While higher number of cases were reported at Provincial level, UNICEF only reports on cases confirmed centrally by the Ministry of Health.

7 The current seven NGO partners engaged in the RRM are: 1. Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED), 2. Danish Refugee Council (DRC), 3. National Institute for Human Rights (NIHR), 4. Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 5. Save the Children International (SCI), 6. Rebuild Iraq Recruitment Programme (RIRP), 7. Women Empowerment Organisation (WEO)

which 70,800 people were reached in December alone⁸, including on December 8, the largest humanitarian aid delivery in eastern Mosul in 2016 where WFP, UNICEF and UNFPA combined their logistic capacity and partner network to provide food, dignity kits, water purification tablets, and hygiene kits for 42,000 people. Overall, the scale of UNICEF's humanitarian response effort in Iraq continues to be among the largest in the world.

Capacity development of local partners is central to UNICEF Iraq programming. In 2016 UNICEF Iraq, through its new country programme began programmes based on capacity development of local community-based organisations and groups. Through the education programme various trainings and training-of-trainers sessions have been delivered throughout the 11 UNICEF-prioritized governorates of Iraq⁹. UNICEF supported measles and cholera campaigns and interventions in IDP and refugee camps, with involvement of camp management and IDPs. To promote the importance of education, UNICEF and the Ministry of Education supported 'Back to School' learning campaigns targeting IDPs and refugees in camps, as well as in host community areas, and continues to expand the nation-wide roll-out of the School Based Management (SBM) approach in coordination with the Ministry of Education (MoE) at federal and sub-national levels, in line with the broader UNICEF MENA region education strategy.

As of December 2016, UNICEF had received US \$ 183,722,577 against its 2016 appeal (103 per cent funded), with around one-third of the total contributions received in the final quarter of the year (an increase of just over US \$ 62 million received between 30 September and 31 December 2016), four of the six programme sections were overfunded against their 2016 appeal, with Basic Needs¹⁰ (multipurpose cash transfer), Child Protection, Education and WASH funded at -19 per cent, -18 per cent, -14 per cent and -10 per cent respectively). However, with a significant portion of funds arriving in the final quarter of the year, full achievement of results within the 2016 timeframe was restricted for certain programmes. In addition to this, RRM and Health and Nutrition were underfunded at the close of the year, with 33 per cent and 22 per cent funding gaps respectively. While Health and Nutrition had also been underfunded in 2015 (at 51 per cent funding gap by the close of 2015), the underfunding of the RRM marked a significant change from the previous year, where RRM had only an 8 per cent gap by December 2015. With lower than expected humanitarian funding available for health and nutrition, the programme continued critical support to national immunization campaigns, and ensured that key activities included, among others, cold chain support and training of medical and paramedical health staff, as part of resilience-building activities expected to show impact over the coming year.

Flexible thematic funding made up a significant portion of UNICEF humanitarian response for IDPs in Iraq, providing core support for the people who needed it most. UNICEF National Committees and public sector donors played an essential role in securing high quality thematic funding for children in Iraq. UNICEF Iraq acknowledges the critical nature of these flexible contributions which totalled US \$ 4,652,394 in 2016¹¹. With a fast-paced humanitarian situation on the ground, the flexible nature of

⁸ In the UNICEF Iraq December 2016 sitrep this was reported as 163,800 people reached – at time of preparation of the December sitrep, not all partner data had been verified. Where possible, all deliveries included a package supplemented with the World Food Programme's food ration and UNFPA's dignity kits. Packages also include information leaflets with child protection and Mine Risk Education (MRE) messages.

⁹ Of these 11 governorates, Sulaymaniyah is considered a focus governorate only due to the dual burden of the Syrian refugee and Iraqi displacement crises. In other respects, the child deprivation analysis completed as part of the Iraq Country Programme 2016-2019 indicated that deprivation rates were higher in the other 10 governorates.

¹⁰ Under the HRP 2016, RRM (US\$ 17.5 million) and Seasonal Response (US\$ 10 million) requirements were collated under one Appeal Sector 'RRM'. In 2016, breakdown of funds received were as follows: for RRM \$ 11,980,896 (68 per cent of total 2016 requirement for IDP response) and for Seasonal Response US\$ 6,313,399 (63 per cent of total 2016 requirement for IDP response under the HRP). An additional US \$ 5 million was requested to support seasonal response for Syrian refugees, reported as part of the Regional Refugee and Resilience response plan (3RP).

¹¹ Breakdown of available thematic funds in 2016 is as follows: US \$ 3,555,836 carried over from 2015 thematic funds; US \$ 1,098,458 received in 2016.

thematic funding allowed UNICEF to respond immediately to emergency situations, reaching the most vulnerable populations in conflict- and displacement-affected locations. Flexible funding further allowed UNICEF to procure critical supplies for contingency plans and pre-position these with partners across the country, and to ensure swift delivery of critical first-line humanitarian assistance to people in hard to reach, or newly-accessible, locations.

Given its multi-year timeframe, thematic funding contributed to sustain and strengthen resilience-based interventions, such as strengthening the national child protection system for better case management and provision of child protection services to internally displaced Iraq children, Syrian refugees, host communities, and other vulnerable children.

Humanitarian Context

Violence and insecurity increased in western and northern Iraq throughout the year. As a consequence, patterns of mass displacement continued, and humanitarian need remained extremely high.¹² Nearly 85 per cent of all displaced people are hosted in just seven of Iraq's 18 governorates¹³. The situation of children remains of great concern, with nearly half of all affected people estimated to be under the age of 18.

In 2016, UNICEF continued to provide swift, life-saving assistance to meet the needs of the most vulnerable communities as events unfolded. With the retake of the cities of Fallujah and Ramadi, more than 85,000 people (over 14,200 families) were displaced in Anbar governorate since 23 May due to escalation of conflict in Fallujah and surrounding areas. An estimated 30,000 people were displaced between 15 and 17 June 2016 alone.

Contingency planning undertaken by the UN and government indicated a need to prepare for a potential 750,000 newly-displaced people, as a result of the start of the military offensive to retake areas of northern Ninewa held by armed opposition groups (AOG) since mid-2014. From June 2016 UNICEF raised its 2016 ask under the Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal from US \$ 101 million to US \$179 million, to help mobilize additional resources for the newly-displaced people.

In October 2016 the UN launched a Mosul Flash Appeal to support the creation of new services, and expansion of existing delivery, to provide for the anticipated large-scale displacements from northern Ninewa. Mass displacement continued in the second half of the year, with more than 130,000 people¹⁴ displaced from Mosul and surrounding areas between 17 October and the end of December 2016. Military operations near Mosul intensified on 29 December, causing over 9,000 people to flee the city in only four days. Although exact figures remained uncertain, between 1 and 1.5 million people were estimated to remain out of reach of humanitarian assistance in Mosul city.

Across Iraq more than 1 million people have returned to their towns and villages. Public service provision in these areas is frequently limited or completely non-existent as locations have been occupied by armed militants or have suffered infrastructure damage due to conflict. Nearly 85 per

¹² IOM identifies 7 main periods of displacement since 2014, the onset of the current crisis: January–May 2014, June–July 2014, August 2014, post-1 September 2014 to March 2015, post-1 April 2015 to February 2016, post-1 March 2016 to 16 October 2016, and from 17 October 2016 to date. The Mosul displacements and additional expected displacements prompted inclusion of the seventh displacement period in the DTM (from 17 October 2016 to present).

¹³ Anbar, Baghdad, Dahuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa and Salah al-Din

¹⁴ IOM DTM Emergency Tracking - Mosul Operations Fact Sheet #9, 29 December 2016. More detailed information available at: DTM Emergency Tracking Mosul portal: <http://iraqdtm.iom.int/EmergencyTracking.aspx>.

cent of all displaced people are hosted in just seven of Iraq's 18 governorates¹⁵. A total of 239,077 Iraqis are registered as refugees in neighbouring countries, with 5,491 Iraqis fleeing to Syria since 17 October.¹⁶ There remain 230,000 Syrian refugees¹⁷ in Iraq, the majority of whom are hosted in three northern governorate.

Protection remains a paramount concern for all civilians caught in conflict zones. Reports were received throughout the year of strict security screening procedures that separated boys and men from their families, and being held in inhumane conditions, placing civilians at risk of maltreatment.

