



UNITED NATIONS
IRAQ



Iraq



ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT 2025



UNITED NATIONS
IRAQ



Iraq

ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT 2025

United Nations Sustainable Development
Cooperation Framework 2025–2029

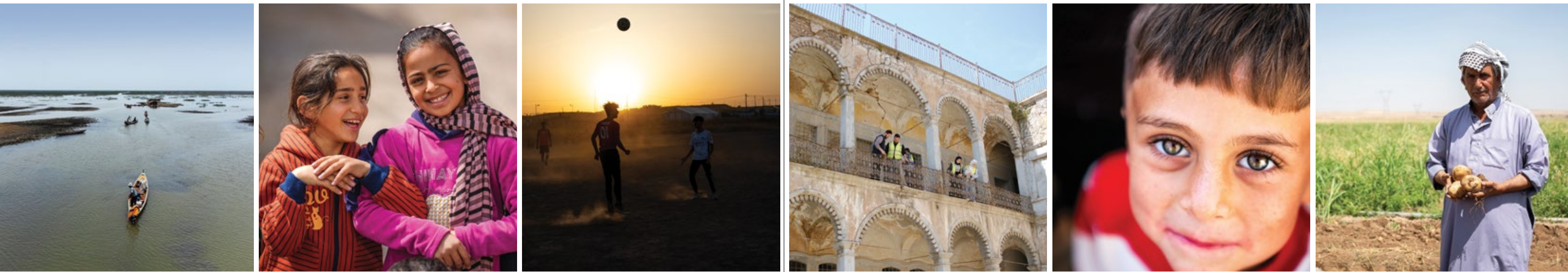


Table of CONTENTS

06 Foreword

09 Executive summary

17 CHAPTER 1
Country context

22 CHAPTER 2
Results of the Cooperation Framework
Strategic Priority 1. Inclusive Social Development
Strategic Priority 2. Sustainable Economic Development, Livelihoods & Employment
Strategic Priority 3. Environment & Climate Change Resilience
Strategic Priority 4. Good Governance & Rule of Law

54 CHAPTER 3
Financial overview

57 CHAPTER 4
Operational challenges and lessons learned

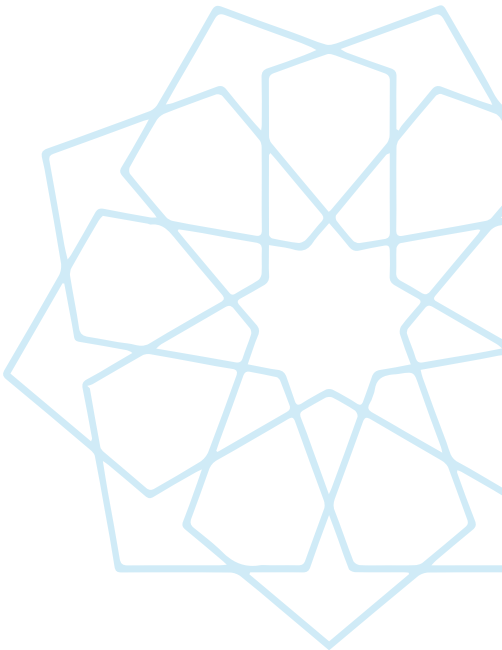
58 CHAPTER 5
Looking ahead to 2026

60 CHAPTER 6
Business Operations Strategy 2025

62 United Nations Country Team composition

63 Donors and partners

65 Abbreviations and acronyms





Foreword

Ghulam Isacgai, United Nations Resident Coordinator, Iraq

The year 2025 marked the launch of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for Iraq 2025–2029, establishing a renewed strategic partnership between the United Nations and the Government of Iraq in support of nationally defined development priorities. Over the course of the year, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) worked in close collaboration with government institutions, civil society and development partners to support continued progress in strengthening institutions, expanding access to essential services and advancing sustainable and inclusive development.

The signing of the UNSDCF in December 2025 marked a new chapter of cooperation with the Government of Iraq after the departure of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq. The achievement of this important milestone reaffirms our shared commitment to advancing inclusive development, climate resilience and accountable governance.

Iraq stands at a pivotal moment on its development trajectory. With a population exceeding 46 million,

nearly 60 per cent of whom are under the age of 25, the country possesses extraordinary human potential alongside persistent structural challenges. Realizing its demographic opportunity will require addressing the issues posed by an economy heavily dependent on oil, high youth unemployment, protracted displacement affecting more than 1 million people and mounting climate pressures that place Iraq among the most climate-vulnerable countries globally. At the same time, the 2025 parliamentary elections – marked by a record 56 per cent voter turnout and the election of 84 women to parliament, exceeding the constitutional quota – signalled important progress in democratic participation and women's political representation.

Against this backdrop, the 25 United Nations agencies in Iraq mobilized US\$275 million in 2025 to support national development priorities across four Strategic Priorities.

Key achievements included expanding early childhood development services, enabling digital

birth registration for more than 500,000 children and supporting over 100,000 out-of-school children to return to learning. The United Nations also supported youth entrepreneurship initiatives and, in collaboration with national institutions and international partners, contributed to the launch of a €100 million Credit Guarantee Fund for small and medium enterprises, including support for women-led businesses. Progress was also made in climate action through the launch of key national policy frameworks, alongside community-level efforts to restore marshlands and promote social cohesion, including land title issuance to Yazidi households in Sinjar.

These achievements reflect the strong leadership of the Government of Iraq and the commitment of national institutions, supported by the United Nations and its partners. I extend my sincere appreciation to the donors who sustained programming during a year of fiscal pressure, and to our civil society partners, whose work continues to reach communities that formal systems often cannot.

Despite this progress, important challenges remain. Resource constraints, institutional capacity gaps and the complexity of reaching the most vulnerable communities continue to affect the pace of implementation. Climate action, in particular, requires sustained financing and long-term institutional capacity. Looking ahead to 2026, the UNCT remains committed to accelerating implementation, deepening joint programming and ensuring that resources invested translate into tangible improvements in people's lives – particularly for women, youth, displaced persons and communities facing climate stress. The National Development Plan 2024–2028, Iraq Vision 2030 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provide the strategic anchors to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in Iraq.

Iraq's story is not defined by fragility alone. It is also a story of resilience, of communities rebuilding, of young people's future opportunities and of institutions steadily strengthening. The United Nations is proud to stand alongside the Government and the people of Iraq as a trusted partner on this journey.

Executive summary

In 2025, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Iraq delivered the first year of results under the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2025–2029, supporting national reforms that strengthen institutions, expand access to essential services and advance sustainable development.

Working across four Strategic Priorities – Inclusive Social Development; Sustainable Economic Development, Livelihoods & Employment; Environment & Climate Change Resilience; and Good Governance & Rule of Law – the United Nations supported Iraq in advancing reforms that strengthen institutions, expand access to services and promote sustainable growth.

Twenty-five United Nations agencies mobilized US\$275 million in available resources against US\$300 million, reflecting solid progress towards multi-year resource mobilization. As part of phased implementation, US\$189 million was spent in 2025 across a broad portfolio of programmes and 12 joint initiatives, in line with planned delivery schedules and the multi-year nature of funding commitments.

Through its integrated system of specialized agencies, funds and programmes, the United Nations provides coordinated policy advice, technical assistance and operational support that strengthens nationally led development processes.

2025 at a glance

A student at Al-Wurood School in Basra, where a solar power system installed by UNICEF with funding from the European Union helps ensure uninterrupted learning during power cuts. © UNICEF/UNI720360/Anmar

12

joint
programmes
and initiatives
implemented



25

United Nations
agencies
implementing the
UNSDCF



62%

delivery rate
SP1 – Inclusive
Social
Development



87.7%

delivery rate
SP2 – Sustainable
Economic
Development,
Livelihoods &
Employment



258

sub-outputs
delivered
across four
Strategic
Priorities



\$300M

total programme
budget

\$275M

available

\$189M

spent



66.3%

delivery rate
SP3 – Environment
& Climate
Resilience



63%

delivery rate
SP4 – Good
Governance & Rule
of Law



68.8%

overall delivery rate on Year 1

56%

voter turnout in 2025



500,000+

children benefiting
from same-day
digital birth registration



3,506

Yazidi households receiving
land title deeds under
Cabinet Decision No. 227



84

women
elected
to parliament

43,746

youth reached
through
entrepreneurship
programmes



101,679

out-of-school
children
returned to
learning

12,000+

hectares of
marshlands and
agricultural
land restored



Delivery reflects phased implementation and the multi-year nature of funding.





STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

Inclusive Social Development

The United Nations supported landmark health system reforms, expansion of the District Health Information Software (DHIS2), digital surveillance across more than 1,600 health facilities nationwide, the launch of Iraq's first national influenza vaccination policy and scale-up of early childhood development services to 1,156 health facilities, representing 83.6 per cent of national coverage.

In education, more than 60,000 refugee children accessed schooling in the Kurdistan Region, while the Back-to-Learning campaign identified more than 250,000 out-of-school children and enabled more than 100,000 to return to education. Social protection reforms also advanced significantly. These included finalization of the National Social Protection Strategy, launch of a Grievance Redress Mechanism that received more than 28,000 calls and expansion of social security coverage to 14 per cent of private sector workers.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

Sustainable Economic Development, Livelihoods & Employment

The United Nations supported reforms aimed at economic diversification, private sector development and job creation. Iraq achieved a milestone in its World Trade Organization accession process with the submission of its first market access offers on goods and services.

Three national sector strategies – for poultry, tomatoes and potatoes – were operationalized through a newly established Ministry of Agriculture Strategy Secretariat. In partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Iraqi Company for Bank Guarantees and the German Development Bank, the United Nations supported the launch of a €100 million Credit Guarantee Fund for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), reached 43,746 youth through entrepreneurship awareness campaigns and supported more than 2,800 farmers through 15 agribusiness alliances, enabling them to sell their produce at prices 30 to 100 per cent higher than they would have received through traditional wholesale markets.

Through the Enterprise Development Fund, implemented by IOM and in partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, in 2025 the United Nations provided 424 SMEs with grants totalling more than US\$5.7 million to implement labour-intensive expansion plans. This resulted in the creation of 1,813 new jobs. The Enterprise Development Fund places a strong emphasis on fostering female entrepreneurship (42 per cent of the SMEs are female-owned), economic diversification and empowering youth enterprises operating in the digital economy and non-typical sectors, as well as green businesses.

The EU-funded Agri-food Business Development Programme, implemented by a consortium including FAO, IOM, ILO, ITC, UNESCO, the German Agency for Development Cooperation and Cowater International, advanced the transformation of Iraq's agri-food value chains through a 'farm-to-fork' approach. In 2025, the programme supported the creation of new jobs and businesses across key value chains, including dairy, tomatoes, dates and poultry.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

Environment & Climate Change Resilience

The United Nations supported Iraq in launching its most comprehensive climate policy framework to date, including Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) 3.0, the National Adaptation Plan, the Climate Vulnerability Index and the Climate Investment Plan.

The health dimensions of climate change were also advanced through support to the Climate and Health Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment, the Health National Adaptation Plan and the Basra Climate and Health Adaptation Plan, alongside community awareness initiatives reaching thousands of people and strengthening climate-resilient health systems.

At the community level, the United Nations supported the restoration of more than 12,000 hectares of marshlands, the planting of over 1 million mangrove seedlings in Basra as part of Iraq's first nature-based carbon project and the launch of Iraq's first parametric climate risk insurance scheme for smallholder farmers. Water-efficient irrigation was expanded to cover 1,200 dunums, and safe water access was restored for 9,000 residents in Angoor, Anbar.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4

Good Governance & Rule of Law

The United Nations advanced institutional reforms to strengthen accountability, justice and social cohesion, with UNDP leading key governance initiatives. Support to the Ministry of Migration and Displacement enabled the development and launch of the National Reintegration Strategy, alongside a complementary communications strategy, establishing a unified framework for service delivery, stabilization and social cohesion across Iraq.

The United Nations further supported the launch of the National Housing Policy 2025–2030, promoting inclusive and equitable urban development. At the systems level, UNDP piloted and scaled a digital criminal record management system across 1,045 police stations nationwide, strengthening rule of law institutions and service delivery.

Complementing these efforts, the United Nations supported the issuance of official title deeds to 3,506 Yazidi households in Sinjar and Ba'aj following Cabinet Decision No. 227, and 14,851 refugees and asylum-seekers received legal assistance through UNHCR partners.

In parallel, IOM supported implementation of the Yazidi Survivors Law No. 8 of 2021 through capacity-strengthening, survivor-centred assistance, and legal and psychosocial support to survivors, while also engaging civil society in monitoring and advocacy efforts. IOM further supported the implementation of Compensation Law No. 20 by assisting 421 individuals with claims submission through the provision of direct legal assistance. UN-Habitat strengthened the system through the development of an automated platform to enhance the efficiency, transparency and accessibility of the compensation process.

Looking ahead

The UNCT in Iraq is also committed to advancing the Secretary-General's UN80 Initiative, launched in March 2025 as one of the most comprehensive system-wide reform efforts in decades. The Initiative calls on all UNCTs to work in a more integrated, cost-effective and impact-focused manner – reducing fragmentation and duplication, strengthening joint delivery and ensuring every dollar entrusted to the United Nations system delivers maximum results for the people it serves. In Iraq, this means deepening operational coherence across the 25 agencies of the UNCT, expanding shared services and common back-office arrangements, and aligning programming more tightly around the four Strategic Priorities of the UNSDCF. The UN80 agenda reinforces what the 2025 results already demonstrate: that a more coordinated, efficient and accountable United Nations delivers better outcomes for Iraq.

Looking ahead to 2026, the UNCT will focus on accelerating delivery through improved planning, coordination and implementation readiness under the UNSDCF 2025–2029, and continue to strengthen resource mobilization efforts and broaden its donor base, scaling joint programming and deepening partnerships with national institutions. These efforts will further support Iraq's progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) while strengthening national systems and institutional resilience. The second year of implementation provides an opportunity to consolidate the foundations established in 2025 and translate policy reforms into measurable improvements in people's lives.

Together, these results demonstrate growing momentum towards strengthening Iraq's social services, advancing economic diversification and building resilience to climate and environmental risks in line with Iraq's national development priorities and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

► Strengthening national systems and public institutions

A central focus of United Nations engagement is strengthening national systems that enable sustainable service delivery. In 2025, this included expansion of digital health surveillance systems through DHIS2, rollout of the Education Management Information System and development of national social protection data systems. These initiatives help strengthen institutional capacity and support evidence-based policy implementation.

► Connecting humanitarian response, stabilization and development

The United Nations system is uniquely positioned to bridge immediate needs and long-term development objectives. In Iraq, this integrated approach has supported durable solutions for displaced populations, including housing reconstruction, civil documentation and land tenure security. The issuance of title deeds to more than 3,500 Yazidi households in Sinjar and Ba'aj illustrates how

coordinated United Nations engagement can support both justice and long-term community stabilization. Additionally, through complementary programming and joint advocacy, the United Nations is supporting inclusive access to public services. Successes include refugee access to health and education.

► Mobilizing global knowledge and partnerships for development financing

Through its global network, the United Nations helps mobilize international expertise, partnerships and financing aligned with Iraq's development priorities. This includes supporting initiatives that strengthen private sector development, climate investment and economic diversification.

Through these roles, the United Nations helps translate Iraq's national development frameworks into coordinated programmes and measurable improvements in people's lives across the country.

The United Nations' comparative advantage in Iraq

The United Nations plays a distinctive role in Iraq's development landscape by combining policy advisory expertise, operational capacity and a convening platform to support coordination and alignment among government institutions, civil society and international partners on key national priorities, including durable solutions, social protection, climate resilience and governance reform. Through the UNSDCF, the UNCT brings together specialized agencies to provide integrated support across social development, economic diversification, climate resilience and governance reform.

Iraq's development trajectory is shaped by a unique combination of opportunities and challenges: a young and rapidly growing population, an economy heavily dependent on oil revenues, increasing climate stress and the long-term effects of conflict and displacement. In this context, the United Nations comparative advantage lies in its ability to support nationally led reforms while working simultaneously across humanitarian, stabilization and development priorities.

Several factors define the United Nations' unique contribution in Iraq:

► Convening partnerships around national priorities

The United Nations provides a neutral platform for coordination among government institutions, civil society organizations, development partners and international financial institutions. Through the UNSDCF, the United Nations aligns these actors around Iraq's National Development Plan 2024–2028, Iraq Vision 2030 and the SDGs. This convening role has been particularly important in areas requiring coordinated national action, including climate policy development, social protection reform and durable solutions for displaced communities.

► Supporting evidence-based policy reform

United Nations agencies provide technical expertise and global knowledge that support national reform processes. In 2025, this included assisting the Government in developing Iraq's most comprehensive climate policy framework – comprising the NDC 3.0, the National Adaptation Plan, the Climate Vulnerability Index and the Climate Investment Plan – as well as supporting the development of national strategies in areas such as health, nutrition and social protection.

United Nations in Iraq results at a glance



500,000+
children
registered
through digital
birth certification



101,679
out-of-school
children returned
to learning



43,746
youth reached
through
entrepreneurship
initiatives



12,000+
hectares of
marshlands
restored



3,506
Yazidi
households
receiving legal
land titles



436,000
people gaining
access to
improved
drinking water



2,800
farmers linked
to agribusiness
alliances



32,763
people receiving
mental health
and psychosocial
support



1,813
jobs created
across 424 SMEs
provided with
business
expansion grants



\$300M required
\$275M available
\$189M spent
68.8% delivery
rate during first year

CHAPTER 1.

Country context

The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2025–2029 for Iraq was formally signed in December 2025 by the Government of Iraq and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT). This marked a new chapter of cooperation and partnership with the Government of Iraq – one focused primarily on development – following closure of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) on 31 December 2025. Throughout 2025, United Nations entities implemented programmes aligned with the Strategic Priorities of the UNSDCF, ensuring continuity of support while the framework was being finalized and adopted. This approach allowed the United Nations and its partners to maintain momentum on key national priorities while laying the foundations for full UNSDCF implementation from 2026 onwards.

The UNCT expresses its appreciation to the Government of Iraq for its leadership and close partnership throughout the development and adoption of the UNSDCF. The Government's active engagement across ministries and national institutions has been instrumental in ensuring the UNSDCF's Strategic Priorities remain aligned with Iraq's National Development Plan 2024–2028 and Vision 2030.

Iraq's development trajectory in 2025 was shaped by the intersection of political transition, economic pressure, climate stress and protracted displacement, alongside ongoing institutional reform and renewed national ambition. This context provides the foundation for understanding both the achievements and the implementation challenges of the first year of the UNSDCF.



Demographics and population dynamics

Iraq’s population exceeds 46 million, with nearly 70 per cent residing in urban areas. The country’s demographic profile is exceptionally young: 60 per cent of the population is under the age of 25 and 40 per cent is under 15. Adolescents and youth are projected to constitute 31 per cent of the population by 2030, numbering approximately 16.4 million individuals. This demographic structure presents significant opportunities for economic growth but also places increasing pressure on education systems, labour markets, housing and public services.

Population growth is expected to remain rapid. Iraq’s population is projected to reach approximately 74.5 million by 2050, making it one of the fastest growing in the region and further intensifying demand for jobs, infrastructure and essential services.

The 2024 General Population Census confirmed that Iraq hosts over 8 million households, with urban households averaging 5.48 members and rural households 6.60 members. The sex distribution remains balanced, with males and females each accounting for approximately 50 per cent of the population. However, only 11.4 per cent of households are headed by women – rising to 12.5 per cent in urban areas and falling to 8.5 per cent in rural areas – reflecting persistent structural barriers to women’s economic participation and decision-making power.



Two girls at Debaga camp, where UNICEF-supported education programmes funded by ECHO provide formal and non-formal learning opportunities for children affected by displacement. © UNICEF/UNI550016/Anmar

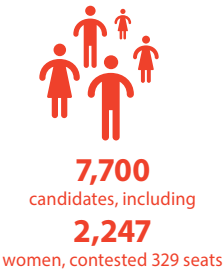
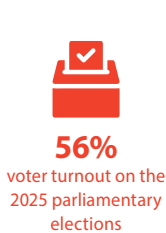


Political landscape

Iraq held parliamentary elections on 11 November 2025, with a record 56 per cent voter turnout among registered biometric voters – a 12.5 percentage point increase compared with the 2021 elections. More than 7,700 candidates, including 2,247 women, contested 329 seats. The Federal Supreme Court certified the results on 14 December 2025, confirming that 84 seats had been secured by women, exceeding the constitutional quota by one seat.

The Reconstruction and Development Coalition, led by Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani, emerged as the largest alliance, with 46 seats. On 29 December 2025, the Council of Representatives convened its first session and elected Haybat Al-Halbousi as Speaker of Parliament. At the time of reporting, election of the President and the Prime Minister remained pending, with negotiations ongoing among the political parties and coalition groups. UNAMI provided technical and advisory support to the Independent High Electoral Commission throughout the electoral process.

Iraq’s National Development Plan 2024–2028 and Iraq Vision 2030 continue to provide the overarching strategic framework for national development priorities, anchoring the UNSDCF’s four Strategic Priorities. Iraq submitted its third Voluntary National Review (2025) to the High-Level Political Forum convened in July 2025 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The report presented a more integrated, evidence-based assessment of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), drawing on the 2024 General Population Census and the 2023–2024 Iraq Household Socio-Economic Survey. These national frameworks provide the policy foundation for the UNSDCF and guide United Nations engagement with Iraq’s development priorities.



Economic context

Iraq’s economy remains overwhelmingly dependent on oil, which accounts for more than 90 per cent of federal revenues and nearly all exports. In 2025, oil prices fell to between US\$60 and US\$70 per barrel – below the estimated US\$80 breakeven level required for fiscal balance. By November 2025, total revenues amounted to US\$86.36 billion, while expenditures reached US\$96.21 billion, resulting in a fiscal deficit of more than US\$9.85 billion.¹ Total revenues declined by US\$15.91 billion compared with the previous year, driven largely by lower oil prices, which accounted for US\$14.39 billion of the reduction. These trends underscore the urgency of economic diversification and the expansion of non-oil revenue sources.

The public sector employs 37.9 per cent of the workforce, while the informal economy accounts for approximately two-thirds of employment. Youth unemployment stands at 35.8 per cent – more than three times the adult rate – and female labour force participation remains among the lowest globally, at approximately 10.6 per cent. Iraq ranks second to last in the Arab region for financial inclusion, with only 22 per cent of adults having access to formal financial services.

Despite the structural challenges Iraq faces, 2025 also brought measurable signs of progress. Poverty has declined significantly – from 22.5 per cent in 2014 to 17.5 per cent, reflecting improvements in public service delivery and post-conflict stabilization, though significant regional disparities remain, with poverty rates in some southern and western governorates continuing to exceed the national average. On the economic reform front, Prime Minister Al-Sudani’s government advanced a series of diversification measures in 2025, including the operationalization of three national agricultural sector strategies for the poultry, tomato and potato sectors through a newly established Ministry of Agriculture Strategy Secretariat; the launch of a Credit Guarantee Fund to expand small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) access to finance; and continued implementation of the National Development Plan 2024–2028, which sets economic diversification and private sector growth as central national priorities. These reforms, while still at an early stage, signal a policy direction that the United Nations is actively supporting through its programming under the UNSDCF.

¹ Government of Iraq, IMF and World Bank data as reflected in the Common Country Analysis.



Humanitarian and displacement context

Iraq continues to face the long-term consequences of conflict-related displacement. While the majority of displaced have returned to their areas of origin, thousands of internally displaced persons (IDPs) continue to remain in 20 camps in Erbil and Dohuk and informal settlements in federal Iraq. In Sinjar, partial implementation of the 2020 Sinjar Agreement continues to hamper the safe and dignified return of Yazidi communities. In southern and central governorates, climate-induced displacement owing to prolonged drought and water scarcity has displaced more than 186,000 people, compounding conflict-related displacement in northern areas.

Recent returns to Al-Amal Rehabilitation Centre settlement illustrate ongoing efforts to advance durable solutions, while highlighting the need for sustained, coordinated support to ensure returns are safe, voluntary, and sustainable.

As of October 2025, Iraq hosted 344,501 refugees and asylum-seekers, of whom 88 per cent are Syrian. Approximately 82 per cent of refugees reside in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, with Erbil (43 per cent), Duhok (27 per cent) and Sulaymaniyah (12 per cent) hosting the largest populations. Refugees in Iraq are largely integrated within host communities, reflecting the Government of Iraq’s inclusive approach to refugee protection and access to public services.



A boy runs through Hassan Sham camp in Iraq. UNICEF-supported teams provide health care, immunization and nutrition services to children and families in the camp. © UNICEF/UN0648926/Njiokiktjen



Environment and climate change

According to UNEP, Iraq ranks among the five most climate-vulnerable countries globally. The country faces increasingly frequent droughts, floods, dust storms and heatwaves. Iraq is projected to experience a 2.5°C increase in mean annual temperature by 2050, with summer temperatures regularly exceeding 50°C and rainfall expected to decline by 9 per cent. By 2035, Iraq may be able to meet only 15 per cent of its water demand, with 70 per cent of water sources already contaminated by industrial waste. The Climate Vulnerability Index identifies Basra, Thi Qar, Al-Muthanna and Baghdad as the most vulnerable governorates to heat stress and water scarcity. In September 2025, the Government of Iraq launched Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) 3.0, the National Adaptation Plan, the Climate Vulnerability Index and the Climate Investment Plan – the most comprehensive climate policy suite in the country’s history demonstrating a growing national commitment to climate action.



#5
Iraq ranks among the five most climate-vulnerable countries globally



+2.5°C
increase in mean annual temperature by 2050



The marshes of southern Iraq face severe water shortages, with low water levels affecting local communities, wildlife and ecosystems. © UNICEF/UNI420966/Faleh



Governance and rule of law

Iraq’s governance landscape in 2025 reflects a country in active, if uneven, reform — advancing on several fronts while confronting persistent structural challenges that require sustained effort and international partnership.

On human rights, the United Nations continues to support Iraq in advancing its international human rights commitments. Iraq has ratified key international instruments and has taken steps to strengthen its national human rights architecture, including through the Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights (IHCHR). The UN Human Rights Office (HRO) under UNAMI — a signatory to the Cooperation Framework — continued its monitoring, documentation, and technical advisory support to national institutions in 2025. Human rights challenges persist, including in the areas of freedom of expression, the rights of minorities and displaced communities, and protections for journalists and civil society actors, and the UN remains committed to supporting Iraq’s progress on its Universal Periodic Review commitments.

On security sector reform, the Government of Iraq took a landmark step in 2025 by formally launching its Security Sector Reform (SSR) Strategy — a comprehensive framework for professionalizing Iraq’s security forces, strengthening civilian oversight, and improving command and control structures. With technical advisory support from UNDP and UNAMI, this strategy represents a significant commitment to strengthening the capacity of Iraq’s security institutions and building a security sector that is accountable, rights-respecting, and fit for Iraq’s post-conflict development needs. Complementing this, UNHCR trained 420 security sector personnel — including 227 women — on refugee protection, community policing, and human rights standards across five governorates, and UNDP supported the Ministry of Interior in scaling a digital criminal record management system to 1,045 police stations nationwide.