Drawing on a combined assessment and immediate, rapid response approach, UNICEF is providing multi-sectoral packages of life-saving commodities and relief interventions to affected communities, particularly focusing on minorities and hard-to-reach, highly mobile populations. UNICEF is also prioritizing the protection needs of civilians, including those displaced and otherwise affected by the conflict, with due regard to human rights and international humanitarian law, most directly through the continuation and strengthening of the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) which documents data on grave violations of child rights in situations of armed conflict.

Since its launch in 2013 the No Lost Generation (NLG) initiative has done much to galvanise international concern around the plight of children affected by the Syria and Iraq crises, raising fears about the possible "loss" of a whole generation of children to the effects of violence and displacement. The initiative provided a framework for often underfunded critical interventions in education and child protection, putting these front and centre in the response, and has contributed to a dialogue among humanitarian and development partners about the need for investments in education and child protection service delivery systems that bridge immediate response plans and longer term development efforts. In Iraq, the NLG initiative targeted both Syrian refugee and Iraqi IDP children in addition to the host communities. With international recognition that an entire generation of children is being shaped by violence, displacement and the associated psychosocial trauma, and the concomitant the risk that these children could lose access to fundamental rights affecting their development, the NLG bridges emergency response with early recovery, transition and development to support building resilient systems, individuals and communities to allow at-risk children to reach their full developmental and intellectual potential.

¹⁵ Anbar, Baghdad, Dahuk, Erbil, Kirkuk, Ninewa and Salah al-Din

¹⁶ UNHCR Iraq Situation Flash Update, 26 December 2016.

¹⁷ Syria Regional Refugee Response Inter Agency Information Portal: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/country.php?id=103>

Figure 1: UNICEF Iraq programme focus areas 2016-2019

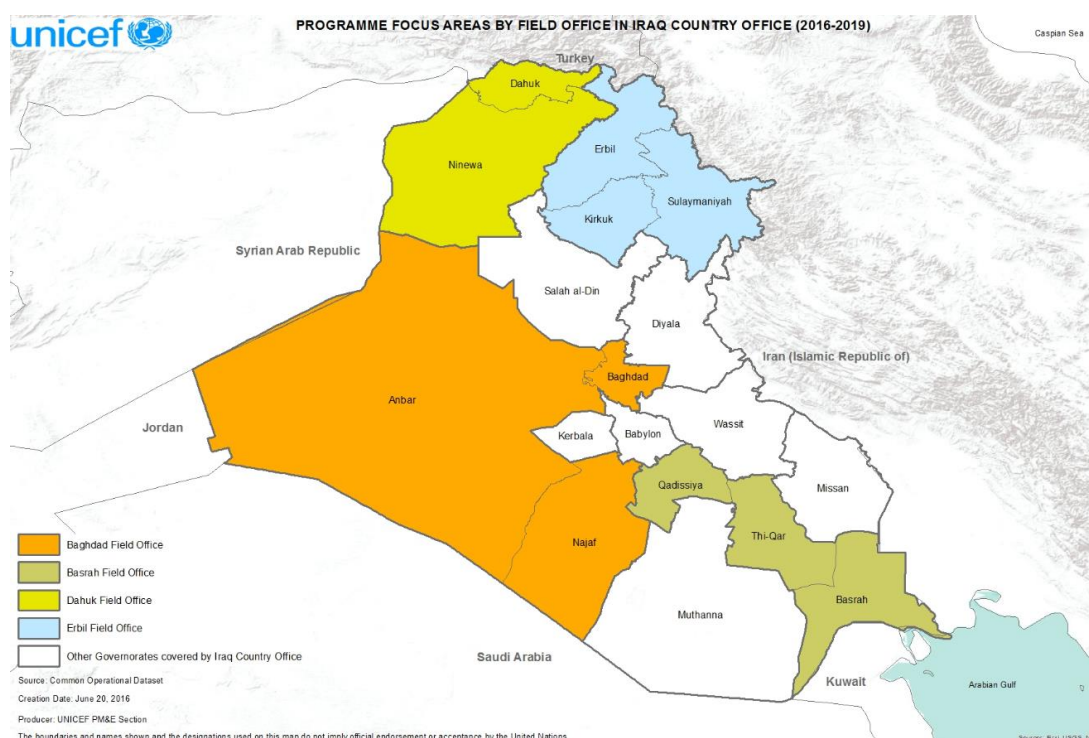
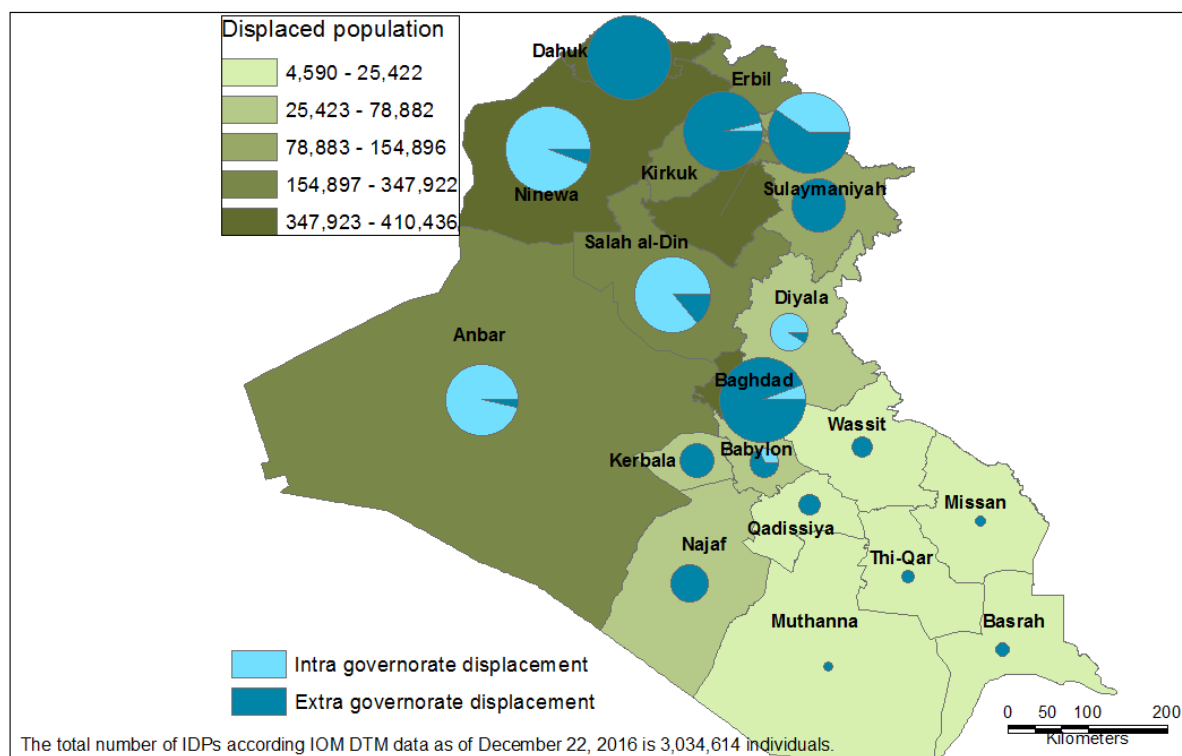


Figure 2: Population of internally displaced people (IDPs) as of December 2016



IDPs POPULATION AND TYPE OF DISPLACEMENTS - DECEMBER 22, 2016



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Humanitarian Results

Rapid Response Mechanism

As of December 2016, the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) consortium reached 1.3 million individuals. UNICEF, based on projections for expected new displacements made during the planning phase of the HRP, intended to reach 2.4 million individuals through the RRM in 2016. Overall, the rate of new displacements in the country were lower than projected. Since the RRM responds to the immediate life-saving and dignity-raising needs of displaced populations on the move during the first 72 hours of their displacement, the number of people reached with RRM was also lower than anticipated. Additionally, at the close of the year, funding for UNICEF's portion of the RRM Consortium was 33 per cent under-funded, impacting the level of stock preparedness that was possible for the UNICEF RRM items (bottled water, hygiene kits, jerry cans).

RRM kits consist of a 6 kg immediate response food ration, hygiene kit with supplies to last a family a week, 12 litres of bottled drinking water and a water container; and UNFPA's dignity kit. The RRM Consortium of UN agencies (UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP) and 7 NGO partners (ACTED, Danish Refugee Council¹⁸, 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. This represents increased coverage in comparison to 2015, where the two governorates of Anbar and Ninewa were only partially covered due to security access concerns.

Through the RRM humanitarian baskets, provision of basic necessities can alleviate the stress of movement, mitigate the development of acute needs and reduce the initial burden of a newly-displaced population on the host community, and potentially reduce the impact of loss of resources for families who experience a rapid or multiple displacement. UNICEF provided overall leadership and coordination of Iraq's RRM, together with WFP, including: strategic planning and technical leadership, capitalization of lessons learned, and scale up of best practices and innovations. Coordination has remained a key part of responding to the needs of rapidly displaced people; as co-lead, and after alignment of partners at the end of 2015, UNICEF and WFP ensured the broadest geographic coverage for the response to newly-displaced populations on the move. In 2017, the RRM consortium stands ready to reach an anticipated 1.3 million newly-displaced IDPs, should the situation require.

¹⁸ DRC left the RRM Consortium as of end-December 2016.

IRAQ - Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) Distributions 2016

-
- The map displays the population distribution across Iraq, with blue circles indicating the relative size of the population in different regions. The largest circles are concentrated in the central and northern parts of the country, particularly around the cities of Erbil, Nineveh, and Sulaymaniyah. Orange numbers are scattered around the map, likely representing specific population figures for certain areas. The map also shows the boundaries of the provinces and the names of major cities and towns.

* The total figure calculated from partners daily distribution report.

	Cluster Target 2016	Cluster Results 31.12.16	UNICEF Target 2016	UNICEF Results 31.12.16
RAPID RESPONSE MECHANISM -- 2016 Needs: 2.4 million vulnerable people				
Vulnerable people newly displaced by conflict receiving RRM kits within 72 hours of trigger for response [1]			2,400,000	1,337,849

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

12

People have remained displaced and in camps throughout 2016 and UNICEF continued to cover water supply, sanitation, and hygiene for existing IDPs, as well meeting the increasing need for WASH support in returnee areas, acute emergency needs of the newly-displaced, as well as those living in host communities. Although the total IDP population declined, significant resources were required to ensure continued service delivery for existing IDPs, and financial support for ongoing operations and maintenance for camp-based IDPs represents a high portion of UNICEF investment into WASH in Iraq, ensuring this group continue to have access to appropriate services. Meeting WASH needs of new IDPs can also represent a significant financial investment, especially if new camps need costly temporary trucked water supply or large-scale infrastructure work to establish new water and sanitation networks.

In 2016, UNICEF supported water, sanitation and hygiene for 1,206,816 displaced people (567,203 children) country-wide. Of the overall cluster results in 2016 UNICEF supported 53 percent of water supply, 84 per cent of sanitation, and 76 per cent of hygiene activities, based on cluster and UNICEF progress as of December. Populations in transit locations fluctuated, depending on relocation of IDPs to other camps as well as the rates of continuing new arrivals. Overall, the changing operational environment required a continued flexible response from WASH partners. This has been increasingly supported through the expanded network of 'WASH Service Centres' (WSC). The network, initiated by UNICEF at the close of 2015 has continued to expand and strengthen throughout 2016, when a total of 12 WSC served displacement-affected areas of western and northern Iraq, and provided coordination and monitoring services for WASH actors and local authorities, and enhanced service delivery for WASH interventions. Response for people arriving from conflict-affected areas of Ninewa and Kirkuk continued in 11 sites in Dahuk, Ninewa, and Salah al Din serving at least 249,433 newly-displaced people with access to safe water (as of 18 December 2016).

UNICEF has supported government and local authority partners to provide safe water and sanitation services in more health and education facilities, particularly in the most vulnerable districts. Appropriate WASH services in schools can improve equity of educational access, notably for girls, as well as decrease potential for disease transmission between students. The proportion of primary schools in Iraq with basic water and good sanitation facilities is less than 70 per cent. Despite this relatively low coverage figure, there has been good progress on improving WASH in schools in 2016. UNICEF support contributed to upgrade and rehabilitation of WASH facilities in primary schools in 11 governorates across northern, central and southern Iraq, with an estimated 346,304 children (157,636 girls) in 482 schools. In 2016 UNICEF started a new initiative at governorate level with the Directorates of Health (DoH) for better WASH services in health care facilities. As of October 2016, 13 Primary Healthcare Centres (PHC) in four governorates had benefited from direct UNICEF support to improved facilities. Across these facilities, a daily average of 5,850 patients (52 per cent female) have improved access to safe WASH facilities upgraded and rehabilitated by UNICEF.

Since the middle of the year, UNICEF included the anticipated increase of humanitarian need resulting from the military operations in northern Ninewa into its Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal. With contingency planning at the time indicating that more than 1 million people were still living in Mosul city, and that the humanitarian community should be prepared to serve up to 750,000 newly-displaced people, UNICEF increased its WASH targets and funding ask, aiming to reach as many people in need as possible. As of 19 December 2016, the number of newly-displaced people from northern Ninewa had reached 104,424 people (approximately 49,079 children) which, although significant, was not as high as anticipated. As of 19 December, UNICEF was present in 11 of the 22 sites receiving new IDPs from Mosul and Hawiga, and had completed water and sanitation infrastructure capable of serving more than 90,000 people, half of them children¹⁹.

¹⁹ A total of 15,118 water and sanitation 'plots' had been completed; in WASH humanitarian planning, 1 plot is designed to serve 1 family of 6 individuals according to Cluster defined standards for the settlement site.

Change in displacement patterns was noted during the Mosul offensive, as significant portions of affected populations in northern Ninewa chose to remain in newly-retaken communities, rather than displace into new emergency transit sites or settlements. Humanitarian responders had to adjust accordingly – for WASH, between the start of Mosul Operations in October, and the end of the year, UNICEF had reached 163,800 people (90,090 children) remaining in these retaken communities with a multi-sectoral emergency package in retaken communities affected by conflict, of which 28,800 people were reached in December.²⁰ In December UNICEF initiated emergency water trucking through the Humanitarian Relief Foundation (HRF) to an estimated 10,000 people in 10 recently retaken villages on the eastern edge of Mosul city. Four water points (boreholes and loading points) were also rehabilitated in the same area. WASH cluster partners expanded water trucking in accessible areas of Mosul, to 33 accessible neighbourhoods by end of December 2016. In 2017 UNICEF aims to reach 1 million IDPs with access to WASH services across the country.

To support strong coordination and timely provision of safe WASH services, UNICEF as WASH cluster lead agency provided oversight and guidance for the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) to provide a sequenced (first line, second line and full cluster response) and comprehensive package of water, sanitation and hygiene services to affected people. After the cholera outbreak in late 2015, prevention efforts continued throughout 2016, with WASH and health cluster partners updating the joint Cholera Preparedness and Response Plan (CPRP) for high-risk governorates.

Table 2: Iraq Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Performance Monitoring

	Cluster Target 2016	Cluster Results 31.12.16	UNICEF Target 2016	UNICEF Results 31.12.16
WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE - 2016 Needs: 6.6 million people				
Emergency affected populations with access to a sufficient safe water supply [2]	2,372,430	2,277,298	1,952,130	1,206,816
Emergency affected populations with access to functional latrines [3]	910,937	470,866	686,104	394,118
IDPs receiving hygiene kits or other hygiene supplies [4]	1,480,868	1,228,487	466,393	930,469

[2] WASH Cluster: F 1,161,422 and M 1,115,876. UNICEF: F 615,476 and M 591,340

[3] WASH Cluster: F 240,142 and M 230,724. UNICEF: F 201,000 and M 193,118

[4] WASH Cluster: F 626,528 and M 601,959. UNICEF: F 474,539 and M 455,930

Education

Shortage of learning spaces and overcrowding in existing schools continued due to increased school-age populations in displacement-affected governorates, and the need for education space, materials and teachers continued. Schools in Iraq often convene two/three shifts per day in order to cope with increased number of students. This limits teacher/pupil contact time, which is expected to have negative impact on children's performance however, as of 2016, there is no mechanism in place for monitoring children's learning outcomes at national or regional levels. It is estimated that nearly 3.5 million school-aged Iraqi children attend school irregularly, or not at all, and more than 600,000 displaced children have missed an entire year of education. With limited education partner capacity

20 Where possible, the package is supplemented with the World Food Programme's food ration and UNFPA dignity kits. Packages also include information leaflets with child protection and Mine Risk Education (MRE) messages.

across the country, increasing access and quality of education especially for children in non-camp locations proved an enduring challenge throughout the year.