In 2025, Iraq strengthened rehabilitation-oriented approaches within correctional and juvenile justice systems, including improved living conditions, access to essential services, psychosocial support, vocational training, and reintegration frameworks for children and young adults in contact with the justice system, with support from UNODC. National capacities were



A UNHCR-supported lawyer provides legal assistance to a refugee in Gawilan Refugee Camp. In 2025, 14,851 refugees and asylum seekers accessed legal assistance through UNHCR and its partners. © UNHCR/Rasheed Rasheed

also strengthened in areas including trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, border management, strategic trade controls, and counter-narcotics through institutional coordination, technical assistance, and rights-based approaches that enhanced inter-agency cooperation, detection capacities, and regional collaboration aligned with international standards.

At the same time, 2025 brought concrete and measurable progress on governance and inclusion. In Iraq’s provincial council elections, women won 84 of 329 seats — 25.5 per cent, exceeding the constitutional quota for the first time, reflecting the impact of sustained UN support for women’s political participation. The Government of Iraq, with UNDP support, formally launched the National Reintegration Strategy through the Ministry of Migration and Displacement — a unified policy framework coordinating service delivery, stabilization, and social cohesion for internally displaced persons across ministries and governorates. In Sinjar and Ba’aj, UN-Habitat supported the issuance of official title deeds to 3,506 Yazidi households — 20,863 individuals — following Cabinet Decision No. 227, translating a legal commitment into tangible property rights for families who survived the 2014 ISIL genocide.



Leaving no one behind

The UNSDCF places particular emphasis on populations at risk of being left behind in Iraq’s development. Across Iraq, structural inequalities affect women, young people, persons with disabilities, people living in poverty, minority communities and other components of Iraqi society, including displaced communities and climate-affected populations.

In 2025, UN programmes prioritized these groups through targeted interventions:

- ▶ **Women and girls:** Expanded women’s participation in governance and decision-making processes, along with strengthened domestic violence prevention, protection and survivor support services.
- ▶ **Youth:** Expanded entrepreneurship, vocational training and employment pathways for more than 43,000 young people, including displaced youth and returnees, young women seeking economic independence and youth from low-income households with limited access to formal employment opportunities.
- ▶ **Displaced populations:** Internally displaced persons and returnees supported through housing reconstruction, civil documentation, and community-based reintegration assistance.
- ▶ **Refugees and asylum-seekers:** Expanded access to education, legal assistance and essential social services for refugees and asylum-seekers across Iraq.
- ▶ **Climate-vulnerable communities:** Strengthened resilience in drought-affected areas through improved water management, climate-resilient agriculture and ecosystem restoration initiatives.
- ▶ **People living in poverty and other vulnerable communities:** Expanded access to social protection, livelihoods and economic opportunities for low-income and at-risk households.
- ▶ **Persons with disabilities:** Increased inclusion in programmes and improved access to services through targeted support, accessibility measures and disability-inclusive programming.

CHAPTER 2.

Results of the Cooperation Framework

The results presented in this chapter under the UNSDCF reflect the joint work of national institutions and the UNCT, in partnership with civil society organizations, development partners and the private sector.

Partnerships driving development results



Government leadership remains central to the implementation of the UNSDCF. Government ministries and institutions led key policy reforms in areas including health systems-strengthening, climate governance, economic diversification and social protection, with technical and programmatic support from the United Nations system.

Civil society played a critical role in extending the reach of programmes to communities, particularly in areas affected by displacement and conflict. Through partnerships with local organizations, United Nations-supported initiatives were able to strengthen community engagement; deliver protection services; and expand access to education, livelihoods and social assistance.

Partnerships with the private sector also contributed to advancing economic development initiatives, including entrepreneurship programmes, agribusiness alliances and employment generation efforts targeting youth and vulnerable populations.

Development partners – including bilateral donors and international financial institutions – provided essential financial resources and technical collaboration to sustain programming during a period of fiscal pressure and economic transition.

Together, these partnerships demonstrate that the UNSDCF serves not only as the United Nations’ strategic planning instrument, but also as a platform for collective action supporting Iraq’s national development priorities.

Cross-cutting priorities



Under the UNSDCF, cross-cutting priorities – including youth engagement, disability inclusion, human rights and the principle of leaving no one behind (LNOB) – are systematically integrated into all Strategic Priorities to drive progress across the SDGs. In 2025, these priorities, alongside initiatives for the empowerment and inclusion of all social groups, were embedded into programme design and implementation to directly support Iraq’s national development goals and ensure comprehensive social equity.

Women’s empowerment and inclusion



Women’s empowerment and inclusion remained a central focus across United Nations-supported initiatives in 2025. Women’s political participation increased following the parliamentary elections, at which 84 women were elected to the Council of Representatives, exceeding the constitutional quota. Across programme areas, United Nations interventions supported women’s economic

participation, protection services and leadership in community initiatives. For example, 1,764 women-led enterprises received business expansion grants through the Enterprise Development Fund, resulting in 688 new jobs, while domestic violence prevention and response services reached thousands of women and girls through case management, psychosocial support and referral mechanisms. Family and socially inclusive policies were also integrated into national strategies in areas including social protection, health and climate resilience.

UN Women supported operationalization of the national Women’s Political Participation Plan and finalization of Iraq’s Third National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, working through the National Directorate for Iraqi Women at the federal level and the High Council for Women and Development in the Kurdistan Region.

Youth engagement



With nearly 60 per cent of Iraq’s population under the age of 25, youth remain central to Iraq’s development trajectory. In 2025, United Nations programmes reached more than 43,000 young people through entrepreneurship awareness campaigns, vocational training and employment initiatives. Youth were also engaged as agents of social change through peacebuilding initiatives, climate awareness campaigns and community outreach programmes. Youth-led initiatives, including digital entrepreneurship platforms and climate health awareness campaigns in Basra, demonstrated the role of young people as active contributors to resilience and local development.

Disability inclusion



Ensuring the inclusion of persons with disabilities remained an important priority across the UNSDCF. In 2025, the United Nations supported the Government in launching the National Disability Inclusion Strategy for Children and strengthened efforts to integrate disability considerations across education, protection and social services. Programmes also emphasized improved accessibility and strengthened data systems to better capture the needs of persons with disabilities in national planning and service delivery.

Human rights and access to justice



Human rights principles underpin United Nations engagement across all programme areas, and 2025 saw significant progress in strengthening the national human rights architecture and expanding access to justice for the most vulnerable. OHCHR played a central role in building Iraq’s human rights capacity in 2025. OHCHR provided structured training and technical support to the Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights – Iraq’s national human rights institution – on monitoring methodology, documentation standards and reporting to United Nations treaty bodies. Human rights training was extended to judges, prosecutors, police officers and prison officials, covering international standards on detention conditions, fair trial rights and the absolute prohibition of torture. Civil society organizations received support in human rights documentation, complaint mechanisms and engagement with United Nations human rights processes, including follow-up on Iraq’s Universal Periodic Review commitments.

On access to justice, UNHCR and its partners provided legal assistance to 14,851 refugees and asylum-seekers, with 6,176 people receiving direct legal representation and 1,647 cases of potential deportation successfully prevented. Expanded civil documentation services supported returnees and displaced persons in obtaining identity documents – a prerequisite for accessing public services, education and social protection. UNODC’s Trial Monitoring Programme strengthened judicial accountability by monitoring 243 corruption-related cases, while UN-Habitat’s housing, land and property work – including the issuance of title deeds to 3,506 Yazidi households – advanced legal protection for communities whose property rights had been violated by conflict and displacement.

Leaving no one behind



The LNOB approach guided programme targeting across all Strategic Priorities, ensuring that interventions reached populations facing multiple and overlapping vulnerabilities. Priority was given to women, persons with disabilities, people living in poverty, minority groups and other components of Iraqi society, as well as displaced populations and targeted groups of young people. Further detail on specific groups and interventions is outlined in Section 1.7.

1

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

Inclusive Social Development

By 2029, people in Iraq, particularly women, girls, children, youth and groups in vulnerable situations, benefit from improved access to high-quality, inclusive, accessible and equitable social services and a functional, responsive and rights-based social protection system.

Contributing United Nations entities



SDG contribution



Top 5 expenditure values



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 focused on strengthening equitable access to quality health, education, social protection and protection services, particularly for vulnerable and underserved populations across Iraq. In 2025, the United Nations supported national efforts to strengthen public service systems through expanded health and education services, improved disease surveillance and emergency preparedness, enhanced social protection frameworks and increased access to inclusive learning opportunities for refugee and out-of-school children. Interventions under this priority helped strengthen institutional capacities, modernize digital and data systems, improve service delivery in underserved areas and reinforce government-led approaches aimed at building more inclusive, resilient and sustainable social services.

► **Health and nutrition**

In 2025, Iraq advanced health sector reform through primary health care transformation and expanded digital health systems, strengthened national policy frameworks and improved access to essential services.

With support from WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA, the Government developed the Women, Children and Adolescents’ Health Action Plan 2025–2027 and the National Nutrition Strategy 2025–2030, establishing

an integrated framework for life-course health services. WHO and UNFPA also supported the Ministry of Health in advancing Universal Health Coverage as the central framework guiding health system reform. Priority was laid on primary health care, workforce development, digital transformation, essential medicines and disease surveillance, through joint technical and training support, strengthening national ownership and institutional sustainability.

Digital health systems expanded significantly as part of broader health system modernization and institutional strengthening. District Health Information Software 2 (DHIS2) was institutionalized as Iraq’s national platform for communicable disease surveillance, supporting nine priority health programmes with more than 13,000 registered users. Over 1,600 health facilities report routine epidemiological data through the system, while more than 1,000 facilities manage reproductive health commodities through the DHIS2-based electronic Logistics Management Information System. Nearly 1,400 facilities also contribute to event-based surveillance, strengthening early detection of public health threats.

Civil registration and immunization services also improved. UNFPA provided co-leadership and technical assistance, in partnership with the Ministry of Health and the Commission of Statistics and Geographic Information System, on civil registration and vital statistics system design, policy dialogue and institutional capacity-strengthening. UNICEF supported rollout of the civil



Nurses care for a newborn baby inside one of the intensive care units established by UNFPA. © UNFPA



A Yazidi girl from Sinjar, with her family, receives a health check-up at the IOM’s Migration Health Assessment Centre in Erbil ahead of their resettlement outside Iraq. © IOM Iraq 2025/Anjam RASOOL

registration and vital statistics digital platform, enabling same-day digital birth registration and issuance of birth certificates across 250 health facility-based civil registration centres. This reduced registration time from approximately 45 days to same-day issuance, benefiting more than 500,000 children in 2025. With WHO support, Iraq also adopted its first national seasonal influenza vaccination policy; within the first three months of implementation, approximately 800,000 people – around 90 per cent of the target population – received free vaccinations.

Cross-sector collaboration strengthened disease prevention under a One Health approach. FAO worked with the Ministries of Agriculture and Health to establish a joint governance framework for zoonotic disease management and to develop Iraq’s first Animal Health Emergency Response Plan. The EMA-i+ digital animal health surveillance system was also rolled out nationwide.

Access to health services for displaced populations improved through targeted interventions. IOM facilitated emergency health care and referral services in four IDP camps in Erbil and Duhok, covering 1,251 emergency cases and 236 referrals. UNICEF supported the solar electrification of five health facilities serving more than 75,000 people in climate-affected areas, improving the reliability of essential services. In the Kurdistan Region, WHO supported the operationalization and handover of Iraq’s first fully digital Warehouse Management System, strengthening public supply chain governance and promoting more transparent, efficient and equitable access to medicines.

SUCCESS STORY

FROM FRAGMENTED SURVEILLANCE TO INTEGRATED EARLY WARNING

Federal Iraq and Kurdistan Region
Agency: WHO

Iraq’s surveillance system had long been fragmented across programmes, with limited interoperability between indicator- and event-based systems, and uneven laboratory capacity. These gaps constrained timely outbreak detection and coordinated response in a high-risk environment exposed to displacement, zoonotic threats and emerging respiratory diseases.

With technical assistance from WHO, the Ministry of Health institutionalized DHIS2 as the national digital backbone for communicable disease surveillance. Nationwide technical missions, structured capacity-building and knowledge transfer strengthened indicator- and event-based surveillance in all health directorates. Twenty-five national workshops trained approximately 2,400 participants, and a Ministry-led DHIS2 Core Team was established to manage system customization, data validation and server administration. The Central Public Health Laboratory network was also reinforced, including national measles, rotavirus, polio and influenza laboratories, alongside development of a national influenza pandemic preparedness plan.

Iraq now has a more integrated, standardized and interoperable surveillance architecture linking facilities, laboratories and central reporting platforms. Over 1,600 facilities report routine epidemiological data, nearly 1,400 contribute to event-based surveillance and case-based tuberculosis reporting is nationally operational. Vulnerable populations – including displaced families and rural communities – are better protected through strengthened early warning, improved laboratory confirmation and more coordinated public health action.



A girl at Essian camp in Duhok Governorate, where child protection services are supported by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration. © UNICEF/UNI682373/Anmar

► Education

In 2025, education efforts in Iraq expanded access to learning, strengthened governance of the education system and improved learning environments across the country. Particular attention was given to refugee children, out-of-school children and communities affected by conflict.

UNHCR continued to support the Kurdistan Regional Government's Refugee Education Integration Policy, including the completion of eight additional education infrastructure projects. More than 60,000 refugee children accessed education, including approximately 50,000 enrolled in public primary schools across Grades 1 to 7 during the 2025–2026 academic year. Sixty-four schools were supported in establishing parent–teacher associations, strengthening community engagement in school governance.

Through the ITALEEM programme, UNESCO and UNICEF supported the Ministry of Education in rolling out the Education Management Information System (EMIS) nationwide, strengthening education data systems and evidence-based planning. Ten general directorates of

education enhanced their capacity to implement EMIS at the governorate level, with nearly 100 master trainers trained (50 per cent women). UNICEF expanded EMIS implementation to 2,531 additional schools, training 3,502 teachers (47 per cent women) in school-level data entry and management. By the end of 2025, EMIS covered 7,810 schools – representing 21.6 per cent of all schools in Iraq – and more than 14,000 trained teachers across nine governorates.

The Back-to-Learning campaign was institutionalized as a government-led mechanism to address school dropout and re-enrolment. The campaign identified 255,905 out-of-school children (32 per cent girls) nationwide and enabled 101,679 children (30 per cent girls) to return to education through formal schooling, non-formal education pathways or examination-based reintegration.

Inclusive education services were also expanded for displaced, returnee and refugee children. UNICEF supported education access for 67,081 children aged 5–17 (47 per cent girls) across the Kurdistan Region, Ninawa, Salah Al-Din and Anbar. The school-based management

model was introduced in 256 primary and secondary schools, benefiting 72,490 students (46 per cent girls) and strengthening school governance and community participation.

UNESCO supported the restoration and modernization of Mosul University Library, improving access to high-quality learning resources for more than 70,000 students, researchers and academic staff. Over 1,000 learning resources were restored and 11,000 digitalized through a newly established digital repository. The International Book Fair held at the university from 26 October to 1 November 2025 attracted more than 30,000 participants and facilitated collaboration with more than 70 national and international publishers, contributing to the acquisition of over 3,000 new academic resources.

UNESCO also strengthened vocational education and training through Centres of Vocational Excellence in Ninawa. A total of 217 staff (44 per cent women) received training, while 770 youth (34 per cent women) participated in vocational training programmes aimed at enhancing employability and supporting pathways to decent work.

Together, these initiatives strengthened Iraq's education system by expanding access to learning, improving education governance and data systems and enhancing pathways from education to employment.



Iman Upholstery workshop graduate holding her cushions. © UNESCO

SUCCESS STORY

YOUTH FINDING THEIR PATH — VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN NINAWA

Ninawa Governorate
Agency: UNESCO

UNESCO's support transformed the futures of young people in Ninawa by strengthening vocational training quality through training of trainers, updating market-relevant curricula and improving learning facilities with practical tools and materials. Around 200 graduates reported securing employment or starting their own businesses as a result.

Iman, a graduate of the upholstery workshop, described her experience:

"This was my first time learning upholstery skills. After the training, I bought a sewing machine and started my own business. I showed my sample cushions at the bazaar and soon received orders from a local shop. I've supplied 250 pieces so far and am now working on 75 more. I'm doing all of this on my own, and I feel proud of my achievement."

Thanoon, who completed the solar installation workshop, found a different path:

"My cousin owns a shop selling solar panels in Mosul. After the training, I realized I could join his business by offering installation services. It's a win-win: he expands his services and I apply my new skills. With the growing demand for solar panels, I see this as a promising venture."

These stories reflect the broader impact of UNESCO's work – equipping youth with skills, confidence, and opportunities to build sustainable livelihoods.

► Social protection

Efforts in 2025 focused on strengthening Iraq's social protection architecture through policy reform, improved beneficiary data systems and expanded coverage for vulnerable populations. With technical and financial support from UNICEF, ILO and WFP, the Government finalized the National Social Protection Strategy, while the Kurdistan Region officially launched its Social Protection Strategic Framework.

A National Single Registry for social protection beneficiaries was designed and rolled out. The Data Quality and Data-Sharing Policies were finalized and endorsed. The Food Security Management System was also fully deployed using the open-source ONA platform, enabling near-real-time monitoring of food security trends and strengthening the evidence base for social protection policy.

An integrated child benefit programme was introduced in Duhok, Sulaymaniyah and Al-Muthanna, reaching over 9,200 beneficiaries linked to the Social Safety Net. The Cash Plus model focuses on children transitioning from primary to secondary school in the Kurdistan Region and on children from birth to two years and pregnant women in Al-Muthanna. The Government plans to extend the

integrated child benefit to three additional governorates in 2026. A Grievance Redress Mechanism for the Social Safety Net was also launched in July 2025; since its launch in May 2025, more than 28,000 calls have been received.

Social security coverage expanded significantly. Effective coverage in private social security increased to 14 per cent of those employed in the private sector, up from 12.56 per cent. Registration of informal workers to optional social security reached 38,500 only two years after its introduction. In Kirkuk, ILO-supported tripartite committees enabled effective registration, increasing coverage from 11.57 per cent to 19.61 per cent of all persons employed in the private sector. In Basra, private sector worker registration reached 17.89 per cent by the end of 2025.

UNHCR also provided cash assistance for basic needs to 46,733 vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers. Post-distribution monitoring surveys found that this assistance reduced stress among refugee families, with 40 per cent reporting significant improvement and 37 per cent moderate improvement, while living conditions improved for 22 per cent significantly and 50 per cent moderately.



Refugee and Iraqi children participate in recreational activities at Kawargosk Community Centre in Erbil Governorate, where government-led services supported by UNICEF promote protection, learning and social inclusion. © UNHCR/Rasheed



A social worker from the Directorate of Labour and Social Affairs leads a tailoring training for women at Kawargosk Community Centre in Erbil Governorate, which provides services to refugee and host community families. © UNHCR/Rasheed

► Protection services

In 2025, the United Nations strengthened comprehensive protection services across Iraq, focusing on GBV prevention and response, child protection, mental health and psychosocial support, and protection from trafficking. Complementing these efforts, legal aid services reached 14,851 refugees and asylum-seekers, contributing to improved access to justice and due process, including the prevention of deportation in 1,647 cases. UNHCR also supported ongoing registration efforts, recording 29,676 new asylum-seekers, reinforcing national systems for refugee documentation and protection.

UNFPA engaged more than 6,800 community members – including men and youth – in GBV awareness-raising sessions and piloted male engagement programmes with 141 men and adolescent boys across Ninewa, Anbar, Dohuk and Baghdad. Protection services also included 368 GBV case management consultations, 1,559 multi-sectoral referrals and group mental health and psychosocial support services benefiting more than 3,300

individuals. Over 5,900 women and girls received dignity kits. UNICEF further reached 26,500 women, girls and boys in humanitarian settings through GBV-in-emergencies risk mitigation interventions.

Community-based mental health and psychosocial support services were expanded through a multi-layered approach combining specialized psychiatric and psychological care, non-specialized counselling and Psychological First Aid. Through these services, IOM reached 32,763 displaced persons, returnees and host community members. IOM also assisted 1,349 vulnerable individuals with specialized protection services, including safe and tailored reintegration assistance for 1,042 Iraqi citizens returning from abroad. UN Women provided survivor-centred services to 1,589 women and girls, including GBV case management, psychosocial support, legal assistance, literacy support and referrals to livelihood opportunities, while strengthening the capacities of 71 service providers and community actors working on GBV prevention and response.



A water desalination unit in Thi-Qar is being rehabilitated to improve access to safe water under UNDP Iraq's Human and Biodiversity Resilience in the Mesopotamian Marshes Project, funded by the Government of Canada. © UNDP Iraq / Mahdi Al-Saadawi

► Sustainable cities and communities

In 2025, the United Nations advanced housing reconstruction, improved water and sanitation services, and strengthened tenure security for conflict-affected populations across Iraq. In Mosul, UN-Habitat constructed two social housing buildings with capacity to accommodate 336 people and rehabilitated 402 homes in Sinjar, benefiting 2,869 individuals (49 per cent women). UNOPS constructed 176 Category IV war-damaged shelters in Ninewa (120) and Anbar (56) governorates, enabling 1,074 people (48 per cent women) to regain permanent housing.² Across all interventions, UNOPS reached 56,082 beneficiaries – including 28,756 males and 27,326 females – through improved housing, water services and legal protection.

IOM also contributed significantly to housing support for vulnerable populations across Iraq. Through housing rehabilitation, rental assistance and emergency shelter interventions, IOM reached 220,330 beneficiaries, including 126,283 females and 94,047 males, helping conflict-affected households access safer and more adequate living conditions.

Access to water and sanitation services expanded significantly, with nearly half a million women and children benefiting from improved infrastructure and service delivery. Through strategic support from UNICEF and UNOPS, over 436,000 individuals – including approximately 220,500 with safely managed water – now enjoy reliable access to drinking water. Major rehabilitation efforts, such as restoring water treatment facilities in Anbar and boreholes in Ninewa, ensured safe water for more than 55,000 people, nearly half of whom are women.

Additionally, UNICEF initiatives enabled over 35,000 people to access essential sanitation services, underscoring a holistic approach to public health and equity. Complementing these efforts, IOM implemented infrastructure and water, sanitation and hygiene projects that reached 204,038 direct beneficiaries, including 117,019 males and 87,019 females, as well as 133,694 indirect beneficiaries. These coordinated interventions demonstrate significant impact in advancing sustainable access to water and sanitation for Iraq's most vulnerable communities.

² Shelter damage is commonly classified on a scale from Category I to IV. Category IV refers to severe structural damage rendering the shelter unsafe and typically requiring major reconstruction or replacement.

Significant progress was also achieved in water sector governance and service delivery. UNICEF catalysed major water sector reforms by supporting national authorities to update water master plans, mobilizing nearly US\$20 million in public financing and enabling eight governorates to contract private firms for implementation. UNICEF also delivered Iraq's first domestic water use benchmarking study, establishing a national average of 191–210 litres per capita per day.



Darbandikhan Dam in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. UNICEF provided technical and financial support for maintenance work to help improve dam safety and protect downstream communities. © UNICEF/UN0835284/Jalal



SUCCESS STORY

A NEW HOME, A NEW BEGINNING – HORIYA'S STORY

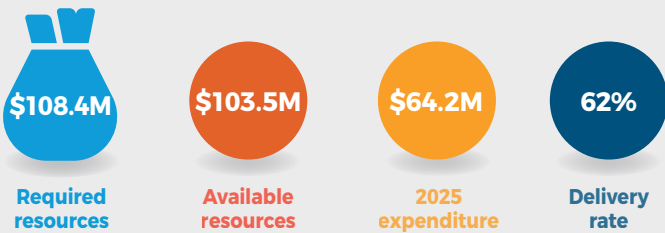
Subihat Village, Karma District, Anbar Governorate
Agency: UNOPS

Horiya Managid Daher is a 54-year-old widowed grandmother from Subihat village, Karma District, Anbar Governorate. Living with heart disease and diabetes, Horiya is the primary caregiver for her family of 10 members, including four children, after losing her son during the conflict. During the war, ISIL seized her village and her home was destroyed. For years, Horiya and her family moved between unsafe and deteriorating shelters under extremely harsh conditions.

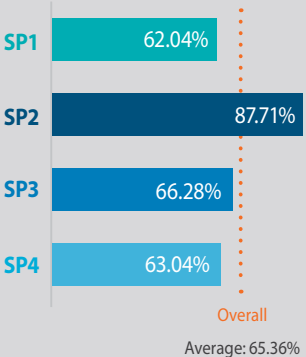
In 2025, her home was selected for Category IV reconstruction, funded by the German Development Bank and implemented by UNOPS. The newly constructed house provided her family with a safe and dignified living space.

“Now I feel blessed to have a roof over my head that shelters me and my family. The children can finally go to school and sleep without fear,” Horiya said.

Her story illustrates how UNOPS' housing interventions restored dignity, security and hope for vulnerable, conflict-affected families and contributed to improved living standards in returnee communities in Anbar Governorate.



2025 delivery rate by Strategic Priority



2

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 Sustainable Economic Development, Livelihoods & Employment

By 2029, people in Iraq, particularly women, girls, youth and groups in vulnerable situations, benefit from more resilient livelihoods and decent work opportunities resulting from a more diversified, inclusive, sustainable, green and equitable economic development.

Contributing United Nations entities



SDG contribution



Top 5 expenditure values



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 focused on supporting Iraq’s transition towards a more inclusive, diversified, green and sustainable economy that expands access to decent work and resilient livelihood opportunities, particularly for women and youth. In 2025, the United Nations supported national efforts to strengthen economic governance, improve the enabling environment for private sector development and enhance labour market responsiveness, with a particular focus on micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), entrepreneurship and green growth sectors. Interventions under this priority helped strengthen institutional and stakeholder capacities; expand access to finance, skills development and business support services; and improve linkages between education, training and employment opportunities to promote inclusive economic growth and a just transition.

► Economic governance and trade policy

Throughout 2025, the United Nations worked with government institutions – including federal ministries, independent government bodies and Kurdistan Regional Government entities to advance reforms supporting economic diversification, private sector growth and employment generation. Significant progress was made towards World Trade Organization accession. Iraq submitted its initial market access offers on goods and services – a key milestone in the accession process – and advanced negotiations under the Working Party framework. A

harmonized national tariff regime covering more than 15,000 tariff lines was operationalized for the first time since 2019, enhancing transparency and predictability. Legislative alignment progressed in areas including intellectual property rights, investment policy and commercial arbitration. In parallel, 315 policymakers were trained on World Trade Organization rules and trade negotiations.

Three Ministry-endorsed, market-led strategies, for poultry, tomatoes and potatoes, were implemented and coordinated through a newly established Ministry of Agriculture Strategy Secretariat, created by Ministerial Decree. The strategies are underpinned by comprehensive evidence, including a climate risk mapping; a competitive survey covering 600 MSMEs; consumer research with 2,500 respondents; and a market assessment of the date sector. Six national policies were drafted to integrate green and digital skills into the technical and vocational education and training sector across Federal Iraq and the Kurdistan Region. The National Employment Policy 2025–2030 was completed, and is awaiting Government endorsement. The United Nations also assisted the Government in establishing the National Tripartite Social Dialogue Forum in February 2025, providing a platform for consultation between the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, workers’ organizations and employers’ organizations. In parallel, institutional capacity for evidence-based planning and service delivery in the agri-food sector was strengthened, supported by water accounting and productivity assessments and enhanced national socio-economic data systems to inform climate-resilient and inclusive policy decisions.