UNICEF worked in coordination with government and NGO partners to promote an integrated approach in support of children's education, connecting children's enrolment and attendance at school with unconditional cash transfers reaching identified vulnerable households with children at particular risk of dropping out, or already not attending school. These children have also been increasingly connected to Child Protection services through UNICEF partners, as part of ongoing integration of education and child protection efforts.

For areas under ISIL control, many public services - including schools - have reportedly not been fully functional since 2014. Due to this, education needs are being assessed as children arrive at displacement sites and UNICEF has already supported 5,409 children (2,579 girls)²¹ affected by the Mosul operations to access temporary learning spaces in newly-established IDP camps in Dahuk, Ninewa, and Salah al Din. Across the country, UNICEF continued to increase access to education, and improve quality of learning environments for IDP and host community children. As UN lead agency for the Education cluster, UNICEF has supported access to temporary learning spaces (TLS) for 73,797 children (37,786 girls, and 72 per cent contribution to overall cluster progress), provided educational supplies for 521,615 children (214,814 girls, and 64 per cent of cluster progress), including textbooks, notebooks, stationery, school bags and teaching materials.²²

UNICEF worked to improve the quality of education and children's performance using the School-Based Management approach, whether serving Iraqi IDP, Syrian refugee or host community children. A key component of this strategy was to encourage the formation and to develop the capacity of Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs), which play a key role in improving school governance and community/parental involvement as connectors between schools and communities, parents, teachers, and children. In 2016, 432 schools adopted the School Based Management (SBM) approach with at least 180,301 children (87,065 girls) accessing education in these facilities. The approach fosters decentralisation, with more decision making authority devolved to individual schools, enabling principals, teachers, parents, and community members to take day-to-day decisions to improve school governance and quality of education.

Qualified teachers have been difficult to find and, in efforts to serve all schools, the Ministry of Education has had to post teachers to serve in schools far from their homes; combined with delayed salaries, teachers have reported difficulties in meeting the costs of travel, among other expenses. In 2016, where agreed with the MoE, UNICEF has provided incentives to cover transportation and related costs for teachers attending UNICEF-led trainings, as one mitigation measure to encourage continued professional development. To support delivery of quality education in the classroom, UNICEF supported 3,362 teachers and education personnel (1,618 females, and 98 per cent of cluster progress) to participate in trainings on a range of topics including improved pedagogy, and provision of psychosocial support in the classroom. 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.

In 2016, the Education cluster coordination continued under a co-lead arrangement with two dedicated cluster coordinators – one UNICEF, and one Save the Children – and a full-time national Information Management Officer supporting cluster partners through regular meetings, updates, and

²¹ As of 18 December 2016

²² For delivery of educational learning materials, UNICEF worked in close coordination with the Ministry of Education and its Directorates, also to ensure timely sharing of information in relation to material needs and close follow-up on onward delivery of items from MoE/DoE warehouses to schools. This system is being further regularised and strengthened for improved 2017 reporting.

information-sharing. Collaboration with the Ministry of Education in Baghdad and Erbil continued, with representatives attending cluster meetings when possible.

For 2017, UNICEF intends to supply 690,000 IDP and host community girls and boys with education materials²³ to support quality learning; ensure that additional temporary learning spaces (pre-fab structures) are opened for 50,000 school-aged children; and increase efforts to ensure that 100,000 out-of-school children aged between 6 and 17 years are supported to return to learning.

Table 3: Iraq Education Humanitarian Performance Monitoring

	Cluster Target 2016	Cluster Results 31.12.16	UNICEF Target 2016	UNICEF Results 31.12.16
EDUCATION - 2016 Needs: 3.3 million school-age children				
School-aged children reached through temporary learning spaces (pre-fab) [5]	45,000	102,188	86,000*	73,797
Teachers and education personnel receiving training on EiE and / or PSS and / or Pedagogy [6]	8,300	5,264	7,000	3,362
Boys and girls receiving educational supplies and / or teaching learning material [7]	615,000	531,275	650,000*	521,615

[5] Education Cluster: F 48,053 and M 54,135. UNICEF: F 37,786 and M 36,011

[6] Education Cluster: F 2,429 and M 2,835. UNICEF: F 1,618 and M 1,744

[7] Education Cluster: F 254,772 and M 276,503. UNICEF: F 214,814 and M 306,801

Child Protection and Adolescent Development

Children in Iraq remain at high risk of experiencing or witnessing violence. Since January 2016, the Iraq Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) verified 201 grave violations of child rights affecting 478 children (341 boys, 103 girls, and 34 sex unknown). Killing and injuring was the most commonly reported violation, with 227 children confirmed killed and 179 injured in 2016. In December, the MRM verified an incident in which more than 700 children²⁴ and their families (total: 1,750 individuals) were trapped at front lines, held by different armed actors in Baybokht village for more than a month, without access to humanitarian assistance.

Adolescent development programming was strengthened in 2016 under the banner of the No Lost Generation initiative. In the year, 2016 UNICEF community initiatives were ongoing in 13 communities in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (11 in Dohuk and 2 in Erbil). UNICEF launched the “I care, let’s care together” campaign reaching out to youth and adolescents. Volunteer networks of adolescent and youth are engaged in each community, for a total of 200 volunteers from various backgrounds, and have participated in 10 leadership trainings, 100 community consultations, and 1,443 community initiatives, including socialization/recreational activities, language training, community outreach, livelihoods and life-skills. Activities also include the areas of Special Education, Social Media and Educational Assistance Services. These activities have been implemented in a participatory grassroots approach designed to be responsive to changing social dynamics. Participation of girls, especially adolescent girls, and people living with disabilities was identified as being low. UNICEF launched two additional campaigns to increase participation among these groups. A total of 124,623 beneficiaries were engaged, of which 116,554 were adolescents (10-18 years) and youth (19-24

²³ Increase between 2016 and 2017 targets reflects the anticipated increase in access to the school-age populations either in northern Ninewa or newly-displaced from there to other locations

²⁴ At time of reporting, the incident itself has been verified, but UNICEF has not yet been able to confirm the total number of children involved.

years). Analysis of social cohesion patterns in project locations formed a central part of UNICEF work in 2016.

UNICEF-supported child protection interventions reached 138,881 newly-registered children (66,265 girls) with psychosocial support services, representing a 69 per cent contribution to the overall children reached by all child protection actors. A total of 14,377 (5,951 girls) accessed specialised services, including 2,071 cases of children identified as Unaccompanied or Separated (UASC) (528 girls) who were provided with documentation, family tracing, reunification, or alternative care services. In December, 4,736 girls and women accessed GBV services through UNICEF partnerships, reaching a total of 12,799 women and girls over 2016.²⁵

Fixed child friendly spaces (CFS) were set up in host communities, providing a static point for service delivery; by the end of 2016, UNICEF supported a total of 86 Child-Friendly Spaces across Iraq, representing an increase of 36 CFS (72 per cent) in available spaces between the end of 2016 and the end of 2016. Of these 67 were 'static' (fixed location, increased from 38 at the end of 2015) and 19 were 'mobile' (increased from 12 at the end of 2015). Numbers of mobile child friendly spaces were increased throughout 2016, to move between locations and use existing community facilities, particularly youth centres run by local authorities, supporting strengthened outreach to children in underserved or more remote locations.

UNICEF continued to scale up assistance for children newly-displaced from Mosul and surrounding areas. Since operations started on 17 October, UNICEF partners reported providing Psychosocial First Aid (PFA) to 10,384 children (5,027 girls) and PSS to 11,337 children (5,441 girls). Children identified as the most vulnerable have been provided sustained specialised services including individual counselling, health, and legal services among others, resulting in observable positive behavioural changes as reported by child protection partners. UNICEF continues to engage with authorities on treatment of children in detention including those detained during military operations. UNICEF and the Directorate of Mine Action have agreed mobile Mine/Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Risk Awareness education activities that are anticipated to start in Anbar and Salah al Din governorates in 2017.

To improve quality of services, UNICEF supported training of government and NGO partners on case management, concepts of child protection in emergencies (CPiE), monitoring and reporting on grave violations (MRM), and delivery of psychosocial support. UNICEF conducted a nationwide consultation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MOLSA) and child protection partners to establish the scale, scope, and strategy for UASC response in Iraq. 'Separated' children represented more than 95 per cent of the overall reported UASC caseload with only 5 per cent as 'unaccompanied'. Of the two, unaccompanied children are considered the more vulnerable as they are entirely without adult supervision or support.

UNICEF supported an interagency task force in developing a strategy for mobile service teams that outlines basic guidance for provision of emergency services to newly-displaced children. A training package was rolled to almost 100 mobile team members, and develop and print key emergency messages.

To address the specific needs of adolescent girls, UNICEF and UNFPA supported development of an 'Adolescent Girls Toolkit'. Eight GBV and CP partners were introduced to the curriculum which covers life skills, reproductive health, financial literacy, and community engagement. UNICEF and UNFPA initiated a taskforce intended to support development and piloting of the toolkit but which, in the course of the year, expanded to include community outreach for behaviour change and advocacy.

UNICEF developed a curriculum on GBV response and preparedness adapted to Iraq, and provided technical support to GBV and child protection partners to better respond to mental health and

²⁵ The significant increase in numbers in December compared to previous months results from retroactive partner reporting.

psychosocial needs (MHPSS) of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) survivors. This fed into a contextually-adapted training on response to CRSV survivors targeting front line service providers.

Over the course of the year the child protection sub-cluster (CPSC) increased its active members from 30 to 47 partners. Led by UNICEF and Save the Children the CPSC expanded work beyond camps to increase protection assistance for children in host communities. Two Child Protection coordinators – one UNICEF staff and one Save the Children International staff – and one full-time Information Management Officer supported child protection partners across the country. As a result gaps in service delivery have been identified to address specific needs of child survivors of gender based violence, children who have been released from armed forces or armed groups, and adolescents. In 2017, child protection partners will continue to expand into these service gaps, as well as increasing geographic outreach into urban, semi-urban and newly-accessible areas.

Table 4: Iraq Child Protection Humanitarian Performance Monitoring

	Cluster Target 2016	Cluster Results 31.12.16	UNICEF Target 2016	UNICEF Results 31.12.16
CHILD PROTECTION - 2016 Needs: 3.6 million children under 18				
Grave child rights violations verified	250	201	300*	201
Children receiving specialized child protection services (reunification, alternative or specialized care and services) [8]	30,000	42,131	38,559*	14,377
Children participating in structured, sustained, resilience or psychosocial support programmes [9]	150,000	201,879	206,000*	138,881
Women and girls receiving GBV services at women centres/mobile teams			16,500*	12,799

[8] Child Protection sub-cluster: Girls: 18,726 and Boys: 23,405. UNICEF: G 5,951 and B 8,426

[9] Child Protection sub-cluster: G 95,713 and B 106,166. UNICEF: G 66,265 and B 72,616. For child protection projects with partners with UNICEF agreements spanning December 2015 into 2016, a 'continuing caseload' of children has been included in 2016 results, as of July reporting.

[10] UNICEF: G: 1,057, B: 1,015

Health and Nutrition

Throughout 2016 UNICEF, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, supported districts to launch mobile healthcare services to provide curative and preventive services (immunization, growth monitoring, and antenatal/postnatal care and health promotion activities) to IDPs residing in camp settings, informal settlements and within host communities. The programme intended to reach as many children under 5 as possible throughout the year, including the anticipated new-displacements in the final quarter. From mid-year, resource mobilization efforts in advance of the anticipated military offensive in northern Ninewa were increased – however, UNICEF's Health and Nutrition programme struggled with underfunding throughout the year, with a 50 per cent funding gap as of end-September, and an outstanding 22 per cent funding gap as of the end of the year. Noting that a significant portion of funds arrived in the final quarter of the year, full achievement of results within the 2016 timeframe was restricted.

Health and Nutrition had also experienced significant underfunding throughout the previous year 2015, with a 51 per cent funding gap by the close of that year. With lower than expected humanitarian funding available again in 2016, the programme continued critical support to national immunization campaigns, and ensured that key activities included, among others, cold chain support and training of medical and paramedical health staff, as part of resilience-building activities expected to show impact

in the coming year. In recognition of this prolonged limitation in resources, UNICEF has pared down its requirement for Health and Nutrition from US \$ 21.7 million in 2016 to US \$ 11 million in 2017. The 2017 programme will streamline its support to the most vulnerable children, aiming to present clear support to the most cost-effective interventions, including immunization campaigns, routine vaccination support, and growth monitoring.

In 2016, and in continued country-wide efforts to eradicate polio after two cases were confirmed in Iraq in 2014, Nationwide Polio Immunization Days (NPID) continued. In the year, 5.8 million children (2.9 million girls) under five years were vaccinated against polio either as part of the Nationwide Polio Immunization Days (NPID) ongoing since 2014, or as part of 'mop up' campaigns to trace defaulters and ensure high coverage. A total of 31,867 children under one year (16,252 girls) were vaccinated against measles as part of routine vaccination services since January. The Federal MOH in coordination with KRG MOH and support of WHO and UNICEF concluded a campaign on 29 December 2016, targeting 800,000 children for vaccination against Polio and measles in the most vulnerable areas of Anbar, Kirkuk, , Salah al Din, retaken areas of Ninewa and IDPs living in camps of the KR-I. UNICEF provided vaccinations, medical supplies, transportation and health promotion ('Communication for Development, or 'C4D') support to a large-scale vaccination campaign between 18 and 29 December, covering six governorates.²⁶ The MoH reported 700,545 children vaccinated against polio (OPV; 92.7 per cent coverage), and 542,422 children (86.4 per cent coverage) were vaccinated against measles, at close of the campaign on 29 December.²⁷ As part of UNICEF's commitment to reduce neonatal mortality UNICEF supported newborn home care services reaching 2,072 newborn babies (1,057 girls) and their families as part of services in the first month of life.

Nutrition services reached 33,364 IDP and host community children (32,411 IDP children) who were screened for nutritional status, and referred to specialised care if required. At least 172 children were identified with some form of malnutrition in December and reached with appropriate treatment according to need. Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRC) are available in pediatric hospitals for inpatient treatment while in IDP camps, where capacity exists, UNICEF-supported 'Baby Huts' provide therapeutic food on an outpatient basis. As part of the multisector emergency response package in retaken communities, UNICEF delivered High Energy Biscuits (HEB) for children under 5 as part of 'first line' blanket distribution of nutrition supplies. Between 17 October and 18 December, 4,860 children (2,464 girls) affected by Mosul operations received supplements. In the same period, UNICEF has supported vaccination of 21,900 children affected by Mosul operations. Health and nutrition services continue to face funding challenges during the ongoing economic downturn in the country. Primary Healthcare Centres (PHC) opening hours are limited, as public sector salaries have been either non- or partially-paid for many months. High turnover of government health staff necessitates regular refresher trainings in many locations to ensure adequate quality of services.

In the wake of the cholera outbreak that hit Iraq in September 2015 UNICEF, through its health and nutrition and WASH programmes, has continued to support prevention activities such as hygiene promotion and awareness raising in identified high-risk areas, and targeted distributions of key hygiene items to vulnerable people, and remains concerned of the risk that a further public health outbreak poses to children; children were among the most vulnerable in the 2015 outbreak, with one in every five cases being a child.

For 2017 UNICEF targets 5.7 million children under 5 in Iraq for polio immunization as part of the ongoing global efforts to eradicate the condition, alongside the Ministry of Health and the WHO; intends to reach over 50,000 IDP children under 1 with measles vaccinations through support to

²⁶ Target areas: Anbar, Dahuk (Zelikan camp), Erbil (IDP camps), Kirkuk Ninewa, Salah al Din. Strategy was to vaccinate all children under 5 against polio (OPV) and all children 9 months to 5 years against measles (providing there is no evidence of measles-containing vaccination within previous 28 days).

²⁷ Geographic coverage of the campaign was the same; polio and measles figures cannot be combined as they may double-count children reached.

routine immunization services; will outreach 50,000 IDP children under 5 years children with nutrition screening and growth monitoring services through Primary Healthcare Centres; and support 20,000 mothers of children under 2 years with information about appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices.