Faysal was able to open his second bakery in Duhok and expand his business with support from IOM's Enterprise Development Fund. © IOM Iraq 2025/Anjam RASOOL



After fleeing Mosul in 2017 and rebuilding her life in Baghdad, Um Ahmed transformed her passion for tailoring into a flourishing enterprise. With crucial support from IOM's Enterprise Development Fund, she expanded her workshop, hired three additional employees, and now shares her unique designs with customers throughout Iraq and abroad. © IOM Iraq 2025/Aram HAKIM

► Private sector and MSME development

The United Nations, in partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Iraqi Company for Bank Guarantees and the German Development Bank, launched a Credit Guarantee Fund aimed at expanding access to loans for SMEs. The fund is expected to provide 3,000 loans worth €100 million, with 25 per cent allocated to women-led enterprises. Once fully operational, it is expected to support job creation and business expansion for Iraqi SMEs.

Through the Enterprise Development Fund, established by IOM in partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, grants and technical assistance were provided to 424 SMEs in 2025, totalling over US\$5.7 million, to implement labour intensive business expansion plans. This resulted in the creation of 1,813 new jobs for vulnerable jobseekers, returnees and displaced persons. The Fund places a strong emphasis on fostering female entrepreneurship (42 per cent of the SMEs were female-owned), economic diversification and empowering youth enterprises operating in the digital economy and non-typical sectors, as well as green businesses.

The United Nations strengthened 15 agribusiness alliances across Ninewa, Basra and Duhok, connecting more than 2,800 farmers and MSMEs – including IDPs, refugees and a female-led alliance – directly to modern retailers. In 2025, over 2,800 farmers participated in structured supply

arrangements, completing around 100 commercial transactions and aggregating approximately 500 tons valued at nearly US\$400,000. In participating agribusiness alliances, farmgate prices were typically 30–50 per cent higher than in traditional wholesale market benchmarks, and up to 100 per cent higher for certain crops and quality grades. More than 24 supply agreements were signed with formal buyers. The 'By Iraqi Hands' national label further strengthened consumer trust, reaching 6.6 million people.

Capacity-building efforts reached over 2,800 farmers and MSMEs through 87 master trainers and 28 demonstration plots, resulting in 88 per cent adoption of improved practices, 76 per cent reporting increased income and a 60 per cent reduction in poultry mortality.

The United Nations delivered 198 Improve Your Business sessions reaching 1,773 SMEs (609 women, 1,164 men), and 126 Enterprise Development Fund awareness sessions for 1,667 SMEs on business registration, labour law and occupational safety standards. Over 3,400 referrals were facilitated between SMEs and financial service providers. In addition, market-oriented training and support to key agri-food value chains (including wheat, vegetables, date palm, fodder and dairy) improved MSME competitiveness through better technologies, enhanced post-harvest and marketing practices, and stronger linkages to buyers. Rehabilitation of women-led dairy centres, paired with equipment and training, supported women's income generation and participation in local markets.

SUCCESS STORY

FROM DIGITAL SKILLS TO A THRIVING BUSINESS – STORIES FROM SAAVI TADREEB

Baghdad, Basra and Ninewa
Agency: ITC/NRC

Under the EU-funded Strengthening the Agriculture and Agri-food Value Chain and Improving Trade Policy in Iraq (SAAVI) programme, ITC in collaboration with NRC developed SAAVI Tadreeb – an integrated digital learning and entrepreneurship support platform combining interactive e-learning, practical assignments, mentoring and targeted business development support. Over four years, more than 4,800 young women and men (32.4 per cent female) were trained across Ninewa, Baghdad and Basra. In 2025, 221 youth entrepreneurs received business grants, enabling dozens of new enterprises to be launched or expanded.

Noor Jawad Kadum, 31, from Basra, said: “I started small, using my transportation stipend to buy my first batch of plants, storing them at home, and launching an Instagram page. Soon,

I rented a small shop, and demand began to grow. Today, my business is thriving. I’ve hired two employees, collaborated with construction companies and even received a job offer as an agricultural engineer from one of my clients.”

Saja Mohammed, from Mosul, turned her dislike of beetroot into Dr. Powder – a brand of organic vegetable and fruit powders:

“I joined the SAAVI Tadreeb platform and received training from ITC. With a grant, I bought my first drying machine and started production at home. I’ll start by selling online and plan to partner with schools, restaurants, gyms and healthcare providers.”

In 2025, the SAAVI Tadreeb platform was formally handed over to the Ministry of Agriculture, institutionalizing the model within national systems and ensuring sustainability beyond the project lifecycle.

► Livelihoods, employment and skills development

The United Nations significantly strengthened Iraq’s employability and skills development ecosystem in 2025. Nationwide outreach campaigns reached 43,746 youth, expanding awareness of entrepreneurship, agribusiness and employability pathways. A cumulative total of 4,891 young women and men (32 per cent women) completed blended entrepreneurship and agribusiness training through the SAAVI Tadreeb platform. Following these programmes, more than 3,000 business plans were submitted, with 221 youth-led enterprises approved for catalytic grants, contributing to the launch or expansion of over 500 youth businesses.

The United Nations provided holistic socio-economic support to 3,073 individuals (1,338 women) across the Individual Livelihoods Assistance, Employment for Public Works and Graduation Approach programmes. The Labour Market Information Observatory architecture was launched, with a comprehensive pilot survey of employers completed to identify emerging skill gaps. Ten Green and Digital Sectoral Councils were established. In Diyala, Kirkuk and Ninewa, 869 individuals (including 452 women

and 851 youth) improved their employability through vocational and on-the-job training facilitated by private sector partnerships, including 140 IDPs, 301 returnees and 428 host community members.

FAO, through a partnership agreement with the Al-Zubair Farmers Association in Al-Zubair, supplied the Association with modern, high-quality tomato post-harvest handling equipment while the Association allocated land and undertook the necessary civil works, thereby ensuring local ownership and investment in the initiative. The newly established post-harvest centre now enables the production of high-quality tomatoes packaged in standardized and user-friendly 5 kg boxes. This intervention has significantly enhanced the marketability of tomatoes, improved income generation for farmers and reduced both post-harvest losses and overall business costs by streamlining handling and packaging processes.

In 2025, IOM implemented the Graduation Approach to support households facing extreme poverty and exclusion from livelihoods, including IDPs, returnees and



Chinar is one of 800 women entrepreneurs who received support from IOM’s Enterprise Development Fund for Women. She opened the Kosar Touristic Village in Sulaymaniyah, promoting internal tourism and creating new jobs for youth. Sulaymaniyah, the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. © IOM Iraq 2025/Aram HAKIM

host communities, through structured and individualized support promoting pathways toward self-reliance. A total of 60 individuals were supported, including 41 women and 19 men. Through case management and tailored assistance, participants strengthened livelihood skills, improved stability and increased capacity for future planning. Participants also accessed financial and banking literacy training, commitment-based savings mechanisms and referrals to complementary services, including health, protection and legal assistance, strengthening financial decision-making and resilience.

In parallel, IOM implemented Individual Livelihoods Assistance and Employment for Public Works to support vulnerable individuals facing barriers to labour market access, addressing both immediate income needs and longer-term livelihood pathways. A total of 3,174 individuals benefited in 2025, including returnees, IDPs and host community members. These interventions supported employability, entrepreneurship and short-term dignified employment, contributing to income stabilization and strengthened economic resilience in displacement- and return-affected communities.

SUCCESS STORY

FROM DISPLACEMENT TO SELF-RELIANCE – LAYLA’S STORY

Al-Jadaa Camp, Iraq
Agency: UNDP

At 24, Layla Najim’s life had been shaped by conflict and displacement. Originally from Baiji in Salah al-Din, she fled with her family during the height of violence, spending years in Al-Hol Camp in Syria and later in Al-Jadaa Camp in Iraq. Prolonged instability, early marriage and social isolation left her with limited economic opportunities and significant psychosocial stress.

Through UNDP-assisted programming, Layla accessed integrated vocational training and mental health and psychosocial support. She enrolled in a painting and interior decoration course, where she developed practical, market-relevant skills in colour design, finishing techniques and interior aesthetics. At the same time, structured psychosocial support sessions provided a safe environment for Layla to address the emotional impact of displacement and hardship. Through facilitated group discussions and peer engagement, she rebuilt self-confidence, strengthened coping mechanisms and reconnected socially after years of isolation.

As a result, Layla not only gained a viable livelihood pathway but also regained a sense of agency and belonging within her community. She now speaks openly about her aspirations, actively participates in community life and envisions a future grounded in stability and self-reliance.



Required resources



Available resources

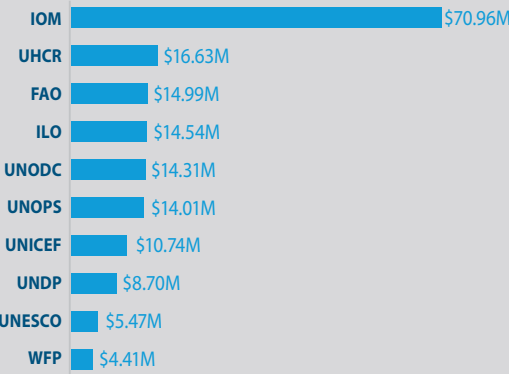


2025 expenditure



Delivery rate

Top 10 agencies by 2025 expenditure





3

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3 Environment & Climate Change Resilience

By 2029, people in Iraq – particularly women, girls, youth and groups in vulnerable situations – live in a clean, healthy, safe and resilient environment with increased resilience to climate change and disaster risks.

Contributing United Nations entities



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Labour
Organization



IOM
UN MIGRATION



International
Trade
Centre



UN
DP



UN-HABITAT



unesco



unicef
for every child



UNOPS



WFP

World Food
Programme



World Health
Organization

SDG contribution



2
ZERO
HUNGER



6
CLEAN WATER
AND SANITATION



13
CLIMATE
ACTION



15
LIFE
ON LAND

Top 5 expenditure values



13
CLIMATE
ACTION

\$4.8M



2
ZERO
HUNGER

\$3M



11
SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES

\$2.5M



6
CLEAN WATER
AND SANITATION

\$2.1M



14
LIFE
BELOW WATER

\$2.1M

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3 focused on helping Iraq strengthen climate resilience and environmental sustainability in the face of mounting ecological stress, including water scarcity, land degradation, biodiversity loss and rising climate risks. In 2025, the United Nations supported national and local efforts to translate Iraq’s climate commitments into action through strengthened climate governance, ecosystem restoration, improved water resource management and enhanced disaster preparedness. Interventions under this priority helped build institutional capacity, expand climate-smart and nature-based solutions, and improve resilience for communities most exposed to environmental and climate-related shocks.

► Climate governance and policy

In 2025, the UNCT reinforced Iraq’s institutional capacity to meet its climate commitments by strengthening governance, policy coherence and operational readiness behind the NDC. The United Nations, led by UNDP, supported the Ministry of Environment in the revision of NDC 3.0, which introduces enhanced ambition, clearer sectoral targets and a more robust financing and implementation framework, marking a shift towards investment-ready climate action.

Complementary financing and green-growth frameworks established a cohesive architecture to operationalize these commitments. FAO, WFP, UNICEF, ITC, UNESCO, and ILO each contributed domain-specific chapters, ensuring agriculture, extreme-event analysis, water and waste management, MSME competitiveness, STEM-driven innovation, and just-transition considerations were fully integrated.

ITC’s AuditMyBEIT tool moved towards national adoption, establishing the foundation for national energy efficiency regulations. FAO introduced a national GIS and remote-sensing platform to operationalize evidence-based climate monitoring. ILO strengthened green enterprise ecosystems through the National Green Business Plan and improved financial and regulatory frameworks for MSMEs. FAO and WFP trained more than 3,500 farmers and officials in climate-resilient agriculture, while FAO scaled its Climate Wise Women initiative to empower 2,000 rural women as local adaptation leaders. WHO advanced climate health training and conducted knowledge, attitude and practice assessments in Basra with a focus on climate migrants. These targeted both women and men. Beyond national policy frameworks, United Nations-supported initiatives translated climate commitments into ecosystem restoration and community-based resilience efforts across Iraq. Complementing these efforts, UNICEF supported the development of the region’s first child-sensitive Climate Risk Index and advanced water adaptation within national climate actions through innovative approaches, including digital sub-zoning, automation of water supply systems and managed aquifer recharge.



Young volunteers participate in a community clean-up along the Shatt Al-Arab riverbank in Basrah. © UN Volunteers



Yasser Ahmed, a member of the Hamam Al-Ail Farmers Alliance, works alongside his family in agriculture and benefits from collective support, training and market access opportunities. © ITC

► Ecosystem restoration and biodiversity

In 2025, the United Nations supported Iraq in restoring ecosystems, protecting biodiversity and addressing environmental degradation through nature-based and community-driven solutions.

FAO assisted the development of the Marshland Conservation Action Plan 2026–2030 and supported the restoration of more than 12,000 hectares of marshland, agricultural land and grazing area, contributing to both ecosystem recovery and the livelihoods of marsh-dependent communities. WFP implemented phytoremediation wetlands capable of treating up to 170,000 litres of wastewater daily while strengthening biodiversity and environmental monitoring through two national research Centres of Excellence.

Significant progress was also made in nature-based climate solutions. WFP secured national endorsement for Iraq’s first nature-based carbon project – mangrove afforestation in Basra – through the planting of more than 1 million seedlings. These efforts contribute to climate mitigation while protecting coastal ecosystems and supporting local livelihoods.