Table 5: Iraq Health and Nutrition Humanitarian Performance Monitoring

	Cluster Target 2016	Cluster Results 31.12.16	UNICEF Target 2016	UNICEF Results 31.12.16
HEALTH - 2016 Needs: 5.6 million children under 5				
New-born babies of conflict-affected families benefitting from new-born home services [10]			100,800	2,072
Under 1 year old children vaccinated against measles through routine immunization [11]			283,700	31,867
Children 0 - 59 months vaccinated against Polio in crises affected areas through campaigns [12]			IDP: 731,000	IDP:522,185
			Host community: 5,200,000	Host community: 5,296,380
NUTRITION - 2016 Needs: 5.6 million children under 5				
U5 Children have access to nutrition services (screening, referral and treatment services) [13]			IDP: 114,000	IDP: 32,411
			Host community: 320,000	Host Community: 953
Targeted mothers of children 0-23 months with access to IYCF counselling for appropriate feeding			47,000	7,906

[10] UNICEF: G: 1,057, B: 1,015

[11] UNICEF: G: 16,252, B: 15,615

[12] UNICEF IDP: G: 266,314 B: 255,871 Host Community: G: 2,701,154, B: 2,595,226. The National Polio Immunization Days (NPID) conducted in October reached 4.7 million children in Iraq in 16 governorates. The HPM table reflects the higher result, which was achieved during the April 2016 NPID.

[13] UNICEF IDP: G: 16,530 B: 15,881 Host Community: G: 486, B: 467

Cash Assistance

UNICEF has provided cash assistance to identified vulnerable families in Iraq since December 2014. In general, UNICEF's experience with cash transfers in Iraq, as well as in a variety of other humanitarian contexts, shows that unconditional (or 'multi-purpose') cash transfers leads to direct expenditure on children's nutrition, health and education, builds social capital, and promotes dignity to empower vulnerable households. Experience has also highlighted the potential for the use of cash transfers to encourage increased school attendance among children belonging to deprived households, such as those affected by prolonged displacement. Households identified as meeting the specific vulnerability and targeting criteria agreed by UNICEF and cash transfer partners received cash assistance through direct transfer of US \$ 30 per child per month, for the duration of an academic semester. After that, recipient families underwent reassessment, to check for any changes in circumstances that might affect their eligibility for cash assistance. For children who had previously not been enrolled in school, but were found to be eligible to attend (out of school children), partners were enabled to provide assistance of US \$ 40 per child, in recognition of the need to ensure this particularly vulnerable group received sufficient support. In all cases, direct cash assistance was considered to be multipurpose (unconditional) but UNICEF and partners ensured that targeted families received information on the importance of formal education as an advantage for children's

future, and guidance on local schools and enrolment procedures as targeted support to raise awareness of available schools and education services.

Due to insecurity and challenges in identifying suitable partners in the first half of 2016, the planned target of 14,655 households was not achieved by the end of 2016. Of the eight governorates originally planned for delivery of cash assistance, the security situation in two – Anbar and Ninewa – has not been sufficiently stable for cash delivery; while, in Diyala, Kirkuk, and Salah al Din, UNICEF was not able to identify appropriate partners to operate. UNICEF's programme is a multi-year intervention that will last until 2020, providing longer term support to most vulnerable families in Iraq. Since January 2016, UNICEF-supported cash transfers reached 2,070 children across Baghdad, Dahuk, and Erbil. Children are selected on the basis of vulnerability criteria, through targeted needs assessments in each location. Support to this group will continue throughout the remainder of the academic year 2016-2017.

Cash assistance recipients were registered using Last Mile Mobile Solutions (LMMS), an innovative technology that supports quick, accurate registration and, through provision of ID cards, helps to avoid duplicated registration for services and cash transfers. In close cooperation with the local authorities, accountability and monitoring systems were set up to ensure that distribution and beneficiary selection is according to standard and agreed criteria. In 2017, UNICEF-supported cash assistance will continue through the three existing partners, targeting children from identified vulnerable families in Dahuk, Erbil, and Baghdad governorates. With ongoing changes in the security environment, should additional areas of the country become accessible in the coming year, UNICEF will coordinate with UN and other cash assistance partners to ensure that vulnerable populations in newly-retaken areas receive appropriate livelihood and social protection support. Overall, UNICEF intends to reach 9,000 vulnerable children in 2017.

Table 6: Iraq Cash Assistance Humanitarian Performance Monitoring

	Cluster Target 2016	Cluster Results 31.12.16	UNICEF Target 2016	UNICEF Results 31.12.16
SOCIAL PROTECTION - 2016 Needs: 2.8 million vulnerable people (466,000 households)				
Most vulnerable households receiving cash assistance [14]			14,655	2,070

[14] This table reflects the Iraqi internally displaced households receiving UNICEF supported cash transfer. Gender breakdown not available from all partners. Syrian refugee households reached are reflected in UNICEF Syrian refugee reporting. Households are selected on the basis of vulnerability criteria not nationality or status.

Winterization

In the winter of 2016/2017 UNICEF protected children by providing warm clothes, through distribution of winter clothes and thermal blankets. Limited funding received for seasonal response meant that the planned target of total 750,000 children will not be reached for winter 2016-2017.

As a result, priority was given to IDP children under 14 years newly-displaced from northern Ninewa (including Mosul city) and living in non-formal or non-camp environments including in makeshift tents, open shelters, or unfinished buildings. As of December 2016 UNICEF provided 108,728 (55,957 female) IDP children with warm clothes. In addition 1,040 pregnant women received winter clothes for their expected new born babies, and 27,917 IDP children received warm blankets. The large portion of the reached children (64 per cent) were supported in Ninewa, including in newly retaken areas around Mosul city.

Distributions will continue into 2017; the result achieved as of December 2016 is not UNICEF's total achievement for the winterization response; the full result will be reported after conclusion of the overall seasonal action in March 2017.

Table 7: Iraq Winterization Performance Monitoring

	Cluster	Cluster	UNICEF	UNICEF
	Target	Results	Target	Results
	2016	31.12.16	2016	31.12.16
Winterization				
Most vulnerable children better protected from risks of winter with appropriate clothing [15]			750,000	108,728

[15] Winter response (clothing): Girls 55,957 and Boys: 52,771. The target covers the entire winter period 2016-2017; distributions will continue into the first months of 2017.

Monitoring and Evaluation

UNICEF strengthened monitoring and information management in 2016 working with UNHCR and OCHA to mainstream the use of ActivityInfo for improved coherence and coordination of online partner reporting across both the HRP for the IDP response and the 3RP for the humanitarian response to the Syrian refugee crisis. UNICEF, UNHCR and OCHA worked to synchronize indicators, through sector and cluster leadership, to support more coherent and coordinated reporting collectively across the response. UNICEF continued to utilize mobile data collection using Open Data Kit to monitor the Rapid Response Mechanism distributions, collecting real time information on newly displaced populations at the same time as verification of supply distributions. Towards the end of 2016, transition began from the ODK to the OCHA-led Kobo platform, further enhancing and streamlining the accessibility of questionnaire and survey tools for all partners.

In 2016 UNICEF focused on systematically gathering and analysing information on performance and progress on the delivery of services, specifically through a revised monitoring framework, and roll-out of enhanced programme monitoring. Implementation partners continued to be regularly assessed through the UNICEF-wide Harmonised Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT) procedure, which monitors activity implementation and partner performance. Through a process of increased decentralization over the course of the year, UNICEF ensured that accountability structures were in place with agreed roles and responsibilities, to enhance the effective reach of services.

As of end-2016, 60 per cent of the 2015 audit recommendations (18 of 32) had been closed ahead of the requested deadline. For the remaining recommendations, corrective actions have been put in place with regular follow-up to ensure ongoing compliance and closure.

The UNICEF Iraq Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (IMEP) was created at the beginning of the year in line with the Costed Evaluation Plan, through a results-based programme planning process. At the close of 2016, the IMEP contains four evaluations of a large programme scale to be carried out over the course of the current Country Programme 2016-2019. Due to several delays in programming, the WASH evaluation for 2016 was delayed due to the eight project partners facing delays in implementation. UNICEF is currently in the process of carrying out a donor-requested evaluation for RRM programming over the past three years.

In 2016, as part of the annual quality assurance process, the office conducted milestone reviews, at the midyear and end-year marks, focused on programme monitoring to assess progress made (including financial utilisation) against planned targets. Through such monitoring the office generated evidence on the quality, timeliness and effective reach of services; assessed constraints; and identified risks in implementation and the use of resources.

Financial Analysis

The ongoing shifting picture of humanitarian needs in Iraq, brought about by intensification of violent conflict, necessitated an increase in UNICEF Iraq's fundraising appeals in 2016 from an initial US \$ 101 million at the start of the year to US \$ 179 million by October 2016. This revised amount included US \$ 43 million to respond to the anticipated increase in accessible populations due to the start of the Mosul offensive on 17 October 2016, which was also included in a UN-wide Mosul Flash Appeal that ran from October to December 2016.

This was against a background of unprecedented levels of violence in the country, mass displacement and destruction of infrastructure leading to increased humanitarian needs. Contingency planning by UN and government partners in mid-2016 indicated that the humanitarian community could expect up to one million additional people in need. Needs from this intensification of conflict were anticipated in addition to the humanitarian imperative to maintain ongoing support to the government, who suffered continued economic downturn and fiscal limitations which impeded the provision of services for the existing IDP population which, at the time, reached 3.2 million across the country.

As of December 2016, UNICEF had received US \$ 183,722,577 against its 2016 appeal (103 per cent funded), with around one-third of the total contributions received in the final quarter of the year (an increase of just over US \$ 62 million received between 30 September and 31 December 2016). The receipt of a significant portion of funding in the final quarter of the year, coupled with significantly lower levels of new displacement in the same period, resulted in lower than anticipated progress against targets which had been adjusted against initial contingency planning figures from the middle of the year.

Four of the six programme sections ended the year overfunded against their 2016 appeal, with Basic Needs²⁸ (multipurpose cash transfer), Child Protection, Education and WASH funded at -19 per cent, -18 per cent, -14 per cent and -10 per cent respectively). However, with a significant portion of funds arriving in the final quarter of the year, full achievement of results within the 2016 timeframe was restricted for certain programmes. In addition to this, RRM and Health and Nutrition were underfunded at the close of the year, with 33 per cent and 22 per cent funding gaps respectively. While Health and Nutrition had also been underfunded in 2015 (at 51 per cent funding gap by the close of 2015), the underfunding of the RRM marked a significant change from the previous year, where RRM had only an 8 per cent gap by December 2015. With lower than expected humanitarian funding available for health and nutrition, the programme continued critical support to national immunization campaigns, and ensured that key activities included, among others, cold chain support and training of medical and paramedical health staff, as part of resilience-building activities expected to show impact over the coming year.

Flexible thematic funding made up a significant portion of UNICEF humanitarian response for IDPs in Iraq, providing core support for the people who needed it most. UNICEF National committees and public sector donors played an essential role in securing high quality thematic funding for children in Iraq. UNICEF Iraq acknowledges the critical nature of these flexible contributions which totalled US \$ 4,652,394 in 2016 (US \$ 3,555,836 carried over from 2015 thematic funds; US \$ 1,098,458 received in 2016 alone). Given that the humanitarian situation on the ground changes quickly, the flexible

²⁸ Under the HRP 2016, RRM (US\$ 17.5 million) and Seasonal Response (US\$ 10 million) requirements were collated under one Appeal Sector 'RRM'. In 2016, breakdown of funds received were as follows: for RRM \$ 11,980,896 (68 per cent of total 2016 requirement for IDP response) and for Seasonal Response US\$ 6,313,399 (63 per cent of total 2016 requirement for IDP response under the HRP). An additional US \$ 5 million was requested to support seasonal response for Syrian refugees, reported as part of the Regional Refugee and Resilience response plan (3RP).

nature of thematic funding allows UNICEF to respond immediately to emergency situations, reaching the most vulnerable populations in conflict- and displacement-affected locations. Flexible funding further allowed UNICEF to procure critical supplies for contingency plans and pre-position these with partners across the country, and to ensure swift delivery of critical first-line humanitarian assistance to people in hard to reach, or newly-accessible, locations.

Given its multi-year timeframe, thematic funding contributed to sustain and strengthen resilience-based interventions, such as strengthening the national child protection system for better case management and provision of child protection services to internally displaced Iraq children, Syrian refugees, host communities, and other vulnerable children.

In 2016 joint ventures to enhance cost savings with UN agencies in Iraq continued. Joint agreement with UN agencies on staff housing was further negotiated and adjusted, resulting in an annual savings of approximately one million dollars. Select UNICEF field office locations were moved from the common premises to join other UN agencies – other offices increased use of common shared spaces, resulting in an annual savings of \$28,000. The implementation of a common approach in ICT services with other UN agencies resulted in annual savings of \$46,000. UNICEF is an active participant in interagency discussions within the UN Common Services framework. In 2016 the interagency group initiated a review of all common issues in their respective areas of responsibility. It is envisaged that such collaboration will bring about streamlined and unified practices where applicable and contribute to better efficiency and effectiveness for all participating agencies in Iraq.

Table 8: Funding status against the appeal by sector

Appeal Sector	2016 Revised Requirements (US\$)	Funds available * 31.12.2016	Funding gap	
	A	b	(US\$) c(a-b)	%
Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)**	27,500,000	18,294,295	9,205,705	33%
Health and Nutrition	21,762,000	16,934,475	4,827,525	22%
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	62,000,000	68,358,797	-6,358,797	-10%
Child Protection	22,000,000	26,206,362	-4,206,362	-19%
Education	38,560,000	45,544,869	-6,984,869	-18%
Basic Needs (Multipurpose Cash Assistance)	7,369,212	8,383,779	-1,014,567	-14%
Total	179,191,212	183,722,577	-4,531,365	-3%

* Funds available include funding received against current appeal as well as carry-forward from the previous year totaling US\$ 52,019,959 (carry forward figure is programmable balance as of 31 December 2015 for IDP Response). Additional funds at end of 2016 will be carried over into the following the year. ** Under the HRP 2016, RRM (US\$ 17.5 million) and Seasonal Response (US\$ 10 million) requirements were collated under one Appeal Sector 'RRM'. In 2016, breakdown of funds received were as follows: for RRM \$ 11,980,896 (68 per cent of total 2016 requirement for IDP response) and for Seasonal Response US\$ 6,313,399 (63 per cent of total 2016 requirement for IDP response under the HRP. An additional US \$ 5 million was requested to support seasonal response for Syrian refugees. UNICEF response to Syrian refugees is detailed [here](#)).

Table 9: Funding Received and Available by 31 December 2016 by Donor and Funding Type (in USD)

Donor Name/Type of Funding	Grant Reference	Programmable Amount (USD)
I. Humanitarian Funds Received in 2016		
a) Thematic Humanitarian Funds		
See Details in Table 3	SM149910	1,098,458
b) Non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds		

ECHO	SM160321	19,424,950
USAID/OFDA	SM160255	16,627,778
Germany	SM160026	15,579,402
DFID	SM160548	9,011,445
Japan	SM160063	6,481,481
USA (State) BPRM	SM160210	6,481,481
USAID/OFDA	SM160316	5,879,630
Canada	SM160522	4,192,872
Germany	SM160586	3,931,745
Kuwait	SM160606	3,809,524
Japan	SM160364	2,777,778
OFDA	SM160593	2,777,778
Denmark	SM160613	2,642,482
Italy	SM160585	1,474,404
SIDA - Sweden	SM160103	1,411,472
Canada	SM160521	1,397,624
ECHO	SM160411	1,044,223
ECHO	SM150622	1,022,516
UK - Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)	SM160045	954,179
USA (State) PRM	SM160408	925,926
Poland	SM160601	554,367
Korea	SM160531	462,963
Belgium	SM150387	72,313
WFP - Italy	SM160132	55,556
Lithuania	SM160427	41,290
Cyprus	SM160620	19,815
Total Non-Thematic Humanitarian Funds		109,054,994
c) Pooled Funding		
CERF	None	-
Humanitarian Response Fund		
UNOCHA - IHPF	SM160251	186,689
UNOCHA - IHPF	SM160252	1,030,876
UNOCHA - IHPF	SM160293	464,260
UNOCHA - IHPF	SM160345	2,804,200
UNOCHA - IHPF	SM160430	1,542,250
UNOCHA - IHPF	SM160464	467,300
UNOCHA - IHPF	SM160465	933,715
UNOCHA - IHPF	SM160526	373,755
UNOCHA - IHPF	SM160527	2,477,258
UNOCHA - IHPF	SM160556	852,094
UNOCHA - IHPF	SM160605	555,505
Total Humanitarian Response Funds		11,687,902
d) Other types of humanitarian funds		
USAID/OFDA	KM160052	392,988
United States Fund for UNICEF	KM160069	200,000
Total of other types of humanitarian funds		592,988
Total humanitarian funds received in 2016 (a+b+c+d)		121,841,354