Community-level interventions further strengthened environmental resilience. IOM rehabilitated the Balajo Canal, improving water flow for farmers and reducing local socio-environmental tensions. United Nations-supported initiatives expanded ecosystem restoration activities that contribute to climate adaptation, water management and sustainable agriculture across vulnerable areas.

Together, these initiatives demonstrate how ecosystem restoration can simultaneously strengthen biodiversity, enhance climate resilience and improve livelihoods for communities most affected by environmental degradation.

SUCCESS STORY

LAUNCH OF IRAQ’S MOST COMPREHENSIVE CLIMATE POLICY SUITE TO DATE

In Federal Iraq
Agency: Cross-agency (UNCT)

In September 2025, the Government of Iraq launched a landmark suite of climate documents: the Updated NDC 3.0, the National Adaptation Plan, the Climate Vulnerability Index and the Climate Investment Plan. These documents outline Iraq’s commitment to climate resilience, low-emission development and sustainable growth, and were developed with sustained United Nations technical support. NDC 3.0 commits Iraq to reducing emissions by 3 per cent by 2030 (unconditional) and 17 per cent by 2035 (conditional). The Climate Investment Plan mobilizes US\$82.85 billion by 2030 to support climate mitigation and adaptation. This package represents the most comprehensive national climate policy framework in Iraq’s history.



Iraq – Nasiriyah – The Marshes, September 2025. For generations, these boats have been a lifeline for communities in the Mesopotamian Marshes, serving as a vital means of transportation and a symbol of the region’s unique heritage. © WHO Iraq/Karlo Jeelo



► Water resource management

The UNCT worked jointly in 2025 to strengthen Iraq’s water security through a combination of policy coordination, technological innovation and improved service delivery. This included support to the joint Government of Iraq–United Nations Water Task Force, established to strengthen coordination and strategic alignment across the water sector.

At the operational level, the United Nations assisted more than 600 farmers in adopting water-efficient irrigation across 1,200 dunums (120 hectares) of farmland, while an additional 160 dunums (16 hectares) benefited from upgraded irrigation, drainage and soil reclamation systems. FAO strengthened the Ministry of Water Resources’ remote-sensing capacities for water productivity assessments. UNDP expanded irrigation modernization and solar pumping systems, and IOM implemented 11 integrated water agriculture projects that improved access for over 17,700 people. WFP initiated recharge ponds and small dams in Dohuk, improving water availability for more than 20,000 residents and thousands of livestock. UNOPS strengthened frontline services through solarized boreholes, providing clean water to more than 3,500 people.

SUCCESS STORY

HARVESTING HOPE – CONSERVATION AGRICULTURE IN SOUTHERN IRAQ

Southern Iraq
Agency: FAO

Farmers Hashim Koti and Sadiq Mazher transformed their livelihoods through Conservation Agriculture introduced via 66 Farmer Field Schools assisted by FAO across southern Iraq.

Hashim explains: “Despite initial hesitation, after the training I quickly recognized the benefits of adopting Conservation Agriculture, leading to healthier crops, higher yields, lower costs and better economic returns.” His alfalfa yields rose by 25 per cent and costs fell by 20 per cent, raising his income from IQD 60,000–70,000 to IQD 100,000–150,000 IQD per month.

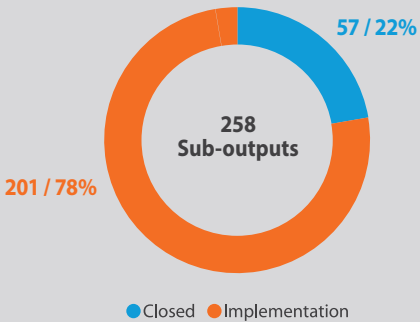
For Sadiq, Conservation Agriculture reduced irrigation cycles from seven to five – “almost 30 per cent water savings.”

Together, these experiences show how climate-smart agriculture restores land, saves water and boosts incomes for smallholder farmers on the frontlines of Iraq’s climate crisis.

► Disaster risk reduction and climate preparedness

In 2025, the United Nations assisted Iraq in strengthening preparedness for climate-related shocks through improved early warning, stronger analytics and more resilient essential services. UNDP expanded national climate monitoring capacity with new weather stations and an information centre reaching more than 1 million people. WFP rehabilitated 16 agrometeorological stations to provide real-time monitoring, while WHO advanced climate health preparedness through vulnerability assessments and support to the Health National Adaptation Plan. IOM delivered climate mobility surveys, Displacement Tracking Matrix updates and climate conflict migration analyses, while authoring the Human Mobility chapter of the National Adaptation Plan. UNICEF introduced a Children’s Climate Risk Index and disaster risk management model, equipping authorities with child-centred risk insights.

Community preparedness was strengthened through UNDP and IOM Community Task Forces, with 89 per cent of participants reporting improved readiness. WFP assisted over 5,000 people through sustainable land and water management activities – more than 1,000 of them women smallholders – and revitalized 34 Water Users Associations to promote inclusive governance. WFP launched Iraq’s first parametric climate risk insurance scheme to protect smallholders from climate-induced losses. UNICEF expanded renewable energy systems in schools and public facilities to ensure continuity during heatwaves and power shortages. ILO integrated decent and green work into a national afforestation programme supporting 30 urban forests and greenbelts.



SUCCESS STORY

YOUTH LEADING CLIMATE-HEALTH ACTION IN BASRA

Basra Governorate
Agency: WHO

In Basra – one of Iraq’s most climate-vulnerable governorates – WHO mobilized medical students and youth volunteers to deliver practical health advice on extreme heat, unsafe water and dust storms directly to communities. More than 400 households received guidance on protecting themselves from climate-related health risks. The intervention was informed by findings from a Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) assessment, ensuring messages were evidence-based and tailored to community needs. An online campaign led by 250 youth volunteers, supported by a collaboration with the Communication and Media Commission (CMC)—Iraq’s leading communications and media regulatory authority—which amplified campaign messages through multiple media outlets, reached over 500,000 people and significantly expanded climate-health awareness.

This initiative demonstrates how youth engagement and community outreach can strengthen climate-health resilience and expand the reach of critical health messages.



WHO and youth volunteers engaging directly with community members through household visits to raise awareness of climate-related health risks and promote protective health measures. © WHO

4

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4 Good Governance & Rule of Law

By 2029, people in Iraq, particularly women, girls, youth and groups in vulnerable situations, benefit from transparent, accountable, inclusive and effective governance institutions that enhance stability and the rule of law.

Contributing United Nations entities



SDG contribution



Top 5 expenditure values



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4 focused on strengthening inclusive governance, accountable institutions and rule of law systems to support stability, justice and public trust in Iraq. In 2025, the United Nations supported national and local institutions to improve transparency, strengthen justice and security systems, expand access to legal identity and documentation, and advance more inclusive and responsive governance frameworks. Interventions under this priority helped reinforce institutional effectiveness, promote rights-based and people-centred approaches and improve access to protection and justice for communities affected by displacement, conflict and exclusion.

► **Inclusive, effective and accountable governance**

In 2025, the United Nations supported national institutions in strengthening accountability, transparency, and institutional effectiveness across Iraq, contributing to the advancement of SDG 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

With support from UNODC, Iraqi authorities advanced anti-corruption and integrity efforts through the development of the draft “Code of Conduct for the Iraqi Private Sector to Combat Corruption and Promote Integrity,” which was submitted to the Ministry of Planning for adoption following consultations with

representatives from the Ministry of Planning, the Federal Commission of Integrity, and the private sector. In parallel, consultations involving more than 150 representatives from government institutions, civil society organizations, media, youth entities, and national and international experts contributed to the development of the draft “National Strategy for Integrity and Anti-Corruption (2025–2030),” which was submitted to the Prime Minister’s Office for final endorsement.

Complementing these efforts, UNESCO strengthened institutional transparency and accountability through targeted interventions at the intersection of governance, justice, and information systems. In 2025, more than 209 judges and judicial professionals completed specialized training on artificial intelligence and its implications for judicial processes, evidence assessment, and legal reasoning. UNESCO also supported national dialogue platforms on freedom of expression and access to information, promoting more inclusive and transparent governance frameworks.

Political governance frameworks were also strengthened. In February 2025, the Political Parties Code of Conduct in the Kurdistan Region was formally launched and signed, establishing ethical standards to guide political processes. Capacity-building initiatives further strengthened governance institutions, reaching 173 professionals across Iraq, including 72 women, through judicial training, certified courses, and mentoring programmes.



© ILO



One of the first women-led community police forums organized in Anbar with IOM’s support. © IOM Iraq 2025/Rafal ABDULATEEF

Support to public administration reforms also advanced. The Ministry of Justice established a dedicated legal reform committee and engaged with the United Nations on amendments to the Real Estate Registration Law No. 43 (1971), indicating progress toward more transparent and digitally enabled land administration systems.

In October 2025, the Ministry of Construction, Housing and Public Municipalities launched the National Housing Policy (2025–2030), developed with EU support through the Building Equitable and Inclusive Transformation Programme. The policy provides a national framework for addressing housing challenges and aligns with Iraq’s National Development Plan, Vision 2030, and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The United Nations also supported the Commission of Statistics and Geographic Information Systems in strengthening national data systems and census analysis. Technical assistance enabled the development of policy briefs based on census data and supported the organization of a national conference to launch the 2024 census results, strengthening the use of evidence in national policymaking.

Collectively, these results mark measurable progress toward Sustainable Development Goal 16 — Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions — reinforcing the link between accountable governance, the rule of law, and Iraq’s broader sustainable development agenda.

SUCCESS STORY

A TURNING POINT FOR YAZIDI LAND OWNERSHIP – SHIRIN’S STORY

Sinjar District, Ninewa Governorate
Agency: UN-Habitat

For decades, the Yazidi community lived with uncertainty regarding whether, after returning to their villages following years of displacement and rebuilding their homes and lives, their properties would truly belong to them. In 2025, that began to change.

With support from UN-Habitat, the Government of Iraq started issuing official title deeds to Yazidi women and men for the first time, following the adoption of Cabinet Decision No. 227, which removed the financial barriers that had long prevented families from securing legal ownership.

For Shirin Sa’do Kanji, 65, this shift became tangible when her land occupancy certificate – issued by UN-Habitat – was upgraded to a formal title deed. Holding the document carefully, she describes the easing of a fear she carried for years:

“I lived with the constant worry that I could lose my home. That fear is now gone.”

The deed also safeguards her family’s traditions, ensuring the home will pass to the son who cared for her, now legally recognized in the process.

Shirin is one of thousands of families from minority groups whose occupancy certificates, distributed by UN-Habitat, are expected to be converted into full ownership. For a community that has endured displacement, violence and long-term instability, this security of tenure is far more than a legal protocol – it is protection against dispossession, stability for future generations and a profound restoration of dignity.

“Now, I can finally call this place my home.”

► Security, justice and rule of law

In 2025, the United Nations supported the strengthening of legal and administrative systems related to refugee protection. With technical support from UNHCR, the federal Ministry of Interior enhanced registration processes, issuing 8,839 PC-MOI cards to refugees and asylum seekers, reflecting increased national ownership and institutional capacity. UNHCR also engaged with authorities on the drafting of an updated Refugee Law aligned with international standards, including through dialogues and training with judicial and law enforcement authorities on refugee rights.

The UN advanced implementation of the Ministry of Interior Strategy (2024–2026) and the Security Sector Reform (SSR) Strategy (2024–2032), supporting continued progress toward people-centred policing approaches (“Green to Blue”). A national roadmap was developed and the Policing Transition Working Group established. In 2025, 420 stakeholders, including 227 women, benefited from capacity-building activities involving police, defence, and women’s institutions, while community dialogue initiatives were conducted across five governorates. The Ministry of Interior’s women’s empowerment guidelines were also endorsed for inclusion in the Ministry’s 2027–2030 strategy. Complementing these efforts, UNESCO strengthened the capacities of security and judicial actors to address misinformation, digital evidence, and freedom of expression challenges, including through training on fact-checking and digital verification.

The UN supported Iraq in strengthening rehabilitation-oriented approaches within correctional and juvenile justice systems, including through technical assistance provided by UNODC to the Ministry of Justice and juvenile reformatories in Baghdad and Mosul. Support focused on improving rehabilitation and reintegration approaches, enhancing psychosocial support and vocational training services, and strengthening institutional capacities aligned with international standards, including the Nelson Mandela Rules. More than 1,200 juveniles benefited from improved access to essential services, while vocational initiatives and targeted mental health support strengthened reintegration prospects for children and young adults in contact with the justice system, including returnees from North-East Syria. The Ministry of Justice also advanced guidance frameworks and rehabilitation roadmaps related to juvenile justice and reintegration processes.

The UN also supported Iraq in strengthening capacities related to counter-narcotics, trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, and border management through institutional coordination, technical assistance, and regional cooperation. With support from UNODC, national authorities enhanced capacities in information analysis, investigation, border screening, and inter-agency coordination, including at Baghdad International Airport and the Port of Um Qasr. These efforts contributed to improved detection of illicit trafficking and proliferation-related risks, strengthened regional cooperation, and more coordinated, rights-based approaches aligned with international standards.

SUCCESS STORY

WOMEN MEDIATORS AT THE HEART OF ELECTORAL PREPAREDNESS

Federal Iraq
Agency: UN Women

The Women’s Peace Mediators Network, comprising 23 federally established mediators under NAP 1325, participated in a UN Women-supported workshop covering the pre-election, election day and post-election phases. The vast majority reported increased confidence to identify violence against women in politics and mitigate election-linked disputes, enabling them to shift from informal community actors to recognized contributors to Iraq’s electoral preparedness architecture.