II. Carry-over of humanitarian funds available in 2016

e) Carry over Thematic Humanitarian Funds

Thematic Humanitarian Funds	SM149910	3,555,836
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f) Carry-over of non-thematic humanitarian funds

Germany KFW	SM150604	13,444,031
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OFDA	SM150541	6,231,196
UK NatCom	SM150434	6,085,539
ECHO	SM150276	4,909,357
Germany KFW	SM150574	4,899,079
Germany KFW	SM150435	4,212,850
Germany GIZ	SM150600	2,579,079
UNOCHA	SM150471	766,792
Japan	SM150051	724,891
SIDA - Sweden	SM150185	721,084
SIDA - Sweden	SM140241	686,979
UNOCHA	SM150515	570,609
Denmark	SM150129	544,838
Norway	SM150603	454,396
UNOCHA	SM150491	388,344
Ireland	SM150584	244,954
Japan	SM150371	238,212
German NatCom	SM140430	184,376
Belgium	SM150387	154,705
German NatCom	SM140559	154,379
United States Fund for UNICEF	SM150353	132,548
Republic of Korea	SM150367	103,267
Germany GIZ	SM150520	31,150
Italy	SM150025	1,267
SIDA - Sweden	SM140601	112
Danish Committee for UNICEF(In kind)	KM150037	89
Total carry-over non-thematic humanitarian funds		48,464,123
Total carry-over humanitarian funds (e+f)		52,019,959
III. Other Sources (Regular Resources Set-Aside, Diversion of RR - if applicable)		
None	None	-
Total Other Resources		-

Table 10: Thematic Humanitarian Contributions Received in 2016 (in USD)

Thematic Humanitarian Contributions Received in 2016	Grant Reference	Programmable Amount (USD)
Global Thematic - German NatCom	SM1499101274	315,358
Global Thematic - Dutch NatCom	SM1499101297	258,799
Global Thematic - UK NatCom	SM1499101244	187,970
Global Thematic - UK NatCom	SM1499101244	173,792
Global Thematic - Japan NatCom	SM1499101232	59,167
Global Thematic - UK NatCom	SM1499101244	35,714
Global Thematic - Canadian NatCom	SM1499101047	32,891
Global Thematic - United States Fund for UNICEF	SM1499101345	15,363
Global Thematic - Italian NatCom	SM1499101120	10,645

Global Thematic - Italian NatCom	SM1499101120	8,758
Total Amount		1,098,458

Future Work Plan

UNICEF's 2016-2019 programme supports the Iraqi Government at national, regional and subnational levels to strengthen basic social services to reach the most vulnerable children and women, especially those affected by conflict and displacement, in support of the National Development Plan 2013-2017 and the Kurdistan Regional Government's 'Vision 2020'. Humanitarian actions contributed a significant part of UNICEF support in Iraq, which consist of both humanitarian and development programming.

Future planning continues to take into account the changing scenario of humanitarian assistance in Iraq, which remains unpredictable, and builds upon existing achievements and lessons learned from the previous years. Reinforcing coordination and strategic partnerships humanitarian actors (NGOs and UN) remains one of the common priorities of 2017 response. UNICEF continues to enhance cluster coordination, information management and contingency planning to improve emergency and humanitarian programming; and to be ready for rapid response to new series of displacement.

Similarly to 2016, ongoing military operations in the centre and northern areas of Iraq are expected to lead to further displacement of civilians, forcing them to flee their homes. A further increase in the number of IDPs - displaced from and to - throughout 2017 is considered likely to take place in the already-affected governorates of Anbar, Baghdad, Dahuk, Diyala, Kirkuk, Mosul, Ninewa and Salah al Din.

Through Cluster coordination, UNICEF will also support the establishment of sustainable interventions meant to build resilience among IDPs, including cash- based programming. The anticipated expansion of cash-based assistance could not reach its full coverage in 2016; for 2017, targets are set within the parameters of geographic reach and security access. With increasing areas newly-under control of the Government of Iraq, UNICEF will work with UN partners to assess the options available for unconditional cash transfer in support of vulnerable children in these formerly hard-to-reach locations.

For 2017, UNICEF humanitarian response will be guided by the 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) which, through rigorous prioritization, will be operationalized through three 'lines' of response that aim to be both complementary and connecting, to meet the needs of the most vulnerable populations on the move through the 'first', emergency line of response, through to the 'third' line which aims to strengthen local capacities and national skills to respond to the needs in Iraq.

Table 11: 2017 plans by programme section

Sector	UNICEF Programme targets January to December 2017	Main Objectives of UNICEF 2017 Interventions
Rapid Response Mechanism	1.3 million people newly displaced by conflict received RRM kits within 72 hours of the trigger for response	Tailored to respond to the emergency needs occurring in rapid, wide-scale population displacement, delivery immediate, life-saving supplies to families who are on the move, in hard to reach areas, stuck at checkpoints or stranded between front

Sector	UNICEF Programme targets January to December 2017	Main Objectives of UNICEF 2017 Interventions
		lines
WASH	1 million people including vulnerable, at-risk, displaced populations in and out of camps reached with clean water, safe toilets and hygiene products	<p>Support provision of equitable and sustainable access to safe water to most vulnerable emergency-affected populations</p> <p>Improve access to gender and culturally appropriate sanitation to live in a healthy, hygienic environment.</p> <p>Provide appropriate core hygiene items and impart knowledge of good personal and environmental hygiene</p>
Education	<p>690,000 girls and boys receiving education supplies or teaching/learning materials</p> <p>50,000 children reached through temporary learning spaces (prefabricated)</p> <p>100,000 out-of-school children aged 6-17 years accessing education</p>	<p>Enable vulnerable girls and boys to equitably access quality education in safe learning environments, providing psycho-social support and life skills required to promote peace and social cohesion</p> <p>Support child-friendly learning environments through provision of essential teaching/learning materials</p> <p>Support access to informal and formal learning for out-of-school children</p>
Child Protection	<p>161,567 children received structured, sustained resilience or psychosocial support programmes</p> <p>14,065 children received specialized protection services</p>	<p>Increase access to age-appropriate psychosocial support and case management for children affected by violence</p> <p>Support ongoing provision of specialized protection services including</p> <p>family tracing and reunification for unaccompanied children;</p> <p>strengthening community-based psychosocial support and mental health services;</p> <p>Mine Risk Education to reduce the risk of injury and loss of life from landmines and ERW in most affected conflict-affected locations</p>
Health and Nutrition	<p>5.7 million children aged 0 to 59 months vaccinated for polio in crises affected areas</p> <p>50,000 most vulnerable children under 1 year vaccinated against measles</p> <p>50,000 children have their growth monitored</p>	<p>Sustain and expand the gains of the immunization services</p> <p>Strengthen advice and support services for pregnant women and new mothers, to improve early childhood care</p> <p>Support preparedness for containment of outbreaks (cholera, measles, Polio, etc).</p>
Cash Transfer	9,000 most vulnerable children received child-focused cash transfers	Focusing on newly displaced IDPs, returnees, hosting communities and longer term displaced IDPs

(*) Based on the Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) Appeal 2017

Expression of Thanks

On behalf of Iraq's children, the internally displaced inside the country and those living in host communities, UNICEF takes this opportunity to express sincere gratitude to all partner governments, UNICEF National Committees, Foundations and private individuals for their continued and sustained support. In 2016, UNICEF and partners were enabled to provide life-saving and life-sustaining interventions, thanks to the generous contributions of donors including the people and governments of Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Ireland, Italy, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States, as well as the European Union.

Only through such support, joint efforts and coordination is it possible to respond to an emergency of such a scale. UNICEF would also like to extend thanks to partners across all countries for their tireless efforts in achieving results for children and focusing on saving lives, alleviating suffering and ensuring respect for children's rights.