National Women Peace Mediators network strengthens efforts to promote women’s political participation ahead of Iraq’s 2025 elections in Baghdad - UN Women. © UN Women



A refugee in Baherka, Erbil, receives his documentation from the Residency Department. In 2025, UNHCR supported the Government to strengthen access to documentation for refugees and asylum seekers, reinforcing their inclusion in public services. © UNHCR/Rasheed Rasheed

► Protection and documentation

The United Nations achieved substantial progress in the strengthening of housing, land and property (HLP) governance systems. Through application of the Social Tenure Domain Model and community-based documentation systems, 554 HLP claims were formally registered, with corresponding occupancy certificates issued, and 599 compensation cases were processed (421 male, 178 female), with 386 cases successfully resolved. Building on this progress, implementation of Cabinet Decision No. 227 of 2025 enabled the formalization of land ownership processes. From April to December 2025, 3,506 households (20,863 individuals) in Sinjar and Ba’aj received official title deeds, marking a transformative step towards secure tenure, legal recognition and justice for minority communities.

In 2025, a total of 3,773 Unique Identification Documents were issued to Iraqi nationals returning from north-east Syria in Al-Amal, with 2,450 secured through UNHCR’s support. UNHCR assisted 48 reverse mobile missions transporting residents to the Civil Affairs Directorate office in Mosul. UNHCR also helped secure 108 marriage certificates, 239 proofs of kinship, three proofs of birth and one birth certificate for complex returnee cases.

In 2025, IOM provided legal assistance to a total of 18,449 individuals, including 10,528 individuals reached through legal counselling and representation and 7,921 through awareness-raising activities. In addition, IOM supported 14 reverse mobile missions from Al-Amal Centre to the National Centre responsible for the issuance of the National Unified ID card in Mosul, through which 753 National Unified IDs were issued to Iraqi nationals returning from north-east Syria to the Centre. Moreover, legal assistance provided by IOM facilitated the issuance of three marriage certificates, two proofs of lineage and nine birth certificates. In parallel, 57 housing letters and 675 extracts of family civil registry records were issued, contributing to improved access to legal identity and civil documentation for north-east Syria returnees.

The United Nations assisted with the protection of communities affected by explosive remnants of war in Sinjar, Mosul and Tel Kaif districts of Ninewa Governorate. These efforts rendered 1,902,775 square metres of farmland, infrastructure and residential area safe through the clearance of 19,904 explosive devices. An additional 2,859,357 square metres of land were surveyed. Throughout 2025, UNMAS delivered 2,021 lifesaving Explosive Ordnance Risk Education sessions for 22,190 Iraqis –including 4,041 women, 6,825 girls, 8,725 boys and 2,559 men.

► Peacebuilding and community cohesion

In 2025, the United Nations in Iraq advanced integrated approaches to peacebuilding and community cohesion, combining policy support with community-based interventions to address drivers of conflict, displacement and social fragmentation.

In 2025, UNDP assisted the Ministry of Migration and Displacement to develop and formally launch the National Reintegration Strategy, for IDPs, returnees and conflict-affected communities. This established a unified policy framework integrating service delivery, stabilization and social cohesion efforts across ministries and governorates. The Strategy reduced institutional fragmentation, enhanced policy coherence and created a clear national reference for accountable and coordinated reintegration programming.

At the sub-national level, strengthened coordination with prevention of violent extremism (PVE) sub-committees in 15 governorates improved alignment between national policy and local implementation. Through this platform, 54 civil society organizations delivered community-based PVE and social cohesion initiatives, reaching 31,827 individuals, including 15,446 women. An additional 75 civil society

organizations advanced Women, Peace and Security; reintegration; and social cohesion priorities, reaching 5,785 individuals. Complementing these efforts, UNESCO engaged over 30 civil society and youth actors in media and information literacy and counter-disinformation initiatives, strengthening resilience to harmful online content and promoting social cohesion.

Similarly, IOM supported peacebuilding and community cohesion by working with returnees from north-east Syria, IDPs and host communities to strengthen reintegration and social stability in areas of return- and displacement-affected communities.

At the community level, IOM combined tribal engagement, PVE and social cohesion approaches to address tensions and support local conflict resolution. Through tribal engagement mechanisms, 536 community-level reconciliation cases were resolved, contributing to reduced disputes and increased acceptance of returnees. PVE efforts reinforced these gains, with a strong focus on young adults, strengthening national and district-level mechanisms and supporting nine civil society organizations and six district PVE sub-committees to implement locally driven initiatives addressing drivers of marginalization and disengagement.

In parallel, social cohesion programming supported 112 youth volunteers, and facilitated 133 dialogue sessions at district and sub-district level between returnees and host communities, strengthening trust and community interaction in areas of return. This was complemented by the implementation of four community-led Quick Impact Projects in areas of minority groups affected by the conflict. These projects improved shared spaces, supported local service delivery and strengthened cooperation between displaced populations and host communities, including minority groups. Strategic communication efforts further supported these interventions by promoting positive narratives, countering misinformation and reinforcing messages of peaceful coexistence and social cohesion across targeted communities.

Building on these efforts in 2025, IOM Iraq’s Localization and Partnerships Unit managed and established 36 partnership agreements with local civil society, including 10 with women-led and women-focused

organizations, to deliver timely, inclusive and community-driven interventions. These partnerships supported a range of programming, including social cohesion, PVE, community policing, return and reintegration, protection against violence against women and girls, and strategic communications to promote positive narratives and peaceful coexistence. They collectively strengthened trust and collaboration in areas of return. In parallel, IOM implemented targeted capacity-strengthening initiatives reaching 110 civil society organization representatives across Iraq, enhancing administrative, operational and compliance capacities and contributing to improved quality, accountability and sustainability of local programming.

UN Women supported the National Directorate for Iraqi Women in operationalizing the national Women’s Political Participation Plan as the Government’s primary framework ahead of the 2025 elections, with training of trainers preparing more than 110 trainers nationwide. The Directorate convened a national dialogue with 45 civil society organizations with UN Women support. The Women’s Peace Mediators Network, comprising 23 mediators and established under the National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (NAP 1325), received targeted capacity-strengthening to contribute to electoral conflict mitigation. In the Kurdistan Region, UN Women supported the High Council of Women and Development in establishing a standing Permanent Committee for women’s political participation and completing a in-depth analysis of the 2024 elections. At the Federal and Regional levels, UN Women provided technical assistance to the finalization of the Third NAP 1325.



Senior government officials, policymakers, and other partners gather for the launch of Iraq’s National Plan to Promote Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, developed under the leadership of the Ministry of Migration and Displaced with IOM support.
© IOM Iraq 2025/Rafal ABDULATEEF



SUCCESS STORY

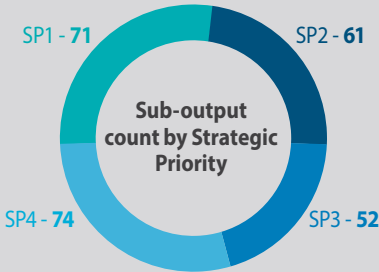
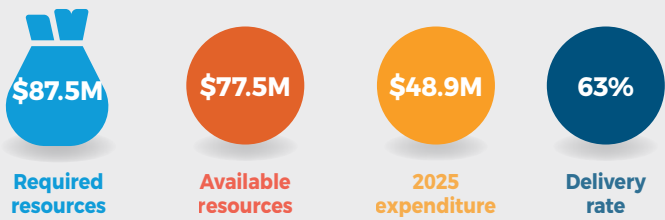
THE GENERATION OF HOPE – YOUTH-LED PEACEBUILDING IN ANBAR

Anbar Governorate
Agency: UNDP/civil society partners

In 2025, the Anbar Youth Group for Peace implemented a youth-led initiative aimed at strengthening social cohesion through community-driven storytelling. The group conceptualized, wrote and produced a short film titled ‘The Generation of Hope,’ amplifying the voices of youth and women in Anbar and highlighting their resilience in the aftermath of conflict.

The film portrayed the lived experiences of returnees from Al-Hol Camp, families searching for missing relatives and communities rebuilding after the ISIL era. By focusing on recovery, dignity and shared aspirations, the initiative challenged stigmatizing narratives and reframed youth not as a risk group but as active contributors to stability and peace.

The project generated strong community engagement and public recognition. The film was entered into a short film competition and received wide local attention, culminating in the University of Al-Ma’arif awarding the Anbar Youth Group the title of ‘Best Short Film Scenario of the Year.’ Through this initiative, young people in Anbar demonstrated their capacity to lead positive social change, using creative media to foster empathy, counter harmful narratives and reinforce community resilience.



Source: UN Info, May 2026

CHAPTER 3.

Financial overview

This chapter presents an overview of the financial performance of the UNSDCF in 2025, based on data extracted from the UN Info system.

Overall resource picture

In 2025, the UNCT required US\$300 million to implement the UNSDCF across all four Strategic Priorities. Of this, US\$275 million was mobilized. Total expenditure reached US\$189 million, representing an overall delivery rate of 68.8 per cent.

The gap between available resources and expenditure reflects a combination of factors, including the timing of resource mobilization, the multi-year nature of a significant portion of programming and sector-specific implementation requirements. In several areas, funding was secured later in the year, limiting the timeframe for full utilization. In addition, a substantial share of resources

is programmed across multi-year cycles and is therefore not expected to be fully spent within a single reporting period.

As such, delivery rates should be interpreted in light of these structural and operational considerations. Even where resources are available, expenditure levels are influenced by programme maturity, procurement and institutional processes, and the sequencing of implementation. The UNSDCF portfolio comprised 258 sub-outputs implemented by 25 United Nations agencies, reflecting a diverse set of interventions with varying implementation timelines.



Resource performance by Strategic Priority

SP2 and SP3 recorded the highest delivery rates, at 87.7 per cent and 66.3 per cent, respectively, reflecting strong implementation momentum in economic development and environment and climate programming where activities are largely short to medium in term and supported by readily deployable funding.

Lower delivery rates under SP4 (63 per cent) and SP1 (62 per cent) should be interpreted in context. Under SP1, the comparatively lower rate reflects the large volume of multi-year programming commitments, where funds are programmed across longer implementation cycles and not expected to be fully spent within a single calendar year.

Similarly, under SP4, delivery rates are influenced by the nature of programming, which typically involves a longer lead time for policy development and institutional setup.

Delivery across both priorities was also affected by broader operational factors, including the time required for government coordination and approvals, administrative and procurement procedures, and the complexity of operating in a dynamic political and security environment. These factors are inherent to the implementation context and impact the pace of expenditure without reflecting limitations in programme quality or delivery capacity.

Overall, the funding gap and delivery trend should be understood as a function of timing of resource mobilization, multi-year programme design and the structural characteristics of different sectors, rather than implementation inefficiencies. Even in areas of strong delivery capacity, limited or late funding availability constrains expenditure within the reporting period.



CHAPTER 4.

Operational challenges and lessons learned

Implementation of the UNSDCF in 2025 occurred in a complex and evolving operating environment shaped by institutional, operational and transition-related factors. Several key lessons emerged:

- **Delayed UNSDCF finalization affected early implementation momentum.** The timing of UNSDCF approval had implications for resource mobilization, forward planning and the establishment of key governance structures, including coordination mechanisms and pooled funding instruments under the Framework.
- **Government coordination and administrative processes influenced delivery timelines.** Programme implementation required extensive inter-ministerial coordination, approvals and alignment with national systems. While essential for national ownership, these processes contributed to delays in the initiation and scaling of activities across several sectors.
- **The operating environment remains stable but costly.** While Iraq's security and political environment continued to improve in 2025, the cost of operations remains high, with implications for programme efficiency and resource allocation.
- **United Nations transition dynamics created additional operational pressure.** Leadership changes within the UNCT, combined with the transition from UNAMI, placed increased demands on coordination structures and the Resident Coordinator's Office, particularly in relation to planning, stakeholder engagement and system-wide alignment.
- **Multi-year programming and policy-driven interventions require longer implementation horizons.** Key reform areas – including climate action,

social protection and institutional strengthening – require sustained engagement, with results materializing over multiple years rather than within a single reporting cycle.

- **National financing and scale-up are increasingly critical.** As Iraq's middle-income status shapes a declining external funding environment, greater emphasis is needed on leveraging government resources and scaling up successful pilot interventions through national systems.

- **Joint programming enhances coherence and impact.** Initiatives implemented collaboratively across United Nations entities demonstrated stronger alignment with national priorities and improved efficiency in delivery.

- **Investments in data systems strengthen accountability and targeting.** Platforms such as DHIS2, EMIS and national registries contributed to improved evidence-based planning, monitoring and service delivery.

Overall, 2025 underscored the importance of aligning programme design, financing modalities and implementation timelines with the realities of a transitioning United Nations presence and a government-led development context. These lessons will inform more adaptive, nationally anchored and scalable approaches to implementation in 2026.

CHAPTER 5.

Looking ahead to 2026

As the UNSDCF enters its second year of implementation, the UNCT will build on the foundations laid in 2025 and accelerate progress towards the 2029 targets.

► Accelerating delivery and closing the funding gap

The overall delivery rate of 65.36 per cent highlights the importance of aligning timing, structure and predictability of financing with implementation requirements. In 2026, the UNCT will focus on strengthening the link between resource mobilization and programme readiness to ensure available resources can be translated more effectively into results.

Priority will be given to mobilizing timely and flexible financing for planned programme interventions, particularly in areas with longer implementation horizons such as social development (SP1) and environment and climate change resilience (SP3). At the same time, the UNCT will enhance implementation support across agencies, including through improved planning, coordination and operational readiness.

The UNCT will also advance the establishment of the Multi-Partner Trust Fund for Iraq to leverage a unified funding platform that mobilizes and strategically channels resources to advance national priorities and the SDGs. This mechanism is expected to improve funding predictability, enhance coordination and enable more strategic and scalable investments.

► Deepening joint programming

With 12 joint programmes and initiatives active in 2025, the UNCT will work to expand joint programming over individual agency projects to deliver greater impact. Priority areas include durable solutions for displaced communities, climate-smart agriculture, social protection system-strengthening and governance reform. The UNCT will leverage the Results Group structure to identify new opportunities for joint programming and ensure the UNSDCF’s cross-cutting priorities – particularly LNOB – are systematically embedded in all programming.

► Scaling climate action

The September 2025 launch of Iraq’s comprehensive climate policy suite creates both an urgent imperative and a significant opportunity. In 2026, the UNCT will work with the Government to translate NDC 3.0, the National Adaptation Plan and the Climate Investment Plan into funded, implementable programmes. Priority areas include scaling water-efficient agriculture, expanding renewable energy in health and education facilities, strengthening early warning systems and supporting Iraq’s first parametric climate insurance scheme for smallholder farmers.

► Advancing durable solutions for displaced populations

With thousands of IDPs remaining and ongoing challenges in Sinjar and other conflict-affected areas, durable solutions remain a central national priority. In 2026, the UNCT will continue to support HLP rights, civil documentation and community reintegration, while advocating for the full implementation of the Sinjar Agreement and area-based solutions for protracted displacement.



Kawathar and her children at their home in Hassan Sham camp, Iraq. UNICEF-supported mobile health teams provide postnatal care, routine immunization and other essential health services to families in the camp. © UNICEF/UN0648835/Ilvy Njiokiktjien

► Strengthening data, monitoring and accountability

The UNSDCF monitoring and evaluation framework will be strengthened in 2026 to ensure results are systematically tracked, reported and used for adaptive management. The UNCT will work to improve data disaggregation by sex, age, disability and displacement status, and to strengthen national statistical systems – including through the planned register-based census and the rollout of DHIS2 and other digital platforms. Regular joint reviews will assess progress against UNSDCF indicators and inform course corrections.

► Supporting Iraq’s political transition

The 2025 parliamentary elections and the ongoing government formation process create both uncertainty and opportunities for reform. The UNCT will align its support with the priorities of the incoming government and the National Development Plan 2024–2028, ensuring coherence with the UNSDCF, and will provide technical assistance to accelerate priority reforms in governance, social protection, climate and economic diversification.

The United Nations Country Team’s commitment for 2026

The United Nations Country Team in Iraq remains committed to working as one – alongside the Government of Iraq, civil society, the private sector and development partners – to advance a more inclusive, resilient and prosperous future. Building on the progress of 2025, the United Nations will continue supporting Iraq’s national priorities through integrated policy support, strengthened institutions and programmes that deliver measurable improvements in people’s lives.

CHAPTER 6.

Business Operations Strategy 2025

In 2025, the UNCT in Iraq continued to advance business efficiency and operational effectiveness through implementation of the Business Operations Strategy (BOS), reinforcing the One UN approach and maximizing value for money across agencies.

Significant efficiencies were achieved through strengthened inter-agency collaboration, particularly in the areas of common services, joint procurement and shared operational platforms. These efforts contributed to reducing duplication, optimizing resource utilization and enhancing service quality across the United Nations system in Iraq.

A key driver of efficiency was the consolidation and expansion of common services, including common premises management, information and communication technology (ICT) services, procurement arrangements and financial services. The transition of operational service provision from UNAMI to UNDP marked a critical milestone, ensuring continuity of services while streamlining governance structures and cost recovery mechanisms. This transition phase also provided an opportunity to reassess and optimize service delivery models in line with evolving operational needs.

In 2025, the BOS delivered substantial measurable efficiencies, with total estimated cost avoidance exceeding US\$2.4 million and realized savings surpassing US\$2.6 million across participating United Nations entities. These results reflect the tangible financial benefits of joint service delivery, harmonized processes and coordinated operational planning.

Joint procurement initiatives and the use of Long-Term Agreements enabled agencies to leverage economies of scale, resulting in reduced transaction costs and improved contractor performance. Harmonized service delivery across areas such as logistics, ICT, banking, and event management contributed to improved operational efficiency and consistency.

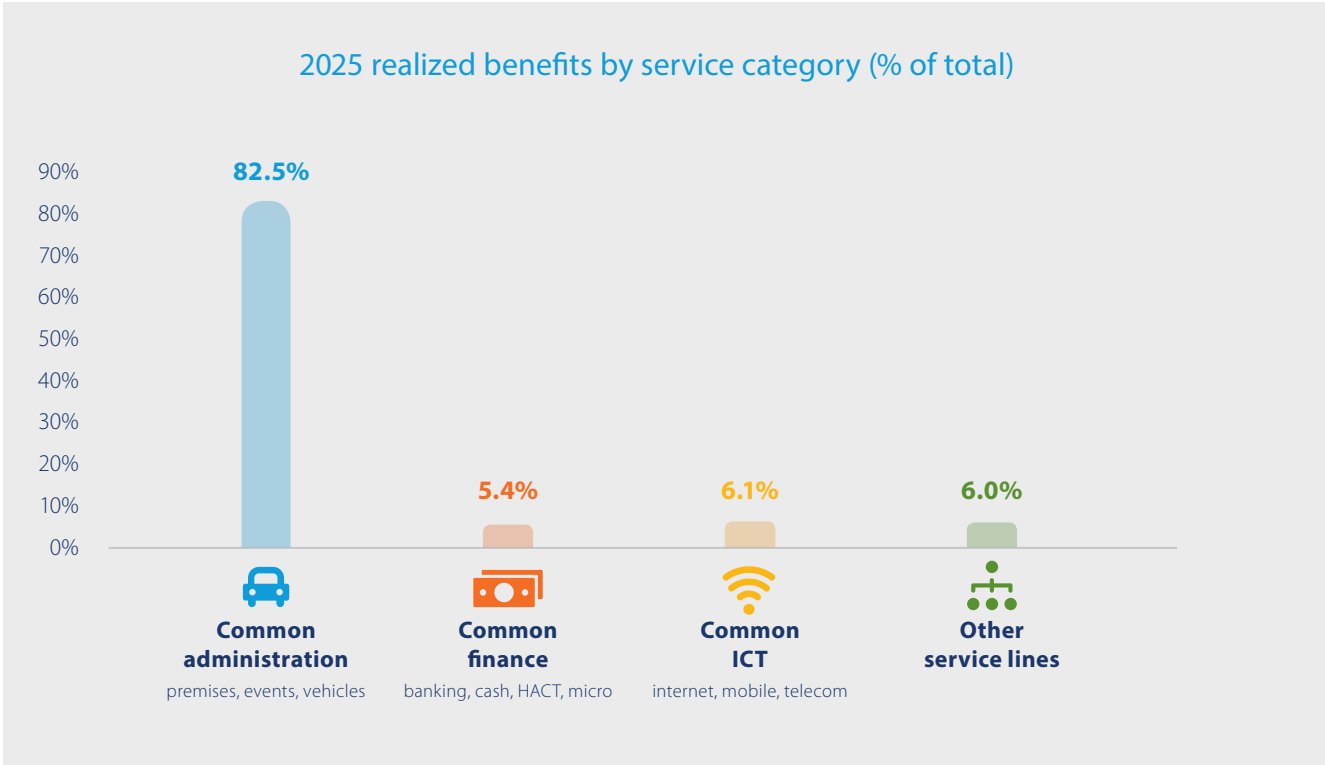
In addition, the BOS strengthened coordination across functional areas, including finance, human resources, ICT and procurement, leading to more standardized processes and enhanced service quality. Shared systems and platforms facilitated improved information flow and increased transparency and productivity across agencies.

Overall, the BOS in 2025 generated both quantitative and qualitative gains, including significant cost avoidance, improved service delivery and strengthened inter-agency collaboration. These achievements were particularly important in the context of the UNAMI transition, demonstrating the UNCT's ability to adapt to a changing operational landscape while maintaining efficiency and effectiveness.

The continued leadership of the Operations Management Team and its Working Groups has been instrumental in driving these results, ensuring that business operations remain aligned with the United Nations reform agenda and effectively support programmatic delivery in Iraq.



Twenty-five trainees in civil engineering, architecture and archaeology completed fieldwork across damaged heritage houses in Mosul's Old City, helping inform future restoration interventions. © UNESCO



United Nations Country Team composition

The following United Nations entities comprise the United Nations Country Team in Iraq and contribute to the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2025–2029.











Donors and partners

Donors



Iraq
(includes government ministries and Toyota Iraq – private sector, Iraq-based)



Austria



Belgium



Canada



Denmark



Estonia



Finland



France



Germany



Italy



Japan



Kuwait



Netherlands



New Zealand



Norway



Republic of Korea



Slovakia



Spain



Sweden



Switzerland



United Kingdom



United States of America



Multi-country
EU
(includes all European Commission and EU)

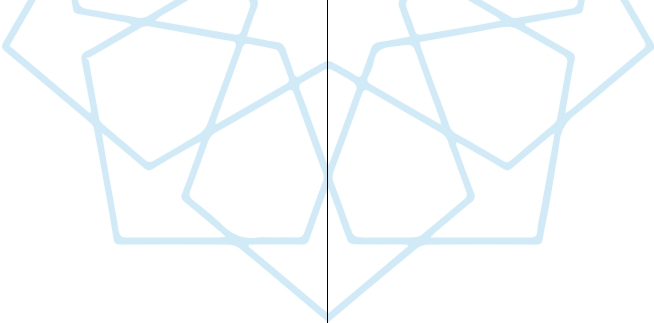


Multi-country
UN agencies and funds
(includes UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF thematic funds, UN Women, WHO, UNDP windows and other UN pooled/thematic sources)



Multi-country
Global funds/partnerships
(includes IFAD, GEF, GCF, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, PROSPECTS, World Bank, Migration MPTF and other multi-country global mechanisms)

63



Partners

Iraqi government: ministries and public institutions

- ✓ Ministry of Agriculture
- ✓ Ministry of Construction, Housing and Public Municipalities
- ✓ Ministry of Culture
- ✓ Ministry of Education
- ✓ Ministry of Environment
- ✓ Ministry of Health
- ✓ Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
- ✓ Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources
- ✓ Ministry of Internal Affairs
- ✓ Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
- ✓ Ministry of Planning
- ✓ Ministry of Youth and Sports
- ✓ Ministry of Water Resources
- ✓ Ministry of Internal Affairs (Kurdistan Region)
- ✓ Ministry of Municipalities and Tourism (Kurdistan Region)
- ✓ Council of Ministers (General Authority for Monitoring Allocations)
- ✓ Central Organization for Statistics and Geographic Information Systems
- ✓ General Directorate of Education
- ✓ High Commission for Human Rights
- ✓ Higher Committee for Coordination between Governorates
- ✓ Permanent Committee for Political Refugee Affairs, Ministry of Interior
- ✓ Prime Minister Advisory Commission
- ✓ State Board of Antiquities and Heritage
- ✓ Directorate of Migration and Crisis Response (Kurdistan Region)
- ✓ Joint Crisis Coordination Centre (Kurdistan Region)
- ✓ Department of Water Resources (Kurdistan Region)
- ✓ Basra/Dohuk Departments of Health
- ✓ Basra/Ninewa/Al-Muthanna/Al-Qadissiyah/Thi-Qar governorates
- ✓ Local councils/farmers' associations
- ✓ Public sector (general)

International non-governmental organizations and non-UN multilaterals

- ✓ iMMAP
- ✓ INTERSOS
- ✓ IRC
- ✓ NRC
- ✓ Peace Winds Japan
- ✓ Terre des hommes/Fédération Terre des Hommes
- ✓ World Vision International

Local/national non-governmental and civil society organizations

- ✓ Al Mesalla
- ✓ Farida Global Organization
- ✓ HARIKAR
- ✓ Iraq Health Access Organization
- ✓ Iraq-Kurdistan Save the Children
- ✓ Kurdistan Organization for Human Rights Watch
- ✓ Kurdistan Reconstruction & Development Society
- ✓ Mosul Space for Development
- ✓ Shareteah Humanitarian Org.
- ✓ TAJDID Foundation
- ✓ The Lotus Flower
- ✓ United Iraqi Medical Society
- ✓ WCHAN
- ✓ Women Rehabilitation Organization
- ✓ Zhian Health Organization
- ✓ Civil society organizations (general)
- ✓ Local and international non-governmental organizations (general)

Private sector and other

- ✓ Asia Gate Insurance
- ✓ Frankfurt School of Finance & Management
- ✓ Iraqi Company for Bank Guarantees
- ✓ Iraqi Federation of Industries
- ✓ Iraq Green Building Council
- ✓ Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research
- ✓ National Institute for Health, Migration and Poverty (Italy)
- ✓ Synergy International Systems
- ✓ Weather Risk Management Services

Abbreviations and acronyms

BOS	Business Operations Strategy
DHIS2	District Health Information Software 2
EMIS	Educational Management Information System
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
HLP	Housing, Land and Property
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
LNOB	Leave No One Behind
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises
NAP 1325	National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
PVE	Prevention of Violent Extremism
SAAVI	Strengthening the Agriculture and Agri-food Value Chain and Improving Trade Policy in Iraq
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SMEs	Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises
SP	Strategic Priority
UNAMI	United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

A girl in Basra holds the Iraqi flag at an Early Childhood Education classroom supported by UNICEF and funded by DAEWOO E&C and the Korean Committee for UNICEF. © UNICEF/UNI567472/Alf



CREDITS

Photography: © UN Iraq

© 2026 United Nations Iraq



UNITED NATIONS
IRAQ



Iraq.un.org

 [uniraq](#)

 [UnitedNationsIraq](#)

 [UNIraq](#)

 [UN_Iraq](#)

 [uniraq](#)